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About the Cover: Buck Brannaman, renowned humane horsemanship clinician, explained his intention and actions with his horse and the horse statue installed outside the B.W. Pickett Equine Center in Ft. Collins, "Any horse, no matter how experienced they are, or how keen they are to their environment, it's their nature to notice anything out of place. He'd never seen anything like that before that was his size, and thinks, 'I should flee from this!' I introduced him to it for him to find out he doesn't have to worry about it as long as he stays with me. It's an opportunity to teach the horse to stay centered in his rectangle."

Photos by Diane Bergstrom.

Positive News for a Change!

Check the online issue to see the pictures in color!

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Buck Brannaman's Colorado Clinics

Article and photographs by Diane Bergstrom

Starting and Horsemanship 1 clinics held in May in Ft. Collins, I sat with over a hundred people also intently watching and listening to Buck while he worked with his

Your last opportunity to attend a Buck Brannaman clinic in Colorado this year is here. For more information about Buck and his clinics, read my article at HighlanderMo.com, Archives Page, May issue. After his early August tour in Ireland, he will be presenting in Longmont on the Front Range, Kiowa on the eastern plains, and Eagle and Steamboat Springs on the western slope. Every clinic has spectator seating available for \$30 a day and all slots for rider participation have been filled. If you and your horse are desperate to attend together, call the individual clinic sponsors to check on cancellations. The schedule is: Longmont; August 16-19; Foundation Horsemanship (AM); Horsemanship 1 (PM). Contact: Sheri Gulley, 970-351-7444. Kiowa; August 22-25; Horsemanship 1 (AM); Horsemanship 2 (PM). Contact: Mindy Bower/Kevin Hall, 719-541-5550, uhohranch@fairpoint.net. Eagle, August 29-September 1; Horsemanship 2 (AM); requires prior roping experience with Buck before enrollment. Contact: Moni and Steve Howard; 970-524-2320. Steamboat Springs, September 5-8; Foundation Horsemanship (AM); Horsemanship 1 (PM). Contact: Barb Shipley, 970-846-5151, bjs7753@gmail.com Leave your dogs at home. These clinics are held on county properties where dogs are not allowed.

While spectating at the Colt

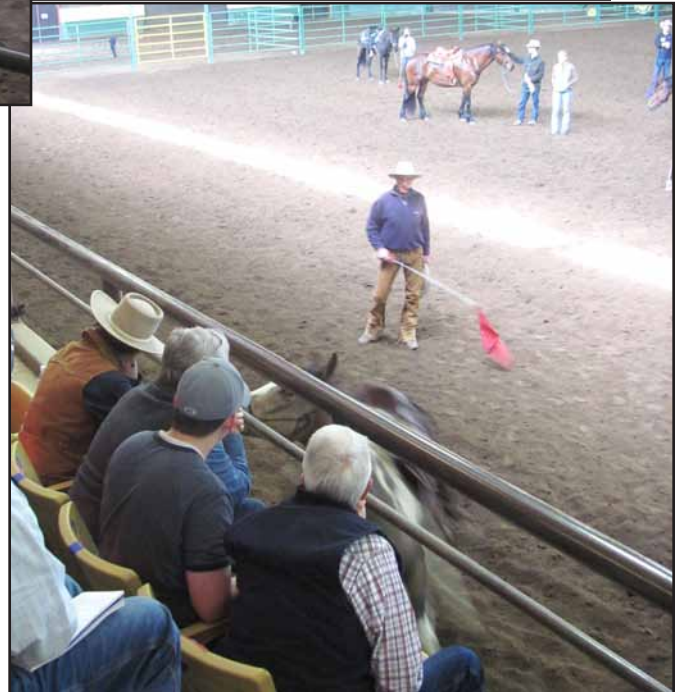


horse, the riders, and their horses. His mentor, Ray Hunt, advised anyone trying to correct their riding and relationship with their horse, "You need to do less sooner rather than more later." Good life advice as well. Buck weaves his common sense philosophies throughout his training instruction and coached the Colt Starting participants, "This really depends on how motivated you are. If you really had concern for your horse, you'd do (Continued next page.)

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Highlander Horse



this (exercise) a couple hundred times.” Later he told the nervous Horsemanship 1 riders, “Michelangelo didn’t do finger paints then walk into the Sistine Chapel and say, ‘I think I can help you guys out.’ I will treat everyone of you like you are becoming an artist. You figure out how much you are going to put into it.” Buck explained how he trains his own horses, carefully observing them throughout exercises, “I will only do with my horse what I know we’ll succeed at. Otherwise he’s not prepared.” Buck puts a great deal of emphasis on the riders being informed, prepared,

and understanding the way a horse thinks and processes. The latter is integral to the former. He learned Ray’s focus on controlling the horse’s hind weight and developed his focus on “hooking on” to the horse’s feet. He explained, “Get to the feet first and that gets him 100% committed. Are you in time with those feet? Are they backing straight? Get him in proper form, get that soft feel, take control, keep practicing,” and warned the crowd, “This can be tedious.” But well worth the outcome. Using a dance

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analogy, Buck said, "I reach for you, you reach for me. I drag you out on the dance floor by the hair, you're gonna call the cops. I reach for you, you give to me, and you are weightless." As a dance enthusiast, I understood this analogy. My best partner once told me there are no bad female dancers, just bad male leads. Maybe the same can be said for horses and riders. Buck half-joked with the riders, "All these things I'm showing you are to save you from yourself and all your bad judgments."

Buck continually watched each participant, sometimes correcting bridles, chin straps, and leg positions with commentary, "The higher up your heel is on

your horse, the less evolved you are as a rider." He does so while delivering information on the (Continued next page.)

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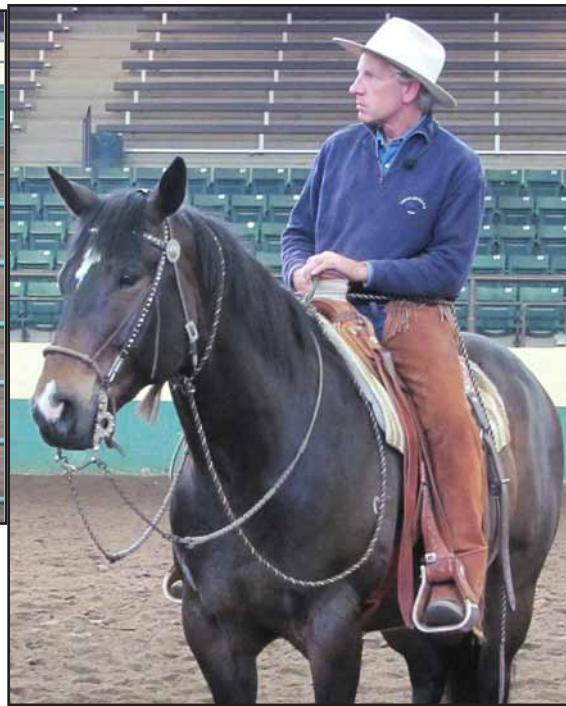
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Highlander Horse



frustration into solutions. "If he's blowing you off, stop and get him back. Don't get mad at him," he said. He wants riders to have realistic progress expectations so their horses can succeed and be happy, calm,

three ways to stop your horse, the two blind spots and the importance of stepping through them-not working from them, why he won't "tie a colt solid" until they're two years old, how to swing a gate, why he uses Triple X soft nylon rope, punch and reloading legwork, making transitions on a loose rein, attaining a soft feel, shoeing problems, reading a horse's expression, correcting damage done, rope and flag work to develop trust, round pen demonstrations to increase horse confidence, the importance of 10 right steps for every misstep, and turning



confident, and responsive. He mentioned a first class stable he'd visited on the east coast that was filled with hothouse flowers, had a wall full of ribbons and the horses were scared to death. "Wait! That's what I tell riders the most," he reflected. A woman asked him if a horse is ever too old to learn. He replied, "Sometimes age and

wisdom don't travel together. You wouldn't go from kindergarten to college if you couldn't count to 10, spell or read. Same thing with a horse. He might not know a thing

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think of her.” There was a collective sigh from many spectators. “But I don’t need them. They’re like earrings. Maybe they make your ears pretty but they don’t improve your hearing.”

