



## Opinion from America's Outback

### STAND UP FOR LIBERTY

The mainstream Eastern/urban media seem clueless as to the battles taking place in western America. Others of us know that land-based businesses are the lifeblood of America's economy. Thanks for educating and inspiring people to stand up for liberty!

SUSAN SNEDDEN, MARICOPA, CALIFORNIA

We need more magazines like *RANGE* to get people more informed about what is going on with our public lands. I really would like to see a little bit more on the logging end of it but that's just me being from the industry. Thanks for battling for our rights.

KENNETH BECKTEL, SAINT MARIES, IDAHO

*RANGE* is the one magazine I don't want to miss out on. Thank you for the work and reporting you all do.

DAVID LANCE, SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

### BATTLE IN BURNS, PRO/CON

A great exposé of the Burns debacle. Some powerful writing in your last issue!

MARVIN & JUDY REED, RENO, NEVADA  
*Check "Patterns of Harassment III," Summer 2016, at [www.rangemagazine.com](http://www.rangemagazine.com).—Ed.*

Thanks for great coverage of the Burns' mess.

RHEE LATHROP, LOSTINE, OREGON

I am concerned about the state of public lands and how they are managed, like most of your dedicated readers, but I am equally as concerned with your editorialized reporting on subjects. I can only speak to things I have firsthand knowledge of like what happened this past winter up here in Burns, Ore., but your reports on it are highly sensationalized and hardly the accuracy I expected and had believed I've been getting all these years. Think it might behoove you to speak to some ranchers who live, work and play right here

and do so with the BLM as an ally, which is more often than not the case, but instead of doing Mr. Findley proud and reporting the truth whatever it may be and let the cards fall where they may, as he did so well, you have taken to propagandizing things.

KYLE JACKSON, BURNS, OREGON

Thanks for covering the story of the Bundys in Burns, Ore. We need everyone's help to get our country back.

GEORGE CLARK, MONUMENT, OREGON

Please quit making out that the Bundys are at all helpful to the livestock industry. They cause more harm to real ranchers! The ranchers I know take good care of their ground.

MIKE C. JONES, JACKSON, CALIFORNIA  
*So do the Bundys when the feds let them.—Ed.*

I strongly disagree with your viewpoint on the Hammonds. Other than that, I enjoy *RANGE*.

FRANK PULS, TOPEKA, KANSAS

CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSN



From left: Herb Holzapfel, Ron La Grande, Emory Hammond, Ellington Peek, Earlyna Hammond (with microphone), and Brad Peek.

On July 11, 2016, after a speech by Ellington Peek, John Rodgers of Western Video Market auctioned off a rawhide riata handmade by Bob deBraga of Red Bluff, Calif. This riata was auctioned off six times. Donations were also received after that from ranchers and the beef industry throughout the western United States. The event raised more than \$50,000 for the Hammond family of Burns, Ore.

CALLIE WOOD, VINA, CALIFORNIA

### A TOUGH LITTLE RASCAL

Tripod came into this world as a red bull calf with a white face and red spots around both eyes. Born to a red crossbred cow out of a Charolais bull, the year was 1994.

His first misfortune happened the night he was born when he was attacked by coyotes and suffered severe injuries to his right hind leg.

We happened to be working cattle the next day and found him with his mother, brought them to the pens, vaccinated both of them, castrated the calf, and turned them out in the pasture. We thought surely the calf would be dead by morning...but he was a tough little rascal and survived the loss of his injured leg just below the knee. Thus the three-legged steer became known as Tripod.

The following year when his mother had another calf and weaned the cripple, he became a loner, staying in the brush by himself, not spending time with the rest of the herd. We never tried to pen him when we worked because it was hard for him to travel...but we continued to see him frequently in the brush watching us drive by.

In 2001, my children gave me two young longhorn steers for my birthday to keep in the house pasture as pets. They flourished on the lush pasture and frequent feedings. I decided to share their life with Tripod, who had developed a very wide set of horns. Catching him in a small pen in the pasture, I asked Finley Blackwell to load him in his trailer and bring him and turn him loose with the longhorns and enjoy the easy life I felt he deserved.

But the good life was not for Tripod. While being loaded into the trailer, he stuck one of his beautiful horns through the sideboards, slipped and fell, tearing his left horn off at the skull, leaving a gaping bloody hole in his head. Once again we turned him out to pasture thinking he would not last the night...but he fooled us again, healed himself and even began to grow a stub of a horn to replace the broken one. He continued to spend his time alone in the brush, observing us from afar as we rode through the pasture.

