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*January 2013 #157
See story pg 5*



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About the Cover: By Dave Schemel "When Pigs Fly" balloon ascends at the 2012 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in New Mexico.

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Up, Up and Away!

The 41st Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta!
By Dave Schemel

This was my first time attending this spectacular event in the Land of Enchantment and it won't be my last! It is the largest gathering of balloons and balloonists in the world. There were 536 registered balloons last year, including 99 special shape balloons (animals & cartoon characters etc.)



and 5 gas balloons. There were entries from 38 states and 19 countries including teams from as far away as Australia and South Africa! The estimated attendance totaled over 700,000 visits during the 10-day event from October 6th - 14th, 2012. Several sessions were cancelled this year due to weather issues but the rest of the event more than made up for it.



I attended the final three days that included Dawn Patrol Shows (*Dramatic Dawn Patrol Glow Show at left and The*



Patriotic balloon below left put on a great show as the leader of the Dawn Patrol.), Mass Ascensions (The spectacular final Mass Ascension, above!), pre-dawn and evening Balloon Glows, music, fireworks and more! The Dawn Patrol pilots take off in the pre-dawn sky with special position lighting systems that allow them to fly at night. It is a beautiful sight when they flip on their propane burners. They look like giant glowing Christmas tree ornaments floating in the starry skies. They stay aloft until dawn to assist the rest of the pilots who watch and get an idea of the wind speeds and direction at different altitudes prior to the Mass Ascensions at sunrise. They also did Dawn Patrol Shows with choreographed (Continued on next page.)

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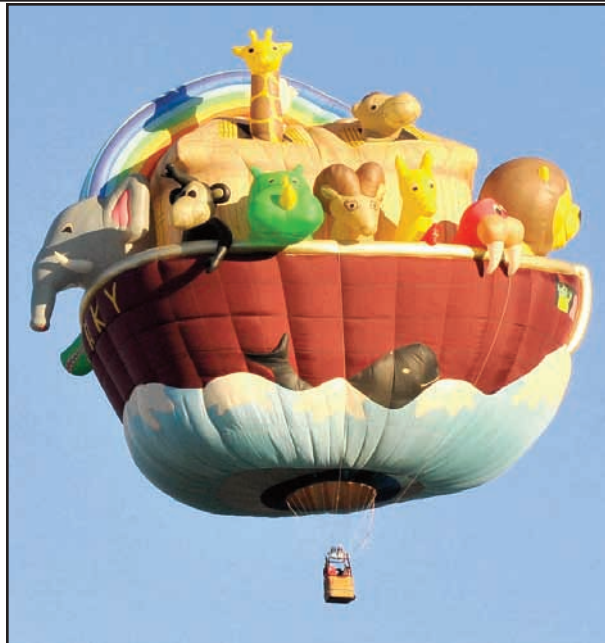
inflation and launches set to music. Amazing!

It felt like I was attending two major sporting events twice a day for three days in a row. I would get up at 4am and join the traffic heading into the Balloon Park around

They did have really good breakfast burritos available too. Walgreen's had a booth there also just in case you overindulged. There were musicians, booths with



5am. The fast paced morning launch activities would conclude around 8am with most folks returning around 5pm for the evening events. There was a 'state fair like' midway at the park called Main Street. It looked totally surreal in the pre-dawn hours to see folks eating turkey legs, pizza and OMG donut hamburgers for breakfast!



(Pictured this page: top left, 'Airabelle' the cow was the largest balloon and a real crowd favorite. Bottom left: 'Arky' the kids really liked the Noah's Ark balloon. Top right; 'The Shark' dominated the sky over Albuquerque.)


southwestern art and beyond and lots of family friendly carnival type diversions to add to the ballooning experience.

I was able to witness two Mass Ascensions at sunrise that were totally awesome! Hundreds of colorful balloons would inflate and launch in waves under the supervision of the Launch Directors and officials dressed in creative black and white striped attire called the Zebras. The balloons would land inside the balloon park if

they could but the wind conditions were such that most of

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cameras and lenses! I have never seen this service provided before at any of the events that I have covered over the years. Great marketing idea! I'm planning on doing some



the landings took place in and around the Albuquerque area. Each balloon had a chase team to follow them and pick them up.

The long distance America's Challenge Gas Race that included 5 balloons lifted off on 10/6. These balloons use hydrogen gas (yikes!) to fly as far as they can as fast as they can across the country! The winning team made it all the way to North Carolina in 62 hours covering 1626 miles!

There were 949 media representatives there from more than 130 different organizations. The event staff did a great job providing food, beverages and support services for us in the media center. Representatives from Nikon were there with a table where photographers could actually borrow



aerial photography from one of the balloons next year! For more information visit www.balloonfiesta.com

(Photos this page: Left: 'High Jack' the way cool pirate. Right: 'The Lion King' the Disney royalty.

To contact Dave email him at daveschemelphoto@q.com or visit his website at www.daveschemelphoto.photoshelter.com

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Public Hearing Jan 7th

As I write this at deadline time for this issue I'm betting Boulder County Commissioners and staffers are baffled that their plan to vote in an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Denver Water Board got found out and read by those opposed to the enlargement of Gross Dam and Reservoir. They hid it very well on their website and it only got emailed to a select few on a limited list, which was recently changed to make residents interested sign up again for staying informed about expansion of Gross Dam.

Once word got out though, the pressure to inform interested county residents through the media had the Commission scrambling to look as if they wanted public input before selling us out to Denver Water for a measly \$10 million. Wording in the actual IGA is blatantly insulting to those of us opposed to this proposed project i.e. (here are some examples verbatim from the IGA).

"This IGA approves the construction and operation of the Project as described in the Preferred Alternative in the DEIS. This approval, however, is predicated on the Project being constructed and operated as described...."

a) In order to address the impacts of the projected truck traffic and other vehicle traffic to and from the Dam, DWB agrees to limit traffic during morning and evening rush hours (which won't effect all residents as many of us wait until the rush is over to drive our canyon road) and at night, and to keep trucks off of Flagstaff Road and Crescent Park Drive.

c) DWB will provide dust mitigation (does not say if they plan to use water or chemicals) and maintenance on gravel roads, and once the project is complete, will return roads to their preconstruction condition.

d) Improvements will be made to State Highway 72 and affected county roads during the period these roads will be used and after construction has ended. (Even the entire \$10 million could not improve the hairpin turns on Hwy 72 to allow the meeting of eighteen wheelers with resident's vehicles, not to mention cars meeting dump trucks and eighteen wheelers on the single lane Gross Dam Road itself.)

e) Noise associated with the Project will be mitigated using the best available technologies (is this a reference to some Star Wars futuristic device?) including limits on the timing certain activities occur (noontime dynamite blasting considered better than midnight - well there goes naptime for toddlers). In addition, DWB will contribute a minimum of \$500k to Boulder County to provide compensation to residents affected by Project noise. (All staffers at the Boulder County Commissioner's office to get raises for this one because you can bet none of us will ever see a dime - because if I can hear the train whistle at midnight from two miles away - this amounts to

about \$16 per person in Coal Creek Canyon alone - no north shore populations included.) **Additional money will be added if noise mitigation requirements included in the IGA are changed.**" (Well, change it to \$500 million for noise mitigation and you'd be getting closer to not insulting us so completely.)

Now those are just a few quotes from pages one and two of a sixteen page document that gives Denver Water power to walk right over all important concerns that the EPA and local residents have to this outrageously flawed proposed project. This insulting document is a hidden (and not so well) bribe by DWB to get our concerns and ability to stop the proposed project out of the way just before a final EIS is due out this year.

We've been counting on Boulder County to use its Local Rule 1041 to protect us from this blatant disregard for our quality of life and they have been planning behind closed doors with Denver Water to use a fear of existing preemptions to hide the fact that they are not willing to really protect us at all. One commissioner had the gall to tell me on the phone that this IGA would not keep residents from filing their own lawsuits against Denver Water to try and stop the project. Well hallelujah, just tell me who that millionaire is and we'll get them to do the job our commission is too fearful to even consider.

This reference to preemption in the IGA is different than the other times the issue has come up. The IGA states on page one: **"In order to better address the impacts of the project and to define more appropriate mitigation measures, staff feels the use of an IGA in lieu of processing an application under Sec. 8 of the Boulder County Land Use Code (our 1041 Authority), better serves Boulder County and the residents living in the vicinity of the roadways and reservoir. This is especially true given the fact DWB argues that our 1041 Authority is preempted by the FERC and Corps permitting and licensing processes, and if challenged in a court of law and the argument sustained, Boulder County would have no ability to regulate the impacts of the Project."**

Well of course DWB would argue that, they may seem like idiots - but they aren't - they're just greedy. Their own numbers show the water isn't needed, they don't disagree. The proposed project would only amount to 7% of the entire DWB system so why go to these lengths to get a mere 7% and kill the Fraser River, further damage the Colorado River, irreversibly damage the ecosystems around the existing reservoir, negatively impact the lives of all the residents within five miles of the proposed project and risk the likely loss of life on our canyon roads.

I've been following this proposed project for ten years now, since the scoping meetings and attended nearly every public hearing, mitigation process discussion and listened to public and elected officials from (Continued on next page.)

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Highlander Issues

too many offices and organizations and *(probably because of this I'm beyond tired of being lied to and seen more than my share of biased agencies-federal and local)* my opinion is that this water has been promised corruptly to developers, municipalities with grand designs on revenues from future populations living in urban sprawl situated next to oil and gas pads and plutonium laced toll roads.



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Our own Governor has signed on, albeit he wasn't the first governor to believe the hype that DWB has put out for many years. He publicly stated in a Black Hawk town hall meeting that Denver Water leads the way in conservation by raising water rates, whoa cowboy - is that how you describe 21st century water conservation?

I say go to another public hearing January 7th at 5pm in Boulder and state you will not be bought and paid to roll over for DWB's high hopes to push this proposed project through by eliminating yet another obstacle, Boulder County's Local Rule 1041 for just a mere \$10 million - would they really agree to that amount if we had no chance of killing the project should we make our elected officials protect us with it?

