

The “Other” Fremont County

by Rich Bandlow

When most people think of southwestern Fremont County they probably recall the views from a drive on U.S. Highway 50 or perhaps a wind-

ing drive up Copper Gulch Road as a shortcut to West-cliffe. For the most part it’s a pleasant place to live with beautiful views and abundant wildlife. The people here live independently and are happy to see a snow

plow on the county road during the winter and a deputy is less than an hour away if needed. It’s also an area with problems.

These problems, for the most part, aren’t noticeable from the paved road. But hidden behind the trees and down the dirt roads there is another Fremont County. This “Other” Fremont County is a hidden world of unsafe, unsanitary, substandard and dilapidated housing, campsites without electricity, water or sewer, abandoned dwellings and trailers, illegal marijuana grows, meth-labs and “no-go” zones.

This isn’t an indictment of the entire area, There are many nice, well-kept properties owned by re-



The “Visible” Fremont County

Courtesy photo by Rich Bandlow

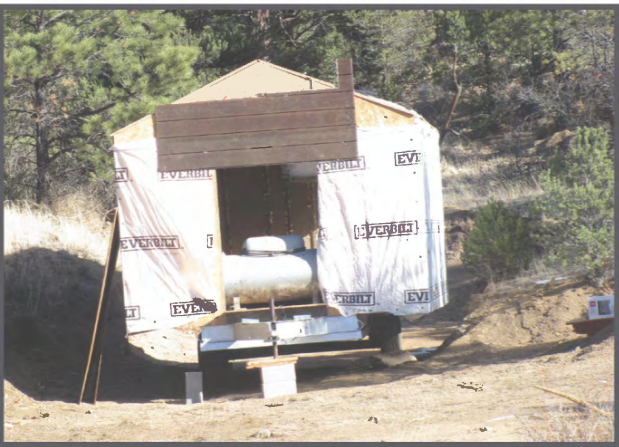
sponsible citizens who are angry and upset with the deterioration of their area. However, a thorough survey would conclude that the area is about two years from “third-world” status.

How did this rural blight happen in a quiet area with such natural beauty? There

are two factors: the change in the marijuana laws and governmental neglect.

While there have always been a few substandard properties in the area, the

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A grower’s dream house under construction.

Courtesy photo by Rich Bandlow

Sandra Attebery, Engineer and Candidate for Commissioner

by Fred Hernandez

From the sun splashed plains of the Dakota’s where she was born and raised Sandra Attebery grew up to become, not just an engineer, which is accomplishment enough, but one who has done incredible work in complex fields of that discipline. After receiving her degree in chemical engineering in 1982, she was employed almost immediately by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey and the Water Resources Division where she conducted acid rain precipitation studies, co-authoring a scientific publication known as Acid Raid Precipitation Study. From 1983 to 1986 she was employed by Chevron U.S.A. as a chemical engineer, following which, she decided to go on her own as an independent contract chemical engineer in the oil and gas industry. Concurrently, in 1992 she was appointed by the Colorado Governor to the Summitville Mine Clean-Up Technical Advisory Board. In 1994, as a member of the group of citizens of Custer County, she was instrumental in forming the nationally recognized San Isabel Land Trust in Custer County, Colorado. In 1995 she co-founded and was elected President of AG Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc., where she continues to be the President and CEO. From 2002 to 2013 Sandra was appointed member of the Judicial Nominating Commission, 11th Judicial District,



Sandra Attebery, candidate for commissioner

Courtesy photo

by two consecutive Colorado governors.

From 2013 to the present she is a member of the Advisory Council, Pueblo Community College, Fremont Campus. Her decades long memberships include twenty years in the Custer County Cattlewomen. A devout Christian since birth she has been a member of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church for the last 26 years. Indeed, a full resume that gives, without any doubt, a true testament of service and commitment, in science, in business and in community.

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UPDATE: County Judge Selection New Facts Emerge at Swearing In

by George Gramlich, News and Analysis

A few, very surprising facts arose out of last week’s swearing in of our new Custer County Judge, Amanda Hunter, at the Custer County Courthouse on January 26th, 2016.

The swearing in was done by the Chief Judge of the 11th Judicial District (our judicial district), Judge Patrick Murphy.

After the swearing in, Judge Murphy made some interesting remarks to the attendees. Judge Murphy noted that five years ago, when he was the head Colorado Public Defender at the Salida Regional Office, he hired Ms. Hunter, our new judge, as a rookie public defender, right out of law school. He then went on to mention how well Ms. Hunter did as a rookie, including her outstanding performance at her first trial.

So, Ms. Hunter was hired and worked for Judge Murphy at the state Public Defenders Office in Salida.

In 2012, Salida Chief Public Defender Murphy was appointed District Court Judge for the 11th Judicial District by democrat Governor John Hickenlooper.

Now, Governor Hickenlooper appoints Public Defender Ms. Hunter, a Salida resident, to work again for Judge Murphy. According to the state voter registration website, Ms. Hunter, who lived in Salida, Chaffee County, only registered to vote in Custer County on the DAY BEFORE her appointment.

And remember from last week’s Sentinel article, “Issues Surround County Judge Selection”, that the job application from the 11th Judicial District Nominating Commission for the Custer County Judge opening said you must be a resident of Custer County and that the Colorado Constitution specifically states that the one chosen must be an “Elector” of the county where the opening is. Ms. Hunter was neither of these.

There were three, extremely qualified applicants from Custer County: Peggi Collins, a lawyer with 28 years experience and a local business owner; Jay Printiz, a lawyer with decades of experience, a local business owner, AND A PRIOR JUDGE; and John Burns, career U.S. Naval Officer (Ret.) with a PhD in Virology and Epidemiology and a lawyer who practiced in

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Do not judge, or you too will be judged. Matthew 7:1-2, NIV



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

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

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

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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

The Iowa Democrat Caucus



A few thoughts on what the Democrats had to choose from and how it went in Iowa for them. Caucuses have their downsides; they are not necessarily reflective of the entire group of Democrats in Iowa. Caucuses are representative of the most energized, the most concerned or the most angry. According to early reports about 160,000 Democrats came out to caucus on Monday night. Weather was not a factor. That was not a great turnout. Obama got over 240,000 to turn out in 2008. Bernie Sanders said this before the caucuses. "We will struggle tonight if turnout is low." Well it was low and he still split the vote with Clinton. It was 50-50 with a whisker's edge "win" to Hillary as a result of winning six coin

tosses. That's not a "win" in our book. The fact that she could even muster half the vote is surprising. Polling indicates that six out of ten democrats want to continue Obama's policies. We find that very hard to believe. Eight of every ten caucusers under 30 years old supported Bernie. That's very relevant and very disturbing. Young democrats apparently want socialism. Forty percent of the liberal crowds were first time caucusers.

Republicans vote by secret ballot. Democrats stand or sit in candidate groups and a count is taken. If any one group is less than 15% of the total group they can change groups or go home. Apparently O'Malley's one or two supporters at each caucus

site went home. O'Malley dropped out of the race Tuesday morning.

So, it's now a two-person race: Bernie or Hillary. Or is it? We suggest the liberals keep their eyes on Joe Biden or Michael Bloomberg. Consider these facts. A year ago Clinton was polling at 57% to Sanders' 5%. Wow, what has happened? Well, it seems young liberals don't like Hillary. They don't think she is trustworthy and with good cause. The classified email debacle and crimes will eventually destroy her campaign. Hillary has managed to alienate many who might have reluctantly supported her. When asked about the emails she is snarky, defensive, sarcastic and lies. When the FBI investigation is released

or "leaked" her campaign will be over. Hopefully, Obama will not protect her from being indicted. There will be real trouble if he reins in the Department of Justice. Then he has a different problem. The Democrat Party doesn't want an admitted socialist as their candidate. Therefore, drum roll please, in steps Michael or Joe. And who is better prepared and more willing to continue Obama's policies and protect his legacy than Biden. And that is what 60% of the democrats want. Done deal it seems to us. But in the meantime the media and the pundits will play along and tell us how important New Hampshire and South Carolina are. When the hammer of justice falls on Hillary, and it must if we

really are a nation of laws and NO ONE is above the law, the spectacle of the Democrat presidential nomination process will be fun to watch. We now know that Hillary's private server was more than a "convenience" and contained emails so highly classified they can't even be redacted and released. Hillary's illegal emails "outed" operational intelligence and put real agents at risk. Look what the democrats did to Cheney and Scooter Libby for much less and for which Libby wasn't even guilty nor any real agents exposed. The chickens have come home to roost. If the FBI finds any wrongdoing Hillary must be charged and prosecuted. It is the law and she is not above it.

Custer County School Thanks the Community

Dear Community Members,

We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to the generous community members who selflessly donate money and equipment, volunteer their time, and/or serve on various committees at Custer County School. They are truly unsung heroes, as many of them do not even want to be publicly recognized for the many things they do.

You all helped make our Christmas a little bit brighter this year with your heartfelt donations to the faculty and staff, and we so appreciate your generosity. Thank you for making this a wonderful place to teach and work!

Sincerely,
The Custer County School Faculty and Staff

*Almost 400 people
have registered to vote since November!
Voting is a big deal!*

You are cordially invited to meet

Donna L. Hood

Candidate for County Commissioner, District 3

"A breath of fresh air"

February 8, 2016 5:00pm-7:00pm

at

Rancher's Roost

25 Main Street, Westcliffe, CO

Refreshments will be served.

Petitions will be available for your signature to place Donna L. Hood on the June 28, 2016 Primary ballot.

To contact Donna:

(Cell) 610-761-2770 (Work) 719-783-9100

rdh@apaintedview.com

Committee to Elect Donna L. Hood

Polar Plunge!

*A team from the
Custer County Sheriff's Office
will be participating in this
year's Polar Plunge tomorrow,
Saturday, February 6th
at the Pueblo Reservoir
to raise money for the
Special Olympics.*

*Please visit the Sentinel's website
at www.sdcscntinel.com and
click on the link to make a
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Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God.
Benjamin Franklin - Founding Father



Your Opinions... "We the People" Speak



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

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

CO Campaign For Life Needs Our Support

As Christian conservatives my wife and I receive no less than four to seven requests for money daily. They all are things we believe in, but we have to pick and choose where we send our limited funds.

I am convinced that if we had the "right" people representing us that many of these organizations would be unnecessary.

That's why CO Campaign for Life gets our support, because they find and support the truly pro-life candidates to represent us. And, those who are truly pro-life, with an observable history will also agree with us on most other issues - WHY, because they have a Biblical world view.

First and foremost if we cannot support and defend the unborn, those who have no voice, then other issues pale in comparison. What would we say to God if we fail to protect the life He created?

In this crucial election year, what will CO Campaign for Life be doing? We may not necessarily be able to get our arms around the nation as a whole, but we can make a huge impact in Colorado.

1. Force votes on the CO Life at Conception Act. The Roe v Wade, Supreme Court decision in 1973 allowed for Constitutional protection if it was determined that life begins at conception. (Have you ever felt smarter than our Supreme Court Justices - this is certainly one of those times.)

2. Defund Planned Parenthood - the CO Constitution forbids public funding for abortion! But, from 2009 - 2012 Planned Parenthood of the Rockies received \$10 Million from CO tax payers. HOW?

Other departments of State Government funnel tax dollars to PP through contracts and reimbursements for health services. More money equals more abortions and more attacks on pro-life politicians- a dirty shell game.

I'm MAD, how about you??

3. Expose pro-abortion politicians before the general election - force them to run on their record.

I would hate for CO Campaign for Life executive director, Christy Rodriguez (she was the Light-house guest speaker in September of this past year) to have to limit their election year efforts because of lack of funding.

My wife and I have already sent a donation to pursue this three pronged effort to mobilize all the resources available to us, and most of all seeking daily the favor of our Heavenly Father for this cause.

Please go to their website: www.coloradocampaignforlife.org and get on their mailing list, give what you can - 2519 11th Ave., PMB 128, Greeley, CO 80631

If not us - then who? If not now, then when?

Brother Hal (Crossley)
Rural Custer County

What Kind of Nation Can We Be?

January, Sanctity of Life Month, has ended yet the effect of legalizing abortion is still traumatizing women, men, and families, not to mention the little life destroyed while still breathing. Whether or not our nation is desensitized or is more sensitive to the ramifications of this 'legal' atrocity, the bottom line is much damage has been done and is still being done in so many ways, to so many people. The human cost is staggering; not only the precious life lost, but also the aftermath facing women who have had an abortion. The scars on the inside that sometimes become skewed life choices the woman makes and can manifest to scars on the outside. We know that the legality of it does not make it the 'right' thing to do.

Here is the 'right' part; God wants us to know right from wrong, His ways from our ways. His leading our lives in the right way vs us leading our own lives to the wrong way....in everything. Hard for some to believe, but He is providing a way for us to save ourselves from ourselves and our own faulty thoughts and actions. This is so much more than defining it as a pro-life or a pro-abortion issue. Norma McCorvey (Roe of Roe vs Wade) has changed much since she was used by attorneys to be the foundation for legal abortion; the blinders came off and she recognized the life inside is in fact a baby and then she was won over by the love she found in God.

Perhaps one reason people don't want to look at or even think about abortion is because it is literally physically, emotionally,

and spiritually painful; for the child, for the mother, and possibly for the father. It is so easy to simply say, "her body, her choice." It certainly is her body and her choice. That's what God wants for all of us; to choose. Free will, free choice with everything in life; but it seems that too many don't recognize that none of the choices we make are without consequences. The Holy Bible is clear what the consequences are if we choose by our free will what is against God and His commandments, His will for our lives. By our free choice to go against Him, we also choose our own reward for disobedience. That's a tough consequence to think about or accept if there is another way. Depends on whom we love first, ourselves or God.

Thankfully, God loves us so much that He provided a way. He gives us every chance while we are living our lives to change our ways so we may receive His mercy, grace, and forgiveness. We all have the opportunity to receive that loving mercy, grace, and forgiveness ONLY IF we ask by way of recognizing that our ways are/were against God. Even when and especially when we know we have 'wronged' someone... anyone... or even ourselves. There is only one way to find peace after going the wrong way.

What kind of nation can we be? When we turn back to God and only then can we as a nation receive His mercy, grace, and forgiveness for all we have allowed to go on within our society. My hope for all women who have had an abortion is to seek Him

and know of His love, forgiveness, and peace, both deeply and personally. It is only by His grace through the remorseful recognition of our own wayward thoughts and actions that we will find His forgiveness and reconcile ourselves to Him by believing in the Son He provided for us to follow. That is THE WAY to be saved. It is through the Gospel of Christ where we find salvation, love, forgiveness, and life.

What kind of nation can we be? In today's society, one where God is pushed out farther each day, Franklin Graham is stepping out in faith as one of our most prominent Christian leaders. He is calling for Christians to boldly live out their faith, to pray for our nation and its leaders, to get out and vote, to cast their ballots for candidates who uphold biblical principles, to run for public office at every level- local, state and federal. For more on Decision America Tour 2016, go to billygrham.org/story/franklin-graham-launching-50-city-tour-in-2016/

What kind of nation can we be? We can start to walk out in our faith, tell others about the wonderful news of how to be reconciled to God, how to join in His loving fold no matter what choices we have made or whom we have hurt along the way. We can turn the ways of our nation back to Him, but it starts with each one of us. May we ALL seek Him, His Love and His forgiveness!

