

Hiring and Keeping Teachers: Colorado Schools Become Landlords Custer County Leads the Way

by Ann Schimke, Charlbeat.Org

As Colorado’s housing costs skyrocket, a growing number of school districts, local leaders and lawmakers are taking steps to make housing more affordable for teachers and staff.

For years, resort communities such as Aspen and rural districts such as Woodlin on the Eastern Plains have leased housing to employees at below-market rates. More recently, subsidized housing for educators has cropped up in pricey urban

areas such as San Francisco, Boston and Baltimore. But lately, Colorado districts big and small are

underway now in three rural districts, and Denver public schools, the state’s largest district, is exploring the idea.

sible as housing costs rise. Compounding the problem is Colorado’s perennial school funding squeeze and the lagging teacher salaries that go with it.

tive from Salida, said he plans to introduce a bill during the 2017 session that would give tax credits to employers that offer employee housing. While that wouldn’t directly help school districts or other public entities that don’t pay taxes, he said he’d like to find a way to do that.

Affordable housing is a statewide issue, he said. “It’s going to be a big topic of conversation at the state-house this year.”

Custer County School Superintendent Mark Payler said, “I’ve suddenly got a new tool I can go to market with when I’m looking for new teachers.”

looking at building their own housing or collaborating with external partners to do so. Such projects are

Driving these plans are fears that recruiting and retaining good teachers will shift from hard to impos-

Jim Wilson, a Republican State Representa-

HIRING
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Could Be a Happy New Year in Silver Cliff!

(Editor/GG: New details on test bores in Silver Cliff show potential new “reef” which could be the proverbial “mother lode”.)

Press Release (Marketwired)

VANCOUVER, British Columbia

—December 21, 2016

“Drill Hole K16-01 assayed 1,778.5 g/t or (57.2 oz/t) silver over 20-ft. or (6.1 m) in a 50-ft. (15.24 m) section averaging

837.4 g/t (26.9 oz/t)”

—Viscount Mining Corp. (TSX VENTURE:VML) (OTCQB:VLMGF) (“Viscount” or “the Company”), is pleased to announce the first drill results from the Silver Cliff property in the Hardscrabble Silver District of Custer County, Colorado (the “Property”).

The 2016 drill program that Viscount commenced in mid-November

of this year had as its primary objective the confirmation of historical drilling and mineral resource documentation on one of the Silver Cliff deposits known as the Kate Silver Resource (the “KSR”). Nine holes with a total of 1,502 ft. (457.8 m) were completed as part of the drill program and this release is reporting values from K16-01, which was the first hole drilled and assayed at ALS Cana-

da Ltd., at their laboratories in Reno, Nevada, and Vancouver, BC.

Assay results for confirmation hole K16-01 drilled at an inclination of -60° averaged 1,778 parts per million (ppm, i.e. g/t and which equals 57.2 oz/t) over 20 ft. (6.1 m) from 60 to 80 ft. (18.3 to 24.4 m) of core interval. Each analyzed sample in this interval represented 5 ft. (1.52 m). The 50 ft. (15.24 m) of

mineralized core from 55 to 105 ft. (16.76 to 32.00 m) averaged 837.35 ppm (26.92 oz/t). The collar of K16-01 is estimated from historic maps and field evidence to be within 4 ft. (1.2 m) of historical drill hole DDH 73-2 for which reports show 1,927.7 g/t silver over 13.5 m (62 oz/t over 44.29 ft.).

SILVER
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Future Scientists



Two second grade classes got together for a little recognition time. The classes of Mrs. Donna Eldridge and Miss Camper, totaling 29 future scientists, were recognized on Thursday afternoon on December 22, 2016, by their STEM volunteer Mr. Kevin Zwack, who promotes science technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to the young ones. Mr. Zwack, whose background is electric and software engineer for the past four decades, is a resident of Silver Cliff.

The photo taken in class shows the children sporting their brand new blue hats with SCIENTIST on the front of the cap. Mr. Zwack is standing towards the back and Miss Camper and Mrs. Holly Andrews, Elementary School Principal, on either side of the group of future scientists.

Photo and story by Fred Hernandez

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PATRIOT ALERT!
Obama’s Plan To Rule America
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“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?
For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”



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Our Opinion...

From the Editorial Board

545: A Number to Remember!

Five Hundred and Forty-Five. This number significantly affects your life. Do you know why? 545 what? Inches? Feet? Dollars? Days? Miles? Hours? Nope, none of these. It's people. Some good people, some bad people, some dangerous people. That's the number of people that are supposed to govern our country in accordance with the U.S. Constitution. Nine of them are appointed and 536 of them are elected. The only common denominator is that they are "required" to be citizens. It's a shame that they aren't "required" to be knowledgeable of the provisions and limitations of our Constitution. That is where the problem begins. So, how does that number break down? Like this: 100 U.S. Senators, 435 U.S. Representatives, 9 Supreme Court Justices and 1 President. 545 citizens out of our approximately 320 million population. "We the People" have not always done a very good job of picking our leaders. America is not in good shape. The "State of the Union" is troubling. There are lots of Americans that believe the "other" party is wholly to blame. In fact, both parties are to blame, maybe not equally, but certainly both have contributed. The current state of Washington affairs appears to be the most dysfunctional ever. However, we have been moving towards this current state for a very long time. Take the national debt for instance. From Presi-

dent Washington through President Bush (43) the chart line grew slowly but surely higher with a slightly steeper angle in Bush's eight years. In the last eight years the angle has steeply inclined and now resembles the smoke trail of a space shuttle launch. In other words, Obama has doubled the debt total from the first 43 presidents in his eight years. He is, however, not totally to blame. The Republicans have been complicit and continue to be even after taking total control of the U.S. Congress in January of 2015. Many believe this is why Donald Trump did so well. Angry citizens, of all ilks, are serving notice to the establishment, status quo professional political class. Politicians better start paying attention. Americans are just plain "mad as he**" and may not take it anymore. But we digress. Back to the 545. Retired journalist, Charley Reese, penned a few editorials back in 1985 and 1995 about those 545 people being responsible for the foreign and domestic problems that plague the United States. Reese was a writer for the *Orlando Sentinel* for 30 years and retired in 2001. His first column was printed in The *Stonewall County Courier* in September, 1985 and titled "545 People Responsible for Country's Problems." He updated his thoughts and printed the second version in the *Orlando Sentinel* in March, 1995, titled "Looking for Someone to Blame?"

Congress is a Good Place to Start." His premise was that none of the bad things or the overspending or the unnecessary agencies would exist if these 545 people didn't want them to exist. Absolute truth!

A few excerpts from 1985 are repeated below:

"Politicians are the only people in the world who create problems and then campaign against them."

"Have you ever wondered why, if both the Democrats and Republicans are against deficits, we have deficits? Have you ever wondered why if all politicians are against inflation and high taxes, we have inflation and high taxes?"

(The 545) "...are directly, legally, morally and individually responsible for the domestic problems that plague this country."

"Don't you see the con game that is played on the people by the politicians? Those 545 human beings spend much of their energy convincing you that what they did is not their fault. They cooperate in this common con regardless of party."

"Those 545 people and they alone are responsible."

In 1995 he added these comments:

"...just remember that 100 percent of the power of the

federal government comes from the U.S. Constitution. If it's not in the Constitution, it's not authorized."

"Then read your Constitution. All 100 percent of the power of the federal government is invested solely in 545 individual human beings. That's all. Of 260 million Americans, only 545 of them wield 100 percent of the power of the federal government."

"You don't like the IRS? Go see Congress. You think the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agency is running amok? Go see Congress."

"Congress is the originator of all government problems and is also the only remedy available. That's why, of course, politicians go to such extraordinary lengths and employ world-class sophistry to make you think they are not responsible. Anytime a congressman pretends to be outraged by something a federal bureaucrat does, he is in fact engaging in one big massive con job."

"Both Democrats and Republicans mislead the public. For 40 years Democrats had majorities and could have at any time balanced the budget if they had chosen to do so. Republicans now have majorities and could, if they choose, pass a balanced budget this year. Every president, Democrat or Republican,

could have vetoed appropriations bills that did not make up a balanced budget. Every president could have recommended a balanced budget. None has done either."

"Don't be conned. Don't let them escape responsibility. We simply have to sort through 260 million people until we find 545 who will act responsibly."

Starting around 2008, Reese's columns were widely edited and circulated on the internet with updated names and places and often included additional material, not written by Reese, added at the beginning or the end.

Americans need to fully realize how correct Charley Reese was and is. We are conned every day with false and misleading unemployment numbers and economic growth indicators. The illegal immigration debacle and porous border would have been fixed long ago IF they wanted it fixed. The national shame of the Veterans Affairs Department would have been solved long ago IF they wanted it solved. We will have to wait and see if the election of Donald Trump and a Republican-controlled Congress will really make a difference. Contrary to what Michele Obama recently said, there is great hope for America in 2017. God Bless America and let's begin "draining the swamp."

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"We the People" Speak Letters to the Editor



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Ray of Hope

Aware that our nation is in shambles and that there is a large swath of millennials our age who just don't get "why" things are so crazy, and think Hillary is great, we were feeling a little depressed the Sunday before elections.

It was like being an island of Trump in a sea of Hillary. On our way home, we saw this tattered but majestic eagle on top of our church in Johnstown, Colorado.

Call me sentimental, but this bald eagle, a symbol for our nation, gave us some hope that day that our vote wouldn't be wasted and that God had a plan for the U.S. of A.

Colorado overall picked Hillary but my county and my country overwhelmingly voted for Trump . I'm proud of that and Custer County should be, too.

Jayme Vass Gilliland
Weld County, Colorado



Bald eagle on November 6, 2016.
 Photo courtesy of Jayme Vass Gilliland

The Reality of Trump

We have now finished the election and the Electoral College process and Donald Trump will be the 45th President of the United States. For all who have read anything I have written about Trump you know I was never a completely devoted fan but was rather skeptical of him. I'm now willing to give him a chance. There was NO OTHER candidate for whom I would have voted. Johnson and Stein didn't have a chance. Hillary only won the popular vote by California fruits and nuts, by hook and by crook. Thank God the Evangelical voters turned out on faith to take a chance on him. He won against all odds, against the drive by media, against all the ones who campaigned for Hillary, against even some of the so-called conservative news outlets and against the entrenched GOP politicians in Washington, D.C. Now

that I see President-Elect Trump in action I see that his first 100 days may become his first 125 days, since he has already started "making America great". I am invigorated and enthused by his words and by his selection of cabinet and staff members. I have much more confidence in his governing style and look forward to see the results of the first year, maybe his first four years. I truly believe he will lead from "the front" rather than from behind as Obama did. As I

have said before, the liberal elites will not stop their assault on conservatives, on Christians and on Trump. Obama has continued his divisive war on America. What do the liberals not get? What exactly are they afraid of in a Trump presidency? I wonder if liberals have really stopped to consider the results of Hillary's agenda. I doubt it. Let us all be vigilant in our pursuit of (America's) happiness.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Snow, Wind, Power Outages: A Wet Mountain Valley Christmas

by George Gramlich

What a few inches of snow and a "little" wind can do.

A windy snowstorm Saturday night, December 24th, brought two to five inches of snow to the Wet Mountain Valley which was followed by very high winds Christmas Day, reportedly approaching 80 mph in some areas. High winds continued into Monday.

There were power outag-

es in the western areas of Custer County. Many power poles were reported down and with an issue with a power line feeding the county, the Sangre Electric and San Isabel line crews had their work cut out for them. Wetmore also had a large number of power outages.

Roads and highways in many parts of the county were virtually impassable on Sunday with high winds causing snow blind conditions.

A warming center was opened Monday at the Custer County Community Sharing Center at 120 N. Third, in Westcliffe.

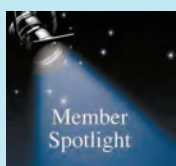
Custer County Emergency Management and the Custer County Sheriff's Office has reported that as of Wednesday, December 28th, power has been restored to almost all of the county and road conditions were returning to "winter" normal.



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end of the
YEAR SALE!*

Happy New Year!

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*But when the fullness of the time had come,
God sent forth His Son, born of a woman,
born under the law, to redeem those who were under
the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

Galatians 4: 4-5 NKJV

West Custer County Library: Adult Winter Program Begins with Ocean Event

While summer is chock full of activities, the cold, snowy months offer the opportunity for a fun mental getaway at the West Custer County Library. Based on feedback from the community, the library has moved their popular, free Adult Reading Program to the winter. It kicks off with registration and a "Big Doings in the Deep" presentation January 11th at 1 p.m. Landlubbers will journey from the lofty mountain heights of the valley to explore the depths of the undersea and the mountains beneath.

The theme for this year's Adult Reading Program is "This is Your Brain on Books." A bingo card will be provided to each program participant with reading and library-related challenges in each

of the boxes. Prizes are available for up to three completed bingos. Participants who achieve a blackout will also be entered into a drawing for one of two Barnes and Noble gift cards. Completed bingo sheets must be submitted by Friday, March 31, 2017. The reading program will conclude with an Indoor Stargazing Party that evening at 7 p.m. at the library.

The reading program is not just about prizes. "Reading creates new synapses in the brain, which puts you on the path to better health," said Adult Services Librarian Cathy McCarthy. "Other benefits include stress reduction, vocabulary extension, increased empathy and memory improvement."

At the kickoff event on January 11th, Ann Williams will present the jaw-dropping "Big Doings in the Deep" in the library's Community Room. She says that ocean explorers have greatly expanded their undersea knowledge in the last thirty years. "Now that submersibles make oceans more fathomable, undersea mountains have opened a portal to the workings of the earth," said Williams. Ann has a stack of published articles and three books to her credit. In recent years, her life journey led her to write a guide to the ultimate cruise destination, the sea.

For more information on these free library events, please contact Cathy McCarthy at 719-783-9138.

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Local Mountain News & Notices

HIRING from page 1

Roommates and rising rents

While there's limited data showing that housing costs directly impact teacher recruitment and retention, there's plenty of anecdotal evidence that it's a factor.

First-year Jefferson County teacher Krista Degerness, 34, said she had no problem finding a job after earning her master's degree in special education last spring. But paying the bills has been trickier. She moved in with her sister to cut costs, paying \$700 of the \$1,700 rent for their Centennial townhouse. She earns \$42,000 a year.

Degerness loves her job, but says, "The money is very hard."

Some superintendents say they start teacher candidate interviews with heart-to-hearts about the reality of housing costs in their communities. They don't want candidates, especially those from out-of-state, jumping in with visions of majestic mountain peaks, and not the dollar signs that go with them.

Custer County Superintendent Mark Payler said when he surveyed the southern Colorado district's newer teachers recently, most said they planned to stay for only two to three years. One factor, he said, is the

difficulty of securing decent housing on a starting salary of \$29,500.

In Denver, a recent exit survey taken by teachers sheds some light on the subject. Of 219 teachers who left the district after the 2015-16 school year, 23 said Denver's high cost of living was a big factor in their decision. Nearly 50 cited housing as a key reason for leaving, though there is likely overlap because respondents could cite multiple reasons.

Additional evidence comes from a September report from the National Housing Conference and the Center for Housing Policy that examined housing affordability for school employees in the nation's biggest cities. Denver was among 24 cities where buying a house was unaffordable for teachers as well as lower-paid workers.

Emulating rural districts

The concept of providing subsidized teacher housing has a long history in some Colorado districts.