Make it an even \$500 million and then see what they say. I don't believe even this IGA at \$500 million could mitigate the negative effects we'll suffer. Tell your elected officials to wait for the permitting process and EIS and then invoke Local Rule 1041 so we can all sleep at night while Denver lawns fear being landscaped properly for our arid climate.

Oh, and by the way - some of the local businesses up in Coal Creek Canyon prefer to be in favor of this proposed project for their own interests; increased business from the proposed project should it go through. Part of the IGA states 75% of all workers will be shuttled to the site, i.e. no stopping for coffee, snacks, six packs or lunches and dinner after work. That inability to empathize with your local customers is beyond short sighted. Our recent recession is not a reason to hide your head in the sand and historically no local folks will be hired by Denver Water to do any of the work on this or any other DWB projects.

By A.M. Wilks

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Update - Buffalo Field Campaign

December 13, 2012 - Winter has finally arrived in West Yellowstone. Patrols aren't on skis just yet but snow has finally started to accumulate and temperatures have dropped to refreshing levels. Hebgen Lake has started to freeze and now wears a thin mantle of white.

Field patrols are out on the landscape morning until dark, monitoring migration corridors, but there is still no sign of buffalo in Montana. They are laying low and avoiding



hunters. Though we sorely miss being in their company, we are grateful that they are keeping themselves alive.

This week, BFC has been blessed with the return of buffalo family members Jimmy St. Goddard, next hereditary chief and Sacred Paint Gatherer for the Blackfeet Nation, and his powerful son Natosi. Jimmy works tirelessly to bring the plight of the buffalo to the forefront within his own Tribe, in Congress, and throughout Indian Country, as he was instrumental in the enactment of the Montana-Wyoming Tribal Leadership Council resolution calling on Montana and federal agencies to halt all harm to the sacred buffalo. Last spring, on Sunday, April 29th, Jimmy held a ceremony with BFC members, creating a medicine wheel near the base of Horse Butte. Today we will return to this sacred site and rededicate ourselves to the service of the buffalo nation, remember and sing for those buffalo that have been sorrowfully, unjustly killed, and offer prayers of intent so wild buffalo will thrive once again! Hope is in the heartbeat of the buffalo. Wild is the Way ~ Roam Free!

BFC Needs Your Help to Protect 400 Female Buffalo! Government agencies are planning on killing more than 400 female buffalo this winter and spring. We need your help to stop them from doing so. Right now we are working in the field, in the courts, and in Congress to call attention to the government's plans and to avert the slaughter. Like we did in 2011 when your emails and **phone calls to the Governor's office**

406-444-3111 helped prevent the slaughter of 800 captured buffalo, we will succeed in protecting these buffalo. But we can not do it without you. You can help; Contributions are tax-deductible and will directly fund BFC's frontlines buffalo protection work.

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Last Words: **Buffalo Inspiration;**

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*Force wolves and bears to learn
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between this tree, that blade of grass.*

*Teach them all to read the maps
that are invisible. Make them know
what is not real, does not exist
for moon or stars, and stubborn as they are
kill them for not learning
what we will not share.*

*...for the bison and wolves of the Yellowstone
ecosystem and Northern Rockies, for the trees and
plants and rocks, for the elephants and orangutans,
for the bees and the gorillas, the butterflies and
birds, for the voles and nematodes, for the frogs and
salamanders and the bats, for the otters, dolphins,
whales, and polar bears, for the turtles and the coral
and the krill, for the plankton and the leopard, for
the beetles and the worms, for the waters, earth, and
air... ~ Carol Snyder Halberstadt, (c) February 3, 2010*

**Buffalo Field Campaign,
P.O. Box 957, West Yellowstone,
MT 59758 406-646-0070
www.buffalofieldcampaign.org**

Another Beltway Study ~ CCC Fire Prot. District

FROM CINQ - Jeffco Commissioners have authorized \$750,000 for another beltway study - apparently to "prove" that a beltway solution is the way to go. This money is in addition to the pile of cash Jeffco has already thrown at this boondoggle. Commissioner Rosier is convinced that without a beltway around the Denver Metro area, we are less than world class city. Some folks should check a map - there are many great American cities that do not have a beltway. This new "study" is just more political wrangling to push the beltway and more development on open land in Jeffco. One can only hope that the newly elected Jeffco Commissioner, Casey Tighe will get to the bottom of this wasteful spending and questionable motivations...

JEFFCO WANTS ANOTHER STUDY ON BELTWAY
From: Golden Transcript, Dec 13, 2012 Jeffco takes wide view on beltway By Glenn Wallace gwallace@ourcoloradonews.com After decades of looking at the 470 beltway in bits and pieces, Jefferson County is planning on looking at the bigger picture of the entire western half of the ring road. "The county is interested in an overall solution, as opposed to the segmented looks that have been done to date," said Jeffco transportation and engineering director Kevin French.

The study would encompass the Northwest Parkway in Broomfield, to C-470 west of Santa Fe Drive. Of the 54-mile stretch, 32 miles are in Jefferson County. Staff recommends the study to help research several Jeffco issues, including the county's desire to construct the Jefferson Parkway portion (a planned four lane, all-toll freeway section between state highways 128 and 93), congestion and safety issues along U.S. 6 and State

Highway 93, ongoing C-470 congestion, and the potential impact to county residents if express toll lanes are added on portions of C-470.

The study is anticipated to cost \$750,000, to be paid out of the county's 2013 budget, using funds that have already been set aside for beltway development. Though the western half of the beltway passes through several other jurisdictions, French said there are no current plans to seek additional funding assistance. French told the commissioners that few other traffic improvement projects were planned along the Denver metro area's west side, making study and support of the beltway completion more critical. "This study could identify the potential benefits to the other highways through the western side of the metro area," French said. "I think this is the right way to go. I think it's necessary," said 3rd District Commissioner Don Rosier. "We're one of the only metro areas of our size without a completed beltway."

The county is already partnered with the C-470 Coalition, which has been looking at potential improvements to the already-built portions of C-470. French and Rosier said that the study would overlap, and help inform the coalition's work. The commissioners gave their formal approval of the study at their Tuesday meeting.

www.GoTheBetterWay.org Our mailing address is: CINQ, PO Box 715, Golden, CO 80402-0715
Reprinted with permission from CINQ.

Dear Reader,

The Coal Creek Canyon Fire Protection District is seeking volunteers to serve on the fire department or the wildland team. Membership is open to individuals who:

Reside within the boundaries of the Coal Creek Canyon FPD

-Are between 18 and 60 years old -
Have a current, valid Colorado driver's license - Have a high school diploma or equivalent - Are in good physical health (e.g., able to lift and carry up to 100 pounds at waist height and are able to pass a drug screen test).

The membership drive will run from January 1 through February 28, 2013. Please call 303.642.3121 for the complete CCCFPD Membership Application Packet.

We hope you will consider helping our community by joining the CCCFPD volunteer fire department. Janice Jandrt Mikulich, Administrative Assistant Coal Creek Canyon FPD

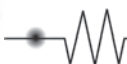


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Do This One Thing

Article and Photographs by Diane Bergstrom

If you do one thing, and one thing only, in January to start the new year, or begin your resolutions, or reset your goals, go see the held-over, award-winning exhibit at the Boulder History Museum, **Chief Niwot: Legend & Legacy**. Due to the wide community response, the exhibit has been

extended to February 10th. **Use the coupon here for 50% off admission, which is already low priced.** Housed in an 1899 historic mansion in Boulder at 12th and Euclid, the exhibit spans two rooms and offers an amazing amount of Colorado history rarely covered in our schools or known by residents. How familiar are we with Wynkoop as a street in LoDo or a brewery, or the misinformed Boulderite quote of Chief Niwot's curse? These are real men who had a profound effect on Colorado's history. Chief Niwot was hero, a peacemaker, a negotiator, and a leader who risked his life time after time, attempting to create peace in the area. Start your year with expanding your awareness of the people who have lived on this land long before you.

"I'm related to this land. This Boulder is my relative," Ava Hamilton told me recently. When I read a review on the exhibit quoting Ava, who educates me in every conversation, I knew I had to see the exhibit. She is Arapaho, an Independent Documentary filmmaker, a historian and a writer. And she consulted on the design committee adding the Arapaho perspective. Susan Linde, Director of Marketing and Communications, valued Ava's approval of the final product, "It meant so much because it's their story. The story people should see and the story people should know." The first room is dedicated to displays of historical information detailed from Margaret Coel's book, *Chief Left Hand*, which was chosen for



Boulder's year-long One Action-One Boulder, a collaboration of civil and arts organizations aimed at learning our untold history, discussing the present and moving into the future with an inclusive community. Margaret Coel was the guest curator, and Julie Schumaker, the Museum's Curator of Exhibits, put painstaking effort

into making the exhibit engaging and informative, leaving the visitor with a new foundation of country engagement, spanning from the atrocities like the Sand Creek Massacre occurring in the west while the Civil War exploded in the east.

One of the many haunting historical doctrines left out of our educational system is the 1452 Doctrine of Discovery, issued by Pope Nicholas V, and depicted on a museum panel by Margaret Coel, "...which gave Christian explorers the right to claim the lands they 'discovered' for their Christian Monarchs. Any land that was not inhabited by Christians was available to be discovered, claimed and exploited. If the pagan inhabitants agreed to be converted, their lives might be spared-if not, they would be enslaved or killed." For this education and more, Ava (Continued on next page.)

