

New Director for Office of Emergency Management: Cindy Howard

by Fred Hernandez

Search and Rescue operations (SAR) in the vast and dangerous Sangre de Cristo mountain range requires an indomitable spirit, a rare type of courage, dynamic determination and a wherewithal to take on the unseen challenges that make for heroic action. These are the qualities inherent in the newly appointed Director of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Ms. Cindy Howard. A nine-year-veteran of the SAR and in recent years holding the position of Captain, Cindy officially begins her tenure at OEM on February 8th. She will continue to function concurrently as Captain in the SAR until her term is over in December unless other

alternatives become necessary.

A life-long Colorado native, Cindy was born in Trinidad, Las Animas County, and raised in Longmont, Colorado. She attended Regis University in Denver- earning a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in finance. She moved to Westcliffe in 1993 and, for twenty one years, owned and operated the Westcliffe Inn on Hwy. 69, before selling it about sixteen months ago. A member of the Technical Rescue Team, Cindy has eighty six rescues to her credit with certificates for the first twenty five, then fifty and seventy five. She has scaled the heights of a volcano in Guatemala and been to the lofty peaks of fifty nine of the famous

“Fourteeners”- the sky scraping and iconic mountains of Colorado that soar to fourteen thousand feet and higher.

All these experiences, discipline, and training have made Cindy eminently qualified for bigger challenges. So, when the need came up for a new director for OEM, and about ten candidates presented credentials, Cindy, with all her unique qualifications, was the clear front runner in the selection process. She looks forward to her new career and has dove into her orientation with full enthusiasm and vigor. Asked about the potential emergency threats, her immediate response is snow, hail, wind and fire; with the highest incidence of recurrence being wildfire. She goes



Cindy Howard, Custer County's new Director of the Office of Emergency Management.

Sentinel photo by Fred Hernandez

on to explain that the best way to combat these threats is through planning ahead.

See OEM on page 5

The Judge Selection Saga Continues: Local Paper Does a Whitewash

by George Gramlich, Commentary

One of the fundamental responsibilities of a newspaper is to keep an eye on our government, the political process, and especially the politicians. This has been a bedrock principle since the beginning of journalism in this country. Who else has the vehicle to expose corruption and malfeasance? Sadly this has been lacking in Westcliffe for decades as the left wing paper in town has put profit before service as its raison d'être. It's one of the reasons we started the *Sentinel* three years ago, the valley needed a paper whose first responsibility was to its citizens, and not the dollar bill. Once the media and government are complicit, there's no one to watch your back.

Last week, and no surprise here, the other local paper in town, the *Wet Mountain Tribune*, did another progressive, main-stream-media whitewash, cover-up piece on the Custer County

judge selection issue with a piece of “investigative” journalism that would make The Wizard of Oz proud.

As we all know, three extremely well qualified Custer County candidates for the open county judgeship were rejected and overlooked in favor of an out-of-county, young public defender from Chaffee County. (We have NO problem with the out-of-county public defender applicant applying for the job. She wanted to advance her career and there was a job opening. And she will do a good job. It was the process that was corrupted, NOT the applicant.)

So the *Sentinel* interviewed the aggrieved parties, researched the law and the Colorado Constitution, talked to lawmakers and wrote a story exposing it. Any normal person, upon assessing the facts, would know that some hanky-panky was probably going on there. Our State Senator, Larry Crowder,

is so outraged by it that he is introducing legislation intended to prevent the abuse.

So what does the *Tribune* do to get to the bottom of this?

But first, let me ask our readers the following questions: Would you call up the National Democrat Party and ask them if Hillary is a corrupt crook? Noooooo. Would you call the IRS and ask them if they were mistreating Christians and conservatives with respect to granting charitable 501(c)3 corporations? Noooooo. Would you call the U.S. State Department and ask them if they did anything wrong in the Benghazi scandal? Noooooo. You wouldn't call any of those people IF YOU WERE IN SEARCH OF THE TRUTH.

So to get to the bottom of the affair concerning the

See JUDGE on page 4

ZIP Code Request Denied for Silver Cliff

by Fred Hernandez

Silver Cliff Town Hall Meeting, February 4th, 5:30 p.m.

The gavel rapped twice on the desk calling the meeting to order and Mayor Weber led the Pledge, followed by Roll Call, which revealed one absentee: Mr. R. Lowe.

First item: A brief update on the Senior Center attendance by Mr. S. Lasswell. The second and only other item under Old Business: the ZIP Code issue. Last month the Mayor dispatched a letter to the District Manager of the United States Postal Service in Denver requesting reinstatement of the Silver Cliff ZIP Code; 81249. He had now received a reply declining the request. However, the response suggests a willingness to work with the town to resolve some of the identity issues; a consequence of not having a dedicated ZIP Code. The Postal Service offers to assign what they describe as a “preferred last line” to the

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Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption.

Psalms 130:7, NIV

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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



WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VALENTINE'S DAY?

Sunday, February 14th, is Valentine's Day. What is this day really all about? We started with the dictionary.

val-en-tine: 1) a sweetheart chosen or greeted on Saint Valentine's Day 2) one's sweetheart 3) a greeting card or note sent to a real or pretended sweetheart on this day and containing a message of sentimental love.

Val-en-tine: Saint, 3d century, Christian martyr of Rome. His day is February 14.

Val-en-tino: Rudolph, U.S. film actor, born in Italy

The last one has nothing to do with

Valentine's Day. Somehow it just seemed to be related.

Our early memories of this day bring back a vision of a big yellow box of Whitman's chocolates. We remember that was very cool because there was a diagram in the lid of what each piece contained. That made it easy to pick out the kind you liked best, rather than guessing, or worse, nibbling to find out.

Anyway, another memory includes a little chubby baby with wings armed with a bow and a quiver full of "love" arrows. His name was Cupid and he would fly around and shoot his arrows into couples' hearts and they would fall in love. There always seemed to be some

harp music at the same time. Made perfect sense to a then six year old. However, as we got older it didn't seem right because an arrow in the heart was usually fatal. Just ask General George Armstrong Custer.

Over the years Valentine's Day could be great or not-so-great. If you got a card from the right person it was great. If you didn't it wouldn't be so great. Those experiences helped us to deal with rejection and sadness. It made us tougher, better able to deal with life's issues. You may have heard that life isn't always fair. You get over it and move on. Take Charlie Brown for instance. He never got a card from the little red headed girl. Sad, but look on the bright side, he was the starting pitcher on his baseball team and he had a cool dog. A cool dog can make a lot of things better.

Today, Valentine's Day seems to include large bears, cuddly pajamas,

chocolates, flowers and cards. At least if you pay attention to the ads on TV and the shelves in the stores. We never learned much about Saint Valentine. Not sure he had much to do with it. We always thought Valentine's Day just happened. As time has passed we've come to believe this whole idea was created by a man named "Mark" in cahoots with a man named Hershey. Contrary to popular opinion and all that stuff in the dictionary it has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt (like manmade global warming) that we can thank Mr. Milton Hershey and Mr. "Hall Mark" for these strange practices on the 14th of February. We can't find any real proof on how flowers, bears, and pajamas got involved. But one thing is clear. If you love someone you better do something. What difference, at this point, can it make if you don't? It can make a big difference in your well-being and happiness. So be prepared and enjoy the day with your chosen one. Handmade cards are the best, even though "Mr. Mark" doesn't like that. **Happy Valentine's Day!**

Want to Ride-the Rockies?

Dear Editor: Last year the annual Ride-the-Rockies long distance bike ride terminated in the Cliffs which supported the event with great enthusiasm. Team Silver Cliff - Westcliffe was formed with many training partners and six members who participated in the ride itself. We will all remember the finish - the enthusiasm and simple happiness of the towns brought a tear to many an eye.

The team aims to do the Ride-the-Rockies this year. We'll do a lot of training rides and will participate in other organized rides such as the

Stonewall Century ride in LaVeta. We are an informal group without officers, dues and such. We simply ride together when we can, giving each other companionship, training tips, encouragement, competition and fun. The typical way we get a ride going is by email wherein some one proposes a start place, day and time. Some show up, some don't.

So, if any guys or gals wish to join us, send me an email and we'll add you to the email list. It doesn't matter if you wish to train hard to do the Ride-the-Rockies or just want to bicycle in our

wonderful valley.

If you are truly interested in "upping your game" to do century rides (100 miles) or multi-day events like the Ride-the-Rockies, we can help you but you will need to commit to a serious training program and pay attention to your equipment as well. These events are not races as such but they are tough but so rewarding (assuming you like to push yourself, like the great outdoors and have a good sense of safety)!

So, all are welcome. Let me know at: madembosky@yahoo.co.uk



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Your Opinions... Letters to the Editor

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 250 words or less. No profanity or vulgarity, no personal attacks, and please sign your name. Also, please give us the general location of your residence and phone number or email - for confirmation only. *The opinions expressed here are solely those of the author; they do not reflect the opinions held or endorsed by the Sentinel.*

A Response to an Attempted White Wash

Editor/GG: Steve Cocks sent us a copy of a letter he recently sent to the *Wet Mountain Tribune*. We thought our readers might be interested in it.

Feb. 5, 2016

Dear Jim,

Thank you for accurately reporting the Colorado Constitutional language which provides that a Judge must be a qualified elector in the subject County "at the time of election or appointment" Thank you, too, for accurately reporting that Ms. Hunter was not. Your argument appears to be that, because the government routinely ignores the plain language of our Constitution, that Ms. Hunter's appointment was valid. Lastly, your assertion that Jay Printz removed his name from consideration is patently false. Jay attended the nominating committee interviews on Jan. 28th, as did all of the other candidates. Jay received the news that he was not one of the nominees, the following day, by telephone. Jay was a qualified elector in Custer County, he is a member of the Colorado bar, he is an experienced attorney, and former judge, who was passed-over for an outsider from the public defender's office, with less than five years' experience.

Steve Cocks
Rural Westcliffe

With regard to your series of Judge Selection articles, I give George Gramlich a big "Well done." Sadly, I wonder if anyone is listening. For the record, I am listening and reading. But, it has long been my opinion that Denver politicians don't give a c**p about Custer County and its 1,600 voters. We will never be on Hickenlooper's radar screen.

Face it, all people should be calling for Hillary's head, but nothing. American's have become accustomed to the unholy alliance between Democrat politics and criminal behavior. No one seems to care about national security,

the role that Rahm Emanuel has played to turn Chicago into the murder capital of the country or that we have a sitting president who ignores the U.S. Constitution and the laws that he doesn't like. When it comes to Obama, Republicans are more afraid of using the "i" word [impeachment] than they are of using the "n" word. Given the state of the world, who cares about one more unqualified liberal judge in a place that even most Coloradoans couldn't locate on a map?

The reason that I joined the Southern Colorado Patriots Club, our own Tea Party, was excessive federal gov-

ernment spending. We made a lot of noise in the beginning, but like all government abuses, we seemed to have gotten used to the \$19 trillion in debt which seems to grow irrespective of which party controls the congress or who sits in the White House. Any of you readers wonder why interest rates are near zero and are unlikely to go up any time in the next five or ten years? It is simple: the answer is that no one wants to deal with debt servicing. Here is the simple fact. If the government bond interest rate were to ever get up to 1%, the cost of debt servicing in our national budget would equal what we currently pay for

our military. I have watched all of the presidential debates in whole or in part and the subject of our national debt has never come up. What does that tell you about how aware TV political pundits, who make up the questions, are about the biggest problem America faces today? Well, they are all probably public school graduates, what can we expect?

Sorry, but as irritating as the appointment of our new judge is to me, compared to what I'm seeing in the news each day, it is a nit.

Joe Cascarelli
Westcliffe CO

Perspective...

There is Only One Solution

I remember when I was about six or seven years old that I loved my daddy with all that was in me. One time we had a family picture taken and he and I had matching dress shirts. I was so proud and happy that he was my dad. Looking back on that time I can see that my daddy was my hero. I had a good childhood. Not perfect, but dad worked hard to make sure we were well-fed and had a safe place to sleep.

But then I hit my teenage years and I took all those blessings for granted. I rebelled against my dad and gave up all he offered for the whimsical pleasures of youth. Dad poured out his sweat and blood to provide me the opportunity to

make a good life for myself. But I turned my back on all that he did and did my own thing.

America is on the road I was on in my teenage years. God blessed our nation with the opportunity to live in freedom and to be a beacon of hope in this dark world. We enjoyed that for a time, even honored our Father who blessed us so. But now we are kicking sand in His teeth. We are like wild teenagers smoking dope and throwing away our futures. Like Israel of old, and every nation that has rejected the One True God, we will reap what we have sown. There is darkness on the horizon for our nation.

There is only one solution. We must turn

from our wicked ways and give God the honor that He rightfully deserves. Individually we must cry out to God and beg Him to grant repentance. In our homes we must pray more than we watch TV. In our jobs we must work for Him and not for our boss. On the street we must love Him in the way we treat our fellow man. God is not fooled with lip service. Each of us are either part of the problem or part of the solution. We have the power to choose life or death. Within each of us is a revival waiting to happen.

May God bless you as you seek His face.

In His service,
Scott D. Bailey

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Local Mountain News & Notices

See you at Tony's!

Filmed for the most part in Custer County, Skeleton Creek Productions new western, CANYON TRAIL, will debut at Tony's Pizza on Saturday,, February 20 at 5:00 PM

It is going to be an evening of great family fun. This is a fund raising event for our very own Eagles Summit Ranch where our wounded warriors receive treatment and as such a voluntary contribution (suggested at \$10 per person) will be thankfully accepted with ALL proceeds going to the warriors project. Tony's Pizza is donating the use of their event room and will make available food and drink from their menu.

The movie is based on the everlasting struggle between good and evil. A gang of outlaws terrorizes a town and the plot thickens with kidnapping, an ambush and the good guys riding in to save the day. Beautiful vistas of our own valleys and mountains, and other locations of grandeur in New Mexico and the Oklahoma Plains will fill the big screen to the delight of all. Mark the day and make sure to call in for reservations just in case the house gets full (6719) 783-9300. For more information about the movie go to skeletoncreekproductions.com.

**See you at the movies.....
errrrr..... At Tony's Pizza!**

JUDGE from page 1

judicial selection process, the author of the *Tribune's* article, signed "J. Little" at the end, calls the Colorado Judicial Department to get the straight poop! Geez. I wonder what the spokesperson for the Department would possibly say about this. And surprise, he stated no problem here, situation normal, nothing to see here, time to move along. What a surprise. Pulitzer winning research to be sure.