Candi Sage,
Rural Custer County

Ranch Style Home at Appealing Price 2-car Detached Garage, Covered Patio, Sangre View

Three bedroom, two bath ranch style home offers a great deal at this price. From the covered front porch enjoy draw-dropping views of



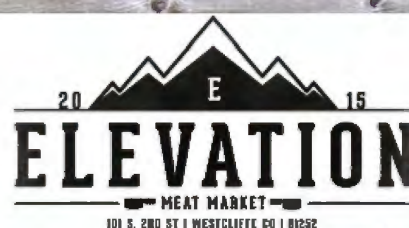
the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. There is a very livable floor plan with the master separated from the other bedrooms. The kitchen area opens to a large covered patio. The home sits on 2.5 acres with another 2.5 acres available. The property is fully fenced. There is a 2 car detached garage with a full open level above that could have a lot of uses. Also find a loafing shed and play equipment in the yard. Enjoy year round access. The home is located a short distance from the quaint mountain town of Westcliffe Colorado and an easy drive to Hwy 50 where you can connect to either more mountain towns or Canon City and the Colorado front range. Offered at \$185,000.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

"Canyon Trail" Movie Debut at Tony's Pizza February 20 to Raise Money for Eagles Summit Ranch

Skeleton Creek Productions new western, "Canyon Trail", filmed last year in large part in Custer County, with several local residents appearing in the film, will have its Colorado debut on February 20th, at 5:00 p.m. at Tony's Pizza in Silver Cliff.

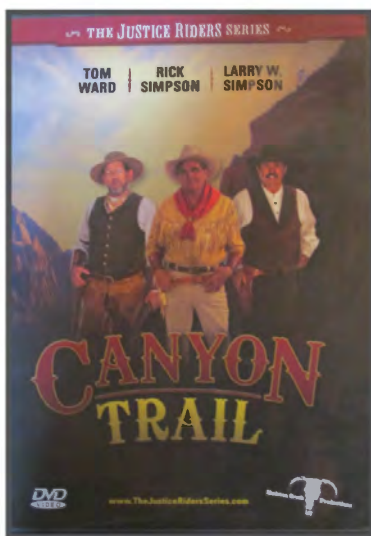
The film is the latest in a series featuring a continuing cast of good cowboys and bad outlaws. It is old style, family-oriented western with a great plot and beautiful scenery including much footage of our very own Beckwith Ranch and The Pines Ranch.

From the Skeleton Creek Productions website: "A vicious gang of outlaws has been terrorizing the Purgatory country of Colorado Territory. Young Christina Henderson has been kidnapped and a deadly ambush has been planned for Stormy, Texas and Cimarron. Can U.S. Mar-

shall Trevor Cooper (Buck Taylor) and Deputy Walt Tyler (Wyatt McCrae) help them rescue Christina and discover the identity of the boss of this ruthless gang? Filmed in beautiful high definition in the gorgeous mountains of Colorado and New Mexico, and also on the plains of Oklahoma, this action-packed western is a must see for the entire family."

For more information on the movie, go to skeletoncreekproductions.com.

This is also a charity fundraiser for our very own Pastor Dave Roevers Eagles Summit Ranch where our Wounded Warriors receive treatment for their problems. There will be a voluntary donation of \$10, collected at the door, all



of which will go to Eagles Summit Ranch. Feel free to loosen that wallet or purse up to donate more if you can to help our Wounded Warriors.

Tony's Pizza is donating their banquet room for the event. Tony's Pizza is located at 630 Main Street, Silver Cliff. Tony's Pizza full food and drink menu will be available for purchase.



New Custer County Judge In Town

Our new Custer County Judge, Amanda Hunter, was sworn in by 11th Judicial District Chief Judge Patrick Murphy at the Custer County Courthouse, January 26th. Prior to this, Ms. Hunter was a Public Defender attorney in Salida. She was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper a few weeks ago.

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

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Local Mountain News & Notices

FREMONT from page 1

change in the Colorado marijuana laws has caused an influx of several groups seeking to profit at the expense of the land, the water resources and the long-time residents. The poorly written, widely abused and unenforced laws have encouraged profiteers and illegal growers to move into the area. They buy land, put a trailer or shack on it and start growing. Another subset has a "business model" of drawing disability payments while growing on the side. Steady cash flow and seasonal profits – sometimes into six figures.

The governmental neglect is at both the state and county level. Water use and enforcement of the marijuana laws is a state responsibility and will be addressed in the future. The focus here will be on the failure at the county level to enforce the zoning regulations and building codes.

The Fremont County Zoning Resolution (<http://www.fremontco.com/planningandzoning/zoningresolution.pdf>) and the Building Codes of Fremont County (<http://www.fremontco.com/building/resolution40.pdf>) provide adequate standards for safe, habitable dwellings and include enforcement provisions.

Isn't that enough? No. To be effective, the regulations and codes must be uniformly applied. If one were to build a deck, garage or carport you had better have a building permit. If you want to live in an old trailer or shack without running water, electricity or an approved septic system you won't be bothered with paperwork. If you abandon a half-built house or a trailer it can sit there until it collapses.

The citizens of the area have complained repeatedly to the appropriate Fremont County departments and to the Board of County Commissioners without result. Of course, enforcement is difficult. All bureaucrats and politicians gravitate to the easiest course of action which is to do nothing. All complaints are received with a smile and a promise that everything possible will be done, but nothing happens. "Law" is only half the phrase. "Order" requires effort. The citizens are willing to help and have repeatedly offered guided tours of the area but there is no interest from the politicians or bureaucrats. Out of sight, out of mind.

A County Commissioner recently hesitated during a matter of code enforcement expressing concern about the owner's "property rights". He had it backward. NOT enforcing codes and zoning regulations infringes on the property rights of the rest of the community as well as allowing unsafe and

unsanitary conditions to worsen.

Many might think that the large, multi-agency drug raid of last September first solved the illegal drug problem in Fremont County. It satisfied the federal interest but the overall problem is getting worse. "Spring planting" is just around the corner.

So there you have it. Substandard housing, rampant drug cultivation - much of it illegal - and lax or no enforcement. Is it a local problem or an issue for the entire county? The tax base will remain low because with these problems no one will build on or improve a good property despite the beautiful scenery. It is rumored that "refugees" evicted from substandard dwellings in Park and other counties are heading for Fremont County since the word is out that there is no enforcement here. The county has become a laughingstock.

What kind of county do you want?



Top photo: A recreational vehicle being used as a residence – complete with a wood stove.

Lower photo: This property is clearly abandoned and uninhabitable. The interior of the foundation has in the past been used as a trash dump attracting swarms of rodents.

Courtesy photo by Rich Bandlow

Jared M. Smith, DMD

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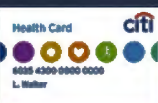


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Local Mountain News & Notices

ATTEBERY

from page 1

Like many true and patriotic Americans who believe in the Constitution and the Judeo Christian values of the Founding Fathers, Sandra Attebery, was a member of the Democratic Party, just like John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert. As a career engineer, disciplined and analytical, she noted the eroding principles of the party that eventually led her, just as it did another great American leader, Ronald Reagan, to embrace the higher standards of the Republican party of which she has been a member for over fifteen years. A staunch conservative, Sandra believes deeply and totally in down home Christian values, property and water rights, energy independence, school safety, medical and health care for all, and vibrant commerce in our communities.

Urged by many neighbors and friends, whom she considers to be extended family, Sandra has reached a decision, after much prayer and consultations, to share her talents and expertise with her Custer County family and give back to the community she considers intimately attached to her. Her deep love for Custer County comes through as she speaks, quietly, but with passion, about the need to ensure that the county continues to be an ideal place to live, work and raise a family, and for those so inclined, to retire and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us.

There is much to be done and, as county commissioner, she knows where it begins. With relatively small resources a county budget has to be managed with great care and attention. With costs of basic material constantly going up, prioritization of needs and fiscal conservatism are front and center in any strategic planning and execution. Roads and Bridges for instance have responsibility for hundreds of miles of roads and streets; wear and tear is constant and the budget remains unchanged. Income for the county has to be increased with more commerce, and in so doing, all growth needs to be measured with care to balance it with the quality of life that is so important to the residents of Custer County. Some ideas to be considered might be light manufacturing, perhaps a group that does catalog marketing or even an analytical laboratory with well paid employees, and by well paid means twenty dollars and over. Then there is a need to pay more attention to the smaller communities such as Wetmore with about two hundred residents, not exactly forgotten, but perhaps a little more attention would be a good thing. That includes San Isabel too and the other residents south to Antelope Valley. In short, more attention to the people who live in the towns as well as those who are in the rural areas.

There is a lot more to Sandra and it is impossible to bring it all together in a limited space. The one thing that stands out is that she is all about family and her family is all of Custer County. A lady of true humanitarian spirit.

JUDGE

from page 1

two states and has been a lawyer for 18 years, versus Ms. Hunter's less than five years experience in a public defenders office. The Nominating Commission (who had to pick three applicants to send to Governor Hickenlooper to choose one) skipped over the two most qualified Custer County (Collins and Printz), and chose Mr. Burns, also a Custer County resident but with slightly less experience than Collins and Printz, as one of the three. Then amazingly, the committee choose two relatively inexperienced candidates from OUT OF THE COUNTY to fill out the three: Amanda Hunter from Salida and another Public Defender, Riley Selleck of Salida. (Mr. Selleck happens to be Ms. Hunter's husband. Yup, what a small world.)

Note again that Chief Judge Murphy used to be the head public defender in Salida and that Ms. Hunter was hired by him and worked for him. As did Mr. Selleck.

So the nominating commission picks ONE Custer County resident, Mr. Burns (and dismisses probably the two best qualified) and TWO

OUT-OF-COUNTY, young, fairly inexperienced lawyers as the three choices to be sent to Governor Hickenlooper. (Question: Why did the Nominating Commission reject probably the best qualified applicants of the whole bunch and instead pick two out-of-county, young attorneys, who had happened to work for the current Chief 11th District Judge Murphy?)

Given that Hickenlooper had previously appointed Mr. Murphy as District Judge, and that Ms. Hunter and Mr. Selleck both had worked for Mr. Murphy at the Salida Public Defender's Office, the odds of Custer County resident Mr. Burns being chosen were probably pretty remote. (Mr. Burns stated in last week's article that the Governor's legal team didn't seem to be interested in him in that they seemed to forget to ask him to come to Denver for an interview, and when he requested it, he was interviewed just a few days before the appointment date and they appeared to be unfamiliar with his application.)

We're not saying that Ms. Hunter doesn't have the legal background to be our county judge. She does. And we don't blame her for applying for the job. (Heck, in small counties like Custer, you only have to be a high school graduate!!)

What we are saying is that 1) The 11th Judicial District Nominating Commission's own application said the applicant had to be a resident of the county where the opening is (as per Colorado Constitutional requirements) and Ms. Hunter and Mr. Selleck were NOT; 2) The Colorado Constitution clearly states that the person "appointed" must be an "Elector" at the time of appointment and Ms. Hunter was NOT; 3) The clear intent to the "Elector" word on the Colorado Constitution is that the applicants must be from the county where the opening is (local rule) to prevent political carpet bagging and 4) something is clearly amiss in the selection process of the 11th Judicial Nominating Commission as THEY REFUSED TO NOMINATE THE TWO CLEARLY SUPERIOR APPLICANTS FROM CUSTER COUNTY.

Not good folks.

The rule of law is the bed rock of our society. When political considerations or personal connections corrupt the rule of law, we all suffer. Whether it be unconstitutional executive orders by our president or local shenanigans, the slippery slope is engaged and will only end in tyranny and oppression.

We can do a better job.



2011

**FORD
FIESTA**

STK #J513A

\$159/mo

72/mo



2012

**TOYOTA
PRIUS**

STK #F652A

\$239/mo

75/mo



2011

**FORD F-150
CREW LARIAT**

STK #R355A

\$299/mo

75/mo



2012

**JEEP
WRANGLER 4X4**

STK #J575A

\$319/mo

75/mo

* All payments plus tax WAC/WAT. 10% cash down. 72 or 75 month terms.

TOWN & COUNTRY



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**United
Country**
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www.westcliffecolorado.com



**Mountain
Getaway Cabin!**
\$109,000

Year-round cabin in the mountains of Colorado. Need a base camp for your mountain adventures? Take a look at this cozy 1 bedroom get-away! Within walking distance of the San Isabel National Forest & the Rainbow Trail, it comes furnished, was recently renovated and can be occupied year-round. The cabin has a wood burning stove as well as electric baseboard heat, one bedroom, convenient kitchen, laundry/bath, a spacious living/dining area and an enclosed back porch. There are front and back decks, a mixed forest of fir, aspen & Gambel oak. Well & septic. No covenants.



**Colorado
Mountain Cabin
Retreat**
\$369,000

Rocky Mountain Hunter's paradise in the heart of Westcliffe, Colorado. 100 acres of huge, old aspen groves placed on a high meadow deep in elk, deer, and turkey country. Complete with self contained hunting blind with many extras. Bring your horses and run a few cows. Great to play cowboy on this versatile gorgeous property. Views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains are breathtakingly endless. 2 master suites with a large open concept living, dining, and kitchen combo. All rooms are in pine siding with carpet so deep you can drown in it. Peace and serenity abound on this property. Fishing, hiking, and skiing just around the corner. Be a part timer or full timer. Colorado is calling.

Local Mountain News & Notices

Donna L. Hood Running for County Commissioner, District 3

by George Gramlich

A Painted View Ranch's owner, Donna L. Hood, has thrown her cowgirl hat into the ring and with her 20 person election committee, is proceeding full tilt for her quest to be the next District 3 County Commissioner. She is running against the incumbent, Kit Shy, and local businessman, Brian Clince.

Donna was born and grew up in southeastern Pennsylvania. After graduating high school, she went to Villanova University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

After some work in the medical industry, she and four others founded a company in Pennsylvania, Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, Inc. in 1982. The company specializes in immunological reagents for the biological research community and has grown from five employees to sixty. It is considered number one worldwide in the secondary antibody products it manufactures. Also in 1982, she married her husband, Ralph. Working various jobs at her company, she eventually became the Chief Financial Officer.

Donna began her now life-long commitment to community services in 1986 by joining the Lion's Club International and eventually becoming President of the Kennett Square chapter. Over the years Donna has been a member, officer, even president of too many charity and community organizations to mention while she resided in Pennsylvania. Although, one must mention her board memberships in the Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce and the Chester County Economic Development Council as being particularly notable.

As with many new residents, Donna fell in love with the Wet Mountain Valley when visiting a friend in 1998. Three months later Ralph and Donna made their first purchase of land in the county. In 2004, she purchased a working horse ranch and eventually A Painted View Ranch became a reality. In 2008 she retired from Jackson ImmunoResearch to concentrate developing A Painted View into a world class facility.

Since moving here, Donna has become heavily involved in many community organizations including: President of the Custer County Chamber of Commerce, Secretary of the Custer County Republican Central Committee, Assistant Treasurer of the Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Club, President of the 4-H Foundation, Treasurer of the Fair Board, and President of the Custer County Cattle Women's Association, to name just a few.

Donna says she is running "to make a difference for everyone". She wants to provide fresh leadership to the position with better communication and coordination between various organizations in the county and she will actively seek out citizen input on all issues. Better government transparency is also high on her list.

Another area Donna wants to emphasize is "smart and sustainable growth"



Donna Hood, candidate for commissioner

Sentinel photo by George Gramlich

through the use of the county's Master Plan Vision. Donna has an interesting take on "Authority" versus "Responsibility" with regard to the role of being a commissioner: that commissioners have no "authority" to "tell towns, special districts, non-profits, clubs and other organizations what to do" but the commissioners have a leadership "responsibility" to "communicate, coordinate, organize and integrate items of mutual interest that cross organizational boundaries". She emphasizes that the Strategic Plan implementation must have a true, long range vision to insure viability ten to twenty years from now.

Donna stated "I am in it for the outcome, not the income"! Her Mission: To honor our heritage by connecting our past, present and future while facilitating smart economic development to ensure our community's values and legacies are carried forward.

You can contact Donna for more information at her cell phone, (610) 761-2770, at A Painted View Ranch, (719) 783-9100 or via email at rdh@apainted-view.com.