Guests would often ask, "Why is he so leery of people, why does he stay by himself?" I would reply: "The first time he saw a human, a coyote had eaten part of his leg off, cowboys castrated him, cut a notch in one of his ears, and turned him loose to fend for himself. His next close encounter years later resulted in losing one horn and suffering a serious head injury. What would you do if you had lost a leg, lost both balls, had one ear almost cut off, and lost one of your horns because of human contact?"

Tripod passed quietly during the drought of 2006.

LISA BUBBA STEEN, WESTHOFF, TEXAS



## ERRATA

The lead letter in the Summer issue was credited to Rita Elam. The first graph was written by Tom Bartlett, the second written by Rita Elam. Here's the letter with correct credit:

### AN ELOQUENT MAN

I had the pleasure of meeting Wayne Hage and spending a night on Pine Creek Ranch back in 1987 when I accompanied my cousin, Rick Lovell, on an inspection for Producers Livestock. Wayne was a very intelligent man, well-read, eloquent and fully versed in landowners' rights. The feds picked the wrong guy to try and intimidate when they picked Wayne Hage. He didn't stomp around with an assault rifle screaming epithets and courting the media; he beat the BLM clowns with his brain, his calm and reasonable demeanor, and the law.

TOM BARTLETT, PLEASANT VIEW, UTAH  
My sincere apologies to both writers. This has been fixed on our website.—Ed

## THE OTHER SIDE

When I first started hearing about the standoff, I thought that ranchers should just pay the fees. Media didn't mention the other side of the story. After much reading I've totally changed my way of thinking. Then this senseless killing happened. So very sad.

MARY S. STUMAN, BOERNE, TEXAS  
Check "Patterns of Harassment," Back Issues, Fall 2014, at [rangemagazine.com](http://rangemagazine.com).—Ed.

Enclosed, please find \$\$\$ to help with your magazine. I have subscribed for many years and the Summer 2016 edition is so great. Many good articles about "federal overreach." The Bundy deal was definitely a tragedy!

I own land and farm in Oregon. I know what is going on and I almost went to Burns to show support for what the Bundys tried to do but couldn't because of work. In hindsight it is probably a good thing that I didn't. I might have gotten in trouble.

DAVE SCHUDEL, CORVALLIS, OREGON

RANGE offers the best real facts going on the range, from a former rancher near Princeton, Okla.

JAMES & KAREN HAWLEY  
GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA

## MEN OF THE SOIL

For Steve and Dwight Hammond, their winter must have seemed endless. Having spent my entire life in timber country, how can I even imagine what these men of the soil are going through? All because of a vindictive out-of-control federal government. If it be the Hammonds, Bundys or a baker, who for religious reasons is

getting raked over the coals, we need to remember them and help as we can, as many already are. Thanks CJ and Hank Vogler for standing up for justice. And thanks to Sandra and the U.S. Bank in Burns, Ore., for their great help.

DALE TERRILLION, PROCTOR, MONTANA  
Go to [rangemagazine.com](http://rangemagazine.com) and click on "Enemies of the State/Save the Hammonds."—Ed.

## TOO MUCH SPIN

We ranch in the Kansas Flint Hills and need all the good information we can get to pass on. The lamestream media only puts out what they want with their spin on it. The public is not told the facts.

ROSE Z. BACON, COUNCIL GROVE, KANSAS

There's so much going on in the United States these days it's nice to hear other opinions. Keep up the good reporting.

NANCY MITCHELL  
BELLE FOURCHE, SOUTH DAKOTA

## FANS

Great magazine for true stories and poetry in photos especially from Larry and Robin down Calaveras way. But I reach for the delete button on your wacko world politics that sound Teddy Cruz-like. Are all cowboys and girls right-wingers?

ROBERT PAYNE, REDDING, CALIFORNIA  
I am a Democrat from New York City.—Ed.

Love RANGE! The truth raises my blood pressure but keep stickin' it to 'em! Don't own one Angus but I love to eat them—rib-eye—red meat survivor.

DAVE SHAW, NAMPA, IDAHO

You do a great job of presenting the side of real ranching people. Too many have only theory. You cover the practical people who make a living ranching.

EDLA MCKERLICK, JORDAN, MONTANA

I read every word in your magazine.