Instead of making an honest effort to get the facts, like interviewing the aggrieved parties, researching the law and maybe even reading the Colorado Constitution, the author, "J. Little", calls the government entity where some of this hanky-panky is emanating from and asks them to incriminate themselves. Brilliant! Another journalistic triumph of deceit and duplicity.

And then there is in the article, of course, THE BIG LIE. (Progressives love THE BIG LIE. It makes them "tingly" all over that they pulled one over you.) This follows the usual liberal journalism meme of if you tell lies enough, the sheep will believe. So, no surprise here. Baaaaa. (Sorry Sheep Dog.)

So back to THE BIG LIE. Somebody had left a copy of the *Tribune* on my desk in the War Room

at the *Sentinel* last Friday morning so I could read their article on the judge selection kerfuffle. The article was so transparently biased and self serving I thought it might be intentionally comedic, but sadly, it wasn't.

Then I came across something in the diatribe that, surprise, was not true. The author, "J. Little", said that probably the best qualified Custer County applicant for the job, Jay Printz, had "withdrawn" his application. The *Sentinel* had reported that he was rejected by the selection committee, which would still leave Custer County with two applicants (Peggi Collins and John Burns) easily more qualified than the the out-of-county applicants, but still it would dent our case a bit that there was something a little slippery about this selection. Ms. Collins and Mr. Burns both told me that Mr. Printz had been rejected by the selection committee (he did not withdraw his application). So I was a bit surprised.

Now us Believers know the Lord works in mysterious ways. So I had no sooner put the *Tribune* in the bathroom than guess who walks into the *Sentinel* to pay a bill? None other than Jay ("The Printz") Printz himself! (Can't make this stuff up, folks.) So I ask Jay if the *Tribune* article was accurate - that you withdrew your nomination instead of being rejected? No, Jay said, "Little" got it completely wrong, he did not

withdraw. He was rejected by the selection committee. Another *Tribune* cover up and THE BIG LIE exposed. (Seems to be pattern here.)

So there we have it folks. Another intentionally misleading, self-serving article by our local profit first newspaper, the *Tribune*, covering up their liberal god, government (and its "beast", liberalism), employing the usual progressive, smoke screen journalism tactics of asking the guilty if they are guilty and employing THE BIG LIE. *The New York Times*, MSNBC, CNN and Al Jazeera would be proud. Dan Rather too.

Situation normal in Happy Valley, USA, as the corrupt, progressive media, including our very own "Pravda in the Valley", continues its collusion and abetting the left wing takedown of our country. We have lost our liberty, freedom and the rule-of-law, cut by cut. Step by step. Cover up by cover up. Lie by lie. All thanks to people like "J. Little".

1 Timothy 1:8-10 (NKJV) seems appropriate here, "But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for the righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers..."

Thank you... from the Lighthouse

Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources would like to express a sincere thank you to all the people who made a donation to the Lighthouse during the 2015 Spirit Campaign. We appreciate your gifts that help us carry out our mission for women and families within our community. We also appreciate the time and efforts

made by the volunteers within the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation. Lastly, we would like to thank the WMVCF for the difference they make in and for our community. Warm regards, The Board of Directors for Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources.



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Local Mountain News & Notices



Custer County Sheriff's Office Takes Polar Plunge for a Worthy Cause

"It was a great event and we raised \$1,350 for Special Olympics. The overall event raised more than \$18,000 for this great cause. Reported temps were 52 degrees at plunge time with a water temp of 28 degrees. To say the water was chilly was an understatement," said Sheriff Byerly.

The members of our group, pictured here from left to right, were Samantha Moos, Paula Mankel, Deputy Sam Berkeland, Deputy Charles Cox, Sheriff Shannon Byerly. "We also won the Best Spirit Award for our outfits and overall team enthusiasm. It was a fun time for all of us. Undersheriff Chris Barr and Deputy Carl Dryer came out for the festivities and to cheer us on as well."

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who supported our team and donated to this great cause. It was well worth the experience of that cold water!!!

Courtesy photo from CCSO

SILVER CLIFF

from page 1

Gardner, for the eventual reinstatement of Silver Cliff's own ZIP Code. In the meantime, Town Clerk Ms. Ileen Squire was given the green light to contact Postal Services in Denver and proceed with accepting the offer of "preferred last line".

Under New Business the Sheriff's 4th Quarter Report was moved to the end and other business was taken up including a request for approval of Renewal of Liquor License for local establishment Nacho Mama's. In addition to approving the new liquor license, the board approved Data Security Policy- Per CIRSA and Financial Management Policies and Procedures (also per CIRSA). Approved, as well, was a committee recommendation to appoint Atty. S. Baker as Town Attorney and, finally, renewal of two CD's of the town at First State Bank was also approved.

The meeting moved on to Staff and Committee Reports. Under Building/Zoning section of Staff, Mr. Roger Camper gave a brief overview about potentials

for gravel pit operations as something to possibly give consideration to. He also brought up a point dear to the town board: a "business district" for the town and the need to begin the process of medium and long term planning. On that note he announced that there would be a Planning Commission meeting on February 17, 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Mr. Camper then addressed the board and brought to their attention the January 28 Issue of the *Tribune* wherein the paper, according to Mr. Camper, erroneously reports that the town had dipped into their reserve funds. Mr. Camper was visibly incensed by the erroneous report calling it irresponsible and downright wrong. In his own words Mr. Camper repeatedly said, to the agreement of the board, "never, never, never have we taken from the reserve funds". The *Tribune* might want to take note.

Town Clerk Ms. Ileen Squire reported during her turn that all election matters are being attended to and ballots are on the way to the printer. She also suggested that the town consider sponsoring a Candidate Forum in order to introduce those running for the open positions of Town Trustee in the April Elections. The board not only

approved of the idea but, in addition, approved sending out an election mailer, before the Forum, to all town residents informing them of the issues they will have to vote on as well; the marijuana issue, the broadband issue, the mill levy and the ordinance by title only. The board then gave the nod for Ms. Squire to find a suitable venue for the Candidate Forum pinning the date down to March 9th. Ballots will be mailed out to the residents on March 10th.

As the meeting drew to a close, the board approved the Minutes of the Meeting of January 4th and also approved the Treasurers Report, the Financial Report and the Payment of Bills. What followed then was a brief report by Sheriff Shannon Byerly for the 4th Quarter of 2015. It included total number of incidents for the county as a whole and the number of incidents of Silver Cliff. The most noteworthy statistic was that based on the revenues made from issuing citations and tickets, the average for the year was less than one ticket per day.

For the record, there was a power outage early in the meeting that lasted about ten minutes. The meeting went on under the light of cell phone flashlights.

CCCS Board Meeting: Closed Campus Discussion Started

by Larry Luikart

The regularly scheduled Custer County School Board meeting opened at precisely 4:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Dr. Terre Davis. The roll was called with all board members present.

The first graders gave a wonderful presentation song regarding The Leader in Me. Very well done and a joy to hear.

During the Public Comments, Carol Clemenson requested information regarding the board's position on Common Core. She indicated some of the members ran their campaigns opposing the Common Core curriculum. President Davis asked Superintendent Mark Payler to look into the question and report his findings at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Also during the Public Comments, Michelle Tilotson and Bruce May, representing the faculty, offered their thanks and appreciation for the very nice Christmas party and the thoughtful gift certificates.

The middle school staff presented a very informative slide show on the middle school student-led conference. Business Manager Amy Perschbacher presented her District Financial Report and Monthly Overview. Her report included the rural one time school funding amount at \$98,781.27 and the General Cash Fund Borrowing status at \$269,086, an amount \$13,000 less than last year. This borrowed money will be repaid by the end of February when the Property Tax Revenue is received.

In the area of personnel

changes and appointments, Cheryl Carter will be resigning her position in Food Service at the end of the school year. The following coaching positions were approved: High School Boys Track: Head Coach Bruce May, Assistant Coach Jack Swartz; High School Girls Track: Head Coach Joy Parish, Assistant Coach Jack Swartz; High School Baseball: Head Coach Ernie Bain, and Middle School Track: Assistant Coach Bruce May, with the Head Coach position unfilled.

President Davis presented the board by-laws which were approved with minor modifications. The 2016-17 school calendar received approval. Approval was also given for the establishment of a Girls Golf Team for the spring of 2016 to satisfy the Title IX requirement of equal number of men / women teams.

Superintendent Payler brought forth the apparent reoccurring discussion of creating a closed campus including no one off the grounds at lunch. This is currently a discussion topic only and is only being considered as a possibility at this time. The board felt they needed much more input from the community, parents, businesses, etc. before a final decision is reached.

School Counselor Troy Bomgardner presented a concept for a flex schedule for the high school to satisfy the coming mandatory requirements of the State of Colorado to satisfy the ICAP (Individual Career Academic Plan). Mr. Bomgardner's well thought out plan to meet the state requirements met

with a number of questions from both the board and the public. Superintendent Payler pointed out this presentation was essentially a frame-work that needed a lot of filling in before it could be implemented.

The Elementary and Secondary Principals' reports were heard. Superintendent Payler highlighted the intent of the district to use the Talented system to recruit new hires for the upcoming school year. This system uses social media to reach perspective applicants and it creates an on-line database that is uniform in the application process. This is a trial to see if this system will offer better recruitment opportunities. The CASE funding for next year will be the same as this year. Payler offered several legislative proposals currently being considered in the Colorado legislature but it is too early to know if any of them will pass.

In the second Public Comments session, Carol Clemenson asked if the financial reports of the district could be published in the two local papers. She felt this information would benefit the public's understanding of the fiscal operations of the district. Mr. Payler pointed that state law requires that information only has to be published on the district web site. He indicated he would look into Mrs. Clemenson's question and report back at the next meeting.

Candi Sage indicated she supported the idea of the closed campus proposal something she felt would, in the end, be a benefit to students.

Meeting adjourned with no Executive Session needed.

OEM

from page 1

In fact she recites the five steps in the planning process as: prevention, preparation, mitigation, response and recovery. She sees her job as from a vantage point above the action, effectively coordinating in times of emergency. While she will be directly reporting to the County Commissioners, she has a distinct advantage in her good relationship with the lady who will now be Regional District Manager at the state level. Ms. Christie Coleman, (who is now Mrs. Feldman-Holt),

well known in town as the former head of OEM, has now moved on to the state office and, in that capacity, will be overseeing several other counties in addition to Custer County.

Much of the actual day to day work in emergency management is administrative; searching for grant opportunities and working to get them both from Federal as well as State sources. Of the total overhead (about \$170K) the county provides about fifty percent with the rest augmented by grants. These grants support the programs which in turn are mandated by the State. These programs

include continued training sessions for the groups that compose the nucleus for emergency services. Cindy admits her first year will be a challenge starting with her own training for six months, beginning in May, at three days a month in Centennial where the academy is located. However, she looks forward to it as she eagerly begins the challenge.

We wish Cindy all the best in her new position. Custer County is blessed to have a well qualified professional in charge of this critical job which keeps the ranches, towns, communities and the rest of our area safe.

CC Varsity Basketball



Local Mountain News & Notices

Bobcat Wrestlers On the Move to Regionals!

by Coach Ham
and Jim Silver

This past weekend of wrestling saw the Custer County Bobcats on the mats at Crowley County on Saturday, February 6th. Coach Mike Ham was hoping for a better showing there, after a couple weeks of particularly tough wrestling in Paonia and then Center. No one placed at the Paonia Tournament, and Andy Feldman placed 4th at Center. Going into the Crowley Tournament Coach Ham reported the following records for the team:

106 lbs.: Dalton Wommack, freshman, 13-10
120 lbs.: Ray Perez, freshman, 3-17
138 lbs.: John Feldmann, freshman, 4-13
145 lbs.: Ian Aldrich, sophomore, 2-10
152 lbs.: Andy Feldmann, junior, 25-9

160 lbs.: Cody Koble, senior, 9-15
160 lbs.: Edgar Pedigo, sophomore, 5-14

Coach Ham's hopes came closer to realization at Crowley. Three wrestlers placed, with Dalton Wommack posting a 3rd place and Andy Feldmann and Cody Koble each with 4th place finish.

This weekend, February 12th and 13th, the Bobcat grapplers face the last step before the really big one—the State Tournament. Regionals are at Centauri, way south in the San Louis Valley. “The guys have been working on the little mistakes that they have been making, so they all hope to do well at this State qualifying meet.” The State meet is at the Pepsi Center in Denver, February 18th-20th.

GO BOBCATS!



Bobcat Wrestling Team: back row, left to right: Coach Mike Ham, Manger Sarah Gerringer, Cody Koble, Thomas Dryer, Edgar Pedigo, Asst. Coach Sterling Hinson. Front row, left to right: John Feldmann, Andy Feldmann, Dalton Wommack. Missing: Ian Aldrich, Ray Perez, and Manny Pedigo, Asst. Coach.

Sentinel photo by Jim Silver

Native Plant Master Program

Press Release

Do you have a desire to learn the native plants of Custer County? Then enroll in the 2016 Native Plant Master course for May. This course will teach you how to identify native and non-native plants and learn why they are important to our ecosystem. The Native Plant Master Program (NPM) is an award winning, non-credit, educational program offered by various county Extension Offices throughout Colorado. The Custer County course is taught by our very own Christina Macleod, an experienced native plant specialist and interpretive trail guide for over 20 years.

The course is open to participants ages 16 and up. All of those who successfully complete three NPM courses are awarded the Colorado Flora Certificate. All NPM courses are held outdoors in May with a Basic Botany class held on April 23rd. Everyone is invited to attend the Botany Class and apply for the NPM course. The deadline is March 18th for the NPM and April 8th for the Botany Class; You can pick an NPM application at the Extension Office or go online to http://custercountygov.com/ext/extpage.php?id=hort_main and click on the application. Please contact the Extension office at 783-2514 or come in for more details.