Custer County School District C-1 Regular School Board Meeting Library - February 9, 2016 4:30 p.m.

"For the good of the students of Custer County Schools"

- a. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Roll Call - Board Attendance
- c. Welcome of Guests (Please sign in if you wish to speak)
- d. Modification / Approval of Agenda
- e. General Public Comment Session - Comments will be limited to 3 minutes, Admin Response (If needed)
- f. Bobcat Pride Certificate(s)
- g. Consent Agenda
Acceptance: Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 12, 2016
- h. Reports from Students/Staff
 - a. Middle School Student-Led Conferences Presentation - MS Staff
 - b. District Financial Report - Monthly Overview - Amy Perschbacher
- i. Reports from Public: Excellence in Education (Lori Short), Accountability (Shelly Penkoff)
- j. Board Committee Reports: Accountability, BOCES, FFA, Legislative, Preschool Advisory
- k. Action Items:
 - a. Approval / Personnel: Custodian
 - b. Approval: Check Vouchers - Amy Perschbacher
 - c. Approval: Financial Reports - Amy Perschbacher / Anita Gregg
- d. Policy Updates:
 - i. Policy BG - School Board Policy Process - Third Reading
 - ii. Policy GBGG - Employee & Family Leave - Third Reading
 - iii. Regulation GBB-R - Faculty Advisory Council Mission Statement - First & Final Reading (Communications Committee Recommendation)
 - iv. Policy CBB - Recruitment of Superintendent - First Reading (Communications Committee Recommendation)
- e. Board By-Laws - Dr. Terre Davis
- f. SY 2016-17 Calendar Adoption - Calendar Committee/Administration
- g. Title IX - Adding Girls Golf Team for Spring 2016 - Mark Payler
- h. Discussion Item: Closed Campus Lunch - Mark Payler
- i. Discussion Item: Scheduling Task Force Report (HS 90 Day Plan): Troy Bomgardner
- l. Principal's Reports:
 - a. Elementary - Holly Anderson
 - b. Secondary - Barb Jones (Mark Payler)
- m. Superintendent's Report - Mark Payler
District Highlights / Legislative Session Update
- n. Items introduced by Board Members
- o. General Public Comment Session (Comments limited to 3 minutes)
- p. Executive Session - If Needed
- q. Looking Ahead:
 1. Regular Board Meeting, March 8, 2016
 2. Special Board Meeting, February 16, 2016 (Executive Session - Superintendent Evaluation) 4:30 pm at the Administration Workroom
- r. Adjournment



"No matter how fantastic or great of a deal you think you've made, if you make that deal with the devil, you always end up in hell."

Sponsored by Critical Path Metalworks, Westcliffe, Colorado

13 Hours

Now Playing at Skyline Theatre in Cañon City

The manager of the Skyline Theatre in Cañon City (<http://www.ccskylinetheater.com/>) has made an extra effort to book the movie Thirteen Hours for a week. It's an account of the events on the ground during the terrorist attack in Benghazi on September 11, 2012. The Occupant of the Oval Office slept and the Secretary of State, the thus far unindicted felon commonly known as Hillary Clinton, did nothing. Americans were left to die. The fecklessness and perfidy are without equal in American history.

Showtimes are as follows:

Fri. Feb. 5			6:45	9:45
Sat. Feb. 6	12:45	3:45	6:45	9:45
Sun. Feb. 7	12:45	3:45	7:00	
Mon. Feb. 8	1:00		7:00	
Tues - Thurs.				
Feb. 9-11			7:00	
Ends Thurs. Feb. 11th				

13 Hours is rated R for strong combat violence throughout, bloody images, and language.

**NOT EVEN THE NSA KNOWS
WHAT'S IN YOUR STORAGE UNIT**



CLIFFS STORAGE
(719) 371-2006

Local Mountain News & Notices

Interview Workshop for High School Students

High school students can discover and improve the skills they need to get the job they want, the scholarship they need or get into the college that is right for them at an upcoming library event. The West Custer County Library will be hosting “Act as If: Interview Workshop” on Thursday, February 11th, from 4:15 to 6 p.m. for all students in grades 9 through 12.

This free workshop features both a Q&A session and one-on-one practice with professionals from Cañon City, Pueblo, and Custer County. It will be held in the West Custer County Library Community Room at 209 Main Street in Westcliffe.

For more information or to RSVP, please call the library at 783-9138 or email jessica@westcusterlibrary.org.

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

Friday, February 5: Crested Butte
@ Crested Butte - 3:30/3:30/4:30/6:00

Friday, February 12: Sanford
HOME - 3:30/3:30/4:00/5:30

Friday, February 19: South Park
@ South Park - 3:00/3:00/4:00/5:30

Saturday, February 20 - Antonito
HOME - 3:00/3:00/4:00/5:30

WRESTLING

Friday - Saturday, February 12-13: Regionals - TBA
Thursday - Saturday, February 18-20: State - TBA

Bobcats Boys Varsity Basketball

by Coach Shannon Byerly

The boys have been really working on improving their game and we are starting to turn a corner in regards to team play. In the last four games we have done some good things and put together a good quarter here and there. We are still learning to stay focused for the entire game and a lot of that comes with maturity as a player. We are young and while we keep mentioning that, it is a really big deal in Varsity basketball. Even a standout 10th grader is rarely the #1 guy on the team. He can relax and play within himself as the older kids lead and set the example. Our kids don't have that advantage. They don't get to sit on the bench and watch the game and learn. They are going 100 miles an hour and trying to learn on the fly. That creates doubt and a lack of confidence and in a nutshell, that is where we are. Right now we are trying to put two quarters of solid basketball together. The kids are starting to see what we have been talking about since day one and now they have to learn to antic-



Back row, left to right: Asst. Coaches Joy Parrish & Isaac Selden, David Kinsey, Tyler Ferron, Billy Berry, Michael Batson, and Head Coach Shannon Byerly. Front row, left to right: Chad Lewenkamp, Jakob Riehle-Morris, Dylan Schoch, Austin Fenley, Cash Rowley, and Trumann Fenley.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

ipate and react instead of think about it. We seem to have the tendency to give up 30 points in a quarter and it really hurts us. The key is we are getting better. I really think we can win a game or two this week if we focus and continue to grow each game. We will turn it around but it is going to take time. We have good kids and the wins will come if the work is done now.

Sentinel note about the games this week: On Thursday, February 4, the Bobcats Varsity teams play

the Cotopaxi Pirates at home. The Pirates play in a 1A league and have a 1-2 record, and have an even split for all games played this season, 6-6. This game will be history by the time this issue of the Sentinel is received.

On Friday, Varsity and JV teams travel to Crested Butte where JV games will start at 3:30, Varsity girls scheduled for 4:30, and Varsity boys for 6:00. Crested Butte boys have 0-2 in 2A league play and 2-10 for the season.

GO BOBCATS!



Super Bowl Solutions Dine In or Dine Out



Will Taylor and Danny Newton of Elevation Meat Market, located at 101 S. 2nd Street in Westcliffe, have great ideas for dinning in for the big game.

Food ideas pictured above are tamales, jalapeño hot dogs, shrimp cocktail, summer sausage, bacon wrapped filets, and crab cakes. Smoked baby-back ribs will be available by reservation only. They also recommend deli-trays, handmade hamburger patties, smoked salmon, marinated chicken breast, homemade sausage, and prime or choice beef.

Give Elevation Meat Market a call at 783-4263 and let Danny or Will help you with your dining in plans.



Jill Tomassoni of Tony's Mountain Pizza, located at 630 Main Street in Silver Cliff, offers you a dine-out or take-out experience for the big game.

Stop in and watch the Super Bowl on the big movie screen in the event room or in the main dining room if you prefer. They will be open until the game ends.

In addition to their regular menu, they will be offering a Bucking Bronco Pizza and drink specials. Pictured above are chips and queso with Italian sausage and a buffalo chicken wrap.

Give Tony's Mountain Pizza a call at 783-9300 and let them help you with your dine-out or take-out plans.

GO BRONCOS!

Local Mountain News & Notices

FAFSA Workshops, College Visits, and Scholarship Night Coming Up for CCHS Seniors and Parents February 10th, 18th, & 24th

Custer County seniors are busy preparing for post-secondary plans this semester and to help in this process there will be a number of activities offered by the CCHS counseling department. A FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) workshop for parents and students will be held Wednesday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school computer lab. The workshop will include the opportunity to complete the FAFSA online with assistance from local resident Jennifer Hyslop and CCHS Counselor Troy Bomgardner. “I am excited about the help Jennifer can offer parents as she has worked with families in the past in completing the FAFSA,” said Bomgardner. The FAFSA is required to be eligible for federal aid such as the Pell Grant and Perkins Loan. “This will be a great workshop for parents who are working on the FAFSA. I highly encourage anyone who plans to complete the FAFSA to attend,” added Bomgardner. Social Security numbers for students and parents are necessary,

and students and parents are encouraged to bring copies of W-2s and/or 2015 tax-es (if completed).

On Thursday, February 18th, there will be a school sponsored trip to visit Pueblo Community College and CSU-Pueblo. The school will provide transportation and supervision for the trip. The trip is open to juniors and seniors at CCHS. Students will be responsible for the cost of lunch on the CSU-P campus.

On Wednesday, February 24th, the annual PTSO Scholarship Night will be held in the multi-purpose room at Custer County Schools. The event will give seniors a chance to meet the local organizations who offer scholarships to CCHS seniors. The event will begin at 6:30pm.

For questions on any of the above events or questions about post-second-ary plans for you child, please contact CCHS Counselor Troy Bomgardner at 783-4927.



Grape Creek Sunset

Courtesy photo by Mark A. Payler


Bobcat Menu • Feb. 8 – Feb. 11, 2016

Monday Breakfast Choice of Cereal Fruit Milk lunch Hamburger Veg. Fruit Milk	Tuesday Breakfast Choice of Cereal Fruit Milk lunch Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Bread sticks 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 a la King Veg. Fruit Milk
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Elementary: Main Dish, Grain Product, Veg., Fruit, and Milk

Middle & High: Main Dish, (or Pre-made Chef Salad) Grain Product, Veg., Fruit, and Milk



American Legion

Boys State and Girls State

Now Accepting Applications For 2016



The American Legion Colorado Boys State and The American Legion Auxiliary Colorado Girls State are now accepting applications from high school junior boys and girls. Attendance at Boys State and Girls State is a special once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The 2016 Boys State session is scheduled at CSU Pueblo 5 June through 11 June. Girls State is scheduled at UNC Greeley June 5th through June 10th.

Attendance is a prestigious opportunity and great honor. Boys State and Girls State are programs of The American Legion National Americanism Commission and Auxiliary Americanism. They have been conducted annually since 1948. More than 25,000 young men participate in the national Boys State program each year and a like number in Girls State. More than 2 million young men and women are graduates of Boys State and Girls State. They are open only for high

school juniors.

Boys State and Girls State are among the most respected and selective educational programs for government instruction for high school students in the nation. It is a participatory program where each delegate becomes a part of the operation of their local, county and state government. Those graduating can receive up to four college credits that are transferable to 99% of all colleges in the U.S. They are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with city, county and state governments operated by elected and appointed officials duly placed in office of their respective programs. Public officials and professional leaders make presentations and every phase of the program includes practical instruction of public officials and citizens.

The American Legion West-

cliffe Post 170 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 170 sponsor boys and girls every year. All expenses are paid by The Legion and Auxiliary, Westcliffe, Colorado, with support from the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation.

Information and application forms for Boys State 2016 are available on line at <http://www.colegion-boysstate.org/>. Girls State information and applications are available on line at <http://www.alacolorado.com/girls-state.html>.

Post 170 contact for Boys State is Carol Kennedy (783-2462-H), (371-5202-C), email MommaWolf60@gmail.com

Unit 170 contact for Girls State is Brinder Bradberry (783-2562-H) or (371-5102-C).

All high school junior boys and girls are strongly encouraged to consider this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

KIDS

Friday, February 5, 2016

Groundhog Day

The first Groundhog Day was celebrated February 2nd, 1887, at Gobbler’s Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Its origin goes back many centuries to a time when ethnic cultures and animal’s awakening at certain times from their winter hibernation influenced the lives of the people.

It has its roots in the ancient Christian tradition of Candlemas Day, when clergy would bless and distribute candles needed for winter. Germans expanded on this concept by selecting an animal—the hedgehog—as a means of predicting weather. Once in America, the German settlers in Pennsylvania continued the tradition, switching, however, from hedgehogs to groundhogs, which were plentiful in the Keystone State.

What exactly is a groundhog, you might ask. Its scientific name is Marmota Monax, also known as a woodchuck. They typically weigh 12 to 15 pounds and live six to eight years, and they eat vegetables and fruits. A groundhog can whistle when it is alarmed and they also whistle in the spring when they begin courting. They go into hibernation in the late fall, and in February the males emerge from their burrows to look for a mate before going underground again and coming out of hibernation for good in March.

In 1887, a group of groundhog hunters from Punxsutawney called the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club declared that Phil, the Punxsutawney groundhog, was America’s only true weather-forecasting groundhog. The *Punxsutawney Spirit* newspaper is credited with printing the news of the first observance in 1886, and today the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club hosts a three-day celebration featuring entertainment and activities.

As we all know, if Phil sees his shadow, he regards it as an omen of six more weeks of bad weather and returns to his hole.

If the day is cloudy and, hence, shadow less, he takes it as a sign of spring and stays above ground.

For more information on Punxsutawney Phil, his weather predictions and fun things to do on February 2nd, go to www.groundhog.org.

Note: I made an error on last week’s Kid’s Corner. If you are interested on more information on the space camp please go to www.spacecamp.com.

by Audrey Slater, Sources: history.com, groundhog.org.

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner



Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE

The following is a list of all bills presented, audited, and ordered by the Board of County Commissioners of Custer County, Colorado, from their respective funds at the regular meeting on January 29, 2016.