He wraps up the clinics, speaking sincerely with



messages to do better, be committed, and to stay the course with your horse in pursuing the art of horsemanship. He ended this clinic with, “The next Ray Hunt could be in this arena. God, I wish. You never know where 30, 40 years of devotion

might lead you. Maybe you’ll be an amazing gift to horses.” Put a clinic on your calendar today.



so you gotta go back to the beginning and pick that up.” He observed a rider continually use her spurs on her horse. He told her, “Be judicious, be fair. He’s a ringtail. An Arabian but one speed faster.” He told the audience, “Spurring into the stomach is cruel,” and gave alternative training solutions. When the woman asked him about how he uses his spurs, which he always sports, he replied that he doesn’t, “Mary (his wife) gave them to me and it makes me

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Buffalo Field Campaign ~ www.buffalofieldcampaign.org

While many Americans were gearing up to celebrate Independence Day, freedom wasn't ringing for a small family group of America's last wild buffalo. Just west of Yellowstone National Park, near the South Fork of the Madison River, the most American of all creatures were being subjected to the tyranny of an unjust government.

Over a course of two days, BFC documented Montana Department of Livestock (DOL) stock inspectors hazing around thirty wild buffalo moms and calves off of their habitat, chasing them through the cattle-free public lands of Gallatin National Forest, and pushing them into the interior of Yellowstone National Park, using federal tax dollars to do this unnecessary dirty work. With no justification whatsoever for the maltreatment of this American icon, the DOL has formed a very bad habit over the last two decades: they are simply addicted to abusing wild buffalo. You can help BFC help them kick the habit.

On our website are ACTION STEPS and we have

included a variety of **things you can do to take action**, educate yourself and others, celebrate wild buffalo, keep BFC on the front lines, and join the growing tens of



thousands who are dedicated to protecting the wild bison. **WILD IS THE WAY ~ ROAM FREE!**

Interior Department "Restoration" Plan Proposes More Harm to Wild Buffalo. The Department of Interior (DOI) recently announced that they intend to "restore" bison to various portions of the landscape, but there is madness to their method. From a buffalo's perspective—one shared by BFC—restoration happens naturally, simply through walking; freely migrating onto the lands that wild buffalo have

been absent from for nearly two hundred years. Wild buffalo attempt to restore themselves year after year, and would succeed with no interference from humans, as no plans or funding are necessary. Yet they are repeatedly blocked by politics masquerading as science.

The DOI wants to use America's last wild buffalo — the Yellowstone herds — as "seed stock" to safeguard genetics and artificially place bison on specific landscapes in the country. Their main tool would be quarantine, which involves capture and years of confinement and domestication for wild buffalo in order to create docile, brucellosis-free animals that would be placed on landscapes surrounded by fences. The DOI's false platform is that Yellowstone holds "surplus" buffalo, "extra" animals that must be removed from an already dangerously tiny and vulnerable population. This is absolutely false: there are no "surplus" buffalo; this remnant population of fewer than 4,200 animals is ecologically extinct. Yellowstone National Park's own carrying capacity study determined that lands within the Park itself can sustain upwards of 6,200 wild buffalo, and with hundreds of thousands of acres of public lands surrounding the Park, many thousands more could flourish. Reducing the world's most significant bison herds to "seed stock" misses the entire point of restoring a keystone wildlife species and placates livestock interests. Wild buffalo are so much more than their genetics. Their wild integrity is in their behavior, their character, and their very spirit, which the DOI plan would kill.

Please contact Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and remind her that true restoration does not include capture, domestication through quarantine, transport via livestock trucks, fencing, becoming mere "genetic seed stock," culling, or any other livestock model management scheme. True restoration is simple: Let buffalo be buffalo to walk the earth, roam, migrate, and return to the lands that are their birthright. Self-willed and wild are the ways of the buffalo. The DOI's plan with all its intensive intervention, that is the way of cattle.

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Fuels Reduction - Road Closure - Watershed Mtg

Dear Readers,

Forest Service to begin cutting trees west of Gross Reservoir. The Boulder Ranger District of the Roosevelt National Forest will begin implementing the manual treatment portion of the Forsythe Fuels Reduction Project near Gross Reservoir. This work involves hand-thinning tree stands with chainsaws. The project will selectively target removal of lodgepole pine; medium-sized ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir; and conifers killed or infested with mountain pine beetle. In all treatment areas, larger healthy ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir trees will be retained.

Slash material will either be hand piled or lopped and scattered to allow for future chipping or burning. "The purpose of this project is to improve forest and watershed health and to create a more fire-adapted landscape by reducing the mixed conifer tree stand density and enhancing species that have abilities to help them survive a wildfire, such as ponderosa pine and aspen," said Boulder District Ranger Sylvia Clark.

Contractors may move into the area very soon, if they are not already there. The expected operational work hours will be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. with no operations on Sunday. The hand-thinning portion of the Forsythe Fuels Reduction Project will occur within 642 acres of National Forest System lands west of Gross Reservoir and will take approximately eight weeks to complete.

The Forsythe trails and dispersed campsites will remain open, however for public safety, forest users are asked to be cautious and avoid entering areas where work is taking place due to the hazard of falling trees. For more information contact the Boulder Ranger District at 303-541-2500 or visit the website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/landmanagement/resourcemanagement/?cid=stelprd3805692>.

Individuals interested in receiving more information about this project may sign up for updates by sending an email - reference to the Forsythe project to BRDvis@fs.fed.us.

Dear Rearders,

US 36 FLOOD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT NOTIFICATION -Nine-Day Closure Will Begin July 29 at 6 a.m. there will be a closure of US 36 between mile markers (MM) 18 and 19 near Lyons, to accommodate work on Phase 2 of reconstruction.

The road will re-open for all weekend traffic Aug. 2, and then will close again Aug. 4 at 6 a.m. The road will open on Saturday, Aug. 9 at 6 a.m. Only credentialed local residents, businesses and deliveries may use Apple Valley Road as a detour. US 36 from MM 18 - 19 will be closed to through traffic. There will be checkpoints at MM 6 and 20, at which staff from the Boulder County Sheriff Department will check for credentials. Other traffic will need to go on SH 7 or US 34 during this closure.

Residents who live along US 36 (Continued next page.)




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Highlander Letters

from MM 6 – 20, including residents in Big Elk Meadows (CR 47), Pinewood Springs, Longmont Dam Road (CR 80), CR 71 and Apple Valley Road, can receive credentials.

During the closure, crews will build up the road embankment height and raise the road anywhere from 2 to 10 feet. This will require machinery and unsafe elevations that are not conducive to accommodating traffic.

Town of Lyons

Dear Readers,

Months after I had my baby, my husband and I decided I was to be a stay at home mom, that is when I realized that it gets lonely even with an infant. So I decided that we needed a support group in the canyon for new moms or stay at home moms. I put together a group on Face Book called "Mama and Cubs in Coal Creek Canyon." I have met some wonderful ladies that I have become great friends with. This group gives new moms the opportunity to ask questions, get advice and to just know that they aren't the only one going through the joys of motherhood alone while their spouses are working hard for us to have the greatest opportunity of staying home with our children.

I would like to give other families the opportunity to meet and have the support system that is needed for living up here. Myself, Jill Ellingson and Lindsey Muessel are excited to announce our **First Annual Mama and Cubs**

Family Get Together. It will be held on August 10, 2014 at the CCCIA Hall from 2pm-4pm with drinks and snacks provided. Please join us in making our first annual get together a success! Lia Brooks

PUBLIC MEETING: Coal Creek Canyon Watershed Master Planning

This meeting will introduce various strategies that the project team has identified to create a more resilient Coal Creek Canyon community. The meeting will take place on

Wednesday, August 20th from 6-9 pm at the Coal Creek Canyon Improvements Building and will focus on collecting feedback on these strategies before drafting the final Master Plan. **31528 Highway 72, Golden, CO 80403**

Craig Jacobson of ICON engineering, gave an update to the symposium participants on behalf of the Upper Coal Creek Watershed Master Plan project. As Craig explained, currently, the project team is identifying mitigation strategies to present to the project advisory group (Interested in participating in the advisory group? Visit teg-colorado.com/watershed). This meeting will act as a check-in for the planning team and a kick-off point for developing the next community meeting.

On July 18th at the Colorado Watershed Symposium, many watershed coalitions from around the state got together to highlight their successes and challenges. The purpose of watershed coalitions are to unite stakeholders and community members alike to help identify locally relevant solutions to natural resources challenges. In the wake of the flood, the Colorado Water Conservation Board acknowledged that to build successful mitigation to the effects of the flood, there would need to be specific coalitions formed that could take into account each community's unique social and environmental conditions and values, rather than implementing a top-down approach.

