

# Colorado Drug Death Rate Tops U.S. Average

by The Colorado Health Institute

(Editor/GG: Excerpted from their press release, to see it in its entirety, go to coloradohealthinstitute.org/)

New data paint a grim picture of Colorado’s rising drug-related deaths.

The statewide rate of drug overdose deaths climbed 68 percent between 2002 and 2014, from 9.7 per 100,000 residents to 16.3 per 100,000 residents. Colorado’s 2014 rate is higher than the national average of 14.7 drug-related deaths per 100,000 residents.

And over those 13 years, the drug overdose death rate has increased in each Colorado county except for one — Mineral County in the southwestern part of the state. In some cases, the increase has been dramatic.

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) has analyzed new county-level estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for this report.

## Counties and Drug-Related Deaths

In 2014, 899 Coloradans died from either an intentional or unintentional drug overdose. But some counties are encountering more deaths than others.

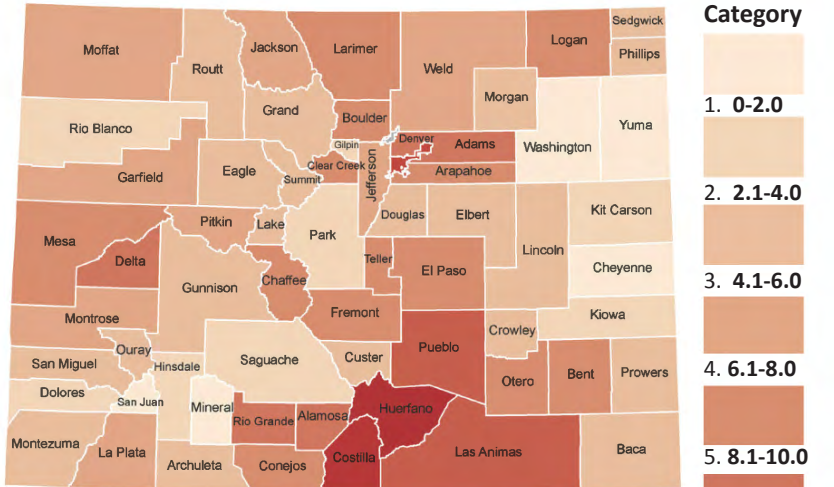
Twelve Colorado counties have drug overdose death rates of more than 20 per 100,000 residents, meaning they are among the highest in the nation.

Seven of those counties — Baca, Bent, Conejos, Rio Grande, Las Animas, Costilla and Huerfano — are in rural southern Colorado. Three — Adams, Denver and Pueblo — are urban counties along the Front Range. The final two are Delta on the Western Slope and Jackson in the north.

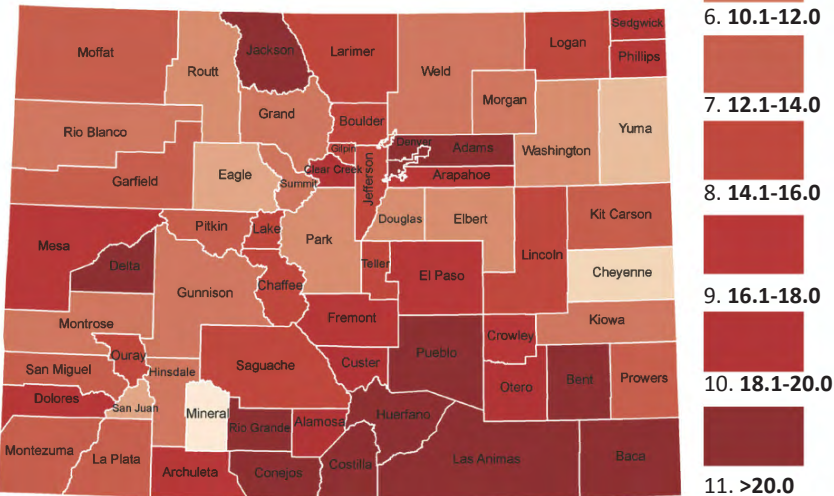
The CDC adjusted the death rates for age. It also placed them in ranges per 100,000 residents. For this analysis, CHI used 11 categories from lowest to highest. For example, Category 1 covers a range of zero deaths to two deaths per 100,000 residents.

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Drug Overdose Death Rate by County, 2002



Drug Overdose Death Rate by County, 2014



## America’s Corrupt Media: National and Local

by George Gramlich, Commentary

As Mr. Brian R. Roberts noted in an article published in 1955, the “Fourth Estate”, the media/press has an ethical and moral obligation to the public:

“It is the job of the Fourth Estate to act as a check and a restraint on the others, to illumine the dark corners of Ministries, to debunk the bureaucrat, to throw often unwelcome light on the measures and motives of our rulers. ‘News’, as Hearst once remarked, ‘is something which somebody wants suppressed: all the rest is advertising’. That job is an essential one and it is bound to be unpopular; indeed, in a democracy, it may be argued that the more unpopular the newspapers are with the politicians the better they are performing their most vital task.

– Brian R. Roberts from a October 29, 1955 article in the London periodical “Time & Tide”

In the same meme, in a recent piece on ZeroHedge.com, Mike Krieger of the Liberty Blitzrieg Blog, criticizes *The New York Times’* endorsement of career criminal, Hillary Clinton, for president, and notes in the article that:

Something else is going on here, something more subtle, subconscious and illuminating. The New York Times is defending the establishment candidate simply because The New York Times is the establishment.

Another sentence indicates another fault line, “Long on prestige, it remains short on substance when it comes to fighting difficult battles in

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## Precinct Election Caucuses Tuesday, March 1st

by George Gramlich

If you want to make a difference at the county political level, March 1st, 2016 is the day to do it. This is the day Colorado and Custer County Republican and Democrat parties hold their “caucuses”. These are public events where the registered voters of each party vote on selecting the county’s party delegates (that will participate in the individual party county assemblies) and also to elect party committee officers.

The Republican caucus sites are: Precinct 1 - County Courthouse Court Room, Precinct 2 - Wetmore Fire Station, and Precinct 3 - Custer County Central School Multi-Purpose Room.

The Democrat caucuses are at: Precinct 1 - County Courthouse Commissioners Room, Precinct 2 - the Wetmore Community Library in Wetmore, and Precinct

3 - West Custer County Library Community Room.

The caucus approach to local, grass roots elections is widely recognized as a horrible vehicle to select candidates, but it is what we have in Colorado, so we have to make the best out of it. In general, what happens, is that the person running the caucus event (and it is by precinct), asks for nominations for people to be county delegates. Each precinct has a fixed number of delegates to be elected. People then nominate other people to be delegate candidates and a list is made of the candidates on a board in the front of the room. The registered voters in the room then get to vote for a fixed number on the list. The delegate candidates with the highest number of votes win.

The problem is, for the general voter who doesn’t know the delegate candidates personally, there is almost no way to know if

the delegate you are voting for will vote for the actual political office candidate you want to win at the county assembly. Thus, it might be beneficial to talk to the political candidates you are supporting ahead of time, and find out the names of the people in your precinct that want to be a delegate, and will commit to your candidate. (Note: As a new resident here five years ago, the first three caucuses I went to were confusing and frustrating, to say the least.)

The successful caucus delegates will then attend the respective party’s county assemblies. (The Republicans have theirs Tuesday, March 8th, 7 p.m., in the County Courthouse Court Room and the Democrats have theirs Saturday, March 5th, 10 a.m., in the West Custer County Library Community Room.) There they will vote to choose their party’s candidates for county office and for state party assemblies.

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PATRIOT ALERT! How Gun Control Was Imposed page 20



In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

Luke 22:20, NIV

# SANGRE DE CRISTO SENTINEL

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of Conservative  
Colorado!*



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

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

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# Our Opinion... From the Editorial Board

## THE FATE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

We are sure everyone is aware of the passing of Justice Antonin Scalia. He was the clear leader of the conservative balance on the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS). All Americans owe him a great deal of gratitude in the protection of our constitutional rights and liberties for the last 30 years. We send our condolences to his family in this difficult time. Much has already been written about his influence and his accomplishments and much more will be written and reported on. He was a legal genius, a Christian and an intellectual giant in interpreting the constitutionality of laws in keeping with the intent and desires of our Founding Fathers. Justice Scalia will be greatly missed in these turbulent and liberal progressive times.

Other than protecting America, the nomination of a Supreme Court Justice may be the most important and impactful thing a President does during their term. The Justices are appointed

for life and in current times can serve 30-40 years. The importance of an appointment can have serious and long-term effects. The current court, before the passing of Justice Scalia, was generally considered to be a conservative leaning one. There are nine Judges and based on their voting history the balance was believed to be 5-4 conservative. Many, many rulings, especially on social issues, bore that out. The nomination and appointment of a judge to the now 4-4 court will determine whether it will remain a conservative-balanced one or a liberal one. Sadly too many judges are activists. We believe it is very important to maintain a conservative balance on the highest court in the land.

The President of the United States nominates and the U.S. Senate provides consent and confirmation. That's what the Constitution provides for. It is clear what kind of justice President Obama will nominate. The question is what the Republican-controlled

Senate will do. The incessant debate has already started and will continue until Election Day this November. There is a good deal of history and precedence about Supreme Court Justices being nominated and confirmed late in a president's term. We will not try to repeat that here and now. Suffice it to say that most politicians are hypocritical depending on what happens and when it happens. During a press conference on February 16th, President Obama said the Constitution is clear on this and he will nominate and the Senate should confirm because the Supreme Court is so important. It's understandable he would like that to happen so he could change the balance of the court to a liberal one. However, in January of 2006 he said this when President Bush was nominating Judge Samuel Alito: "I will be supporting the filibuster because I think Judge Alito, in fact, is somebody who is contrary to core American values, not just liberal values." Quite different thought

then. And Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) in 2007 called for not confirming ANY nominations to the Supreme Court during Bush's last 18 months. The shoe is on the other foot now and both are calling for the Republicans to act swiftly. However, this is much more than just approving a ninth judge. This is about protecting the U.S. Constitution.

Conservatives and Constitution-loving citizens can only hope that the Republican majority in the U.S. Senate will be strong and do what is right and necessary to maintain the conservative balance of the court. One more liberal progressive judge like Kagan or Sotomayor and America will truly begin to move down a path away from what our Founding Fathers created. We believe that would be devastating and destructive. The Constitution does not mandate how fast the Senate must act or even suggest that it must approve. The Republicans need to be very strong and very united at this critical time. This Supreme Court nomination will now become the paramount issue of the 2016 election.

Given the age of several of the Judges, the next president will probably appoint Scalia's replacement and possibly two or three more during their first term. President Obama's disrespect for the Constitution over the last seven years should be a factor here. He has the right to nominate and has said he will. The Republican-controlled U.S. Senate does not have to, and must not, let him change the court. They have not always been strong in the past. They must be now. America will elect a new president in November. That president should be the one to so profoundly affect the court. Only our national security is as important. America's future is at stake. All the petty candidate bickering needs to stop now and we all need to focus on who is the best candidate to pick a Supreme Court Justice. We need to make sure it's a true conservative citizen we send to the White House. This has now become the most important election in our lifetime. We all need to take it very seriously. Justice Scalia, may you rest in peace.



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# Your Opinions... "We the People" Speak



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## Suicide is Not Painless

There is a growing trend, not only in America, but our local community as well. What I speak of is the ultimate decision of suicide. Suicide is the desperate end of someone's life where they feel trapped and unable to see any other options for their life. If you have ever watched the TV series M\*A\*S\*H you have heard the music that introduces the show. The song they play, from the original movie by the same name, is called "Suicide is Painless". Supposedly the Mobile Army Surgical Hospital unit had a dentist who was distraught over his love life and was encouraged by several doctors there to take "the black pill", which would end all his troubles. All the while the song was playing, "Suicide is Painless, it brings on many changes..." Well I hope everyone realizes that suicide is NOT painless, it is not the correct answer

and it will not end all of your troubles. It devastates the surviving families and friends for years with guilt, remorse and what-could-I-have-done thoughts. The sad part is the person who ends their own life by violence has to stand before God and answer for their actions. I have heard a very well known and respected pastor of a very large church teach that a Christian can kill themselves and still reap the rich rewards of the heavenly kingdom. I don't see that anywhere in the Scriptures, in fact I see the opposite; they reap the eternal damnation of hell. The recent news out of Arizona concerning two young girls at a high school, which is now reportedly a murder-suicide. I'm sure of one thing, one of those girls is in hell. Sadly it may be due to bullying, rejection by a boyfriend, rejection or argument with parents, the list goes on. There is always

a way out of troubles, there is always another answer to life's problems that doesn't include death. Given a longer life, and maybe some local support, things can change. After death, nothing changes, there are no more chances, no do-overs. So I ask my community, how can we prevent this from happening again and again in Westcliffe/Silver Cliff and Custer County? Is there anyone who is available for those ones at risk? There are plenty of churches here and each has a pastor and staff. Can they do anything to intercept those people who are on a downward spiral? I hope so. I don't feel equipped to be able to say the appropriate things to convince a suicidal person to turn around but there must be, there needs to be, a center for help for those people who desperately need it.

Bill Bailey,  
Westcliffe, CO

## MEDIA from page 1

the public interest."

We all see the bias and deceit in the national main stream media: CNN, CBS, MSNBC and all the others are mere fronts for the big government, progressive cancer eating our country. Every day. 24/7. Sadly, after decades of propaganda, most Americans today aren't even aware of it. Or, ignore it due to their political orientation or true sheer ignorance. The direct result of this is that the level of corruption in our various government entities has reached a point rivaling many South American dictatorships. And not a word written/spoken against it by the media.

The corruption of the press at the national level is "in your face" and easy to discern. But, as the politicians say, "All politics is local", so we tend to hope that our own local media would be the watchdog that we need

to oversee our own backyard.

Sadly, that has not been the case in Custer County for quite some time. The most recent, blatant example being the *Wet Mountain Tribune's* attempted whitewash piece on the Custer County Judge selection process.

After the *Sentinel* ran its articles on the obvious political hack job in bypassing three, highly qualified, Custer County conservative candidates in favor of a out-of-county, relatively inexperienced, young attorney for our new Custer County Judge, the *Tribune* validates and endorses the shady process with an amateur cover up, puff piece, worthy of Maureen Dowd at the *New York Times*. A sad commentary on media "ethics" and public "responsibility" to say the least.

When the politicians do bad things, and it DOESN'T MATTER WHAT SIDE THEY ARE ON, it is the

press's job to expose it. If they don't, the press is just as, and maybe even more so, corrupt than the politicians. And quite frankly, it is depressing to see this rot at our local level. I remember the *Tribune's* owner and staff touting their "journalistic ethics" at the Star Chamber hearing demanded by the *Tribune* and called by the Commissioners re the legal notice fiasco a few years ago. Barf bag please. And I can't tell you how many people have come to the *Sentinel* in the last 2.5 years and said the *Tribune*, for decades, wouldn't print their letters to the editor because of its political content. Yea, "journalistic ethics". Being the only newspaper in town, the *Tribune* had an OBLIGATION and the DUTY to print these letters. But didn't. Why? Ethical and moral corruption from the top down. These people live and work in our community and not only have they failed us ethically and morally, they have betrayed us, the "Fourth Estate" and America.

*Come to me, all you who are weary  
and burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and  
learn from me,  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.*

Matthew 11:28-29, NIV



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

Anonymous

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# Local Mountain News & Notices

## Christe Coleman-Holt: Our New Regional OEM Manager

by Fred Hernandez

The proverbial recipe for disaster, we have all heard about, has now been served up. The south bound I-25, between Walsenberg and Trinidad is closed due to extremely wicked weather conditions. Four feet of snow blankets the area and wind gusts to sixty miles an hour has trapped hundreds of motorists in stalled cars. This is an emergency. In an instant an entire assembly of systems and processes, dedicated equipment and professional people spring into action. After continuous training, coordination and planning, a network of law enforcement, emergency medical services, fire departments from surrounding areas, public works and other organizations such as the Red Cross come together in a close knit team of first responders to mitigate the emergency and assist all those needing help. Overseeing the whole operation and its myriad and complex elements is the field manager. In the Southern Region of Colorado, one of nine regions in the state, the Regional Field Manager is Ms. Christe Coleman-Holt, who officially took office in mid-November of last year, at the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, one of the divisions of the Colorado

Department of Public Safety. In her capacity as manager for the Southern Region, Christe will oversee the five county area of Custer, Fremont, Huerfano, Las Animas and Pueblo Counties. The emergency described earlier is one of the scenarios in the ongoing planning and training that is the bedrock of the emergency management mission to support local counties in its five point objectives: PLAN, PREPARE, RESPOND, MITIGATE AND RECOVER.