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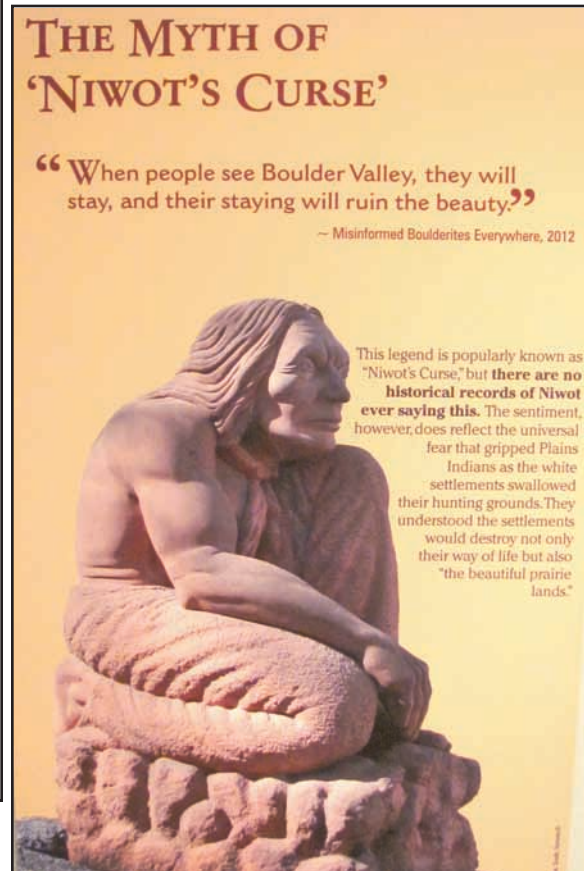
Highlander History

believes it is important for people to witness the exhibit, “It gives voice to the Arapaho who used to live here. And it

cultures and history. This perspective of American history is not given much attention and often it is treated as the “past,” as if we don’t exist today. Happily for us all we are still here and we are still connected to our homelands everywhere—including in Boulder. I



addresses information about an important part of American history—the taking of our lands by the United States Government and its racist policies against the Original Peoples. I hear from audiences of all ages that there is a thirst for us (tribal peoples) to talk about ourselves and our



would like to see more education in schools about how we have a different relationship with the United States Government because of our treaties and why we are not like other citizens. That part of American history is

important to everyone. We are not just 5th, 6th, or 10th generation Americans, our Peoples have lived here for thousands of generations—we are related to this land. I appreciate all the efforts the Boulder History Museum put forward to making this a cutting edge educational experience. I hope after seeing the exhibit, people commence research, on the Doctrine of Discovery for example.”

The museum is located at 1206 Euclid Avenue, Boulder. It is open Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday, Noon - 4 pm. Admission is \$6 Adults (\$3 with coupon), \$4 Seniors (\$2 with coupon), \$3 Students and children over 5 (\$1.50).

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Feds Reluctant To Kill Wild Horses ~ Ecosanctuaries

By Dave Philipps/High Country News

If caring for captive wild horses costs so much, why not just sell them for slaughter? It's the "simple solution," former Bureau of Land Management wild horse and burro program chief Don Glenn, now working for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, told a federal advisory panel last spring. "It makes no sense for the taxpayers to put out \$75 million to take care of a bunch of old horses that nobody wants. They should be sold without limitation." "Without limitation" basically means selling to slaughterhouses.

The BLM has considered the idea but never openly embraced it, for many reasons. Truth is, that "simple solution" is a tangle of competing morals and contradictory laws. The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 gave the U.S. Interior secretary authority to order "the removal or destruction of excess animals." However, between 1988 and 2004, Congress prohibited the BLM from spending money to euthanize horses. In 2004, with the captive population at 14,000, Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., slipped a rider into the agency's annual budget ordering the BLM to sell all old or unadoptable horses without limitation for \$10 each. The BLM refused, instead making horse buyers sign documents promising they would not resell the animal "for processing into commercial products," circumventing the bill's intentions and limiting sales to a few hundred per year.

The BLM feared that selling horses for slaughter would pose an "immediate threat to the careers of the officials involved," according to a 2008 Government Accountability Office analysis. That same year, with the captive population at 31,000, agency officials weighed slaughter and large-scale euthanasia behind closed doors, according to minutes obtained by the nonprofit Conquistador Equine Rescue and Advocacy Program. The agency ultimately backed off, deciding that such drastic measures would enrage animal-rights organizations and "threaten the safety of our facilities and our employees." (Meanwhile, the BLM has quietly sold more than 1,700 horses to a Colorado slaughter proponent, saying the man has found the horses "good homes" - a claim that lacks supporting evidence and that the

agency hasn't verified.)

Other countries have fewer cultural qualms. There are active horse slaughterhouses in both Canada and Mexico, which ship meat abroad. Most European cultures eat horsemeat, as do Japan and China. Australia, with an estimated 400,000 wild horses, or "brumbies," regularly rounds up herds for slaughter, shoots horses from

helicopters, and even provides citizens with pamphlets on how to effectively target them with rifles.

In the United States, though, proposals to kill wild horses provoke outrage. In retaliation for Burns' 2004 amendment, wild horse allies in Congress effectively banned all horse slaughter in 2006 and again barred the BLM from spending any money on euthanasia in 2010. In 2011, others in Congress reversed the slaughter ban, clearing the way for the industry

to restart, though there are still no active horse slaughterhouses in the U.S.

BLM "ecosanctuaries" unlikely to provide relief for wild horses

On a crisp May morning, Madeleine Pickens, a 65-year-old businesswoman and the soon-to-be-ex-wife of billionaire financier T. Boone Pickens, steps out onto the weathered porch of her old Nevada ranch house wearing taut white riding pants, suede boots and movie-star glasses under glossy platinum hair. She points briskly, using a dachshund mix named Tommy that (Continued on next page.)



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she carries almost everywhere. "Over here will be teepees where visitors can stay. Over there will be large tents for gatherings in that grove of trees. And out there," she says, sweeping Tommy across the sage-studded desert and its blue-mountain horizon, "will be set up like a safari where you can go tour and campout and see horses in their natural environment. It will be great."

By "out there" Pickens, who arrived by private jet the night before, means 560,000 acres of BLM land to which she holds grazing rights for the equivalent of approximately 1,100 cattle. She has spent millions trying to turn it into a "Mustang Monument" so that wild horses removed from public lands can roam in the natural setting they occupied for centuries, while tourists watch and learn. The idea hit her in 2008, after the BLM proposed euthanizing 2,000 wild horses to keep them out of the holding system.

Pickens, a longtime animal-rights advocate who had focused mostly on homeless dogs and cats, announced she not only wanted to adopt the horses facing euthanasia, but also the entire population in long-term holding - about 20,000 at the time. Like many advocates, she had long believed the BLM gives wild horses short shrift because cattle ranchers have a lock on public-land grazing. "So I thought to myself, fine, I'll just become a rancher," Pickens says. "I'll buy a ranch and turn the public-land grazing leases that had been used for cattle over to wild horses."

In 2010, she bought the 14,000-acre, \$2.6 million Spruce

Ranch south of Wells, Nev., and then the nearby 4,500-acre Warm Springs ranch, along with their associated grazing rights. Then Pickens made her proposal: Instead of the BLM paying to truck horses from Nevada to overcrowded Midwestern pastures - places off-limits to the public and to public scrutiny - it should give the money to her nonprofit Save America's Mustangs foundation, which would let them roam relatively freely.

At first, many mustang advocates saw her proposal as a common-sense way to keep horses on the range. The BLM even announced in 2011 that it was creating a new system of "ecosanctuaries" - private, nonprofit ranches where tourists can visit and adopt wild horses - across the West. Pickens' would be among the first studied. Bob Abbey, BLM director at the time, called it "a milestone in our overall effort to reform the Wild Horse and Burro Program and put it on a cost-effective, sustainable track."

Now, however, a growing number see problems with the sanctuary idea and doubt its usefulness. Few people, even within the BLM, believe that sanctuaries will successfully address the wild horse program's troubles. "It's an experiment," says BLM spokesman Tom Gorey. "The public seemed to be game for this different approach. Whether it makes a quantifiable difference - maybe it has some benefit to the program we don't anticipate." Those benefits won't be monetary: BLM studies suggest paying ecosanctuaries to house horses will likely cost as much as current long-term pastures.

And ecosanctuaries won't empty the holding system. Pickens' ranch, if approved, would be permitted to graze only 500 to 900 horses because of its limited forage. Horses, according to the BLM, eat more grass than cattle, and in some parts of the arid Great Basin, a single cow needs over 100 acres to survive. Another proposed sanctuary outside Laramie, Wyo., could hold up to 300 horses. Together, that's no more than a third of the horses targeted for roundup next year.

The BLM is still looking — so far unsuccessfully — for more sanctuaries. And it is far from clear whether Pickens' plans will survive the initial scoping process. Hundreds of wild horses already run free on BLM land within its boundaries. Adding their captured cousins to the mix would inevitably lead to breeding, increasing the population. BLM employees have suggested that sanctuary horses can co-exist with wild horses only with the help of about 70 miles of barbed wire and by replacing some of the wild stallions with gelded males. None of this goes over well with wild horse advocates.

"If they try to do anything with those existing herds, I guarantee there will be lawsuits," says Laura Leigh, founder of the advocacy organization Wild Horse Education. But Pickens and the BLM are pressing ahead. She hopes to eventually expand her sanctuary until it can hold thousands. "If we show we can make it work, we can move forward. We can always buy more properties. I still want to take all of the horses out of long-term holding."

This story originally appeared as a sidebar to a feature story, "Nowhere to Run," published in an issue of High Country News (hcn.org).

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About Boulder County Horse Association

From Linda Parks

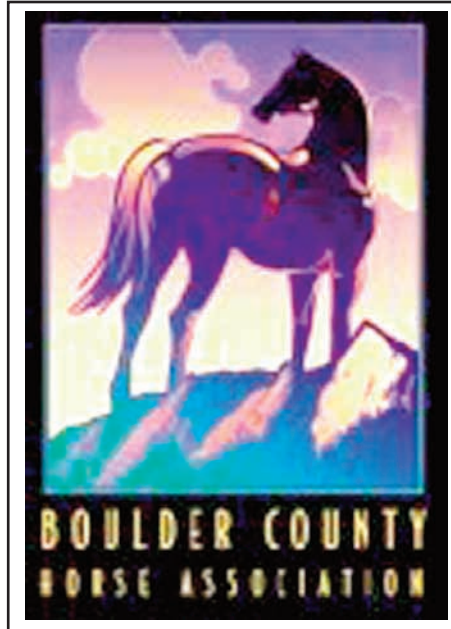
The Boulder County Horse Association promotes, protects and unifies the equestrian community of Boulder County through education, recreation and legislation. The Boulder County Horse Association (BCHA) is a non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation. We serve as an umbrella organization for all horse-related interests in Boulder County. Our members' equine interests encompass breeding, showing, training, pleasure, ranch activities, and trail riding for competition as well as recreation.