DALE HOWELL, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

## AUDACITY

I think that your president was arrogant, rude and wrong to come to Australia and tell us to support the global-warming nonsense. He did the same to the British recently when he went to the United Kingdom and told them not to leave the European Union. Donald Trump was far better mannered and waited till after the result of the referendum and recognized the majority decision of the people in one of the biggest voter turnouts in history.

On the other hand, I believe that your president's impertinence gives me the right to comment on local politics where your federal

government is totally disregarding your own Constitution and engaging in murder and illegal actions against its own people. That has far more in common with the world's worst totalitarian regimes. "The price of Liberty is eternal vigilance" but the Land of the Free seems to have become very myopic of late.

GRAEME CAMPBELL  
KALGOORLIE, WEST AUSTRALIA

RANGE articles are well written, clear and concise. I find the naysayers in "Letters" and "Amazing Facts & Quotes" to be typical examples of products of the American educational system. That is to say, evidently few have bothered with reading comprehension throughout their lives and I see this in the many magazines I receive.

MIKE MCCLLOUD, POLSON, MONTANA



INTERNET

Keep up the good work on reporting what's happening to the West. We are fighting a 2.5-million-acre Owyhee Canyonlands Monument in Malheur County, Ore. It will devastate Malheur County and put 400 ranching families out of business.

HELEN CORBARI, JORDAN VALLEY, OREGON

## SECONDHAND SMOKE

I see where the USFS is doing prescribed burns again which accomplishes several things—destroys the duff under the trees which holds the moisture so the ground will dry out, kills underbrush and trees which make a place for beetles to start and then migrate to standing trees. However, the brush will grow thicker than it was before, to the point of where you cannot even walk through it. Which to me means that prescribed burns do more harm than good.

Another aspect to look at is smoke produces carbon dioxide that is a known pollutant which means that they are knowingly polluting the atmosphere which is illegal for everyone but the Forest Service. Some years back a ban was placed on smoking in public places as secondhand smoke causes respiratory disease so now if you want secondhand smoke, live in meadows, valley or any other low areas and be exposed to all you want in the comfort of your own home.

The USFS is our forest's and our economy's worst enemy. No exceptions!

LEONARD WALLACE SR.  
NEW MEADOWS, IDAHO

It's just like folks who "don't live there" to want to dictate what's "the right thing to do" to folks who *actually* "live there." Yeah, don't get me started. Rock on, CJ!

RICKEE EDDLEMAN, EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

## BILLBOARD HERO

Thanks to you and your staff for all your help with the billboard on Interstate 10 in Bowie,



© KELLY MARTIN

Ariz. John Klump, a local rancher (shown here), provided all of us with an opportunity to get the word out to a lot of people, and hopefully some of them will get the message. The billboard went up May 11, 2016. As they were putting it up, John said people driving by were honking and waving. My daughter Kelly put it on Facebook and it really took off. Again thank you and God bless folks like John and his family.

GEORGE MARTIN  
BATTLE MOUNTAIN, NEVADA

For about a decade, I've been impressed with your advocacy for the American cowboy. The ongoing battle between ranchers and the government is something that has been overlooked way too much by the media.

A few days ago while on a trip shooting railroad photos for my own magazine, I spotted a billboard near Bowie, Ariz. The message was your message—regulation without representation is tyranny. Then I saw your website at the bottom of the billboard. I was surprised, and applaud you for continuing to spread the word.

STEVE BARRY, RAILFAN & RAILROAD MAG.  
SWEDESBORO, NEW JERSEY

As an Arizonian, family being here since 1883, the articles and information in *RANGE* give strength and warm the heart. We are never out of the fight.

FRANK W. GIROUX, DuBOIS RANCH  
KEARNY, ARIZONA

## WHAT ARE YOU KIDS GOING TO DO WITH ALL THIS SPACE?

This photo was taken in 1993 of Jack and Irene Walther, who had been to Blaine, Wash., to a Suffolk Punch show. Jack was a big proponent of that breed of draft horse. They stopped in to see Pete, Jesse and me when we were on a ranch out of Terrebonne, Ore.

We had a great visit.

Although the owners of the ranch had promised us nice company housing, they were the ones in the double-wide trailer seen in the background of the photo—the nice place meant for us. (That double-wide looked like a castle to us!) So, we lived in a small Airstream trailer with no running water and they placed a port-a-john outside our door.