Born to a ranching family and raised in Westcliffe, Colorado, Christe is a true Colorado native. She went to college in Denver where she took up early childhood education and became a teacher. She lived and worked in Denver for fifteen years before returning to Westcliffe and joining the Office of Emergency Management which she headed for twelve years. During that time Christe saw a lot of action in several fires including the big ones in 2012 and the floods of Boulder County in the northern part of the state. It is very important says Christe, to help in other areas not only because it is our duty to assist neighbors, but also because we can always learn something new that improves our own local operations and understanding of

emergency conditions.

Well prepared for her new position at the state level of emergency management, Christe, with twelve years experience in the Custer County OEM, and, as she says "tons of training in emergency management", is a Certified Public Information Officer; able to work effectively and professionally with media. The media, as everyone knows, is always present in every emergency and managing the media has its own challenges and complexities. In addition she is a Master Exercise Practitioner, most probably the only one in the region. This type of expertise has to do with designing and conducting exercises and scenarios from a table top concept to a full scale exercise involving all the elements needed in an actual emergency. Christe looks forward to the challenges of her new job, one of the more important ones of which is developing an overall strategy that takes in all the diverse emergency priorities of each one of the five counties she oversees. Then there is the effective deployment of resources which can be a critical element when considering the type of emergency that might occur and balancing the needs of each county. In addition, there is the need to be truly flexible at



**Our new Department of Public Safety Regional OEM Field Manager, Christe Coleman-Holt, with her state issued SUV packed with two weeks supply of food and supplies in case she is called away to an incident.**

Sentinel photo by Fred Hernandez

all times, not knowing when the call will come to move out quickly. For this eventuality, Christe keeps a two-week cache in the back of her state issued SUV, of everything she might need to be away from home for that length of time.

Christie who started the Ham Radio Operators training in town two years ago, has many friends in Westcliffe and will miss them in her day-to-day work. She

looks forward however to building new relationships in the counties she will be working in. Good working relationships, on going training and communications are the basis of successful teamwork, the most necessary element in emergency operations she emphasized. Christie is married to Mark Holt, a retired twenty-five year veteran of the Colorado State Patrol, now enjoying his retirement. We wish Christe all the best in her new job.



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# Local Mountain News & Notices

## Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation 2015 Spirit Campaign Results

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|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Custer County 4H Foundation                             | \$1,795.00        | \$215.02        | \$2,010.02   |
| All Aboard Westcliffe                                   | \$3,700.00        | \$881.93        | \$4,581.93   |
| American Legion Post 170 Boys State                     | \$335.00          | \$70.95         | \$405.95     |
| Animal Advocates                                        | \$755.00          | \$100.96        | \$855.96     |
| CART (Cliff Comm District)                              | \$1,020.00        | \$109.44        | \$1,129.44   |
| Office of Emergency Mgmt (Cert)                         | \$230.00          | \$45.58         | \$275.58     |
| Cross D Bar Recreation Foundation                       | \$3,000.00        | \$774.01        | \$3,774.01   |
| Custer County 20/20 dba Club America                    | \$9,040.00        | \$1,822.28      | \$10,862.28  |
| Custer County Ambulance Corps                           | \$6,470.00        | \$1,245.16      | \$7,715.16   |
| Custer County Cares About Cancer                        | \$850.00          | \$212.85        | \$1,062.85   |
| Custer County Community Sharing Center                  | \$7,990.00        | \$1,592.71      | \$9,582.71   |
| Custer County Conservation District                     | \$130.00          | \$29.67         | \$159.67     |
| Custer County Economic Development                      |                   |                 |              |
| *** See Below                                           | \$3,545.00        | \$471.46        | \$4,016.46   |
| Custer County Geneological and Historical Society       | \$725.00          | \$121.41        | \$846.41     |
| Custer County Medical Foundation                        | \$460.00          | \$98.24         | \$558.24     |
| Custer County Schools                                   | \$25.00           | \$6.45          | \$31.45      |
| Custer County Search & Rescue                           | \$16,720.00       | \$3,536.13      | \$20,256.13  |
| Custer County Senior Center                             | \$1,225.00        | \$269.94        | \$1,494.94   |
| Custer County Sheriff's Department                      | \$2,370.00        | \$394.77        | \$2,764.77   |
| Custer County Transitions                               | \$135.00          | \$34.83         | \$169.83     |
| Dark Skies, Inc.                                        | \$9,620.00        | \$1,660.61      | \$11,280.61  |
| Dundee Memorial Park                                    | \$3,160.00        | \$604.47        | \$3,764.47   |
| Eagle Summit Ranch                                      | \$880.00          | \$205.85        | \$1,085.85   |
| Excellence in Education                                 | \$7,444.55        | \$1,265.28      | \$8,709.83   |
| FFA                                                     | \$825.00          | \$106.79        | \$931.79     |
| Friends of the Beckwith Ranch                           | \$1,285.00        | \$273.00        | \$1,558.00   |
| Friends of the West Custer County Library               | \$6,710.00        | \$1,329.51      | \$8,039.51   |
| Frontier Pathways                                       | \$25.00           | \$6.45          | \$31.45      |
| High Altitude Garden Club                               | \$3,495.00        | \$332.69        | \$3,827.69   |
| High Country Recycling                                  | \$1,225.00        | \$235.90        | \$1,460.90   |
| High Mountain Hay Fever Festival Association            | \$2,360.00        | \$369.87        | \$2,729.87   |
| Historic Willows School Society                         | \$2,230.00        | \$530.71        | \$2,760.71   |
| In Concert                                              | \$3,765.00        | \$866.31        | \$4,631.31   |
| Junior Achievement for Custer County                    | \$25.00           | \$2.58          | \$27.58      |
| Wet Mountain Broadcasting                               | \$15,425.00       | \$2,432.80      | \$17,857.80  |
| Lighthouse Helpline and Pregnancy Center                | \$9,535.00        | \$1,154.69      | \$10,689.69  |
| Mission Wolf                                            | \$4,440.00        | \$778.58        | \$5,218.58   |
| Operation Uplift                                        | \$1,000.00        | \$258.00        | \$1,258.00   |
| Outdoor Buddies                                         | \$2,975.00        | \$705.31        | \$3,680.31   |
| Paca Peace Ranch                                        | \$6,630.00        | \$1,271.98      | \$7,901.98   |
| Pawsitive Reaction                                      | \$725.00          | \$110.07        | \$835.07     |
| Pet Project WMV                                         | \$1,250.00        | \$227.78        | \$1,477.78   |
| The Ranch of Hope                                       | \$6,052.00        | \$1,432.44      | \$7,484.44   |
| San Isabel Land Protection Trust                        | \$14,405.00       | \$2,795.12      | \$17,200.12  |
| Sangre De Cristo Hospice                                | \$3,080.00        | \$319.79        | \$3,399.79   |
| Sangres Art Guild                                       | \$2,305.00        | \$450.45        | \$2,755.45   |
| Silver Cliff Commemorative Community Park               | \$455.00          | \$117.39        | \$572.39     |
| Silver Cliff Museum                                     | \$1,325.00        | \$318.82        | \$1,643.82   |
| Southern Colorado Space Museum                          | \$1,385.00        | \$228.87        | \$1,613.87   |
| Sustainable Ways                                        | \$1,115.00        | \$276.89        | \$1,391.89   |
| The Bluff                                               | \$1,560.00        | \$223.29        | \$1,783.29   |
| Valley Assisted Living, Inc.                            | \$35,075.00       | \$2,167.20      | \$37,242.20  |
| Valley Parks & Recreation Youth Center                  | \$1,055.00        | \$215.76        | \$1,270.76   |
| West Custer County Library District                     | \$7,070.00        | \$1,100.67      | \$8,170.67   |
| Westcliffe Center for the Performing Arts               | \$10,030.00       | \$1,886.73      | \$11,916.73  |
| Wet Mountain Wildlife                                   | \$4,545.00        | \$820.80        | \$5,365.80   |
| Wet Mountain Fire Protection District                   | \$21,280.00       | \$4,143.23      | \$25,423.23  |
| Wetmore Community Library                               | \$3,572.50        | \$846.47        | \$4,418.97   |
| Wetmore Volunteer Fire Department                       | \$3,822.50        | \$915.27        | \$4,737.77   |
| Wet Mountain Valley Community Service, Inc (Rotary Van) | \$2,692.27        | \$485.08        | \$3,177.35   |
| Wet Mountian Valley Community Clinic                    | \$5,755.00        | \$863.56        | \$6,618.56   |
| Wet Mountain Valley Rotary Foundation                   | \$2,100.00        | \$463.13        | \$2,563.13   |
| Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club                         | \$625.00          | \$129.00        | \$754.00     |
| Totals:                                                 | \$274,853.82      | \$46,963.00     | \$321,816.82 |

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

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



### First State Bank of Colorado

*Banking as it should be*



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



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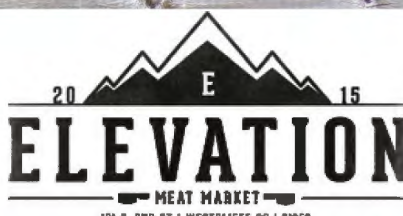
**719.269.1000**

**3365 E. Hwy. 50 • Cañon City, CO 81212**

**enxxpropane@bresnan.net**

*All men having power ought to be distrusted to a certain degree.*

*James Madison - Fourth President of the United States*



### ELEVATION

MEAT MARKET

101 S. 2ND ST | WESTCLIFFE CO | 81252

**783-4263**

**Hours:**  
Tues.-Sat. 10-6  
Closed:  
Sun. & Mon.

Prices good 2/12/16 - 2/25/16



**Wild Caught  
Sashimi Grade  
Ahi Tuna**

**\$9.99  
Lb.**



**Fresh All Natural  
Whole Chicken**

**\$1.99  
Lb.**



**Fresh All Natural  
Pork Shoulder Roast**

**\$1.99  
Lb.**



**Elevation's All Beef  
Summer Sausage  
Jalapeño/Cheddar**

**\$5.99  
Lb.**

*“Until now you asked nothing in My Name.  
Ask, and you will receive,  
that your joy may be full.”*

John 16:24, NKJV

# Local Mountain News & Notices



## 2015-2016 Wrestling State Qualifiers

Pictured left to right is Coach Manny Pedigo, senior Cody Koble, junior Andrew Feldman, sophomore Edgar Pedigo, freshman Dalton Wommack, and coach Mike Ham. These boys along with the rest of the team competed in our regional tournament this past Friday and Saturday at Centauri High School. Dalton is one of just a few freshman to make it to State from our school. Congratulations, Bobcat Wrestlers!

Courtesy photo by Marci Wommack

## WCFPA Auditions for Season Opener

The Westcliffe Center for Performing Arts is looking for a mature 45 to 60-year-old-female to play the female lead in its season opener “Social Security.” Additional mature roles are also available for men and women.

Director Scott Chapman encourages all interested folks to try out for a role. He says no acting experience is required.

Final call for auditions are slated for Thursday, February 25, at 5:30 p.m. in the Jones Theater. Can’t make that audition due to a prior commitment? Call Chapman at 719/429-6804.

Once the play is cast, rehearsals get underway mid-March with the play shown on the Jones stage May 13-15, and May 20-22.

*Social Security* is a play by

Andrew Bergman. It focuses on trendy Manhattan art gallery owners Barbara and David Kahn, whose life is upended when her Mineola housewife sister, Trudy, deposits their eccentric mother, Sophie, on the couple’s doorstep while she and her husband, Martin, head to Buffalo. Barbara and David introduce Sophie to suave artist Maurice Koenig who offers to paint her

portrait and soon begins to brighten her life in ways she never expected.

The Broadway production of *Social Security* opened April 17, 1986, with a cast of Marlo Thomas as Barbara, Ron Silver as David, Joanna Gleason as Trudy, Olympia Dukakis as Sophie, Stefan Schnabel as Maurice, and Kenneth Welsh as Martin.

## Custer County School’s Superintendent on Colorado’s Rural Districts Struggle to Fill Teaching Jobs

by Superintendent Mark Payler

Colorado is now an importer to fill our teaching ranks; we simply don’t have the internal state capacity to meet the growing need for teachers as the *Baby Boomer* generation begins to retire. The days of going to a teacher fair and selling your district with a table and beautiful display are over - the internet and the on-line application systems have changed the paradigm of what the face of contemporary looks like. Custer County must adapt to the “new marketing” platform of social media. How can we compete when school districts, such as Denver Public Schools, have already gone to some of our college and university math teacher prep programs and offered contracts for next year...and it is only mid-February.

To meet the challenge we need to be lean and nimble. We recently received a grant through the BOCES which has allowed us to join the ranks of the metro area “big dogs” and we have (1) automated our job application system through the Talent Ed Recruit and Hire on-line application system as well as (2) have begun to “pushed out” our job openings through SchoolSpring.com which will allow us to seek qualified applicants in a nation-wide marketing and recruitment program.

We are also exploring a number of ideas to separate ourselves from other districts while “adding value” to joining the ranks of the Custer County teaching staff. One thought that is gaining some momentum is the idea of offering reasonably priced teacher housing for rent. The district owns land, as well as a building, and there is some discussion about using our building trades class to build or remodel a facility into reasonably priced teacher-rented housing units. There is also some discussion about joining the ranks of the Troops to Teacher military program. We are also deeply interested in grooming new teachers from our valley - and maybe the idea of offering scholarships for those that want to stay and teach in Custer County has some appeal to keeping our local talent, well, local.

In the end, we must be creative...so everything from actively recruiting from states that have a teacher surplus, such as Michigan, to possibly funding teacher training for our valley residents needs to be “on the table” as we market the opportunities to work for Custer County Schools and compete within an even tighter pool of qualified teacher candidates.

*Please see page 11 for Colorado Chalkbeat’s article.*

## Celebrate Moonlight in the Mountains



**Saturday, February 20th**  
**Myths and Folklore of the Full Moon**  
Presented by Dark Skies Organization

Following the presentation, participants will break into groups for snowshoeing and cross country skiing with the backdrop of the full moon

For more information call 727-642-5342 or email [stodola@hotmail.com](mailto:stodola@hotmail.com)  
*Free and open to everyone*

## Bobcats Sport Schedule

### VARSITY BASKETBALL

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

Tuesday, February 23 - District - time and location TBD  
Saturday, February 27 - District - time and location TBD

### WRESTLING

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



Sangre de Cristo Electric Association, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Did you know that Sangre de Cristo Electric offers an innovative community service fund-raising program, a unique way for members to help fund worthwhile projects in our community? Operation Round Up® is just what the name implies. Each month, we simply “round up” your electric bill to the next highest dollar. For more information go to [www.myelectric.coop](http://www.myelectric.coop).

# Local Mountain News & Notices

## HIGH HONOR ROLL FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS GPA OF 4.0 AND ABOVE

| Current Grade | Student                 |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Grade 9       | Ferron, Tyler           |
| Grade 9       | Florom, Katelynn        |
| Grade 9       | Henrich, Jessica        |
| Grade 9       | Lewenkamp, Chad         |
| Grade 9       | Spencer, Kayla          |
| Grade 9       | Wenger, Holly           |
| Grade 10      | Franta, Jess            |
| Grade 10      | Schepmann, Sara         |
| Grade 11      | Ham, Serenity           |
| Grade 11      | Moulton, Hannah         |
| Grade 11      | Stanglechner, Katharina |
| Grade 12      | Corella, Cynthia        |
| Grade 12      | Henrich, Jennifer       |
| Grade 12      | Henrich, Madisen        |
| Grade 12      | Selden, Amy             |
| Grade 12      | Short, Kayli            |

## HONOR ROLL FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS GPA OF 3.5-3.99

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| Grade 9  | Mackleer, Sebastian |
| Grade 9  | Riehle, Jakob       |
| Grade 10 | Batson, Michael     |
| Grade 10 | Flynn, Cortney      |
| Grade 10 | Frahm, Megan        |
| Grade 10 | Henrich, Nicole     |
| Grade 10 | Kinsey, Elizabeth   |
| Grade 10 | Penkoff, McKensie   |
| Grade 10 | Smerchek, Kaley     |
| Grade 11 | Chase, Kaylee       |
| Grade 11 | Gillum, Ashley      |
| Grade 12 | Freeburg, Katlyn    |
| Grade 12 | Koble, Cody         |
| Grade 12 | Rinks, Rylie        |
| Grade 12 | Shannon, Talon      |
| Grade 12 | Tillotson, John     |
| Grade 12 | Vittitow, Jordan    |

## HONORABLE MENTION GPA OF 3.49

|          |                    |
|----------|--------------------|
| Grade 10 | Florom, Jaden      |
| Grade 10 | Kinsey, David      |
| Grade 10 | Lemons, Halie      |
| Grade 10 | Lewsader, Kobe     |
| Grade 10 | Woodrum, Amber     |
| Grade 11 | Feldmann, Andrew   |
| Grade 11 | Kennedy, Daniel    |
| Grade 11 | Millard, Seani     |
| Grade 11 | Schlabach, Latisha |
| Grade 11 | Stuart, Keith      |
| Grade 11 | Young, Cody        |
| Grade 12 | Brady, Tessa       |
| Grade 12 | Hollinger, Audrey  |
| Grade 12 | Paxton, Madysen    |
| Grade 12 | Redmond, Jonathan  |
| Grade 12 | Reinke, Emma       |
| Grade 12 | Sandoval, Edward   |

## PTSO Scholarship Night Wednesday, February 24th

The annual PTSO scholarship night will be held Wednesday, February 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) of Custer County Schools. The evening, sponsored by PTSO, connects local agencies who offer scholarships with CCHS seniors.