Bobcats Sport Schedule

VARSITY BASKETBALL

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
@ Centauri
Thursday - Saturday, February 18-20: State -
@ Pepsi Center in Denver



Bobcat Menu • Jan. 4 - Jan. 7, 2016

Monday Breakfast
Choice of Cereal
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Chili
Combread
Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Tuesday Breakfast
Choice of Cereal
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Sloppy Jo
Veg.
Fruit
Milk

Wednesday Breakfast
Choice of Cereal
Fruit
Milk
lunch
Egg Scramble w/Ham
W.G. Biscuit
Veg. & Fruit
Milk

Thursday Breakfast
Sausage Gravy
W.G. Biscuit
Fruit, Milk
lunch
Meat Pizza
Veg.
Fruit
Milk

Elementary: Main Dish, Grain Product, Veg., Fruit, and Milk

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

KIDS

Friday, February 12, 2016

February 14 Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, a day for pretty cards, roses, chocolate, romantic dinners, and taking time to just say I love you. But how did all this begin and where and why?

Most of us have heard of the name St. Valentine, but who was he and what did he do to have a romantic day named after him?

Historical details are murky, and the prevailing theory is that one or multiple Valentines existed. The real history of Valentine's Day is not comprised of roses, chocolates, and pretty cards. Instead, crime, imprisonment, and execution are at the origin of our modern day love fest, dating back to the man whose martyrdom may have inspired the holiday. The holiday likely comes from was a Roman priest during the 3rd century A.D. under Emperor Claudius II.

Rome was involved in many unpopular and bloody campaigns at the time. Claudius had to maintain a strong army, but was having a difficult time getting soldiers to join his army. He believed that Roman men were unwilling to join the army because of not wanting to leave their wives and families. So he made the unpopular decision to ban marriage among young people.

This is where Valentine comes in. Valentine began marrying young people in secret but was eventually found out and imprisoned. Claudius ordered that he be put to death. His death sentence was carried out on February 14th, on or about the year 270.

Legends vary on how the martyr's name became connected with romance. The date of his death may have become mingled with the Feast of Lupercalia, a pagan festival of love. On these occasions, the names of young women were placed in a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed. In 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius decided to put an end to the Feast of Lupercalia, and he declared that February 14th be celebrated as St. Valentine's Day.

So because one man decided to be a martyr for love, Hallmark, candy makers, and florists are very busy this time of the year. Have a Happy Valentine's Day by making someone else happy.

by Audrey Slater, Sources: history.com, huffingtonpost.com, newsfeed.time.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

CORNER

CAMP HAPPINESS AT THE LIBRARY

Bring your little ones to the library for some hands-on fun at Camp Happiness

Friday, February 19, at 10:30am.

“This month is going to be especially fun,” said Youth Services Librarian Jessica Carter. “We’ll be experimenting with elephant toothpaste and blow-painting pictures of germs.”

Camp Happiness is a highly interactive program that gives children the opportunity to learn through play, singing, movement and art. This free program is designed for ages 0-6 years, but all ages are welcome and no sign up is required.

Sponsored by West Custer County Library, Camp Happiness that takes place once a month at the library from 10:30 a.m. until about 12:00 p.m., Sept. through April.

For more information about Camp Happiness stop by the library or call Jessica Carter at 783-9138.

*Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.
He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.*

Luke 4:1-2, NIV

Local Mountain News & Notices



Featuring



SANGRES BEST
Grass-Finished Beef

**Good for cattle...
great for dinner!**

Tasting Room & Take Out

Dish of the Day - Custom Size Servings
Monday, February 15 ~

Beef & Noodles with Kale

To pre-order
719-783-2222 or 103 S. 2nd St.
elin@sangresbest.com Mon. 11 am - 6 pm

Thank you to our loyal patrons for your grace following our unplanned closures on January 18th and 25th, which we now know was due to the depression and ultimate loss of our dear Judi Simmons who you all came to know with Sangres Best. I was out of the country so was unable to compensate for her absence. She brought sunshine to The Kitchen, was a savvy and creative cook, and loved you all. I will miss her friendship, candor, humor, and loyalty.

We are truly sorry for any inconvenience the unannounced closures caused for you and appreciate your loyalty and support of our Ranch to Table effort through the coming year.

Elin Parker Ganschow

Court Report...

Lehman, Bradley Scott: Guilty of harassment. A charge of assault 3, dismissed by DA. Assessed \$741.50.	DA. A charge of resisting arrest DISMISSED BY DA. Guilty of assault 3, knowingly/recklessly causing injury. Assessed \$1453.50. Must write a letter of apology to Sheriff's deputy.	son: Charged with four counts of ownership of a dangerous dog/bodily injury. Plead not guilty. MOTION TO DISMISS GRANTED.	MISSED BY THE DA. A charge of speeding, over 25, was DISMISSED BY THE DA. A charge of driving on the wrong side of a divided highway was DISMISSED BY THE DA. Law plead not guilty to a charge of vehicular eluding but was found guilty. Law plead not guilty to a charge of reckless endangerment but was found guilty. Sentenced to 180 days in jail and was credited for that time. Community service to be completed within one year. Complete mental health treatment. Assessed \$3,551.50. Sentenced to five years probation.
Clark, Kevin Daniel: A charge of marijuana cultivation of 30 or more plants DISMISSED BY DA. Guilty of marijuana possession of 2 - 6 oz. Assessed \$1,008.50.	Baturin, Joshua David Sr.: A charge of violation of criminal parole DISMISSED BY DA. Ordered to in-patient treatment.	Law, Thomas James: A charge of driving with a revoked license was DISMISSED BY THE DA. A charge of unlawful use of a controlled substance was DISMISSED BY THE DA. A charge of reckless driving was DISMISSED BY THE DA. A charge of failing to yield the right of way at an intersection was DISMISSED BY THE DA. A charge of speeding, 20 - 24 over, was DIS-	
Koester, Richard William: A charge of Assault on a Peace Officer; DISMISSED BY DA. A charge of felony menacing with a real/simulated weapon DISMISSED BY DA. A charge of using a stun gun, DISMISSED BY	Buffman, Nicholas Robert: A charge of furnishing tobacco to a minor DISMISSED BY DA. A charge of attempting to furnish tobacco to a minor DISMISSED BY DA.		
	Nicklaus, Adam El-		

Are you... ..creative?
...good on a computer?
...enjoy a challenge?

*The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is looking for a part-time layout person.
Must be proficient with computer work, Adobe programs a plus.*

*If you are interested, please submit your resume to us at
610 Main St., Westcliffe, CO 81252*



NORUP GAS INC.

28 RANGEVIEW LP
PH 783-9338

AUTOMATIC DELIVERIES
COMMERCIAL
RESIDENTIAL
BUDGET BILLING
TANK RENTAL

Norup Gas Inc.

28 Rangeview Loop
(Rangeview Industrial Park)

Located
one mile north of Westcliffe
on Highway 69.

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

719-783-9338

Wet Mountain Tasting Room

Grand Re-opening
Friday, February 19th
Opening at 5 pm
Music Starts at 8 pm

Brisket Dinner
Bottle Specials
Incredible Cocktails!

Live music
by Forever Wild

Good times and great people!
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 Kids

Provide your 3-10 yr. old with a fun after school activity based program “Kids Zone” at Club America, Tues & Thurs 4-6pm. \$5 drop in fee or \$30 per month. Instructor certified, background checked. More

For Sale

info at 783-0750.
FSBO 5 acres north of Oak Creek Grade General Store. Call or see Jack or Audrey at 783-2245

Help Wanted

Sentinel Help Wanted: Computer Skills Needed

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is looking for a part-time layout person. Excellent, all round computer skills needed with expertise in Adobe products, especially InDesign a plus. This is an exciting, challenging and deadline oriented environment, and very rewarding. Creativity a must as well as being a “team” player.

If interested, please submit a written resume, with references, to the Sentinel at 610 Main Street, Westcliffe, 81252. If you have any questions, please come to the Sentinel office on Wednesdays.

Help wanted, janitorial/cleaning, and desk attendant at Club America Fitness, 50 E. Main Silver Cliff. Come to club for more info, and fill out application. 783-0750.

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 jmcCarthy@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 Crauens 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

Real Estate

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

Services

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

Events Calendar

Saturday, February 13

6 p.m. Tony’s Pizza - Valentine’s Day Dinner and Sugarfoot music. Call 783-9300 for reservations and dinner selection

Friday & Saturday, February 12 & 13

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Garden Tea Room, Located inside Lady Unique Boutique - Valentine Tea. Reservations Required. 719-371-7076

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, Feb. 12, 13, & 14

7:30 p.m. on Fri & Sat, & 2 p.m. on Sun.
The Jones Theater: “The Big Short”

Monday February 15

President’s Day
Courthouse Closed

Tuesday February 16

9 a.m. Commissioner’s Meeting in Wetmore

Saturday February 20

5 p.m. Tony’s Pizza, Silver Cliff
Movie Debut of “Canyon Trail” and
Charity fundraiser for Eagles Summit Ranch

Sunday February 21

2 p.m. In Concert at Jones theater
Musicians Colin McAllister and Derek Keller

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

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)

Third Saturday of the month

9 a.m. Westcliffe VFW post # 12063 meets at the bowling alley

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 5 p.m. for that week’s edition.

Announcement from Glen Vista Property Owner’s Association

Glen Vista Property Owner’s Assoc., Inc. is a covenanted community. The covenants and by laws are enforced. Prospective buyers that are interested in purchasing property in our community are being misinformed regarding our covenant enforcement. Per County Regulations and GVPOA by laws, no camper/trailers may be lived in or stored on any Glen Vista lot. The Glen Vista subdivision is located along Copper Gulch(CR 28) and Road Gulch south west of Canon City. If further clarification is needed, please contact us at 719-315-1520.

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



Local Mountain News & Notices

CUSTER COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES



PUBLIC NOTICE COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 16-15

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

On December 9, 2015, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Custer records.

Original Grantor(s): Julius T Vizzi

Original Beneficiary(ies): Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee (CWALT 2005-06CB)

Date of Deed of Trust: February 16, 2005

County of Recording: Custer

Recording Date of Deed of Trust: February 18, 2005

Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.): 200676 Book: 517 Page: 169

Original Principal Amount: \$359,650.00

Outstanding Principal Balance: \$334,842.46

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

ASPEN VALLEY AT LOOKOUT RIDGE, COUNTY OF CUSTER, STATE OF COLORADO

Also known by street and number as: 1450 Ridge Road, Westcliffe, CO 81252.

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

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 04/06/2016, at the office of the Custer County Public Trustee, 205 South 6th Street, Westcliffe, CO 81252, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 2/12/2016

Last Publication 3/11/2016

Name of Publication Sangre de Cristo Sentinel Westcliffe, CO

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov

Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov

DATE: 12/09/2015

Virginia Trujillo, Public Trustee in and for the County of Custer, State of Colorado

By: Virginia Trujillo, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

Karen J. Radakovich, Esq., #A.R. #11649

Frascona Joiner Goodman and Greenstein PC 4750 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO 80305-5575 (303) 494-3000
Attorney File # 7192-7500

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Custer County School District C-1
Special School Board Meeting
Administration Work Room
February 16, 2016 4:30 p.m.**

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

- Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call – Board Attendance
- Executive Session
 - Superintendent Evaluation
 - Personnel – If Needed
 - Adjournment

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Colorado State News



"Takin' It To The House..."

A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative
Jim Wilson – HD 60
February 7, 2016

Super Bowl 50 Champions...does that have a nice ring to it or what? Von Miller's MVP performance; Peyton Manning's Cinderella story – it just does not get any better than that! Peyton's legacy as a Bronco can be a lesson for all of us (especially here at the Capitol) – demonstrating grace and humility in victory and exhibiting dignity and class in defeat. (Unlike the QB for the Panthers...). Peyton's acknowledging his faith, his family and his friends in his post-game interviews demonstrates those qualities in an athlete that separates the good from the great.

You would have thought that it was Super Bowl

Thursday at the Capitol last week as crowds pushed into Hearing Room 271 for HB16-1054. The bill, currently known as "End of Life Options for Terminally Ill Individuals", has also been referred to as: "Death With Dignity", "Physician Assisted Suicide" and "End of Life Choices" (among others). HB 16-1054 is by far the most emotionally-charged bill to date in the 2016 session. A standing room only crowd of both proponents and opponents listened to Judiciary Committee testimony and debate that lasted from 1:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Heart-wrenching testimony on both sides of the issue focused the spotlight on the fact that there is no easy solution to end-of-life decisions. Testimony included everything from family members appealing

to the committee to grant a way of ending loved ones' suffering to terminally ill witnesses who vehemently opposed legalizing end-of-life options. Religious leaders argued that God determines our life span while others stated, "We end the suffering of animals, why not humans?" The hearing ended with the committee voting (6 D – 5 R) to move the bill forward. For this issue, the season is not over – stay tuned...

Two of my bills have been heard in committee at this point in the session. HB 16-1105 ("Reestablish Make-A-Wish (MAW) Foundation Tax Check-off") and HB 16-1022 ("Funding for Full Day Kindergarten"). HB 16-1105 was heard in the House Finance Committee on February 4th. It took a bit of maneuvering (and an amendment to al-

ter statute) to get the MAW Foundation back in the queue for a tax check-off. In order to stay on the list, a non-profit has to generate \$75K per year.

HB 16-1022 was heard on Monday the 8th in the House Education Committee. The issue with funding full day Kindergarten is the fact that the state claims to fund Kindergarten, but in reality it only funds 1/2 day plus a .08 factor. Thus, funding is at a .58 level instead of full funding. Districts and parents are left with backfilling the remaining .42 of the full day amount to the tune of over \$205 Million!

The fiscal note on the bill is \$242.9 Million – the state cannot afford the fiscal note, but I feel communities should not have to pay for a program for

which the state takes credit! I believe if the state takes credit for a program, it should pay for it. If the state were to fund full day Kindergarten, it would free up the \$205+ Million in districts to be used in other areas of need for students. Since this column is being written before the committee hearing, I cannot tell you how the vote came out. My prediction? I think the bill will come out of the Education Committee and be killed in the Finance Committee -- check in next week to see how accurate my crystal ball was...



Feel free to call (303-866-2747) or e-mail: wilson-forhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60 --
Representative Jim Wilson

Colorado State Senate District 35 Report

by Senator Larry Crowder
February 2, 2016:

SB16-008 passed out of Senate Local Government Committee unanimously on February 2, 2016. What this bill does is allow off road vehicles to cross a state highway within their municipal boundaries if they so chose to do so. Many of our rural Colorado towns have a state highway going through town and that state highway, in a lot of cases is our Main Street. Currently it is illegal for off road vehicle to cross a state highway in a municipality.