Take tiny Woodlin on the Eastern Plains. The district owns 14 housing units, including trailers, houses and apartments, most built around 1960 right on the school campus. Most employees pay rent of \$70-\$105 per month and the district covers water and propane.

Other rural districts, such as Karval and Deer Trail,

offer employees similar deals. Then there's Aspen, which has 43 units of subsidized housing going for \$850-\$1,500 a month. Market rate rents easily surpass \$2,000 a month there, said Superintendent John Maloy.

In the last 18 months, three other Colorado districts have launched projects to build employee housing — often with significant support from local civic leaders, banks and the business community.

Custer County is converting a vacant district-owned building — formerly a preschool — to four apartments with the help of community volunteers and high school students in the district's building trades class. The one-bedroom units will be ready next July, with rent at \$550 a month.

Salida schools embarked on a similar project this fall, breaking ground for 10 new housing units in the nearby Town of Poncha Springs. They'll eventually be sold to district employees at below-market rates. In Custer County, building trades students are helping with construction.

Roaring Fork has the largest project underway, with plans to build a total of 60 new subsidized apartments in three locations using \$15 million from the district's 2015 bond issue. Those units will become available in 2018.

Superintendent Rob Stein said district officials initially shied away from including money for staff housing in the bond issue. They didn't think the public would support it. But when two local educators, a beloved principal and his wife, a teacher, departed because they couldn't afford a house in the area, things changed.

tive teachers and making it easier for veteran teachers to stay.

"I've suddenly got a new tool I can go to market with when I'm looking for new teachers," said Payler, Custer County's Superintendent.

But it also brings up lots of questions: Which em-

ing it themselves.

Rose Cronk, Superintendent in the Woodlin district for more than a decade, said of the district-owned housing, "Sometimes I'm the one over there cleaning rainwater out of the bottom of the basement."

In some districts now considering subsidized housing, administrators worry such projects could distract from their educational goals.

Balczarek said one of the key questions for Denver is, "How do we get into this without drifting too far from our mission?"

One possibility, he said, is to work with an external partner — maybe the city's housing authority or a non-profit group — to develop and manage housing on district property.

Even with the many complications involved in financing and managing subsidized housing, some district leaders note that, unlike that state's intractable school funding system, it's a problem that can be addressed locally.

"It's another creative solution to the fiscal crisis schools are facing" Stein said.

Please see: www.chalkbeat.org/posts/co/2016/12/20/to-hire-and-keep-good-teachers-as-housing-costs-rise-colorado-school-districts-take-on-new-role-landlord/

"Custer County is converting a vacant district-owned building... to four apartments..."

"That single story may very well have allowed us to move forward with going to voters for a bond," Stein said.

In turn, such projects may soon spread to the Front Range — and some observers say not just Denver.

"I think the mountain towns ... are the harbingers of what's to come," said Tony Lewis, Executive Director of the Donnell-Kay Foundation. "I think you're gonna see it in Cherry Creek, Aurora and Boulder."

School districts as developers and landlords

Leaders in districts that already offer subsidized housing say it makes a big difference — serving as extra enticement to prospec-

employees get first dibs on the housing? Can some units be set aside for hard-to-fill positions? Will employees be allowed to stay in the units indefinitely? What happens if too few district staff need the housing?

For districts that have wrestled with these questions, the answers have evolved. For example, in 2015, the Aspen district established a five-year time limit for employees renting its subsidized units, in the hopes of making it a stepping stone as opposed to a permanent solution.

Beyond eligibility criteria, there's also the fact that school districts with subsidized housing double as landlords, either hiring property management companies to handle leasing and maintenance or do-

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Local Mountain News & Notices

Why the Education Establishment Hates Cursive

by Bruce Deitrick Price,
The American Thinker

Modern educators are dismissive of cursive. Indeed, many are hostile to such a degree that you should immediately suspect that they are up to something.

Here is an education journalist providing the Party Line: “Cursive writing is an anachronism. Spending any classroom time on it is comparable to teaching how to use an abacus: it’s interesting as a history lesson, and probably offers some side benefits, but it is not at all practical as a day-to-day skill in the modern, connected world.”

A professor of education argues: “Cursive should be allowed to die. In fact, it’s already dying, despite having been taught for decades.” (You can depend on education professors to confuse “decades” with “centuries.”)

When you read such swaggering attacks on cursive, you might assume that the question is settled. The old geezer is dead, so take him off life support. You rarely see thoughtful praise of cursive. Even people who are sentimentally inclined to support cursive can’t think of many reasons to do so.

I propose a higher truth: the Education Establishment is always a reliable guide to what is good. If our socialist professors rail against X, you know that X is educational gold. Here are eight reasons why cursive is valuable

and we should fight to keep it in the classroom:

1) LEARN TO READ FASTER. The main thing is that learning cursive accelerates learning to read. If it did nothing else, this alone would still make it a huge asset. Cursive obviously makes a child more aware of letter forms and how words are spelled. Don Potter, the phonics guru, states: “Any attempt to educate American children that neglects the direct development of fluent handwriting is doomed to fail. The little dribble of handwriting done with the typical phonics programs is FAR below optimal.”

2) HIGHER I.Q. Reading itself has unexpected benefits. Namely, it makes you smarter. Some researchers speculate that the brain rewires itself to become better at reading. K-12 is full of inferior methods that let children remain poor readers for years. Their I.Q.s will not advance; their academic skills will not improve. In contrast, cursive accelerates reading, which will accelerate everything else.

3) PRECISION. Cursive requires that young students do something precisely. Not sloppily, not incompletely, not according to personal whim. Cursive says: This is an M. Draw it exactly like the diagram. Practice until you can do it correctly. Penmanship is the perfect path to precision.

Precision is a valuable concept for young people. They will learn to read faster and think fast-

er, and it will influence how they approach everything else. When you spell a word, it needs to be spelled a certain way. Grammar says words must be used in particular ways.

So much of what they do in public schools nowadays is a blanket endorsement of sloppiness. Kids can do anything any way they want. That is not education. That’s “academic child abuse.”

4) FINE MOTOR SKILLS. Even detractors of phonics acknowledge that it teaches fine motor skills. Simply holding a pencil is a big accomplishment for little kids. We know from the history of carpets that little kids are capable of extraordinarily delicate work. If children are working within the context of their family, this work can be largely beneficial. They learn how to create something really complicated, with lots of counting required.

But where do kids today get a chance to perform anything exacting, even for ten minutes? Few children build models anymore. Video games require the same actions over and over again. Cursive demands both physical and mental dexterity.

5) CALLIGRAPHY. This word, which is almost pure Greek, means beautiful writing. Learning cursive introduces a child to the world of logos, type design and graphic design generally. Children can compare cursive writing to typefaces they see in the newspaper. They can de-

sign their own names in different ways – each is a logo. Many products have script logos; today’s students cannot read these beautiful names.

6) HISTORY. When children learn cursive, they can read the Declaration of Independence and many other historical documents. They can read letters from older relatives.

7) INDIVIDUAL SIGNATURES. Cursive allows for personal expression. A person’s signature is nearly as unique as a fingerprint. Nowadays, children learn to print their signatures; these will not be distinctive, probably causing lots of confusion in the legal system. Probably our collectivist educators like the idea of all people looking the same and having almost identical signatures. The world will be more boring.

8) TAKING NOTES. Handwriting is faster than printing. That was the main reason they developed it. If students want to take notes in the classroom, cursive is the obvious choice.

The aforementioned education journalist specifically squealed: “I shudder to think of the time I spent learning cursive: 15 minutes of schooling, every day.”

Let’s think about that. What, in the typical public school, is accomplished in the entire day? Almost nothing, judging by literacy and other test scores. But we’re supposed to believe that “almost nothing” reduced by 15 minutes

is a big deal.

Let’s turn it around. Apparently, 15 minutes a day is all it takes to learn cursive. Now, that’s a bargain, readily and cheaply available for every child in America. A mere 15 minutes a day will result in higher I.Q., faster and better reading, a greater appreciation of the aesthetic aspects of type, faster note-taking, one’s very own signature, more coordinated fingers and the ability to find out what Thomas Jefferson is famous for. Cursive may be the best deal offered in K-12 education.

QED: The pattern I see is that our Education Establishment tends to promote methods that don’t work. If you are engaged in “the deliberate dumbing down of America,” cursive is your natural enemy.

Probably the real reason our experts condemn cursive is because cursive actually works.

Bruce Deitrick Price explains theories and methods on his education sites Improve-Education.org. For information on his four new novels, see his literary site Lit4u.com.

Read more: http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2016/12/why_the_education_establishment_hates_cursive.html#ixzz4TgHTHuls

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Local Mountain News & Notices

2017 Public Notice Bids: Our Pitch and a Recusal Request



“A DIFFERENT VIEW FROM THE SAME MOUNTAINS”

Board of County Commissioners
Commissioner-Elect Donna Hood
Commissioner-Elect Jay Printz
205 S. 6th Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252

December 21, 2016

Re: Paper of Record for 2017

Sirs & Madam,

It was very disappointing, but not surprising, to read the unwarranted ad hominem attack on one of our Commissioners in the bid submission letter from our competition. Aside from the fact that it was completely untrue, it was also completely unnecessary. We believe it was clear to everyone that the vote on selecting the county’s paper of record for 2017 would be made in January after the new commissioners were sworn in. We can only conclude that Mr. Little’s attack on Mr. Shy was intentional and personal.

We would like to remind you of a few facts as you consider how you will vote in January. The state law requirements are limited to whether or not a bidding newspaper is considered legitimate and whether or not there is access. The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel meets both requirements. The state specifically chose newspapers as a medium for the printing of legal notices only to make sure that all the citizens had an equal opportunity to access public notices. There is absolutely nothing in the law that requires a decision based on circulation (the more ‘bang for the buck’ idea). In fact, the guidelines (attached) state that a 500 circulation paper has the same rights to be a county paper of record as a 20,000 or larger circulation paper. We believe that makes the selection guidelines very clear. As circulation is not relevant, only equal opportunity to access, then price would seem to be the only relevant issue for you to act in the best interest of the community.

The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel was the county paper of record in 2015. We were selected based on being the low bid. The Wet Mountain Tribune was the county paper of record in 2016. They were the low bid that year. Competition is a wonderful thing for county taxpayers. We are again the low bid for 2017. Since both papers meet the state requirements and guidelines it would seem prudent for you to continue the precedent of selecting the lowest bid in order to reduce the costs to the county. That is the fiscally responsible thing to do.

We do have one major concern. We request that Commissioner-Elect Jay Printz recuse himself from voting in January. Unlike our competitor’s unsubstantiated claims of prejudice from Mr. Shy, the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel was attacked in writing by Mr. Printz in 2014. His letter is attached. It contained bias, incorrect assumptions and untruthful comments. A few examples follow:

“The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is a pamphleteer of a political organization.”
Wrong!

“Circulation numbers reported by the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel are suspect...despite requests for substantiation, have never been produced. (SIC)”
Speculation and untrue. We were never asked by anyone for substantiation.

“To the best of my knowledge the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel has no paid employees and is run strictly by volunteers.”
Wrong and irrelevant. We have had paid employees since the first day.

“If the intent is to reach the widest readership...”
That is not the intent of the State.

“The Sangre de Cristo Sentinel is a political circular spreading its political agenda.”
Wrong and a biased opinion.

“The Sentinel is hardly a newspaper.”
Opinion and wrong. The Colorado Press Association validated our legitimate newspaper status.

Those comments clearly prove Mr. Printz is not capable of making a fair and impartial judgment in this case. We also believe he has represented Mr. Little as a practicing attorney and feel strongly he should recuse himself.

The citizens of this county deserve an equal opportunity to access the county’s paper of record and for the county to publish their required public and legal notices at the lowest cost possible to the taxpayers. The selection of the Sangre de Cristo Sentinel gives them both.

Sincerely,

J. Michael Hess
President, Editorial Board

Bobcats Sport Schedule

MS Girls Basketball Game AWAY v South Park
Departure time TBD
When: Fri, January 6, 2017, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Where: South Park

Elementary Basketball Program
When: Sat, January 7, 2017, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Where: EAST GYM

HS Boys & HS Girls Basketball AWAY v Sargent
Departure TBD
When: Fri, January 6, 2017, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Where: Sargent

HS Boys & HS Girls Basketball AWAY v South Park
Departure TBD
When: Sat, January 7, 2017, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Where: South Park

KIDS

Friday, December 30, 2016

New Year's Day Traditions

New Year’s Day is a national holiday celebrated on January 1st. People start celebrating on the eve, December 31st, to bring in the New Year with festivities and different traditions meant to bring luck, success and health in the coming year.

New Year’s is one of the oldest holidays still celebrated. Thousands of years ago in ancient Babylon it was celebrated as an eleven day festival on the first day of spring. At this time many cultures used the sun and moon cycles to decide the first day of the year. January 1st didn’t become the recognized first day of the year until Julius Caesar implemented the Julian calendar in 45 B.C. replacing the lunar Roman calendar.

Celebrations and traditions vary all over the world. Here in the United States people celebrate by gathering with food, toasting, noise makers, fireworks and counting down the final seconds till January 1st. Many also start out the New Year by making New Year’s resolutions. These resolutions are usually goals to improve one’s life. They may include losing weight and eating healthier, quitting smoking or starting an exercise regime.

At midnight most English-speaking countries sing Auld Lang Syne, a song that celebrates the year’s happy moments. It is an old Scottish tune literally meaning “old long ago” or “the good old days”.

There are some foods considered to bring luck if eaten on New Year’s; circular foods which symbolize cycles, black-eyed peas, or cabbage, just to name a few. In Spain they celebrate the New Year with eating 12 grapes, one at each stroke of midnight.

New Year’s is a time for reflection and new beginnings.

This New Year’s let’s take time, among all the hubbub, to reflect on what we can do in this next year for ourselves and others.

by Audrey Slater, Sources: wilstar.com, timeanddate.com

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel • Westcliffe, Colorado

Corner

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon His shoulder:
and His name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

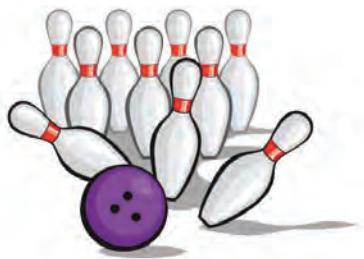
Isaiah 9:6 KJV

“Inside every progressive is a totalitarian screaming to get out.”

– David Horowitz

Local Mountain News & Notices

CCHS Sources of Strength to Host Bowling Night



Wednesday
January 4th at 7 p.m.

All CCHS students are invited to Cliff Lanes on Wednesday, January 4th for a night of Glow-Bowling sponsored by CCHS Sources of Strength. Cost of the bowling will be provided by Sources of Strength with Cliff Lanes providing free shoes. Snacks and drinks will also be provided. Event is from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. and open for all Custer County high school students.

December 15th BOCC Meeting

Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

—December 15, 2016

WESTCLIFFE, Colorado

by Jackie Bubis

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call. Introductions of the public in attendance followed.

The Board approved minutes of the December 6th and 7th meetings.

Congratulations went out to Undersheriff Barr for his successful approval for the Victim Advocate grant for \$10K.

Cindy Howard from the Office of Emergency Management commented that the Army Corps of Engineers would be coming in January to study infrastructure damage from the Junkins fire. There will also be public meetings regarding some of the roads still closed following the fire.