I brought Jack and Irene into our trailer for coffee and the only place to sit was on the one bench hide-a-bed couch at the front of the trailer. So we sat, Jack, Jesse, Irene and I, shoulder to shoulder, packed like sardines and couldn't turn to face each other to talk or anything. Pete stood in the "kitchen."

So Jack, being Jack, said when we first sat down: "So, what are you kids gonna do with all this space?"

We laughed and laughed. What a guy! I loved them a lot and we wrote letters back and forth steadily from about 1992 to last year, so that was 23 years. I still have all of his letters. He reminded me of my dad so much, that glib comment he made about our company housing was exactly like something my dad would have said.

We lost them both early in 2016 and we sure do miss them, but in my mind they still look just like this. Irene was still breaking her Paint colts and Jack was farming with teams.

VIRGINIA BENNETT, GOLDENDALE, WASHINGTON



Jack and Irene Walther in 1993.

VIRGINIA BENNETT PHOTO

## THE GREATEST GENERATION

They buried my friend Jack Walther today. I think about him and others of his generation who are my heroes and were my mentors. The ones Tom Brokaw rightfully called "The Greatest Generation."

Like my dad, a 22-year-old Seabee running bulldozer, helping build air strips on South Pacific Islands recently taken from the Japanese. My mother's younger brother Russell was scouting behind enemy lines on those same islands. When they shot his dog, he somehow managed to survive and carried the dead dog back across the lines, but Russell was never quite the same. My mother's older brother Wayne serving on an LST [Landing ship, tank] wrote about his war experiences with a few terse words. "Normandy...D-day plus two. Nothing much happened. Towed to North Africa for repairs."

My mother once said, "The men we got back were very different from the boys we sent to war." And the women, oh! those women. The ones who gathered the cattle, sheared the sheep, grew the crops, worked in factories and raised their kids while husbands and brothers confronted the nation's enemies half a world away. They are dwindling away this "Greatest Generation" and will soon be all gone. A melancholy Saturday indeed, but mixed with gratitude and respect for those who, in spite of formidable obstacles, left the world better, much better than they found it.

They buried my friend Jack Walther today. He was 97.

VESS QUINLAN, FLORENCE, COLORADO



© JESSICA BRANDI LIFLAND

Loved the page on brother Pat [“Ricardo Cabeza” by Lisa Michelle, Summer 2016]. You could do an essay of just his quotes. He came out of the womb holding a bucking rein. Gracias!

TOM RUSSELL  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



*Self-portrait of Tom Russell, born holding a guitar.*

The feds want to control the narrative. Obviously the evidence they plan to provide contains information they don't want to get out. The fear factor is a joke, and nothing but a shabby and see-through bit of manipulation.

JAY PEA, VIA FACEBOOK

### CLUELESS & INDIFFERENT

Judy Boyle states [“A Hundred Years of Hell,” Summer 2016] that “The western states are still treated like colonies by an uncaring and distant government filled with unelected bureaucrats whose rules are not based in the reality of the West.” Aaah, so true. Also so true of all of the urbanized counties of California and Nevada whose representatives, albeit elected ones, are mostly clueless and indifferent to the issues facing rural counties with small populations. Alpine County, Calif., where I have lived for almost 60 years, is 96 percent federally “owned,” or at least managed, both by BLM and USFS.

One issue facing us is that we are, like most of the Sierras, considered a “high fire danger area” because of the almost complete lack of responsible forest management, thanks to the efforts and money of large environmental groups which neither understand nor care about true resource management. Decades ago these groups banded together, invented the spotted owl controversy, and killed the logging industry. So now we burn up our forest resources and import lumber from other countries. And, not incidentally, we also burn up forest communities.

NANCY THORNBURG  
MARKLEEVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Keep on with the greatest publication on the face of this God-given earth. I won't ever forget that God gave us our unalienable rights and the Constitution prevents the government from taking those rights from us.

CHUCK CUNDY, CORA, WYOMING

### RADIO RANGE!

I use *RANGE* magazine for the occasional “I just thought you'd like to know” spot on the Cow-

boy Jubilee Radio Show. I just wanted to compliment you and Julie Carter for the fine article, “That's How it Was” (Spring 2016, page 38). It was well written, flowed well, and was easy to read on air. I wanted to let you know we are out here reading *RANGE*, and in my case I'm readin' it to 'em.