Custer County Payments for the Airport Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
ASCENT AVIATION GROUP INC	POS CHARGE	30.00
CENTURYLINK	SRV	104.88
COLORADO AIRPORT OPERATORS	2016 MEMBERSHIP	50.00
DIVERSE DATUM WIRELESS	WIRELESS SRV	60.00
NORUP GAS INC	SRV	422.63
SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC	SRV	153.23
VALLEY ACE HOME CENTER	SUPPLIES	7.16
WRIGHT ELECTRIC LLC	ELECTRICAL REPAIR	160.00
	Final Totals...	987.90

Custer County Payments for the Capital Improvement Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
SAFETY VISION	BODY CAMERAS	2,327.64
UNITED REPROGRAPHIC SUPPLY	ASSR COPIER MAINT AGREE	90.00
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL LEASING	ASSR MAPPING COPIER	285.40
	Final Totals...	2,703.04

Custer County Payments for the Conservation Trust Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
ALL ABOARD WESTCLIFFE	2016 CONTRIBUTION	830.00
CUSTER COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS	2016 CONTRIBUTION	3,320.00
SCHULTZ/STEVE	2016 CAL RIPKIN CONTRIB	2,490.00
TOWN OF SILVER CLIFF	2016 MUSEUM CONTRIBUTION	2,490.00
WETMORE COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD	2016 CONTRIBUTION	4,150.00
WETMORE COMMUNITY LIBRARY	2016 CONTRIBUTION	4,980.00
	Final Totals...	18,260.00

Custer County Payments for the Emergency Services Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
CENTURYLINK	OEM SRV	102.88
CHASE CARD SERVICES	OEM BACKGROUND CHECKS	68.50
CUSTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES HIT	INSURANCE	4,101.00
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES INC	CAD HOSTED SERVICE	7,180.21
POLICE LEGAL SCIENCES INC	911 DISPATCH TRAINING	720.00
	Final Totals...	12,172.59
	Payroll...	8,215.88

Custer County Payments for the Human Services Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
	Final Totals...	10,550.83
	Payroll...	14,612.20

Custer County Payments for the Tourism Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
WET MTN VALLEY SADDLE CLUB	SP EVENT MARKETING GRANT	700.00
	Final Totals...	700.00

Custer County Payments for the Self Insurance Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
ARTHUR J GALLAGHER RISK	PT BOND RENEWAL	100.00
COLORADO COUNTIES CASUALTY	CG SHARE CAPP PREMIUM	23,271.00
COLORADO COUNTIES CASUALTY	RB SHARE CAPP PREMIUM	23,271.00
COLORADO STATE TREASURER	UNEMPL BENEFIT REIMBURSE	4,312.00
COUNTY WORKERS COMP POOL	CG SHARE CWCP PREMIUM	48,004.80
COUNTY WORKERS COMP POOL	RB SHARE CWCP PREMIUM	32,003.20
TASC	CG SHARE TASC ADMIN	193.92
TASC	RB SHARE TASC ADMIN	193.92
ZIMMERMANS BODY SHOP	SHERIFF VEHICLE REPAIR	10,137.00
	Final Totals...	141,486.84

Custer County Payments for the General Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
ABBOTT/BRENDA	POSTAGE REIMBURSEMENT	3.14
ACTION 22 INC	2016 MEMBER DUES	350.00
AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE	DS WH	152.78
AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE	CN W/H	167.30
AT & T MOBILITY	SERVICE	766.30
AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE	SHERIFF REPAIR	44.79
BERG HILL GREENLEAF & RUSCITI	PROF SRVS	247.50
BERKELAND/SAM	SUPPLIES REIMB	20.95
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	CRTHS SRV	4,366.02
BREVARD EXTRADITIONS INC	SHERIFF TRANSPORT	1,004.01
CARD SERVICES	CONFERENCE REG/MEALS	830.45
CCTA EASTERN DIVISION	EASTERN DIV DUES 2016	100.00
CCVSOA	2016 MEMBER DUES	25.00
CDPHE	LANDFILL SWUF 4TH QRTR	877.63
CDPHE ADMIN DIV & FIN SRVS	OWTS PERMIT SURCHARGE	280.00
CENTURYLINK	WCCL SRV	447.90
CENTURYLINK	SERVICE	3,879.53
CHRISTENSEN/RUSTY	BOX RENTAL REIMB	68.00
CLIFFES AUTO SERVICES/THE	P & Z VEHICLE TIRES	635.54
COLORADO ASSESSORS ASSN	2016 ANNUAL DUES	1,042.00
COLORADO CORONERS ASSN	2016 ANNUAL DUES	780.00
COLORADO COUNTIES INC	CCI DUES 2016	10,000.00
COLORADO COUNTY CLERK'S ASSOC	2016 ASSOCIATION DUES	811.50
COLORADO COUNTY TREASURER'S	TREAS ASSOCIATION DUES	400.00
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	GARNISHMENT	135.00
COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE	CO EFF IGA 2016	2,222.82
COUNTY SHERIFFS OF COLORADO	CSOC 2016 DUES	2,638.86
CRESTONE GRAPHICS	SHERIFF BUSINESS CARDS	380.00
CUSTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES HIT	INSURANCE W/H	31,687.42
CUSTER COUNTY EXTENSION		56.71
CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF INMATE	DEPOSIT CORRECTION	650.00
DLC SERVICES INC	SPRINKLER SYSTEM BLOWOUT	75.00
ESRI INC	ARC GIS LICENSES	3,000.00
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY	GARNISHMENT	442.00
FOX DRUG INC	INMATE RX	2.00
HENRICH/JAMES D	REIMB	100.00
HUNT INSURANCE GROUP	INMATE MEDICAL POLICY	779.00
INDUSTRIAL SCIENTIFIC	LNDFL MULTI GAS MONITOR	854.79
IPPOLITO/CHUCK	REIMBURSEMENTS	6,914.90
KATTNIG/ROBERT (BOB)	REIMB	75.00
LEDs LLC	CLERK SRVS	1,852.00
LEGALSHIELD	LS W/H	38.85
LEXIPOL LLC	JAIL POLICY	7,816.00

MANKEL/PAULA	REIMBS	182.44
MIDDLETON/MIKE	REIMBS	11.19
MOHR'S WOOD ITEMS AND TROPHIES	SHERIFF PLAQUES	82.30
MOUNTAIN PUBLISHING CO INC/THE	DEC PUBLISHING	80.32
M7 BUSINESS SYSTEMS	PERS PROP DECLARE SCHED	41.28
NACO	2016 ANNUAL DUES	450.00
NACVSO	ANNUAL MEMBER DUES 2016	30.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS OF WESTCLIFFE	LANDFILL REPAIRS	234.05
NAYLOR & GEISEL P.C.	PROF SRVS	60.00
NORDYKE/ARTHUR	TRAVEL	165.00
NORUP GAS INC	SHERIFF COMPLEX SRV	1,990.43
OAK DISPOSAL SERVICE	LNDFL FACILITIES	96.50
OFFICE DEPOT	CCPHNS SUPPLIES	52.77
OFFICE OF THE DIST ATTORNEY	PROF SRVS	7,645.83
PIQUETTE ENTERPRISES LLC	JANUARY ACCOUNTING	794.66
POLICE ONE ACADEMY	TRAINING	1,275.00
PRECISION GARAGE DOORS LLC	LANDFILL SERVICE CALL	105.00
PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSIONS P C	SHERIFF EXP	200.00
PUBLIC TRUSTEE ASSN OF COLO	2016 TRUSTEE DUES	200.00
QUILL CORP	BOCC ADMIN SUPPLIES	65.72
ROUND MTN WATER & SANITATION	SHERIFF COMPLEX SRV	172.80
SAM'S CLUB	SHERIFF CHARGES	33.98
SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC	LANDFILL SERVICE	221.98
SBA STRUCTURES LLC	TOWER RENTAL	260.84
SCEDD	2016 DUES	1,680.84
SCHNEIDER CORPORATION	ASSR QPUBLIC WEB HOSTING	5,100.00
SHY/CHRISTOPHER (KIT)	REIMBS	225.00
SILCHIA/ANGELA	REIMB	8.19
SMITH/CLINTON A	JANUARY RETAINER	1,925.00
SOUTHERN REGION COLORADO	2016 ASSOCIATION DUES	75.00
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	SHERIFF CHARGES	32.58
STATE OF COLORADO	MVR DELIVERABLES JAN 16	193.37
STATUTES UNLIMITED	ELECTION MANUAL	470.00
STOLTZFUS/GAIL	REIMBS	391.00
SWARTZ/TIM	MILEAGE	26.00
TASC PVR	FLEX W/H	1,233.32
TONY'S MOUNTAIN PIZZA	SHERIFFS CHRISTMAS PARTY	1,650.00
TOTAL OFFICE SOLUTIONS	CLERKS SUPPLIES	258.45
U S POSTAL SERVICE	POSTAGE MACHINE POSTAGE	2,000.00
UAACOG	2016 COG DUES	4,220.00
US BANK		1,210.67
VALLEY ACE HOME CENTER	LANDFILL SUPPLIES	47.44
WESTCLIFFE PETROLEUM	SHERIFF PROPANE	15.40
WESTCLIFFE SUPER MARKET	CRTHS SUPPLIES	49.03
WET MOUNTAIN TRIBUNE	JANUARY PUB	10.15
WET MTN FIRE PROTECTION DIST	VERDEMONT REPEATER MAINT	412.22
XEROX BUSINESS SERVICES LLC	ASSR DATA PROCESSING	6,229.27
ZIMMERMANS BODY SHOP	BALANCE OF TRUCK REPAIR	533.89
	Final Totals...	129,469.60
	Payroll...	100,718.69

Custer County Payments for the Road and Bridge Fund
Payments From January 1, 2016
Through January 31, 2016

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
AFLAC	AF W/H	39.90
AIRGAS INTERMOUNTAIN INC	SUPPLIES	1,601.76
AMERICAN FIDELITY ASSURANCE	DS W/H	532.52
AT & T MOBILITY	SERVICE	208.96
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	WC SHOP SRV	855.66
CARSE	MEMBER DUES	180.00
CCOM	PE DOT EXAM	70.00
CENTURYLINK	WETMORE SHOP SRV	187.32
CENTURYLINK	WC SHOP SRV	305.28
CHASE CARD SERVICES	RB CHARGES	430.19
CORPORATE BILLING LLC	SUPPLIES	233.47



Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES



CRESTONE GRAPHICS	DOT DECALS	70.00
CUSTER COUNTY EMPLOYEES HIT	INSURANCE	9,868.76
DRIVE TRAIN INDUSTRIES	DRIVE TRAIN OVERHAUL	4,035.19
FLORENCE TRUE VALUE	MISC SHOP SUPPLIES	28.97
GCR TIRES & SERVICE	RETREAD & REPAIRS	3,196.75
INTERSTATE BILLING SERVICE	SHOCK MOUNT	120.33
KNECHT HOME CENTER OF CANON	MISC TOOLS/SUPPLIES	328.89
LEGALSHIELD	LS W/H	51.80
LITZ AUTO SUPPLY	WASHER FLUID	70.68
MHC KENWORTH	HIGH BACK COVERS	88.56
NAPA AUTO PARTS OF WESTCLIFFE	PARTS	320.45
NORUP GAS INC	SERVICE	910.39
PROCOM	2016 ANNUAL FEE	44.00
PUEBLO BEARING SERVICE	MISC LUBRICANTS	81.79
QUILL CORP	SUPPLIES	434.68
REIS/BYRON	REIMBS	45.10
ROUND MTN WATER & SANITATION	SRV	482.80
TASC PVR	FLEX W/H	574.98
TOOLS PLUS INDUSTRIES	MISC SIGNS/SUPPLIES	880.01
TRACKER SOFTWARE CORP	2016 SUPPORT/ MAINTENANCE	1,428.00
TRUE VALUE TRAILERS	STRAPS & MISC TOOLS	136.68
TWF ENTERPRISES INC	LEAK DETECTOR TESTING	893.00
VALLEY ACE HOME CENTER	SUPPLIES	598.04
WAGNER EQUIPMENT CO	FILM	12.19
WESTCLIFFE SUPER MARKET	PAPER PRODUCTS/CLEANING	148.38
WET MTN FIRE PROTECTION DIST	RADIO CHARGER	249.95
WRIGHT ELECTRIC LLC	WETMORE LIGHTS INSTALL	4,130.00
XEROX CORP	COPIER	60.57
ZEP MANUFACTURING CO	CLEANER/DEGREASER/ZEP	177.29
	Final Totals...	34,113.29
	Payroll...	35,550.39

STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF CUSTER

I, Kelley S. Camper, County Clerk in and for said county, and in the state aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true, full, and correct list of all office bills allowed paid by the Board of County Commissioners of said county and state, at the regular meeting held in January 2016, as shown by the records and files of my office. Given under my hand and official seal this month of January A.D. 2016.

Kelley S. Camper
County Clerk

Date published: February 5, 2016
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

Public Notice

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PAID BY CUSTER COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 2015
*EMPLOYEES INDICATED * RECEIVES ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION IN THE FORM OF FRINGE BENEFITS BY CUSTER COUNTY. THE AVERAGE FOR SUCH BENEFITS IS 12% OF GROSS SALARIES.*

COUNTY GENERAL		
*County Commissioner		\$49,700.04
*County Commissioner		\$49,700.04
*County Commissioner		\$48,029.97
*County Commissioner		\$1,670.00
*Board Administrative Asst.		\$16,492.50
*Planning & Zoning Director		\$43,291.44
*Planning & Zoning Clerk		\$35,384.04
*Information Technology/GIS Director		\$45,995.16
*Finance/HR		\$49,719.85
*County Coroner		\$22,100.04
*County Clerk		\$28,991.69
*County Clerk		\$20,708.31
*Chief Deputy County Clerk		\$30,471.55
*Deputy Clerk /Motor Vehicle		\$33,968.40
*Deputy Clerk/Recording		\$27,692.40
*Deputy Clerk/Elections		\$8,060.00
PT Clerk Help		\$1,945.00

*County Treasurer/Public Trustee	\$57,970.04
*Chief Deputy County Treasurer	\$36,483.00
*County Assessor	\$49,700.04
*Chief Deputy County Assessor	\$32,811.12
*Transfer Clerk	\$27,616.68
*Cartographer	\$38,722.84
*Appraiser	\$33,944.64
*Maintenance/Grounds/Custodian	\$22,368.00
*Landfill Operator	\$33,076.20
*Landfill Operator Recycling Coordinator	\$28,554.92
	\$11,442.40
*Public Health Nurse	\$53,198.60
*Public Health Admin Asst.	\$26,199.60
Public Health PT Help	\$18,125.16

Useful Public Service Coordinator	\$7,099.08
*Veteran’s Service Officer	\$11,439.00
PT Veteran’s Service Officer	\$2,599.98
*Extension Secretary	\$38,458.32
*County Sheriff	\$64,362.06
*County Sheriff	\$2,237.88
*Under-Sheriff	\$51,870.00
*Under-Sheriff	\$588.29
*Sheriff Administrative Asst.	\$37,077.41
*Sheriff Administrative Asst.	\$4,760.00

*Sheriff Code Enforcement Officer	\$0
*Court Security Officer	\$45,012.04
*Deputy Sheriff	\$23,294.63
*Deputy Sheriff	\$43,740.62
*Deputy Sheriff	\$43,346.34
*Deputy Sheriff	\$37,932.94
*Deputy Sheriff	\$4,212.26
*Deputy Sheriff	\$34,693.67
*Deputy Sheriff	\$14,967.36
*Deputy Sheriff	\$6,896.36
*Deputy Sheriff	\$41,217.28
*Deputy Sheriff	\$14,687.05
*Detention Sergeant	\$35,323.75
*Detention Officer	\$37,121.95
*Detention Officer	\$27,537.19
*Detention Officer	\$25,267.41
*Detention Officer	\$10,719.83
*Detention Officer	\$9,920.32
*Detention Officer	\$4,601.41
*Detention Officer	\$8,231.29
*Detention Officer	\$9,570.22

EMERGENCY SERVICES	
*Communications Dispatcher	\$9,218.55
*Communications Dispatcher	\$28,638.35
*Communications Dispatcher	\$18,183.65
*Communications Dispatcher	\$20,085.95
*Communications Dispatcher	\$24,633.38
*Communications Dispatcher	\$2,979.88
*Communications Dispatcher	\$11,423.27
*Communications Dispatcher	\$9,359.55
PT Communications Dispatcher	\$8,225.01
*PT Communications Dispatcher	\$13,604.09
PT Communications Dispatcher	\$5,651.70
PT Communications Dispatcher	\$1,271.82
* Office of Emergency Management Director	\$36,618.00

ROAD & BRIDGE	
*Supervisor	\$63,465.00
*Asst. Supervisor	\$62,435.04
*Asst. Supervisor	\$54,607.05
*Administrative Asst.	\$29,343.86
*Mechanic	\$57,998.88
*Mechanic	\$41,041.38
*Operator	\$28,100.90
*Operator	\$26,635.68
*Operator	\$34,080.84
*Operator	\$50,049.48
*Operator	\$10,452.55
*Operator	\$34,910.81
*Operator	\$33,782.32
*Operator	\$31,906.00

*Operator	\$33,070.72
*Operator	\$10,180.91
*Operator	\$23,196.60
*Operator	\$28,831.94
*Operator	\$32,430.56
Custodian	\$2,160.60

HUMAN SERVICES	
*Director	\$70,451.04
*Social Caseworker	\$56,258.76
*Caseworker	\$30,120.00
*IM/Legal Tech	\$61,099.16
*Case Service Aide	\$19,657.68
*Case Manager	\$17,996.16

Date published: February 5, 2016
Sangre de Cristo Sentinel
Westcliffe, Colorado

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Call and order your homemade bread or pastries.