In addition, BCHA also promotes the acquisition of open space and parks, and support an interconnected system of multiple-use trails. In 1986, BCHA adopted and built the Doudy Draw Trail near Eldorado Springs for the City of Boulder Open Space Department. Our members continue to provide annual maintenance on this trail.

The Association also has participated in several National Trails Day projects, and our members are active in State and Federal trail-policy planning forums. We are also an

organizational member of the Boulder Area Trails Coalition and the Colorado Horse Council. BCHA has been deeply involved in working with Boulder County to formulate a set of horse keeping guidelines in the Land Use Code which would "work" for most horse owners, yet enable the County to enforce reasonable regulations should the need arise. We are especially proud of our recent accomplishments in this arena, and hope that BCHA will be recognized as a resource for horse-related expertise in the future. For more about BCHA please visit our website.

Also watch for information and details of spring and coming events by BCHA in your monthly issue of the Highlander.



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From Where I've Been

By Melissa E. Johnson

*"To journey without being changed
is to be a nomad.*

*To change without journeying
is to be a chameleon.*

*To journey and to be transformed by the journey
is to be a pilgrim."*

~Mark Nepo

I read this story once about a lady who called herself *Peace Pilgrim*. In 1952 she became the first woman to walk the entire length of the Appalachian Trail in one season. Shortly after that she began her walk for peace, vowing to "remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until given shelter and fasting until given food." For almost three decades she walked back and forth across the United States, with no money and

only the clothes on her back, walking more than 25,000 miles before her death. She was always fascinated that her needs were met. "Aren't people good," she would say.[1]

She spoke to anyone who would listen about the big peace picture: peace among nations, peace among groups, and that elusive inner peace because she believed that was where peace began. In the course of her pilgrimage she touched the lives of thousands of people with her message, and many of them inspired her as well.

I love the story she tells about a small, remote village she visited where she found a group of people with a unique way of dealing with conflict. When a person in the village violated the natural laws or had intense conflict with another, the villagers would gather in the town center, form a circle around the offender, and one by one they would recount every good deed, kindness and contribution to the community made by that person. There was no punishment or finger pointing or harsh judgment, only kindness. And as a result, their community thrived without the need for jails or local police. Generally, they had very little conflict among them. A real utopia, if you ask me.

Innovative conflict resolution aside, when I think about the devotion that allowed *Peace Pilgrim* to live this mission I am overwhelmed by the truth that I have never been so dedicated to any one thing in my life. Sure, I've been interested in things and fascinated by people and places. I've championed a few causes. I've dabbled in this creative endeavor and that; I've explored this career path, then that; but never have I devoted myself to any one person or purpose to the exclusion of all others. In a way, I've had one foot out the door; one eye cocked in search of

the next great thing, certain that I would miss "it" if I settled on just one.

An interesting realization, I think, as I join my beloved at our ceremonial alter this New Year's Eve to make the single-most significant declaration of love and commitment so far in my life. As I contemplate the vows we will be taking-the vows I will be making on our wedding night-among the most important will be my vow of happiness, not just for that day or in the weeks and years that follow when the fire of romance burns bright, but everyday no matter the weather. In so doing, I also choose myself.

Not that I have been unhappy by nature; to the contrary. Yet I, as you, sometimes feel isolated and unsure even when surrounded by beauty, as I wait for things to be just so. In

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waiting, I find, my attention to happiness slips and my experience of life, and the people and places in it, becomes obscured.

So as I move from where I've been, facing a new year

and a new chapter with my sweetheart by my side, I embrace this pilgrimage. I will not wait for some future moment for all to be right in the world-for countries to quit fighting, for financial markets to stabilize, for the environment to be protected, for everyone to act right and do right and play nice; for the pieces of my puzzle to fit perfectly in place.

From this moment forward I am happiness-a pilgrim for the cause-choosing what supports my journey beyond a tendency to change or hide the truth of our hearts so that

we may please others or avoid pain. In this I honor that sacred place: the deep well of happiness within, always present and waiting to be rediscovered. Isn't that why we're here? I wish you all safe journeys and a very

HAPPY New Year!



[1] *Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words*, (c) 1992; published by Ocean Tree Books. Melissa is a writer, photographer, artist and lawyer. Read more on her blog at

www.HeartLaw.blogspot.com, or visit her website at www.MelissaEJohnson.com.

Photo here, courtesy of Lori Kennedy (c).

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Producing More Power Means Using More Water

By Judith Lewis Mernit/High Country News

Locked up inside the 6 million years of sediment that makes up the Green River Formation, which extends across mostly public lands in Colorado and Utah, may be the equivalent of a few trillion barrels of oil. Even if only half of it is recoverable, the oil shale of the Mountain West could one day fuel the world, turning the phrase "U.S.

energy independence" from slogan to reality. Provided, that is, that there's a reasonable way to coax the fuel out of the rock.

Trapped in fossil-fuel purgatory, oil shale has to be heated to super-high temperatures, a process called "retorting" that requires enormous amounts of water. No one can even say for sure how much, although some energy companies try. Utah-based Red Leaf claims its technology needs only a tiny amount; other estimates say that full-scale development of oil shale in Colorado would require more water than all of Denver uses in a year. "There's been a great deal of speculation on water needs for oil shale, but it's all based on unproven technology," says Steven Hall, Colorado spokesman for the Bureau of Land Management, which recently signed a lease with ExxonMobil for an experimental oil shale project in the Piceance Basin. "I don't think the technologies those (low) water-use estimates are based on are commercially or environmentally feasible."

On Nov. 9, the BLM published a fresh analysis of oil shale development's environmental impacts on Western public lands. Much of the analysis, which also looks at tar sands in Utah, is concerned with water - the lack of it in this arid region, the great need any energy-extraction technique has for it, and the vulnerability of freshwater aquifers to industrial contamination. As a consequence of this and other concerns, the analysis proposes reducing the 2 million-plus acres of public lands opened to commercial lease in 2008 to just under 700,000 acres limited to research projects.

Lawmakers including Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, warn that the BLM's parent, the Department of Interior, stands in the way of economic progress. But not even the oil

producers have figured out how to get the water to the rock without incurring huge energy costs - costs that may not pencil out in the final analysis. In other words, it may take more energy to get the water to the oil shale than anyone can actually extract from it.

This problem with the so-far embryonic industry is what regulators and industry experts call an "energy-water nexus" issue: Just as water needs energy to travel from source to tap, nearly every form of energy needs water throughout its lifecycle, from mining to generation to reclamation. Most of the country's electricity, for example, comes from coal, gas or nuclear plants that heat water until it flashes to steam and spins a turbine; that steam then has to be cooled back into water - using yet more water.

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to distillation, and some forms of geothermal production consume as much as 800 gallons per megawatt-hour of electricity, the amount of power the average home uses in a month. Energy, says the Congressional Research Service, outpaces municipal use in its water demands; it's second only to agriculture. And while farms and cities have begun to conserve water, energy - thanks to biofuels and shale gas - is increasingly voracious.

Nor is consumption the only issue: Electricity plants return almost all that cooling water to the source, but they return it at a higher temperature, altering riparian or marine ecosystems. The Government Accountability Office has published five reports over the last three years on energy-water nexus issues, analyzing oil shale's water needs, the interdependency between electrical plants and their water supplies, and the hydrologic impacts of hydraulic fracturing. But the GAO's sixth and latest report, published last September, argues that the most crucial component of the nexus is information sharing - between state and local governments, industry and science, and even across federal agencies. "People have been aware of these issues from their individual viewpoints at various agencies," says Frank Rusco, the GAO's director of water and energy issues.

The Energy Department might understand that hydrofracturing for natural gas could contaminate local water supplies, for instance, but the Environmental Protection Agency may lack baseline studies showing the water's condition before industry got there. Interior officials might suspect that developing oil shale in Colorado could exhaust local water supplies, but not have accurate data to prove it. In 2003, the U.S. Geological Survey told GAO investigators that it had not shared data on freshwater supplies with other federal agencies in more than three years - not that anyone had asked.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 "highlighted the need for agencies to do more coordinating and think in a more strategic way ... about energy and water policy issues," Rusco says, so Congress directed the Energy Dept. to set up an agency devoted to the energy-water nexus. Yet while some coordination has begun - the Environmental Protection Agency and the Energy Department, for instance, have initiated a program to protect groundwater from energy development - a dedicated energy-water agency still exists only on paper. "Agencies have competing agendas," Rusco says. "Coordinating strategies across several agencies is a difficult thing to accomplish."

It's also expensive: Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Texas, who commissioned the latest GAO report, has authored two bills that would promote agency coordination when

energy affects water and vice versa, one calling for \$300 million to fund the effort. Neither is likely to pass in the deficit-obsessed Congress, for which tasks such as monitoring the country's supply of freshwater seems to be a luxury.

Fall 2011, House Natural Resources Subcommittee Chairman Doug Lamborn, R-Colo., asked USGS Director Marcia McNutt why the agency supports energy program cuts but asks for increases in climate change research funding. He then read her a list of current gas prices. Congress is unlikely, then, to allocate the funds needed for USGS to maintain its vast nationwide network of stream gauges, no matter how much better data on water, climate and drought might matter to the future of unconventional oil and gas. "People may not fully grasp the scale of the increase in energy development," Rusco says, especially when it comes to thirsty processes like hydraulic fracturing and oil shale. "The intensity of it and the amount of water it uses is unprecedented." And unfortunately, still somewhat unknown.