Since the May 29th community meeting, the project team has been hard at work addressing the many great questions and comments that came out of the meeting to be considered in the draft Master Plan. On top of writing the plan, the project team has applied for a few grants to begin a few projects, and done some outreach for the master plan through various venues like the July 4th community celebration. Please see the **project website** for more information: <http://uppercoalcreek.com/>

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Prevent Spread Of Infectious Equine Diseases

It's show time! CSU veterinarians advise ways to avoid infection while traveling with horses. Summer is peak season for horse shows and events, and Colorado State University veterinarians remind riders that it's important if traveling to take steps that will help prevent the spread of equine infectious disease. Recent cases and outbreaks of equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1), which can cause potentially fatal neurologic disease, have drawn attention to the need for prevention.

Influenza, salmonellosis and strangles are some other infectious diseases of concern, said Dr. Paul Morley, director of infection control at CSU's James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital. **In a new video, *Preventing Infections in Horses Attending Shows and Traveling*, CSU equine experts outline specific, low-cost precautions for horse owners. View it at: <http://col.st/1mPraWg>.**

"Some advance planning and a few low-cost, common-sense preventative measures will help keep horses healthy while traveling," Morley said. "Protecting the health of your horse makes these steps well worth the time and thought." CSU veterinarians advise horse owners to thwart infection by understanding and watching for symptoms of illness. They also recommend precautions including disinfecting trailers and equipment, and preventing contact that could spread pathogens.

Morley recommends that riders traveling with horses take the steps outlined here; these tips are discussed in more detail in the CSU video. Prepare for a trip by properly cleaning the horse trailer and consulting with your veterinarian about your horse's present health, vaccinations, diseases of concern and any other relevant issues. Pack all cleaning equipment and health supplies needed on the road. Avoid strangers, and don't borrow or share.

Contagious diseases are transmitted through contact – meaning direct nose-to-nose contact among horses, as well as your horse's contact with surfaces that an infected animal might have contaminated with saliva, respiratory secretions or manure. Bottom line: Separate your horse from other horses, and use only your own tack, grooming, feeding and watering equipment.

Create a clean environment for your horse during a show or event. If possible, set up portable panels to confine your horse on event grounds, or fully clean and disinfect on-site stalls before housing your horse at an event. Monitor your horse for signs of illness. During an event, keep tabs on

your horse's temperature; monitor feed and water intake to ensure it is normal; and watch for other signs of illness. Ask your veterinarian for health information and how-to demonstrations, if needed.

Segregate the traveling horse upon return home. A horse that has been at a show or event may be incubating illness, so keep the horse apart from others for five to seven days and monitor for any illness that might arise before returning the horse to the home group.

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Summertime Heat & Your Dog's Health

By Dr. Timothy B. Hackett –CSU

On a typical summer day, temperatures easily top 90 degrees F in much of the country, and it likely feels much hotter for many dogs. In fact, heat-related illness is one of the most common preventable causes of multiple-organ failure in dogs.

Consider a few basics about canine physiology: Unlike humans, dogs don't sweat to regulate body temperature; panting is the main mechanism for evaporative cooling of the body. A dog's long nose also helps to cool air and regulate temperature.

But heat easily overpowers these functions, especially if a dog is sick, is older and less able to effectively regulate body temperature, has a heavy coat, or is flat-faced, called brachycephalic. Moreover, dogs rarely resist a chance to hike, run, fetch and play – even if this exercise leads to overheating.

Put together, these factors mean pet owners must be attuned to the hazards of heat for their dogs and take steps to avoid heat-related illness.

Heat-related risks came into sharp focus in late June, when 20 dogs died at a boarding kennel near Phoenix after the facility's air-conditioning reportedly malfunctioned. Here in northern Colorado, Animal Protection & Control

officers respond to about five calls every summer day from people worried about the welfare of dogs left in hot cars, according to the Larimer Humane Society. **Leaving a dog in a hot car – even for a short time – is classified in the city of Fort Collins, Colo., as animal neglect and is subject to a fine of \$250.**

Why the concern? Temperatures spike quickly in parked cars, even in the shade and even with windows rolled down. If it's 90 degrees F outside, the temperature inside a car will jump to about 110 degrees F in just 10 minutes and will continue to rise from there, research shows. That's killer heat for a dog.

A dog's normal body temperature hovers around 101 degrees F, and a dog's core temperature may approach 110 degrees F or higher if it is left in a hot car. Serious symptoms of heat-related illness typically develop when a dog's body temperature rises above 108 degrees F.

At that point, thermal injury to cells can literally cook proteins, inactivate enzymes, destroy cell membranes and damage the cells' ability to generate energy. This can lead to organ failure and death. In the past decade, 36 dogs were treated at CSU's James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital for heat-related illness after being removed from hot cars. One-third of these dogs died from their injuries.

Yet **heat-related illness much more commonly results from exercising dogs** until they are overheated. This occurs in poorly acclimatized dogs and those having a harder time dissipating heat. The result often is a condition

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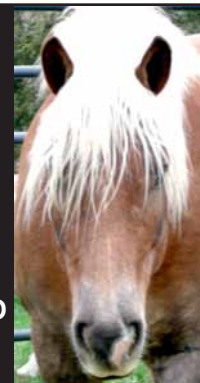
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called laryngeal paralysis – and in the past 10 years, the CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital has treated 519 cases of laryngeal paralysis.

Laryngeal paralysis occurs when the larynx, or voice box, fails to properly open for airflow, making it difficult for a dog to pant effectively. It is marked by loud wheezing when a dog breathes and is a common ailment of older dogs. Here are factors that predispose dogs to serious heat-related illness as environmental temperatures rise: Age. Nerves and muscles that control the larynx become less effective as a dog ages, worsening the problem of restricted airflow from overexertion and heat.

- **Illness.** Dogs with seizure disorders, heart disease and other chronic diseases that affect the heart, lungs and airways often have impaired temperature control and are more prone to heat-related illness.
- **Obesity.** Dogs with more insulation retain more heat. Brachycephalic breed. Dogs such as bulldogs, boxers, pugs and Boston terriers have short noses that inhibit cooling.
- **Heavy coats.** Dogs with long hair coats are less able to regulate body temperature. **Drugs.** Some medications affect circulation and an animal's normal ability to dissipate heat.

Prior heatstroke and poor acclimatization to heat, humidity and exercise also can predispose animals to heat-related illness. Remember that dogs age faster than people – so your 7-year-old golden retriever might not cope with a summertime hike or run as easily as you might think, even if he acts eager to go. Make sure to ask your veterinarian about the risks of heat-related illness, and specifically about your dog's ability to handle heavy exercise.

Other steps for avoiding heat-related illness: Provide your dog with shade and water, and keep your dog indoors on hot summer days. **Never leave your dog in a hot car.**

Take your dog to the vet if it is panting frantically, wheezing, or displaying any other worrisome symptoms on a hot day. If you think your dog is overheated, do not immerse him in water or an ice bath. An overheated dog has impaired temperature regulation, and can quickly overcool and become hypothermic.

Dr. Timothy Hackett is director of CSU's James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital. He is a specialist in veterinary emergency and critical care.

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Update On Subdivision Paving Lawsuit

From BoCo FIRM

Reports of the death of BoCo FIRM have been greatly exaggerated. It has been a while since we last communicated regarding the ongoing BoCo FIRM subdivision paving lawsuit against Boulder County Commissioners Domenico, Gardner and Jones (Case Number: 13 CV 31685). As a result many people have wondered what is going on with the lawsuit and what is going on with BoCo FIRM.

We can tell you without hesitation that BoCo FIRM is alive and well. Two BoCoFIRM members are public representatives on the Subdivision Paving Local Improvement District Advisory Committee (SPLIDAC) that meets regularly with the County Transportation Department and advises the Commissioners on Subdivision Paving LID actions. Two to three BoCoFIRM members attend each meeting of the SPLIDAC. The BoCo FIRM web-site has been updated and now contains all information regarding the status of the lawsuit status which is also summarized here.

July 8th - Lawsuit update - Among numerous claims we have made against the Boulder County Commissioners,

one stands out. We contend that based on state statutes and case law that the County clearly exceeded their authority when they established the subdivision paving Local Improvement District. In legal terms this is called a "106 claim." You can download and read copies of the legal documents regarding our 106 claim filed by clicking on any of the links Plaintiff's 106 Brief, County's 106 Answer, Plaintiff's Reply to County Answer. All of these documents can also be found on the BoCo FIRM Lawsuit page on our website www.BoCoFIRM.org

This 106 issue is being considered first by the Court. We are awaiting Judge Lowenbach's ruling on this aspect of the case. We anticipate a ruling will be issued sometime in July or August, which we will immediately communicate. Note: As described on our web site, Judge Lowenbach replaced Judge Hartman as the presiding Judge for our lawsuit on May 9th.