The event begins with each agency briefly outlining their scholarship requirements and then gives seniors a chance to meet with the agencies to ask questions and receive scholarship applications. “It is has been a well-attended event by our agencies and seniors in the past,” noted CCHS counselor Troy Bomgardner. “It’s an efficient way for agencies to get a chance to meet the applicants for their scholarships and for seniors to get answers to any questions they have. PTSO provides treats and a few door prizes to make the evening a perfect kick-off to our local scholarship season.” Questions about the event can be directed to Troy Bomgardner at 783-4927.



### Bobcat Menu • Feb. 22 - Feb. 25, 2016

**Monday  
Breakfast**  
Choice of Cereal  
Fruit  
Milk  
**lunch**  
Turkey Burrito  
Spanish Rice  
Veg. & Fruit  
Milk

**Tuesday  
Breakfast**  
Choice of Cereal  
Fruit  
Milk  
**lunch**  
Meat Lasagna  
W.G. Roll  
Veg. & Fruit  
Milk

**Wednesday  
Breakfast**  
Choice of Cereal  
Fruit  
Milk  
**lunch**  
Nachos  
Veg  
Fruit  
Milk

**Thursday  
Breakfast**  
Sausage Gravy  
W.G. Biscuit  
Fruit, Milk  
**lunch**  
Chicken Patty Sandwich  
Veg.  
Fruit  
Milk

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

## KIDS

Friday, February 19, 2016

## Impeachment of the President

On February 24, 1868, President Andrew Johnson was the first President to be impeached. So what actually does impeachment of a president involve and how many presidents have been removed from office through impeachment?

Article II section 4 of the U.S. Constitution states:

The President, Vice-President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

Impeachment - the presentation of formal charges against a public official by the lower house, trial to be before the upper house.

Treason - means disloyalty or treachery to one’s country or its government.

Bribery - the process of giving or taking bribes.

High Crimes and Misdemeanors - misconduct peculiar to officials, such as perjury of oath, abuse of authority, bribery, intimidation, misuse of assets, failure to supervise, dereliction of duty, conduct unbecoming, and refusal to obey a lawful order.

Removing an official from office requires two steps: (1) a formal accusation, or impeachment, by the House of Representatives, and (2) a trial and conviction by the Senate. Impeachment requires a majority vote of the House; conviction is more difficult, requiring a two-thirds vote by the Senate.

On February 24, 1868, President Andrew Johnson, the seventeenth president, was the first President to be impeached, but fell one vote short of the 2/3 required for removal from office.

On December 19, 1998, President Bill Clinton, the forty-second president, became the second President to be impeached, but the Senate again fell short of the 2/3 required for removal from office.

July 27, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee recommended that America’s 37th president, Richard M. Nixon, be impeached and removed from office.

However, he was never impeached because he resigned from office before the House considered the impeachment resolution.

So, although both Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton were impeached by the House of Representatives, they were both acquitted (found not guilty) by the Senate and they were not removed from office.

by Audrey Slater, Sources: answers.com, infoplease.com, history.com, dictionary.reference.com, wikipedia.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

# Corner

# Sheriff's Report...

On the dates below, there were 340 calls for service to the Sheriff's Office, 13 to EMS, and 5 to the Fire Department. On February 19th, there were 5 males and 1 female in the county jail.

**2/3/16:**  
**Traffic Summons:** Kirk Dyche of Arcadia, Oklahoma, for speeding 10 - 19 over.

**Mischief:** A deputy was dispatched to Jess Price Memorial Park in Westcliffe to investigate a report of criminal mischief.

**2/4/16:**  
**Traffic Summons:** Michael Poisson of Westcliffe for parking too close to a fire hydrant.

**2/5/16:**  
**Traffic Summons:** Jeffrey Emmons of Frisco, Texas for displaying fictitious license plates.

**Arrests:** Kevin Woodard of Westcliffe was arrested without incident on an outstanding warrant for felony charges out of Fremont County.

**Credit Card Theft:** A deputy took a report of a credit card stolen by a family member that was used to incur \$1,192.45 in unauthorized charges.

**2/8/16:**  
**Flight for Life:** EMS was dispatched to Mitchell Mountain Road in Bull Domingo for a female with an altered mental status and having difficulty breathing. The Wet Mountain Fire Department was dispatched to the Custer County Clinic to set up a landing zone for Flight for Life. The patient was airlifted to a hospital in Pueblo.

**2/9/16:**  
**Vehicle Accident:** A Sheriff's deputy, EMS and the Wet Mountain Fire Department were dispatched to Main Street and Adams Boulevard for a two vehicle accident. One of the drivers suffered a minor injury. EMS processed a refusal to transport the patient to the hospital. Carl Lyons of Cotopaxi was issued a summons for failing to yield the right of way at an uncontrolled intersection.

**Unattended Death:** EMS

and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to Haven Road in Antelope Haven for a male who was unconscious and not breathing.

**2/10/16:**  
**Traffic Summons:** Hector Torres of Texas, for speeding 20 - 24 over.

**Burglary:** Deputies responded to CR 271 for a report of a burglary, not in progress, and processed the crime scene.

**2/11/16:**  
**Fire:** Firefighters from the Wet Mountain Valley Fire Protection District managed a slash burn in the Cuerno Verde Pines subdivision.

**2/12/16:**  
**Domestic Dispute/Arrest:** Two deputies were dispatched to a domestic dispute in progress on CR 389 in Wetmore. The male spouse left the scene prior to the deputies arrival. At 2054 hours, Steven Tallant of Wetmore was taken into custody at the Super 8 Motel on Highway 67 in Florence. Tallant was arrested and issued a summons for third degree assault, harassment/ stalking, domestic violence and menacing.

**Overtaken Trailer:** A Sheriff's deputy, EMS and the Wet Mountain Fire Department were dispatched to Highway 69 South, in the area of CR 305 for an overturned tractor trailer. EMS processed a refusal to transport the patient to the hospital. The Colorado State Patrol assumed control of the accident scene.

**2/13/16:**  
**Lion Tracks:** A deputy took a report from an individual who stated he was flagged down by a male subject between Country Roads 150 and 160 who stated he had no problem shooting poachers. The reporting party said he was looking for lion tracks, not poachers.

**2/14/16:**  
**Pills/Booze:** EMS and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to CR 183 F for a female who had taken multiple sleeping pills and consumed several alcoholic beverages. She was transported to a hospital in Pueblo.

# "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.

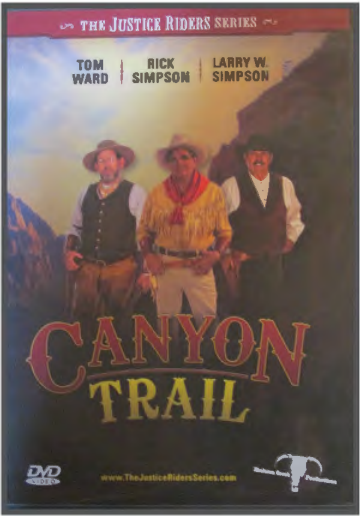
The film is the latest in a series featuring a continuing cast of good cowboys and bad outlaws. It is old style, family-oriented western with a great plot and beautiful scenery including much footage of our very own Beckwith Ranch and The Pines Ranch.

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](http://skeletoncreekproductions.com).

This is also a charity fundraiser for our very own Pastor Dave Roevers'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.

# Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club: The First Annual Queen's Ball

The Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club is excited to announce a Rodeo Royalty Event: The First Annual Queen's Ball, Friday March 11th, 2016, from 6:30-10:30 p.m., held at the WMVSC building. Serving dinner followed by a dance, the event is a

special fundraiser hosted by the young ladies of the WMVSC Rodeo Royalty. This year's theme is "Boots and Bling".

The gala is a kick-start towards the Annual Stampede Rodeo which is organized by the Saddle Club and occurring

this summer July 15th-17th, 2016.

This year's Queen's Ball menu includes a selection of gourmet pastas with sides and a special desert extraordinaire. Music will be by Phoenix Entertainment. The event will have a cash

bar, silent auction, and more. Tickets will be on pre-sale at the following local businesses: Antlers, Salty Pines, Silver Cliff Mountain Inn, and Candy's. Tickets are \$15/adult or \$25/couple, and students are \$8. **Seating is limited, so get your tickets in advance!**

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38-39, NIV

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# 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**

### Construction

Replacement and new construction vinyl windows and doors. High altitude insulated glass replacement. 783-0664

### 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 info at 783-0750.

### For Sale

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](mailto: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 Cra-

vens at ((719)242-8891. Classified staff applications are available online at [custercountyschools.org](http://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 20

**5 p.m.** Tony's Pizza, 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

**Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, Feb. 12, 13, & 14**  
**7:30 p.m. on Fri & Sat, & 2 p.m. on Sun.**

The Jones Theater: "The Revenant"

#### Monday February 29

**9 a.m.** Commissioner's meeting in the Boardroom

#### Friday March 11

**6:30 - 10:30 p.m.** Wet Mountain Valley Saddle Club. Save the date and join us for the special event!

### Recurring Events

#### Monday

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

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

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

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

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

#### 1st and 3rd Mondays

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

#### Tuesday

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

**12 - 4:30 p.m.** Bridge Club meets in the Library Community Room in downtown Westcliffe.

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

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

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

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

#### First Tuesday of the Month

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

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

#### First Wednesday of the Month

**7 p.m.** ROCKY MOUNTAIN BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN at the Penrose Community Center, 401 4th Ave, Penrose.

#### Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Last Wednesday of the month

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

#### Thursday

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

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

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

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

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

#### First Thursday of the Month

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

#### Second Thursday of the Month

**9 a.m. - 8 p.m.** Veterans Service Office is open, walk-ins are welcome but appointments recommended. 615 Rosita Ave. in Westcliffe. Call 783-9470

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

#### Friday

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

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

**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources in Silver Cliff assisting new mothers and families. Free pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling, and more. Call 783-4357.

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

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

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

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

#### Saturday

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

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

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

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

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

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



# 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](http://www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov)

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

[www.consumerfinance.gov](http://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.

## Come and Worship

**Christian Science**  
9:30 a.m. Worship  
8 Bassick Place  
Westcliffe

**Church of Christ**  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
5:00 p.m. Worship  
818 Ohio Street  
Silver Cliff  
719/783-4601

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

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

**Cody Park Community Church**  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., Prayer Mtg.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m., Bible Study  
0157 County Rd. 27A  
Cotopaxi  
719/942-3462  
719/942-3526

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

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

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

**Huerfano Community Bible Church**  
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship  
7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study  
603 Leon Street  
Walsenburg  
(719) 251-9053

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

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

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

**Sangre de Cristo Fellowship**  
Sundays, 10 a.m. Meet and Greet  
Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Service  
Sunday School & Prayer Mtg to  
120 Jerry Court  
Westcliffe  
719/783-0903



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

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

**St. Patrick's Anglican Church**  
11 a.m. Worship  
401 South Second Street  
Westcliffe  
719/783-2500

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

**Westcliffe Community Church**  
10 a.m. Worship  
103 N. Adams St.  
Westcliffe  
719/783-2545

**Wetmore Baptist Church**  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship  
6 p.m. Worship  
Junction of Hwy 96 & 67  
Wetmore  
719/371-1230

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

**Wild West Cowboy Church**  
3 p.m. Sunday School  
4 p.m. Worship  
Followed by Potluck  
Tuesdays 6 p.m.: Bible Study  
60260 Hwy. 69 North  
Westcliffe  
719/783-2676

## Fateries

**Alpine Lodge**  
6848 Cty. Rd. 140  
Westcliffe  
719/783-2660  
Wed. - Sun., 5 - 10 p.m.  
Sunday Brunch  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Reservations recommended

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

**Feed Store Restaurant**  
116 N. 2nd St.  
Westcliffe  
783-3033  
Tues. - Sat.  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
& 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**The Mining Company Restaurant**  
60 Main St. • Westcliffe  
719/783-9144  
Mon., Thurs. - Sun.,  
7 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Tues., 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Closed Wednesdays

**Nacho Mama's**  
404 Main St. • Silver Cliff  
719/783-3331  
Mon. - Fri. 3-6 p.m.

**Rancher's Roost at Cliff Lanes**  
25 Main St.  
Westcliffe  
719/783-2031  
Mon. - Fri.,  
7 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun.,  
8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**St. Andrews Golf Course Café**  
800 Copper Gulch Rd.  
Westcliffe  
719/783-9410  
Open Daily \*  
Call for Hours

**Silver Cliff Mountain Inn**  
700 Ohio Street •  
Silver Cliff  
719/783-2688  
Sat. - Wed.,  
7 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Thurs. & Fri.,  
7 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Open 7 days a week

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

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

**Sugar & Spice Mountain Bakery**  
411 Main St. B  
Westcliffe  
719/783-4045  
Tues. - Fri.,  
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sat., 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Tony's Mountain Pizza**  
630 Main St.  
**Silver Cliff**  
**719/783-9300**  
Tues., 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Wed.. - Sat.,  
11 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Sundays, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.



# Colorado State News



## "Takin' It To The House..."

### A Calendar And Commentary From The Golden Dome

From: Representative  
Jim Wilson – HD 60  
February 14, 2016

Happy Valentine's Day to all of you! I hope you were on the receiving end of something nice this past week. Gov. Hickenlooper received "sweet" news as former legal counsels for the past two Colorado governors opined Thursday that the Legislature can turn the hospital provider fee into an enterprise fund and create more room in the general fund for transportation and education spending. (To my knowledge, the non-partisan Capitol legal staff still believes the move to be illegal!) On Thursday, the Gov. added a new wrinkle to his push for the use of the enterprise fund. He said that if the Legislature agrees with his

plan, he would like to take about \$220M of annual revenue created under the TABOR cap by the move and use it as a revenue stream to pay back a bond sale — a move that could allow the state to move immediately on major projects such as Interstate 25 and Interstate 70 expansion.

Therein lies the problem — there is no guarantee any of the funds will go to transportation and education. Without an ironclad guarantee, any extra spending authority generated by the proposed enterprise fund will disappear into the "giant swirly" of expanded programs in the General Fund. Oh, by the way, (contrary to the proponents' scare tactics) the Hospital Provider Fee will continue whether it is an enterprise fund or not! It is

amazing how easily people can be convinced that the government needs to have more money to spend rather than spending the money it has more wisely.

Speaking of spending tax dollars wisely — since 2008, the General Fund of Colorado has increased nearly \$3 Billion dollars. During that time, education and transportation have been dismally underfunded. All those dollars have been spent, but where? I am glad you asked -- you might want to check Medicaid and Health Services. The Governor did not seem overly concerned about roads and education spending for the past five years of his administration — why the sudden interest? Hmmm...

Oh yes, for those of you

who had trouble sleeping this past week wondering how my prediction on how my Kindergarten Funding bill came out, I was half right! The bill passed out of the Education Committee 7-3, but it will go to Appropriations rather than Finance. I think I can accurately predict the outcome in Appropriations — with a fiscal note of 242.9M, it's gone! Just another one of those places that some of the \$3B (remember "transportation/education"?) could have gone. Just sayin'...

I am excited about my bill (HB 16-1106: "County Authority To Designate Pioneer Trail") coming up in the Local Government Committee this week. This bill will allow counties to identify and designate pioneer trails within their area.

Several years ago there was a move on the Federal level to identify pioneer trails within states — somehow that effort fizzled. (Imagine that?) HB 16-1106 is an effort to allow our counties to proceed with trail identification within the state while prodding the Feds to finish what they started. Colorado Counties Inc. and the Tourism Industry are both supportive of the bill.

Of particular interest to the HD 60 area, as well as the rest of the state, HB 16-1058 will be heard this week. HB 16-1058 deals with the penalties associated with the "sexting" issues that have come to light in recent months. (Scheduled



in the Public Health Committee at 1:30 PM Tuesday)

As always, feel free to call my office in the Capitol at (303-866-2747) or e-mail: wilsonforhd60@gmail.com or james.wilson.house@state.co.us.