What this represents is economic development. Many towns have a growing number of ATV's and snowmobile clubs venturing more and more into rural Colorado and cities and towns are seek-

ing to enhance this activity thus improving their economic development..

I applaud towns that seek to better their communities and what sometimes may sound like a not so important issue, turns into an issue in which makes a good place to work and live even better.

This bill heads for the Senate floor and if passed, it will be taken up in the House by Rep. Ed Vigil, where it must start all over in the House committee, and then voted on by the whole House. And if passed the governor would hopefully sign it.

I was honored to run the first bill out of the Senate. This is a Veteran bill which lifts the cap on military retirees. Currently the

income deduction is 20k for retirees between the age of 55-64, 24k for 65 and older. After spending 20 to 30 years in the military protecting us, I felt this to be a small token of our gratitude for those who served our country.

This bill passed out of Senate Finance Committee to Appropriation Committee and then to the Senate floor. Rep. Lois Landgraf will then proceed to the House of Representatives to start the process all over and hopefully be signed into law by the governor.

I am also a veteran but only served three years and thus not a retiree.

On January 29, 2016 HJR16-1004 was unanimously approved in the House of Representatives by a joint resolution. This is one

of the few times all legislators, both Senate and House, convened in the House to carry a resolution for Military Appreciation Day. Invited to attend are various active military personnel from throughout the country.

On January 23, 1968, the USS Pueblo was surrounded by six gunships as well as two MIG fighter jets. Heavy machine gun fire raked the ship, as well as cannon fire. The capture of 83 U.S. servicemen of the USS Pueblo and one death of a seaman ensued. After 11 brutal and tortuous months the service men were returned, but the USS Pueblo to this day is anchored in North Korea.

In Fort Lupton, Colorado I spoke with 3rd Class Petty Officer Alvin H Plucker, a 68 year old sur-

vivor of the Pueblo the morning of the resolution. I am not sure what I expected to hear from this survivor, but he was fairly critical of the VA Health Care system with complaints of the treatment for his torture as well as frostbite to his feet. I indicated the Colorado Military and Veteran affairs would contact him and get his complaints taken care of. I truly believe the best way we can honor our veterans is to provide the care that was earned.

Senator Garcia, and myself were the Senate sponsors and Rep. Navarro and Rep. Esgar were the House sponsors.

After 48 years docked in North Korea, it is time for the ill fated USS Pueblo to come home.

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LAND LEADER

Custer County Middle School Basketball Tournament

Cotopaxi, Cripple Creek - Victor, Custer County, & South Park - February 5, 2016

Congratulations to the CC Girls B-Team, Finishing with an Undefeated Season!



Girls A-Team - Second Place

Back row from left: Head Coach Laura Kinsey, Holly Young, Grace Flynn, Memphis Curry, Lindsey Gilmore, Haylee Hutterer, and Manager Devynne Schoch. Front row from left: Haiden Leboeuf, Brittany Benoit, Katherine Mullett, Kylinn Wisecup, and Emma Aldrich.



Girls B-Team - First Place

Back row from left: Hannah Kennedy, Eryn Lemoine, Anastasia Berry, Aleta Elliott, Katherine VonSteinman, Savannah Langford, and Assistant Coach Kristen Foster. Middle row from left: Kyleigh Martin, Kaydin Hobby, Morgan Foster, and Sydney Cooper. Front row: Brooke Flynn. Not available for picture: Kylinn Wisecup (pictured with Team A but played with Team B), Sheyenne Shy, Kaya Huffman, and Bailey Sluder.



Boys A-Team - Third Place
Boys B-Team - First Place

Boys A and B Teams combined. Back row from left: Coach Eric Thompson, Luke Canon (A), Patrick Post (A), Dillon Kinsey (A), Andrew Slawski (B), Logan Kinsey (A), Colin Hess (B), Matthew Kienbusch (A), and Assistant Coach Gary Fischer. Middle row from left: J.D. Morris (B), Greg Teal (A), Wyatt Aldrich (B), Chad Lewis (B), and Ben Penkoff (B). Front row from left: Zach Fischer (B), Hunter Speer (B), Jacob Lafary (B), Anthony Tomassoni (B), Sam Babcock (B), and Wesley Curtis (B).



Sentinel Photos by Jim Silver and
Courtesy Photos by Shelly Penkoff

Local Mountain News & Notices

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a deal you think
you’ve made, if you
make that deal with the devil,
you always end up in hell.”

Anonymous

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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.

Author Tackles Agoraphobia to Help Others

Local author Apryl Brigham will talk about her book *Within These Walls* at the West Custer County Library on Saturday, February 20th, at 12:30 p.m. The book chronicles her experiences as a housebound agoraphobic. Brigham, who writes under the penname Apryl Lynn, has had panic disorder with agoraphobia – a fear of open or public places – for seventeen years and was completely housebound twice for a total of nine years.

Brigham was born and raised in Northwest Indiana. In 2003, she moved to North Carolina and lived in the Smokey Mountains for nine years, finally settling in Westcliffe in 2011. *Within These Walls* is her

first book which she wrote to reach out and help others with this condition. She continues to write and is putting the final touches on her next book in the science fiction genre. She also plans to continue another book on the subject of anxiety and agoraphobia.

“People who suffer from agoraphobia can live with this and still have a life,” Brigham said in her book. “With support, strength and determination, I found the life that I had lost so long ago.”

Brigham will be available to answer questions and sign books after the discussion. For more information on this free event, contact Library Director Amy Moulton at 719-783-9138.

Within
These Walls

Apryl Lynn



What An Amazing Day!

Mike’s Mile was a tremendous success! It wouldn’t have been possible without the caring support of our surrounding communities. Thank you, to all the individuals and local businesses whose donations made the day possible.

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American Drilling
Arkansas River KOA
Shieanne Banta
Barry’s Den
Tracy Beach
Big Horn Trading
Boathouse Cantina
Randy Bohlander
Burmec’s
Collegiate Peaks Bank - Salida
Colorado Quarries
Cotopaxi Booster Club
Cotopaxi PTC
Cotopaxi 3rd Grade
Coyote Coffee Den
Crestone Graphics
Annalee Crum
Cutty’s Resort
Ken Dale
Deer Mountain Forge
Diane Del Duca

Don & Carrie Driver
Dragonfly Gifts
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Jan Ferguson
Maria Feith
Richard Gering
Goodnight Stables
109 Hair Design
High Country Bank - Salda
Hylton Lumber
Iti Biti Acres
Julie Jamerson
Julianne Kaiser
Lazy K Cabins
Lindsay Sutton Art
Little Cambodia
Bruce May
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Nancy Oswald
Payler Photographics
Jessica Phillips
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Poncha Lumber
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Salida Veterinary Hospital
Salida Walmart
Salty Pine Floral & Boutique
Scanga Meat
Spruce Mountain Soaps
Ginny St. John
Su Casa
Dana Talbot
Melody Tezak
Track ‘Em Outfitters
Jesse Ward
Crystal & Trent Wold

And, to everyone in the community who came to participate, a big THANK YOU!
Your love and support made it a truly amazing day!

The Staff of Cotopaxi Schools

Custer County Red Hatters

All Custer County Red Hatters are invited to attend
the Tuesday, February 16th luncheon
scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at
The Silver Cliff Mountain Inn
700 Ohio St. in Silver Cliff, CO 81252



We will order from the menu.
Please contact
Judy Elkington
(719-783-3750,
quilter482@yahoo.com)
by February 15th if you
plan to attend to enjoy
the meal and fellowship.



Colorado State News

Three Gun Bills to Expand Gun Rights Hit the 2016 Colorado Legislature

by Corey Hutchins,
ColoradoIndependent.com

Lawmakers in Colorado, including one state Senator who’s running for the U.S. Senate, have introduced at least three measures to expand gun rights so far this legislative session.

One of the bills, unsurprisingly, is aimed at rolling back a 2013 package of legislation that limited to 15 the amount of bullets a gun magazine could hold in Colorado. One of the Senate sponsors is Tim Neville of Jefferson County who is running in the crowded GOP primary field for U.S. Senate this year. The bill is pretty simple: It repeals the 2013 law, and “declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.”

Another bill, also sponsored by Neville and others, would extend to the workplace the state’s ‘Make My Day’ law, which allows Coloradans to use deadly force against intruders in their own homes under certain circumstances. This new law would allow the same ability to “owners, managers, and employ-

ees of businesses.”

A third measure would scrap the permitting requirements for carrying a concealed weapon in Colorado. Currently, lawful handgun owners must apply for a concealed weapons permit through their county sheriff who has the discretion to issue, deny, or revoke them.

Here’s more on that bill:

A person who carries a concealed handgun under the authority created in the bill has the same carrying rights and is subject to the same limitations that apply to a person who holds a permit to carry a concealed handgun under current law, including the prohibition on the carrying of a concealed handgun on the grounds of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school.

Following the 2012 gun massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut, states across the nation actually expanded gun rights, “embracing,” as The Associated Press reported, “the National Rifle Association’s axiom that more ‘good guys with guns’ are needed to deter

mass shootings.”

Some of that expansion came with bipartisan support from lawmakers in at least one red state during the 2014 election cycle.

In South Carolina, for instance, the Democratic nominee for governor joined with the House Democratic Minority Leader in a Republican-controlled legislature to pass new laws that stripped a mandatory eight-hour permitting requirement for carrying a concealed weapon, and also allowed permit holders to carry their weapons into bars and restaurants, as long as they didn’t drink and there was no sign prohibiting them from packing. One lawmaker said the law passed so quickly because of the “national conversation” about firearms and a push from Washington, D.C. to restrict gun rights.

Here in Colorado, the opposite happened after Sandy Hook. Lawmakers in a legislature controlled by Democrats passed laws that banned high-capacity gun magazines, and required universal background checks for all gun

sales and transfers inside the state’s borders, which went further than federal law.

That year, a majority of county sheriffs in Colorado joined with gun shop owners and shooting range operators to sue Democratic Gov. John Hickenlooper, claiming the new laws were unconstitutional. A federal judge dismissed the lawsuit in June. Some sheriffs said they wouldn’t enforce the new laws.

In Colorado, “Universal background checks stopped some 6,590 people in Colorado from buying guns last year and also resulted in the arrests of 227 fugitives,” reported KOAA News5 in Colorado Springs. The most common reason a potential gun buyer was denied a firearm in November, the station reported, was for a conviction, assault, or arrest.

The bill dealing with concealed weapons permits, sometimes called Constitutional Carry, wouldn’t shut down all the concealed handgun permitting programs in each of Colorado’s 64 counties. If passed, the bill would allow lawful

A third measure would scrap the permitting requirements for carrying a concealed weapon in Colorado.

gun owners here to carry concealed firearms without a permit within the state, but they’d still need a permit from Colorado if they wanted to carry a firearm in more than 30 other states outside Colorado’s borders.

Asked where the County Sheriff’s of Colorado membership organization stood on the bill, the group’s director, retired sheriff Chris Johnson, was pretty clear.

“Support. Support. Support. Support. Support. Support,” he said. “The sheriffs support constitutional carry. Period.”

Johnson says his organization supports all three bills introduced so far this year, though he doesn’t think they’re likely to actually go anywhere. Once they

hit the Democratically controlled House, he predicts, they’ll likely be killed.

This year Republicans control the Senate, and Democrats control the House.

The gun bills have been assigned to the State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committees in each chamber where they’ll eventually get a hearing. In the House, Dean Toda, a spokesman for the caucus that controls power there, didn’t expect efforts to roll back the state’s gun laws to prevail.

“Every year they fail,” he said. “I don’t see that this year will be any different.”

Please see: <http://www.coloradoindependent.com/157290/gun-bills-colorado-2016>

Knock, Knock: Transparency Comes Knocking at Hickenlooper’s Door

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Two separate organizations today dinged Governor Hickenlooper over attempts to obscure the truth or withhold documents.

Todd Shepherd at Complete Colorado gave us a sneak peek into what happened at a Colorado Forum meeting at which Hick spoke earlier this month. Colorado Forum is a left-leaning group of business executives who suggest asinine liberal policies that would harm the state’s economy. A prime example is Amendment 66, which found support from this group. When Hick spoke to the group earlier this month, reporters were barred despite a public announcement of the speaking engagement.

There was a reason that Hick and staff kicked reporters out – he was delivering devastating news about his scheme to undermine TABOR to pay for his pet projects. In short, voters hated it. Here’s what the audio that Complete Colorado uncovered said:

“We know from our polling and I know that you guys have done a bunch of polling as well, if we put [taking the hospital provider fee out from under TABOR] on the ballot it would be a tough thing to pass right now. I mean...that’s, just, how nega-

tive the world is...”

Hick knew he couldn’t sneak this TABOR infringement around voters, and it sounds like he was trying to shove it through the legislature. Sneaky.

Then, there’s Hick’s refusal to turn over the wage and gender of each employee in his office.

Compass Colorado submitted this request after liberal Speaker Dickie Lee Hullinghorst’s impassioned speech about pay equality for women in Colorado. Today, Compass Colorado announced that the request will not be fulfilled until February 1st, if the request is fulfilled at all. As Compass Colorado noted, if the Governor is in the position to sign or veto any kind of employer mandate on equal pay, he had better be walking the walk on the issue.

If Hick’s gender pay equality news is as bad as the news in his speech to Colorado Forum, we can hardly blame him for trying to block access to the information. We should expect nothing less of a Governor who embraced back room deals.

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Got Your Goat: Dinosaur Monument Plans to Rid Park of Mountain Goats

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The National Park Service (NPS) is making plans to manage Rocky Mountain goats in the Dinosaur National Monument. And by manage, they mean relocate or kill.

The non-native goats, that are kind of native to the Rockies but not enough to matter, carry diseases that are harmful to sheep of the bighorn variety, elk and deer, and are a threat to the monument’s ecology, feds say.

While native to the Northern Rockies, mountain goats were purposefully introduced into previously unoccupied mountain ranges for hunting and general recreation and enjoyment by both Colorado and Utah state wildlife agencies. Mountain goats are considered by NPS policy to be a non-native species and require proactive management action to protect sen-



Courtesy photo

sitive and/or endemic plant and animal communities.

Apparently these goats have been wandering in from Utah about 50 miles west of the monument. The park service is now asking for public comment on how to dispose of the little beasts.

Folks on the Western Slope better get on this problem and get their comments in before national animal activists are alerted and flood

the process with Astroturf lobbying comments.