What will happen after the 106 ruling? If the court rules in our favor on the 106 issue and barring any appeals by the County, the likely outcome will be that the LID will be dissolved for all 10,900 property owners and all assessments paid will be refunded. If the court rules against us on the 106 issue we will have several options. One will



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be an appeal of the ruling to the appellate courts. A second option would be to simply move forward with a full trial on our other claims against the County contained in our lawsuit. These claims include:

- That the County violated the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR, Colorado Constitution, Article X, Section 20) when they formed the LID and assessed our properties.
- That the LID does not comply with the uniform taxation requirements of the Colorado Constitution (Article X, Section 3).
- That the LID does not provide a special benefit that exceeds the cost of the assessment and is thus a tax. Imposition of a tax is a deprivation of our property without due process as required by both Article II, Section 25, of the Colorado Constitution and Article 14, Section 1, of the United States Constitution.
- That the County has breached the contracts it entered into with each subdivision to maintain the roads when the County accepted the subdivision roads.

Although we hope the Court will rule in our favor on the 106 issue and end the LID now, we are prepared to continue the fight against what we feel is a dangerous new precedent allowing the County to impose new taxes without voter approval. Help us continue the fight.

BoCo FIRM is continuing to fight the County's efforts to impose onerous and illegal taxes on the same residents it is legally required to serve. At this time the only thing standing between you and \$57,600,000 in new taxes is our lawsuit. In the coming weeks and months this legal battle will continue (see www.BoCoFIRM.org for details on the legal case).

As with all legal fights we need your continued financial


support. Over 1,000 of your fellow citizens have already donated and we sincerely thank them for their generosity. If you've been meaning to make a contribution, click on the link at our website. You may donate using a credit card. You can also send a check made out to BoCo FIRM, PO Box 11275, Boulder, CO 80301. Thank you again for your support.



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Top Left: Indy & Gypsy on their way to the beach.

Top Right: After the Beach.

Bottom Right: Home Again!

Bottom Left: Foster Kittens.

(photos from California friend Sally, thank you!)

Readers, please send your favorite photos to see them on these pages - send jpg files to news@highlandermom.com

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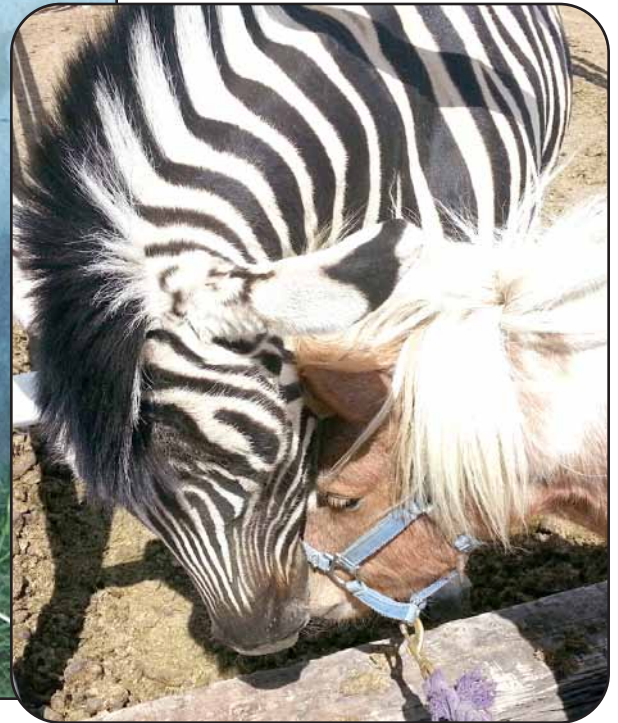
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Left: Kelsey holds new foal up for Mama mare to smell!

Right: Zoe the Zebra nose to nose with mini horse Nelson! (you'll see more of this pair - from friend Lisa, thank you!)



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Junior Ranger Headquarters Hopping At RMNP

Article and photographs by Diane Bergstrom

“I don’t even WANT to do this!” the 5 1/2 (don’t forget the 1/2!) year old boy from Duluth firmly told his mother as she led him into the semi-circle of a dozen children listening to Interpretive Ranger Trevor at the Moraine Park Discovery Center and Junior Ranger Headquarters. Twenty seconds after launching into a child-focused park presentation, Ranger Trevor had the 5 1/2 year old yelling out what animals he had seen in the park, and within minutes the



boy was wearing a black bear puppet, which he later stated was his favorite part of the program. Ranger Trevor made a fan and set up an inductee into the National Park Junior Ranger Program, whether the boy realized it or not. The children were eager participants who, in a constantly



fidgiting way, were engaged, listening, and learning. Each child held a stuffed toy representing animals found in the park. They learned about “brooming,” which bighorn sheep do to wear away layers of their horns in order to improve their peripheral vision, why pikas

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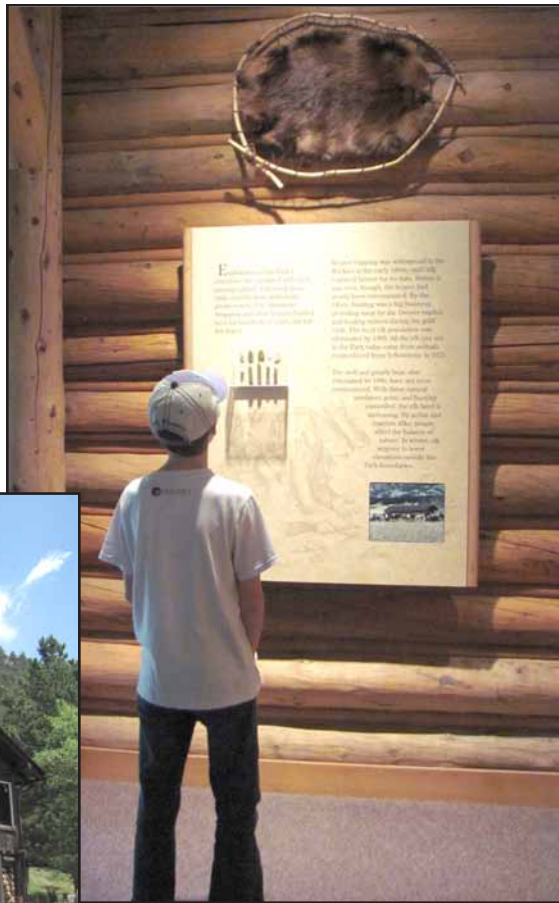
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are on overdrive in the summer, the importance of guard hairs on moose (favorite fact of the 8 year old sister from Duluth), how far bighorn sheep can see, and the natural characteristics of animals which help them adapt to the outdoors where they live. A young participant was chosen to carry a beaver pelt around the room so everyone could feel the thick waterproof fur. The basic tenets for interpretive programs require the presenters to pick out the most relevant points to disseminate information in an interesting way. At the Junior Ranger Headquarters, it's all about being kid-friendly. There are child-oriented exhibits that are interactive and visual, child-oriented programs that

Highlander Nature

built as an assembly hall, in 1931. The log and spike structure with walls chinked on the inside, now houses the program area and gift store on the main level, and interactive displays and museum pieces on the second level, with large windows overlooking the expansive meadows of Moraine Park. As the 3-year-old Duluth brother pulled his father's hand to lead him back upstairs, I asked him what he wanted to see



again. He replied, "Mouse! Bunny!" (Continued next page.)



are fun and quick, and arts and crafts, to teach kids how to be responsible, safe and have a good time in the park. Interpretation is offered at their level while accompanying adults learn by default, joining their kids on benches, or resting on comfortable couches during the presentations. As one home-schooling mother sitting on the floor with her kids commented, it was nice to have someone else teach her kids for 30 minutes.

The historic building housing the headquarters had been the Moraine Park Museum for years. The park was established in 1915 and purchased the building, originally

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Now I wanted to go upstairs. What I found were kids pulling on levers, reading displays, studying antlers, and taking their time to learn about the natural world. The non-profit Rocky Mountain Conservancy funds the park's educational programs and this is a stellar opportunity to foster our future park stewards.