BILL MCCALLIE, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE  
*You are a RANGE hero!—Ed.*

Don't know how you do it, but the latest issue was spectacularly good. Well done, Madam. I remain your devoted admirer.

STEVE THOMPSON, LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA

I can appreciate Bill Jones' problems with TSA and hand lotion [“True Confessions,” Summer 2016]. Considerably older than Bill (I no longer have to remove my shoes), I recently was passing through Denver International Airport when I was stopped as the possibility arose of my carrying explosives! After 30 to 40 minutes being handed from agent to agent, I was taken into a little room to be patted down! I was finally released as perhaps not a hazard to other passengers. As I left the room one of the agents was heard to exclaim, “Oh, sometimes hand lotion will do that!” (It's the glycerin.) I missed my flight and arrived at my destination after midnight.

MARCIA NEAL, GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.



© BRADEN GUNEM

I came across this roadkill the other day. It made me think of *RANGE*. How are you?

BRADEN GUNEM  
CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO

*Buckaroo Don Coops said, “Publishing RANGE is like giving birth to a brahma calf backwards.” This photo tells my story well.—Ed.*

My essay, “The Resurrection of Grass,” about ranching in drought conditions appears in the Spring 2016 issue of *RANGE*. In the same issue, I found a great deal to admire. Vess Quinlan reminisces tenderly about visiting “The House of Hoover” during his childhood in Colorado. Carolyn Dufurrena tells a great story from her years teaching school in Denio, Nev. And Gwen Petersen of Montana speculates about her mother's first boyfriend in “The Promise.” I was amazed and delighted to see that *RANGE* editor

C.J. Hadley also posts letters from folks who vehemently disagree with her about ranching issues.

LINDA M. HASSELSTROM  
HERMOSA, SOUTH DAKOTA

What a nice surprise to receive “Reflections of the West,” such a rich collection of poetry and artwork inspired by our West, the abundance of which documents and celebrates a life which is both old and very much now.

The importance of such rich collections, as you know, cannot be understated as the ranch life so fantasized by the American public continues to require true realistic representations and recognition as the backbone of our economy and very way of life in our country.

Thank you for your generous donation. Our collection of your publications is growing and for that I am truly grateful, for myself, staff and students, and for generations of teachers and students to come.

LIANNE SHAFER, LOVELOCK ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL LIBRARIAN, LOVELOCK, NEVADA

I am almost done reading Summer 2016 and am astounded by how much you can improve a perfect magazine every new issue. This last one is so important about the Bundys and about the recent Oregon double, triple or more tragedy for individuals and for America as a whole. Vin Suprynovicz is amazing. So are Dave Skinner and Judy Boyle.... Always enjoy Carolyn Dufurrena and, of course, Jon and the Searles' Maggie Creek Ranch are special. And Hank [Vogler]. Who else can find humor in that mess?

MARY BRANSCOMB, LAMOILLE, NEVADA

### COWBOY AT HEART

The modern American cowboy culture is a good and a positive thing. The cowboys and girl cowboys of today are good solid people who are honoring our heritage and living the best principles of our great land. My father was a cowboy who had to herd sheep and farm to make a living, but I think in his heart he was a cowboy. Many today work at other jobs during the week but are definitely cowpokes on weekends and evenings, much like National Guard are weekend warriors. Some people are both.

CHARLES R. CLAPP, LTC, USAF RET.  
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

In 2011, staff of the British “security company” G4S that hired the Orlando shooter attached an electronic monitoring tag to the false leg of a criminal who was able to simply remove the prosthetic—and the tag—during his court-ordered curfew. Maybe they need to take over TSA airport security. We are doomed by idiots everywhere.

AL TOPPING, TUBAC, ARIZONA

## THE TOOL OF TYRANTS

When a government becomes a tyrant, it views the citizens as threats and militarizes all agencies with black-uniformed armed shooters. The greatest threat to freedom and security of U.S. citizens is the U.S. government. Remember the German Gestapo, the Soviet KGB and NKVD, the FBI murder/assassination at Ruby Ridge, the task force raid at Waco, and the roadside murder/assassination in Oregon. Intimidation and excessive force are the tools of tyrants.

ROLAND WEST, ODESSA, MISSOURI

All I can say about *RANGE* magazine is holy smokes. What a load of cow poop. Talk about head-in-the-sand junk science.