Commissioner Kattnig announced that he and the commissioners-elect are finished with their sit-downs with staff. He was pleased with how these went.

Commissioner Shy reported on the Fire Board meeting and the 911 Board meeting. The 911 Board has committed to \$12.5K for the dispatch center remodel. He announced that the 911 Board will likely be seeking a rate increase in the coming year from \$1.25 to \$1.75. There is also the possibility of the dispatch center becoming a separate entity which would work with all the emergency services in the county.

Attorney Smith reported that KLZR responded to his letter regarding them paying rent at the SAR building by asking for a meeting.

The Board went into executive session to consult with their attorney regarding the ongoing Hamilton case. No action was taken with the executive session but once back in public session, Smith discussed the three claims for relief and the status of the lawsuit. The Board passed a motion to keep County Road 390 as a county road. Smith is hoping this action will conclude the county's part of the Hamilton lawsuit.

The Board discussed John

Naylor's decision to step down officially as the county attorney. The new board in January will plan some way to acknowledge his many years of service.

Gail Stoltzfus tendered her resignation as the County Health Nurse effective January 13th, 2017.

The Community Assessment Development Strategy is available online for public comment at the CusterCountyGov.com website.

The Alpine Lodge liquor license renewal was approved.

A ballot drop box and camera purchase was discussed by the county clerk, who reported that this expense will be reimbursed at 90% up to \$5K.

The Custer County noxious Weed Advisory Board by-laws were approved.

A second executive session was held to discuss a personnel issue. No action was taken when the commissioners returned to public meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



The left's game plan has always been to create through their own dastardly actions a dire situation, such as mass mental illness, unemployment, degradation of values ethics, values and morality; which in turn and by design creates a very predictable negative reaction, such as mass gun shootings; all for the purpose of removing your rights in the name of protecting you from yourself. Just look at the list of liberals that have attempted and or carried out political or mass shootings. And the liberal's response is NOT to punish them but to take away your gun in an emotional plea rather than a logical argument. For if you use logic over emotions, you will lean right. If you are ruled by your emotions and a therefore lack of logic, you'll lean left.

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Events Calendar

December 23 - January 8
No School - Christmas Break

Friday December 30, 9 a.m.
BOCC Meeting
Boardroom

Monday, January 2
Courthouse Closed

Wednesday January 4th 5:50 p.m.
Westcliffe Town Hall Meeting

THE JONES THEATER
Reopening on January 6
Friday and Saturday, January 6 and 7,
at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 8, at 2 p.m.
"Collateral Beauty"
Drama | PG 13

Wednesday January 11, 1 p.m.
Adult Reading Program Registration &
"Big Doings in the Deep" Presentation.
West Custer Library

Wed, January 11, 2017, 4:05pm – 5:30pm
Girl Scout meeting
School Library

Friday and Saturday, January 13 and 14,
at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 15, at 2 p.m.
"Allied"
Action, Drama, Romance | R
At the JONES THEATER

Tuesday, January 10, 9 a.m.
BOCC Meeting
Boardroom

Recurring Events

Monday

6 - 7 p.m. Closed Step Study Alcoholics Anonymous at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe.
Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Emily at (719) 371-5974.

3rd Monday

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

12 – 4:30 p.m. Bridge Club meets in the Library Community Room in downtown Westcliffe.
6 p.m. Bible Study at Wild West Cowboy Church. Call 719-783-2676.

1st Tuesday of the Month

6:30 p.m. at Cliff Lanes
American Legion Post 170 monthly meeting.
6:45 p.m. Post 170 Auxiliary monthly meeting (March – October) at the Saddle Club.

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Line dancers meet at the Methodist Church. Call Clem at (303) 909-7370.
6-7 p.m. Closed Big Book Study Alcoholics Anonymous at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Emily at (719) 371-5974.
6:30 p.m. Men's and Women's Bible Study. First Baptist Church of Westcliffe Call 719-783-2498.

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

2nd and 4th Wednesdays

3 p.m. Scrabble Group West Custer County Library.

Last Wednesday of the Month

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

Thursday

Second Thursday of the Month

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

Friday

6 - 7 p.m. Open Discussion Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Call Jim at 783-2053 or (360) 509-9172 or Emily at (719) 371-5974.
7 - 8 p.m. Bible Talks with Domenic Enrietta and John Hartig. At the Library Community Room. All welcome. No charge.

Third Friday of the Month

Camp Happiness for 0-6 yrs old.
1-2:20 p.m. at West Custer Library.

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.
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 have a few spares.

3rd Saturday of Month

9 a.m. VFW meeting at Cliff Lanes
Conference Room for more info call Commander Randy Knight 783-9340.

Services

Club America
50 E. Main Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252
(719) 783-0750

Custer County Senior Center
612 Main St.
Silver Cliff, CO 81252
(719) 783-9508
Lunch; Mon., Tues. & Thur. at Noon. RSVP by 9:30 a.m.

Custer County Community Sharing Center Inc.
120 N. 3rd St.
Westcliffe, CO 81252
(719) 783-3303
Fri.- Sat. 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
* Holiday Hours below

Lighthouse Pregnancy Resources
417 Cliff Street
Silver Cliff, CO 81252
(719) 783-4357
Mon. and Thur. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Fri. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
West Custer County Library
209 Main Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
(719) 783-9138
Tue. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wet Mt. Rotary Van Service
For transportation needs,
contact Van Dispatch
(719) 783-2343
Mon. – Fri. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**The Custer County
Community Sharing Center Holiday Schedule**
Open Friday, December 30th from noon to 5 p.m.
Closed Saturday, December 31st.

Local Mountain News & Notices

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Detention Deputy
Starting Salary: 12.00 (Min) to 17.00 (Max)
Applications always accepted.
Applications available at 702 Rosita Ave, Westcliffe, CO 81252 or send an email to: cbarr@custercountygov.com
Applications can be emailed.
Detention Deputy Job Description
A Detention Deputy with the Custer County Sheriffs Office has many duties. A

deputy for this office is responsible for the adhering to Statutory Requirements, supervises activities of offenders of an assigned unit, coordinates the handling of high risk, complex, or sensitive incidents or cases. Performs the full range of duties of detention deputies, such as offender management, booking, drug screening, intervening in disputes, cleaning and organizing detention areas, safety security of jail operations, writing reports, preparing legal paperwork and victim notification. Performs general jail operations such as cooking, cleaning and organization of jail, collection of fees, computer entry in record management system supervision of offenders in court, and transporting offenders to court and to medical appointments. A detention deputy for this agency will be expected to arrive to work on time, work shift work, work holidays, work assigned shifts, occasionally work overtime and maintain a pleasant atmosphere for the citizens and staff they are in contact with. This office is an emergency service agency and lunch breaks are a paid working lunch and at times you may be expected to work through your lunch break. A detention deputy is required to stay alert to their surroundings and ready to respond to situations within a jail

setting.
Full Custer County Benefits are included in this job opening. These benefits include medical insurance, sick time accrual, vacation accrual and retirement.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Town of Westcliffe Snow Removal Ordinance

Attention: home or business owner, tenant or agent:

This is a reminder that with the passage of Ordinance 1-2009 in Title 5, Chapter 4 the responsibility of removing snow, ice, or debris from the public sidewalks abutting your property is yours.

The Ordinance states that the full width of the sidewalk must be cleared from property line to property line and should be done by 12:00 noon on the day following the accumulation, whether by snowfall or by wind. Please note that if the sidewalk extends from your property line to the curb that you may put the snow in the street in a manner that is the least disruptive to traffic and parking and the Town will remove it. A fine of not more than \$50.00 will be imposed for failure to comply, in addition to the actual cost of having the snow etc. removed. If the fines and removal costs are not paid, they can become a perpetual property lien, collectible as an addition to your property taxes.

The intent of this Ordinance is the promotion of safety for the citizens and visitors, not to penalize. If you are an absentee landowner, please make arrangements to have your sidewalk cleared.

Together we can make the town a lot safer for all. To those who have already undertaken this civic responsibility THANK YOU. If you have any questions please call Mike Carter at 783-2282.

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**And no creature is hidden from his sight,
but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of
Him to whom we must give account.**

Hebrews 4:13 ESV

Local Mountain News & Notices

Elected Officials Contact Information U.S. Congressmen

Scott Tipton, U.S. Congressman Email message go to https://tipton.house.gov/contact-me Washington, D.C. Office 218 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-4761 Fax: (202) 226-9669 Pueblo Office 503 N. Main Street, Suite 658 Pueblo, CO 81003 Phone: (719) 542-1073 Fax: (719) 542-1127	Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-5852 Fax: 202-228-5097 Arkansas Valley Office 129 West B Street Pueblo, CO 81003 Phone: 719-542-7550
Michael Bennet, U.S. Senator Email message go to https://www.bennet.senate.gov/?p=contact Washington D.C. 261 Russell Senate Office Building	Cory Gardner, U.S. Senator Email message go to https://www.gardner.senate.gov/contact-cory/email-cory Washington, D.C. 354 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 P: (202) 224-5941 F: (202) 224-6524 Pueblo Office 503 N. Main St., Ste. 426 Pueblo, CO 81003 P: (719) 543-1324 F: (202) 228-7174

State Elected Officials

Governor Hickenlooper Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper 136 State Capitol Bldg. Denver, CO 80203-1792 Fax:(303)866-2003 Tel:(303)866-2471 email: Governor.hickenlooper@state.co.us web: http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/governor_office.html	Jim Wilson District 60, CO Representative Office Location: 200 East Colfax Denver, CO 80203 Capitol Phone: 303-866-2747 E-Mail: james.wilson.house@state.co.us
Larry Crowder, CO State Senator Contact Senator Larry Crowder Website: www.Crowder2012.com Email: larry.crowder.senate@state.co.us Phone: (303) 866-4875	

Sheriff's Report...

On the dates below, there were 144 calls for service to the Sheriff's Office, 11 to EMS and 8 to the Fire Department.

As of December 21st, there were 3 males and 3 females in the county jail.

Between 12/20/16 and 12/26/16 there were the following calls for service:

12/20/16:

Traffic Summons: Donna Newell of Cotopaxi for speeding 10 - 19 over.

Accident: EMS, the Wet Mountain Fire Department, and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on CR 255, MM 9.9. EMS processed a refusal to transport.

Harassment: A deputy with a party in the lobby of the Sheriff's office who wished to file a harassment complaint.

Fire: EMS, the Wet Mountain Fire Department, and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to a structure fire on CR 255, MM 8.9. 12/21/16:

Arrests: Joshua Roden was arrested on a warrant out of Alabama, and booked into the Custer County Jail.

Jeannie Morton of Rockdale, TX, was arrested for

DUI and booked into the Custer County Jail.

Fire: The Wet Mountain Fire Department, Custer County EMS and a deputy responded to a residence on CR 255 for a report of a fire. This was a flare up from the fire earlier in the evening. Crews also responded to this, two additional times throughout the day.

Bad Checks: An individual came into the Sheriff's Office lobby and a deputy took a report on checks that were written to a local business.

Traffic Summons: Teresa Watkins for speeding 10 - 19 over.

12/23/16:

Traffic Summons: Nathan Kuntz of Westcliffe for speeding 20 - 24 over and for driving without a valid license.

Jessica Hill of Silver Cliff for speeding 10- 19 over.

Ann Gilbert of Westcliffe for speeding 10 - 19 over.

Abandoned Vehicle: A deputy checked on an abandoned vehicle on Highway 96, and returned later to issue an abandoned vehicle notice.

Flight for Life: Custer EMS responded to a walk-in at their facility. Deputies, Wet Mountain Fire

Department and Flight for Life met the ambulance on Highway 96 and transported an individual to the hospital.

Suicidal Party: Deputies and Custer EMS responded to a report of a suicidal party on Shy Court. No transport was needed. No action required.

12/24/16:

Elk: A deputy was dispatched to Highway 69N, MM 68, regarding an elk tangled up in barb wire.

Mischief: A deputy was dispatched to CR 396 in Wetmore to investigate a report of criminal mischief.

Menacing: Deputies were dispatched to CR 271 in response to a report of possible menacing.

12/25/16:

Rollover: EMS, the Wetmore Fire Department, and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to a single rollover accident on Highway 96, MM 20.5.

Slide Off: A deputy stopped for a single vehicle slide off on Highway 69N in the area of Copper Gulch Road.

Car Fire: The Wet Mountain Fire Department and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to a car fire on CR 124.



Downed Poles: The Wet Mountain Fire Department was dispatched to CR 129 regarding a report of several downed utility poles.

12/26/16:

Downed Pole: The Wetmore Fire Department and a Sheriff's deputy were dispatched to CR 390 in Wetmore for a downed power line.

Hit and Run: A deputy was dispatched to CR 215 for a hit and run accident. Raelynn Reno of Silver Cliff was issued a summons for careless driving.

Arrest: Patrick Cessnun of Silver Cliff was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of Otero County.

Fire: The Wet Mountain Fire Department was dispatched to a dumpster fire on CR 125.

Disturbance: A deputy was dispatched to a merchant on Main Street in Westcliffe to meet a party who was involved in a verbal disturbance on Ute Mesa Trail.

Threat: A deputy was dispatched to a merchant on Highway 69S regarding a patron who threatened a store clerk.

Eateries

Alpine Lodge 6848 CR 140•Westcliffe 719-783-2660 Wed. - Sunday 5 - 8 p.m. Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Reservations recommended	Letter Drop Inn Closed for Winter
Badger Clan Café S 2nd St. •Westcliffe Mon.-Sun 5:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. 719-783-2507	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
Belle's Diner A Family Restaurant Closed for Winter	Sangrita Closed for Winter
Candy's Coffee 106 S. 2nd St. • Westcliffe 719-783-9516 Mon. - Sat, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	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.
Chappy's Bar & Grill 213 Main St. Westcliffe 719-783-0813 Mon-Thursday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday 11 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Sugar & Spice Mtn. Bakery 411 Main St. B • Westcliffe 719-783-4045 Tues. - Fri., 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat., 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Hwy 96 Road House 404 Main St. Silver Cliff 719-783-3331 Sun - Thurs 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Fri - Sat 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.	Tony's Mountain Pizza 630 Main St. • Silver Cliff 719-783-9300 Mon.- Tues, 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Wed.. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sundays, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Rancher's Roost at Cliff Lanes 25 Main St. • Westcliffe 719-783-2147 Mon. - Sun, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday 9 p.m. - 3p.m.	