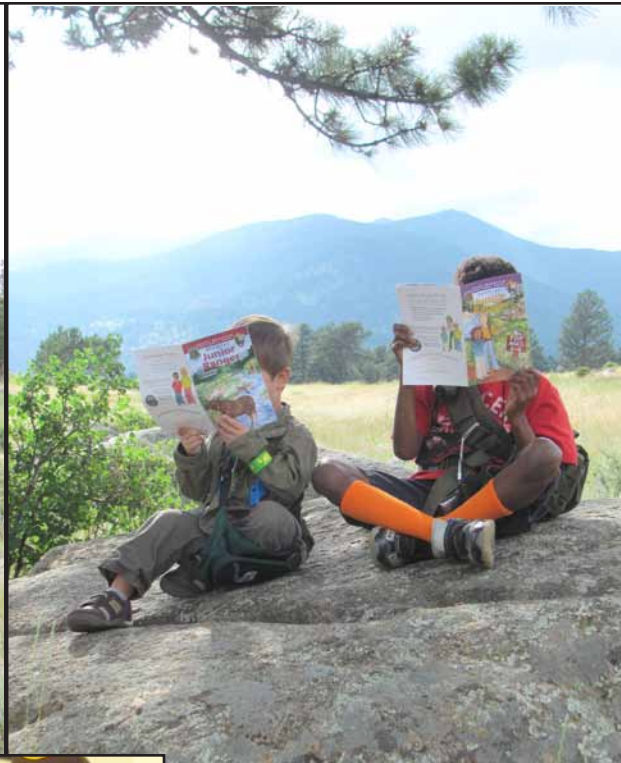
How do your kids become Junior Rangers? First, take them to Rocky Mountain National Park and pick up age-appropriate booklets of activities at any visitor center. There are three different colorful books for ages 5 and under, 6-8, and 9 and up. Second, spend time going through the park and through the booklet exercises such as Eye Spy, Nature Checklist, and Animal Riddles. Third, attend a presentation at the Junior Ranger Headquarters /Moraine Park Discovery Center. The

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employees and volunteers infiltrates the Center too, as a retired NASA technical writer might help your child make prints with elk hoof stamps, or a graduate in Human Geography might give your child the ranger pledge.) If you would like to attend a bilingual program presented in English/Spanish, the Boys & Girls Club of Larimer County meets at the Estes Park Elementary School

center is open every day throughout the summer and fall from 9 am to 4:30 pm. The rangers and volunteers will go through the booklets with your kids, have them take an oath, and award them with Junior Ranger badges. (The impressive caliber of the RMNP



where rangers give a 45 minute talk twice a week (Monday and Tuesday at 10:00 am). They present a different topic every week including scat and tracks, ecosystems, ranger job descriptions, and animal familiarity.

I asked the volunteers and ranger *(Continued next page.)*

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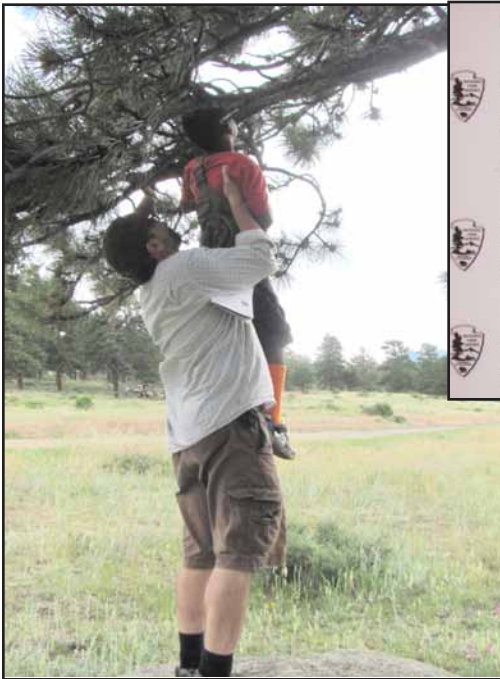
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Highlander Nature

what were the most memorable questions or comments they received from kids. A child told them he had learned that you can tell the difference between elk poop and deer poop (or scat) because deer poop could fit up your nose but elk poop couldn't. He was told to visualize this, not actually try it. Several kids ratted on their parents for



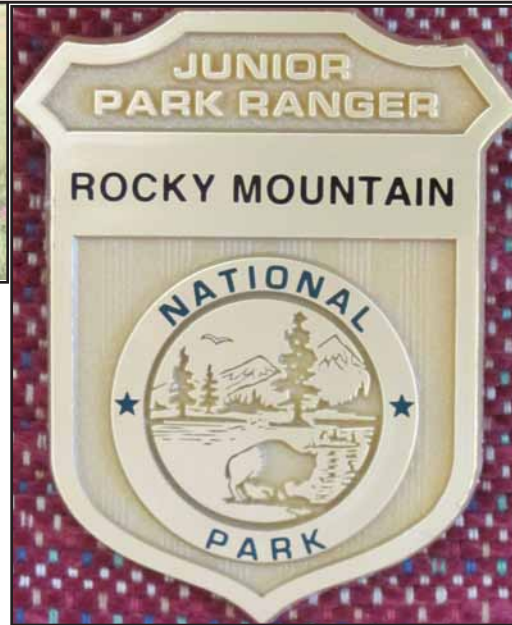
What is a Junior Ranger?

Junior Rangers are kids who learn about and protect the things they see at National Parks.

Junior Rangers attend Park Ranger Programs.

Junior Rangers are good stewards of the environment and the earth.

feeding wild animals and picking wildflowers. Kids will do that. The differentiating between deer and elk was a common question. A volunteer told them to look for a large light patch on the rear end of an elk. Ranger Trevor was stunned when he asked his young audience if anyone knew what "crepuscular" meant and a Junior Ranger gave him a spot-on definition.



(I won't tell you what it means, or which animal it applies to, but Ranger Trevor will.)

After the center closed, I strolled down the trail through

Moraine Park and past a lively interactive family from Texas. Dad was showing his older son how to smell the differences between tree barks while Mom pointed out flowers to her younger son. They were teaching their kids about their natural world and enjoying every minute! I noticed that each boy was holding a Junior Ranger booklet and commended them for becoming Junior Rangers. I thanked the parents for bringing their kids to the park and participating in the program. I shared the scat identification tips I had learned from the volunteers and ranger at the Discovery Center, and, putting knowledge into immediate practice, Mom, flanked by her sons, observed a pile of scat at her feet and commented, "Deer. Definitely deer."

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Some folks believe that when you register to vote it puts you at risk for jury duty. While this may or may not be true, it depends on your county as courts get their lists from many sources, including the Motor Vehicle Department or property tax records.

In my opinion anyone who wishes to circumvent their civic duty for both voting and jury duty should not be allowed to have a jury of their peers if the need arises. Both freedoms were won by the loss of life of many ancestors who fought battles to ensure we have the rights to vote for the people who represent us and to ensure we get a fair trial in the courts.

Voting in any election is a civic duty that should not be shirked due to it not being a Presidential Election year or simply because you don't have the time (or are fearful of having to serve on a jury). If you register early and opt for a mail in ballot it is as easy as paying a bill by mail. Of course it is always a good idea to be well informed on the issues and the folks running for office, but in this day and age of the Internet that is easier than ever before.

Don't let a ballot intimidate you should you not know how to vote on something or for someone. Mail in ballots are sent in time to give you ample notice for research on topics that may come as a surprise.

You can certainly refrain from voting on anything you're not sure of by leaving that particular portion blank. Once you register to vote, by picking a party you will probably receive a small book in the mail to explain what will be on the ballot and possibly what certain legalese means in layman's terms.

The biggest mistake you can make is to not register and not vote. The longer you practice being a voter the more you will take notice of issues and make note of how individual civil servants vote or act. Voting records are available on incumbents and ethical political people make themselves available to their constituents in many ways.

You can always call your county Registrar Office to ask questions,

request pamphlets be mailed to you regarding the issues on an upcoming ballot – especially if you're registered as an Independent. The mail-in ballot is of course the most convenient and therefore gives no excuse for not voting and not registering to vote.

Never complain, never explain – a good motto (can't remember who said it) but sure is true if you've given your best effort to be a part of the process that affects all our lives. If you feel strongly about an issue make a point to find a public candidate that feels the same way you do and help to get them into office by donating funds or your time before an election. You'll feel better and know that you've at least tried to put things right in our world of uncertainty.

Look around the world at the many places where people aren't valued enough to have our freedoms. They are fighting to get the freedoms we take for granted, or leaving their homelands in hopes of sharing our hard won rights.