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Dr. Scott Gillespie
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Custer County Sheriff's Posse Receives Training on Patient Transport From Custer County EMS

Training by Vernon Roth of CC EMS on Tuesday, January 23, 2016





Colorado State News



“Takin’ It To The House...”

A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
January 31, 2016

After a series of peaks and valleys, this past week finished on a high note. On Friday morning, the Senate joined us in the House Chambers for Military Appreciation Day at the Capitol. It is not often that one sees all 100 legislators in agreement – Friday was one of those rare moments! It was an opportunity for the legislature to recognize the service of our men and women in uniform for their service. All too often we forget the personal sacrifices that have been made to insure our freedom. It was indeed an honor to pay tribute to all those service men and women, both present and past, who have sacrificed so much. To all those who have served, and their families, may I just say, “Thank you for protecting all the things we hold so dear.”

The biggest valley of the week for me came in the Education Committee on

HB16-1002 (“Employee Leave Attend Child’s Academic Activities”). This bill would require employers with 50 or more employees to allow up to 18 hours of unpaid leave for employees to attend their children’s school activities. A similar bill was passed in 2009, with a sunset date of last fall. Companies changed their HR policies to comply with the 2009 legislation and, to our knowledge, there were no instances of denial of leave since the sunset. And now, the descent into the valley begins...

The new bill is sponsored by Rep. Janet Buckner (who replaced her husband who passed away last year). Her husband carried a similar bill that failed last session – so, there is an emotional connection to the bill. The second step into the “valley” is the fact that this was the first bill Rep. Janet Buckner has presented in her short legislative career – therefore, she did not know what to expect in terms of hard ques-

tions and political process. The final step into the abyss was the fact that the R’s on the committee felt the bill should go to the Business Committee since it directly affected the business community.

When the smoke had cleared, the D’s voted down an amendment to return the new bill back to the 2009 version; they voted down the motion to send the new bill to the Business Committee; and, the bill was voted through on a 6-5 party line vote. The Education Committee adjourned with Rep. Buckner emotionally upset, I felt bad about hurting her feelings, and the bill (without the blessing of the Business Committee) destined to pass the Democrat House and die in the Republican Senate. Not one of my most enjoyable days in the Education Committee...

The bills are beginning to stack up in all committees. With this being an election year, I am sure the session will be a con-



tinuing series of peaks and valleys. I am looking forward to more peaks than valleys...

We have already had some HD 60 folks visit us here at the Capitol, and we are scheduled for our first school group this week. I would enjoy visiting with you if you come to the Capitol, so please take the time to stop by if you are in the neighborhood. Feel free to call (303-866-2747) or e-mail me at wilson-forhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60 --
Representative Jim Wilson

Local Mountain News & Notices

Sheriff’s Report...

On the dates below, there were 198 calls for service to the Sheriff’s Office, 10 to EMS, and 2 to the Fire Dept. On February 2nd, there were three males and one female in the county jail.

1/27/16:
Traffic Summons: Michael Kienbusch of Westcliffe for speeding 25 - 39 over.

Mark Humphreys of Westcliffe for disregarding a stop sign.

Property Lines: A deputy was dispatched to Discovery Road in Silver Cliff Heights regarding a civil dispute between neighbors involving property lines.

1/28/16:
Chimney Fire: The Wet Mountain Fire Department, EMS and Sheriff deputies were dispatched to Fleetwood Street in Silver Cliff for a chimney fire.

1/29/16:
Arrests: Regina Osting of Westcliffe was stopped by a deputy while out on patrol. Osting was arrested and issued a summons for failing to drive in a single lane,

driving a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs or both and driving a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 or greater.

Traffic Summons: Douglas Bashara of Westcliffe for speeding 10 - 19.

1/30/16:
Unresponsive Male: EMS and a Sheriff deputy were dispatched to CR 317 in Deer Meadows for an unresponsive male. The patient was transported to a hospital in Pueblo.

Minors Drinking: A deputy was dispatched to investigate a report of minors drinking alcohol. Summons were issued to four male juveniles for the illegal possession or consumption of ethyl alcohol or marijuana by an underage person.

2/2/16:
Vehicle Accident: Sheriff’s deputies, EMS and the Wet Mountain Fire Department were dispatched to a two vehicle accident on Rosita Avenue and South 3rd Street in Westcliffe.

St Andrews Golf Course

163+/- Acres

Club House With Restaurant

Just Off Hwy 69 North On Copper Gulch Rd

Water Rights, Reservoir, Creek

Offered At \$950,000

Spectacular views

Pavilion For Meetings Or Receptions

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Wet Mountain Tasting Room

Join us for the Super Bowl!

Excellent Cocktails! Food!

Good times and great people!

Super Bowl specials include
10% off “to go” bottle purchases
and 20% off “cocktail” bottles.

Party starts at 3 pm.

Grand Re-opening February 19th

Live Music & Food!

108 Main Street
Facebook.com/WetMountainTastingRoom

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

Help Wanted

Communications Dispatcher

Hourly wage \$11.67. Applications must be submitted by February 21, 2016. The Custer County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a Communications Dispatcher. This is a full time position with benefits. All applicants must be age 21 or older, no felony convictions, and pass a background check. The position requires applicants to work flexible shifts, holidays, and weekends. Required skills include attention to detail, strong communication skills, working well under pressure, and an ability to learn various computer applications.

The Communications Dispatcher is responsible for gathering information, dispatching the appropriate emergency response, and providing information to ensure the safety of county personnel, including:

Sheriff's Office (Deputies, Detention staff, Posse members, and Search and Rescue); Custer County EMS and Flight for Life; the Wetmore and Wet Mountain Fire Departments; the County Coroner, and the Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers.

Pick up an application at the Sheriff's Office, 702 Rosita Avenue, Westcliffe, CO 81252.

You need not complete a new application if you previously applied within the past 12 months. Call or email asking to be considered for the current position. Questions, please call Joseph McCarthy, 719-783-2270 or email at jmc-mccarthy@custercountygov.com.



The Custer County School District has an opening for a full-time custodian. For more information concerning the job requirements, please contact Greg Cravens at ((719)242-8891. Classified staff applications are available online at custercountyschools.org or at the Administration office at 709 Main St. in Westcliffe Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. The position will remain open until February 4th, 2016 or until filled.

In compliance with Titles VI & VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in

Employment Act of 1967, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and Colorado law, Custer County School District C-1 does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, disability or need for special education services in admissions, access to, treatment or employment in educational programs or activities which it operates. Complaint procedures have been established for students, parents, employees and members of the public. The following person(s) have been identified as the compliance officer for the district: Secondary Principal, 709 Main Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252. (719)783-2291

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Please call Art Nordyke
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**NORDYKE
SANITATION**

Please call 719-783-3360 or email sdc.sentinel@gmail.com to place your ad.
The deadline for getting your information into the Classifieds is Monday at 4 p.m. for that week's edition.

Jay D. Printz

Candidate for County Commissioner District 2
Help Me -Help the Community

Please stop by and sign my petition to place me on the June Primary Ballot.

Petitions are available for signature beginning February 1 at Loan A Ranger, 206 Main Street, Westcliffe

Who may sign my petition? It doesn't matter what district you live in. You may sign my petition if:

- 1. You have been a Republican for a minimum of 29 days.**
- 2. You have not signed or plan to sign a petition for Mr. Dale Falske.**
- 3. You may only sign one petition in each district. You may sign one petition for a candidate in District 2 and one petition for a candidate in District 3.**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jay D. Printz Commissioner.

Events Calendar

Thursday, January 28
8 a.m. School-wide Spelling Bee - (Library)

Friday January 29
9a.m. County Commissioners Meeting in Courthouse Boardroom

Tuesday February 2 and February 3rd
9 a.m. County Commissioners Meeting in Courthouse Boardroom

Saturday February 6
5:30 p.m. WMVSC ROYALTY VALENTINE DINNER/DANCE FUNDRAISER at the Saddle Club Building

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.

First Wednesday of the Month
7 p.m. ROCKY MOUNTAIN BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN at the Penrose Community Center, 401 4th Ave, Penrose.

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

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Veterans Service Office is open, walk-ins are welcome but appointments recommended. Call 783-9470
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.
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff assisting new mothers and families. Free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling, and more. Call 783-4357.
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)

Custer County Landfill
will be closed Saturday, February 6th,
and Saturday, February 13th.

Veterans Service Office Office Hours Change

The Custer County Veterans Service Officer has announced that the VSO office will be open on the second Thursday of the month from 9:00 am and close at 8:00pm. The change will start next Thursday February 11th. Walk-in appointments are welcomed but scheduled appointments are recommended. For an appointment or questions call Tim Swartz at 719-783-9470.

Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

The Canon City Queen Anne: A Labor of Love

by Candy Thompson

Al and Linda Ballard are the gracious hosts and owners of one of Cañon City's most unique dining experiences, The Cañon City Queen Anne Fine Dining Tea House Restaurant at 813 Macon Street. In 2001, they made a decision to venture out and follow a dream, inspired by Rick Warren's "Purpose Driven Life" book, to serve others with their talents and gifts through a grand old lady in need of a major makeover.

Settling in Cañon City was a process that started in 1982 when the couple attended Blossom Festival, getting their first introduction to the area, and ended when they saw the potential in the Queen Anne, a bank repossession, and purchased her to follow Linda's dream to own a Victorian home/fine restaurant. They closed on the home in 2001 and have an amazing story of how God has led them through the last 14 years.

Built in 1889, the Queen was anything but ready for her intended purpose that would eventually come through much hard work and persistence. In 2002, a fire destroyed the back of the second floor and the following years involved major reconstruction and renovation. Finally, the Queen Anne opened for business on December 7, 2007, with living quarters for the couple on the second and third floors.

It was during the following year that their faith was really tested when the recession hit and Al lost his job in Denver due to his boss leaving his family and business. With no money for advertising or marketing, they refused to give up and instead focused on serving the customers and making them feel special. Their business became a ministry as they found ways to make their customers feel special and becoming known by word-of-mouth.

Focusing on people led them to find ways to meet

the customers' needs and doing the extra special touches that were unique, such as emailing a memory photo to customers from their tea time, opening the Antique Consignment/Tea Treasure Store and opening The Queen Anne "Take-Out" Bakery.

Adding baking/cooking classes/demonstrations for the past seven years is another creative way they have used to diversify their talents and serve the community as well as bring in income. They have persevered to see their debts paid and business flourish in a time when many did not make it. Active in church and community, Al and Linda give all the glory to God for any success. Al says sincerely, "We take nothing for granted, we see every customer as a gift, a new friend and those returning as treasures."

"We hold fast to our Reservations Necessary approach to business. We know that those who make a reservation for lunch or



Al and Linda Ballard, owners of The Canon City Queen Anne Fine Dining Tea House Restaurant. Courtesy photo

dinner will have an anticipation in being served a memorable meal and we work hard to create what we call 'Moments of Magic and Memories,' at the Queen Anne," Al explains, emphasizing that there is never anyone waiting in line for your table at the Queen Anne. With Valentine's Day coming up, there are limited openings so those wanting a special night for two that includes a framed photo and a rose with the five-course meal call early.

8th Annual Valentines Sweet Heart Dinners served February 12th, 13th and 14th.

Private parties for practically any event are welcome at the Cañon City Queen Anne with menus available on the website. Afternoon/Lunch Teas served Tuesday

through Saturday, seating available any time 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

High/5-course Dinner Teas served Thursday, Friday, Saturday, seating's at 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 p.m.

Monthly Baking/Cooking Classes/Demonstrations held the second Saturday of each month at 2:00 p.m. include ethnic and specialty items determined by previous participants. Private Parties available for eight or more.

"Take Out" Bakery options available online, orders in by Thursday, pick up Friday and Saturday by 10:00 a.m.

Reservations necessary for all Teas, Events. Call (719)275-5354 or go to www.theCañoncity-queenanne.com



FREMONT COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Annual Lincoln Day Dinner

keynote speaker

The Honorable Owen Hill

Colorado State Senator, District 10

Saturday, February 27, 2016

\$45 SINGLE TICKET
\$80 COUPLE*
\$25 VIP EVENT 5:00PM

Abbey Events Center
2951 East US Highway 50
Cañon City

Dinner 6:30pm
Social Time 5:30pm

For Tickets Call (719) 315-1322

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

Barry's Den
27077 U.S. Highway 50

Cotopaxi General Store
20204 U.S. Highway 50

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

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

Cañon Rose Acoustic Society

Cañon City, CO
canonrose.com

Stray Dogs and Lee Johnson will be the opening acts for the upcoming Cañon Rose Acoustic Society. After the intermission, Luke Reed will be the featured performer.

The doors open at 6 p.m., followed by the performance promptly at 7 p.m. February 13th in Fourmile Community Center at the corner of Steinmeier Avenue and E. Main Street in Cañon City. Admission is \$7 for non-members, \$5 for members, and free for children and students.

Mr. Ed's Family Restaurant

1201 Royal Gorge Blvd., Cañon City
719-275-5833

- ### 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



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 YHWH as God and Yeshua Ha Mashiach as Jesus--the actual original names and the true nature and character of them.

Read the Disclaimers

America has become such a drug-related and dependent nation. Some two billion dollars a year is spent on advertising various drugs on television. You can rarely view a television show without being introduced to the latest drug whether to improve the sexual experience, birth control, thicken eyelashes, prevent going to the bathroom, growing hair, getting rid of unwanted hair, and the list goes on and on. About half of the time in these commercials is spent with some fast talking person disclaiming everything that the drug does. For example, there is a drug that gives you longer, fuller eyelashes so you no longer suffer from "hypotrichosis."

Hypotrichosis is "another name for having inadequate or not enough eyelashes." Of course, every young woman wants to have thicker, fuller eyelashes. And, as the commercial depicts, every woman should want such eyelashes. And the first warning is that women should locate a doctor who "may be more likely to know about this FDA-approved treatment. Your doctor will evaluate your medical history to determine if you're a good candidate" for this drug. "If you have an eye infection, broken or irritated upper eyelid skin, or if you are using products for elevated intraocular pressure, talk to your doctor." These drugs always gain legitimacy by getting the approval of a "doctor" who is selling--prescribing--the drug.

And then the viewer is hit with the common side

effects, which include itching sensation in the eyes and/or eye redness; eye irritation, dryness of the eyes, redness of the eyelids, and skin darkening or hyperpigmentation--which is reversible after discontinuation of the product. In addition, the disclaimer says, "patients should be advised about the potential for increased brown iris pigmentation which is likely to be permanent." These are just some of the disclaimers on television for only one product. Other products disclaim a whole lot more, including "sudden death." But people ignore the warnings and rush to buy the products because the government and their doctor says they're safe.

These commercials are indicative of heart condition. In their hearts, people want the result of these drugs so bad that they will ignore or risk the consequences of the warnings for the temporal physical relief. Matthew 4:8, 9 says, "Again, the devil took Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And said unto Him, All these things will I give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus replied, "Get thee hence, satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." But unlike Jesus, how many ignore the disclaimers of hell for the temporal rewards?

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com
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Demagoguery Is As Demagoguery Does

by Mike Vanderboeght,
Sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com

"I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters, OK?" Trump told an enthusiastic audience at a Christian school, Dordt College. "It's like incredible." Donald Trump: Supporters would stick with me if I shot someone 'in the middle of Fifth Avenue.'