If you don’t act now, we’ll see that goat declared as a nativish species that deserves special protection at the expense of native, herds of elk, deer and sheep, plants and human.

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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



Florence City Council Approves Contract with Humane Society

by Charlotte Burrous

During the meeting on February 1st, the Florence City Council approved a contract with the Humane Society with a lower fee than was first proposed.

“We got together with the director of the Humane Society and we were able to bridge the remaining gap there,” said City Manager Mike Patterson. “We resolved the final language issue. This is the same contract the city and the Humane Society has had since 2010. (We made) simple modifications. The City of Florence could determine when it was responsible for veterinary bills. That way, we have control on our spending dollars. The way the original contract was defacto -- the result of that was a violation of state law. Now we have that fixed.”

In the long run, the City of Florence proposed to pay \$5,309 to the Humane Society, which is \$1.38 per capita that Fremont County paid, not the \$2.26 per capita that Cañon City is currently paying. In the end, the shelter agreed to that agreement.

“We budgeted \$5,000,” Patterson said. “(The amount) will be \$5,309 so it’s a little bit higher than we projected.”

Mayor Keith Ore said almost everybody, including the coal towns, met with the Humane Society in a recent workshop.

“That got things rolling,” he said.

Originally, the contract proposed each community pay \$3 per capita; however, after meeting with Humane Society Executive Director Doug Rae and the other coal towns, they were able to lower that fee.

“Patterson said the coal towns are working out an agreement, as well.

“This is essentially becoming a template for the coal towns, as well,” he said. “Rockvale has already agreed to the contract. I think Coal Creek will meet later this week and approve it. Williamsburg is meeting right now and probably discussing it. I believe they will follow the language. But for whatever reason, they were given a lower rate than everybody else. The reality of it is they’re going to have to come up to where everybody else is.”

The current contract will cover all of this calendar year, Patterson said. This makes everyone in the county essentially the same rate, except for Cañon City, which is on the extreme opposite.

Itty Bitty Bakery Offers Baked Goods and So Much More

by Charlotte Burrous

Baking is a way of life. So it’s no wonder Valerie Catt opened a bakery and coffee shop in Florence about a year ago. Originally, she owned and operated a similar shop in Cañon City, but had to close because of health issues.

In the meantime, she and her husband, David, moved to Florence in 1997. When she started feeling better, she soon grew bored, staying home and doing nothing. So she told her husband she wanted to open an “itty bitty bakery” and run it by herself, a press release said.

After looking around, she found the perfect spot at 107 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of Main Street in Florence, where she offers a plethora of baked goods, including cupcakes, turnovers, artisan breads, brownies, cookies, cakes and more. Catt said she also would make special orders from her customers, including custom gift baskets.

“The bakery is a cute little place to pick something up quick,” Catt said. “I really love baking and it keeps me busy.”

She said the shop is a “quaint little spot with a repurposed barn wood back wall that was originally on Riverside Drive in Cañon City while the chandelier originated in the old Antlers hotel in Colorado Springs.

“The selection is always changing and there are regular items that people always seem to like,” Catt said. “My favorite thing to work on, of course, are the wedding cakes. I love to make that special day



Valerie Catt, proprietor of Itty Bitty Bakery

Courtesy photo by Charlotte Burrous

something to remember for my brides. I have (created) wedding cakes for (more than) 30 years and that always is a pleasure to work with the new excited brides.”

In conjunction, she offers a small gift shop to include cutting boards, made by local artisans, local honey, custom roasted coffee beans that are called “Slap yo Mama,” which is a dark roast, custom made coffee. In addition, there are aprons and towels, as well as cold drinks and coffee.

“You can buy (the coffee) by the cup or by the pound,” Catt said.

But her goal is to provide 100 percent satisfaction and to succeed, a release said. She uses the best ingredients and loves what she does and it shows.

She said her motto is “Your lips our sweets... perfect” or on her door, she has the sign, “happy hearts love our tarts.”

Itty Bitty is open from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 107 N. Santa Fe Ave. in Florence. The telephone number is 431-3996.

Upcoming Events for Feb. 12-29

The Cañon City Music & Blossom Festival will host their 13th Annual “Chocolate Lovers Walk” from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 13 starting at 1101 Main Street, behind Ann’s Serenity Day Spa. Check out all the wonderful goodies located in numerous businesses in downtown Cañon City. Tickets may be purchased for \$10 at Chamber of Commerce office at 403 Royal Gorge Blvd. or by calling 275-2331, Ann’s Serenity Day Spa at 1101 Main St. or by calling 269-9994.

Christ Episcopal Church Recital Series will feature Jim Bosse, Charles Rann, Rebecca Hewett, Gail and John Carpenter at 2 p.m. Feb. 14 at the church at 802 Harrison Ave. in Cañon City. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and are available at the door the afternoon of the recital. Plan to attend the “Meet and Greet” reception in the church hall after the recital. For more information, call 429-7551.

Pamper Your Heart will feature health screenings, information booths, a heart-healthy dinner, a special gift, guest speakers and more from 4:30-7 p.m. Feb. 15 at Evangelical Church at 3000 E. Main St. in Cañon City. Wear red to support National Heart Month. Cost is free. To register, go to stmhospital.org/pamper-your-heart or by calling 285-2179. Sponsored by St. Thomas More Hospital.

Please join the Penrose Chamber of Commerce at the Gooseberry Patch Restaurant at 6 p.m. Feb. 22 for our Annual Banquet at Gooseberry Patch at 660 Colo. 115 Penrose. Social time will begin at 6 pm and the meal will be served at 7 p.m. Awards will be handed out after the meal. Tickets will be drawn through-out the evening for door prizes. Please call the Chamber of Commerce office for more details at 372-3994. The menu will be choice of prime rib, seared scallops and shrimp medley, orange-glazed Cornish game hen or vegetable lasagna. The meal includes salad, vegetable, potato, roll & butter, dessert, coffee or tea. The cost is \$35 per person (price includes tax & tip). RSVP by Feb. 18. All money must be paid by Feb. 18.

First United Methodist Church will present Religious Art Show, an all medium art exhibit and competition, depicting art that represents religion in all forms through Feb. 27 at Fremont Center for the Arts at 505 Macon Ave.

Fremont Center for the Arts will feature Tony Heslop in its Pottery Extravaganza exhibition through Feb. 27 at 505 Macon Ave. He will also sell his functional and decorative pottery through the gallery. Heslop is known for his popular and attractive color combinations, reasonably priced items and is vast and varied pieces that will interest everyone.

The Blue Spruce Art Gallery will host its annual photography show through March 14 at 205 W. Main St. in Florence. For more information, call 784-1339 or on the website at www.bluespruce-art.com.

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

The Liberty Tree

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

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

Edmund Burke

The Daily Jot

Daily reporting and analysis of current events from a biblical and prophetic perspective.

NOTE: When writing about God and Jesus, The Daily Jot means YHVH as God and Yeshua Ha Mashiach as Jesus--the actual original names and the true nature and character of them.

Islamic Society of Baltimore, Really?

The “president” visited an Islamic center/mosque this week whose parent organization, the Islamic Society of America, is a co-partner with the Muslim Brotherhood and named as a key player in its plan to colonize America and “sabotage its miserable house from within” and create “civilization jihad” through the establishment of Islamic centers across the country. The visit was one thing, but some of the things he said while he was there are quite disturbing and offensive. Yet his press secretary upheld the “president’s” words and visit in a way that positioned anyone who would speak against it as someone who is bigoted, prejudiced, against peace, essentially unAmerican.

The occupant of the Oval Office said, “So let’s start with this fact: For more than a thousand years, people have been drawn to Islam’s message of peace. And the very word itself, Islam, comes from salam -- peace. The standard greeting is as-salamu alaykum -- peace be upon you. And like so many faiths, Islam is rooted in a commitment to compassion and mercy and justice and charity.” Really? This religion of terror, Islam, is the foremost propagator of human rights violations in the world. It foments sex trafficking, drug trade, and slavery as standard practices. The vast majority of barbarism and terrorism conducted around the world is done in the name of Islam. This is not peace. Its history is one of death and destruction.

He continued: “Here’s another fact: Islam has always been part of America. Starting in colonial times, many of the slaves brought here from

Africa were Muslim.” In reality, it was Islam that sold Africans into slavery by conquering their tribes and marching them to slave castles such as the one in Cape Coast, Ghana. There they were sold and shipped off to the West. This is diligently documented at the museum in Cape Coast. Moreover, Islam’s history with the U.S. was underscored by Thomas Jefferson commissioning the U.S. Navy to fight the Islamic Barbary Pirates because they were attacking our ships, and selling our men, women and children into slavery. This “president’s” history is fabricated, blatantly false.

To his credit, he told the group that Muslims need to speak against terrorism. This, however, is a matter of definition. Most terrorists do not believe what they do is terrorism, but rather fighting for a cause. This “president” has repeatedly shown his support for Islam in so many ways. Most Muslims are not terrorists, but if they read and understood their Koran, they would know they are instructed to kill infidels, specifically Christians and Jews. The “president” is misguided. As Jesus said in Matthew 7:20, “Why by their fruits you shall know them.” And, by now, we should know him. At the same time, we as Christians should not miss the opportunity to show God’s love to Muslims. We are commanded to share the good news with all. Some are beyond accepting the true Prince of Peace, but it is the Lord’s will that not one should perish.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!
Bill Wilson
www.dailyjot.com
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The Three Percent Concepts of Duty, Discernment, Honor, Principle and Discipline.

by Mike Vanderboegh, SipseyStreetIrregulars.blogspot.com

(Editor/GG: Mike V. is the founder of the modern Three Percent movement. He has twice visited our area in the last few years, once to march in our July 4th parade with the Southern Colorado Patriots Club 2nd Amendment section (and he gave a great speech afterwards) and then again last year for a large patriot rally in Cañon City where he smuggled in from Alabama about fifty thirty-round AR-15 magazines and handed them out to the crowd in defiance of the unconstitutional Colorado magazine ban enacted by the democrats two years ago. The III% movement has been growing dramatically over the last few years. Here is his overview of the III% movement with comments on the recent Bundy/BLM/Malheur incident in Oregon.)

The Three Percent idea, the movement, the ideal, was designed to be a simple, powerful concept that could not be infiltrated or subjected to agents provocateurs like many organizations that I observed in the constitutional militia movement of the 90s. In this I was both correct and dead wrong, as I have been battling folks almost since the beginning who have misunderstood, deliberately or not, what the Three Percent was in history, what it is today and what its aims are for the future. . . These four principles -- moral strength, physical readiness, no first use of force and no targeting of innocents -- are the hallmarks

of the Three Percent ideal. Anyone who cannot accept them as a self-imposed discipline in the fight to restore the Founders’ Republic should find something else to do and cease calling themselves a “Three Percenter.”



The recent (and continuing) debacle of the Malheur occupation and (especially) the poor performances of some claiming to be “Three Percenters” whose lack of judgment and discernment rivaled Chicken Little’s and whose comprehension of the duty, honor and principle inherent in the Threeper concept was sadly lacking if not non-existent demands a further explication of the Three Percent Catechism. First and foremost is the recognition that the Three Percent are men and women bound by a philosophy consisting of Duty, Discernment, Honor, Principle and Discipline. Such words are used these days with little real comprehension of what they actually mean. Let us therefore go to the dictionary to refresh our memories, shall we? I have selected those portions of the definitions that apply to the Three Percent most particularly.

Duty is defined as “a moral or legal obligation or the force of moral obligation.”

We are bound by our fidelity to liberty and the Founders Republic, by our oaths to protect and defend those concepts and the American people from any and all tyranny and conspiracy against their God-given, natural and inalienable rights. This is not negotiable. It is not honored in the breach. It is an intimate, almost holy, thing. It is not honored in the breach, nor is it subject to negotiation.

Discernment is “the ability to see and understand people, things, or situations clearly and intelligently.”

Without discernment, it is all too easy to fall into stupidity and error; every bit of which is exploited by the enemies of liberty to deceive, discredit and defeat us in our duty.

Honor consists of “a keen sense of ethical conduct and integrity.”

The Three Percent are men and women bound by a philosophy consisting of Duty, Discernment, Honor, Principle and Discipline.

The Founders spoke of their “sacred honor.” It is honor that binds us to our duty, to our principles, to the discipline required for discernment: to think through things before we act.

Principle is “a comprehensive and fundamental law, doctrine, or assumption; a rule or code of conduct; habitual devotion to right

principles.”

Our principles trace back to the Founding generation and to the distant past that informed their struggle for true liberty, for a republic of limits on government and backstopped by the rule of law, whether the threat was dictator, demagogue or Collectivist tyrant.

Finally, Discipline is “training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character; self-control; a rule or system of rules governing conduct or activity.”

Without discipline, duty, discernment, honor and principle are constantly threatened with discredit and defeatism. Discipline is the glue that binds them, and us, all together. Remove any one of these essentials and the Three Percenter who embraces the error MUST fail. Indeed,

without any one of them, he or she is no Three Percenter at all. Hold tight to them all, and we can fight and win against any tyranny or combination of tyrannies.

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Colorado Bound: Bennet Says No to Tougher Syrian Refugee Screening

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet voted against tougher screening measures for Syrian and Iraqi refugees last week siding with Gov. Hickenlooper who is one of the few governors in the country who wants the refugees in their states.

Bennet’s vote also saves President Obama from having to veto a bill spurred by the Paris terrorist attacks and popular with most Americans.

Democrats including Bennet don’t think the federal government should take extra steps to screen refugees flowing from countries that are seething with terrorist activities.

Some of us don’t put a lot of faith in the federal government’s ability to read the minds of ISIS members, and think extra screening measures would do more good than harm.

Once again, Bennet has sided against what’s best for Colorado in

a desperate attempt to shore up his Democratic base for his reelection campaign. But considering his votes that would bring Gitmo detainees and Syrian refugees into Colorado, we expect his poll numbers to dwindle even further.

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The REAL Donald Trump - A Fascinating Interview of the Man from 1990

by Michael Krieger,
LibertyBlitzkrieg.com

(Editor/GG: This is a fascinating piece on The Donald. With this being the “Rejection Election”, one non-establishment candidate will win (thank goodness). And it might be The Donald.)