Yours for HD 60,  
Representative Jim Wilson

## Colorado's Rural Districts Struggle to Fill Teaching Jobs

by Todd Engdahl,  
Colorado Chalkbeat

The school year is in its second week and your small district is short a second-grade teacher. What's a rural superintendent to do? Coax a Nebraska teacher out of retirement.

Bret Miles did exactly that one year when he was superintendent of the 594-student Holyoke school district in northeastern Colorado, about 35 miles south of the Nebraska line.

Despite growing anxiety about teacher preparation programs producing fewer graduates, most large Front Range districts still can pick and choose when they fill teaching jobs.

That's not the case in many of Colorado's 147 rural districts, 109 of which are specifically designated as small rural, with fewer than 1,000 students each. The state has 178 total districts.

The issue will be in the spotlight Wednesday at the Capitol when the Senate Education Committee considers a bill that proposes several steps to help rural districts, including stipends for student teachers.

The sponsor, Sen. Nancy Todd, admits that Senate Bill 16-1004 won't fix the problem. But the Aurora Democrat and retired

teacher hopes it's a step in the right direction.

"I think it's a moral obligation," she said. "If we shortchange the children in our rural areas, it will have fallout statewide."

#### BY THE NUMBERS

- 147 rural districts, up to 6,000 students
- 109 are small rural, up to 1,000 students
- 178 total districts
- 129,485 students in rural districts
- 899,112 students statewide

Many superintendents tell stories similar to Miles'. Superintendent Sharon Green said because of a dearth of applicants her 132-student Revere district went a full school year without a music teacher.

"It's a crisis," said Michelle Murphy, executive director of the Colorado Rural Schools Alliance.

Miles, now executive director of the Northeast Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services, said the longstanding challenge of finding teachers in math, science, special education and other specialties has grown more difficult.

The full scope of the rural teacher shortage is difficult to determine. No agency or advocacy group keeps statistics on how many teach-

ers apply for rural jobs or how many positions go unfilled.

"We know we're producing substantially fewer teachers than we were five years ago," said Robert Mitchell, academic policy officer for educator preparation at the state Department of Higher Education "The first regions impacted by that are those districts in rural Colorado."

Salaries, remoteness challenges for rural districts

Superintendents and state officials agree that the remoteness of many rural districts and relatively low salaries are key factors in the problem.

"It is my belief that there is one issue, and that issue is salary," said Douglas Bissonette, superintendent of the 2,481-student Elizabeth school district.

Bissonette has studied teacher salaries and found that teachers in the largest, best-paying districts earn an average of about \$58,000 year, compared to an average of \$38,000 in the small, lowest-paying districts.

Miles added some teaching candidates turn down jobs because of a lack of jobs available for spouses.

To illustrate the salary problem, Merino Superin-

tendent Rob Sanders often tells the story of a high school science teacher who quit in the middle of the school year for a job that paid twice as much. Her new post was at the state prison in Sterling.

#### What districts are doing

Rural districts welcome legislative interest in their plight but also are doing what they can to help themselves.

Some district cooperatives rural areas are preparing teachers in their own alternative programs. In some cases these BOCES are turning to aides and paraprofessionals already working in schools. The program in the Northeast BOCES trained 21 teachers last year.

Districts are casting a wide net. Miles is headed to Michigan later this year to recruit teachers for his 12 member districts. He'll visit five colleges in five days.

A few rural districts have hired teachers from outside the country.

A new grant-funded effort at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison is seeking to build connections between teacher prep programs and rural districts.

Most college and university education programs "really

haven't focused" on preparing rural teachers, the state's Mitchell said.

Megan Quitter, rural education outreach coordinator for the Western State program, said she's working to "establish a network of teacher prep programs and rural school districts, making sure students know about the benefits of rural teaching."

#### What the bill proposes

Todd's SB 16-104 proposes four initiatives:

- Create one or more rural education centers at colleges and universities, extending the work started at Western State, whose grant runs for only 18 months.
- Provide stipends for prospective teachers who do their student teaching in rural districts.
- Establish a "teacher cadet" program in rural districts to encourage middle and high school students to consider teaching as a career.
- Pay rural teachers who are pursuing National Board Certification or a master's degree necessary to teach concurrent enrollment classes.

Legislative staff haven't prepared a cost estimate for

the bill. But Capitol observers say the bill will need to cost less than \$1 million for the bill to reach the governor's desk in a tight budget year.

Todd's modest bill is emblematic of the challenge Colorado lawmakers face when trying to respond to statewide education needs.

For instance, she noted, there's no money available for bigger ideas like paying off student loans for teachers who move to rural districts.

"We're not talking big, big money," Todd said. "I'm very mindful of where our budget is."

Lawmakers have taken some small steps for rural districts in recent sessions.

Last year the legislature approved an extra \$10 million in per-student aid to such districts on top of the normal finance formula. A 2014 law gave rural districts some flexibility in meeting state paperwork requirements.

Please see: <http://co.chalkbeat.org/2016/02/12/colorados-rural-districts-struggle-to-fill-teaching-jobs/#.VsHq3DemRz8>

Please also see Custer County School District Superintendent's response to this article on page 6.

# CCHS Sources of Strength Team Sponsored a Week to Promote Hope, Help, and Strength



The CCHS Sources of Strength team sponsored a week to promote Hope, Help, and Strength throughout the halls of Custer County High School. The week was led by twenty-seven peer leaders and started off with students being ushered to the high school gym before school on Monday. Much to the surprise of students, they walked into donuts and juice to start the week. After munching on donuts for a few minutes, the peer leaders divided students into small groups to play a game called 1-2-3 Look. The game is fast-paced and had students laughing as each game was an elimination down to a couple of students. Winners were provided with Sources of Strength T-Shirts and then a championship round was played and the final two students were awarded a \$25 debit card.

Students then headed to class to start the week with food in their stomach and a smile on their face. During Monday's advisory, peer leaders encouraged their classmates to join in a thankfulness challenge where students listed things they were thankful for and then posted them on a wall in the school. Students joined in and posted items from family and friends to the Broncos.

"It was really exciting to see our peer leaders take the leadership on this week," said Sources of Strength adult advisor Rebekah Cravens. "SoS is a peer-led program and we felt great about how our leaders stepped up to the plate!"

Tuesday started with muffins baked by peer leaders and a game of Thumper where students paired up with a friend and had to quickly imitate a command with their partner. It was a fast-paced game again with smiles all around. Again students were rewarded with t-shirts and i-tunes cards.

During the day, students were surprised with a sticky-note attack as peer leaders placed positive notes around the school for students to read.

On Wednesday, students were greeted with hot chocolate and the day's big activity occurred during an expanded advisory period which allowed students to head to the gym for cookies and giant game of Titanic. Students were then divided into small groups led by peer leaders. The peer leaders took time to talk

with their classmates about the power of the Sources of Strength wheel which highlights eight areas in which strength is found. The areas are Positive Friends, Family Support, Healthy Activities, Spirituality, Generosity, Mentors, Medical Access, and Mental Health. "We felt great how the groups went," said adult advisor Anita Bomgardner. "It was a healthy activity led by students with a generous heart."

"I loved seeing the entire student body dancing and having fun," said science teacher Vania Nameth. "I have rarely seen so many smiles at once during the school day!"

"It seems the students really enjoyed the food and games," said peer leader Holly Wenger. "I also heard great comments about the group time on the Sources of Strength."

They say food makes a party and the week had plenty of goodies of which much were donated by Lowe's Grocery in Westcliffe. "It was great to see that the new ownership of the grocery store wants to be involved with our community," said adult advisor Troy Bomgardner. "Their help with this week was awesome! In addition, Gail Stoltzfus and Rhonda Martin with Custer County Public Health, have secured some grant funding that has been a huge help to our funding needs for Sources of Strength."

Thursday was Blue and Gold day and peer leaders spent time face painting many students including much of the elementary. There was an all-school assembly during advisory to play games and just have fun with classmates. Mr. Swartz's 4th grade class joined the assembly and were mentored as they played right along side the high school students. At the end of the day, as the last bell of the week rang, students entered the hallways to find them filled with multi-colored balloons.

"The Sources of Strength week brought great energy into our school," said principal Holly Anderson. "There is no way to put a value on the power of students supporting one another, building team spirit, and expressing thanks for the important people in their lives. The week exceeded our expectations!"





# Colorado State News



## Law Enforcement Day at the Colorado Capitol

Tuesday, February 17th was Law Enforcement Day at the Colorado Capitol, an event sponsored by the County Sheriffs of Colorado, Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, State Patrol of Colorado, Colorado District Attorneys' Council, the Colorado State Capitol, and the Colorado Department of Public Safety. Many leaders of law enforcement attended, and legislators were invited to meet and interact with them this morning from 8:00-10:30 in the West Foyer, 1st floor, of the Colorado State Capitol.

Representative Jim Wilson says, "We are very proud of the men and women who serve our cities, communities and state in this capacity."

Pictured here is (left to right, Adam Wills, Undersheriff of Yuma County, Chad Day, Sheriff of Yuma County, and Rep. Jim Wilson.

Courtesy photo

## Busted! Report Says EPA Lied, Knew Gold King Mine Was Ready to Blow

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

A congressional report reveals that the EPA lied and covered up their knowledge that the Gold King Mine was full of water laden with contaminants when they opened the floodgates in August.

Hays Griswold, the agency's on-scene coordinator, wrote in an October e-mail to other EPA officials that he personally knew the blockage "could be holding back a lot of water and I believe the others in the group knew as well."

"This is why I was approaching (the mine) as if it were full," he wrote of the day of the August 5 release at the Gold King.

The lying liars who lie had several warnings the mine would blow long before they mucked with it, but did it anyway and then created reports to cover their a\$\$.

Rep. Scott Tipton ripped into the EPA at a House hearing this week when the report was revealed, and said the EPA must face severe consequences for their deception and willful negligence.

"The EPA's statements on how this disaster happened and who was responsible cannot be trusted. Now the EPA is telling the community of Silverton to trust them as the agency agitates for a Superfund site

designation to clean up a mess caused by its own negligence."

Shortly after the spill occurred, there were a lot of conspiracy theories floating around the Internet accusing the EPA of deliberately causing the spill in order to declare the mines near Silverton as a Superfund site.

And here's what we now know: The EPA knew the mine was full and would blow, they opened it anyway. The spill caused a tidal wave of contaminants to flow down the river and into several states but the EPA said no harm was done.

The EPA now says nearly 900,000 pounds of metals was in the dump and wants Silverton mines declared a Superfund.

Tipton's right, the federal agency has proven that they cannot be trusted, and asking the wolf to now guard the sheep with Superfund is foolhardy.

If Silverton goes through with the request, they are just asking for never-ending trouble.

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## Hick Ignores Supreme Court Decision to Block EPA's Clean Power Plan

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The U.S. Supreme Court has sided with states including Colorado and blocked the EPA from implementing the so-called Clean Power Plan until a federal court can determine whether the regulation is actually legal.

We maintain that it is not, and applaud the court's foresight in shutting down the contentious rule because in all likelihood, the federal court will agree.

However, Gov. Hickenlooper does not, and is stubbornly forcing Coloradans to go along with the farce because he wants to shut down coal mines and increase the cost of electricity in exchange for negligible results.

... The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment says it will keep coordinating to follow the plan's rules.

"It is prudent for Colorado to move forward during the litigation to ensure that the state is not left at a disadvantage if the courts uphold all or part of the Clean Power Plan," the department said.

Compliance isn't required until 2022 and the court is expected to hear arguments in four months. Hick's insistence in moving forward has nothing to do with losing time.

We suspect that when the courts strike down the rule that tramples all over state's rights, Hick will



Courtesy Photo from ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

insist on sticking to the egregious regulations anyway to eliminate affordable electricity and shut down Colorado's coal industry.

Afterall, it's what this plan was originally designed to accomplish.

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## Money For Nothing: Denver Paid Employee on Leave Over \$200k and Gave Him a Raise

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

In what has to be the most disgusting case of taxpayer abuse in recent memory, CBS4 broke that an assistant attorney for the City of Denver, Stuart Shapiro, banked \$213,000 while couch surfing as he was on leave pending a litigation misconduct investigation. Even worse, during his 19 months of leave under charges of "litigation misconduct", Shapiro earned a \$4,000 raise and a "satisfactory" job performance rating despite having done no actual work and being on leave for screwing up his job. From CBS4:

"The CBS4 investigation asked via open records request how many cases had been assigned to Shapiro during 2015. "Zero" was the answer from the City Attorney's Office.

"The agency was also asked how many times Shapiro had entered the office in 2015. 'We do not have a record readily available to answer this question, but believe the answer would be 0-5,' said an administrator for the City Attorney's Office."

How do we get this job? No work and over \$213,000 in pay across 19 months? Sign us up asap.

This situation actually gets worse when you consider why Shapiro was on investigative leave. Remember that guy, Jamal Hunter, who was beat up in a Denver jail, remember how he received \$3.25 million for his pain and suffering? According to another CBS4 piece, Shapiro "was accused of sending emails to Denver police investigators encouraging them to pressure witnesses in the Hunter case". So, let's get this straight. First, he was part of a debacle that ended up costing the city \$3.25 million and, then, he is paid over \$213,000 to sit on his a\$\$ at home while Denver figured out whether he misbehaved in the case? The waste of taxpayer dollars here is nauseating.

FYI, this is why people hate the government and think that the government is blowing their tax dollars – because they are. Where is Mayor Hancock in this equation? Why hasn't he stepped up to fire Shapiro's boss, Scott Martinez, for not firing Shapiro? Buck stops with Hancock, doesn't it?

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## DEATHS from page 1

Category 11 includes counties with death rates of more than 20 per 100,000 residents.

Baca County's drug death rate grew the fastest. In 2002, the county in far southeastern Colorado next to the Kansas border had a drug death rate of between 4.1 and 6.0 per 100,000,

the third lowest category. By 2014, the death rate had grown to more than 20 deaths per 100,000, the highest category.

Indeed, 12 Colorado counties saw their death rates jump by six or more categories over the 13-year span. In total, 21 increased by five or more categories.

Huerfano County has recorded drug death rates in the highest category since 2003. In 2002, the first year

of available data, it was in the second highest category.

Has ranked in theIn sparsely populated Mineral County, home to the town of Creede, the rate has remained in the lowest category since 2002.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality Data

# Fremont County Bulletin

## News, Opinion, Commentary

### RE-2 School District Receives Funds from Friends of the Library

by Charlotte Burrous

Receiving funds for the schools is special, especially when it's totally unexpected.

As a member of the Friends of the John C. Fremont Library, Erin Davidson spoke to the Florence-Penrose School Board on February 8 during its regular scheduled meeting.

"The Friends group does things to support our local libraries. We do fundraising, silent auctions book sales at the (Florence) Farmers Market; (and) we do a calendar," she said. "Our community has been awesome about supporting what we do. For the last two years, we've had some really awesome fundraisers."

Because of that, the Friends have excess funds and decided to donate some of it to a good cause in the community.

"We realize we have two other libraries in our community, the Fremont Middle School Library and the Fremont Elementary School Library (so we're giving) \$500 for each library and we hope it will go toward new books or movies or whatever they want to do," Davidson said.

Florence-Penrose School Board

Members said it was great to receive the money for the school libraries.

"Thank you very much," said Board President Tommy Covington.

In a related matter, the board also accepted gifts of \$50 from David Dodge and a donation of \$300 from Atmos Energy for the Florence High School agricultural program.

"David Dodge is the husband of one of our middle school teachers and has been involved in and supportive of the program," said Superintendent Rhonda Roberts. "Bill McDowell, (of Atmos) has been on the agricultural board committee since its inception and the business alliance committee and has been really involved in our schools. We really appreciate Bill's help."

In another related matter, the district is going to reapply for the RMC Health Grant, which is a partnership grant with Cañon City RE-1 and Cotopaxi RE-3 schools.

"Kristi Elliott is the coordinator of that," Roberts said. "It's a grant funded position so no cost to the districts up to this point. As

we move forward, we'll be looking at little pieces of contributions from the district, based on our student population to show sustainability."

The grant itself is to increase physical activity across the student population and the community.

"The goals are school level increase in physical activity and School Health Improvement Plans (SHIPs)," Roberts said. "Each of the schools work with Kristi and some of her resources to develop two school level SHIPs; they can be walk-a-thon type of things or water drinking, where they chart and graph how much water kids are drinking, classroom activities; things the kids can do to break up that classroom time and hopefully re-energize them to learn better, before and after school activities."

The grant has allowed them to purchase the equipment to help get the students physically involved. PE teachers have an on-line system, where they use their iPads to find out what's out there for students, known as Smart Source. Staff wellness is another component of the grant.