The same day Donald Trump used the podium at a Christian school to reflect that he could do murder and still be embraced by his secular worshipers, I was at a prayer meeting at my church. This was the final day of 21 days of prayer and there was an overflow crowd of thousands, spilling over from the sanctuary into the theater next door. In my church, folks pray with their hands open, palms up, symbolizing our openness to God's will and not our own. The room rippled with electricity, and the power of God was evident to every participant.

When I later heard of Trump's boast, I reflected upon the jarring irony of the two scenes in similar venues and shook my head at the sheer brazen demagoguery that Trump's performance represented. The story relates that the response of the audience (most of whom if asked I'm sure would self-identify as Christians) was "enthusiastic."

est number have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the people; commencing demagogues, and ending tyrants." -- Federalist No. One, Alexander Hamilton.

And this one from the uncompromising Elbridge Gerry:

The evils we experience flow from the excess of democracy. The people do not want virtue, but are the dupes of pretended patriots.

-- Elbridge Gerry,
Constitutional Convention
Monday, May 31, 1787.

Gerry also said this: "It is the duty of every man, though he may have but one day to live, to devote that day to the good of his country."

Trump and his followers maintain that they are doing what they are doing for the good of the country. They point that Trump, whatever his flaws, couldn't be worse than the last four occupants of the White House. I was on a radio call-in show the other morning and had this argument pulled out in Trump's defense.



Courtesy photo via Sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com

*The evils we experience
flow from the excess of democracy.
The people do not want virtue,
but are the dupes
of pretended patriots.*

The Founders, whether Federalist or Anti-federalist, perceived the dangers of demagoguery to their new Republic as being the greatest threat it faces. Here are two representative quotes from either side of the argument at the time:

"A dangerous ambition more often lurks behind the specious mask of zeal for the rights of the people than under the forbidden appearance of zeal for the firmness and efficiency of government. History will teach us that the former has been found a much more certain road to the introduction of despotism than the latter, and that of those men who have overturned the liberties of republics, the great-

"Whoa up," I insisted. "What you are doing now is arguing over the varying qualities of excrement." I continued, "What you are saying is that some turds are big and smelly and you do not like them. You are saying 'I don't like those turds. I prefer my turds to be small and less odorous.'" The hosts of the show laughed. Now Grandpa Vanderboeght told me that it was possible to eat a turd if you had enough ketchup. But the fact of the matter is that you have to be persuaded that you WANT to eat that turd very badly and you have to conjure up the ketchup yourself.

Donald Trump, as near as I can make out, is absolutely unprincipled and

like all demagogues is saying what he believes he needs to say in order to achieve his ends. My concern is that he is obviously as much of an insecure personality as Obama and, like Obama, gets his "principles" in the mirror every morning when he wakes up. Taken together, their proclaimed fidelity to the limits of the Constitution are so much fart in the wind. Only when the mask slips as at Dordt College, do you get a sense of Trump's inner demagogic voyage of discovery. To paraphrase George Corley Wallace, if you put Obama and Trump in a barrel and rolled them down the hill, there would always be an unprincipled son of Beelzebub on top.

This will cost me more than a few readers, I'm sure. But as I don't expect to last long enough to vote in the upcoming election (although I might make the Alabama primary) I can at least go on record as to where I stand. And since I lack that longevity that most of y'all take for granted, you won't have to say to me in the fullness of time that I was right about demagogues. Like prostitutes of a more innocent nature, the joyful experience is fleeting but the diseases they bring are forever.

(Editor/GG: Fair enough, Mike. But if Cruz doesn't make it, I'll take Trump over any of the remaining RINO's because they have cloaked their lies in patriotism to me for 60 years and are NO DIFFERENT at the finish line then the left. It's all about them, camouflaging themselves as patriots or conservatives. Rubio, Bush, Kasich, Christie et al are SNAKES who would sell their mothers for a vote, but would swear they wouldn't. At least Trump would tell us that he would. I'd prefer to be laughing when the fiscal/political tsunami hits.)

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So Post Debate, What Happened?

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

(Editor/GG: Even if you don't like The Donald, read this. Absolute, right-on piece of where we are politically in this country today.)

Who won last night's debate?

Trump. And he wasn't there.

Who lost? Fox News, which led the "debate" with a cheap shot at Trump. Megyn did herself no favors in that regard, and she had better hope that nothing ever disrupts the media oligopoly (a losing bet, IMHO) as if it does she's going to find her best and highest calling in Nevada somewhat outside of Clark County.

The program Trump put together, with essentially zero notice, was very nice. It was the best political speechifying and rallying that I've seen since I have been sentient enough to pay attention to it. It was so because it was uplifting and yet not promotional for oneself; it was in fact selfless.

Trump instead took to praise other people, to uplift others, and instead of raising funds for himself and his political ambitions he managed to pop up somewhere north of \$6 million for veterans.

Those organizations that preemptively decided they

didn't want the money are fools. If they expected Trump to use this as a political polemic device, they were wrong. He didn't, although he certainly could have. Instead he had a vet with a prosthetic leg give a nice little speech on what life's like after serving one's nation and having one of your limbs removed as a consequence.

It was a particularly poignant reminder of two things, which our nation needs to see more of.

First, freedom isn't free and those who volunteer for such duty sometimes come home in a box or missing parts of their body. For everyone who gaffs about veterans "using" the nation for benefits such as the GI Bill and other privileges there are many who come home permanently damaged, at room temperature or who never return at all. If you want to argue over politics as relates to our military a good place to start is who you want in the left seat of power in America that will reduce the risk of our men and women in uniform being utilized in a fashion that results in these outcomes. Do you want someone who speaks out of both sides of one's mouth and repeatedly fails to bring peace (witness anyone named "Bush", "Clinton" or "Obama") or do you want someone the world is literally terrified to screw with because they know what will happen?

Millennials weren't around when Reagan took office but they d**n well ought to read history. There are many legitimate criticisms about Reagan, particularly on the economic front, but one thing is indisputable: He won big twice internationally without having to fire a single shot, drop a single bomb or get one American maimed or killed; first with Iran and the hostages (they folded before he even put his hand on the Bible) and then again with the USSR; his bet that they couldn't fiscally afford an arms race but that he could successfully goad them into economic and political self-destruction via one proved correct. Big balls are often seen as a liability but there are times that displaying them saves countless lives and even more maimed soldiers. Who's the one candidate to put that forward on the stage today?

There's only one, folks, and you know it.

The second is that big b***s without grace, or worse, actual malice, is dangerous. Very dangerous. Using a system of laws to make money doesn't qualify as malice. Personal avarice and willful disregard of the law to the point of ignoring state secrets is another matter. So is playing games with American jobs and our economy for personal profit, something that all of those who stepped on that stage last night with Faux News support and promote?

Incidentally, so does Fox News itself, which is why they're terrified of Trump. These people literally want to see you impoverished to improve their own personal bottom line and wealth.

In asking the question of "what's wrong over there?" Trump has shined a spotlight on one of Washington's best kept secrets: namely, Fox's role via its founder Rupert Murdoch in pushing an open borders agenda. The Trump campaign is a direct threat to Murdoch's efforts to open America's borders. Well-concealed from virtually all reporting on Fox's treatment of Trump is the fact that Murdoch is the co-chair of what is arguably one of the most powerful immigration lobbying firms in country, the Partnership for a New American Economy (PNAE).

In addition to blanketing the country, media, and politicians with literature, advertisements, and a barrage of lobbyists pushing for open border immigration policies, the Partnership for A New American Economy (PNAE) was a prime lobbyist for one of the biggest open borders pushes in American history.

Oh, and it gets better -- Fox's VP of News and Washington managing editor is the father of Rubio's Press Secretary. Ailes, Fox News' President, is strongly on board with this agenda as well.

Oh, and by the way, that view is shared by Bloomberg as well.

But of course it is. It's also shared by Zuckerberg, because it would allow him to fire thousands of high-paid Americans and replace them with H1B visa-holders from India, further feathering his own nest while screwing you blind.

This isn't some random thought. It's systemic; Disney along with dozens of other firms have been engaged in this for decades, and they will continue for as long as you allow it.

Trump will stop it, first by enforcing existing immigration laws (something neither Democrat or Republican executives have done for the last 20 years) and then by using the bully pulpit of the Presidency to point out the economic and social costs to the American people, inciting them to demand changes in the laws that will restore immigration to its proper place in America.

Look folks, we're all immigrants in this nation unless you're a native American, and few (percentage wise) are. I was privileged to attend the naturalization ceremony of a good friend a few days ago, and it was quite the moving experience. Part of it included each petitioner saying a couple of sentences about who they were and how long they'd been here. Most had spent more than

a decade pursuing naturalization as Americans and they did it legally, through arduous process and procedure. That's the right way, and I was honored to watch 60-odd new American Citizens take the oath in Tallahassee at the federal courthouse.

Trump is not anti-immigration; he is anti-cheating and jumping the line. He's an immigrant and he knows it; so are family members. But every one of them in his lineage and family did it the right way.

Might Trump be a lying snake on both of these points?

Maybe.

But then again, maybe not. And as things stand right now if you have a desire to see either of those things become front and center in America, two points that will be central to halting and reversing the decay of this nation, there is only one candidate who says he will do these things.

All the rest are saying in plain English that they'll do the opposite.

How many more jobs do you want to lose and how many more of our American servicemen and women do you want to have missing legs -- or lives?

That's your choice folks.

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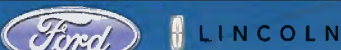


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IRS's New Ethics Chief Once Ordered Records Be Illegally Destroyed

by Luke Rosiak,
Daily Caller News
Foundation

(Editor/GG: This is almost unbelievable. The level of corruption that exists in our government is simply astounding. Arrogant. In your face. You can't touch us. We RULE YOU. This is Nobama's "most transparent" administration in history. We owe NO allegiance to corruption and tyranny. It's time for a change.)

The new head of the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) ethics office once oversaw the illegal shredding of documents sought by the federal tax agency's inspector general (IG), and allegedly retaliated on the colleague he believed snitched on him about it.

Stephen Whitlock was named director of the IRS Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) in August 2015. The OPR supports "effective tax administration by ensuring all tax practitioners, tax-preparers, and other third parties in the tax system adhere to professional standards and follow the law," according to the agency's web site.

Whitlock's chief of operations was, until recently, a former tax enforcement agent who attempted to avoid government payments by declaring bankruptcy and who even lost his official sidearm in a bar fight.

Additionally, in this newly-appointed 7-person leadership team are two of Lois Lerner's former top deputies, at least one of whom was involved in the targeting of conservative and Tea Party non-profit applicants. Records of those activities also mysteriously disappeared after Congress began investigations in 2013.

Earlier in his career, Whitlock was OPR's deputy

director and acting director, but was moved from the office after the 2004 records-destruction and whistleblower retaliation incidents. He was then moved to the head of IRS's whistleblower office.

When Whitlock returned to OPR in August, he succeeded Lee Martin, who in turn took over Whitlock's position running the whistleblower office.

In late 2004, then-OPR associate director Brian Downing, who worked for Whitlock, "ordered the shredding of almost 1,000 taxpayer files a week before ... internal auditors were scheduled to review OPR's case-processing procedures," apparently to hide that many of the cases had never been worked, according to a June 18, 2014, letter from a group of OPR employees to Congress. A copy of the letter was recently obtained by the Daily Caller News Foundation.

The employee ordered to do the shredding was nervous about breaking federal law and appealed to Whitlock, who ordered her to proceed, the letter said. That's when someone alerted the IG.

Whitlock forced the employee he thought tipped off the IG to transfer to another office in the IRS. That employee, however, was not the one who talked. The retaliated-against worker filed a complaint that resulted in a monetary settlement, according to multiple former IRS employees interviewed by TheDCNF.

Whitlock then got the IG to search the office computer of another employee who was in fact the tipster and tried to get that person's security clearance blocked, they said.

The IG sought to prosecute Downing, but he retired, according to the June 2014 letter.

Whitlock was also removed from his job and became head of the IRS whistleblower office in 2007, which rewards citizens who divulge tax scams such as fraud by their employers.

"Perhaps he was credited with his experience in retaliation," the letter said.

The shredding was successful in impeding the auditors' ability to assess whether OPR staff was doing its job or letting cases languish. The latter had been indicated by a 2003 audit that found that in two years, it ordered \$2.4 million in fines against tax preparers, but only managed to collect \$290,000.

The obstructed IG audit was published in 2006, saying "OPR destroyed some referrals in October 2004. OPR officials did not notify the Office of Audit about the destruction of its records ... Although the IRS has written procedures for retention and destruction of records, these procedures were not followed by the OPR. There was no log of what records were destroyed, no log of when and how the records were destroyed, and no official written authorization ... OPR officials acknowledged that they were required to retain these files for 10 years."

When Whitlock resumed the helm of OPR in August 2015, his operations director was Bob Johnson, a former tax cop who declared bankruptcy in 2009 and got many of his debts discharged.

In the bankruptcy, Johnson asked to have 50 to 99 debts totaling \$74,000 forgiven even though he was at the time earning \$140,000 annually working for the IRS, according to court records. Johnson's wife also worked for the IRS at a similar salary.

Johnson's assets included a Corvette, a Mercedes

and a motorcycle, all less than four years old. He also owned a boat and jet-skis. His debts were discharged in 2014.

Before joining OPR, Johnson worked for the IRS's inspector general — the same office that attempted to audit OPR — when he lost his gun at a bar in Baltimore, former colleagues told Congress. The next weekend, a felon was found dead in Prince George's County, Md., with Johnson's gun in his hands, they said.

Currently under Whitlock are section manager Elizabeth Kastenber and legal analysis chief Garrett Gluth, both of whom previously worked closely with Lois Lerner in the IRS's non-profit tax office. Congressional testimony shows that Kastenber was in charge of reviewing the audits of conservative-leaning non-profits and was in the room when major decisions on the political audits were made.

Lerner was subsequently held in contempt of Congress after refusing to answer questions from congressional investigators. The IRS said the records showing her actions in the case had mysteriously disappeared.

In connection with that scandal, then-Acting IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel promised Congress that, as part of a renewed commitment to ethics, all IRS employees would take an ethics course.

The course, given in 2014, was taught by Bob Johnson.

The IRS said it had no comment.

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For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, "Fear not, I will help you."
Isaiah 41:13, NKJV

You Gotta Be Kidding Me

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

I'm done with the Olympics and you ought to be too.

There's great news for adventurous male Olympic hopefuls: if they declare themselves women and reduce their testosterone below 10 nmol/L for at least 12 months prior to competition, they can compete against ladies.

There's even better news for these men; according to transgender guidelines approved by the International Olympic Committee, genitalia does not serve as a pre-requisite. The guidelines state: "To

require surgical anatomical changes as a pre-condition to participation is not necessary to preserve fair competition and may be inconsistent with developing legislation and notions of human rights."

There goes any hope of fair competition for women's sports in the Olympics.

Men and women are not equal when it comes to physical prowess. Oh sure, there are exceptions -- there are always exceptions to any general statement of truth. But that doesn't change the fact that any so-called "trans" man who declares himself a woman has a monstrous physical advantage and

always will irrespective of whether he takes hormones to suppress testosterone or not.

This c**p is flat-out nuts.

(Editor/GG: This is liberalism folks. A godless sickness that destroys all morality in its quest for tyrannical control. I feel sorry for the athletes. The amount of work and dedication required to get to the Olympics is mind boggling. Now, it isn't worth it. Another noble institution destroyed by the satan worshippers.)

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1776

The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2015

MOLON
LABE

"Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have war let it begin here."

Captain John Parker, Lexington Gree, April 19, 1775

Bernie Goes All in for Destroying Gun Manufacturers

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

Embracing gun control has always been a toxic issue for Democrats. It has played well deep in their darkest bases, like New York City and the District of Columbia, where ignorance about guns and gun law is pervasive and cherished. On the national stage, they have been careful to approach it sideways, with code words like "gun safety" and "common sense". In 1994, when Bill Clinton pushed it the hardest on the national stage, the Democrats suffered one of their most emphatic defeats; the Republican revolution of 1994. President Clinton even acknowledged that his gun control push was a major reason for the Democrat loss of the House.