In 1990, Donald Trump conducted a lengthy interview with *Playboy Magazine*. It provides an absolutely fascinating window into the man’s mind, which I suggest everyone read in full. Unexpectedly, I came away with a more informed and nuanced perspective on the man. While it didn’t change my opinion of him as President, I do have a much greater appreciation for Donald Trump as a person, specifically how his mind works and what drives him.

I originally came across this interview after seeing a tweet referencing a 25-year-old interview during which Trump expressed admiration for how strongly Chinese authorities cracked down on dissent in Tienanmen Square in 1989. I immediately thought to myself that this would be the perfect fodder to further elucidate the kind of cold, brutal, authoritarian leader Trump undoubtedly would be as President.

While that particular quote didn’t disappoint, I decided to read further and came away with many additional observations. I think these observations are worth sharing since I think there’s a very real chance Trump will be elected President within the next ten years. His chances ride on the fact that the current system is terminally corrupt, as well as socially and economically bankrupt. It will crash and burn, whether in

slow motion like the past eight years, or very rapidly over the next several. Someone will likely step in to fill this void, and Trump has the personality type and understanding of human nature to possibly propel himself into the position when the timing is right. Is the time right in 2016? Probably not, but a President Trump is far more likely to occur in our lifetimes than many of us want to admit.

So with that out of the way, let me share some of the things I learned from the interview. First, I think Trump is far less materialistic than people presume, which sounds like a contradiction considering he is unquestionably one of the biggest showoffs on planet earth. While this is true, the motivation behind his ostentatious public persona is primarily to further his brand. As he says repeatedly in the interview, it’s all a show. In other words, he claims it’s pure marketing and I believe him.

What motivates Trump isn’t the collection of material things, rather, it’s a constant need to stroke his enormous ego and stoke his narcissism. Life is merely a giant game for Trump. A game in which the winners collect lots of fame and money, and the losers don’t. He doesn’t simply want to win this game, coming out on top is his entire life’s purpose. The idea of not winning isn’t even an option.

So with this in mind, is the Presidency just the ultimate prize for Trump? Does he want it simply because it is one of the few “wins” he has yet to collect? I think so. Deep down, I think Trump can’t truly envision himself as life’s

ultimate winner without the Presidency. This is not to say I think Trump isn’t genuine when he says America is going down the toilet. Indeed, he was hitting on many of the exact same themes back in 1990. In fact, it gives you the impression that Trump has thought America was lacking his entire life, precisely because Trump had yet to be named the country’s CEO.

Trump believes in winning, and he thinks he and America are one in the same. In that sense, I genuinely believe that as President he would do what he thinks is best for America. In that sense, he’s not the typical detached, corrupt, greedy, globalist U.S. President we’ve become so accustomed to. This is precisely what his supporters are picking up on and why they love him.

From this angle alone, he might actually have the chops to be a very good President. This is because for a man with his disposition, being President might still not be enough of an accomplishment. His ego will require that history remember him not just as a billionaire and President, but as the man who “Made America Great Again.” The ultimate motivator for a man who never rests until he gets what he wants. So it’s true that he really wouldn’t be unduly influenced by billionaires and large corporations if he felt they were getting in the way of his making America great (and himself greater). Those are the positives.

As such, the establishment really is scared because Trump actually is an uncontrollable wildcard. This is certainly bad for them, but it isn’t necessarily good for “we

the people.” The problem arises when it comes to Trump’s definition of greatness. From my chair, he doesn’t seem to think liberty, freedom and the Constitution play much of a role. Indeed, you can get a pretty good sense of his definition of “great” by looking at his buildings and the sorts of accomplishments he prides himself on. He loves the shock factor and big expensive toys. He likes them because they impress others and help his brand. There’s more swagger than substance to the things he prioritizes, at least publicly. Indeed, it’s not surprising that the casino business would have a particular appeal to him. It’s a world in which customers indulge themselves in a fantasy until they run out of money or get bored, and by the time they leave, Trump’s bank account is far bigger than it was before. He wins again.

Trump supporters see this and think this is how he’s going to deal with foreign leaders and that this is a good thing. They think that he’ll simply outsmart them. Maybe he will and maybe he won’t, who knows. Personally, I’m far more concerned about how he would deal with domestic dissent.

To that end, I think one thing is clear. I think he’d take George W. Bush’s “you are either with us, or you are with the terrorists” and change it to something like “you are either with me, or you hate America.” In a collapsed economy, this sort of slogan could appeal to a lot of people, and with an outraged public behind him, President Trump has the capacity to be incredibly cruel and vicious to American citizens he thinks stand in the way of his “Making

America Great.”

Without any obvious respect for the Constitution or Bill of Rights, a President Trump could very quickly transform himself into a very dangerous strongman, all the while believing that he is merely doing what is necessary to make America great. This attitude has become painfully clear to me during the campaign as I’ve watched him intentionally stir up anger and hate by demonizing minorities such as Muslims and Mexicans. Do I think it’s possible he doesn’t really stand behind his own hateful statements and is merely telling groups of frustrated people what they want to hear to get elected? Perhaps, but such a willingness tells you a lot about the lengths he would go to win, and shines a light on the things he’s capable of doing in order to solidify and expand his power once he’s won.

Which brings me to the final point. Many of Trump’s personality traits are more intriguing, or at least appear less nefarious than I previously thought. Nevertheless, it is extremely crucial to understand that the traits that make someone an incredible showman and billionaire are not the same traits needed in a President to restore a Constitutional Republic. Not that I think that’s high on Trump’s list of priorities.

(Editor/GG: Mike’s article goes on to quote much of the Playboy interview. To see the whole thing, go to the web address below.)

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Please see: <http://libertyblitzkrieg.com/2016/01/25/the-real-donald-trump-a-fascinating-interview-of-the-man-from-1990/>

Democrats Demand Equal Pay Legislation, Don’t Pay Women Equally

by *ColoradoPeakPolitics.com*

Yawn. This again. Desperate Democrats have staged rallies to demand that legislatures across the country, including Colorado’s legislature, pass legislation that women must be paid equally to men. It’s a nice soundbite and literally every single attribute being equal, paying women equally to men would be ideal.

Perhaps, Democrats should try it themselves sometime.

In 2014, Democrats tried the same nonsense and, sadly for them, research showed that Democrats pay women less than their male counterparts. In fact, it was this pay differential that helped to show what a hypocrite former U.S. Sen. Mark Udall was. He claimed he stood for women’s rights, yet paid his female staffers 82 cents for every dollar he paid men. At the same time, Republican Reps. Gardner and Coffman actually paid their female staffers more than male staffers.

Unfortunately, this equal pay brouhaha that Democrats are pushing has less to do with ensuring equality and more to do with paving the way for easy lawsuits against businesses. Who benefits? The trial lawyers, one

of Democrats’ largest donor groups. Not women. Of course, this comes on the heels of Governor Hickenlooper’s refusal to turn over records to show that he pays women equally to men.

In conjunction with these rallies, Colorado legislators introduced legislation that would require companies that contract with the state to pay women equally. Here’s what Compass Colorado’s Kelly Maher said about the proposed legislation:

“House Democrats live in a world devoid of reality. Employers consider a variety of factors when they are deciding pay, including education, experience and quality of work. Taking those factors out of the equation will stifle growth and progress in every sector and industry across the state.”

Businesses should have the right to pay employees as they see fit. If the Governor doesn’t have to reveal whether he pays women equally, neither should Colorado businesses.

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Please see: <http://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/01/28/doctor-heal-thyself-democrats-demand-equal-pay-legislation-dont-pay-women-equally/>

“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.

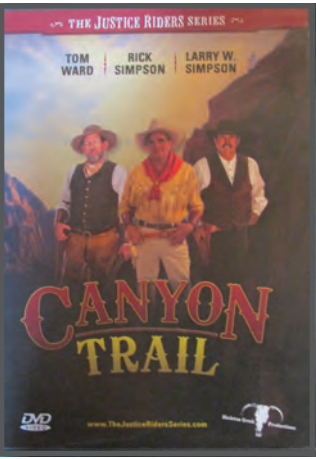
The film is the latest in a series featuring a continuing cast of good cowboys and bad outlaws. It is old style, family-oriented western with a great plot and beautiful scenery including much footage of our very own Beckwith Ranch and The Pines Ranch.

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. Marshall 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 Roever’s 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.

Myth Busted: Separation of Church and State

by Matt Barber,
FreedomOutPost.com

(Editor/GG: The American Revolution was lead from the pulpits of the various churches in our land. The time has arrived for our pastors to stand up against tyranny and corruption. While we still have churches....)

The American church has a problem. It's one part fear, one part confusion and one part apathy. Pastors, priests, and rabbis have long swallowed the false notion that all things religious and all things political are somehow mutually exclusive – that never the twain shall meet.

Leading up to Ronald Reagan's landslide presidential victory in 1980, Rev. Jerry Falwell, the founder of Liberty University, captured the crux of the church's apathy problem. "I'm being accused of being controversial and political," he said. "I'm not political. But moral issues that become political, I still fight. It isn't my fault that they've made these moral issues political. But because they have doesn't stop the preachers of the Gospel from addressing them. ..."

"What then is wrong?" he continued. "I say the problem, first of all, is in the pulpits of America. We preachers must take the blame. For too long we have fearfully stood back and failed to address the issues that are corrupting the republic. I repeat Proverbs 14:34: 'Righteousness exalteth a nation.' Not military might, though that's important. Not financial resources, though that has been the enjoyment of this nation above all nations in the last 200 years. But spiritual power is the backbone, the strength, of a nation."

And the founders meant exactly what they said: "Congress," as in the United States Congress, "shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

In a letter to Benjamin Rush, a fellow-signer of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, often touted by the left as the great church-state separationist, spelled out exactly what this meant then, and what it means today. The First Amendment's Establishment Clause was simply intended to restrict Congress from affirmatively "establishing," through federal legislation, a national Christian denomination (similar to the Anglican Church of England).

As Jefferson put it: "[T]he clause of the Constitution" covering "freedom of religion" was intended to necessarily preclude "an establishment of a particular form of Christianity through the United States."

The individual states, however, faced no such restriction. In fact, until as late as 1877, and after religious free exercise became absolute with passage of the 14th Amendment, most states did have an official state form of Christianity. Massachusetts, for example, sanctioned the Congregational Church until 1833.

Even so, today's anti-Christian ruling class insists on revising history. The ACLU's own promotional materials, for example, overtly advocate unconstitutional religious discrimination: "The message of the Establishment Clause [to the U.S. Constitution] is that religious activities must be treated differently from other activities to ensure against governmental support for religion," they claim.

intervention, it can revoke the institution's tax-exempt status."

That's a lie.

In reality, there is no legal mechanism whatsoever for the Internal Revenue Service to take away a church's tax exemption. Churches are inherently tax-exempt, or, better still, "tax immune," simply by virtue of being a church. Churches do not need permission from the IRS, nor can the IRS revoke a church's tax immunity.

Since 1934, when the lobbying restriction was added to the Internal Revenue Code, not a single church has ever lost its tax-exempt status. Since 1954, when the political endorsement/opposition prohibition was added, only one church has ever lost its IRS letter ruling, but even that church did not lose its tax-exempt status. The case involved the Church at Pierce Creek in New York, which placed full-page ads in *USA Today* and the *Washington Times* opposing then-Gov. Bill Clinton for president. The ads were sponsored by the church, and donations were solicited. The IRS revoked the church's letter ruling, but not its tax-exempt status. The church sued, and the court noted that churches are tax-exempt without an IRS letter ruling. It ruled that "because of the unique treatment churches receive under the Internal Revenue Code, the impact of the revocation is likely to be more symbolic than substantial." Not even this church lost its tax-exempt status, and not one donor was affected by this incident.

As Mat Staver, founder of Liberty Counsel has observed, "Pastors can preach on biblical, moral and social issues, such as natural marriage and abortion, can urge the congregation to register and vote, can overview the positions of the candidates, and may personally endorse candidates. Churches may distribute nonpartisan voter guides, register voters, provide transportation to the polls, hold candidate forums, and introduce visiting candidates."

Since 2008, the Christian legal organization Alliance Defending Freedom has spearheaded a First Amendment exercise called "Pulpit Freedom Sunday." Since then, thousands of pastors across America have boldly exercised their guaranteed constitutional rights by addressing "political" issues from the pulpit. This has included directly endorsing candidates. These pastors have dared the IRS to come after them, and, not surprisingly, the IRS has balked.

Pastors, this election season follow the lead of Christ. Speak moral/political truths, in love, fearlessly. Remain undaunted by the threat of government intervention or punitive action by the state. And encourage your congregation to vote for candidates who sincerely reflect, in both word and deed, a biblical worldview and biblical principles.

Be "salt and light."

Because Christ didn't give us an option to do otherwise.

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***Pastors, this election season
follow the lead of Christ.
Speak moral/political truths,
in love, fearlessly.***

Indeed, it is not just within the church's purview, but it is the church's duty to insert itself into state matters relating to morality, public policy and culture at large.

Contrary to popular opinion, the words "separation of church and state" are found nowhere in the U.S. Constitution. Yet many are misled into believing they are.

So why the confusion?

It's been intentionally fomented. It's the byproduct of a decades-long religious cleansing campaign. The First Amendment's "Establishment Clause," a mere 10 words, is the primary tool secular separatists misuse and abuse to "fundamentally transform" America to reflect their own anti-Christian self-image.

Yet these words remain abundantly clear in both scope and meaning. The Establishment Clause states merely: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion. ..."

That's it.

This is abject nonsense. It's unconstitutional viewpoint discrimination – a twisted misrepresentation of the First Amendment. Secular-"progressivism" depends upon deception as much as it relies upon revisionism. Yes, "separation" applies, but only insofar as it requires the state to remain separate from the church. That is to say, that government may not interfere with the free exercise of either speech or religion.

For decades, hard-left anti-theist groups like the ACLU, People for the American Way (PFAW) and Barry Lynn's Americans United (AU) have employed a cynical disinformation scheme intended to intimidate clergy into silence on issues of morality, culture and Christian civic involvement – issues that, as Falwell noted, are not political so much as they have been politicized; issues that are inherently "religious."

AU, for instance, annually sends tens-of-thousands of misleading letters to churches across the nation warning pastors, priests and rabbis that, "If the IRS determines that your house of worship has engaged in unlawful

1776



The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand

2015



"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

Concealed Carrier Saves Texas Deputy

by Bob Owens,
BearingArms.com

Scott Perkins responded as I hope all of us would when he saw a deputy down and fighting for his life.