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



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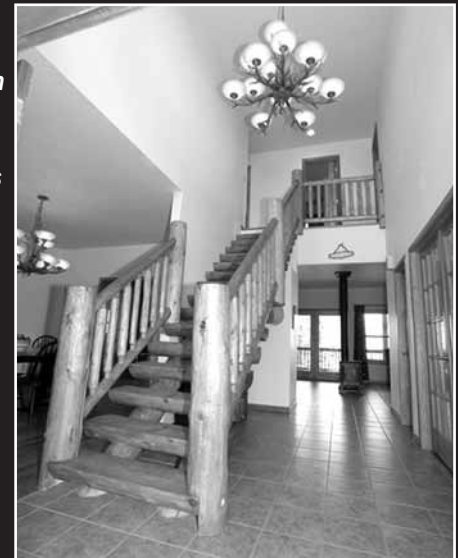


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Flu & Cold - Symptoms & Self-Care

How do I know if I've caught the flu?

Should I go to the doctor?

Answers from James M. Steckelberg, M.D. - Mayo Clinic.

Flu symptoms typically begin one or two days after your exposure to the virus, and may seem to hit you suddenly. Among healthy people, flu symptoms vary in severity. Flu symptoms include: Fever, sometimes rising above 103 F (39.4 C) - Chills - Muscle aches - Loss of appetite - Extreme fatigue - Eye redness and burning - Stuffy or runny nose - Dry cough - Sore throat.

Flu symptoms can make you feel awful, but if you're basically healthy and you're not pregnant, take care of yourself at home rather than going to your doctor. Try these remedies: Take acetaminophen (Tylenol, others) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, others) to reduce fever and muscle aches. Don't give products containing aspirin to children or young adults, as these drugs may cause Reye's syndrome. Drink clear fluids, such as water, broth or sports drinks. Rest as long as you continue to feel tired, and sleep as much as you can.

Flu germs: How long can they live outside the body? How long do cold and flu germs stay alive after infected people cough and sneeze all over everything?

Answer from James M. Steckelberg, M.D. It varies, depending partly on where the germ-laden droplets fall. Experiments with specific cold and flu germs have shown potential survival times ranging from a few minutes to 48 hours or more. How long such germs remain capable of infecting you in day-to-day life is harder to say.

Germs generally remain active longer on stainless steel, plastic and similar hard surfaces than on fabric and other soft surfaces. Other factors, such as the amount of virus deposited on a surface and the temperature and humidity of the environment, also have effects on how long cold and flu germs stay active outside the body.

It's easy to catch the flu or a cold from rubbing your nose after handling an object an infected person sneezed on a

few moments ago. But personal contact with an infected person - a handshake, for example - is the most common way these germs spread.

The best way to avoid becoming infected with a cold or flu virus is to wash your hands frequently with soap and water or with an alcohol-based sanitizer. Also avoid rubbing your eyes or biting your nails. Most importantly - get a flu vaccine every year.

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If Not Here, Where?

By Sarah Gilman

A few weeks ago, a Texas oilman cornered me at a brewery in the high-mountain town of Ouray, in western Colorado. Some young women from Moab had just taken the table next to my friend and myself, when the fellow wandered over to buy us a round. Eventually, he revealed that he worked for ConocoPhillips. This didn't go over well with the Utah ladies, and Mr. ConocoPhillips grew defensive: Did they think the vehicle they had driven here ran on rainbows? When he found out I covered the industry as a reporter, he leaned in tipsily and asked, "Can we have a conversation? A real conversation?" The answer was apparently no, since what ensued felt like an energy-focused version of writer Rebecca Solnit's essay, "Men explain things to me."


But if he had gotten past his assumption that I was an airy naïf, he would have realized that I mostly agreed with him: As drilling impinges on more communities, those communities need to have "real," critical conversations about energy development, conversations in which the locals recognize their role as consumers. Paonia, Colo., where I live and work, recently became such a town.


December 2011, nearly 30,000 acres in the surrounding North Fork Valley were nominated for oil and gas leasing.

Though the proposal was deferred last summer for further study, last November, the Bureau of Land Management announced its intent to auction about 20,000 of those acres Feb. 14. Given the habitat fragmentation and pollution that energy development can bring, many here have fought the proposal. Some of the earlier leases sprawled across mountain biking areas or sat next to schools. Others encompassed springs that feed the town water system or surrounded irrigation ditches for ranches, organic farms and vineyards. As Peter Heller reported in an essay for Bloomberg BusinessWeek last July, the North Fork Valley "is home to the largest concentration of organic farms in the Rocky Mountains."

The valley produces 77% of the state's apples, 71% of its peaches." The BLM received nearly 3,000 comments on the proposal, mostly in opposition. "None of (those) issues ... are incompatible with oil and gas development," Steven Hall, BLM's Colorado communications director, told Heller. Even so, in its latest proposal, the agency removed a couple of the more controversial parcels, including the one closest to Paonia's water supply and another containing a popular trail network.


Most of the parcels remain, though. Worse, the sale would occur under the terms of the outdated Resource

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Management Plan, a 23-year-old document which governs development on hundred of thousands of acres. If the agency waited, it could re-examine the proposal under the updated version - due in draft this spring - which, in theory, would allow it to account for advances in drilling technology and changes to the area's economy, demographics and environment. That might help the agency strike a clearer balance between energy development and other interests. At an environmental film festival in Paonia soon after the BLM's decision, the audience booed throughout a Google Earth tour of the parcels still up for lease.

When a staffer from the conservation group who hosted the event noted that the mountain biking parcel had been withdrawn, discontent only grew. Many refused to accept any leasing whatsoever. Opponents believe, as do their counterparts in many communities facing oil and gas development, that some places are too special to drill. It's a valid view; I often share it. But that raises an uncomfortable question: Are there any places so unspecial that they should be drilled? Mr. ConocoPhillips knows well that few of us in Paonia or elsewhere can say we don't rely on these fuels - for heat, for transport, for electricity, for the fertilization of food. Every place matters to somebody. And what patch of Earth isn't habitat for at least a few wonderful somethings? As Bobby Reedy, who runs a local auto shop in Paonia, told Heller: "I wanna flick the light

switch and know the lights are gonna come on. If it's not in my backyard, whose is it gonna be in?" If we continue to insist on living as we do now, maybe we need to see drill rigs from our kitchen windows and hiking trails, even our school playgrounds.

How else can we truly understand the costs of something we use unless we're confronted with them daily? This isn't just the machinery of corporate greed; it's the machinery of our vast collective energy appetite. And if we can't look directly at it, and can't accept what it does to our water and air, then it's time to do more than just fight drilling. It's time to go on an energy diet. Sarah Gilman is a contributor to Writers on the Range a service of High Country News in Paonia, Colorado, where she is the magazine's associate editor (hcn.org).

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Nuclear Power Plant Flood Risk

By Heather Rogers Remapping Debate

Dec. 19, 2012 - As Hurricane Sandy approached the East Coast late last October, more than a dozen nuclear power plants from North Carolina stretching up to New England were in its wide-ranging path. On Oct. 29, the night that the eye of the storm made landfall near Atlantic City, New Jersey, five nuclear plants were forced to either reduce power or make emergency shutdowns.

"These facilities need to be hardened more because if they were faced with a Category 2 or a Category 3 [hurricane], it makes me concerned about whether or not they'd be able to safely shut down." - Michael J. Reilly, National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University.

The most serious event was at the Oyster Creek Generating Station located in Lacey Township, near Barnegat Bay, New Jersey, about 40 miles north of Atlantic City. Amid 75-mile-an-hour winds, power to the region was knocked out, including at the Oyster Creek plant, just before 7 p.m. The plant's backup diesel generators kicked on to keep its crucial cooling equipment functioning.

Nevertheless, by 9 p.m. the plant's pumps were facing another danger: rising floodwaters. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesperson Neil Sheehan said that Sandy brought a surge of 7.4 feet to Oyster Creek. The plant is obligated to prepare for the consequences of flooding at 8.5 feet, he said, and, at 9.0 or 9.5 feet - Sheehan wasn't sure - the plant's pump motors would begin to be flooded.

The storm surge led the plant to declare an "Alert" - the second step in the NRC's four-tiered emergency action system. David Tillman, spokesperson for Exelon, the utility company that owns Oyster Creek, would not answer specific questions about the evening Sandy hit the plant (such as the height to which the water level rose, the height of the pump motors, or the actions taken by the plant in response to the alert). Characteristically for the industry, he insisted that everything worked perfectly and that there were no problems.

The buffer that existed this time may be of little comfort in the future. For all the damage it caused, Sandy was only a Category 1 hurricane - Hurricane Katrina, by comparison, was a Category 3. Given the challenges even Sandy brought to the Northeast's nuclear power plants, Remapping Debate decided to investigate the extent to which these facilities are prepared to deal with the flood risks widely expected to increase as a result of global warming.

What would be the consequences were a nuclear power plant to flood? To grasp what a flood at a coastal nuclear power plant such as Oyster Creek would mean, Dave Lochbaum, director of the Nuclear Safety Project at the Union for Concerned Scientists, told Remapping Debate it is worth reflecting on Japan's Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant disaster in 2011. First, the plant - which ran on General Electric Mark I reactors, the same design as at

Oyster Creek and 22 other nuclear plants in the U.S.- lost outside power due to the earthquake. Its backup generators switched on, and "the plant weathered [the earthquake] pretty well," Lochbaum said. But then the floodwaters arrived, exceeding the facility's sea wall. "That plant wasn't unaware of the flooding potential, but the magnitude of the challenge they faced was just more than they could handle," he said. Because the backup generators and pumps were flooded, there was no means by which to keep the reactors and spent fuel pools cooled.

In the case of a natural disaster like a hurricane, the direct impact on a single nuclear power station would likely be exacerbated by a cascade of indirect effects: a range of emergencies and failures unfolding throughout the



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Once that happens, explained Michael J. Reilly, director of the Division of Planning and Response at the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University, “it’s just a matter of time before the heat and the pressure build up and then you have a reactor accident.”

In the worst-case scenario, overheating in the reactor can trigger a hydrogen explosion, which can in turn lead to a breach of the containment structure, the reinforced building in which the reactor core is housed. This would lead to an uncontrolled release of radiation into the atmosphere.

Without an adequate flow of coolant to the spent fuel pool, the heat from the rods would begin to boil the water that remained, which would then evaporate, leaving the rods exposed to the air. At that point, the spent fuel could catch fire and explode, also leading to an unchecked release of radioactive material.