Christian Science 9:30 a.m. Worship 8 Bassick Place Westcliffe	Cotopaxi Community Church 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Wedn. Bible Study 20326 Hwy. 50 Cotopaxi 719/315-6339
Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Worship Wedn. 6:00 p.m. Worship 818 Ohio Street Silver Cliff 719/783-4601	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
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg. 12:10 p.m. Sunday School 240 Ridgeline Drive Westcliffe 719/404-4585	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
Community United Methodist Church 8 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Worship 202 S. 6th Street Westcliffe 719/783-2511	Huerfano Community Bible Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 7 p.m.: Thursday Bible Study 603 Leon Street Walsenburg (719) 251-9053
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	Hope Lutheran Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Worship 3rd & Powell Streets Westcliffe 719/783-9773

Come and Worship



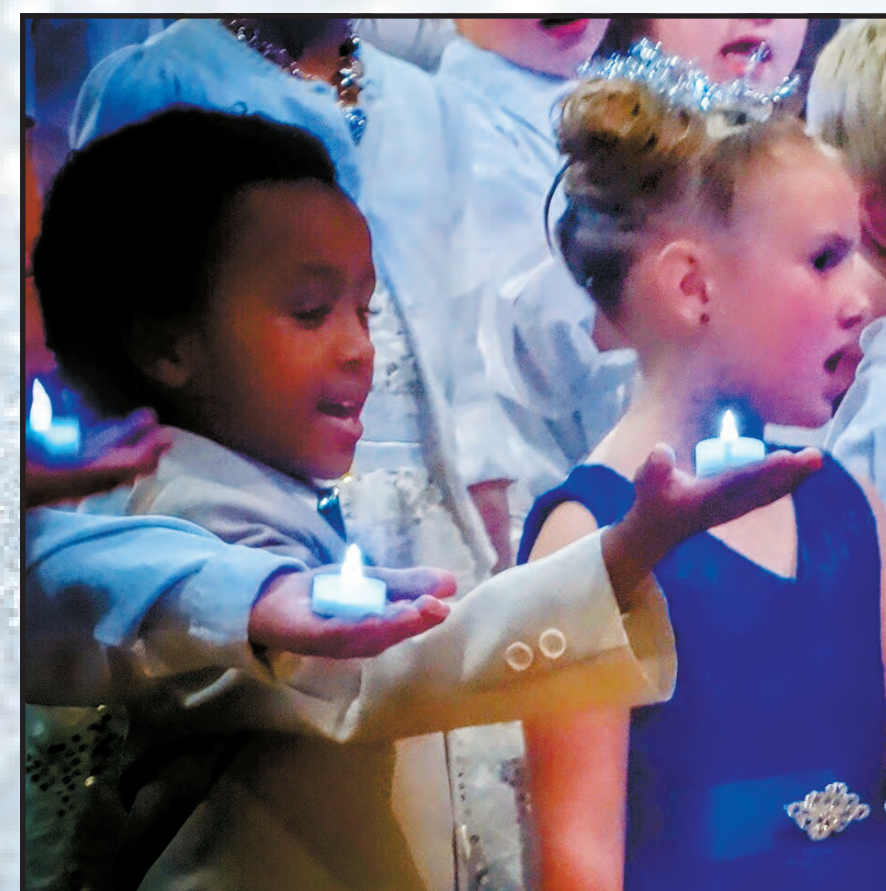
Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Pueblo 11 a.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. Wednesday Mass 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. Wedn. Adoration 109 S. 5th Street Westcliffe 719/783-3507	Sacred Heart Catholic Church Diocese of Pueblo Saturday Mass 4:00 p.m. Highway 69, Gardner
Our Lady of Mt. Zion Catholic Church 11 a.m. Mass, 3rd Sunday of month 210 S. 2nd Street Westcliffe 719/783-2491	Valley Bible Fellowship 10 a.m. Worship 116 Hermit Lane Silver Cliff 719/783-9050
St. Luke's Episcopal Church 10:30 a.m. Worship & Eucharist 11:30 a.m. Fellowship 3rd & Rosita Streets Westcliffe 719/783-2477	Westcliffe Community Church 10 a.m. Worship 103 N. Adams St. Westcliffe 719/783-2545
St. Patrick's Anglican Church 11 a.m. Worship 401 South Second Street Westcliffe 719/783-2500	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
Sangre de Cristo Fellowship Sundays, 10 a.m. Meet and Greet Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Service 120 Jerry Court Westcliffe 719/783-0903	Wetmore Community Church 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 699 County Rd. 395 Wetmore 719/784-0596
Sangre de Cristo Seminary Chapel 10 a.m. Worship 6160 County Rd. 130 Westcliffe 719/783-2447	Wild West Cowboy Church 4 p.m. Worship Followed by Potluck Tuesdays 6 p.m.: Bible Study 60260 Hwy. 69 North Westcliffe 719/783-2676

Middle School Girls and Boys Basketball Future Bobcats Are Looking Good!



Sentinel photos by Jenn Russ. Layout by Barbara Napolitan.

Elementary School Christmas Program



Immigration

by The Zman

If you had asked me about immigration 30 years ago, I would have shrugged and said it was a good thing for the country. My family, like most everyone I knew, came over from the old country. It was not until I reached adulthood, living in New England, that I became aware of people who traced their roots to the colonial times. Even so, I was trained in the American mythology about a nation of immigrants, so I just assumed immigration was mostly a good thing, when I bothered to think about it, which was not often.

It was only after I came to know recent migrants that I started changing my mind about the topic. The people, who had recently gone through the system, had very different ideas about it than Americans born here. More important, they had no illusions about the state of the population in the old country. Talk to recent migrants and they will be happy to tell you that most of the people they left behind should stay over there. The recent migrants left the old country for a reason.

This came to mind the other day when I sat listening to a Turk and an Indian discuss immigration. Both were Trump people exclusively on the immigration issue. Both had come to America the old fashioned way – legally. The Turk was a Coptic Christian. He left for America thirty years ago as a young man, figuring there was no future for Christians in Turkey. The Indian had come here on a student visa, got a job, fell in love with America and decided to stay. In both cases, it took ten years to gain citizenship.

One of the things you learn from immigrants, when it comes to the immigration issue, is they place a high value on citizenship. That's because they spent a lot to get it. Acquiring citizenship was a transaction for them, not an accident of birth. The Turk in this story left his home, and all that he knew, because he correctly saw where things were heading in Turkey. He was a guy that sold all his stuff, bought as many black chips as he could afford, and pushed them into the middle of the table.

The other thing immigrants know is that America is a lonely place. Europe, for example, is full of old cities and villages where people grow up in the shadow of ancestors. There's no fresh start in a place like that. Every man is just a dot on the timeline started by people long ago. In other parts of the world, there's the shadow of history and the entanglements of tribe and clan. In a place like India, the obligations to family and custom are more limiting than anything government can conjure.

In America, immigrants are free to start their own timeline. The past is no longer a set of boundaries on them. Just as important, they are free of the family and tribal restrictions. The Turk in this story married a Greek woman, who was also an immigrant. The Indian went into a career that does not exist in India and even if it did, his family would not have approved. You can do those things where it is just you, striking out on your own. That's the attraction of America. It's a blank canvas for immigrants.

None of this means we should fling open our borders and let the world move to America. In fact, it is quite the opposite. Borders and barriers are a filtering mechanism that helps tamp down the number of bad migrants a country gets. If the Germans had been more scrupulous, for example, they would not have murderous Muslims rampaging through their streets right now. Europe is headed for a very dark time solely due to their rulers forgetting that good borders make for good citizens.

America should be learning from this. We have no shortage of workers and we no longer have vast tracks of unexploited land. We could have zero immigration and no jobs would go unfilled. There's also the cultural aspect. We have had high levels of immigration for half a century, but low levels of assimilation. Even if there is an economic argument for more migrants, and there isn't, it is far outweighed by the cultural arguments. It will take many generations to absorb the current migrants.

Even so, low levels of legal immigration are probably a good thing. The people willing to go through all the steps it takes to migrate legally are going to be people who scrupulously observe the law. They are not coming here just to screw it all up for everyone including themselves. Recent legal immigrants tend to be hyper-patriotic for that reason. They take nothing for granted because they had to earn their citizenship. Their presence is a healthy reminder that citizenship has value.

That's ultimately the truth about the open borders crowd. They place no value on citizenship. That's because they put no value on people. To the open borders enthusiasts, humans are just undifferentiated raw material, inputs they can manipulate. Whether the material comes from home or abroad is irrelevant because everything normal people associate with being human is of no concern to the managerial types. They see people the way normal people look at furniture.

Please see: thezman.com/wordpress/?p=9215

Hypocrisy Alert! Obama Gives Thumbs Up to Kill Eagles

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

On Obama's hit list.

The hypocrisy of the Obama administration has just broken through the ceiling.

Among the torrent of late-night regulations his people are releasing to ostensibly save the planet before Obama turns the White House keys over to Trump, is a new rule to kill thousands of American bald eagles.

Up to 4,200 of these protected birds had their death warrants signed Wednesday by the Interior Department, which says it's okay to kill them, but only if it's in the name of alternative energy, namely wind turbines.

The spin is laughable double-talk.

The new rule will conserve eagles while also spurring development



Bald eagle.

Courtesy of ColoradoPeaks Politics.com

of a pollution-free energy source intended to ease global warming, a cornerstone of President Barack Obama's energy plan, said Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe.

Good News From TV Land

by The Zman

The news brings word that Hollywood is planning to "reboot" some hit TV series from the olden thymes. Shows like "All In The Family", "The Jeffersons" and "Good Times" are on the drawing board for new versions. Presumably there is a market for 1970's nostalgia, although the people old enough to remember those days are getting long in the tooth. If you were an adult in the heyday of these shows, you're past 60 now. Perhaps the children or grandchildren of these people suddenly have a taste for these old programs.

Or, maybe it is time to retcon the 1970's.

The idea currently being discussed by Lear and Sony executives would be to have new actors recreate classic episodes of the shows, working from the original scripts, and package them as short, six-episode anthologies. The scripts would be treated similar to plays being mounted in new productions.

"There is some talk about doing some of the original shows, redoing them with today's stars," Lear told Variety. "There is a possibility that we'll do 'All in the Family,' 'Maude,' 'The Jeffersons,' 'Good Times.'"

Discussions about remaking more of Lear's catalogue come as Sony gears up for the premiere of the new "One Day at a Time," which re-imagines Lear's '80s sitcom about a single mother raising two children. The new series, which premieres on Netflix January 6th, focuses on a Latino family with a female Army veteran at its center.

It's not hard to imagine how this will go. "All In The Family" will feature a mixed race family, where the patriarch is a transgender white man. Gloria will be a gay male and Meathead will be a gender fluid lesbian, who enjoys lifting weights. "The Jeffersons" will be the same show, but not funny, because nothing has changed for black people since the '70's and that's not funny. "Good Times" will have Amy Schumer and Seth Rogan forced to live in a tenement owned by Donald Trump and managed by Richard Spencer.

The truth is, those descriptions are far too conservative. People who watch a lot of television probably just filter out the endless proselytizing, but that's pretty much all TV is these days. It is an endless stream of agit-prop. The mere fact that Amy Schumer can get work on television says the people in charge hate their customers. According to the ads, there is a show called Samantha Bee, where a middle-aged prude screeches at a camera for an hour every night. Why would anyone make such a show?

The sudden interest in the 70's by the crazy liberals who run Hollywood could simply be a bit of cosmic humor. The last great Progressive Awakening started in the early 1960's and burned itself out by the middle of the 1970's. Even though Jimmy Carter is remembered as a dreary liberal, he was not a darling of the Left in 1976. By that point it was clear that the Progressives were spent and it was just a question as to when the normal adults would regain control and begin cleaning up the mess left by the Progressive lunatics.

Today, we are at a similar spot. Hillary Clinton was the only per-

How will it conserve eagles? By not killing all 143,000 of them.

Additionally, the new rules allows wind turbines to keep on killing as many golden eagles as it does, about 500 a year.

Meanwhile in Colorado, we can't even develop energy because it might disturb the habitat of a sage grouse.

So while Democrats are rallying against Trump's picks for the EPA, Interior and Energy Department claiming they will harm endangered species to develop energy, allow ranching or development, they should look in the mirror.

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Please see: <http://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/12/16/hypocrisy-alert-obama-gives-thumps-up-to-kill-eagles/>

son the Left had as an option. Progressives have burned themselves out to the point where it is a movement run by broken down old geezers. Just as TV in the 70's was full of preachy liberals when the country was increasingly tired of preachy liberals, the current year will be filled with despairing moonbats railing about the current year. Recycling the great liberal hits of the last period of Progressive decline is a logical starting point.

The big difference is the current year has cable, streaming and cord cutting. The Progressive proselytizers in Hollywood cannot rely on a captive audience. For example, the endless ads for the Samantha Bee show suggest no one watches it. Why else run all of those ads? A quick search reveals that her program gets a peak of 700,000 viewers, which would have got it canceled immediately in the 1970's, but today's subsidies from the cable monopolies keep these fringe shows on the air, mostly as vanity projects.

All of this should be viewed as good news for normal people. The fever appears to have broken and we are heading into a period where the normal adults take over from the nutters. The Progs will be left to proselytizing to an increasingly disinterested audience on TV. Unlike the 70's, where we had to sit through liberal crap on television, we can now watch whatever they call the new Top Gear on Amazon or something on Netflix. We are, with regards to our video entertainments, spoiled for choice. That's ultimately the best antidote to Progressive lunacy – choice.

Please see: <http://thezman.com/wordpress/>

The War on Cash: Why Now?

by Charles Hugh Smith,
The Mises Institute

You’ve probably read that there is a “war on cash” being waged on various fronts around the world. What exactly does a “war on cash” mean?

It means governments are limiting the use of cash and a variety of official-mouthpiece economists are calling for the outright abolition of cash. Authorities are both restricting the amount of cash that can be withdrawn from banks, and limiting what can be purchased with cash.

These limits are broadly called “capital controls.”

Why Now?

Before we get to that, let’s distinguish between physical cash — currency and coins in your possession — and digital cash in the bank. The difference is self-evident: cash in hand cannot be confiscated by a “bail-in” (i.e., officially sanctioned theft) in which the government or bank expropriates a percentage of cash deposited in the bank. Cash in hand cannot be chipped away by negative interest rates or fees.

Cash in the bank cannot be withdrawn in a financial emergency that shuts the banks (i.e., a bank holiday).

When pundits suggest cash is “obsolete,” they mean physical paper money and coins, not cash in a bank. Cash in the bank is perfectly fine with the government and its well-paid yes-men because this cash can be expropriated by either “bail-ins” or by negative interest rates.

Inflation and Negative Interest Rates

Mr. Buiter, for example, recently opined that the spot of both in 2008–09 (the Global Financial Meltdown) could have been avoided if banks had only charged a 6 percent negative interest rate on cash: in effect, taking 6 percent of the depositor’s cash to force everyone to spend what cash they might have.

Both cash in hand and cash in

the bank are subject to one favored method of expropriation, inflation. Inflation — the single most cherished goal of every central bank — steals purchasing power from physical cash and digital cash alike. Inflation punishes holders of cash and benefits those with debt, as debt becomes cheaper to service.

The beneficial effect of inflation on debt has been in play for decades, so it can’t be the cause of governments’ recent interest in eliminating physical cash.

So now we return to the question: Why are governments suddenly declaring war on physical cash, the oldest officially issued form of money?

Why They Hate Cash in Hand

The first reason: physical cash has the potential to evade both taxes as well as officially sanctioned theft via bail-ins and negative interest rates. In short, physical cash is extremely difficult for governments to steal.

Some of you may find the word theft harsh or even offensive. But we must differentiate between taxes — which are levied to pay for the state’s programs that in principle benefit all citizens — and bail-ins, i.e., the taking of depositors’ cash to bail out banks that became insolvent through the actions of the banks’ management, not the actions of depositors.

Bail-ins are theft, pure and simple. Since the government enforces the taking, it is officially sanctioned theft, but theft nonetheless.

Negative interest rates are another form of officially sanctioned theft. In a world without the financial repression of zero-interest rates (ZIRP — central banks’ most beloved policy), lenders would charge borrowers enough interest to pay depositors for the use of their cash and earn the lender a profit.