Not thinking about his own life, a local Marine veteran jumped into action and stopped a man from reaching a Bastrop deputy's gun as the suspect pummeled the officer during a struggle earlier this month.

"Freeze!" Scott Perkins yelled as he pulled out his concealed handgun, pointing at the suspect.

"I'm alive today because of him," the deputy, 23-year-old Dylan Dorris said Wednesday, reflecting on the events surrounding a disturbance call outside a Bastrop County gas station January 16. "There are no words to explain it. He's such an outstanding citizen. He's here for our country, our community and you

really feel the love."

Perkins' actions caused the suspect to leave Dorris and flee, before he was detained and taken into custody by another deputy and Dorris shortly after.

At a time when anti-law enforcement sentiment is seen in many parts of the country, Perkins' decision to intervene and help Dorris has touched many in the Bastrop sheriff's department.

"This day and time, a lot of people would just drive by and keep going," said Sgt. James Davenport, who was the supervising officer of the incident. "To see someone that will stop and help is special."

The few minutes when Dorris was fighting with the suspect and couldn't check in with dispatchers felt like an eternity, Bastrop County sheriff's dispatcher Ruth

Amy said.

"It is very emotional, very emotional," Amy said. "You go into a mode, for a lack of a better term, you go into an emergency mode and you just do what you have to do."

In those moments, Dorris remembers fearing for his life.

"I remember thinking stay in the fight. Just keep fighting, keep fighting. Do whatever you can do, just stay alive you need to go home," Dorris said. He was transported to the hospital and treated for minor injuries that night.

It makes me angry that the mainstream media has so poisoned society against law enforcement that officers and deputies think they're alone, and that they simply don't think help from citizens is even a possibility.

I just don't get it.

I'm psychologically wired in such a way that I'm going to run to someone in distress and attempt to do what I can to help them. I've done it numerous times, with a pedestrian hit by a car, with vehicular collisions, a motorcycle wipe-out, several fights, and an attempted sexual assault. It's simply what you do, and I suspect that if I ever saw a firefighter, paramedic, or officer in distress that I'd immediately jump in to help them, the way they always take the risks to help strangers.

It says a lot about the decline of morality and character in our society that Perkins' actions are viewed as anything other than an automatic response as the "right thing to do," which Perkins himself seems to get.

But Perkins, who served



Photo Courtesy of BearingArms.com

two tours in Iraq as a Marine, doesn't see himself as a hero.

"Anytime somebody is in need of help you should assist them. It doesn't matter whether your life is in danger or not, you should always assist anybody who is in need," Perkins said.

If we expect to survive as a country and a culture, we have to be willing to put our butts on the line from time to time, selflessly, for others.

If you're only about "what's in it for me," I'd argue you've failed as a human being, but that's just my opinion.

Thank you, Scott Perkins, for stepping up.

You're one of hopefully hundreds of thousands of Americans who would react exactly the same way.

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The 2nd Amendment Made a Huge Difference in Iowa

by Eric Pratt,
FreedomOutPost.com

"The first thing I intend to do as President is rescind every single illegal and unconstitutional executive action taken by Barack Obama."

-- Ted Cruz,
February 2, 2016

I'm sure you saw the results of what happened in Iowa on Monday night.

A pro-gun constitutionalist ran on his principles, without compromising them, and he won!

Ted Cruz' victory was an exciting night for people who love the Second Amendment.

Some in the media have made the case that gun rights played an important role in both political parties on Monday.

On the one hand, said col-

umnist Dave Workman, the win by a "staunchly pro-gun Cruz" came with a record Republican turnout in Iowa.

On the other hand, he said, "Clinton has been obsessive about gun control, and her coin-toss 'victory' suggests that the rhetoric may not have fired up Democrats as she apparently hoped."

Likewise, Bob Owens of BearingArms.com says that, "Cruz is drawing considerable support from a large group of single-issue guns rights voters, whereas Hillary is pandering to a group of single-issue gun control voters that is so vanishingly small as to be statistically insignificant."

Who this nation puts in the Oval Office this year is crucial, as it will have a tremendous impact upon our Second Amendment rights.

Consider the Supreme Court. Hillary Clinton has already stated that, if elected, Barack Obama would be a good nominee for the Supreme Court!

This is especially scary when you consider that the next President could appoint four Justices. Who else would Hillary Clinton want to nominate to the court -- Michael Bloomberg?

We need a constitutionalist in the White House. Otherwise, our Second Amendment rights could be in grave jeopardy.

But Ted Cruz has the legal background to protect the Constitution.

As Solicitor General of Texas, he drafted the amicus brief in the famous Heller case that was signed by 31 state attorneys general. This was the case where the

Supreme Court conclusively stated that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms.

After being elected to the U.S. Senate, Cruz went toe-to-toe against anti-gun Sen. Dianne Feinstein and embarrassed her -- exposing her ignorance on the rights guaranteed by the Second Amendment.

Senator Cruz also helped lead the attack to defeat every gun control proposal offered in the U.S. Senate in 2013, when the President tried to use the Sandy Hook tragedy to implement a draconian gun control agenda.

Ted Cruz is not a recent convert to the pro-gun position. He is solidly pro-gun -- and is 100 percent pro-Constitution.

Of course, I certainly recognize that some gun own-

"The first thing I intend to do as President is rescind every single illegal and unconstitutional executive action taken by Barack Obama."

-- Ted Cruz,
February 2, 2016

ers are supporting other candidates.

Our endorsement of Ted Cruz does NOT in any way disparage the other pro-gun candidates -- in fact we have worked closely on legislative matters with Senators who are in the presidential race.

But GOA endorsed Cruz because we believe he has the strongest pro-gun and constitutional record -- as indicated in our endorse-

ment statement last year.

And it's nice to see that even before the Iowa win, Americans would vote for Ted Cruz over Hillary Clinton, as evidenced by a recent Fox News poll.

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“Whatever Force Is Necessary:” School District Okays Guns on Campus

by Jenn Jacques,
BearingArms.com

About 400 students in the public school system of Okay, Oklahoma will now be protected by armed staff. The school district began advocating for armed staff based on HB 2014, the Special Reserve School Resource Officer Act.

Superintendent Charles McMahan spoke exclusively with News On 6, saying small school districts like his do not have the luxury of having campus police officers or leaving student’s safety to local law enforcement. Specifically, the Wagoner County Sheriff’s department which employs only one deputy to protect and serve the 733 residents of Okay.

“If something were to ever happen and I didn’t try to defend my kids, I couldn’t live with that,” McMahan says. “That’s kind of why we put this in place.”

Okay school campuses have posted four brand-new signs which read, “Please be aware that certain staff members at Okay Public Schools can be legally armed and may use whatever force is necessary to protect our students.”

“Hopefully, that will never take place,” he says. “But if it saves a life, it saves a life.”

This isn’t the first school district to recognize the need to protect their students’ safety with more than a Gun-Free School Zone Sign. In the 10 years since teachers have been allowed to carry guns in Utah, no fatal K-12 school shootings

have occurred.

In 2013 more than 80 bills were introduced in at least 33 states related to arming teachers or school staff, but only Alabama, Kansas, South Dakota, Tennessee and Texas enacted laws affecting public schools, according to a report by the Council of State Governments.

“If something were to ever happen and I didn’t try to defend my kids, I couldn’t live with that.”

The Outdoor Channel’s in-depth documentary Safe Haven hosted by Katie Pavlich was an eye-opening look into just how ineffective gun-free zones really are.

Congressman Thomas Massey (R-KY) introduced a comprehensive plan with H.R. 86, the Safe Students Act, which would effectively repeal the Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1990. Massey’s H.R. 86 would undo the GFSZA, which currently makes it “unlawful for any individual knowingly to possess a firearm at a place that the individual knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, is a school zone.”

“Gun-free school zones are ineffective,” says Rep. Massey, “They make people less safe by inviting criminals into target rich, no-risk environments. Gun-free zones prevent law

abiding citizens from protecting themselves and create vulnerable populations that are targeted by criminals.”

Massey also said, “A bigger federal government can’t solve this problem. Weapons bans and gun-free zones are unconstitutional. They do not and cannot prevent criminals or

the mentally ill from committing acts of violence, but they often prevent victims of such violence from protecting themselves.”

Until laws are passed to repeal gun-free school zones, I applaud people like Superintendent Charles McMahan who are working to ensure students’ safety and deter potential shooters from freely being able to commit a school shooting unchallenged.

So what are you doing in your area to ensure parents, teachers, and staff are able to carry for their protection and the protection of their students?

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by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

Brave New Books, a book store in Austin, Texas has welcomed open carriers and held a symposium on open carry on January 30th, 2016. The store is said to be the only book store in Austin that has not banned open carry from their store. From kvue.com:

AUSTIN -- Brave New Books is offering a 10 percent discount to all customers open-carrying in their store.

The store also hosted an open-carry symposium on January 30 to help Texas residents learn more about open-carry legislation.

Brave New Books is doing more than simply not putting up a sign. The symposium includes a panel of Second Amendment supporters about what is happening in Texas to restore Second Amendment rights. From Brave New Books Facebook page:

[Customers heard] from owner of Central Texas Gun Works, Michael Cargill. We’ll take part in a firearms safety course from our good friend Stephen Sheftall. And we will hear from a panel of gun rights activists about the latest in the fight for firearms freedom in Texas.

And for a limited time only if you come in to Brave New Books safely open carrying a firearm, you can get 10% off anything in the store! That’s right. We want to celebrate your decision to take security in to your own hands by giving you 10% off any product in the store for safely open carrying your firearm .

The market supports freedom. Even though most bookstores in Austin have closed their doors to people who

Bookstore Offers Discount for Open Carriers

dare to exercise their Second Amendment rights, one book store has not. I predict that Brave New Books will gain customers from this move; I also predict that customers of the other book stores will be looking to alternatives such as ABE books and Amazon.

The experience of the 44 other states with open carry is that there are a few signs that go up when more freedom is achieved; then, as the propaganda from the disarmists dies down, nothing much happens. The stores with the signs start getting complaints from would be customers who are offended that the store does not trust them. Those complaints outnumber the disarmists many times over. Then the stores take down the signs. Again, nothing much happens.

Over time, the number of places with signs gradually dwindles, as managers and owners realize that putting up signage that offends half of potential customers, is a losing proposition.

The last signs to come down are from places that do not depend on the market, such as non-profits, and from government agencies, who do not have to worry about offending customers or making a profit, to stay in business.

Texas is in the early first stages of this process.

Brave New Books is showing common sense and a canny understanding of market forces. When I am in Austin, it looks like a good place to visit.

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America’s Economic Freedom Has Rapidly Declined Under Obama

by Anthony B. Kim,
The Daily Signal

Millions of people around the world are emerging from poverty thanks to rising economic freedom. But by sharp contrast, America’s economic freedom has been on a declining path over the past decade.

America’s declining score in the index is closely related to rapidly rising government spending, subsidies, and bailouts.

According to the 2016 Index of Economic Freedom, an annual publication by The Heritage Foundation, America’s economic freedom has tumbled. With losses of economic freedom in eight of the past nine years, the U.S. has tied its worst score ever, wiping out a decade of progress.

The U.S. has fallen from the sixth freest economy in the world, when President Barack Obama took office, to 11th place in 2016. America’s declining score in the index is closely re-

lated to rapidly rising government spending, subsidies, and bailouts.

Since early 2009:

- Government spending has exploded, amounting to \$29,867 per household in 2015.
- The national debt has risen to \$125,000 for every tax-filing household in America—a total over \$18 trillion.
- The government takeover of health care is raising prices and disrupting markets.
- Bailouts and new government regulations have increased uncertainty, stifling investment and job creation.

This is not something to take lightly. Economic freedom is the foundation of U.S. economic strength, and economic strength is the foundation of America’s high living standards, military power, and status as a world

leader. The perils of losing economic freedom are not fictional.

It is painfully clear that our economy has been performing far below its potential, with individuals, families, and entrepreneurs being squeezed by the proliferation of big-government bureaucracy and regulations.

As documented by the index, and by other scholars, America’s economic freedom has been declining at an alarming pace.

Indeed, as *The Wall Street Journal* recently summed it up succinctly, Obama is “a champion when it comes to limiting economic freedom, and American workers have the slow growth in jobs and wages to prove it.”

Not surprisingly, our economic dynamism and innovative capacity have been measurably reduced. Self-inflicted wounds include:

- The U.S. has the highest corporate tax rate in the developed world. This has

driven new jobs to other, more competitive nations and has meant fewer jobs and lower wages for Americans.

- The overall annual cost of meeting regulatory requirements has increased by over \$80 billion since 2009, with more than 180 new regulations in place. In terms of ease of starting a new business, analyzed by a recently published World Bank report, the U.S. is ranked shockingly low at 49th, trailing countries such as Canada, Georgia, Ireland, Lithuania, and Malaysia.

No wonder the labor force participation rate has remained at near record lows after more than five years of steady decline.

Worse, vibrant entrepreneurial growth has been stymied by greater policy uncertainty and mounting debt. And a disturbing trend toward cronyism has gravely eroded the rule of law

and distorted our free-market system.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, keynote speaker of the official release of the 2016 Index, recently stated:

It’s been almost seven years since the Obama “recovery” began, and our economy is barely out of neutral. Why does America have to settle for this?

Restoring economic freedom is prerequisite to revitalizing and brightening America’s future. 2016 is the year to reaffirm the principles of limited government, free enterprise, and rule of law so that we can reconstitute an America where freedom, opportunity, and prosperity flourish.

The time to act is now.

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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.



RELIGIOUS EQUALITY?

Recently Mr. Obama visited a Muslim mosque and came forth with the declaration: "We have to understand, an attack on one faith is an attack on all our faiths." This subjective "wisdom" was followed up with: "It falls on all Americans to speak up!" Based on that invitation, I feel it is my duty as a patriotic American to do just that. My conclusions may differ from the President's, but he initiated the conversation and so we petition the reader to consider the observations of a country preacher.

If Barak Hussein Obama had genuinely desired to promote religious tolerance, it would have been appropriate for him to visit a Jewish synagogue on the identical day or even the same week, concluding with a similar announcement. After all, Jews have experienced a great deal more hostility in this country than Muslims.

