

Opinion from America's Outback

# YES, VIRGINIA!

RANGE is a gift capable of evidentiary testimony to comfort the troubled hearts with the answer, "Yes, Virginia, there is a loving God in heaven." Notwithstanding the hellish schemes that RANGE shines the light of truth upon, your consistent efforts assure your readership that all is not lost. Every issue begins with the sharp crack of a cricket bat and continues through the back-cover advertisements. Press on!

L.C. RICHMOND, EDEN, TEXAS

Please just keep finding those young cowgirls and cowboys, catch them doing something right, and keep them on the right track!

JERRY WILCOX, YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Thanks for the truth out in defense of ranchers and farmers across our great coun-

try. These hardworking and dedicated Americans are our lifeblood.

KURT DENKER, HARLINGEN, TEXAS

# **SPINNING TOO FAST**

This ol' world is spinning a little too fast for my taste. Holy Moly!

I have enclosed a donation to *RANGE* in memory of Patty Norcutt. We lost her April 26, 2021. Heaven needed a true-blue cowgirl real bad and our good Lord took her fast. Patty was a good friend, wife, mother and grandmother. Our world was made better because of her. God bless America and God bless all who love the land and work on it.

EDDYANN FILIPPINI BATTLE MOUNTAIN, NEVADA

The last issue is sure to incite more cancellations, which means you are doing a great job! Some folks just refuse to see the whole picture. Bye the bye, at the time of the next issue, I'll be a 90-year-old "red meat survivor!" I never thought I would be this old and can still drive. When I was a 12-year-old I thought I would be a cowboy. Didn't make it. I was last on a saddle in the 1980s astride a beautiful bay Morgan. The owner couldn't believe that I knew how to lead that horse left and right with knee pressure.

MARVIN REED, RENO, NEVADA

RANGE sure is an eye-opener. GLEN WHITTINGTON JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE

# NEVER FORGET THE FACT ADOLF HITLER WAS TIME MAGAZINE'S " MAN OF THE YEAR " IN 1938 MORAL OF THE STORY: MAINSTREAM MEDIA IS NOT ALWAYS RELIABLE.

### **ROBOT FOLLOWERS**

Okay CJ, when are you going to "let go" of your romance with Trump and his zombie robot followers? Great photos!

ROBERT C. PAYNE JR., REDDING, CALIFORNIA

Take me off your mailing list. Y'all are way too "Right" for me.

Anonymous

Dear Brave: How can I take you off our mailing list without a name and address?—Ed.

Keep the faith, don't give up! We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim; silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. We must stay vigilant and never let our guard down.

PAUL FOERTSCH, HAZELTON, NORTH DAKOTA

No one in America is doing what you are doing—defending the last bastion of American integrity which had its roots in my country, New England. We are lucky to have someone of your character representing the heritage of the West. Ironic that you are English—but appropriate.

BILL WOODWARD, BUFFALO, WYOMING

The Summer issue of *RANGE* featured a story by Bill Woodward and a photo of two of my very best old friends from Buffalo, Wyoming: Domingo Martirena and Charles Marton, two of the best men to ever walk the planet. I miss them so much!

PIERRE CARRICABURU, M.D. RIVERTON, WYOMING

# THE BAG LADY

A little old lady was walking down the street dragging two large plastic garbage bags behind her. One of the bags was ripped and every once in a while a \$20 bill fell out onto the sidewalk. Noticing this, a policeman stopped her and said, "Ma'am, there are \$20 bills falling out of that bag."

"Oh, really? Darn it!" said the little old lady. "I'd better go back and see if I can find them. Thanks for telling me, Officer."

"Well now, not so fast," said the cop.
"Where did you get all that money? You didn't steal it, did you?"