If borrowers are paying interest, negative interest rates are theft, pure and simple.

Why are governments sudden-

ly so keen to ban physical cash? The answer appears to be that the banks and government authorities are anticipating bail-ins, steeply negative interest rates and hefty fees on cash, and they want to close any opening regular depositors might have to escape these forms of officially sanctioned theft. The escape mechanism from bail-ins and fees on cash deposits is physical cash, and hence the sudden flurry of calls to eliminate cash as a relic of a bygone age — that is, an age when commoners had some way to safeguard their money from bail-ins and bankers’ control.

Forcing Those With Cash To Spend or Gamble Their Cash

Negative interest rates (and fees on cash, which are equivalently punitive to savers) raise another question: why are governments suddenly obsessed with forcing owners of cash to either spend it or gamble it in the financial-market casinos?

The conventional answer voiced by Mr. Buiter is that recession and credit contraction result from households and enterprises hoarding cash instead of spending it. The solution to recession is thus to force all those stingy cash hoarders to spend their money.

There are three enormous flaws in this thinking.

One is that households and businesses have cash to hoard. The reality is the bottom 90 percent of households have less income now than they did fifteen years ago, which means their spending has declined not from hoarding but from *declining income*.

While corporate America has basked in the glory of sharply rising profits, small business has not prospered in the same fashion. Indeed, by some measures, small business has been in a six-year recession.

The bottom 90 percent has less income and faces higher living expenses, so only the top slice of households has any substantial cash. This top slice may see few safe opportunities to invest their savings, so they choose to keep

their savings in cash rather than gamble it in a rigged casino (i.e., the stock market).

The second flaw is that hoarding cash is the only rational, prudent response in an era of financial repression and economic insecurity. What central banks are demanding — that we spend every penny of our earnings rather than save some for investments we control or emergencies — is counter to our best interests.

A War on Cash Is a War on Capital

This leads to the third flaw: capital — which begins its life as savings — is the foundation of capitalism. If you attack savings as a scourge, you are attacking capitalism and upward mobility, for only those who save capital can invest it to build wealth. By attacking cash, the central banks and governments are attacking capital and upward mobility.

Those who already own the majority of productive assets are able to borrow essentially unlimited sums at near-zero interest rates, which they can use to buy more productive assets. Everyone else — the bottom 99.5 percent — is reduced to consumer-serfdom: you are not supposed to accumulate productive capital, you are supposed to spend every penny you earn on interest payments, goods, and services.

This inversion of capitalism dooms an economy to all the ills we are experiencing in abundance: rising income inequality, reduced opportunities for entrepreneurship, rising debt burdens, and a short-term perspective that voids the longer-term planning required to build sustainable productivity and wealth.

Physical Cash: Only \$1.36 Trillion

According to the Federal Reserve, total outstanding physical cash amounts to \$1.36 trillion.

Given that a substantial amount of this cash is held overseas, physical cash is a tiny part of the domestic economy and the nation’s total assets. For context:

the US economy is \$17.5 trillion, total financial assets of households and nonprofit organizations total \$68 trillion, base money is around \$4 trillion, and total money (currency in circulation and demand deposits) is over \$10 trillion (source).

Given the relatively modest quantity of physical cash, claims that eliminating it will boost the economy ring hollow.

Following the principle of *cui bono* — to whose benefit? — let’s ask: What are the benefits of eliminating physical cash to banks and the government?

Benefits To Banks and the Government of Eliminating Physical Cash

The benefits to banks and governments by eliminating cash are self-evident:

- 1 Every financial transaction can be taxed.
- 2 Every financial transaction can be charged a fee.
- 3 Bank runs are eliminated.

In fractional reserve systems such as ours, banks are only required to hold a fraction of their assets in cash. Thus a bank might only have 1 percent of its assets in cash. If customers fear the bank might be insolvent, they crowd the bank and demand their deposits in physical cash. The bank quickly runs out of physical cash and closes its doors, further fueling a panic.

The federal government began insuring deposits after the Great Depression triggered the collapse of hundreds of banks, and that guarantee limited bank runs, as depositors no longer needed to fear a bank closing would mean their money on deposit was lost.

But since people could conceivably sense a disturbance in the Financial Force and decide to turn digital cash into physical cash as a precaution, eliminating physical cash also eliminates the possibility of bank runs, as there will be no form of cash that isn’t controlled by banks.

Please see: <https://mises.org/library/war-cash-why-now>

820,000 Criminal Illegal Aliens In the US!!!

by The Center for Immigration Studies

Only 820,000 Criminal Aliens. I guess we don’t have to worry about criminal aliens in the U.S. any more. There are, and I quote a report from the Urban Institute:

“Some estimates say that there are only 820,000 undocumented immigrants with criminal records in the country.” (Emphasis added)

Those cheerful souls at UI

were arguing against the concept that the number might be higher, and noted that some of the 820,000 “have likely committed relatively minor crimes.”

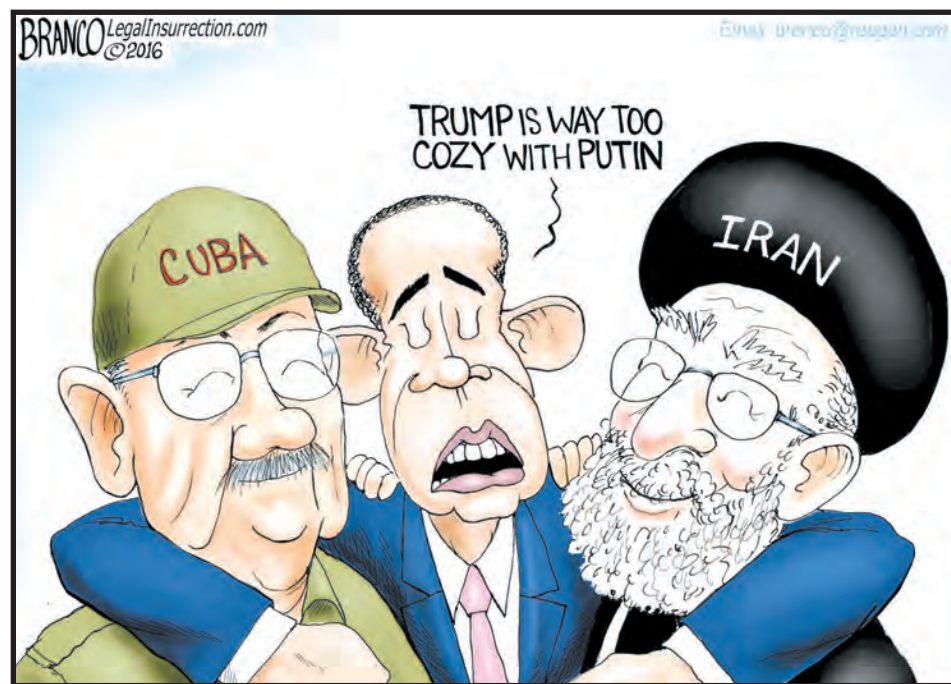
They missed the point, I guess, that an illegal alien with a shoplifting record, for example, is an illegal alien who does not belong here in the first place.

The total, 820,000, incidentally, is more than the population of each of four of our states: North Dakota, Alaska, Vermont, and

Wyoming. In short, a very large number indeed.

(Editor/GG: The report also stated that 690,000 of these criminal illegals had committed a felony or serious misdemeanor!!! And this is getting worse EVERY DAY as these illegals flood our country because of “open borders” libs and RINO’s. Donald, build the wall NOW and deport these low-lives.)

Please see: <http://cis.org/north/goulash-immigration-policy-tidbits>





The Second Amendment Corner Liberty's Line in the Sand



"Blessed be the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—"

A Psalm of David, Psalm 144:1

California: "All-Out Semi-Auto Long Rifle Ban" Is Coming



by Jenn Jacques, BearingArms.com

Recently, Gun Owners of California's (GOC) Executive Director Sam Paredes had a frank conversation with Breitbart's AWR Hawkins, and told him to buckle up for an all-out ban on semi-automatic long guns in the coming legislative session.

According to Paredes, the "assault weapons" and bullet button bans passed in 2016 were only a stepping stone toward California lawmakers' real goal of banning all semi-automatic rifles.

"These laws are the tip of the iceberg here in California. We expect they are going to introduce legislation to totally ban semi-automatic long guns in California. They will do this because they know we will come up with a new way to beat their latest ban—the 'bullet button' ban—if given time."

"They had a bill for this last year that we were able to kill. We think they will bring it up again and they will also introduce legislation to put in place a one-gun-per-month of any kind purchase limit. This limit will apply whether it's a handgun or a long gun, in order to try to slow down the sales of guns in California."

Since California already uses a universal background check system, all the new bans, rules and regulations Parades is referring to will only apply to the law-abiding citizens who purchase firearms legally, not the criminals who continue to obtain guns by stealing them or paying cash on the street or the black market.

Please see: <http://bearingarms.com/jenn-j/2016/12/22/california-insider-says-all-out-semi-auto-ban-is-coming/>

Gun Hater Propaganda Movie Bombs at Box Office

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

Miss Sloane was supposed to be an effective gun hater propaganda masterpiece. It should have been considering the money spent on it.

The production budget for *Miss Sloane* is reported at 18 million, with one of the top advertising budgets for movies, ever, of 15.9 million. Total box office, so far is just short of 3.2 million. It seems likely to be a major loser. Prospects for video sales look dim.

I did not see the movie. The ads and the premise were obviously a propaganda attempt, directly at odds with reality. That prompted me to avoid it. I refused to send them money. If I am to watch fantasy, let it be uplifting, fun and exciting. The latest "Star Wars" fantasy epic spent about the same amount on advertising. Box office receipts have been 50 times greater. I saw the "Star Wars" effort, *Rogue One*. It had some nice positive images for an armed population.

A conservative contributor at freerepublic.com



took the effort to see *Miss Sloane*. Here is his response. From freerepublic.com:

"No one wants to see a propaganda movie."

True, yet Miss Sloan, which I have seen, is astoundingly bad, even for a piece of Hollywood propaganda. The movie The Contender, which came out about 15 years ago, was reviewed by Elle magazine as having been "...written to elicit screening room ovations by Rob Reiner." Indeed, that movie was transparently leftist propaganda. However, The Contender also was well written, well-acted, and well-paced. I enjoyed watching it, even as I hooted at its obvious agenda. Miss Sloan, in contrast, is a snooze, lacking anything believable in the way of characters or

dialogue. To tell you how incredible (in the literal sense of the word) the plot is, the Washington Post panned not only the movie, but the gun control legislation proposed in the movie, arguing — again, this is the WashPost — that the legislation was largely already in place and, anyway, would not have prevented any of the recent mass shootings. THAT should tell you just how bad Miss Sloan is, even for a piece of Hollywood propaganda...and that, folks, is saying something!

If you are one of the many gun culture people who refused to see this propaganda fantasy, rejoice. Your choice was completely vindicated. In the last couple of days, 21-22 December, per theater revenues were \$14 and \$16. There were lots of empty

seats in those theaters!

The gun haters made their usual mistake. They thought image and propaganda could beat reality. They were wrong. Be glad that gun haters wasted about 30 million dollars to no effect. It is 30 million that is not available to be spent on misleading anti-Second Amendment initiatives, the one place where billionaires have been able to buy some temporary victories for the gun haters.

The purpose of *Miss Sloane* was to give a boost to Hillary Clinton's attempts to pass more infringements on the Second Amendment early in her presidency. Just like the box office, that idea bombed.

Merry Christmas! *Miss Sloane* gives all Second Amendment supporters a nice gift for 2016!

©2016 by Dean Weingarten: Permission to share is granted when this notice and link are included. Please see: <http://gunwatch.blogspot.com/2016/12/gun-hater-propaganda-movie-bombs-at-box.html>

Hot New Additions to Ruger's Mark IV Pistol Line

Press Release

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. (NYSE-RGR) is adding three new models to the growing Ruger® Mark IV™ family of rimfire pistols. Ruger has long set the standard for reliable, affordable and accurate .22 LR handguns, beginning with the introduction of the Standard Pistol in 1949. In September 2016, Ruger introduced the newest additions to this time-honored family of pistols with three configurations of the Mark IV pistol. Today, Ruger proudly introduces a bronze anodized Mark IV 22/45™ Lite model, as well as Mark IV Hunter and Target models

that feature wrap-around target grips. While the heavily redesigned Mark IV maintains the same classic outward appearance as the Mark III™, it incorporates a significant improvement customers will love a simple, one-button takedown for quick and easy field-stripping. A recessed button in the back of the frame allows the upper receiver to tilt up and off of the grip frame without the use of tools. The bolt simply slides out of the receiver and the barrel can be properly cleaned from chamber to muzzle. Other new features that are common to the Mark IV family include an ambidextrous manual safety

and a redesigned bolt stop for more ergonomic operation. The Mark IV 22/45 Lite combines a lightweight, precision-molded, polymer grip frame with an aircraft grade aluminum upper receiver. The receiver features an attractive anodized bronze color and pattern-drilled vents for a custom pistol look without the custom price. Chambered in the popular .22 LR, the Mark IV 22/45 Lite is fun to shoot, accurate and reliable. Weighing only 25 oz., the Mark IV 22/45 Lite is the ideal lightweight rimfire pistol. The Mark IV 22/45 Lite's CNC-machined aluminum receiver houses a 4.4-inch stainless steel barrel, held

in place by a tension nut to ensure accuracy. The Mark IV 22/45 Lite also features adjustable target sights, an installed Picatinny rail



for easy mounting of optics and a factory-threaded 1/2"-28 muzzle to accept popular muzzle accessories. The comfortable, precision-molded polymer grip frame incorporates replaceable Hogue® black

rubber grip panels that allow shooters to customize the look of the pistol. The Mark IV 22/45 Lite is the perfect outdoor companion

and can be used for target shooting, plinking, small game hunting or competitive shooting. The Mark IV Hunter model #40160 features a stainless steel fluted barrel, a HIVIZ® fiber optic front sight and is now

available with smoothly contoured, wood laminate target grips for precision shooting. The Mark IV Target model #40159 features a satin blued alloy steel bull barrel, adjustable rear target sight and is also now available with smoothly contoured, wood laminate target grips. Both of these models are Massachusetts Approved and Certified. All Mark IV pistols feature the same legendary, one-piece barreled receiver and internal cylindrical bolt construction. The robust design ensures permanent sight-to-barrel alignment and higher accuracy potential than conventional moving-slide designs.

The Hearing Protection Act Is Getting a Lot of Attention

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

During the 2016 presidential Election, President-Elect Donald Trump emphasized his support for the Second Amendment. I do not recall that he ever mentioned gun mufflers, silencers or the Hearing Protection Act.

But the penumbra of his attention to the Second Amendment is having implications beyond his direct gaze. The President-Elect is setting the tone, and people are falling in line.

The Hearing Protection Act, or HPA, was filed by Matt Salmon of Arizona. Matt has been a stand up guy for the Second Amendment. Matt is retiring this year, but the HPA will go forward in 2017. The bill reforms the current archaic restrictions and regulations on gun mufflers or silencers. Those restrictions are from the 1930s and never made any sense.

The rest of the world does not share America's self imposed prohibition on gun mufflers. In

the rest of the world, silencers are regarded as a useful accessory, something that the neighbors appreciate because it reduces noise pollution.