In conjunction, there is a food ser-



Board President Tommy Covington and Erin Davidson.

Courtesy photo

vice component, known as Smart Lunchrooms to include Farm to Table and better foods.

"Requirements for food service have gotten really strict with less salt and less sugar," Roberts said. "It has affected the taste of the food. Kids aren't real happy about it."

Farm to Table with fresher food is one way to help the kids with better tasting food. In addition, the district plans to participate in a Visiting Chef program, who will visit the schools several times to provide ways to enhance the food to make it a little more appealing to the students, she said.

### Tailored West Expands to New Location

by Candy Thompson

Nanci Kezar is always thinking about how she can best serve the people of this area with her unique style of fashion and retail expertise and that desire was the modus operandi for her decision to move Tailored West three blocks east to 502 Main Street in Cañon City. Formerly the home of Hadley's Western Wear, the 5,000 square foot space will open up more possibilities for Nanci's dream, including room for the manufacturing of her

personal Ver'e'ne label.

Fabulous women's wear and accessories including shoes and handbags is only a part of the Tailored West shopping experience that will soon be more than twice its present size. Also included will be selected men's apparel and footwear as well as one-of-a-kind home and gift items. Focus will continue to be on shoppers who are made to feel welcome and offered beverages as they peruse the lovely feminine apparel interspersed with a western

flare. There is also expert help for the man who is looking for a special gift for the woman in his life. Much of Nanci's inventory is made in Colorado.

Nanci's motivation for her work goes beyond giving women a product of high quality, unique design and providing services on site such as expert tailoring. "Women walk in our door and I just have a love for them... God just gives me a love for them. You can't give enough love in this life," she says. She says

that women do not realize how beautiful they are and how God made them so special and gave them such a personal beauty.

She believes that women's self-confidence has been attacked through so many ways and that they compare themselves to unrealistic images "through television programing, the fashion industry and the media... and the fact is that women compare themselves to these iconic beauties (in Hollywood) and the enemy comes in and says they aren't good enough because they don't have those kind of legs or those teeth."

Continuing, Nanci says, "When a woman walks through the door, I see her as the beautiful creature she is...who God created her to be." She desires to show women how they can maximize their positive and minimize what they consider negative telling them that their "wardrobe needs to be ready for the life that you want to live." She feels that her job is to offer women the wardrobe that will give them the confidence for whatever their needs, from job interviews to special events, and to help women have their best

look for whatever time in their lives.

Nanci says they are really excited about their new facility because of larger dressing rooms, full time on-site alterations and a customer service desk as well as handicapped-accessible bathrooms. The balcony will be an area where the actual manufacturing of her label will take place. She is excited about being able to have the floor space to accommodate large groups for fashion shows and plans to continue her popular First Friday events that have included fashion shows, live music and refreshments.

Asked about her new store in Colorado Springs that she just opened at 103 N. Tejon, Nanci said that with the exposure to many customers from out-of-state in the Springs, they are seeing an increase of activity on her website [www.tailoredwest.com](http://www.tailoredwest.com). Interestingly, that store has peaked an interest in the store in Cañon City.

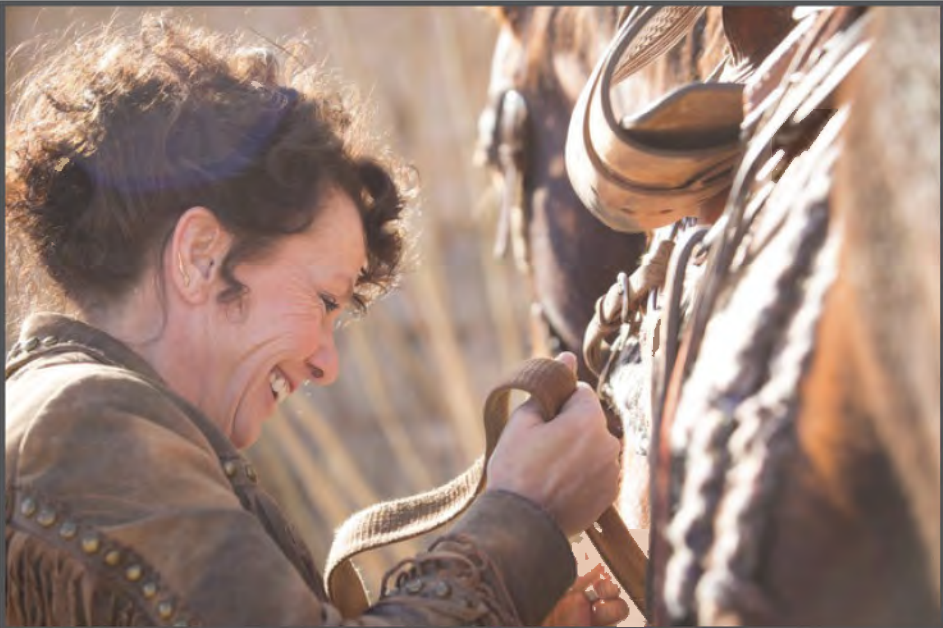
Recently a large group of women came from the Springs to shop at the Cañon City store and she is already seeing what she says she prayed for when

making this decision... that the store in the Springs would also benefit Cañon City. Being a whole six-times larger than the store in the Springs, the new location in Cañon City will offer customers a greater, more varied experience.

Lastly and above all, Nanci wants to encourage women that if they have had a dream in their heart for a long time, that God has put it there and to get serious about it, getting on their knees like she did and asking God to help them bring their dream to fruition. She is quick to give God the glory for any success she has had or will have in what she is doing with Tailored West.

Presently, Tailored West is having a huge sale before the move and is open from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The targeted date for the opening at the new location at 502 Main Street is April 1st.

Go to [www.tailoredwest.com](http://www.tailoredwest.com) to shop online and to see what a great shopping experience you can have or visit the store on Main Street and see first-hand what a dream-come-true looks like.



Nanci Kezar, proprietor of Tailored West.

Courtesy photo

**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.sentinell@gmail.com**



# Majestic Eagle

by Colleen Stewart

If we had half of the enthusiasm for our country as we do for sports, things would be a whole lot different. It just goes on and on -- nonstop. But we need to get back to the important stuff.

Like who’s going to be our next president. We need somebody that will stand up for we the people. Somebody like our founding fathers, who forged their way through tough times and persevered. Even when it looked like we were losing the battle with Great Britain, they continued fighting for freedom from the tyranny of their home lands. Over the past few months, I’ve had the opportunity to watch “American Ride” on BYU TV. I have learned a lot about what the patriots had to go through to win our independence from Great Britain. Screech!

We had a long road to hoe, fighting up and down the East Coast. I was surprised to learn we even went down to the South to fight the war. I’ve heard about the battles in the North, but not the South. How I wished we had some of the patriots from back then, fighting for our existence, but I don’t see anybody that stands out.

In the meantime, there’s the New Hampshire caucuses that just took place. It looks like Donald Trump won 35 percent of the vote with Ohio Gov. John Kasich winning 15 percent. Ole Ted Cruz got 11.7 percent of the votes while Jeb Bush got 11 percent. I do not, do not, do not want Bush to win. Screech!

At least Bernie Sanders got almost double the votes with his 60 percent over HilLI-ARY’s 38 percent. But he’s not my choice for president. He’s a Socialist and admits it. But we got what the liberals voted for with Obama, who told the American people what he was going to do to make us a third world country under the guise of “hope and change.” But supposedly

he won the election -- with a little help from the dead voters in Chicago. I think that’s how JFK won too, back in the 1960s. Screech! But he at least was more honorable than what we have now. He loved America, where Obama hates it.

But I detest Sanders saying that HilLIARy acted like the Republicans this week. She is so far off from being what Republicans used to stand for, I couldn’t believe it. Sanders says he has supported Obama on everything he has done. HilLIARy said she also has and believes it’s alright for him to go against the Constitution. She thinks it’s alright for him to write his executive orders to get his own way to dismantle America, such as gun control, the so-called climate change and other issues.

I don’t know anything about Kasich so I looked him up on the Internet, where I learned he has served nine terms in the House of Representative. Screech! He also worked as a commentator on Fox News on his own TV show titled, “Heartland with John Kasich.” Contrary to popular belief, I haven’t seen it. Rarely do I watch Fox News or listen to any of the other media outlets. I just get disgusted when I hear them.

In 2010, Kasich defeated Ted Strickland, the Democratic incumbent for Ohio governor; then he defeated Democrat Ed FitzGerald in a landslide in 2014. Kasich threw his hat into the ring for presidency in July 2015. Now you know as much as I or perhaps more. Screech!

But the choice is far from being made. The only thing I do know is I don’t want any Democrats to win it. They have proven to be a disaster. But the Republicans have not done much better. So what choice do we have? I can only hope someone will come forth and shine so it will be an easy choice, someone we’ll be proud to vote for the office of president. Screech!

# Upcoming Events for February 22-March 14

*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..*

*The Fremont Community Foundation will host its annual Cajun Crawl at the Quality Inn at 3075 U.S. 50. Cocktails will begin at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Activities include a silent and live auction, music by the Geezers. Tickets are \$40 per person and may be purchased by calling 371-1249.*

*The Orchard of Hope Foundation will host its annual Gourmet Sampler Feb. 21 at the Abbey. Two seatings will be offered. The first is from noon to 2:30 p.m. and the second from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Wine tasting and cash bar available. Tickets are \$20 each and are available at Words of Life, 605 Main; Salon de Cheveu, 732 Main; Hospice, 601 Greenwood; Bunkhouse Burgers, 2147 Fremont; Cañon City Daily Record, 1202 Royal Gorge Blvd.; Big D Superfoods, 1100 E. Main, Florence. No tickets at the door. For more information, call 275-0089.*

*John C. Fremont Library will feature “Mr. Holmes” during its Friday Night at the Movies at 5 p.m. Feb. 26 at 130 Church Ave. in Florence. Haunted for 30 years by his final unsolved case, Sherlock Holmes quietly steps out of retirement and takes a mysterious trip to Japan to face the ghosts of his past. Starring Academy Award nominees Ian McKellen and Laura Linney. Rated PG. Free popcorn. Bring your own drink. For more information, call 784-4649.*

*Cañon City Public Library will host a Dr. Seuss Party at 2 p.m. Feb. 27 at 516 Macon Ave. Join us for games and activities. Refreshments will be available. Come dressed as your favorite Dr. Seuss character. For more information, call 269-9020.*

*Fremont County Republican Party annual Lincoln Day Dinner on Feb. 27 in the Abbey Event Center at 2951 E. U.S. 50. Social time will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker will be the Honorable Owen Hill, Colo. State*

*Senator, District 10. For tickets, call 315-1322.*

*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.*

*Colorado Republicans will be going to their precinct caucuses at 7 p.m. March 1. The Republican caucus in Fremont County will meet at five different locations throughout the county. To find where your precinct is meeting, you can access locations via the Internet at <http://www.fremont-countyrcc.com/index.html> and access 2016 Caucus Info from the left navigation menu.*

*Fremont Center for the Arts will host the Mathematical Abstraction Art Exhibit and Sale, at 505 Macon Ave.*

*A unique art exhibit, it depicts a theme that combines both math and abstract concepts in the pieces of art exhibited. It will be a two-part exhibit: Adults 18 and over all media exhibit and Sculpture challenge and the same theme by Fremont County High School students. Dates of exhibit will be from March 4 - 26. First Friday Opening Reception will be from 4-5 p.m. March 4 for members and from 5-7 p.m. for the public. Awards will be presented at 6 p.m. Free Admission on opening night.*

*The Museum of Colorado Prison will host its sixth annual St. Patrick’s Day Ceili on March 12. The event kicks off with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Abbey Events Center at 2951 E. U.S. 50. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$240 for tables of eight and may be purchased at 201 N. First St., the Abbey or Dungeon Inc. at 503 Main St. For more information, call 269-3015.*

*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.bluespruceart.com](http://www.bluespruceart.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

Mr. Ed's Family Restaurant

1201 Royal Gorge Blvd., Cañon City

719-275-5833

## 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.*

## A Frank Look at The Race Powder-keg

Tension between Blacks and Whites has grown over the past seven years, and most do not want to discuss it. Many Blacks are angry at the way they are treated and many Whites don't understand why people of color are angry. There are others, both Black and White, who are just stirring the pot, so to speak, and creating tension. Many well-intended people are afraid to discuss the situation for fear of being labeled "racist" or "radical." Emotions on both sides of the issue were heightened by the Super Bowl halftime performance of Beyonce'. While using such a venue to make a political statement is debatable, there needs to be respectful dialogue on the issue of race, and the "church" needs to be involved.

Let's look at Ferguson, Mo., where the Justice Department has sued Ferguson because its investigation found that Ferguson police disproportionately targeted black residents with stops and searches and arrested many without legal justification. This is the latest fallout from the federal scrutiny that followed the shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown by white police officer Darren Wilson in August 2014. Neither a grand jury nor the Justice Department prosecuted Wilson, concluding that Brown was shot in self-defense. Riots ensued, inflamed by elements such as Black Lives Matter and other groups with anti-American agendas who flocked to Ferguson. There are many more examples, even one where police shot a young boy who was playing with a toy gun in a park. Shooting to kill should be the last resort, not a matter of policy.

Many Whites look at Ferguson and see the facts that Brown had robbed a store and attacked a police

officer. Thereafter, radical groups inflamed rioting. It was lawless and police had no choice but to restore order. Many Blacks see the situation differently--that the police, as an ongoing practice, had targeted people of color unjustly and the Brown incident was the tipping point of pent up frustration. A year long investigation proves the point: When reasonable dialogue is prohibited, the unreasonable occurs. Imagine, if you will, having fear of being intimidated by police every time you walk down the street. This kind of thing happens. The perception of it happening a lot becomes an oppressive reality that folks live with every day.

Making martyrs of criminals doesn't compute with the law abiding. But most can understand a police state. Radicalization and violent revolution, as promoted by Black Panthers and Islam, is not the solution. Neither is White supremacy. These are all extremely dark. We, the "church," need to figure out how to speak into these situations. Instead, we point the finger. We push back. We look the other way. But the light of Christ needs to show us a way out of this darkness. We often appear like an enemy rather than the eternal solution, causing folks to migrate toward agenda-oriented groups. We are all one race--the human race. We need to respect one another. It starts with the Golden Rule found in Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do you even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

Have a *Blessed and Powerful Day!*

Bill Wilson

[www.dailyjot.com](http://www.dailyjot.com)

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## It's Here! Machete-Wielding Muslim Somali Immigrant Shot Dead After Attack on Ohio Deli

by Rachel Stoltzfoos,  
Daily Caller News Foundation

*(Editor/GG: As the Obama administration is letting record numbers of MORE 3rd world muslims into this country who will NEVER assimilate, these so called "random", "lone wolf" attacks will become more common place. Yea, islam, the religion of peace. The republicans and democrats have been letting these savages into our country for decades. Both political parties. You wonder why Americans ARE FED UP? These politicians are destroying our country right in front of our eyes. Why would you let millions of anti-American, career-welfare, people believing in a stone age culture/cult into our country? Why?)*

Police shot a machete-wielding, Somali man dead Thursday after he allegedly went on a rampage in a Christian-owned Middle Eastern deli in central Ohio.

Investigators identified the suspect as Mohammad Barry, who CBS News reports has a Somali background and may have traveled to Dubai in 2012. Barry allegedly used a machete to attack the patrons of a local Middle Eastern restaurant in Columbus owned by an Israeli-Arab Christian.

Police said the suspect had a conversation with an employee from the restaurant, and left for about an hour.

When he returned, he approached a couple sitting just inside the door and began slashing them and other patrons with a machete, killing none but sending four people to the hospital.

Employees and the 20 or so patrons in the restaurant tried to stop him, some by throwing chairs, and eventually he fled in a car, leading police on a short chase before he was forced off the road. He allegedly lunged at police with a machete and a knife, and they then shot him dead.

The owner of the restaurant, Hansy Barani, believes it was targeted because of his Israeli descent. "I am the minor, minor, minor of the minority," he told *The Columbus Dispatch*. "So nobody likes me."

"The one night I leave early this happens," Baransi added, saying he hadn't taken a single night off since January 2nd. "I feel so guilty for leaving my people."

The suspect had asked for Baransi when he initially visited the restaurant and asked where he was from, but was told he had gone home sick that day, reported *The Columbus Dispatch*. A witness to the attack told a CBS affiliate the man returned and "just started hitting" the customers.

"He came to each table and just started hitting them," she told CBS. "There were tables and chairs overturned, there was a man on the floor bleeding, there was blood on the floor."

"I fell like five times," she added, describing her escape. "My legs felt like jelly. I just thought he was going to come behind me and slash me up."