These explosions and fires can damage containment structures, as occurred at the Fukushima Dai-Ichi plant, with some of its buildings reduced to shattered cement and twisted rebar. Ultimately, all of its six reactors were damaged, and three reactor cores melted down, dumping a massive amount of radioactivity into both the water and air. This release led to significant food-chain contamination and the evacuation of 70,000 people. Among the contaminants emitted from the plant was Cesium-137, a

radioactive isotope with a long half-life that continues to be found in fish as far away as California.

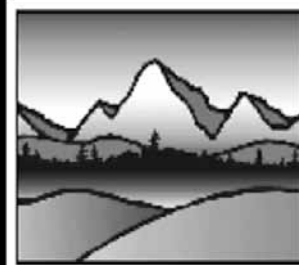
As during Sandy, transportation would be radically curtailed with roads, bridges, tunnels, trains, and airports shut, as well as some roads blocked by floodwaters, felled trees, and large-scale debris. There could also be widespread power and water outages, fuel shortages, and downed communication lines.

The indirect effects would likely impair the response to a nuclear power plant disaster. When Hurricane Sandy hit, for example, almost a third of the sirens surrounding Pennsylvania’s Peach Bottom Generating Station near Chesapeake Bay that would warn residents within 10 miles of an emergency were inoperable. The NRC-required backup plan for this situation is for first responders to drive around the area with a loudspeaker announcing the emergency.

When Remapping Debate asked the NRC’s Sheehan how this would happen if roads were flooded and blocked, he said the plant could send out text messages and announcements on television. What if there was no power and cell reception was down? “That’s always a concern,” he said.

(Read more of this report at Remapping Debate, an online public policy news journal, remappingdebate.org - Reprinted with permission.)

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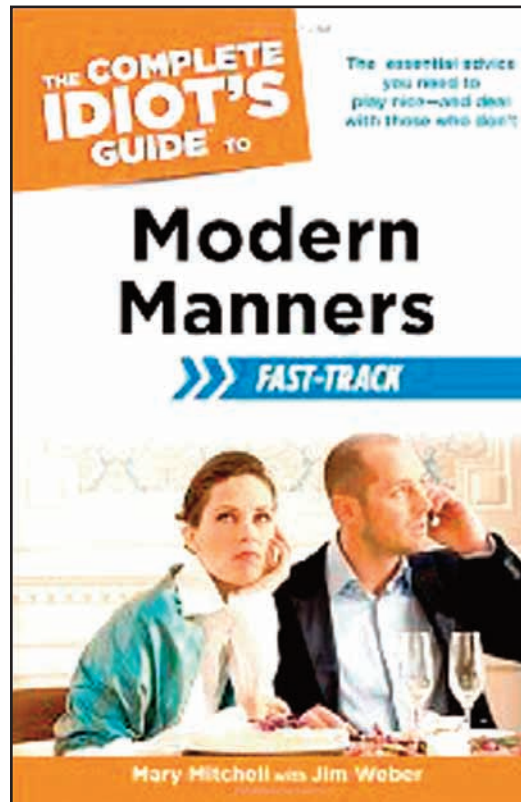
Advice To Play Nice & Deal With Those Who Don't

The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to Modern Manners Fast-Track

One of the unintended consequences of a world in which many of our "friends" exist only in cyberspace is that the virtues of politeness in everyday discourse seem to have faded into sepia-toned remnants from another age - like those faded photos of your grandparents. So it's with no small irony that we note the recent passing Letitia Baldrige, Jackie Kennedy's Social Secretary who became known as the "Doyenne of Decorum," and for years served as America's unofficial arbiter of good etiquette.

Tish would have loved *The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to Modern Manners Fast-Track*, a gentle reminder that now more than ever, the virtues of kindness and of putting ourselves in someone else's shoes in the interests of smoother coexistence can pay big dividends in everyday life. This fun and informative guide outlines common sense essentials for navigating polite behavior despite the challenges of crowded schedules and daily stress.

How effective we are at connecting with each other, whether in our jobs or in our personal lives, have huge consequences for our success and happiness. For example, we all know that texting and talking on the phone during dinner is rude, can disrupt great conversation and hurt our relationships, and yet we've all done it. Nobody is perfect. We all mess up. Yet our ability to grease life's skids with a sincere "excuse me" and "I apologize" at the appropriate time can go a long way toward nurturing relationships and set good examples for others.



Other examples cited in the book include: Remembering that positive first impressions largely hinge upon one's personal appearance. Cultivating good table manners so that mealtimes are stress-free zones. Remembering that whatever gets posted online stays there forever. Recognizing and being sensitive to important life milestones. Putting thought into gifts and how they are given.

The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to Modern Manners Fast-Track helps readers adapt an attitude of mutual cooperation and civility so that every interaction involves doing what is kind.

About the Authors; Mary M. Mitchell (Seattle) is an internationally known etiquette professional who coaches companies and individuals toward personal and professional success through social,

presentation, and communications skills. She is the author of nine acclaimed books, published in 11 languages, including *Class Acts* and *The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to Etiquette*. She has also written popular newspaper columns, such as the nationally syndicated column "Ms. Demeanor," as well as her "Nice Matters" column for the Seattle Times.

Jim Weber (Seattle) holds degrees from Yale University and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. A Renaissance man, Weber closed his surgical practice to pursue teaching yoga, yoga therapy, and writing. He is as polite a yoga teacher and surgeon as you will ever find. *The Complete Idiot's Guide(r)* series is published by Alpha Books, an imprint of DK Publishing. Usually about \$12, can also be found new and used at Amazon.

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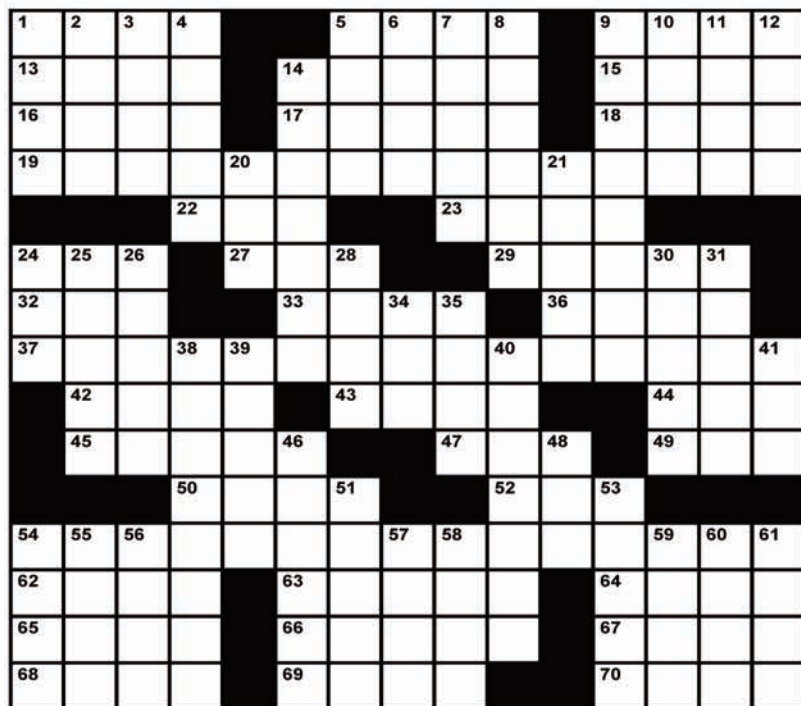
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It's a Numbers Game
by Myles Mellor and Sally York



Down

1. Big do
2. "Crazy" bird
3. Yorkshire river
4. Snares
5. Jiffs
6. Karen Carpenter, for one
7. Checks, with in
8. Trojan hero
9. Greek dish
10. Acad.
11. Potpourri
12. Big deal
14. Gibb brother
20. Ceiling
21. Occupied, as a lavatory
24. ___-Wan Kenobi
25. Art able to
26. Very, in music
28. Australian rock band
30. Clear
31. File material
34. "Harper Valley ___"
35. Jerk
38. Textual interpretation

39. "From the Earth to the Moon" writer
40. Signals
41. Society page word
46. Strauss opera
48. Storm part
51. Other halves
53. Age
54. As a result
55. "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" writer
56. Bank
57. "Little piggies"
58. All alternative
59. "Cast Away" setting
60. Worm or lamp
61. Creates a lawn

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Across

1. More than some
5. "___ Smile" (1976 hit)
9. Spray setting
13. Lou Gehrig, on the diamond
14. Donnybrook
15. Knowing about
16. Artist Bonheur
17. Be part of the cast
18. Brought into play
19. Simple addition
22. Elton John, e.g.
23. ___ souci
24. Mozart's "L'___ del Cairo"
27. Like a bunch
29. Debonair
32. Undergrad degs.
33. Catches
36. Whole alternative
37. Ecstatic
42. Old German duchy name
43. Ready for anything
44. Wrath
45. Layers
47. It's found in banks
49. Blonde's secret, maybe
50. Vex, with "at"
52. Word from the decks
54. Literary homeowners
62. Shades
63. Roundish
64. Christiania, now
65. Tropical fruit
66. Rewards
67. Simpleton
68. Some beans
69. "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto.)
70. Chops

Crossword Puzzle by Myles Mellor & Sally York.
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(Completed puzzle on page 40.)

Fresh Cranberry - Almond Muffins

Sift together one and a half cup whole-wheat high altitude flour (or gluten free flour). Add a quarter cup flax seed meal, one third cup organic cane sugar (or your preferred sweetener), two and one half teaspoons baking powder, one teaspoon cinnamon, 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg and a pinch of salt. Once in mixing bowl make a well in center of these dry ingredients.

Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees and spray oil your muffin tin (cupcake papers can be used instead).



In a smaller bowl beat one egg (or 1/3 cup whites only) then stir in 3/4 cup almond milk (or you can use regular milk) and 1/4 cup canola oil (or most types of vegetable oil).

Have one cup of almonds (chopped or slivered) and a package of fresh cranberries (rinsed well) ready.