Democrats shied away from gun control for the next 20 years. Then, safely reelected in 2012, President Obama made another major push, in 2013. Again, Democrats suffered stunning defeats, losing the Senate and losing so many seats in the House that Re-

publicans have majorities that they had not achieved in 85 years.

On the primary trail, and fighting for ever smaller numbers of ideologically rigid primary voters, Hillary and O'Malley are pushing for more gun control. Sanders shows that he cannot withstand the pressure, even as he gains ground. He has come out for a gun control bill designed to destroy gun manufacturers in the United States. From politico.com:

Sanders had said repeatedly that he was open to "changes" in the liability protection law. His official change of heart came just hours after his Senate staff met with activists from the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. It also came a day after he met with President Barack Obama in the Oval Office. While it's unclear whether the question of gun control came up in that meeting, Obama has urged people to be "single-issue voters" on guns, and in an op-ed in *The New York Times*, Obama said he would not support even Democrats who don't

share his positions on guns, including industry liability.

In explaining his 2005 vote for the liability shield, known as the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, Sanders has pointed to the fact that his predominantly rural home state of Vermont has few gun restrictions. In what he called a "complicated vote," the Democratic presidential candidate said he was trying to protect mom-and-pop gun dealers in his state from getting sued and having to shut down because a customer used the gun in a crime.

Bernie Sanders demonstrates, above, that he can read, and that he understands the issues in the bill. It was passed because the disarmists in the United States had a plan to destroy gun manufacturers as a way to disarm the public. Sue the manufacturers with frivolous lawsuits, using tax money. Sure, the lawsuits would lose. But they did not cost the politicians pushing them; they were paid for with tax dollars. The activist tort lawyers would get paid; but the

manufacturers would have to pay millions of dollars to defense lawyers, over, and over, and over again. Eventually, they would be bankrupted.

Second Amendment supporters saw through the deception, and sponsored the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act to prevent this end run around the Second Amendment.

The problem for the Democrats is that even the modest support for gun control that existed in 1994 has been reversed as more and more citizens become informed on the issue. For the first time since 1958, a majority of people believe that protecting the right to bear arms is more important than restricting access to arms. Without tight control over the major media, as existed for "progressive" ideologues from 1972 to 1994, simply lying about what a bill does no longer works.

Hillary repeatedly says that the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act grants immunity from prosecution for gun manufac-

turers. It does no such thing. Gun manufacturers are subject to all the criminal prosecutions any other manufacturer is. What they have is immunity from lawsuit for their products being misused by third parties, just like all other manufacturers have. The difference is that the protection was put into law because of an open conspiracy of disarmists to file frivolous lawsuits to destroy gun manufacturers. The lawsuits did not even use the plaintiffs own money; they mostly used tax dollars.

The problem for the Democrat primary contenders is that they will not be able to walk this back after the primary is over. Digital recording and the Internet have created long and accurate electronic memories for the voters.

This is the first time such a vitriolic attack on the Second Amendment has been



Courtesy photo

done in a Presidential cycle. Not even George McGovern, Jimmy Carter, or Barack Obama campaigned for President on Gun Control as a major issue.

This does not bode well for the eventual Democrat candidate.

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Please see: <http://gunwatch.blogspot.com/2016/01/sanders-goes-all-in-for-destroying-gun.html>

Five Times Kids Defended Themselves From Crooks Using Guns

by Casey Harper,
Daily Caller News Foundation

The Daily Caller News Foundation analyzed 195 cases where gun owners used their firearms to successfully defend themselves from criminals, and we found a surprising number of kids defended themselves by pulling the trigger.

In light of President Barack Obama's executive action on gun control Tuesday, TheDCNF looked at incidents in a period between July 2014 and July 2015. From our analysis, we've compiled five of the most incredible times kids protected themselves and their families from criminals by pulling out a gun.

1: A 17-year-old girl was home with her mother in Vicksburg, Miss. when a gunman broke into their home around 5 a.m. The intruder held the women at gunpoint, tied them up, and robbed them. When the robber left the room, the women untied themselves and the 17-year-old ran for a gun they had in the house and shot at the

intruder. The criminal exchanged gunfire with the girl. Finally, the intruder fled and no one was harmed.

"It will be a long time before we don't think about it constantly," the girl's mother told MSNewsNow.

2: A 14-year-old boy in North Carolina protected himself and his grandmother when an intruder broke into their home in December 2014. The boy's father had been killed in 2008 by a robbery homicide, but when a man tried to break into the house this time, the boy grabbed his grandparents' shotgun and fatally shot the home invader three times.

"I said who is it and he wouldn't stop," the teen can be heard saying on the 9-1-1 call. "He broke my grandma's window so I shot three times."

The house had been robbed twice in the previous month.

"What would have happened if he wasn't

there?" the boy's grandmother told WBTV.

3: An 11-year-old girl in Lapeer County, Mich. was home alone in January of last year when two intruders broke into her home. The girl hid in the closet and took her shotgun with her, MLive reports. When the criminals opened the closet door, all she had to do was point the shotgun straight ahead. The suspects fled and the girl was unharmed. Police arrested a man and a woman later that day.

"I pointed it in his face and they ran off as soon as I did," the girl told WEYL.

4: A 15-year-old boy in Butler County, Ohio used his firearm to help stop a criminal on the loose in October 2014. Police had arrested a burglar, but the criminal escaped and broke into the house of the 15-year-old boy, who was home alone. The boy noticed the intruder had a knife on him, but he grabbed a gun, pointed it at the criminal, and ordered him to leave. The man fled only to be caught by police just outside the home.

"I feel pretty good about it that I could have saved other people's houses and their property," the teen told 14News.

5: In September 2014, an 11-year-old Oklahoma girl awoke around 4 a.m. to find that a man had broken into her home and stabbed her mother. The girl grabbed a handgun and shot the man twice, saving her mother's life. The mother said she had just taught the daughter how to use the gun for self-defense the week before.

She "did the right thing, I don't care what anybody says," the girl's neighbor told NewsOK. "She saved her mother and her brothers and sisters."

These cases are just a few of many Americans using guns to save themselves.

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Americans Are Ignoring Radical Gun Laws... As They Should

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

The editorial board of the *New York Times* has once again decided to focus their energies on making the world a safer place for tyrannical government.

After an op-ed last week calling on the federal government to gut the right of citizens to bear those arms best suited for defeating tyrants, they've taken one of many gutless decisions by the Robert's court to call for states to do what the federal government will not:

On Monday, the court declined to hear a challenge to a Chicago suburb's law banning semiautomatic assault weapons and magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

The town of Highland Park, Ill., passed the 2013 ordinance, which bans categories of weapons as well as specific guns by name, including the AR-15 and the AK-47, in the wake of the massacre of 26 children and educators at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn. The shooter in that attack, like those in many mass shooting, used a semiautomatic assault rifle with a high-capacity magazine.

It was the 70th time since 2008 that the Supreme Court has declined to consider a lawsuit challenging a federal, state or local gun regulation. This creates a big opportunity for Americans to put pressure on their state and local leaders, especially since Congress refuses to approve even uncontroversial measures like universal background checks for gun sales, which are supported by nearly nine in 10 Americans. Until that changes, states and cities have the constitutional authority and moral obligation to protect the public from the scourge of gun violence.

Let's be very, very clear: the Founding Fathers would have been appalled by the 2013 ordinance passed by Highland Park, and if the Founders were alive today, there is a good chance that the Highland Park's leaders would have been roughly pulled from their homes and tarred and feathered in disgrace before their homes were burned to ash. Men like Jefferson and Adams were patriots who had just won a long and costly war that was triggered by a gun control raid on April 19, 1775 in the towns of Lexington and Concord, and did not suffer fools.

Unfortunately, the Robert's court is feckless and craven. They passed on hearing the case because they know that if they took it up, they must overturn it. Once they overturned it, the precedent would once and for all gut the basis of all assault weapons bans on any level of government, henceforth. We warned in early November that the court would set us on a path towards a very uncivil civil conflict, and they have not disappointed our low expectations of their integrity.

The editors of the *Times*, dim-witted and myopic in their echo

chamber, are intent on passing more state and local level laws banning the crucial tools of liberty, and naively believe that Americans will abide by these edicts.

We most assuredly will not. We most assuredly have not.

They need not look any further than their own front doors for confirmation.

Both Connecticut and New York rammed through blatantly unconstitutional gun laws in the wake of Sandy Hook. Both states banned entire classes of firearms and magazines, and demanded citizens register their firearms.

Citizens in both states reacted with blatant civil disobedience.

More than 85% of Connecticut's gun owners refused to register their weapons. When spokesmen for the Connecticut State Police made rumblings that they knew who had at least some of these firearms, and that they might attempt to start arresting some of the 80,000-100,000 non-compliant gun owners, Connecticut's gun owners noted that there were only 1,100 State Police, and dared them to try.

Governor Dannel Malloy hasn't dared rattle that cage since.

In neighboring New York, the disobedience was even more pronounced.

Citizens refused to register more than a million firearms with a stunning non-compliance rate of more than 95-percent. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo sputtered and fumed, but could do nothing. Sheriffs around the state openly stated they would not enforce the blatantly unconstitutional laws, and they haven't.

Banned "assault weapons" and "high capacity" magazines continue to flow into New York State like water with a wink and a nod. Most law enforcement officers in the state not only know numerous people in clear violation of the NY SAFE Act and refuse to arrest them, but are willfully in violation of this unjust law themselves.

It's a paper law that only inspires contempt for law, and inspired hundreds of thousands of otherwise law-abiding citizens to become outlaws.

What the *Times* and their allies in the Democrat Party and the courts don't seem to grasp is that the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights are easily understood by the citizenry. We recognize blatantly unconstitutional laws at a glance, and refuse to listen to the sophistry of politicians and would-be power brokers.

For now, this disobedience remains civil.

For now.

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Naval Special Warfare Adopts the Glock 19

by Scott Witner,
LoadOutRoom.com

This past week the Naval Special Warfare Command made a decision to pick up the Glock 19 as the SEALs new sidearm. They will slowly begin to phase out the Sig P226, and replace those with the Glock 19. There is nothing wrong with the Sig P226. It has served the Teams for many years and is a proven reliable system. However, as firearms evolve the military needs to keep pace. In this case the move to the Glock 19 makes sense.

The Glock 19 has a lot to offer in a compact package, and is by far the most popular platform Glock makes. I personally use, and carry the Glock 17 on a daily basis. While the Glock 17 is the full size variant of the 9mm, the Glock 19 is essentially the same, just a bit smaller package. With that said I will give you my reasons for why I believe the Glock 19 will be a solid platform for both the SEALs, and MARSOC (who adopted the Glock 19 at the beginning of the year).

First and foremost what I have noticed with my personal Glock is the reliability. This is extreme-

ly important as you want the gun to work when you need it to. I've put enough rounds from various manufacturers to know it will cycle just about any ammunition. I recently went to the range and ran through 300 rounds of that dirty Wolf ammunition that is manufactured in Russia. Not once did the gun jam, malfunction, or need the bore snaked due to build-up (I attribute some of that to the Weapon Shield oil that I use). Reliability also comes in the form of maintaining your firearm. Glock makes maintenance on their handguns extremely easy whether you're on the range, in the field, or at home. Even a detailed breakdown of the gun only requires a punch tool and can be accomplished by most people who use them. For the SEALs and MARSOC this is huge. Not only having a sidearm that is reliable, but also easy to maintain.

The second aspect I've noticed is the accuracy I get out of the Glock with stock parts. I've only upgraded two parts on my Glock: the sights, and the recoil spring. The stock sights on a Glock are absolute junk. I run with the Ameriglo sights red fiber optic front, and all black rear. When I

go to my local range I have no issues pushing my target out to 25 yards and keeping a 5" group (regardless of ammunition used). I'm more than confident in the Glock 19 and 17 to be accurate out to 25 yards, and being able to easily suppress targets out to 50 yards. Take a look at what a veteran Navy SEAL can do with his Glock 19.

Lastly, the customizations that are able to be done with the Glock handguns make them a great option (every shooter has different preferences). The compact Glock 19 makes an ideal concealed carry gun, but it's large enough to push into a 'duty' gun role. By making some simple adjustments to the Glock 19 the shooter will have an extremely reliable and accurate platform that they can stake their life on. Again, since this article is about why the SEALs have adopted the Glock 19 platform let's take another look at why veteran Navy SEAL Kyle Defoor chooses the Glock.

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Investigation: Wounded Warrior Charity Only Spends 60 Percent of Funds on Vets

by Jonah Bennett,
Daily Caller News Foundation

The Wounded Warrior Project, a charity organization dedicated to helping injured former military members, only spends about 60 percent of its donation funds helping veterans.

An investigation by CBS News discovered that the Wounded Warrior Project has a dismal record when compared to other similar charities, though the group managed to pull in \$300 million just in 2014. The organization apparently raised more than \$1 billion since 2003.

"Their mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors, but what the public doesn't see is how they spend their money," Army Staff Sgt. Erick Millette told CBS News. Millette worked with the project for two years before quitting from disillusionment, saying that the charity was little more than a scam to bring in money and spend on extravagant and luxurious parties, as well as other non-vet-related expenses.

The Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust, in contrast, spends 96 percent on veterans and Fisher House spends 91 percent.

"You're using our injuries, our darkest days, our hardships, to make money. So you can have

these big parties," Millette added.

Millette wasn't the only employee to speak up regarding problems plaguing the charity. CBS News interviewed over 40 other employees with similar stories. Owing to concern over retaliation, two former employees in particular declined to be interviewed by CBS on camera.

The spiral occurred over just a few years. In 2010, spending on conferences only amounted to \$1.7 million. But in 2014, that number surged to an unbelievable \$26 million, causing many employees to panic and point to CEO Steven Nardizzi, who came aboard in 2009, as the reason for the decline in the organization's mission.

"Donors don't want you to have a \$2,500 bar tab. Donors don't want you to fly every staff member once a year to some five-star resort and whoop it up and call it team building," said Millette.

Wounded Warrior Project's Director of Alumni, Army Capt. Ryan Kules (ret.), denied to CBS that there was undue spending on conferences. That conferences were held at five-star locations, Kules said, was to facilitate team alignment.

A follow-up investigation from CBS on Wednesday found that the project has a culture of retaliation.

"If you use your brain and come up with an idea, within a matter of time, you're 'off the bus,'" one former employee told CBS.

Outlandish spending isn't the only controversy the group has courted in the last several years. The group focuses an incredible amount of resources on suing other non-profits who use the phrase "wounded warrior" into oblivion. Instead of helping veterans, these charities on the receiving end of the Wound Warrior Project's litigious tendencies have had to use funds putting up a legal defense. One charity in Pennsylvania, called the Keystone Wounded Warriors, has had to spend more than \$72,000 defending itself.

Non-Profit Quarterly called the behavior "ugly."

(Editor/GG: I used to give to them. Stopped about 3 years ago when this information started to become public. If you really want to help, our local Eagles Summit Ranch has week long rehab sessions that have an astounding success rate. They desperately need money to host more sessions. For more information go to www.roeverfoundation.org or come to the Sentinel.)

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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.



THE MODERATORS FORGOT?

The most recent Republican presidential debate provided another opportunity for an anticipated media reaction. The keepers of critical information froth at the mouth when an occasion occurs to demonstrate any differences that exist in political thought of the candidates. The moderators make every attempt to initiate arguments and disagreements between the participants. This is allegedly done to give the public a clear picture of each individual's position on issues. Anyone with the brains of a cabbage worm knows controversy sells better than agreement.