Local police told reporters they have no reason to believe the attack was politically motivated, although CBS Homeland Security correspondent Jeff Pegues reports law enforcement is concerned, because the attack has all the hallmarks of "lone wolf" terror. The FBI is assisting the investigation.

"There was no rhyme or reason as to who he was going after," Columbus Police Sgt. Rich Weiner told reporters Thursday.

Well-wishers are leaving comments and encouragement on the restaurant's Facebook page. Hansy is reportedly a popular guy in the neighborhood, and his business has been around for 27 years.

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Read more: <http://dailycaller.com/2016/02/12/machete-wielding-somali-shot-dead-after-at>

## Supreme Court Delivers Crippling Blow to Obama's EPA

by Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller News Foundation

The U.S. Supreme Court just delivered a major blow to President Barack Obama's global warming agenda by halting the implementation of a key Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulation on carbon dioxide emissions.

The court won't allow the EPA to implement its so-called Clean Power Plan (CPP), which aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants 32 percent by 2030. This is a big win for the 29 states suing the federal government to stop a rule expected to cripple the coal industry.

"Five justices of the Supreme Court agreed with North Dakota and other parties that EPA's regulation would impose massive irreparable harms on North Dakota and the rest of the country and that there was a substantial likelihood EPA was acting unlawfully," Paul Seby, an attorney with law firm Greenberg Traurig representing the state of North Dakota, told The Daily Caller News Foundation.

States asked the Supreme Court to halt implementation of the CPP after a lower court rejected their appeal in January. Now, Morrissey and the Obama administration will make their oral arguments on the merits of the law in front of federal judges in June.

"Make no mistake -- this is a great victory for West Virginia," said West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey, who's leading the states against the EPA, in a statement on the announcement.

Morrissey argues the CPP amounts to "double regulating" by the EPA, since coal-fired power plants -- the main target of the rule -- are already being regulated under another provision of the Clean Air Act. States also argue the CPP is

in effect a federal takeover of their energy policies.

"We are thrilled that the Supreme Court realized the rule's immediate impact and froze its implementation, protecting workers and saving countless dollars as our fight against its legality continues," Morrissey said.

This is the second major EPA regulation to be held up by the courts in recent months. Last year, federal judges issued a stay on an agency rule redefining "waters of the United States" -- this sparked backlash from nearly every industry from farmers to energy producers.

But defeating the CPP in court may not be as easy as states think, since the Obama administration will likely argue striking down these rules would go against international commitments made by the U.S. in Paris last year.

In December, the U.S. joined nearly 200 coun-

tries in pledging to reduce carbon dioxide emissions to fight global warming. Obama promised to cut emissions 26 to 28 percent by 2025.

The Obama administration, however, may have problems of its own because it has not gotten the agreement ratified by the Senate -- a key requirement for a legally binding treaty. This has only added to the confusion of whether or not the United Nations Paris deal is legally a treaty or not.

"This will be a fatal blow to the president's climate agenda," Tom Pyle, president of the Institute for Energy Research, told TheDCNF.

"This shows just how far the Obama administration has gone -- they went too far," Pyle said.

Read more: <http://dailycaller.com/2016/02/09/the-supreme-court-just-delivered-a-crippling-blow-to-obamas-global-warming-agenda/#ixzz3lwoj5le>

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# This Is What "Tolerance" Gets You



by Karl Denninger,  
Market-Ticker.Org

(Editor/GG: Didn't hear this on NBC or CNN did you? Tip of the iceberg.)

The problem with the demand for "tolerance" and "understanding" when it comes to these people is that it only goes one way. It doesn't include their "tolerance" or even a basic care with regard to human decency, say much less the law.

*In Vienna, at a public swimming pool, an Iraqi Muslim immigrant brutally raped a 10-year-old boy. The child was hurt so badly he had to be hospitalized. As the child ran to the police in tears, the Iraqi jumped off the high dive as if nothing had happened. When arrested, he told the police it was a 'sexual emergency' as he had not had sex in four months.*

This is what the left -- and virtually all of the Republican candidates as well -- demand that we put up with.

My response, in one word: NO.

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# Is the American Dream Dead?

by Tom Chatham,  
ProjectChesapeake.com,  
via Zerohedge.com

The American dream is not a thing in physical terms but an idea that lives or dies with certain beliefs in society. **Can it die?** Yes it can if those beliefs are purged from the conscience of society. This is what Jefferson meant by watering the tree of liberty with the blood of patriots from time to time.

Many people bemoan the loss of the high paying jobs and the mansions and swimming pools we all want to have. They look around them and see their dreams of easy living collapsing and the debt piling up about to drown them. They see life becoming harder every day and society becoming more dangerous.

The American dream is not about houses, swimming pools, expensive vacations or fancy cars. These are all benefits of that dream. They are the icing on the cake, not the cake itself. The American dream is about the freedom to earn those things if you are smart enough and work hard enough.

**The American dream is about freedom.** The ability to live the way you desire and to be all you can be in society. It is the freedom to build and accumulate and make something of yourself. It is the freedom to go from rags to riches in one generation because of your will and abilities. It is the freedom to own your own property and use it to better your position in society.

The American dream is about the freedom to walk into a clearing with a hoe and shovel and build a farm. It is about the freedom to walk into a stand of timber with nothing but an axe and an idea and build a town. It is about the freedom to design a new machine from your imagination and build a factory to use it.

**For the dream to die freedom must also die.** As long as you have the freedom to do your best the dream is always possible. The slow loss of personal freedom over the past century has led to the diminishing of the possible. We no longer see the possibilities because that ability is being taken away from us. **Tyranny is the lack of possibilities forced on the population. You can no longer be all you can be because you are constrained by others that want to limit those possibilities.**

When your freedom is constrained by those that are willing to use force to limit those possibilities, you must defend that freedom with force to preserve it. That is when the tree of liberty gets watered. That is when the dream is reborn to flourish once again.

**The American dream can die but only when we fail to water it and let it die. If Americans want to eat cake then they first must bake it. Only then will they be able to treat themselves to the icing on it that we all love so much.**

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# Real Goods Are the Real Money

by Tom Chatham, ProjectChesapeake.wordpress.com

We have seen the massive drop in the Baltic Dry Index over the past few months indicating shipping of bulk materials around the world is slowing down to unprecedented levels. We have seen the shutdown and mothballing of hundreds of locomotive engines in the U.S. just over the past few months indicating goods and raw materials are not being shipped in the normal volume as in years past.

We are seeing hundreds of stores run by major retailers being shut down around the country indicating people are not buying goods at the same rate as in years past. Most of our manufacturing ability has been shipped overseas to lower input costs. It has been reported that as many as 15% of the farmers in the U.S. will go out of business this year.

This all means two things. People no longer have the means to buy at will and the amount of goods available will continue to fall until there are severe shortages in the system. The lack of production and distribution will insure that the standard of living of most Americans will drop in the coming months as supply is outstripped by demand in a collapsing economy. As indicated above, the collapse is not coming soon, it is here now.

When goods become scarce, it does not matter what the cost is if you have no money to get them. The lack of basic goods in the economy will be the straw that breaks the American illusion that everything is just fine. It will happen just as sure as the sun rising every morning. It will be a slow process where you notice more and more empty shelves and certain brands become out of stock for longer and longer periods. No production and no shipping carriers means no product on the shelf in time.

When this happens it will not matter to people if we are in deflation or hyperinflation, they will suffer the same in either case due to lack of goods and lack of a medium of exchange with which to maintain their living standards.

If society has the goods it needs at the local level it does not matter what mechanism people use to trade for those items. The trade will happen and living standards will be maintained. Money can be printed at will but real goods must be made from scratch with labor and raw materials. Real goods determine your standard of living and not necessarily the amount of money that exists in society.

Because of this the ability to store and produce real goods at the local level are the only solution to a collapse in the medium of exchange in a country. It is happening now. Fiat money is becoming more worthless by the day and goods are not being produced and shipped as normal. This can only end one way if nothing is done to curtail the lack of goods that people need.

It does not matter if money is little pieces of paper or plastic cards, if the goods are not available the result is the same. The ability of government entities to control either money or goods is a way to control society and force compliance from the people. This is the reason for calls for a cashless society. The government can control money all they want but if they have no control over real goods in a community they really have no control over society.

Real goods trump money of any kind when it comes to everyday living. If you have a years worth of goods stored in your home or the ability to produce them locally, it does not matter if you have a million dollars or no money at all. It does not matter if the store shelves are full or empty. It does not matter if goods are being produced and transported. If you have access to those goods you have what you actually need and not paper promises to get them at some future date for an unspecified amount.

When people think about economic collapse they almost always think about how they will get the money they need to buy stuff. They do not realize that real goods are the actual key to getting by in those dysfunctional times until it is too late. Economic collapse almost always goes hand in hand with the lack of physical goods. You can do without the money but you cannot do without the goods.

In times of monetary dysfunction, real goods become the actual currency society relies on to survive day to day. Real goods can be traded and sold when fiat money is useless. Real goods are the real currency of the world and now is the time to realize that before the monetary crisis prevents the acquisition of those resources. A pantry full of food is worth more than two million in a frozen bank account.

Please see: <https://projectchesapeake.wordpress.com/2016/01/28/real-goods-are-the-real-money/>

# Meet the World Leader Who Stole His Citizens Gold

by Simon Black,  
Sovereignman.com

Even before his coronation in 1626, King Charles I of England was almost bankrupt.

His predecessors King James and Queen Elizabeth had run the royal treasury down to almost nothing.

Costly war and military folly had taken its toll. The crown had simply wasted far too much money, and brought in too little.

To make matters worse, King Charles was constantly at odds with parliament.

The English government was completely dysfunctional, with constant bickering, personal attacks, and very little sound decision-making.

Parliament refused to pass the taxes that Charles needed to make ends meet. But at the same time, the King was legally unable to levy his own taxes without parliamentary approval.

So, faced with financial desperation, he began to look for alternative ways to raise revenue.

One way was relying on practically ancient, obscure laws to penalize his subjects.

The Distrainment of Knighthood, for example, was based on an act from 1278, roughly three and a half centuries before Charles' coronation.

The Act gave him the legal authority to fine all men with a minimum level of income who did not present themselves in person at his coronation.

Charles also commandeered vast amounts of land, restoring the boundaries of the royal forests to where they had been during the time of King Edward I in the 13th century.

He then fined anyone who encroached on the land, and resold much of it to industries that were supportive of his reign.

King Charles even resorted to begging; in July 1626, he requested that

his subjects "lovingly, freely, and voluntarily" give him money.

When that didn't work, the King levied a Forced Loan, effectively confiscating people's funds under the guise of 'borrowing' it.

He raised about £250,000, the equivalent of about \$7.5 billion today.

Emboldened by his success, Charles eventually seized assets directly, including all the gold on deposit being held at the Royal Mint— money that belonged to the merchants and goldsmiths of England.

At one point Charles even forced the East India Company to 'loan' him their pepper and spice inventory. He subsequently sold the products at a steep loss.

If any of this sounds familiar, it should.

Today there is no shortage of nations facing fiscal desperation. Most of Europe. Japan. The United States.

In the Land of the Free, the government has spent years... decades... engaged in the most wasteful folly, from multi-trillion dollar wars to a multi-billion dollar website.

U.S. debt just hit \$19 trillion a few days ago. And it's only going higher.

We can already see the government's financial desperation.

Over the years, the government has effectively levied a 'forced loan' totaling more than \$2.6 trillion on the Social Security Trust Fund, whose ultimate beneficiaries are the taxpayers of the United States.

Bottom line, they're 'borrowing' YOUR money.

Last year the government stole more from Americans through 'Civil Asset Forfeiture' than all the thieves in the United States combined.

In December, the U.S. government confiscated \$19.3 billion from the Federal Reserve, which, by the way, was already very thinly capitalized.

Even if you want to believe the propaganda, it's clear that these are not the actions of a healthy, solvent government that embraces liberty.

In fact, the government published over 80,000 pages of laws, bills, regulations, and executive orders last year. Just this morning they published another 308 pages.

It's impossible for anyone to keep up with all of these rules. And yet each can carry civil and criminal penalties, including a fine now for not having health insurance.

As Mark Twain used to say, history may not repeat, but it certainly rhymes.

Financially insolvent governments of major superpowers do not simply go gentle into that good night.

They don't suddenly turn over a new leaf and start embracing economic freedom.

Instead, they get worse. More desperate. More destructive.

Should we honestly believe that they can continue racking up more debt than has ever existed in the history of the world without any consequences?

This is madness. At some point, fiscal reality always catches up. Maybe not at \$19 trillion. Maybe not even at \$20 trillion.

Maybe it takes three months. Or three years. But somewhere out there is a straw that can break the camel's back. And that has serious consequences.

Never forget that if something is predictable, then it's also preventable.

And facing such obvious trends, it makes all the sense in the world to take some simple, rational steps to put together your own Plan B.

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## Oh Oh....

by Karl Denninger,  
Market-Ticker.Org

There's a clean question on the table regarding dual citizenship for persons born in Canada prior to 1977 (when they changed their law to officially recognize dual nationality.)

Prior to that date, with few exceptions, you could not hold dual nationality with Canada. In other words the very act of "renouncing" Canadian Citizenship means that Cruz never held U.S. citizenship at birth because his parents had to declare his nationality at the time he was born.

There may be exceptions that were available at the

time but the law now is immaterial.

The only material fact is what the law was then, in 1970, in Canada when Cruz was born.

If his parents declared U.S. For him then he had nothing to renounce and he has a document called a Consular Report of Birth Abroad.

This is the legal equivalent of a U.S. Birth Certificate and Cruz either has one from the time of his birth or he does not. If he does not then he is not a U.S. Citizen as he was never naturalized by his own admission and at birth the nation in which he was born did not recognize dual nationality.

Where is that document Cruz? Your mother's birth certificate is immaterial. What matters is whether you were declared a Canadian or U.S. Citizen at birth and what documentation you have to prove it.

You see, in 1970 there was no "and" option.

Cruz either has that Consular Report of Birth Abroad, which is his legal proof of U.S. Citizenship just as my Birth Certificate is mine, or he doesn't and he's not a citizen at all as his parents declared his citizenship as Canadian and the land he was born in prohibited dual nationality at the time.

If he doesn't have that

document, of course, there's a little problem with the office Senator Cruz holds now, say much less his running for President.

(Editor/GG: As career criminal Hillary famously said, "What difference does it now make?". We have a muslim, American-hating Kenyan as president and we're worried about a Cuban Canadian? With no borders and no rule-of-law, what difference does it now make?)

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## How Was Gun Control Imposed Upon an Unwilling World?

by Dean Weingarten, GunWatch.  
Blogspot.com

Disarmists use the bandwagon fallacy, (argumentum ad populum) to promote citizen disarmament. In essence, the non-argument makes the claim; everyone else disarms their population - so we should do the same. This is a logical fallacy. Perhaps you remember a parent telling you "if everyone is jumping off a bridge, it does not mean that you should".

How did most of the rest of the world come to have gun control imposed on them? It was done by force of arms.

Guns are a fairly recent innovation. They did not become common until the middle 1400's. Guns that could effectively be used by a single person were available by 1500. We have about 500 years of gun history.

Gunpowder was first discovered/invented in China. It may have been reinvented or discovered in Europe. It was Europeans that developed the gun into a practical weapon. In 1500, there were almost no guns anywhere but in Europe.

China may have suppressed the development of guns deliberately. The record is unclear.

Europeans underwent the black death shortly before the introduction of the gun. The loss of up to a third of the population made the remainder much more valuable. The development of the gun, the Reformation, the Renaissance, much wider availability of

literacy and printed material, all interconnected and interrelated, followed. The technological advances among competitive states, spurred by numerous wars, including wars fought to roll back Muslim invasions, led to the abilities of the Europeans to navigate around the world, dominate other cultures, and to create vast empires.

The first reason for gun control around the world is war, conquest, and empire. The masters of the European Empires did not want their subjects armed, for fear of revolt. They had a clear technological superiority of arms, and they desired to keep it. The United States as a set of colonies, was already armed. They refused to disarm, revolted, and escaped the fate of other parts of the British Empire.

Japan resisted colonization. It imposed strict gun control to protect its elites from its people, actively suppressing gun technology.

India had strict gun control imposed by the British Empire, and the local ruling elites. When India became independent, the Indian government kept gun control and strengthened it.

Africa had gun control imposed by various European empires, British, French, German, Italian.

The Dutch imposed gun control in Indonesia; The French in Vietnam; the Spanish and then Americans in the Philippines. The Portuguese imposed gun control in Brazil and the Spanish in South and Central America.