By A.M. Wilks

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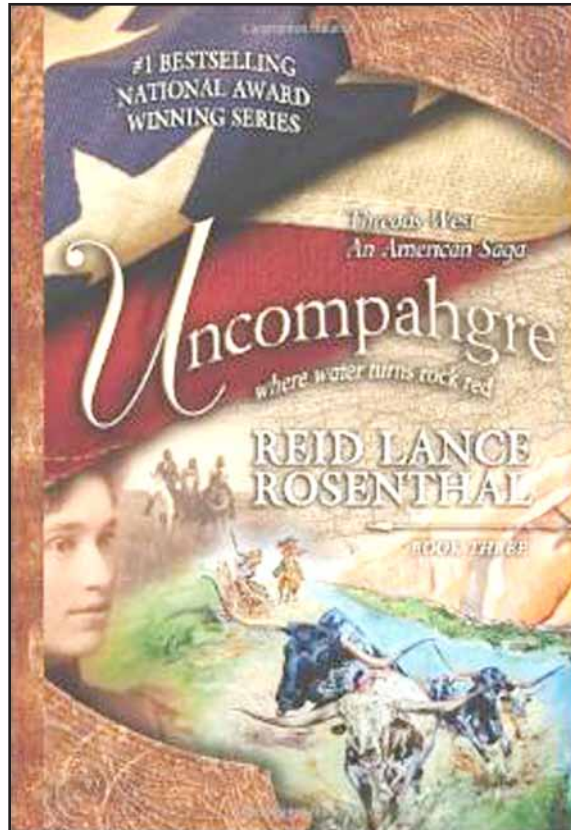
Book three of the *Threads West An American Saga* turns out to continue the compelling drama in Reid Lance Rosenthal's award winning series.

Uncompahgre, where water turns rock red was only recently available this spring and the fourth book, *Moccasin Tracks* will become available in August. Each book so far fails to disappoint readers and continues the captivating tales of interesting and fascinating characters set in true-to-life historical settings.

Colorado residents will relate to the locations and find the history highlighting well-known areas from the past amazing and somehow relevant to today's version of those areas. Our ancestors had hard times due to the wildness and frontier nature of our state, but they also rose to the occasion in familiar and similar fashion as today's westerner's.

Rosenthal is one of the few male authors I enjoy reading due to his ability to write female emotions, notions and dreams much like the real thing. This enables him to make his characters real to the reader, which invests you in what is happening to the characters as few authors can accomplish. I savor each book and await the next just as if I knew the people personally.

Imagine a time when non-native settlers had to navigate not only the raw landscape but also the native peoples. This was a time when cultures clashed and dreams were either dashed or came true. Immigrants from Europe brought their ideas to a place where the native populations didn't even grasp the notion of land ownership much less settling down to live in one place year round. These two types of people's struggled to find ways of coping and surviving one another,



some in compromise and some in violence.

While the books all stand alone, without reading the earlier stories; in part due to some catch up in the introductions and major character sections, but mainly because each character is so rich, full of detail and interesting. A reader can get caught up in the events, dreams and action as the characters interact and their lives intersect with each other and history. These are probably not so far off from real life historical stories of the folks who lived in those days.

Take a trip back to yesteryear and enjoy a time when life was rich in ways most of us will never experience. The smells, sights and sounds of a landscape so vivid from

Rosenthal's poetic descriptions that you'll feel like you're there. Reading these books is a true escape from modern technology, social media and the stressors of life in the fast lane.

Published by Rockin SR Publishing, Cheyenne, Wyoming – the series is available at Amazon and many places where you buy books. They are paperback so therefore affordable and will be appreciated by readers mid-teen and older. You can check out the inside of the books at Amazon and get a good taste of the author's fabulous way with words, detailed research and notable characters. Plus, the series has eight books total so you'll be able to enjoy many more in the series as they become available to readers.

By A.M. Wilks

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What If....

By **Melissa E. Johnson**

*There isn't enough room
in your mind
for worry and faith.
You must decide
which will live there.*

(unknown)

I passed a neighborhood church with a sign that read: "Worry is the dark room where negatives develop." Something in its message resonated to my core, not because I'm a worrier by nature but because, when I do, the train of "what if's" can carry me to a dark and fearful place in a flash. It's not logical.

Like one of my students who, after nearly making herself sick with worry, suffering from insomnia and a whole host of physical symptoms that mirrored her chaotic mental state, confessed that she was worried that if she didn't do well on the LSAT she would never be able to buy her own home. What? Let's unravel that thought process; break it down for me. I insisted. She explained that if she didn't rock the LSAT then she wouldn't get into law school. If she didn't make it to law school she would never realize her dream of being a lawyer. If not a lawyer, she wouldn't make enough money to support a mortgage payment. In a world full of homeowners who are not lawyers, it was easy to see the fault in her logic. But it wasn't logic that cast such a dark shadow on her thoughts.

It reminds me of the parable about the young business man traveling along an unfamiliar road in rural America when he was stopped by a flat tire. He couldn't find a jack in his rental car, and it was impossible to change a tire without a jack, so he set off on foot for the closest home or business where he might ask to borrow a jack or at least a phone to call for help. As he walked, he imagined his conversation with the homeowner ending in rejection. "No I don't have a jack." "No you can't use my phone." And so on. At one point, he even had an argument with the man he had yet to meet who had yet to refuse him help. By the time he arrived at the nearest house and knocked on the door, he was so bent with anger and frustration that when the homeowner opened the door he screamed, "Never mind!" and walked away in search of someone who would help.

Worry, at best, is a misuse of the imagination! At worst, it is the shackle that keeps us trapped in self-doubt and

defeat. Either you have some control over the situation or you don't. If you don't, all the worrying in the world won't make it so. So next time you find yourself chasing that parade of horrors, ponder this: What if all went pleasingly well? What if you realized your greatest success? What if most of the things you're worrying about never happen? What if...

*Melissa is a writer,
photographer, artist and lawyer.*

Read more on her blog at www.HeartLaw.blogspot.com.





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Protect All Water

By Mark Squillace

The Environmental Protection Agency recently proposed a new rule to define the term “the waters of the United States” as used in the federal Clean Water Act. If you care about protecting our nation’s waters and wetlands, and if you care about government efficiency, then you should support this rule. Here’s why.

For largely historical reasons, when Congress passed the Clean Water Act in 1972, it used the phrase “navigable waters” to describe the scope of the law, defining that term to mean “the waters of the United States.” One can easily read this definition expansively, and indeed, the congressional report that accompanied the law expressed Congress’ desire that the phrase “be given the broadest possible constitutional interpretation.”

The agencies primarily responsible for carrying out the Clean Water Act - the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - initially settled on a narrow definition, but after a court rebuffed that approach, they adopted a much broader definition that included even natural ponds used by migratory birds. Clear legal support for this expanded rule is found in the U.S. Constitution’s Commerce and Treaty clauses.

The U.S. Supreme Court has entertained questions about the scope of the Clean Water Act on three separate occasions. The first was in 1985, when a unanimous Court embraced a broad reading of the law. Sixteen years later, however, the makeup of the Court had changed, and in a narrow 5-4 decision it held that law did not encompass isolated ponds used by migratory birds. The justices reached this result in the face of evidence that Americans spend more than a billion dollars annually on commercial activities relating to migratory birds. Perhaps the most striking thing about this decision was the majority’s insistence on giving controlling weight to the phrase “navigable waters,” when Congress had already defined the term as “the waters of the United States.” And to meet the Court’s “navigable waters” test, the government had to show a significant connection to traditional navigable waters - those deep or wide enough to support trade or travel.

The majority insisted that this narrow reading was necessary because the government’s claims raised “significant constitutional questions.” Yet the Court never bothered to analyze those questions. Had it done so, it seems unlikely that it would have found a problem. Another five years passed before a badly split Court doubled down on its narrow interpretation of the law. The case involved a rogue developer who had blatantly disregarded state and federal requests to obtain permits before filling in certain wetlands that were immediately

adjacent to tributaries of navigable waterways.

These decisions have fostered considerable doubt about when and where the law applies. This uncertainty encourages agencies already reeling from severe budget cuts to limit claims of jurisdiction to avoid the case-by-case determinations that invite administrative and judicial challenges. The bureaucratic chaos that this creates is not only costly but also harms our waters by allowing polluting activities to take place without government oversight or regulation.

Here's the thing. Polls show that most Americans care deeply about protecting all of our nation's waters, whether or not they connect to navigable bodies of water. Most also believe that people or companies that dump pollutants or otherwise foul our waters should be regulated. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court's unnecessarily crabbed reading of the Clean Water Act stands in the way of such regulation.