The President's silence suggests that he is unconcerned about attacks on Christianity which are leveled primarily by the members of his own political party. Christianity constantly finds itself in the position of being debated, stifled, sued, mocked, cursed and criticized from the halls of academia to Hollywood and the media. For the sake of a level playing field all of these invective insults should cease or Islam should be subjected to the same.

An excellent highway to mutual acceptance would feature road marks of equal inspection. Thousands of self-appointed experts along with a myriad of liberal theologians have scrutinized every aspect of Christianity to the last possible degree... shouldn't Islam be held accountable for doctrines that appear to turn crosswise to American values and culture. If Presidential candidates can debate on national television in an effort to determine respective positions, why not have prominent religious leaders engaged in the same? Wouldn't it be profitable to the public if an Imam explained what hijrah is and what form of jihad it assumes? Fact checkers could be at the immediate disposal of the media's follow-up pundits. I have known hundreds of Bible believing pastors who would be delighted to explain any aspect of their faith. NBC should capitalize on this unprecedented opportunity....Chris Matthews could moderate with chills running up his leg.

In all fairness, Obama's dictum should be examined in reverse. In the plainest words possible, what is good for the goose is good for the gander and vice versa. A fine ex-

ample is found in the activities of the National Endowment for the Arts which is a government funded program. Grants (code word for tax payers' money) have been given to artist who paint impressions that are clearly blasphemous to Jesus Christ and grievous to Christians. Try to imagine the reaction if the same painter presented a picture of Mohammed or the Koran dipped in urine. Christians protest, but Muslim purpose to kill the perpetrator as in the Charlie Hebdo murders. Come, come, Mr. President, tell us again how these differences can be reconciled! If your equality treatment speech is serious, you have no choice except to withdraw all government funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. After all, you do have a pen and phone. Your other options is to remind the Muslim community that tolerance is the American way. Perhaps a scripture verse from your "Christian" perspective would help convince them of greater goodwill. The Bible, as I'm sure you're aware, is full of information concerning persecutions, afflictions and suffering. Remind them that Peter told believers we should be happy with exceeding joy when we are reproached in the name of Christ. Doesn't Islam have a kindred doctrine?

If equality is the goal, a conservative antithesis to the ACLU must be encouraged to dog the tracks of every Muslim move. If any public school teacher makes any reference to the Koran or tenets of Islam, that school district should be threatened with a lawsuit. The watch dogs of liberty must always be ready with the hammer which carries the label "separation of church and state." Mr. President, don't forget the goose.

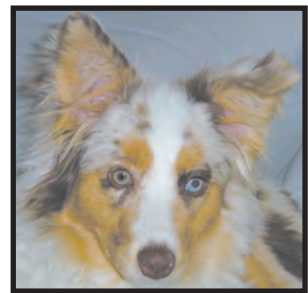
From Nero to present, roughly 50 million Bible believers' lives have been sacrificed through the orders of Inquisition given by emperors, kings and religious leaders. These efforts of extermination continue to this day in Muslim countries with thousands refusing to recant, bend or break down. What is the root of their determination? You can burn their Bibles and hymnbooks, but it is impossible to steal the seed of truth that has been planted in their hearts. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (I John 5:13)

Mr. President, you profess to be a Christian. Wouldn't it be helpful to mention some of their persecutions, trials and accomplishments?

A Sheepdog Barks!

Do the Clintons have any shame at all? I don't see any. I remain baffled that so many American citizens can continue to support her. How can they ignore this woman's past and present judgment flaws and failures? When she was defending and enabling her husband's sexual misconduct she claimed there was a vast right-wing conspiracy "out there" that was out to get them. Bill is a sexual predator and should have been charged, tried and convicted. Hillary knew she had to step up and lead the charge to destroy all those women accusing her husband of unwanted harassment or worse. One woman has claimed she was raped. The point is, other than Paula Jones, none of them saw any justice because of Hillary's efforts. She knew she needed to protect Bill for the future power and influence he could provide. He couldn't even control himself once he was President of the United States. He was justifiably impeached but the straw lions in the U.S. Senate didn't have the courage to do the right thing and remove him from office. MEEOW! Sad because now we still have to deal with the Clintons. Had he been removed from the presidency the power and influence would have been eliminated and the Clintons' would no longer be a problem for America. But because they failed to do the right thing for America we still have to deal with Hillary. She actually has Bill out campaigning for her seeking to shore up the support of women for Hillary. Is that crazy or what? WOOF! Hillary now claims there is also a vast left-wing conspiracy wrongfully attacking her and her record. During a recent Democrat debate she accused ole Bernie of leading that one. Why? Because Bernie is getting the support of young women around America and she doesn't like it. How can they be so stupid to support an old socialist and NOT support another woman? She somehow believes she is the champion of women's rights and equalities. Amazing how the LPSD mind works. So her campaign brings out the big feminist guns. First we hear Madeline Albright, the former Secretary of State, say in support of Hillary that "there is a special place in hell for wom-

en who don't help each other." What a sexist remark. Maybe we haven't really "come a long way, baby." That remark trashes every woman in America that thinks for herself and decides to support any of the other male candidates. We all know she meant Hillary only. Madeline sure didn't mean it was okay to support someone like Carly. But wait, there's more. They bring out the Queen Bee – Gloria Steinem. She told us that the young "girls" support Bernie only because that's where the young "boys" are. Really? That's another sexist remark which kind of "undoes" her life's work. She tried to "walk" that statement back but it was too late. Her real feelings came out. It's all about supporting Hillary only. I mean come on; Hillary's the poster child for powerful women. It's her time. She deserves it. You must rally around her and thrust her to the office of president, deservedly or not. This is similar to the plea that all black people had to vote for Barack because he was black. That was wrong then and it's wrong now. There should be no gender issue in this race. Women citizens should judge Hillary on her merits and we believe she has none. She does, however, have a long track record of bad judgment and wrongdoing and a short track record of accomplishments. Bill even "pardoned" Puerto Rican terrorists to help her get elected as a New York Senator. The corruption is rampant. Hillary's bad list is long and relevant. Whitewater, Travelgate, lost records, FBI files on Republicans in the White House, sniper fire in Bosnia, being named for explorer Edmund Hillary, infidelity cover-ups, attacks on women who dared name Bill, the Dress, intern sex in the Whitehouse, Benghazi, lying to the victims' loved ones, and now the very latest and most egregious--the private and unsecure email server. William Safire, the *New York Times* columnist wrote this about Hillary in 1996. "Americans of all political persuasions are coming to the sad realization that our first lady – a woman of undoubted talent who was a role model for many in her generation – is a congenital liar. Drip by drip, like water torture, the case is being made that she is compelled to mis-



lead, and to ensnare her subordinates and friends in a web of deceit." Twenty years later Safire's comments are dead on, except for the role model part. She is indeed dragging her subordinates and friends into the classified emails and private server crimes. She is lying about the whole thing and she will be caught and charged. If not by Obama's Department of Justice, then by the public. Hopefully the FBI investigation results will go public soon before too many more ignorant Americans vote to support her presidential campaign. She is not trustworthy and the majority of informed citizens know that. This pattern of corruption, lies and deceit must keep this woman from becoming president. Not because she is a woman, because she is dishonest. What difference, at this point, does it make? According to Kathleen Parker, a nationally syndicated liberal columnist, "When it comes to public trust in a presidential candidate – everything." I remain amazed that so many intelligent, informed Americans can still stand behind her at this point. I'm not amazed that so many ignorant and uninformed ones do. Look, she got the 3:00 a.m. phone call she wanted (Benghazi) and she utterly failed in response. She is not worthy to be president. I can't help but think that if only the U.S. Senate had done the right and courageous thing and removed Bill Clinton from office, America would not be faced with this disastrous possibility. Hillary would be just an ex-FLOTUS (First Lady of the United States) and would be irrelevant just like Mrs. Nixon. We would have been done with her and her corruption. Instead she is making over \$200,000 a speech and might be able to harm America even more if enough people don't wise up. Character is everything and she doesn't have it. WOOF!

May God Have Mercy On



Europe’s Civil War Breaks Out: The Battle for Stockholm’s Train Station

by Pamela Geller,
PamelaGeller.com

(Editor/GG: Coming to your nice neighborhood shortly.)

In an event that may very well be the spark to the outbreak of Europe’s civil war, a young, beautiful social worker, Alexandra Mezher, 22, was brutally stabbed to death by Muslim migrants at the child migrant centre where she worked.

Swedish towns have become terror hubs. Lawlessness is rampant, violent crimes skyrocket. There is a now-constant state of violence, terror and fear.

Swedish police warn that Stockholm’s main train station is now overrun by migrant teen gangs “stealing and groping girls.” Hundreds of Muslim migrant youth are living on the streets in Stockholm. They attack security guards at the main station. Police say they sexually assault girls and “slap them in the face when they protest.”

“Gangs of young, male refugees over-powered women and children at a train station in Stockholm, Sweden in recent days, and then robbed and groped them. Some of the migrants, who may be as young as nine, roam the streets day and night, according to Daily Mail. They have been offered help from Swedish Authorities, but have refused it, living in the streets instead.” Swedish police warn that Stockholm’s main train station has become unsafe after being “taken over.”

And so a group of Swedes took matters into their own hands. As I predicted for months, the Europeans will either go quietly into the dark, destructive night, or they will fight back. The

weak, the scared are hiding in their homes, and then there are the fighters.

Europe’s civil war could thus begin, appropriately enough, at a major train station. I say appropriately, because it was at scores of railway stations in Europe that the New Year’s Eve terror attacks took place. Mass sexual attacks, raping and robbing of non-Muslim women. Christians in Sweden have been warned, in blood-chilling messages, “convert or die,” with beheadings threatened; “We will bomb your rotten corpses afterwards.”

The enemedia is painting it as though “far right hooligans” are going after “Moroccan” or “Somalian” “children.” These “children” are raping, killing, gang-raping seniors, robbing and attacking on a daily basis.

The Swedish police have warned that they do not have the resources to deal with the increasing level of violence. The chief of the Swedish army, General Anders Brännström, told men under his command that they could expect to be fighting a war in Europe against skilled opponents “within a few years.” He is wrong. It will be sooner than that. In Sweden, a country that has not been at war in over 200 years.

And even if the Swedish police had the resources, it would hardly matter. The EU, Germany and most Western European governments are supporting the invaders, not their citizens. Police did nothing to protect the victims or stop the attacks on New Year’s Eve. The German government erased the CCTV videos of the mass attacks. Police have fled Muslim mobs at refugee centers.

Even now, on Saturday, EU leaders denied a link between the New Year’s Eve mass sexual assaults and the migrant crisis. Yet the attackers were almost all Muslim migrants.

In Denmark, a 17-year-old girl is facing criminal charges for protecting herself against a sexual attack by a Muslim migrant.

Every day there are more stories like this — mindless savagery is rampant now in Europe. The denial by the media and the political elites continues. And it will continue until the unthinkable happens, when reality drops a MOAB on their fantasy.

German police have been advised not to prosecute migrants for crimes. The EU, Merkel et al are blocking reports of this mass invasion of Europe. They have enlisted the clueless clown, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg. They are criminalizing criticism of the marauding Muslim hordes. Dutch cops are policing anti-mass migration comments, threatening social media users of “sedition” for opposing government policies. Once a country imposes censorship of the press and of speech, then nothing can be won without violence. What would you do?

For years, the voices of my colleagues and me — rational, clear voices — were ridiculed and silenced. Now it is too late for reason, and the worst of elements will rise.

Please see: <http://pamelageller.com/2016/01/pamela-geller-in-breitbart-news-europes-civil-war-breaks-out-the-battle-for-stockholms-train-station.html/#sthash.SC3wkH3i.dpuf>

Why the Denver VA Hospital Project Failed

by Jonah Bennett, Daily Caller News Foundation

The Denver Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital has taken tremendous fire for cost overruns of a billion dollars, but a new report shows that, had the VA engaged in better planning and real-time accountability, the facility could have looked like the new Parkland hospital in Dallas, which finished almost on time and on budget.

A new report from the National Center for Policy Analysis compares reconstruction efforts at the VA hospital in Denver with the redesign of the Parkland hospital, which has quickly become one of the busiest hospitals in the country. Parkland features the second-largest burn unit and ranks in sixth place for number of births per year.

In Dallas, the public Parkland hospital strained to provide medical services for a patient population of one million per year. The hospital’s Board of Directors knew it was time for a change since the facility initially opened in 1894.

Leadership launched a plan to revamp the entire facility, bringing in three working groups to plan and design the new complex. The board also brought on liaisons to ensure synergy between design and hospital staff.

The hospital, twice the size of the original, opened in August 2015 and has since won numerous awards. In total, the hospital cost \$1.27 billion and receiving 60 percent funding from taxpayers and 40 percent from private donors as part of a public-private partnership.

Parkland project managers hired an independent auditor for the reconstruction efforts. The auditor frequently released budget reports to the public and real-time budget updates to planners. This enabled adjustment on the fly.

In contrast, the disastrous Denver VA hospital has run a billion dollars over budget. Even though discussion for the new facility started in the 1990s, the

hospital won’t open until 2017. In the beginning, officials rejected renovation proposals of \$30 million and \$200 million since they wanted a stand-alone facility.

Architects worked in complete isolation for four years, having no proposed project budget and no contact with hospital design experts.

Cost overruns and abysmal management resulted in “the most extravagant and expensive hospital construction project in VA history.”

According to a GAO report in 2013, the VA routinely bungles construction projects. Average cost overruns stand at \$336 million. Delays average 35 months.

The final cost will end up somewhere around \$2 billion.

Still, the VA handed out bonuses to several of the officials involved in the Denver hospital project.

Stella Fiotes and Dennis Milsten, part of the VA’s Office of Construction and Facilities Management, received over \$8,000.

“Twenty years have passed since the VA began exploring options for replacing the Denver VA, and 10 years have passed since planning began,” Jennifer Vermeulen, research associate at the National Center for Policy Analysis, says in the report. “Yet, the veterans of Colorado are still waiting to receive the high-quality care they deserve. Conversely, the county hospital project in Dallas remained accountable in real-time to both taxpayers and private donors. The new hospital was better than originally planned, delivered nearly on-time and on-budget. Results like that are worth every penny.”

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Read more: <http://dailycaller.com/2015/12/02/report-shows-why-the-denver-va-hospital-is-a-total-failure-and-this-similar-hospital-is-a-total-success/#ixzz3tCGCC1t>

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