World War I started the next great wave of gun control. Instead of Empires disarming their foreign subjects, elites feared revolution by their own people and worked to disarm them. Communism is part of this wave. One of the first priorities of the Communists in the Soviet Union was to implement strict gun control. In much of the rest of Europe, gun control was implemented as a reaction to Communism. The assassination of the Archduke Ferdinand of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which is credited with starting the First World War, certainly did not help.

In England, there were virtually no gun controls until after the First World War. Joyce Lee Malcolm and Colin Greenwood conclusively show the impetus for British gun control was fear of revolution, not crime. As part of the British Empire; Canada, Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand laid down the foundations of their current gun control schemes in the 20's and 30's. The basis for federal gun control was established in the United States in the 1930's, as part of the Franklin Roosevelt regime's consolidation of power.

Most of European Gun control was created in the turbulent time between WWI and WWII. Gun control was imposed on much of Eastern Europe by the Soviets after WWII.

Switzerland was and is a clear exception. Guns are fairly easy to get in Switzerland, even with the controls added in 1998. Switzerland has murder rates so low that only a tiny number of countries

can match them.

The Middle East had gun control imposed by the Ottoman Empire and the British Empire.

China had gun control imposed by its Imperial government. As China revolted against colonial rule, the European powers imposed gun control on the Chinese government, then a corrupt Nationalist Government did so against its own people, then the Communist imposed even stricter controls when they gained ascendancy after WWII and the defeat of the Japanese by the allies.

Some countries came out from under the thumb of gun control after they gained independence from Europe. Guns were generally available after the Bolivian revolutions in Central and South America. They were freely available in Costa Rica up until the 1980's. Guns were easily available in Argentina, Chile, and Brazil for a few decades. Mexico had a period when guns were not terribly hard to get, from the 1930's to the 1970's. Gun control carried over in Brazil from the Empire, after independence, becoming progressively harsh. A combination of threats of revolution and crack downs on the individual ownership of arms by authoritarian regimes of the left and right, imposed severe gun control on all those societies over the last 40 years. Jamaica had relatively mild gun control laws in the 1960's, and imposed strict gun control after independence. The United States Virgin Islands inherited their strict gun control laws from the Dutch empire. The

United States bought the Islands in 1917.

The pattern is clear. Disarmament of people is not done to save people from criminals. It is done to keep them under the thumb of the ruling government. In large portions of the world, it was imposed by outside conquerors, aided by the fact that many indigenous populations did not have the technology necessary to make their own firearms.

Revolutions in other countries gave lip-service to the right to be armed, but always left the State in charge. Mexico, for example, guarantees a right to arms - regulated by the State. Mexico has devolved to the point that there is only one legal gun store in the entire country, in Mexico city. It is state run, and sells few guns.

Only two societies have escaped the tyranny of gun control imposed by ruling elites. They are the United States and Switzerland. Both are federal republics. In both, the power of the state is limited by using divided government power as a means of checks and balances.

American armed society is truly one of exceptionalism. We have been able to keep government power limited, most of the time, in some ways. Most other countries have not.

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## Bill to Introduce Social Security Gun Grab Introduced

by Jenn Jacques, BearingArms.com

Idaho Senator Mike Crapo has introduced legislation to protect social security recipient's gun rights Thursday.

"It is inappropriate for the Social Security Administration to make determinations about an individual's ability to buy or possess a firearm," said Crapo. "This bill would protect the rights of Social Security beneficiaries from having their Constitutional rights arbitrarily revoked."

In 2013, President Obama directed all federal agency executives to "improve the availability of records to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)." It aimed to prohibit gun sales to citizens whose Social Security payments are handled by others by requiring the Social Security Administration to report them to the NICS, the same process used to prevent guns from being sold to felons, drug addicts, illegal immigrants, and others.

The process is already being used by the Department of Veteran Affairs to prohibit some veterans from owning firearms. A 2013 Senate report shows the VA has reported more than 143,000 beneficiaries, including roughly 83,000 veterans, to the "mental defective" category on NICS. According to the *Times*, more than half of the names on the VA list are people 80 or older, and often suffering from dementia.

As many as 4.2 million adults currently receive monthly Social Security benefits that are managed by someone else, referred to as "representative payees."

Crapo's bill, cosponsored by Senators Steve Daines (R-MT), Mike Enzi (R-WY), Joni Ernst (R-IA), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Dean Heller (R-NV), Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK), was introduced today and will be referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Companion legislation, H.R. 3516 has been introduced in the House by Rep. Sam Johnson of Texas.

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# As Obama Plots Ban, Court Upholds “Fundamental Right to Assault Weapons”

by Mac Slavo, SHTF.com

The gun control crowd love clouding the issue about personal firearms – and misconstruing the idea that so-called “assault weapons” are too dangerous and too deadly for the American people to own.

They won, for a time, during the Clinton years. And now, they are pressuring Obama to once again use his executive action approach to put the 2nd Amendment in a restraining jacket.

But for now, the courts are pushing back. A Federal appeals court upheld the right to own guns like the AR-15 – celebrated and infamously portrayed as a “military-style” weapon despite being no deadlier than other firearms – challenging a Maryland assault weapons ban.

In fact, it will be very difficult for the gun control lobby to accept defeat, and freedom lovers should expect a fight.

via the Huffington Post:

*In a major victory for gun rights advocates, a federal appeals court on Thursday sided with a broad coalition of gun owners, businesses and organizations that challenged the constitutionality of a Maryland ban on assault weapons and other laws aimed at curbing gun violence.*

*A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit said the state’s prohibition on what the court called “the vast majority of semi-automatic rifles commonly kept by several million American citizens” amounted to a violation of their rights under the Constitution.*

*“In our view, Maryland law implicates the core protection of the Second Amendment — the right of law-abiding responsible citizens to use arms in defense of hearth and home,” Chief Judge William Traxler wrote in the divided ruling.*

*Provisions that outlaw these firearms, Traxler wrote, “substantially burden this fundamental right.”*

Gun rights have, of course, been under threat throughout the Obama Administration, and events like Sandy Hook have led to knee-jerk bans and violations of the 2nd Amendment, though they have been tough to defeat or stop in liberal states like New York, Connecticut and Illinois.

This case is considered a major victory...



Courtesy photo

and may go all the way to the Supreme Court in due time. Until then, Maryland law will be affected only in the courts – and everyone from Obama to Mayor Bloomberg will be working overtime to create more friction for the right to keep and bear.

The importance of the case involves the use of “strict scrutiny” of constitutional protections – giving strong recognition to the right to keep and bear arms, and strength to the judicial case as a precedent:

*“This case was a major victory for the NRA and gun rights advocates,” said Adam Winkler, a law professor at UCLA who specializes in Second Amendment law. “This opinion is an important one because it subjects important gun control laws to the most strict form of judicial scrutiny.”*

*The 4th Circuit’s decision didn’t outright strike down the Maryland legislation. Instead, it instructed a lower court to subject the provision to the higher legal standard, meaning more litigation and the possibility of a future showdown at the Supreme Court — though maybe not yet, according to Winkler.*

*“It appears that Obama is ready to go for broke during his last days in office, and attempt to undermine as many rights and constitutional laws as he possibly can, including assault weapons.*

*Shall not be infringed is still worth fighting for, but it might take everything we’ve got.*

*(Editor/GG: Don’t count on the Supreme Court upholding this. With Justice John Roberts folded on Obamacare (and a bunch of other decisions) this could easily go the wrong way. Plus we are ONE supreme court justice away from total tyranny so even if we get a good ruling now, it will disappear into the beast’s jaws soon after. Take heed, patriots.)*

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# Class: It Cannot Be Purchased

by Karl Denninger, Market-Ticker.Org

Last night there was a “debate”, which is really a dog and pony show.

The establishment GOP once again tried to rig the contest, this time by buying up the tickets so that only about 20 Trump supporters could get into the debate for the live audience. Given the polls that’s an outrage, but not surprising.

That was a rather-ordinary display of *lack of class* by, well, **all the other candidates**, none of whom did a thing to put a stop to it or even speak against it. Just like Cruz, who has his motto “*win by any means that doesn’t involve felony prison time*” the GOP itself shows this to be how it believes politics should work -- and how it’ll work on **you** once they “win.”

But, then, right at the beginning of the debate something *remarkable* happened. During the introductions audience applause drowned out the announcement for Ben Carson to come forward onto the stage. He didn’t hear it, and didn’t proceed from backstage. *Other candidates literally walked right by him and kept going, with Bush going so far as to muscle his way past both Carson and Trump.*

Oh, and why was Trump there with Carson to be muscled past?

**He didn’t take the stage when his name was called. He recognized what had hap-**

**pened and stopped; he had been called 4th in order (the podium order, you see) and waited with Dr. Carson as Dr. Carson was supposed to precede him on the stage.**

The “moderators” realized what happened eventually, and called Carson again. This time he heard the announcement and got his round of applause. Then, Trump was called (a second time) and came on as well.

Folks, this wasn’t scripted. It wasn’t done when the bright lights were on either; it happened *before Trump came on*. It was a split-second decision on The Donald’s part.

In other words Trump did the right thing by a competitor for the job **even though nobody else did and nobody was watching him**.

Now tell me, ladies and gentlemen, *do you want a President who only does the right thing when he’s under the bright lights -- and sometimes, not even then?* Or do you want a President that will do the right thing -- the *honorable* thing -- even when **nobody** is watching and the issue is not grand, but indeed quite small *and even involves helping a competitor for your job*.

Sometimes it’s the littlest things that make clear who you should vote for -- or against.

**(Editor/GG: Good point Karl. And class is a vital ingredient of character.)**

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# Harvard Economist Demands Ban on Big Bills

by Tyler Durden, ZeroHedge.com

Last week, we were dismayed - although not entirely surprised - to learn that Germany’s Social Democrats have proposed a €5,000 limit on cash transactions and the elimination of the €500 note.

The rationale: if you’re paying in cash for something that costs more than €5,000, you’re probably a terrorist or a “foreign criminal.”

Of course that’s nonsense but it’s a reflection of a changing world.

Angela Merkel’s junior coalition partners are hardly the first officials to suggest that cash should be phased out. **In fact, the “ban cash” calls have been getting louder for at least a year as everyone from Citi’s Willem Buiter to economist Ken Rogoff to Norway’s largest bank to Bloomberg’s editorial staff demands the abolition of the barbarous paper fiat relic that serves as a check on central bankers’ ability to go “full Krugman.”**

You’re reminded that cash - as worthless as it may ultimately be - does serve a purpose.

It’s a check on Keynesian insanity in that **it sets a very real lower bound on interest rates**. If rates are too punitive (that is, if they’re too negative), savers will simply pull their cash out of

the bank and put it under the mattress. That’s inconvenient for policy makers who have been thus far unable to resuscitate global growth and trade.

Put simply: if you ban cash, you can centrally plan the the entire economy by forcing people to spend. You either spend it, or watch as deeply negative rates eat away at your savings.

Of course policy makers and the influential economists who inform their decisions won’t tell you that. They’ll say it’s all an effort to fight crime. On Monday we get the latest cash ban call, this time from Peter Sands, the former chief executive officer of Standard Chartered who’s now an academic at Harvard Kennedy School. **“High denomination banknotes such as the 500-euro (\$556) note and the \$100 bill should be eliminated to make it harder for criminals, terrorists, tax evaders and corrupt officials to transfer funds,”** Bloomberg writes, referencing a new paper by Sands entitled “Making it Harder for the Bad Guys.”

Here’s what Sands has to say about high-denomination bank notes:

“High-value notes are the preferred payment mechanism of those pursuing illicit activities, given the anonymity and lack of transaction record they offer, and the relative ease with which they can be transported and

moved. **They play little role in the functioning of the legitimate economy, yet a crucial role in the underground economy.** The irony is that they are provided to criminals by the state.”

So there you go. The latest in a string of verbal attacks on the only thing that stands between central bankers and hugely negative rates. First it will be 100s that are banned, then 50s, then 20s, and so on **until individuals’ economic autonomy is completely stripped away** and make no mistake, it has very little to do with fighting “terrorism” and “crime” and quite a bit to do with giving officials the leeway to conduct still more monetary policy experiments.

After all, the Kurodas and Draghis of the world are very nearly out of options. When everything that can be monetized without completely breaking markets has been monetized, and when rates become negative enough that banks can no longer avoid passing the cost on to depositors, it’s either admit that post-crisis policies have failed, or go digital.

And somehow we don’t see central bankers suddenly delivering a mea culpa.

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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.*



## LADIES, BEWARE!

It's difficult to find a committed liberal that really believes in the existence of hell. Most leftists use the word frequently in general conversation, but few would consent to an actual place of perpetual torment. Isn't it strange that a mythological depository of souls would be called upon so readily to add emphasis to vocabulary?

There are, however, exceptions to most rules and we can be very thankful that Madeleine Albright has provided us with a glowing example of deviation. Ms. Albright, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. and U.S. Secretary of State recently said that, "There's a special place in hell for women who don't help each other." She rendered this theological revelation at a Hillary Clinton rally which leaves no doubt about the context; ladies, the latest word from prophetess Madeleine is...support Hillary or face eternal consequences.

It's very encouraging to us backwoods Bible thumpers that this Clinton appointee to high office has emerged from the closet of rationalism in favor of the Scriptures. We can only imagine what a leap of faith was required to embrace the idea of a literal hell. Certainly this must have been what Madam Secretary had in mind or else condemnation would bear no significance. Since we are not aware of any other authoritative information concerning hell, it's only logical to assume that Ms. Albright has been consulting the Bible.

In fifty plus years of studying the Word, I have yet to stumble on any passage that indicates that reservations for Dante's Inferno are made for voters of opposite opinions. In the event that I missed this critical piece of information, I remain in high hopes that the prophetess can fill us in on the missing link. I feel an overwhelming obligation to warn the women in my congregation and America of this impending doom. For some strange reason the diatribe made no mention of men: perhaps the secretary had already consigned all of them to hell...Bill Clinton excluded, of course.

Having assumed the role of "authority on hell," it's reasonable to suppose that America's newest theologian has researched every passage on the subject. Barely five chapters into the New Testament, Jesus made an eye popping assertion: "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust

after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matthew 5:28) Watch out, Bill, I'm not certain that Madeleine can gin up a large enough dispensation to keep your bases covered. The next verse reveals a bona fide difficulty: "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell." Jesus followed that up with an identical pronouncement concerning the right hand.

Every good liberal knows that the Scriptures are open to a multitude of interpretations so not to worry...the Albright Translation is forth coming which may very well read: "If you keep your right eye on Hillary, you will not offend, and your right hand on her lever you will be afforded protection." I often wondered why God didn't mention the left side; maybe He determined it was already in the tank and the only hope was on the right. Just a thought!

Even though there is a cause for rejoicing over Ms. Albright's willingness to advance the cardinal doctrine of hell, the delight is accompanied with a measure of concern stemming from her readiness to deliver some women to misery. Democrats have traditionally desired to be viewed as the people of compassion...the party of universal healthcare, free-flowing immigration, food stamps, no-cost childcare and emancipation from puritanical moral restraints. It's difficult to imagine how any one of those persuasions would condemn lovely ladies to hell. It may just be a minor kink in their theology that needs some fine tuning.

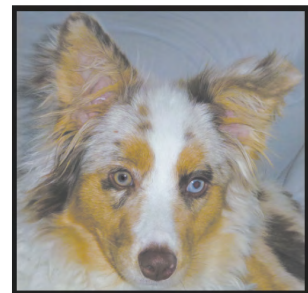
When a person votes in good conscience, they express an element of confidence and hope in the recipient of their allegiance. To be sure, voting does determine eternal destinies, but earthly ballots change nothing in God's economy. We are constantly being encouraged to choose the best and most qualified candidate. Jesus Christ occupies an office and throne far above the Caesars of this world. By virtue of a sinless life on earth and His sacrificial death, He alone holds "the keys of Hell and of Death." (Revelation 1:18) If you desire real hope and change place your faith and trust in the only one who has heaven's authority to deliver you from hell. Fifty-three years ago I voted for Jesus Christ and have never been disappointed by His leadership.