An obvious solution is to amend the Clean Water Act to clarify what Congress originally intended. Congress came close to doing that only a few years ago. But the current gridlock in Washington virtually assures no progress on the legislative front. The best alternative is to invoke the government's rulemaking powers to minimize the uncertainty and protect as much water as we can. That is

what this rulemaking is all about. It is a modest proposal, but one that will end the now-cumbersome case-by-case assessments for all non-navigable tributaries of navigable waterways as well as their adjacent wetlands. This covers the vast majority of our nation's waters. For other waters that fail this test, decisions can still be made on a case-by-case basis.

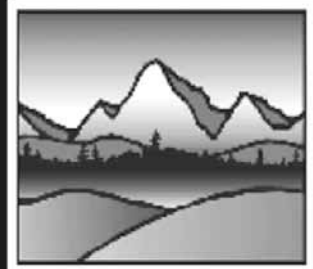
Chief Justice John Roberts, who sided with the majority in the two most recent cases, has lamented that federal rules might have avoided the current state of affairs. He suggests that rules would provide "guidance meriting deference under our generous standards." If he truly believes this, he could provide the decisive vote to support a more expansive reading of the law.

Let's test this theory by getting behind this proposed rule. Comments are due by Oct. 20, 2014.

Mark Squillace is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a syndicated opinion column service of High Country News (hcn.org). He is a Professor of Law at the University of Colorado Law School. Contact him at mark.squillace@colorado.edu.

For information on EPA's proposed rule defining "waters of the United States," go to <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/CWAwaters.cfm>

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The Leak Heard 'Round The Nuclear Industry

By Judith Lewis Mernit/High Country News

Until this Feb. 5, when fire erupted from a truck 2,100 feet below ground at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in southeastern New Mexico, the country's only permanent nuclear waste repository had a perfect 15-year-long safety record. It's hard to overstate how much this mattered: The deep salt-bed mine, called always by its acronym, only handles debris from nuclear bomb-making. Yet nuclear power proponents have long drawn optimism from WIPP's success. If a repository could succeed for nuclear-defense waste - a category less hot than spent reactor fuel - could we then find a place to inter the accumulating detritus of nuclear reactors? If WIPP could demonstrate safe geologic disposal, might other communities with the appropriate geology also welcome nuclear waste into their backyards?

Nuclear power could then make its comeback as a climate-friendly alternative to coal. That long hoped-for renaissance stalled out as more spent fuel rods crowded into inadequate pools at reactor sites - pools, as we saw at Fukushima Daiichi in 2011, that could burst into flames. WIPP offered hope, evidence, a living laboratory: Let 1,000 reactors bloom.

Had WIPP's problems ended with the truck fire, that

vision might have had a chance. But nine days later, on Valentine's Day, alarms sounded above an air monitor, warning that radioactive particles were escaping from the mine. Workers quickly closed vents, redirecting airflow through particle-stripping filters. Still, alpha radiation from americium and plutonium, the fingerprint of nuclear-weapons waste, was detected a half-mile away.

No one thinks the truck fire triggered the radiation leak, but nearly four months later, no one knows for sure what actually did. There have been theories. "Theory after theory," New Mexico Environment Secretary Ryan Flynn complained at a Carlsbad town hall on May 8. One involved naturally occurring radon gas pressuring particles out of the mine; another suggested a fallen ceiling bolt had punctured a drum. "We need to be very careful what information we put out," Flynn said, at the same time chiding WIPP Recovery Manager Jim Blankenhorn, a U.S. Energy Department contractor, for his lack of transparency. "Evolving theories undermine confidence."

Blankenhorn maintained his reserve, and the next week described how workers dressed in protective gear and outfitted with extendable cameras had gathered clues: Images showing a container drum whose contents seem to



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have burst forth and frozen, like calcified curdled milk. Bags of magnesium oxide, placed atop the drums to shield radiation, have spilled open. Dark stains on the drum suggest some sort of "heat-producing event" occurred in nitrate salts contained in the drum. The damaged drum has been traced back to Los Alamos National Laboratories, one of several facilities that send Cold War-era defense waste to WIPP.

What caused the container to heat up? Investigators have a theory about that, too: Someone at Los Alamos packed the nitrate salts with the wrong kind of kitty litter, like Swheat Scoop instead of Jonny Cat. No, really. "In the '90s, when I was at Los Alamos, we actually did use Jonny Cat," says James Conca, an expert on nuclear waste disposal. "It has very nice chemical composition." Kitty litter absorbs any liquid that could usher radioactive material out of its container. But the wrong kind of kitty litter - a plant-based material as opposed to Jonny Cat's mineral clay - might have interacted with oxidizing nitrate salts and heated up, like "a slow-burning charcoal briquette," Conca says.

The Energy Department insists that the radiation release wasn't enough to imperil the public and had only minimal impact on workers. That's hardly reassuring: WIPP wasn't supposed to leak at all. Now that it has, it takes effort to believe that the next one won't be worse. Nor does the accident at WIPP bode well for waste disposal from commercial nuclear power reactors, a problem so stymied by politics that the Obama administration recently stopped collecting disposal fees from utilities. The last attempt to develop a U.S. repository, at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, united all factions in opposition, not least because Yucca Mountain has a history of volcanism. WIPP, by contrast,

Highlander Environmental

has been dug into a 250-million-year-old salt bed laid down by the evaporation of the Permian Sea. "Salt is molecularly tight," Conca says. "It takes water a billion years to move an inch through salt." Yet the facility remains closed indefinitely. Some waste has been redirected to temporary storage in West Texas; more languishes on the surface where it originated.

Don Hancock of the nonprofit Southwest Research and Information Center in Carlsbad thinks the waste awaiting storage should stay where it is. WIPP, he says, "was a flawed site long before the February events. It's surrounded by more than 100 oil and gas wells." Others argue that closing WIPP would be a mistake, especially now.

"Everyone should be grateful that this waste drum vented after it was emplaced into WIPP," Per Peterson, a nuclear engineering professor at University of California, Berkeley, wrote in an email. "The worst thing that could result would be to leave remaining waste in limbo above ground, risking similar events." Peterson recommends clustering all suspect drums into WIPP's compromised sections and sealing them off forever. The salt bed will then isolate the radioactive waste, just as it did ancient bacteria, which have been found in the salt formation perfectly intact, DNA and all, after a quarter of a billion years.

But first, officials have to know what happened. Attempts to reproduce the organic kitty litter-nitrate salt reaction have failed, and new theories continue to emerge. Only one thing's sure: The promise of geologic disposal of nuclear waste has been dealt a huge blow. And the dimming hope of a nuclear waste solution won't brighten until WIPP's problems are fully understood - and maybe not even then.

This story originally appeared in an issue of High Country News (hcn.org).

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Wild Places Unite Us


By Jamie Williams

As Independence Day celebrations recede from thought, let's take a moment to celebrate our nation's natural wonders. In this country we have the freedom to explore approximately 618 million acres of publicly owned federal lands, from the tundra of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to the cliffs of the newly-created Sleeping Bear Dunes Wilderness on Lake Michigan and the lush canopies of Puerto Rico's El Yunque National Forest, the only tropical rain forest in the U.S. National Forest System.

But these special places didn't gain protection on their own. Federal designation of these natural and cultural landscapes resulted from years of hard work, collaboration and vigilance by local communities. From the California Redwoods to the Rocky Mountain West's iconic rugged wild areas and on to the Florida Everglades, these places continue to unite Americans around the belief that our common heritage is well worth preserving.

Right now on Capitol Hill, more than two-dozen homegrown wilderness bills await passage by the House and Senate. These bills are the products of decades of work by local citizens to protect the Boulder-White Clouds of Idaho, alpine lakes in Washington, premier hunting lands in Montana, and coastal islands in Maine. Some have been awaiting passage for nearly 10 years. They've become stalled in Congress by partisan bickering even though there is nothing partisan about America's love for these lands and the desire to hand them down to our children and grandchildren.

If Congress fails to act, the president can and should use the Antiquities Act to protect appropriate places for the American people. At the behest of local citizens, and after more than 10 years of community outreach and dialogue, President Obama in late May designated the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument. This is a place where ancient cultures left their stories etched in rock, and bighorn sheep lured early Hispanic settlers to



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Just recently, citizens from across the nation convened in Washington, D.C., to tell lawmakers that wild places are important to our economy, job growth and to our quality of life. The occasion was Great Outdoors America Week, and it was the epitome of grassroots democracy, enabling local voices to be heard up and down the National Mall. Few other issues inspire Native Americans, retired military veterans, Latino youth, small business owners, ranchers, faith leaders and many others to agree on one thing - that wild places deserve to be protected.