In Europe, silencers are far less regulated than they are in the United States. In New Zealand, a 12-year-old can walk into a hardware store, pay \$20, and walk out with a perfectly serviceable commercial silencer.

Before the election of Donald Trump, the HPA did not appear in the top ten of the most viewed

bills before Congress.

After the election, in the week ending November 13th, the Hearing Protection Act was the second most viewed bill in Congress.

In the week ending November 20th, it was again the second most viewed bill in Congress.

In the week ending December 4th, it dropped to the third most viewed bill in Congress.

Congress critters pay attention to these sorts of things. Here is

the link to the site that tracks the most viewed bills, if you want to see how the HPA is doing in the weeks ahead.

The HPA is common sense reform legislation that is long overdue.

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Please see: gunwatch.blogspot.com/2016/12/the-hearing-protection-act-is-getting.html

Pistol The Truck Terrorist Used to Shoot Police in Italy a .22?

by Dean Weingarten,
GunWatch.Blogspot.com

The pistol used by the German truck-attack Jihadi looks a lot like a Walther. But it is a clone, probably made by Erma Werke. The Erma 552S is nearly identical, but without markings, it is not certain. There is also an Erma RX-22, which has a shorter extractor, a longer grip, longer slide and barrel, and an eight round magazine. Clones of the Erma 552S were made and sold by Iver Johnson as the TP22. I have had a couple of them, and they have a reputation for reliability and accuracy. The sights are fixed, so consider yourself fortunate if they are on the money. Of the two that I shot, one was on, one was not. An avid pistol competitor friend had one he thought highly of. The magazine holds seven rounds.

serial number on the left side, as does the TP22. I have seen both wood and plastic grips on the Erma versions.

Erma and Iver Johnson also made a .25 ACP version. Erma Werke made an 8mm blank firing version. The extractor on the blank firing version is shorter, so I doubt that this is a converted blank firing gun.



Image from sun.co.uk

It has been reported that this was a .22 caliber version, by the *Daily Mail*. From the dailymail.co.uk:

When the patrol approached him, he pulled a .22 caliber pistol from his backpack and shot one of the two police officers, Cristian Movio, 36, in the shoulder.

The Italian police were working as a pair. The wounded policeman's colleague, Luca Scatà, was a rookie officer. Scatà returned fire and killed the Jihadi.

The .22 rimfire has been used to kill a significant number of people. In this



Erma Werke 552S or Iver Johnson TP22.

Image from GunWatch.Blogspot.com

case, the officer's wound was not life threatening.

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notice is included.

Please see: <http://gunwatch.blogspot.com/2016/12/pistol-truck-terrorist-used-to-shoot.html>

American Arms sold the PX-22. It is virtually identical, but has "DESIGN BY ERMA WERKE" on the frame, and the serial number on the right side. The Erma pistols have the

Supreme Court Asked to Hear Ground Breaking Military Religious Freedom Case

by Kevin Daley, *Daily Caller News Foundation*

The Supreme Court has been asked to hear a case with significant ramifications for religious liberty in the armed forces.

The case concerns Marine Lieutenant Corporal Monifa Sterling, who refused an order to remove a personalized printed Bible verse from her workspace at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina in 2013.

The verse, from Isaiah 54:17, read "No weapons formed against me shall prosper." A superior officer felt the verse was confrontational and antagonistic and ordered her to take it down. She refused.

After the officer tore it down, Sterling reprinted the verse and reposted it in her workspace. She was then court-martialed for disobeying orders. Sterling argues the order was unlawful because it violat-

ed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a federal law enacted to protect religious expression. The order, Sterling claims, substantially burdened her religious practice.

The case eventually reached the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, the highest appeals court for members of the military. The court ruled against Sterling, finding that government only substantially burdens religious

practice when it "force[s] the claimant to act contrary to her beliefs," even if the government practice "offends religious sensibilities." Sterling's lawyers argue the appeals court should have adopted a broader definition of "substantial burden."

"Ms. Sterling posted the Bible verse as an expression of her faith — an expression which should have been protected under RFRA," said First Liberty

Institute's military affairs director Mike Berry. "We hope that the U.S. Supreme Court will take her case and uphold her right to religious freedom, setting a clear precedent for all service members and their future expressions of faith within our military."

First Liberty, the religious freedom law practice, is representing Sterling along with former solicitor general Paul Clement of Kirkland and Ellis, an all-

star of the Supreme Court bar.

The appeal could be something of a long shot. The high court rarely agrees to hear cases from the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/12/26/supreme-court-asked-to-hear-groundbreaking-military-religious-freedom-case/>



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Politics & The Bible From Pastor Jim



Jim Modlish has been in ministry 50 years, pastoring churches from upstate New York to 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, happily returned to their home state in 2006. He is currently the founding pastor of Huerfano Community Bible Church in



Walsenburg. 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 the King James Version.

Parting the Fig Leaves

From the time that Adam conceded a condition of innocence for a state of disobedience, mankind has rigorously exercised the "blame game." When approached by the Creator concerning his rebellion, the first man discharged the missile of accusation against the "Voice of Purity" ... "and the man said, the woman whom Thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat." (Genesis 3:12) Not only did Adam neglect to recall that the woman came from his rib which resulted in a shared DNA (oops), but the insidious indictment against the Divine Surgeon was the launching pad for self-justification. Covertly faulting God for human stupidity is as common as grasshoppers in July. Adam set a precedent for his progeny which not only survives but thrives in post-election Liberals. These poor social Neanderthals have not advanced enough on the evolutionary ladder to acknowledge the real cause of defeat.

The first target of criticism was the Electoral College, but we all know that it's useless antiquity would be praised as a stroke of genius if Hillary had won the electoral votes. Then there was, of course, those pesky Russian hackers who threw the election across the plate waist high, enabling Trump's home run. The anonymous voices have yet to appear in front of cameras with evidence, but proficient blamers need little of that. It should be noted that an Obama-led effort to derail the re-election of Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu was U.S. funded. Nary once did we hear an objection from the Left about meddling in another nation's democratic process. Liberal morality is incredibly subjective.

Will the Democrats ever come forward with an honest evaluation of their baggage-laden candidate and lack of a positive message? The only offering they submitted was a continuation of the Obama administration which was strongly repudiated by the voters. The last eight years have witnessed the loss of 1,500 state and national seats for the Democrats; they now control only five states with the governorship and legislatures. Common sense would seem to dictate that our Leftist friends should be ready to leap from their loser ditch to higher ground...but as an old cowboy once said: "A rut is nothing more than a grave with both ends kicked out." Sound logic doesn't resonate with the dead. (Ephesians 2:1-3)

"And the Lord said unto the woman, what is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat." Mama Flip Wilson Eve fell off the same wagon as Adam, passing the buck

on to the devil. The propagator of mischief does not invent all stupidity; he simply capitalizes on its presence.

These confrontations were preceded by: "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." (Genesis 3:7) This introduces "the fig leaf factor," which is defined as self-righteousness in the New Testament. (Matthew 7:17-20; Mark 11:12-22) Our first parents expressed no sorrow or repentance for their failure to avoid the prohibited, but they did find fault in an attempt to exonerate self. This debacle was accomplished by conforming to satanic opposition to the truth which is done by questioning what God said. Destruction is carried out by positive thinking. You destroy yourself once you assume the position that an ounce of cure (fig leaves) is better than a pound of prevention. The cure is positive; the prevention is negative.

Progressive ideology is premised on the notion of tinkering with the forbidden and dressing it up with self-righteous fig leaves. Transgender bathrooms, open borders, unlimited welfare, abortion rights, and in general, an all-encompassing nanny state weave a sophisticated apron of well-chosen fig leaves. The difficulty arises when Jesus comes along and parts the leaves to inspect the fruit; when He found none, He cursed the tree which resulted in its withering away. (Mark 11:13,14,20,21) When the all penetrating eyes of Almighty God pierce the aprons of self-righteousness, the options are quickly reduced to repentance or complaint. It should be noted that the "blame game" was being utilized by the first couple while attempting to avoid God. Modern day Liberals are exploring all possible "get away routes" from the Word of God. This will result in an ever increasing barrage of false accusations. Bible history has the uncanny ability to predict the future.

Interestingly, Roget's Thesaurus renders the Bible word "imputation" as a synonym for blame. Paul wrote: "Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." (Romans 4:8) If God doesn't blame you for your sin, you are truly blessed. The Lord's willingness to give us a clean slate is predicated on the fact that Jesus Christ took our blame, suffering and dying to cover it with His own blood. (II Corinthians 5:18-21; Colossians 1:14) The result is an imputation of righteousness (Romans 4:11) if you will receive it by faith. Salvation is a gift (Romans 6:23)...take it and allow 2017 to be a year of great discovery.

A Sheepdog Barks!

We constantly get questions from new readers about the strange "sounds" and "abbreviations" in my column. This column was inspired by an article I read many years ago called "**On Sheep, Wolves and Sheepdogs.**" We print it every six months or so but new readers can always find it on our web site at <http://Sangrede-CristoSentinel.com> Today, you can read a condensed version on page 14. Please read it; it will help you understand.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Hope this helps you enjoy and understand my column. Bark a little yourself. You'll feel better. Happy New Year! Looking forward to a safe, healthy and prosperous 2017 for us all. **WOOF!**

May God Have Mercy on America! JMH



Medicaid Blew \$26 Million on Health Coverage for Dead People in Just ONE State!

by Judicial Watch

The government spent a breathtaking \$26 million to provide dead people—who were poor when they were alive—with health insurance in one state alone, according to a new federal audit. The benefit was administered through Medicaid, the federal-state health insurance program for the needy and the astonishing multi-million-dollar figure applies to just Florida but similar atrocities are likely occurring in other states.

American taxpayers may wonder how this could possibly happen, though fraud and corruption are rampant in government, especially in welfare programs. First let’s explain how Medicaid, jointly funded by federal and state governments, functions. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) administers the program at the federal level. States must create CMS-approved plans

to run their Medicaid programs, which provide low-income residents with medical coverage. In some states, such as Florida, the government contracts with insurance companies and makes fixed monthly payments to provide coverage. In Florida 37 insurance companies have contracts to provide coverage.

In this case, the government continued making payments to the insurance companies long after the beneficiaries had passed away. In other words, the government doled out huge sums to provide dead people with medical insurance for years. The astounding figures were made public recently in a report issued by the Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General, which blamed the outrageous waste on lack of collaboration between various state agencies and outdated information in databases. In some of the overpayment cases, investigators found that the state

was “not able to explain the reasons they occurred.”

The investigation covered a five-year period from 2009 to 2014 and reviewed a sample of 124 payments to Medicaid insurers for subjects that had died. Of the 124, the inspector general determined that 113 were overpaid at a cost to the government of \$192,273. Using that formula, auditors estimated that the state paid \$26,202,536 over the five-year period to provide dead people with taxpayer-funded health insurance. This occurred because Florida officials failed to update the death dates of beneficiaries in its Medicaid database, the probe found, so the payments kept rolling. “The state agency had inadequate policies and procedures to identify and correct inaccurate death information,” the report states. As is the case in other states, the feds cover about 60% of Florida’s Medicaid tab so in this instance Uncle Sam got fleeced out of \$15,356,486.

The government spent an eye-popping \$545.1 billion on Medicaid in 2015, according to National Health Expenditure Data made available by CMS. California’s annual Medicaid costs are top in the nation at \$85.6 million followed by New York at \$60 million and Texas at \$36 million. It’s hardly surprising that states with large immigrant populations have the biggest Medicaid tabs. Though federal law prohibits illegal aliens from receiving Medicaid benefits, some states, like Massachusetts, openly provide illegal aliens with publicly-funded health coverage through its Medicaid agency known as Mass-Health. Additionally, Medicaid has a multi-billion-dollar slush fund to offer illegal immigrants “emergency” coverage. Furthermore, the U.S.-born children of illegal aliens (anchor babies) automatically qualify for Medicaid.

Fraud in this colossal health-care program has been pervasive

for years and things only got worse with the implementation of President Obama’s disastrous healthcare overhaul. CMS was in charge of Obamacare’s tumultuous implementation and catastrophic health exchange website yet the government officials who screwed up quietly received tens of thousands of dollars in performance bonuses and other taxpayer-funded perks. Judicial Watch obtained records that show Medicaid officials who played a significant role in the healthcare law’s failures were handsomely rewarded with large sums of cash and generous amounts of paid time off on the public’s dime. Many have left their lucrative federal government jobs for the private sector.

Please see: www.judicialwatch.org/blog/2016/12/medicaid-blew-26-mil-health-coverage-dead-people/

OBAMA PLANS from page 17

Instead they are becoming a nationalizing party. They are losing their presence in much of the country, from state legislature to state legislature, and becoming the party of major cities and the national government. Their agenda is to move power from local areas to central ones, from the villages and the suburbs to the cities, from states to D.C. and from locally elected legislators in D.C. to the satellite bureaucracies of the Federal government.

Obama sees Hillary’s defeat as an opportunity to burn the Dem’s last bridges with the larger country and its “bitter clingers”, to double down on nationalizing power and to define the political narrative around the agendas of urban elites. The left crippled the Democrats. Now it wants to utterly consume them.

Barack Obama is still be-

ing vague and coy about his plans. He informs reporters that he will attack Trump when it comes to “core questions about our values and ideals”. But the “faithful” are getting much clearer signals. “You’re going to see me early next year, and we’re going to be in a position where we can start cooking up all kinds of great stuff to do.”

The election was a catastrophic disaster for the Democrats, but it opened all sorts of doors for Obama.

Hillary’s defeat removes the Clintons, his only real internal rivals, off the stage. Trump’s triumph in working class areas cuts more ties with the traditional Dem base and transforms it into a party of left-wing urban elites and their radical agendas. And the popular figures on the left; Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Keith Ellison, lack his national stature, speaking skills and organization.

Obama will move to consolidate the left and

then the Democrats. He will function as a president-in-exile heading up the opposition to Trump. When it comes to verbally challenging Trump, Obama will be more likely to be interviewed and heard than Ellison or Schumer. And his people will coordinate responses across the left from street level organizing to think tanks and policy moves.

Some of it is ego.

Obama believes that he can find the key to beating Trump in the traditional tactics of the left. But most is ideology and power. Obama is not done transforming America. And America isn’t done with him yet.

Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow with the David Horowitz Freedom Center

Please see: <http://sultanknish.blogspot.com/2016/12/obama-plans-to-rule-america-outside.html>

LET'S DISCUSS WHAT ISLAM OFFERS:

PAEDOPHILIA

RAPE

BEHEADINGS

BURNING PEOPLE ALIVE

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

HOSTAGE TAKING

HONOUR KILLINGS

SLAVERY

OPPRESSION OF WOMEN

JIHAD

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SILVER from page 1

Based on core logging, the mineralization is associated with silica which has replaced locally vuggy limestone of a reef comprised of fossilized stromatolites. Viscount's technical team attributes the difference in silver values between 2016 drill hole K16-01 and historical drill hole DDH73-2 to the fact that such replacement typically is not uniform. The mineralized siliceous zone intersected by K16-01 is located at a depth from which it could be mined efficiently utilizing open pit techniques, and, because the reef appears to be nearly flat-lying, there is potential for lateral extensions of the mineralization.