# A Sheepdog Barks!

Time for a little sheepdog potpourri. I came across two more ridiculous legal warnings to us this last week. I've spoken about the dumbing down of America several times before. It stems from the LPSD belief that we are stupid, that there is no personal responsibility and the government must care for our every need. That leads to treating us like children and idiots. Surely we can't think for ourselves. It started when the government had to tell us not to let the children play with the plastic bags that came on our clothes when they were cleaned. Like most things it starts off well intentioned and then it gets ridiculous, like these two examples last week. We had to buy a new printer. While putting it in operation we came across this warning while installing the ink cartridges. "CAUTION: Ink contains nitrates. Do not drink or place in mouth. Keep out of the reach of children. Avoid contact with eyes. Safety Data Sheets, product safety, and environmental information are available at [www.\\*\\*.com/go/ecodata](http://www.**.com/go/ecodata) or on request." REALLY! It was also printed in French and Spanish. That's good, you know, because we wouldn't want any illegal immigrants drinking that magenta stuff thinking it was a Gatorade or something. REALLY! Drinking the ink in those little black cartridges? How would one do that even if they wanted to? We looked it over very carefully and couldn't find any cap or lid. Once we pulled the little plastic cover off the foil part we thought maybe we could lick that part until something came out. However the "caution" told me not to put it in my mouth, so that option was out. We finally realized that the only real option was drilling two holes in the cartridges in order to pour us a good ole drink of ink. WOW! It's so much easier to open a beer. We did consider for a moment pursuing the Safety Data Sheets and environmental information that was available. We are sure there was much more enlightening information to help us "understand" how to use and then discard the used cartridges. In the end we were disappointed

that there weren't any instructions on what to do when we ran out of ink. What should we do? Can any readers help us out? Never mind, we'll just contact the government; they'll know what we should do. The second example was when the Mrs. Sheepdog went to the market. She showed me some cow or pig "knuckles" wrapped in clear plastic, one big ole boney joint. It also included a warning. "This should not replace feeding your dog." WHAT? We might have thought that was a complete three-course dinner for Fido. Thank goodness for the warning. She knew right then she would have to buy some other food for our dogs which led her to the aisle with big bags and lots of cans of complete nutritious dog food. Our dogs were very grateful for that warning. Look, don't get me wrong. We appreciate some help. We especially like the little initial cut and markings that tell you where to open the ketchup packets. They can be a real pain sometimes. But, nobody had to tell us not to let the children eat those empty packets or play with used razor blades. We do believe in personal responsibility you know. WOOF!

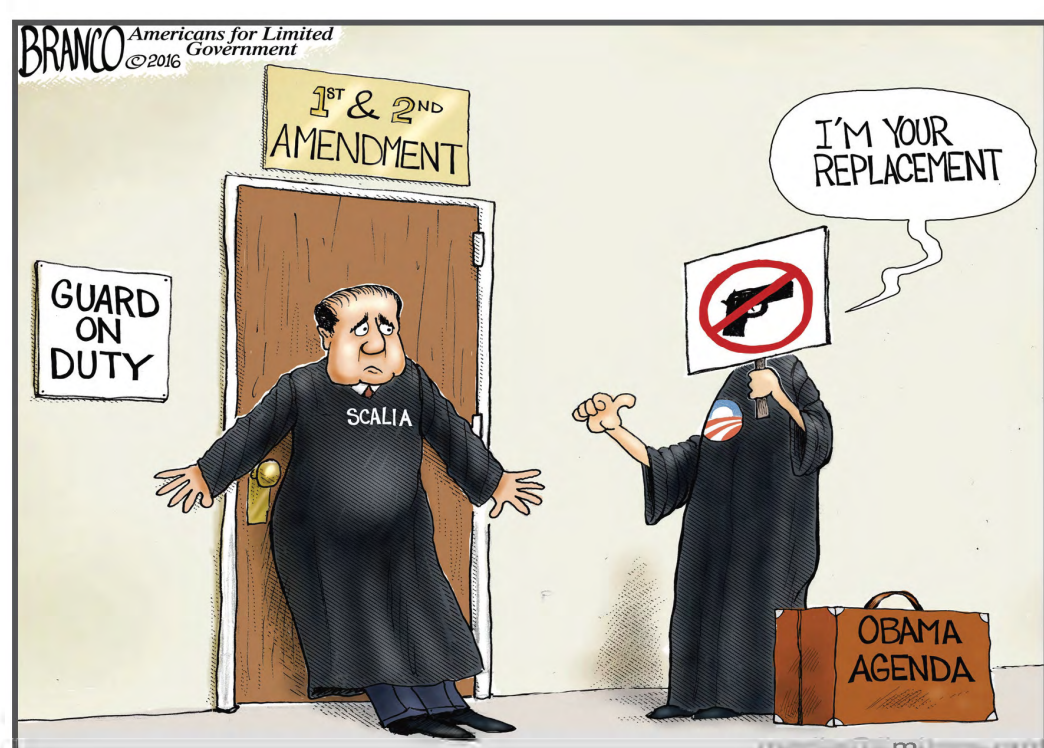
Check this story out. Read an article in a newspaper on page 17 this last weekend by the AP that sounded like really good news. The headline was "Cuba returns missile." That caught my eye and we read further. Turns out that "someone" in Europe "accidentally" shipped a U.S. Hellfire missile to Cuba in "2014" and they just "graciously" decided to give it back to us in "2016." We were told not to worry because it was an inert (meaning no high explosives) training round. REALLY? End of story, right? Not for this sheepdog. What the heck is going on? Who's in charge? Seems like, in the last five years or so the military has also "accidentally" shipped nuclear and biological stuff to the wrong places several times. Look, we know it's easy to use FEDEX or UPS, but this is getting ridiculous. The Hellfire is a laser guided, air-to-surface missile that can be launched from several military platforms like unmanned



drones. There are several disturbing questions here that went unanswered and unreported on. The fact that there were no explosives on board is irrelevant. The guidance system technology is what's important. And what took so long for our Cuban "friends", the Castros, to return the missile? We all know the answer to that. They needed the time to share with their "friends" the Russians and Chinese. Why in the heck wasn't this returned immediately upon our fearless leader hugging and kissing, Raul? This is just another example of this administration's cowardice and cluelessness. A real Commander-in-Chief would have given the Cubans 24 hours to return it or suffer the consequences. Let's not forget this stupid "accident." Can you really imagine someone shipping military hardware to Cuba by accident? Heads need to roll. WOOF!

We close this week with a salute to Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. His passing last Saturday was sad, indeed. He was the "Lion" on the Court that protected our Constitutional rights and liberties. He was the clear leader of the conservatives and the constitutional view of our most important document. His loss presents a dangerous time for all Constitutional-loving and conservative citizens in America. He was truly the guardian of our Bill of Rights and our freedoms. We can only hope the "Straw Lions" in the U.S. Senate will have the courage to protect the Supreme Court from a liberal progressive majority. He will be missed. Our condolences to his family. And so we end this week with a sheepdog salute to Justice Scalia. WOOF! WOOF! WOOF! RIP!

May God Have Mercy On America! JMH



# Abrogation and Sharia Law

by John Guandolo,  
*Understandingthethreat.com*

One of the facets of sharia (Islamic Law) that turns the light bulb on in people's minds more than anything else seems to be the moment they grasp the Koranic concept of abrogation and progressive revelation.

Islam teaches that Allah (the god of Islam) revealed Islam to mankind throughout history progressively. Allah revealed the Law to Moses which predicted the coming of Mohammad. Those who did not accept the Law of Moses were lost. When Allah revealed the Evangel to Jesus, which also foretold of the coming of Mohammad, it abrogated the Law of Moses, and those who did not accept it were lost (hellbound). When the final seal of the prophets – Mohammad – came and revealed the Koran to all of mankind, it abrogated all that came before it, and those who did not accept it were lost.

***Unlike when people join into other groups, Muslim do not tell new converts the whole story.***

According to Islam, the original Law of Moses and revelations given to Jesus were corrupted by the Jews and Christian Priests and, therefore, do not exist on the planet today in their "original" form. In other words, Islam teaches that all Bibles in the world today are corrupt because the fore-tellings of Mohammad were all intentionally removed.

According to Islam, the message of the Koran was revealed to Mohammad via an angel over a period of approximately 23 years – progressively over time.

The Koran is organized into 114 chapters called "Suras." These suras are not organized chronologically, but generally by size of the chapter from largest to smallest with the exception of Sura 1 which is only several lines long.

Three times in the Koran (2:106, 16:101, 17:106) Allah says that whatever he reveals chronologically later abrogates (overrules or cancels) what he previously revealed. Allah commands Mohammad to bring the community of people from their unbelief to full compliance with sharia progressively in stages. This is exactly what we are seeing on the ground today across the world. The Muslim community is slowly moving from living however they want to live to living in communities that are

time of "tolerance" where Mohammad had to tolerate the non-Muslims and there were no revelations of jihad.

Then Mohammad made the hijra to Medina, and was called to become a political and military leader. There he raised an army and gained many converts to Islam as he began to get revelations of jihad. First Mohammad received revelations of defensive jihad, then limited offensive jihad, and finally, the command to wage jihad as a permanent obligation until the entire world is under sharia.

Allah said it last (chronologically) in the Koran, then Mohammad said it, and then Mohammad did it. This is why there is no gray area in sharia as to the permanent command for all Muslims to wage jihad until the entire world is under sharia when they have the strength and ability to do so.

The Law of Jihad provides for how jihad can be waged by Muslims depending on where they are and their abilities.

Bringing greater sharia adherence to the world via jihad is the Muslim Brotherhood's entire focus of all they do, and the stated objective of all of the jihadi organizations on the planet.

Therefore, it is logical, when seen from the perspective of Islam, that if the Koran abrogated all that came before it Allah would say "Whoever accepts a religion other than Islam will never have it accepted of him and he will be of those who truly fail in the hereafter (go to hell)." (Koran

3:85)

This logically leads to the requirement of the Koran for Muslims to never take Jews and Christians as friends (Koran 5:51), for pagans to be given the

***Finally, we will see the call for all non-Muslims to convert to Islam, submit to Islam or be killed.***

option to convert or be killed (Koran 9:5), and for the "People of the Book" (Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians) to be given the option – if they choose not to convert to Islam and do not want to be killed – to submit to Islam under sharia, pay the non-Muslim poll tax (jizya), and "feel themselves subdued." (Koran 9:29)

Islamic scholars have come to an agreement on the chronological order of the suras. While there are slight differences in some of the listings, Sura 5 is always the last sura (chronologically) to discuss relations between Muslims and non-Muslims, and Sura 9 is the last to discuss jihad. These are the last words from Allah on these issues, and Islam teaches they abrogate all that came before them.

Individuals who convert into Islam are also taught Islam progressively and not all at once. The Muslim Brotherhood's "How To" manual entitled Methodology of Dawah Ilallah in American Perspective has this to say about converting a non-Muslim to Islam:

"Some rituals of religion and traditions of the Muslim Community are explained. A short account of the Prophet's (PBUH) life is presented, without the revolutionary aspect. When Islam is acceptable

to the new entrants in this concocted or abbreviated form, the ceremony of Shahadah is performed with great reverence. A non-Muslim thus becomes a Muslim, obedient to Allah (SWT) alone. The revolutionary aspect of Islam is rarely brought before the new converts, as in most cases the Da'ee (the one bringing the non-Muslim to Islam) himself is not conversant with it."

When individuals or communities come to Islam, it is done progressively and in stages. Unlike when people join into other groups, Muslim do not tell new converts the whole story. They bring it to them over time. Mohammad had 23 years to bring people from where they were to full obedience to Allah.

Looking at today's world events through this lense, we can see the move in the Ummah (global Muslim community) towards greater sharia adherence. We see it in their dress, how they behave, how they pray, and in many other ways. We also know that the more we visually see sharia ad-

herence, the more violence is being taught within the Muslim community.

This progression over time from little sharia adherence to full sharia adherence is the mirror of Mohammad receiving the revelations of the Koran progressively and moving the Muslim community towards complete obedience to Allah and his law – sharia.

The focus is on the Muslim community first, as we see the military jihadi organizations like ISIS and Al Qaeda doing today. They are forcing Islamic nations to adhere to sharia.

Soon we will see, and are seeing, the HIJRA into non-Muslim lands – also known as the "refugee" surge into Europe and the United States. Finally, we will see the call for all non-Muslims to convert to Islam, submit to Islam or be killed. While some of this is beginning to happen, when the Global Islamic Movement assesses Muslim lands are sharia compliant, they will focus their attention on the West.

All of this is the mirror image of the progressive revelation of Islam as revealed to the world over history, and specifically to Mohammad during the 23 years he received the Koran from Allah.

We are all watching it practically play out today in real time, and this is something the suit-wearing jihadis in America are not telling our leaders.

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# Full-Time Lawmakers Dominate Colorado Legislature

by Arthur Kane, Watchdog.org

One-third of Colorado lawmakers self-identify their profession as legislators, mirroring a trend where career politicians have replaced lawyers, ranchers and business owners at the statehouse.

The National Conference of State Legislatures tracks the makeup of the 50 state assemblies because profession, ethnicity and gender often provide a window into what laws make it onto the books.

"I still think it is probably a desirable quality that people in the legislature are fairly representative of their district," said Karl Kurtz, an NCSL contractor who conducted the national 2015 study. "Everybody has a self-interest that makes up their experience, so occupation is certainly an experience just as growing up in Denver impacts your world view."

Colorado's percentage of self-described legislators is nearly three times the national average of 12 percent. Watchdog.org calculated Colorado's lawmaker occupations using the legislative directory.

The top category nationwide for lawmaker profession is business people, but that in-

cludes business owners and people who work for businesses. Business owners are about 13 percent nationwide — lower than Colorado's 17 percent.

Attorneys, who have historically dominated the legislature, are dropping as a percent of lawmakers with about 14 percent nationwide down from 22.3 in 1976. In Colorado, attorneys comprise 8 percent of lawmakers in this current session.

"I would want a legislature with a certain number of lawyers having that we're dealing with making laws, but having a majority might be a negative thing," Kurtz said.

He attributed the decline in the number of lawyers in legislatures to the increasing expense and demands in building a successful legal career.

As might be expected, nearly twice as many Democrats (21) identify as full-time politicians as do Republicans (12), the Watchdog analysis shows.

Colorado State University professor John Straayer said having a large percentage of people who identify solely as lawmakers is counterintuitive in Colorado, which has a part-time legislature and pays only \$30,000 a year plus expenses.

He suspected many of those full-time lawmakers were former legislative aides who are using a House or Senate seat as a stepping stone to a political career. Others are retired people starting a second career in politics, he added.

"Retired people might be looking for something to do with themselves and if they had an interest in politics and a seat opens up, they may take it," he said.

Kurtz said NCSL surveys show Colorado lawmakers report spending an average 75 to 80 percent of their work time year around on their legislative jobs, despite the legislature meeting only from January to May.

Colorado has also seen a decline in ranchers as redistricting brings more lawmakers from urban areas. Straayer said that will affect the type of legislation the public sees coming out of the General Assembly.

"For ranchers it's water, rural roads and it's access to high-speed Internet in rural areas," he said.

Please see: [watchdog.org/256006/full-time-lawmakers-dominate-legislature-attorneys-decline/](http://watchdog.org/256006/full-time-lawmakers-dominate-legislature-attorneys-decline/)

# Jihadist Shooter Was Going to Target a Church

by Herschel Smith, CaptainsJournal.com

Via Uncle, this from Dearborn:

Khalil Abu-Rayyan, 21, was being watched by the feds since May 2015.

He was even having online conversations with an undercover FBI agent.

"I tried to shoot up a church one day," Abu-Rayyan posted. "It's one of the biggest ones in Detroit. I had it planned out. I bought a bunch of bullets. I practiced reloading and unloading." [...]

The complaint filed in federal court doesn't specify which Detroit church he was allegedly planning to attack, only that it was close and could seat 6,000 members.

The complaint quotes Abu-Rayyan saying:

"It's easy, and a lot of people go there. Plus people are not allowed to carry guns in church. Plus it would make the news. Everybody would've heard. Honestly I regret not doing it. If I can't do jihad in the Middle East, I would do my jihad over here."

I'm not surprised that this almost occurred in Dearborn, but it could have occurred anywhere. Folks, I've covered it until I'm exhausted covering it. Search my religion category for the details of pastors who hate their flocks and would rather see them perish than allow them to carry in worship. For-

get that the jihadist doesn't understand what a church is (the church is the people, the building they meet in is just that — a building, not a church).

This jihadist understands this much. When you attend a worship service, in most liturgies, even ones which are atypical, you are a sitting duck, you and your whole family.

You are sitting down, with people in front of you, people behind you, and people to the side of you. Means of egress, evasion and escape are limited to non-existent. The attention of most people is focused on the front, on one man or a choir, or in the singing of Psalms, Hymns and spiritual songs, rather than on potential security threats. This isn't an argument for not going to worship. This is an argument for going armed, with your head on a swivel.

And no, a few security people armed with BaoFeng UV-5R comms gear and acting ever so earnest cannot stop a shooter. You need to carry in worship. Please, please hear me when I say this. **You need to carry in worship.** If other people don't, that heightens your responsibility. If other people are preoccupied, you need to be extra diligent. Please carry guns in worship. And if this is disallowed, make your pastor understand, or do it anyway, or change churches. It's that important.

Please see: <http://www.captainsjournal.com/2016/02/08/jihadist-shooter-was-going-to-target-a-church/>



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