The deterioration of America's military capabilities during the Obama administration was a point of unanimous consensus among the contenders. Of course, this was never brought up by the media moguls, but most, if not all of the candidates found occasion to address the serious depletion of our armed forces.

Liberals, historically, have always held a jaundiced view of the military. They enjoy the liberty that is protected by those in service but simultaneously seem to be possessed with the notion that there is something innately evil about weapons of war, and those who operate them. Seven years ago Mr. Obama told us that dialogue and apologies would mend fences and create a worldwide cum-by-yah attitude. His predictions have not materialized into roasting marshmallow moments with the Jihadists. Only the proverbial ostrich fails to recognize that the world is a far more dangerous place than it was at the beginning of the present administration.

A Biblical viewpoint lends a clarity to the existing situation that Progressives can never seem to fully grasp. Contrary to the idea that a little spark of goodness lies in everyone, the Scriptures declare that war originates in the lust of men: "From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not." (James 4:1,2) Obviously, those who surrender to the lust of killings will search for victims; consequently, it is incumbent upon possible targets to prepare for that eventuality. The depravity of the human heart cannot be wished away, but it can be modified by the Word of God.

During the reign of Solomon, Israel enjoyed prosperity beyond imagina-

tion: "And the king made silver to be in Jerusalem as stones..." (I Kings 10:27), but even that state of nirvana did little to eliminate the possibility of war. That reality prompted Solomon to write: "A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace." (Ecclesiastes 3:8) Solomon's reign was characterized primarily by peace with only small interruptions but his father, King David, was frequently challenged by hostile intentions and nations. His response was to build a military that was second to none. I Chronicles 12 is a running resume of men and tribes that composed this army; three times the chapter mentions that they were "expert in war, and with the instruments of war." David the warrior was so efficient in securing the nation militarily that his son was afforded the privilege of peace. The Greatest Generation fought in Europe and the Pacific to safeguard freedom for years to come which has been preserved by a continuation of a strong national defense. All efforts to degrade this shield is an open invitation to those with wicked designs.

One of the few Bible verses that Liberals cozy up to is "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." (Isaiah 2:4) As the verse is presented on the "Isaiah Wall" outside of the United Nations building, it eliminates God's judgment and rebuke of the UN and starts the verse at "they," giving credit to the UN for "peace on earth." Simple question: How are they doing?

When the Lord does establish His kingdom of peace on earth, it will be initiated by a war that every grocery store tabloid is familiar with, at least by name. At Armageddon the armies of the world will march on Jerusalem only to be intercepted by a heavenly army led by Jesus Christ. The description is incredible: "And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." (Revelation 19:15)

Permit a quick after thought: Did you ever wonder what the results would be if all political and social conservatives pulled out of our military and left our defenses to the "Left?" The conclusion could very well be ---they all left!

A Sheepdog Barks!

Woke up Tuesday morning thrilled that the Iowa caucuses were over and I could rest my brain cells from the never ending onslaught of propaganda about "first in the nation" and "will they come out on a cold snowy night?" It got me to thinkin' about why should I care about all that anyway? Two or three hundred thousand Iowans are going to determine who gets in the White House? Not likely! Why do they get all that attention? I'm really sick of hearing about pigs, corn, ethanol and "doing the Grassley." Who cares? I don't! WOOF!

Iowa, and I'm not sure why or how, has pulled off the greatest carnival side show act in America. Wonder how much money Iowa businesses and print media and TV stations made with advertising and selling loose-meat sandwiches (I heard that on a TV show). So, back to my question. Why Iowa first? Why New Hampshire second? Who decided that? This whole system of stringing out the caucuses/primaries doesn't make a lot of sense to me. It drives us voters crazy and allows the candidates to "test drive" their policies and promises. Why can't we just have a one-day, okay maybe a two- or three-day national primary? It would save the candidates (except for Trump) a lot of money that wouldn't have to be raised from us to pay for those really nice buses and airplanes. Why do we need to be subjected to five months more of voting around the country? This voting period already follows 12-18 months of non-stop campaigning and endless and mindless newscasters and commentators. For at least six weeks Fox News told us that Iowa was SO important. On Sunday morning (the day before Iowa voting) they admitted it really wasn't THAT important. History shows it rarely picks the winner. RE-

ALLY? Then why did they speak about Iowa and its importance 24/7 for the last three months? Then in their next breath they told us that NOW New Hampshire and South Carolina were "coming up" and they were very important. Imagine that! I'm tired of the hogwash, no pun intended about Iowa. I have nothing against Iowans. Know a few. Nice people. But a few hundred thousand Iowan opinions don't seem that important to me. WOOF! And while I'm barking let me get this out. Caucuses are stupid and outdated. Caucuses might have made sense BEFORE the internet, social media and 24/7 cable news networks. They are no longer relevant. Caucuses require citizens to get out of their easy chairs and go to some community site. Once there they are supposed to talk and convince their neighbors why they should support one candidate or the other. REAL- LY? It doesn't work and isn't necessary. I know all there is to know about each candidate by being aware and researching. My neighbor is not going to convince me to change my mind. Given the world as it is today I'm probably not going to convince any of my neighbors, who make themselves aware, to change their minds. So who does that leave? It leaves the uninformed, clueless "friends/citizens" and they don't come to the darn caucuses anyway. Caucuses are a waste of time. They are stupid and need eliminated. Let us all vote in regular primaries and get it over with. Colorado also has caucuses. I attended several. They are also stupid. NO ONE changed their minds. All the delegates are pre-selected and if you don't already have your delegates lined up you will lose. Why not just let everyone vote in a primary and all at the same time? Makes more sense to me than playing this charade of a game about citizens listening to one



another. Before we were all subjected to the 24/7 glut of information and commercials I might have needed to hear from my neighbor about Abraham. But in today's America I would know all I need to know about Lincoln. I wouldn't need any stupid caucus. WOOF!

So Thank Goodness the first-in-the-nation-Iowa-caucuses are OVER! Maybe we can relax now. Oh wait, I just heard that the very next second-in-the-nation-New Hampshire-primaries are just a few days away and this young, pretty blonde (in a skirt too darn short for TV) just told me they are really important. Guess I'll have to watch them too. Oh wait, I just remembered. I didn't watch the Iowa caucuses. If only I could record these things because I can't stay up that late anymore. Oh well, it'll get better as it gets out West, right?

My last thought. Why have the two parties turned their "debates" over to the media and cable networks? I did watch the first three or four. Never again! First of all they were not debates. They are organized food fights orchestrated by egomaniacal moderators that want fame and TV ratings. And we can't forget the almighty dollar, can we? The issues seem unimportant. They try hard to get "the gloves off" and sit back and smile while candidates insult each other. I'm done with those too. No more caucuses, endless primaries and no more TV debates. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy On America! JMH



It's HER Fault (And This Is Coming Here)

by Karl Denninger,
Market-Ticker.Org

I can't quite figure out how the liberal wing of political thought can be this dumb.

It wasn't more than a couple of weeks ago that I got into it pretty hot-n-heavy with someone I know reasonably well; a young woman that I happen to like quite a bit, and she was backed up by one of her friends (also female.) They were engaged in blasting away at Trump's proposal to *pause* those coming into this country until we can figure out whether we're allowing in people who want to assimilate and **be** Americans, or whether we're admitting at best those who hold beliefs incompatible with American values and at worst terrorists.

Of course defining *American values* is somewhat difficult these days. It used to encompass a rugged individualism and respect for the rule of law, along with a smattering of entrepreneurship. These days everyone wants to put a hyphen in their description of who they are in some form or fashion; nobody is content to say "American!" when asked "what are you?" and states like Florida call their food stamp folks The Florida Office of Economic Self-Sufficiency (no, I'm not kidding.)

But I'd really love to see any of these so-called *progressives* square their belief that we should "help" people and admit all those "refugees" into this country when it comes with demands like this, straight out of Germany:

Germany needs to ban alcohol if it wants to prevent further sexual violence and to help North African migrants integrate into society, a Muslim pressure group has claimed.

Commenting on the Cologne sex-attack controversy, MuslimStern, which has 20,000 followers on Facebook, said its mission was to 'highlight the way the media was using the incidents to promote racism against minorities'.

The group complained that the female victims had brought the unwanted attention to themselves by dressing in a manner that North African men were not accustomed to.

You got that?

It's the fault of the **women** that were attacked in Cologne over New Years, along with **the entire German public** because alcoholic beverages are legal.

So if women don't want to be raped they need to (1) ban booze and (2) stop dressing in ways that are "provocative." Indeed, the claim is made that women have a "responsibility" to cover themselves more-fully "when they go out of the house"; the implication, of course, is that if you don't wear a burka you're fair game to be raped.

Really?

More than 520 assaults and at least three outright rapes (in public, I remind you!) took place in Cologne that evening.

These are the people who you want to invite in. *This is what the liberal progressives are inviting, and the particularly outrageous part of this is that a huge percentage of them are young and attractive women who think nothing at all of running around in public dressed in far less than a burka!*

So here's my question to those two, along with the millions of other who think just like them, and happen to be female:

*Are you actually saying that you're willing to **accept** this sort of behavior? Because if we bring these people here, that's exactly what they're going to do, and instead of considering it an outrageous criminal act **their religious leaders will blame you when you are the victim of a*****by one of these animals!***

(Editor/GG: May I remind our dear readers, that all republican presidential candidates except Cruz and Trump WANT NO RESTRICTIONS ON THESE PEOPLE COMING HERE AND WANT TO LEGALIZE EVERY FREAKING ONE THAT IS ALREADY HERE, LEGALLY OR ILLEGALLY. I am DONE with the RINO's. It's Cruz or Trump or nothing.)

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NY Court: Farmers to Be Re-Educated, Pay Fines for Not Hosting Homosexual Wedding

by Penny Starr,
CNSNews.com

A couple who hosts occasional wedding ceremonies on their New York farm have lost an appeal to overturn the \$13,000 in fines levied against them by the state's human rights agency, which ruled that their refusal to host a wedding for two women was discriminatory.

On Jan. 14, the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, upheld the agency's order and the fines, a decision the Alliance Defending Freedom - which represented Robert and Cynthia Gifford - said amounted to confirming, "that the government can punish the Giffords for declining to coordinate a ceremony that conflicts with their conscience."

The couple lives in a barn they built on their farm and have occasionally hosted weddings on the first floor and the surrounding backyard area, according to ADF.

"After the agency ruled that the Giffords were guilty of 'sexual orientation discrimination,' it fined them \$10,000, plus \$3,000 in damages and ordered them to implement re-education training classes designed to contradict the

couple's religious beliefs about marriage," a press release issued following the court decision stated.

In order to comply with the order, the couple will have to attend those "re-training" classes or have a "trainer" come to them, according to ADF.

"All Americans should be free to live and work according to their beliefs, especially in our own backyards," ADF legal counsel Caleb Dalton, who argued before the court on behalf of the couple in Gifford v. Erwin, said in a statement. "The government went after both this couple's freedom and their ability to make a living simply for adhering to their faith on their own property.

"The court should have rejected this unwarranted and unconstitutional government intrusion, so we will consult with our client regarding appeal," Dalton said.

ADF attorneys argued that the First Amendment prohibits the government from forcing a wedding coordinator like Cynthia to plan and participate in a ceremony that violates her faith.

"The appeals court decision, however, sidestepped that ar-

gument and is allowing the government coercion to continue," the ADF press release stated.

ADF explained the background of the case: "On September 25, 2012, Melisa McCarthy called Cynthia Gifford, inquiring about the use of the farm for her upcoming same-sex ceremony. Because of her Christian faith's teachings on marriage, Cynthia politely told McCarthy that she and her husband don't host and coordinate same-sex ceremonies but left open an invitation to visit the farm to consider it as a potential reception site. Instead, McCarthy and her partner filed a complaint with the Division of Human Rights."

(Editor/GG: Next, "re-training" will become exile to a gulag prison in Montana in the New Amerika for re-education. The thought police will be everywhere looking for micro-aggressions so you can be punished and taught "correct think" by our new oppressors - our fellow Americans. Hard to believe.)

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I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Psalm 34:1-4, NIV

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What to Do About Muslim Workers

by The Common
Constitutionalist,
FreedomOutpost.com

Anyone familiar with snow blowers and lawn tractors should also be acquainted with the brand name Ariens. The company produces tractors, snow blowers, and a slew of accessories at about 20 plants worldwide. But the majority of the manufacturing takes place right here in the good old U.S. of A. Who says nobody in the U.S. makes anything anymore?

As any manufacturer in the U.S. knows, due to taxes and overregulation, it's difficult enough to produce anything and still make a profit. Companies have to deal with the IRS, OSHA, the EPA – as well as employment-related issues. But the CEO of Ariens, Dan Ariens, has discovered a new potential headache – Muslims.

And this problem, which has recently been exposed at the Ariens plant/headquarters in Brillion, Wisconsin, is one that many other American companies will more than likely have to contend with as more and more Muslims immigrate to America.

Devout Muslims are required to pray five times a

day, and their religion specifies the times they are to do so. "They have to have clean bodies and carry out the prayers at daybreak, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset and evening and each prayer lasts five minutes."

All 800 employees at the Brillion plant get two ten-minute breaks a day, but they don't coincide with the 53 Muslims' specific prayer times. And it's not as if they just drop on the floor in front of their equipment. The 53 all assemble in a specified area of the over 350,000 sq. ft. factory, which means it takes them time to get there, pray, and get back to their stations.

So ten minute breaks turn into 20. Ariens says, "It just throws 800 people in disarray. Think of the unfairness. Everybody gets two ten minute breaks, but some additional 50 people are getting more breaks of maybe five or twenty minutes, but the 53 Muslims, mostly from Somalia and arrived at the plant last summer, say they cannot ignore the requirements of their religion which specifies the times that they must turn towards Mecca and prostrate to Allah."

Ariens has been patient, but after it has been revealed that these additional breaks

are costing the company "about a million dollars per year," he has been forced to insist that the 53 Muslims conform to the policy they agreed to upon being hired.

And it's not just the bottom line he's worried about. Other non-Muslims employees have started complaining that they must pick up the slack for the absent Muslims. It's that or the assembly line just shuts down several times a day. "Let's say an assembly line has ten people on it," says Ariens. "If two walk off the job, the other eight are standing there because they work in a sequence. It is impossible and it is not a free-for-all. We work as a team."

And it's not as if the relatively new hires were unaware of the company policy of two breaks per day – they knew the day of their hire. But rather than accept the long-standing policy, the 53 Muslims walked off the job.

"One worker who walked out says he and his fellow Muslims are being forced to choose between work and faith." And to that, I would add that this is America, where you are free to leave your current place of employment and seek a job elsewhere - that may allow

you to better practice your religion. Ariens is not forcing you to work under his "harsh" conditions. You are not indentured.

One of the longest serving Islamic workers, however, claims some of his fellow Muslims were using the prayers as an excuse to avoid work. "I know that some of the people were taking the time not to pray, as they were not really practicing Muslims," says 67-year-old Bashir Mahamed.

So Ariens has given them until January 25th to come back to work and conform to policy or find other employment.

An Imam at a Mosque in Green Bay says, "If this company does this, other bosses around America could see this as an excuse to get rid of its employees. This is a dangerous situation for us in this country."

But what else is Ariens to do? And what is "dangerous" about it? Nothing, of course, unless one is pur-

posely trying to stir unrest. Ariens is doing the right thing, regardless of the faith of these 53. His loyalty must be to his company. If he tolerates and accepts this disruption, we all know it will just escalate.

(Editor/GG: Just one more example of muslims refusing to integrate into our society. It's just starting....)

Read more at <http://freedomoutpost.com/2016/01/what-to-do-about-muslim-workers/#-jvp7Lzf08M4QPzob.99>

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