Kaare Foy, Viscount Chairman stated: "We are extremely pleased with the early results of our 2016 drill campaign at Silver Cliff. The high silver values represent a solid starting point toward addressing our primary goal for Silver Cliff which is to confirm the historical mineral resource and then look

to enlarge that resource by extending the drill program outside the perimeter of the original resource on which the PEA was done by Tenneco. Today's release represents a solid cornerstone for this mission and we look forward to reporting further assays from this program as they become available."

Jim Ebisch, Viscount's Project Manager for the 2016 drill program further stated that: "Even given the fact that there is a historical silver resource and PEA completed for the Silver Cliff project, we believe the region containing, and immediately surrounding the KSR is materially under explored and the historical resource there could be greatly enhanced in the future with just a few strategically placed drill holes. The 2016 drilling shows that the silver mineralization (blue-grey mineralization) is hosted predominantly by a gently-dipping, silicified carbonate reef that formed during a volcanic hiatus. The KSR at this juncture appears to be the result of simple carbonate replacement by silica-rich, silver/lead/zinc-bearing

fluids adjacent to interpreted deep seated epithermal veins. These carbonate rock systems replaced by silicification-associated resources are commonly found over large lateral extents and the greatest promise for the KSR may eventually lie in undiscovered stacked horizons, in combination with high-grade epithermal veins that may underlie the KSR."

Future exploration work at Silver Cliff's KSR region will depend on the evaluation of the current confirmatory drill program once all of the assay results have been received and interpreted by Viscount's technical team.

About Silver Cliff Property

The Silver Cliff property lies within the historic Hardscrabble Silver District in Colorado. The Property consists of 96 lode claims where high grade silver, gold and base metal production came from numerous mines during the period 1878 to 1894. It is located 44 miles WSW of Pueblo, Colorado, and has year-around access by paved road. The property underwent substantial exploration between 1967 and 1984. The major explorers were Freeport, Hecla,

Homestake, Moly Corp, Coca Mines and Tenneco Minerals.

The Silver Cliff Property is interpreted to encompass a large caldera and porphyry system which offers potential to host a number of deposits from both precious metals to base metals. This has been demonstrated in the mineralogy and grade historically extracted from numerous underground mining operations dating back to the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Drilling in the 1980s by Tenneco resulted in a historical pre-feasibility study which formed the company's decision to put the property into production. Known historical silver grades range from below detection to a high of 2,125 g/t (68 o/t) Ag over 13.4 metres. Known historical gold grades range from below detection to a high of 9.06 g/t (0.29 o/t) Au over 1.2 metres. Plans were halted due to the restructuring of Tenneco after it was sold.

Quality Assurance/Quality Control ("QA/QC")

Measures, Chain of Custody

The Company has implemented a QA/QC program using best industry practices at the Silver Cliff Property. Drill core samples are sawn in half lengthwise and one half transported in securely-sealed

bags to the ALS laboratory in Reno, Nevada, for analysis. Prior to transport, individual samples are labeled, placed in plastic sample bags and sealed. Groups of samples are then placed into durable rice bags that are then shipped. The sample pulps and rejects will be retrieved from ALS. All samples were analyzed for Ag and 50 other elements by ALS method "Ultra Trace Aqua Regia ICP-MS" with code ME-MS41. In the case of Ag determined by this method to be in excess of 100 ppm, a further analysis for Ag was done utilizing method "Ore Grade Aqua Regia ICP-AES" with ALS code Ag-OG46. For the three 5-ft interval samples from K16-01 containing more than 1,500 ppm Ag, the ALS method "Ag 30g FA - GRAV finish WST-SIM" with code Ag- GRA21 was utilized.

Qualified Persons

The scientific and technical information contained in this news release has been reviewed and approved by Dallas W. Davis, P.Eng, FEC, an independent consulting geologist who is a "Qualified Person" as such term is defined under National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101").

About Viscount Mining

(TSX VENTURE:VML)
(OTCQB:VLMGF)

Viscount Mining is an exploration company with a portfolio of gold and silver properties in the Western United States, including Cherry Creek in Nevada and Silver Cliff in Colorado. Cherry Creek is comprised of more than 9,000 acres, all 100% owned, and includes more than 20 past producing mines. Viscount has entered into an exploration earn-in agreement with Sumitomo Corporation covering the Cherry Creek property. Sumitomo can earn in up to a 75% interest in the property by producing a feasibility study and by spending in addition a minimum of US\$10,000,000 in exploration and development expenses by the eighth anniversary of the earn-in agreement. Silver Cliff in Colorado is comprised of 96 lode claims, covering much of the historical past-producing mineral districts of Silver Cliff and Rosita Hills.

For additional information regarding the above noted property and other corporate information, please visit the Company's website at www.viscountmining.com

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim MacKenzie, President,
CEO and Director



Market

Your Neighborhood Grocery Store

Lays

Potato Chips

Pre-priced \$4.29

\$1.98

Happy New Year!

Velveeta
Cheese Loaf

32 oz.

\$5.48

Rotel

Diced Tomatoes
& Green Chiles

10 oz.

98¢

Chips Ahoy
Cookies

9.5 - 13 oz.

\$1.98

Fresh Large
Hass Avocados

88¢
each

Top Sirloin
Steak

\$2.99
lb.

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Melting Snowflakes: Colorado Dem Sends Lopsided Survey About Trump

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

Liberal U.S. Representative Ed Perlmutter is conducting a two question “End of Year Survey” about President-elect Trump, and let’s just say it’s a bit melodramatic. The first question asks how the respondent feels about the prospects of a Trump Administration, and only one of the five answer choices is positive.

If you are not “excited” about Trump, you are able to choose the following along the continuum of despair:

- Mixed Feelings – some of the President-elect’s actions are concerning, but overall I’m optimistic about the incoming president.
- Anxious – I’m somewhat worried about President-Elect Trump’s decision making and overall behavior.
- Concerned – the President-Elect’s rhetoric is disturbing and his selections for his administration are not in the best interests of the country.
- Other.

The left’s reaction to Trump’s election has been nothing short of pathetic. From fake hate crimes coast-to-coast to “cry-ins” at top universities and a desperate, half-baked attempt to overthrow the elec-

toral college, the party whose candidate famously swore in the third debate to accept the election results is in total denial. Slanted surveys like the one put out by Rep. Perlmutter don’t do anything to help



Rep. Ed Perlmutter.
Photo courtesy of ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

matters. And, really, this is more like the work of ProgressNow than a sitting U.S. Congressman. It just looks petty.

If you care to let Rep. Perlmutter know how you feel, you can fill out his overly-pessimistic survey here (**Editor/GG: Go here for the survey: perlmutter.house.gov/forms/form/?ID=7**).

Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/12/22/melting-snowflakes-rep-ed-perlmutter-sends-lopsided-survey-about-trump/

Colorado May Gain Eighth U.S. House Seat

by ColoradoPeak
Politics.com

UPDATE: Chalkbeat’s Nic Garcia rightly pointed out that another Congressional seat would mean another seat on the State Board of Education. Then, because Colorado cannot have an even number of members on the Board of Ed, an at-large seat would be added to the board. In short, a new Congressional seat would translate to two new board seats.

Given Colorado’s massive population growth, it should come as no surprise that the state might gain an extra Congressional seat to give us enough players for a delegation kickball team. A new article by Sean Trende at RealClearPolitics calls out Colorado as a potential taker of a seat in the 2020 reapportionment fight.

Trende created a formula to help him predict where, in 2020, the next seats might come from and explained why this is important now:

“This is important because the census governs the apportionment of House seats and electoral votes by way of a nasty formula that I won’t expound upon here. By applying the formula to the latest estimates, we can get a sense of where things are headed for the 2022 congressional elections and the 2024 presidential elections.”

According to his calculations, Colorado, Arizona, North Carolina and Oregon each would get an additional Congressman (or Congresswoman). Texas would gain three and Florida would gain two. While there is no clear guidance on where within

Colorado the seat would be, some think there could be an additional seat in Weld County or Douglas County, which are two rapidly growing areas.

It’s important to keep this all in perspective; however, as Colorado was supposed to get an eighth Congressional seat in 2011. As it turns out, despite Coloradans’ clamorous kvetching about population growth, other states have population growth, too. Who knew?

Stay tuned for 2020 when we’ll take a deeper dive into this subject. You know, when people are actually paying attention.

Please see: coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/12/22/congressional-kickball-team-colorado-may-gain-eighth-house-seat/

Excerpts from: On Sheep, Wolves, and Sheepdogs

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

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

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

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

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

The **sheep** generally do not like the **sheepdog**. He looks a lot like the wolf. He has fangs and the capacity for violence. The difference, though, is that the **sheepdog**

must not, cannot and will not ever harm the sheep. Any **sheepdog** who intentionally harms the lowliest little lamb will be punished and removed. The world cannot work any other way, at least not in a representative democracy or a republic such as ours...

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

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

Understand that there is nothing morally superior about being a **sheepdog**; it is just what you choose to be. Also understand that a sheepdog is a funny critter: He is always sniffing around out on the perimeter, checking the breeze, barking at things that go

bump in the night and yearning for a righteous battle. That is, the young **sheepdogs** yearn for a righteous battle. The old **sheepdogs** are a little older and wiser, but they move to the sound of the guns when needed right along with the young ones...

Here is how the sheep and the sheepdog think differently. The sheep pretend the wolf will never come, but the **sheepdog** lives for that day. After the attacks on September 11, 2001, most of the **sheep**, that is, most citizens in America said, “Thank God I wasn’t on one of those planes.” The **sheepdogs**, the warriors, said, “Dear God, I wish I could have been on one of those planes. Maybe I could have made a difference.” When you are truly transformed into a warrior and have truly invested yourself into warriorhood, you want to be there. You want to be able to make a difference...

Some people may be destined to be sheep and others might be genetically primed to be **wolves** or **sheepdogs**. But I believe that most people can choose which one they want to be, and I’m

proud to say that more and more Americans are choosing to become sheepdogs...

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

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

were unprepared for that day?”...

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

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

“**Baa**.”...

This excerpt captures the main thoughts. If you would like to read the entire article please go to our website: <http://sangre-decristosentinel.com/on-sheep-wolves-and-sheepdogs/>



Colorado's Secretary of State Seeks Investigation of Elector for Perjury

by Marianne Goodland,
The Colorado Independent

Secretary of State Wayne Williams announced today that he has referred elector Micheal Baca of Denver to the Attorney General for investigation related to Monday's Electoral College vote.

According to a statement from Deputy Secretary of State Suzanne Staiert, Baca took an oath to vote for the presidential candidate who won Colorado's presidential contest on November 8th. He then "cast a ballot contrary to the oath." Baca wrote in the name of Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

Staiert said Baca's write-in vote violated state law that requires each presidential elector to vote for the presidential candidate who receives the highest number of votes at the preceding general election.

Baca was part of a national movement to encourage electors to write in the name of someone other than President-Elect Donald Trump during Monday's vote. The so-called Hamilton electors, or "faithless electors," as Williams calls them, hoped that 37 Republican electors would cast votes for Kasich or someone other than Trump, which then would have thrown the decision to the U.S. House of Representatives. In the end, however, only two

Republicans, both from Texas, chose to vote for someone other than Trump. Five Democrats, not including Baca, voted for some-

tion to Baca, complained that a last-minute change in the oath of office for the electors, which included a statement that they

"On advice of counsel, I cannot comment," Baca told *The Colorado Independent* today.

A call to Attorney General Cynthia Coffman's spokesperson to ask if she intended to investigate

was not immediately returned.

Please see: <http://www.coloradoindependent.com/162980/baca-electoral-college-vote-investigation>



Secretary of State Wayne Williams

Elector Micheal Baca

Photo credit Allen Tian,
The Colorado Independent

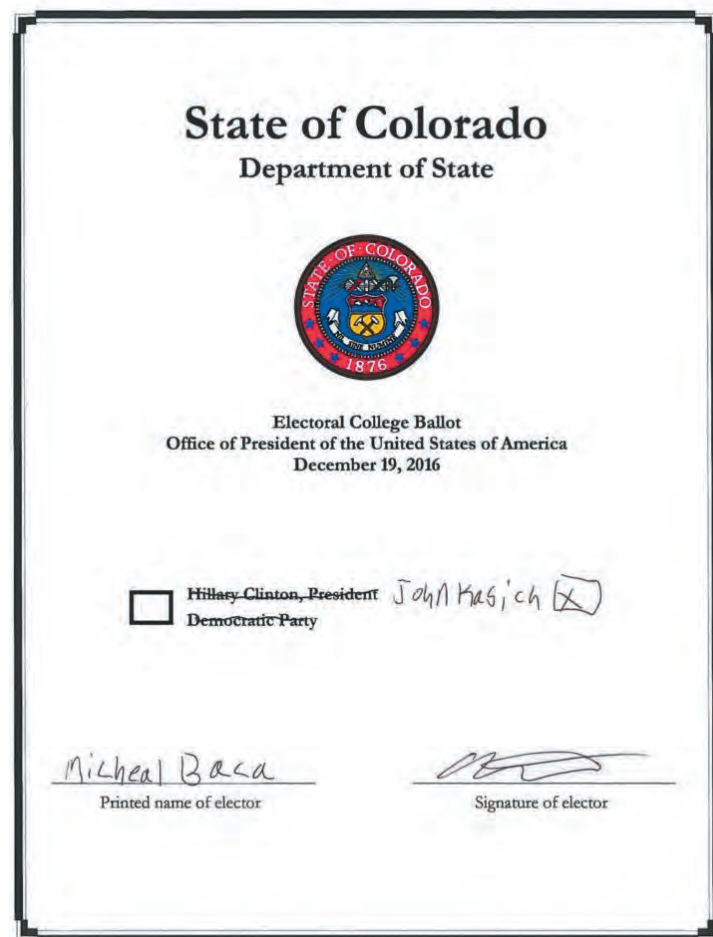
Photo by Secretary of State's Office

one other than Clinton. Four were in Washington state and the fifth was in Hawaii.

Once Baca wrote in Kasich's name, he was replaced by an alternate elector, Celeste Landry of Boulder, who then voted for Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, who won the November 8th contest. The other eight electors also voted for Clinton. Two, in addi-

would vote for the winner of the presidential contest, was unconstitutional and that they took the oath "under duress."

According to the Secretary of State's Office, electors were warned they could face misdemeanor charges if they did not vote for Clinton at the Electoral College ceremony on Monday. The penalty for misdemeanor perjury is up to two years in jail and up to a \$5,000 fine.



Privileged Protesters: How Rich Coloradans Walk the Picket Line

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com



Democratic organizations are trying to rally the troops in spite of their crushing defeat in the polls last month, this time to pressure Republican lawmakers to support Obamacare and not side with Trump who has pledged to roll back some of the law that makes insurance unaffordable and doctors scarce.

They might have had better luck advertising for a drawing for "\$5 in postage stamps, be there to win it", for all of the supporters they attracted to U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner's Greeley office on Tuesday.

According to the *Greeley Tribune*, "about 12 people" were part of the MoveOn.org members who gathered to wave sad signs and pressure Gardner to be sad with them.

Gardner of course was not actually there during the protest, but it wasn't a complete waste of time because some of them got their names in the paper talking about how rich they are.

"I'm in good health, but I know in large part that's because I'm not poor," said Deb Bennett-Woods, of Greeley, outside Gardner's office. "I have access to safe, healthy food, and I live a privileged life. But part of the reason I do is because millions of people don't live as well as I live. And I have not heard a word from Trump about [them]."