Fresh cranberries are usually available throughout the holidays and freeze very well so buy extra and you can just take a package out of the freezer for a couple of hours to defrost them.



To use a can of cranberries, cut your milk down to a half cup and sweetener to a quarter cup.

The key to great muffins is to stir them as little as possible. So add the liquid to the dry ingredients (into the well) and stir only to moisten. Then add the nuts and cranberries stirring slightly to mix them into the entire batter then spoon into the muffin pan - overfilling each of an eight muffin pan.

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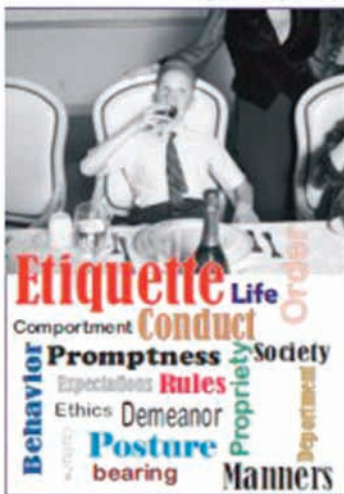
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Bake for about 35 minutes or until slightly brown and pulling a bit away from the pan (or a toothpick

turn them out to cool on a cutting board.

Refrigerate any muffins not eaten warm, and then re-heat in foil in a warm oven (micro wave will turn them tough unless you cut them in half, put a bit of butter onto open half and heat for only 30 seconds or less on a plate covered with a bowl).



This recipe can also make a great bread in a loaf pan or breakfast pastry in a round cake pan. Dribble maple syrup on top for sweetening a breakfast pastry round. Be sure to oil any pans to keep the batter from sticking.



inserted comes out clean). Remove from oven, let set for only a couple of minutes and knock pan back and forth with hot pads to loosen muffins and allow them to be shaken out onto a cutting board to cool.

If the top parts are sticking to the pan, take a knife to loosen them from the muffin pan before trying to

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Clean Energy Bonds -Recycling- GMO Labeling

Dear EarthTalk: What are “Clean Energy Victory Bonds?”- Max Blanchard, Wilmington, DE

Green America, a non-profit membership organization that promotes ethical consumerism, created the “Clean Energy Victory Bonds” concept as a way to give everyday Americans the opportunity to invest in clean energy and related fields in a fashion similar to how the federal government raised billions of dollars for the war effort during World War II over a half century ago. At that time, four out of five American households purchased the original Victory Bonds, raising \$185 billion (over \$2 trillion in today’s dollars) to support the war effort.

Green America first offered up the new spin on the Victory Bond idea in 2009 as something people on both sides of the political spectrum could get behind. The group has been lobbying federal officials and legislators to consider the benefits ever since. New legislation, the Clean Energy Victory Bonds Act of 2012, introduced into the House of Representatives this past August by California Democrat Bob Filner and 10 other co-sponsors, gets Green America a step closer to turning their vision into a reality. More than 40 other

non-profit and advocacy groups and green investment institutions have allied with Green America in supporting the legislation as well.

If the bill becomes law, the new Victory Bond program would generate some 1.7 million new jobs in and around the renewable energy sector across the United States, and



would extend the imperiled Production Tax Credit and other federal renewable energy incentives for as long as a decade. The beauty of the plan is that it allows everyday Americans to encourage cleaner, greener energy with a minimum investment and a guaranteed return-without requiring any direct budgetary allocations or expenditures by the federal government.

Purchasers will be able to get in on the action for as little as \$25, and will get the purchase price back plus interest in 10 years. Furthermore, projects supported through Clean Energy Victory Bonds will create jobs and business revenues that will bring in federal tax dollars while simultaneously reducing health and environmental costs nationwide.

The bill was referred to committee and could potentially

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come up for a floor vote very soon. Green America is encouraging everyday Americans to call their Congressional representatives and ask them to support H.R. 6275. Another way to get behind the effort now is to pledge to buy the bonds via www.cleanenergyvictorybonds.org after the legislation passes.

Yet another way to help is by spreading awareness about the bill and the good that can come from its passage. "Everyone who hears about this strategy loves it, because the bonds advance goals that both Republicans and Democrats can get behind," reports Green America, urging everyday folks to tweet, blog and talk about the campaign and legislation-and to post a link to cleanenergyvictorybonds.org on their Facebook pages-so more conscientious Americans will find out about and get behind the concept.

Green America Clean Energy Victory Bonds,
www.greenamerica.org/programs/climate/CEVB/; H.R.
 6275, www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112hr6275ih/pdf/BILLS-112hr6275ih.pdf.
earthtalk@emagazine.com

Dear EarthTalk: Has recycling lived up to its promise to reduce waste and pollution, save energy and provide jobs in our ailing economy? - Ian Atkinson, New York, NY

Americans still don't recycle as much as they could. Nonetheless, the practice is already considered a huge success given that it keeps about a third of the solid waste we generate out of our quickly filling landfills and saves natural resources while generating much-needed revenue for struggling municipal governments. Recycling also helps us keep our carbon footprints down: According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, recycling one ton of aluminum cans conserves more than 1,665 gallons of gasoline.

Of course that doesn't mean the progression from virtually no recycling just 40 years ago to today's U.S. average of 33.8% has always been smooth. Some types of materials, especially mixed plastics, have proven difficult and/or expensive to recycle, causing skeptics to question the overall value proposition. But well managed recycling systems that focus on profitable resources like glass, paper and metals have been a big success. And why wouldn't they be, when

recycling uses as little as 5% of the energy required for virgin production of materials such as aluminum?

Sara Brown of Presidio Graduate School reports that, while recycling has gained significant momentum during the last two decades, it has still not yet realized its potential. "Unfortunately, recycling pick-up services are not cheap and it is viewed as a redundant service; extra trucks mean extra cost. On top of that, single stream recycling requires investment in technology to sort the loads efficiently," she says. "Trash, on the other hand, is far more indiscriminate because everything just goes to one place, the landfill."

Brown says that the availability of curbside recycling programs varies throughout the (Continued on next page.)



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Highlander Environmental

country, as does their success. For example, New York City was a pioneer in recycling, but when the city became strapped for cash, recycling rates fell precipitously to just 15% and have not recovered. "New York City officials claim it is more expensive to recycle than to send trash to landfills and incinerators for disposal, and that they have to weigh those costs against environmental goals."

On the other end of the spectrum is San Francisco, which has been steadily increasing its recycling and composting and is now up to over 77%. Even more incredibly, the city is aiming for zero waste by 2020. Brown lauds San Francisco for structuring its recycling program to promote the desired behavior. "Curbside fees are charged on a 'pay as you throw' basis for trash, while recycling and compost are free, creating a financial incentive for following the law and sorting your waste." Brown adds that programs like San Francisco's prove that recycling can be economically viable besides being good for the planet.

Brown acknowledges we've come a long way with recycling but that there is still great potential to do more. A November 2011 report entitled "More Jobs, Less Pollution" by a coalition of groups including the BlueGreen Alliance, the Natural Resources Defense Council and Recycling Works! advocates that the U.S. government mandate diverting 75% of our waste coast-to-coast by 2030. The

result would be 1.5 million new jobs as well as significant pollution reduction and savings in water and other resources. *More Jobs, Less Pollution Report*, docs.nrdc.org/globalwarming/files/glo_11111401a.pdf; *Presidio Graduate School*, www.presidioedu.org.

.Dear EarthTalk: What was Proposition 37 in California that concerns the labeling of genetically modified foods and that was just voted down in that state? - Peter

Tremaine, Euclid, OH

Many healthy food advocates were disheartened on Election Day when Californians rejected Proposition 37, which would have required the labeling of genetically modified (GM) foods across the state. GM foods have had genes from other plants or animals inserted into their genetic code to optimize for one or another trait, such as resistance to pests, better taste or longer shelf life, and are controversial because scientists don't know the ramifications of mixing genetic codes on such a widespread scale.

While it was close, those against the so-called "California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act" prevailed, with 53.1% of the vote. The proposition called on food manufacturers to label foods containing GM ingredients on the front or back of the packaging with the phrase "partially produced with genetic engineering"-and



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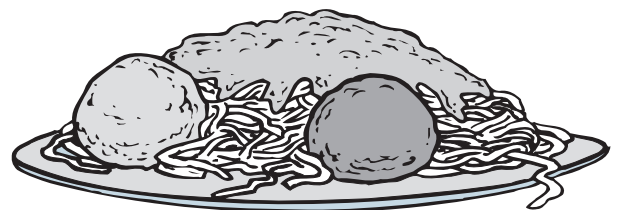
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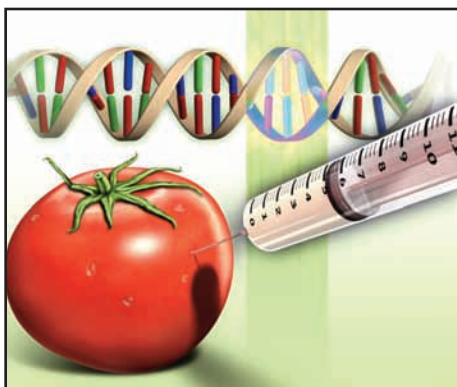
not to label or advertise such foods as “natural.” Proponents developed the proposition in lieu of federal action requiring labeling of GM foods...as exists in 50 other countries.

Proponents of the bill raised some \$9 million and garnered some 46.9% of the vote, indicating that upwards of four million Californians fear the potential effects of GM foods and are in favor of greater transparency on the part of the food industry. But such efforts weren’t enough to overcome aggressive marketing by so-called Big Food companies including Monsanto, Coca-Cola, ConAgra, Nestle and Kraft, who poured some \$45 million into the “No on 37” campaign.

Backers of the proposition are crying foul. Public health lawyer Michele Simon reports that some of the companies involved in defeating the bill engaged in lying, scare tactics, misrepresentation and various dirty tricks “to protect their profits and keep California voters uninformed about their food choices.”

“The No campaign listed four organizations in the official state document mailed to voters as concluding that ‘biotech foods are safe’,” she says. “One of them, the American Council on Science and Health, is a notorious industry front group that only sounds legit. Another, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, actually has no position and complained about being listed...” The other

two groups, the National Academy of Sciences and the World Health Organization, have more nuanced positions...than just “safe.”