BROTHER BILL, VIA EMAIL

## NEVER AGAIN

I wish to bring to your attention a factual error on page 12 of the Summer issue. The quote attributed to Alexis de Tocqueville is, rather, an excerpt from "The Liberty Manifesto" written and presented by P.J. O'Rourke before the Cato Institute on May 6, 1993.... Whether or not the error is a ploy to emphasize the spirit of your publication, it does not lend me to read without doubt what you purport to be fact elsewhere in your magazine.

Disclosure: For decades before hiring on with the Forest Service to pack government mules in the Gila Wilderness, my lifestyle and livelihood was determined by the public land cattle ranches I worked in Arizona, New Mexico, California, Nevada and Idaho. I have been aware of *RANGE* for quite some time, but only recently—returning home flush with taxpayers' money after a 19-consecutive-14-hour-(average)-day fire assignment (one more government regulation prohibits me to work more than 16 hours within 24 whether or not I sleep on the ground)—did I impulsively purchase the current issue at the checkout counter, its stand positioned next to the pink 9mms and in front of the racked ARs.

Full Disclosure: Though it was a pleasant surprise to see Linda Hasselstrom to be a regular contributor, she having helped with my writing, I do not intend to purchase another issue of *RANGE* magazine. I will continue my 25-year subscription to *High Country News*.

E.T. COLLINSWORTH III, PORTAL, ARIZONA

## DEADBEATS

I was expecting to see something about the Bundy deadbeats, but wow, lots of pages and lopsided information. I wonder if 25 years ago you never paid your printer or companies for supplies how long would they have let you go on. I'd guess not for 20 or more years. We're all entitled to our opinions, but in my opinion the Bundys are in jail where

they belong and Finicum asked to be killed.

ROY HAYNES, DAINGERFIELD, TEXAS  
*Sorry to disappoint, but I know the Hages, the Hammonds, the Philippinis, the Tomeras and the Bundys and the awful problems did not start with them. PLEASE reread the stories at [www.rangemagazine.com](http://www.rangemagazine.com) listed under "Tyranny." Even the FBI is investigating itself on the Finicum shooting and former federal agents are telling us it was a cold-blooded murder.—Ed.*

In early March when millions of gallons were available [our government] flushed water into the ocean instead of filling up the southern reservoirs because they say a small fish is endangered. And they are spending \$100 billion on the train to nowhere!

Who planted 60 acres of avocados in 1974? I and a bunch of other avocado farmers in West Goleta are having to cut out our trees. No water equals no avocados. However, since NAFTA, most avocados sold in the United States are from Mexico. Very sad to see my life's work go down the drain!

GEOFF BLOOMINGDALE, GOLETA, CALIFORNIA

## DOWN ON THE FARM

My mother-in-law, Linda Dufurrena, was on her way to Burns last spring to buy lamb milk



© LINDA DUFURRENA

replacer. She was struck by the thousands of migrating birds resting on the farmers' fields just south of town, while a few miles further on, at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, she said, "I saw only four."

CAROLYN DUFURRENA, WINNEMUCCA, NEV.

Just finished reading the story about D.J. Quinn, "No Stress Zone," by Alan Hart [Spring 2016]. Brought many good memories from the '50s and Bear Valley Ranch, aka Point Reyes National Seashore.

MICHAEL SALFEN, MCARTHUR, CALIFORNIA

## NIXON A SAINT?

"Amazing Facts & Quotes," Summer 2016, showed Richard Nixon, "I erased 18 ½ minutes of tape." I served in Vietnam while Nixon was president and let me assure you that it was not his missing 18 ½ minutes of tape that forced him out of office, it was the rest of the tapes that brought him down. Dump on Hillary all you

want but please do not make Nixon a saint.

DAVID PORTER MISSO, TULE LAKE, CALIFORNIA

Give the "greeners," "environmentalists" and crooked politicians *hell*. From a fifth-generation cowman and secondhand vegetarian.

BUDDY SMITH, HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

## SHINING STAR

The only thing wrong with *RANGE* is I have to stop whatever I am doing—in my tracks—to read the whole thing when it hits the mailbox! It's that good, cover to cover. I am 74 and lived on a farm or a ranch most of my life. I have seen this country deteriorate and hope we can see a turn-around soon, God willing.

MARY GREENLEAF  
SOAP LAKE, WASHINGTON

Your magazine is a shining star in what has become a very dark universe.

ANTHONY MILLER, KUNA, IDAHO