Thank you rich, privileged lady who doesn't understand that Obamacare has jacked up the price of insurance for most Americans making it unaffordable, and then we have to pay a fine equal to the cost of her purse.

Then there is Eileen:

"We need to use our privilege to speak for those who can't," said Eileen Connell of Eaton.



Please see: <http://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/12/22/privileged-protestors-how-the-rich-folk-walk-the-picket-line/>

Coffman Campaign Named One of Year's Ten Best

by ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman's campaign was included in *National Journal's* bi-partisan list of this year's top ten Congressional campaigns. Six Republicans, including high profile Senators Marco Rubio and Rob Portman were included in the list alongside Coffman. That's pretty impressive company for the suburban Denver lawmaker.



U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman.

Courtesy photo from ColoradoPeakPolitics.com

The story remarked that Coffman's campaign has "long been the model of how House Republicans win campaigns by appealing to voters outside the Republican base," noting that Coffman won in a district that Hillary Clinton carried easily. It went on to commend Coffman for learning Spanish after his district was re-drawn and easily turning back consecutive general election challenges from "two of the top Democratic recruits in the country."

If Andrew Romanoff and Morgan Carroll are the top recruits, we say keep recruiting. While they ran bad campaigns, nothing should take away from the

effort that Coffman puts into both campaigning and serving his constituents.

Over five Congressional election cycles, Coffman has created a model that is built to last. We're sure that there are a number of other Congressional districts in the country that are looking very closely at Coffman's efforts.

Congratulations once again to the Congressman and his team.

Please see: <http://coloradopeakpolitics.com/2016/12/22/more-honors-coffman-campaign-named-one-of-years-ten-best-by-national-journal/>

IMPORTANT DATES IN FREMONT

School Board Meetings:

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

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

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

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

Royal Gorge Tea Party
2nd Thursday 6:30 p.m.
Core Knowledge School Gymnasium, 890 Fields Ave. Cañon City
www.royalgorgetea-party.com

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

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

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

sdc.sentinel@gmail.com



Fremont County Bulletin

News, Opinion, Commentary

Cañon City Council Meeting

by Barbara Penezic

The meeting was opened with the invocation by Joetta Bender, Former Program Director at Restoring Hope (Loaves & Fishes). Joetta is now leading her own ministry, Mercy Over Bondage, LLC. Her vision is to lead young adults, who are felons, prisoners, gang members, prostitutes and addicts, to Jesus Christ that their lives might be changed through the power of the Gospel.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then led by Mayor pro-tem Dennis Wied in the absence of Mayor Preston Troutman who is currently enjoying a well-deserved vacation with his family. Councilman Mark Gill was also absent, recovering from an illness.

The Consent Agenda was approved with minor amendments to correct typos etc.

The Administrators Report addressed a matter of frustration and safety that most area residents had experienced during the last snow storm; icy roads. We need to have a more robust plan of action. We may partner with C-DOT to remove the snow and avoid the resulting buildup of ice that can last for days. Administrator O'Rourke related he

had come from an area of the country that sees heavy snowfalls but he had never seen roads like this. Mr. O'Rourke also commented on the water-main breaks saying, "This is going to get worse, not better I have a problem with hiding behind what is a perfectly legal action of leaving the cost of damage to the business owner or resident. I think we need to 'man up' and take responsibility when we damage property."

Mr. Hale of Hale Pet Door came to address the council but was told he would have to return January 3rd to present his statement to the entire council. Mr. Hale was visibly upset about the way the city has handled his problem. He said he was promised a list of things he must do but did not get anything. He feels the city is looking for ways to limit its liability while dumping everything on him. This matter will be addressed more fully during the next council meeting.

County Commissioner Ed Norden addressed the council in his capacity with the Fremont County E-911 Authority. The need for a surcharge increase to help fund the operation of the combined dispatch center is needed. Tony O'Rourke said we must be able to increase salaries if we are to

stop the bleeding of trained employees to other agencies. This is something the city has struggled with as of late. The losses have touched all areas of the city including the police department.

The first reading of Ordinance No. 20 Series of 2016 was tabled until January 17th. This is the ordinance that would amend Chapter 8.12 of the Municipal Code prohibiting smoking within 50 ft. of playgrounds or picnic areas within city-owned parks. The issue will have an impact on city park users and it deserves consideration by the full council.

Councilman Mark Gill believes that smokers should not be banned from concerts and other events held in city parks because of their smoking situation. The smokers pay taxes and their rights should be given full consideration.

Before the meeting adjourned, everyone was wished a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year." Mayor pro-tem Wied and Councilman Meisner congratulated and thanked Commissioner Ed Norden for his 12 years of service to Fremont County. This was echoed by the entire council and attendees.

Be Informed...Get Involved.

Florence City Council Meeting

by Charlotte Burrous

It may not seem like the time to talk about it, but the Florence City Council approved an air conditioning unit for \$8,635 for the North Pump Station during its regular meeting on December 19th.

"This is the next part of getting our new North Pump up and operational," said Water Superintendent Brandon Harris. "It's of the utmost importance that we have an air conditioning unit in these pump stations with big 150 HP motors running these pumps. The [pumps] create a lot of heat, especially when it's 100 F degrees out in the summer. That pump station can get up well above 120 F degrees in there. Then the electronics, communications, SCADA stuff will

start failing and burn down the pump station."

Although there were four quotes, he and the staff recommended the city present the contract to All Pro for \$8,635. All of the quotes are on the same three-ton unit, he added.

In other business, the council voted to approve a temporary liquor license for Rialto Theater for the dates Jan. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 and 29.

Florence Architectural Cultural Traditions (FACT) is "doing a play [titled] "Bad Year for Tomatoes," said City Manager Mike Patterson. "They would like to be able to sell alcohol. There are no problems as far as the health department is concerned. It's strictly an alcohol permit. We are

allowed to do this with the temporary certified occupation they have. The city has nothing to do with their liquor license or insurance. We simply permit them. It's on private property."

During the public hearing, Councilman Larry Baker said he is on the Rialto Board.

"This is another way we're going to utilize the Rialto," he said. "It's a stage production and of course, the building is not totally complete yet, but we have finished all the restrooms. If all goes well, this Friday, we'll put the ceiling in the building. We have heat so we think we can accommodate this for six nights. I would urge everyone to consider this and also attend these functions. Hopefully, it will raise some more money for

Events

Dec. 30th - Jan. 30th

Florence Senior Community Center hosts it **Diabetic meeting** from 10-11 a.m. on the first Monday of the month.

Free lunch to those in need will be offered from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. the **third Saturday of the month** in the Fellowship Hall at the First United Methodist Church at the corner of Ninth and Main Streets.

COG lunch is served at noon every Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 100 Railroad St. in Florence. Call 784-6493 before 9:30 a.m. for reservation. Meals cost \$2 for 60 and older and \$6.50 for 59 and younger.

Free lunch is served from noon-1 p.m. Tuesdays at Mercy Today Ministries in the back of the First Christian Church at 320 N. 16th St. in Cañon City. For more information, call 276-9242.

Lunches are served at noon Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Penrose Center at 405 Broadway in Penrose. Everyone is welcome. Meals are \$3 per person. Please call 372-3872 for reservations. Thrift Store is open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Friends of the Penrose Community Library hosts its weekly used book sales from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. every Wednesday in the shed behind the library at 35 Seventh Ave. in Penrose.

First Friday events take place from 5-7 p.m. on the first Friday of the month in downtown Cañon City. Music, food, art and more.

Jan. 6, "Tight Loose" movie by Fremont Adventure Recreation for one night only at Skyline Theater. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. Show starts at 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 22, Fremont County Community Concert Association will feature Mo' Mungus at 2 p.m. at Cañon City High School Auditorium at 1313 College Ave. From 1966 to 1968, Jamaica experienced its golden age of music, what is called Rocksteady. Rocksteady was smooth, melodic, joyful and soothing to hear. **Mo' Mungus** salutes the great musicians of the Rocksteady era.

The Sentinel is available at the following location in Fremont County:

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

*He sent His word and healed them,
And delivered them from their destructions*

Psalm 107:20 NKJV

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.

The Miracle

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."—Isaiah 9:6-7. This prophecy was written by Isaiah some 755 years before the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. You know, the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ fulfilled over 300 prophecies.

In Lee Strobel's book, *"The Case for Christ"*, he points out that the probability of just eight prophecies being fulfilled is one chance in one hundred million billion. Strobel then quotes mathematician Peter Stoner who calculated that the probability of fulfilling 48 prophecies was one chance in a trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion! Think about the probability of fulfilling 332 prophecies. But Jesus did just that. One pastor I knew illustrated the point by saying that you could fill the entire state of Texas six-foot-deep in silver dollars and ask a blind man to find one special marked dollar and he would have about the same chances in finding it as a person fulfilling just 48 of these prophecies.

The prophecy of Isaiah, however, says that "The zeal of the Lord of hosts

will perform this." How fantastic, the miracle of miracles performed by the ZEAL of the God. I do not know the chances of a worldwide flood, but we have seen floods before and they are something we can comprehend. I do not know the chances of changing water into wine, but we have seen that wine is a liquid made up of water and juice, so it is something we can understand. I do not know the chances of a virgin birth, but we see children being born everyday, so perhaps that is possible. But the Lord of Hosts wanted the world to know that His Son's birth, life, death and resurrection was THE miracle, fulfilling over 300 prophecies given over a span of thousands of years.

I wonder how many people who celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ even know Him. And while we spend time with family, exchange gifts, eat good food, feel the warmth and love around us, wherever we are at, let us take a moment and remember the miracle of Jesus Christ, that He was born into this world as performed by the ZEAL of the Lord of Hosts. That "zeal" was for us, that we might have a way to spend eternity with God. Jesus said in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." No other religion has a God who loves us so. Share Christ with someone today.

Have a Blessed and Powerful Day!

Bill Wilson

www.dailyjot.com

Reprinted with permission.

Obama Plans to Rule America Outside the White House

by Daniel Greenfield,
Sultanknish.Blogspot.com

(Editor/GG: This article is completely accurate. The end game is just starting. It will be a free America or an east coast, left coast Pol Pot regime. (Hey, we can call Obama, Potbama then!)) And you remember what the Khmer Rouge did to their opposition. Time to make some noise, patriots. The next four years will determine the fate of our nation.)

Barack Obama has two faces. After Trump's victory and Hillary's defeat, the public Obama has been gracious and diplomatic. His lectures to Trump, directly and indirectly, are couched in praise. He echoed the feeling of millions on both sides when he said, "We are now all rooting for his success".

That's a lie. Or rather a disguise.

Obama and his aides had, in one insider narrative, decided to don the "mask of decorum". The contempt for Trump still seeps through the mask and the mask hides Obama's next big move.

President Obama is over. He knows that. There are still some things that he can do before he leaves office, but everything except the most destructive, can be undone by his successor. The next phase of his campaign will not be fought from the White House. It will be fought against the White House.

The other Obama is emerging in conference calls with his supporters. "One of the challenges that I've discovered being president is I'd like to be organizer-in-chief, but it's hard," he said in one call.

Obama can no longer be commander-in-chief. Instead he's plotting to become organizer-in-chief.

The infrastructure for the organization was put into place long before anyone thought that Hillary might lose. Organizing for Action (OFA) gave him his own organizing hub. If Hillary had won, it would have been a pressure group. Now that Trump won, it's an axis to build a personal counterrevolution around.

In his post-election conference call with his OFA troops, Obama told them, "I'm giving you like a week and a half to get over it". Then it would be time to "move forward not only to protect what we've accomplished, but also to see this as an opportunity". What opportunity could there be in Trump's win?

Obama is now the only major national figure still standing among the Democrats. After Hillary's de-

"The network that you represent, you're perfectly poised to do that," Obama told his OFAers. "In other words, now is the time for some organizing."

While the leftist rioters in the streets are garnering the most attention, the real threat comes from the network of staffers dubbed Obama Anonymous which are beginning to organize and coordinate. OFA is Obama's equivalent of

Obama isn't going to retire. He's not going to spend years puttering around with a presidential library. He's not even going to set up a Clintonesque slush fund and try to make his wife president. Instead he wants to force radical change from outside the White House by using the network he's built.

While the public Obama wraps up business at the White House, concludes yet another world tour, alternating between praising Trump and offering him condescending advice, the other Obama is preparing to deploy a network that will dominate the Dems and set the agenda on the left.

If Obama succeeds, then he will get another shot at picking his White House successor. But beyond that, he's been handed the keys to an organizing machine that will allow him to set even more of the agenda for his party than ever before. And he has a cause that is sending the party reeling back into his arms.

Obama believes that he can rule America from outside the White House. And he might be right.

Political norms and old rules have been falling faster than leaves in an autumn wind. If Obama sets out to move the center of power outside the White House and into an organization that will control national politics through the left, it would be dangerous to assume that he can't and won't succeed.

The Democrats didn't respond to their defeat, one of a sequence, by trying to move to the center. Instead there is every sign that they are moving further to the left. Keith Ellison, a radical leftist with an anti-Semitic past, is tipped to head the DNC. Schumer still has the Senate, but Elizabeth Warren may have it before too long. Combine that with Obama as the president-in-exile and the Dems will be more radical and extremist than they were even when Obama was sitting in the White House.

The Democrats are ceasing to be a national party.

"OFA will be far more dangerous in the wild than the Clinton Foundation ever was."

feat, he's worked hard to attribute the loss to her shortcomings, not his policies and decisions. That's not just to soothe his ego. If he's going to dictate the future of his party, he can't afford to be blamed for its latest disaster. And Obama is still determined to dictate the future of the party and the country.

In conventional politics, Obama is done. There's no way back into the White House. And Hillary's fate won't leave much enthusiasm for nominating the uncharismatic spouse of a charismatic ex-president.

But Obama is not a conventional politician. He's an organizer and a campaigner at the vanguard of a radical movement that seeks to control traditional institutions, but doesn't feel bound by them. Unlike Bill Clinton, his plans don't begin and end with the White House. As an organizer, Obama is equipped to build bases of power outside traditional institutions. And that is exactly what he is doing.

The demoralization of the Democrats is, as Obama put it, an opportunity. Social chaos is a time for the left to overthrow and undermine traditional institutions. Fear, anger and despair are radicalizing. The left has always operated by throwing bombs and then profiting from the fallout. That's Obama's agenda. Having wrecked the country and the Democrats, he sees that not as a setback, but as an opportunity.

the Clinton Foundation. The Clintons built Clintonworld around staffers, but its goal was harvesting money. Obama Inc. is being built around organizing and activism. Like Clintonworld, it will be a network encompassing a variety of political and non-profit institutions. Unlike them, it will be much less focused on directing money to its bosses in preparation for an election. Instead it will function like a traditional leftist movement, merging influence operations with crowd-sourced mobilization.

OFA will be far more dangerous in the wild than the Clinton Foundation ever was. The Clintons hoped to ride back to power on a giant wave of money. Obama is taking a much more radical course.

The staffers exiting government are being wired into Obama Inc. whether or not they take jobs directly working for him. The OFA alumni are building networks across organizations while taking their marching orders from him. They expect Obama to lead them back from the wilderness and into the halls of power.

He's told them so.

"I'm going to be constrained in what I do with all of you until I am again a private citizen. But that's not so far off," he assured them. "I'm still fired up and I'm still ready to go." His next comments promised that radical political change could and would take place.

**OBAMA PLANS
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