Just in dollars alone, protected public lands have impact on the local level. Hunting, hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, wildlife watching and other outdoor recreation generate approximately \$646 billion a year and create and 6.1 million jobs. Wild places protect our clean drinking water and help wildlife adapt to a changing climate.

Wilderness offers places for young people to challenge themselves. For example, Adina Scott, a member of the first team of African Americans to summit Denali, North America's highest peak in Alaska, said that "having and taking advantage of access to wilderness shapes my values, gives me sanctuary for recreation, makes me mindful of

how my actions are affecting the world as a whole, and connects me with people in a safe, non-judgmental space."

A good example of the multiple benefits of protected public lands can be found in Southern California. Representative Judy Chu, D-Calif., recently introduced a bill to protect the San Gabriel Mountains, a popular recreation area for Southern Californians that not only provides 70% of the open space for Los Angeles County but also more than one-third of its drinking water.

Wild places, from parks and national forests, to monuments and wilderness, are a big part of what makes this country unique. Our country is the proud architect of the largest wilderness preservation system in the world, which celebrates its 50th birthday this year. Thanks to the foresight of the authors of the Wilderness Act, every American has a right to enjoy and play a part in protecting our natural and cultural heritage.

Jamie Williams is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a syndicated opinion service of High Country News (hcn.org). He is the president of The Wilderness Society. Based in Washington, D.C., the nonprofit organization has 500,000 members nationwide.

Editor's Note: Go to www.wilderness.org to find out how to become a member or make a donation. There are many action steps on the website to help them in doing their jobs of preserving wilderness for the future and all of us.

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Morgan Rooter Service pg 32 303.642.3166

PROPANE

Carl's Corner pg 10 303.642.7144

REAL ESTATE

Black Hawk Real Estate pg 5 303.881.3953
Byers-Sellers Mtn Properties pg 33 303.642.7951
Gail Kirby-Keller Williams pg 12 303.475.9370
House for Lease pg 7 303.990.2496
Retail/Office Space pg 5 509.627.6529
Mock Realty-Kathy Keating -Back cov 303.642.1133
Summit Up Property Mgt. pg 26 303.618.8266

RENTALS

A to Z Rentals pg 8 303.232.7417

RESTAURANTS

Malones Clubhouse Grill pg 14 303.940.1800
Ralston Road Cafe pg 23 303.420.6650
Sundance Cafe pg 20 303.258.0804
Westfalen Hof - pg 16 303.642.3180

RETAIL

ACE Indian Peaks Hardware pg 12 303.258.3132
Golden Mill pg 31 303.279.1151
HiTech Appliance pg 13 303.665.0951
Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393
Mountain Man Store pg 16 303.258.3295
The Silver Horse - pg 10 303.279.6313
The Rustic Moose - pg 10 303.258.3225

STOVES/SERVICE

HiTech Appliance pg 13 303.665.0951
Indian Peaks Stove/Chimney pg15 303.258.3474

TAXES

Michelle Marciniak, CPA pg 23 303.642.7371

WATER & WELL

Arrow Drilling pg 28 303.421.8766
Colorado Water Wizard pg 15 303.447.0789
Doctor Water Well - pg 21 303.438.6669

AUGUST
2014

POWER UPDATE



Your Small Change Makes a Big Difference

When you round up your monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar, you provide assistance to worthy organizations and needy families in your community.

Sign up today: check the box on your next United Power statement, click on 'your Community' online at www.unitedpower.com, or call a Member Services Representative at 303-637-1300.



Giving Money Back to Members



It's August, and for United Power members it heralds another capital credit retirement! Cooperatives are "not for profit" operations, which means we don't work to make margins for shareholders, we work for you, our members. Every year the United Power board of directors assesses the cooperative's financial condition, and determines if and how much the cooperative can afford to return to our members. **This year's retirement is going to be one of the cooperative's largest, with United Power returning \$4.5 million dollars in capital credits to our members.**

Anyone who had service in 2013 or earlier will receive either a check or a bill credit as part of this year's capital credit retirement. Any member who has a retirement of \$5 or more will receive a check and anyone under that amount will receive a credit on their bill in August or September.

We'll Pay if You Have That Old Fridge Hauled Away

When an old refrigerator is moved to a garage or basement, it takes twice as much energy to keep your food cold and can cost over \$130 a year to operate.

United Power members qualify for rebates on new Energy Star® refrigerators and a \$75 refrigerator/freezer recycling credit is available for members who send their old refrigerator or freezer away for proper disposal by a reputable appliance recycler. Reselling or donating a refrigerator does not qualify as proper disposal.

Visit www.unitedpower.com for the rebate application and details on refrigerator recycling. Proof of haul away by a retailer or a receipt from a reputable appliance recycler is required with the rebate application.

UNWANTED Appliances offers curb-side pick-up of refrigerators and freezers and is willing to pick-up from select areas in the United Power mountain territory. Contact UNWANTED Appliances at 1-888-8-UNWANT (1-888-886-9268) to schedule an appliance pick-up, or to get details on the closest facility available for drop-off. Request a receipt from UNWANTED to submit with your rebate application as proof of recycling.



Don't move that old refrigerator to the garage, recycle it to save energy and money!

Customer Service: 303-637-1300

Coal Creek Office: 303-642-7921

www.unitedpower.com

“People are beginning to find out going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity!” – John Muir



11709 Ridge Road
Fabulous Mtn. Retreat
3 BD/ 2 BA- 1,767 sq. ft. **\$289,000**



23 Elliot Lane
Amazing Remodel
4 BD/ 3 BA 2,604 sq. ft. **\$398,000**



10653 Twin Spruce
Road improvements complete!
2 BD/ 3 BA 1,896 sq. ft. **\$245,000**



11710 Ranch Elsie Road
Vintage Property in Rolling Hills
2 BD/ 1 BA - 1,165 sq. ft. **\$204,000**



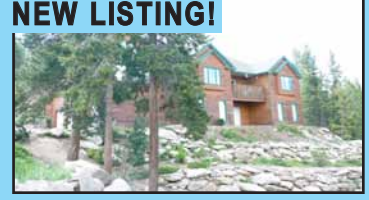
102 Black Bear Trail
Privacy in the Pines!
2 BD/ 1 BA 1.39 Ac. **\$203,000**



125 Moss Rock Place
Sitting @ the top of the World
3 BD/ 3 BA 4-Car Garage **\$374,000**



3072 Coal Creek Canyon
Remodeled 'nose to toes'
3 BD/ 1 BA **\$199,000**



10258 Thorodin Drive
Escape to Silence of the Mountains
3 BD/ 2 BA 35 Acres **\$699,000**



38 Elliot Lane
Level Lot, RV Parking
3 BD/ 2 BA 6-Car Garage **\$279,000**



10232 Dowdle
Privacy in the Pines
3 BD/ 4 BA – 4,752 sq. ft. **\$399,000**



1116 Pandora Ct.
Enormous Yard on Corner Lot
4 BD/ 2 BA- 1,320 sq. ft. **\$255,555**



34705 Stanton Drive
Rare Foothill Property w/ Private Pond
3 BD/ 2 BA 1.40 Acres **\$329,000**



7401 Isabell Cr.
Ranch Style Patio Home
3 BD/ 3 BA 3 Car Garage **\$524,500**



77 Ramona
Flawless Retreat in the Mountains
3 BD/ 3 BA - 3516 sq. ft. **\$499,500**



8819 Blue Mountain
Sweeping Views of the Valley!
3 BD/ 4 BA 2-Car 1 Acre **\$549,000**



6365 Cole Lane
Fab Arvada Townhome
3 BD/ 4 BA 2,200 sq. ft. **\$298,000**



1861 Karlann Drive
Meadow Like Setting
3 BD/ 3 BA 1.25 Acres **\$294,500**



14604 W. 62nd Place
Pride of Ownership
4 BD/ 4 BA- 4,284 sq. ft. **\$469,900**



11648 Overlook Road
Saturated in Attractiveness
3 BD/ 2 BA 2,104 sq. ft. **\$284,000**



LAND LISTINGS
33966 Nadm 1.08 Ac. **\$75K**
64 Damascus 1.87 Ac. - **\$44,900**
0 Damascus 1.86 Ac. - **\$44,900**
11547 Shimley 1.15 Ac. - **\$29K**
0 Hilltop 2.8 Ac. - **\$84K-Under Contract**



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