Simon also criticizes Big Food for its claims about high food costs, “shake-down lawsuits” and “special interest exemptions” if the law passed: “While each of these claims is easily debunked, being outspent on ad dollars makes it hard to compete, especially when all you can really say is, ‘that’s not true’.”

The battle over GM labeling in California may be over for now, but the war rages on nationally. Just Label It, a nonprofit started by Stonyfield Farm

magnate Gary Hirshberg, is trying to persuade the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to require GM food labeling nationally. Readers can help by signing the campaign’s online petition. Beyond that, Just Label It recommends eating more fresh vegetables and unprocessed foods (the vast majority of processed foods in the U.S. contain either GM corn or soy) and looking for the USDA Organic label, which precludes any foods containing GM ingredients. *Yes on 37*, www.carighttoknow.org; *Just Label It*, www.justlabelit.org.

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Rancher Sells Out To Pay Company He Sued

By Nelson Harvey

It was a hot day in the summer of 2009, and Dow Rippy was out on his four-wheeler in western Colorado, checking on his cows. As he drove, tracing the southern edge of his property, Rippy followed the route of a gas pipeline that the Houston-based gas company, SG Interests, was building across the ranch. Dow and his wife, Kathy, owned about 1,900 acres of hilly oak brush south of Silt, Colo., near the heart of Colorado's gas patch. They had acquired the land over 15 years, though Dow's family had been ranching in the area since they originally emigrated from Scotland in the late 1860s, after the Civil War.

In 2007, Dow signed a contract allowing SG Interests to build a pipeline across his land. The agreement established a 30-foot-wide corridor for the pipeline and required the company to repair fences and slopes along its route. Yet as Dow reached the southeastern edge of his ranch on that day in 2009, he noticed not only that a section of pipeline had been left unburied; it also appeared to be well outside of the boundary allowed in his contract.

Dow had always been a fierce defender of his property rights, and this made him angry. He ordered SG pipeline workers to leave until he had spoken to the company's

managers, and then he closed his gate, locking their equipment inside. Dow didn't know it then, but that day marked the beginning of the end of his ranching career. Last October, he put his ranch up for auction to settle a court battle with SG Interests. He'd lost that battle, and was ordered to pay the company more than \$700,000 in damages.

It started with a shouting match. When Dow accused SG executives of mislaying the pipeline, they denied the error and threatened to sue if the couple didn't let them keep working. The parties negotiated for months, but ultimately the Rippys opted to sue, both for trespassing and for breach of contract. At the trial, held in Grand Junction in 2011, SG presented a slew of land title documents showing that the Rippys didn't actually own the land where they thought the pipeline should go. New surveys showed that SG was correct. SG also filed a counter-claim, alleging that Dow's decision to lock workers out of his property had cost the gas company upwards of \$400,000 in lost productivity. In a devastating decision for the family, the jury ruled in favor of SG Interests and awarded the company damages and attorney fees.

In a scramble to raise the cash, the Rippys considered

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selling their mineral or development rights, but neither transaction could close fast enough. And selling only part of the ranch, Dow said, would cripple its bottom line. "The problem is, the ranch is a whole, and if you split it up, then you take away the ability for the ranch to be financially sound," he said. When auction day came, several of the couple's neighbors were there to bid on it. Some parties also bid online, including SG Interests, which bought the very parcel, in the southeastern corner of the ranch, where its pipeline dispute with the Rippys began.

The company's land manager, Eric Sanford, told me the firm had a compressor station nearby and needed easier access. It was a stinging end to the couple's life as ranchers: They'd been forced off the ranch to pay the gas company, and now the company owned a piece of the ranch, too. It may be that the very trait that made Dow such a good rancher - his defense of private property rights and minute attention to the condition of his land - was what drove him to take legal action, a decision that sparked the disintegration of his ranching career.

In the last 60 years, Colorado's ranchlands have shrunk by about 7.5 million acres, according to the Colorado Conservation Trust. Ranchers sell out for many reasons, but it's especially heartbreaking when they have to do it against their will. Nowadays, Dow Rippy says he wishes that he had never gone to court to defend his property rights. "This was something that should have been settled with a handshake," he said. "In court, the way they talk doesn't fit your ears." Today, Dow runs Burning Mountain Bowl, a bowling alley in the small western Colorado town of New Castle. On a given day, above the din of crashing pins and rock music, Rippy oversees about 20 employees,

making sure that the lanes are buffed, the customers are happy and the bills are paid. He still wears a cowboy hat and wrangler jeans.

Nelson Harvey is, a contributor to Writers on the Range, a service of High Country News (hcn.org). He is a freelance print and radio journalist based in western Colorado.

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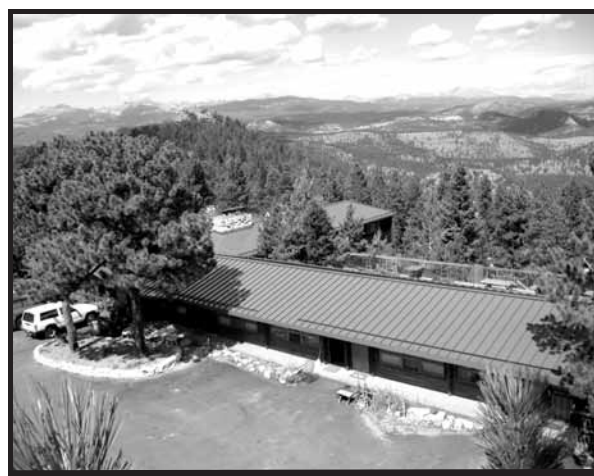
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CSU Partners To Improve Firefighters Suits

Colorado State University,

Poudre Fire Authority Partner to

Improve Firefighter Suits, Reduce Injuries

While there is no doubt the turnout gear worn by firefighters save their lives, the bulky, protective clothing may make firefighters clumsy, causing them to trip or be injured, and impedes vision, mobility and movement; all critical skills in fighting a fire.

Juyeon Park, assistant professor in the Department of Design and Merchandising, is partnering with Poudre Fire Authority to study ways to make current fire suits less restrictive. She hopes to develop a suit that improves movement and also passes standard requirements for firefighter turnout gear set by National Fire Protection Association. "We know that the 40 pounds of turnout gear and additional 35 pounds of breathing equipment firefighters wear impact their balance and movement so much that it leads to accidents, injuries and even casualties," Park said. "While there has been some research into the mobility of personal protective equipment, it has never been translated into real design solutions."

Park is interviewing PFA firefighters about their

perspectives on how their gear impedes their movement and comfort. Her research team also will have the firefighters gear up and perform routine movements to study how the turnout gear interferes with movement. She hopes to develop a new suit with innovative design features, particularly at joints, such as where gloves meet sleeves, where boots meet pants and where helmets meet jackets and breathing gear.

She's already discovered that most firefighters are particularly frustrated by the suit and gear; they feel the suit protects them and each accompanying item is well-designed, but wearing them together is cumbersome, especially when the suit is worn over the station uniform pants, which are made of non-stretch twill fabric.

Female firefighters face a particular problem being able to see because of the way their breathing gear fits their helmets due to their relatively short torso. Current gear also has safety shortcomings. According to Park, about 78,000 firefighters were injured on the job in 2009. Many injuries are on the hand, arm, head, foot or leg. This study is conducted as part of a five-year multi-state research project supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The project will conclude in 2017.

By then, the research group hopes to develop a prototype and suggest changes to the current protective clothing to maintain safety standards and make improvements. The Department of Design and Merchandising is in the College of Applied Human Sciences at Colorado State University.

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Gilpin County Recreation Center Lobby, Hwy 46, Golden Gate
Dory Hills Campground, Hwy 46, Golden Gate Canyon
Nederland Information Center, First Street & Hwy 119
New Moon Bakery & Internet Cafe, 1 W. First St., Nederland
Roy's Last Shot Restaurant, 17268 Hwy 119, Peak to Peak Hwy
Mountain People's Coop, First Street, Nederland
Rustic Moose, 26 E. First St., Nederland
Sundance Cafe, Hwy 119 S, Nederland
Taggerts, Hwy 119 at Colorado Sierra
Thai Restaurant, 155 Hwy 119 East, Nederland
The Savory Cafe, Village Shopping Center, Nederland
Whistlers Cafe, First Street, Nederland

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Central City Post Office Lobby, Central City
Dostal Alley-Brewery & Casino, Central City
Gilpin County Courthouse, Central City
Mountain Family Health Center - Black Hawk

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Golden City Hall, 911 10th St. Golden
Golden Mill, 1012 Ford St., Golden
Golden Public Library, 1019 10th Street, Golden
Holly West Restaurant, Applewood Shopping Ctr, Wheat Ridge
Golden Skillet, 807 13th St., Golden
Meyer Hardware - 1103 Arapahoe St., Golden
Miners Alley Playhouse, Above Foss Liquors, Golden
Mutual of Omaha Bank - 770 Heritage Rd, Golden
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11883 Lillis Lane - \$164,000
4.6 Ac. Super Solar Potential!

595 Black Gulch Rd. - \$184,900
Spectacular 21.7 Level Acres!

4 Leon Lane - \$46,900
Dream Home Lot!

0 Moss Rock - \$74,999
2.85 Ac. Snowcapped Views!

0 Coal Creek Canyon - \$50,000
Drive cut-in; Septic design done!



101 Kirkwood Way
Thorn Lake Privileges!
3 BD/ 3 BA **\$379,900**



0 Pennsylvania Gulch
17.7 Ac. @ Glacier Lake!
Good Access **\$299,900**



**Buy or Sell a Home
With Me, And Use
This Truck for FREE!**



537 Gap Road
Backs to Golden Gate State Park!
3 BD/ 1 BA Horse Property **\$219,000**



Great Buy!
11777 Brook Road
Wonderful Open Floor Plan!
4 BD/ 4 BA + Loft/Office. **\$399,999**



Kathy Keating,
CRS, ABR, GRI
EcoBroker,
Broker Associate



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