"Oh, no, no," said the old lady. "You see, my backyard is right next to the football stadium parking lot. On game days, a lot of fans come and pee through a knot-



hole in the fence, right into my flower garden. It used to really tick me off. Kills the flowers, you know. Then I thought, 'Why not make the best of it?' So now, on game days, I stand behind the fence by the knothole, real quiet, with my hedge clippers. Every time some guy sticks his pecker through my fence, I surprise him, grab

hold of it and say, 'Okay, buddy! Give me \$20, or off it comes."

"Well, that seems only fair," said the cop, laughing. "Okay. Good luck! Oh, by the way, what's in the other bag?"

"Well, you know," said the little old lady, "not everybody pays."

VIA INTERNET WITHOUT CREDIT, SENT IN VIA TED LYSTER, BEND, OREGON Lee Pitts' article in Summer, "Cali-Phony-A," is excellent! Having been born and raised in New Hampshire but now living in the San Francisco Bay Area, I can fully relate to his assessment about the current state of affairs in California. He's documented it right-on! As my grandmother used to say, "We're going to hell in a handbasket."

ALBERT L. LAMARRE, DUBLIN, CALIFORNIA

# THE QUARTERLY DOSE

I miss seeing everyone at the video and bull sales and I'm trying to stay relevant while my body is being held hostage by the medical community. Right now, it's the neurologists...a nuttier bunch of people doesn't exist on God's green earth—unless it's Biden or John Kerry supporters. Those guys truly frighten me and I think they're going to be the ruination of our once wonderful country. Besides being a climate-change denier, now I'm a racist climate-change denier. RANGE is the only piece of sanity in our topsy-turvy world these days and I wish it came out daily. But I think that might kill you, so I guess I'll have to be satisfied with your quarterly doses of wisdom and wonderment.

LEE PITTS, LOS OSOS, CALIFORNIA

Great, accurate and informative!

LAURIE BAKER, ELKO, NEVADA

Recently, Yasmine Briers from Belgium stopped by for a short visit. Forecast was for a bright sunny day, so I offered her a choice of any cap on my hat rack. Wouldn't you know, she chose my last khaki *RANGE* cap. On the hike to the Highlands to see the ponies she



mentioned several times how great it fit. I think she forgot to return it. My check for two more caps is in the mail.

Alan Hart, Troutdale, Virginia



Hope the producers can get fair markets and pricing or the country and the West will be big losers along with the United States of America. Thanks for all your great reporting and stories. Hope we can survive this administration's attack on our freedoms.

DON HAUSLE, SPEARFISH, SOUTH DAKOTA

Scott McKay's piece in Summer 2021 ["Corruption Without Consequences Will Destroy America"] is so "right-on." This article is required reading for all Americans whether you love our country or not. I'm a reader since inception and have kept all copies. God bless you all!

JIM INGLIS, COTTONWOOD, CALIFORNIA

What would we do without RANGE? I can't believe so many people just don't seem to get what the government and evil conservationists are doing to our nation, our ranchers and farmers. God have mercy on us!

Don Sperlich, Armour, South Dakota

A little extra for the fantastic work you do. Max Brugh, DVM Athens, Georgia

The last few years our elk and deer must hang around the lower housing to keep from getting slaughtered by the huge oversized Canadian wolves they introduced in the Northwest. As to the wind power, it only takes about a dollar's worth of black paint on one of the blades to cut down bird loss by 70 percent. Better multiblade windmills are offered by J. McKenna but some insiders seem to embrace dead-end technology to ensure oil is king.

AL FRY, GARDEN VALLEY, IDAHO

Thank you for such a beautiful, unique, informative magazine.

MOLLIE YOUNG, DORRIS, CALIFORNIA

### THE AMERICA-FIRST MONSTER

I believe that attacks on immigrants must be stopped. Abortion is a basic right. All Americans should have access to affordable healthcare. Public education must be funded. Therefore, I cannot support your agenda. Trump is a monster.

Anonymous Democrat

Stop my subscription. Too Trumpy for me. PETE WINKLER, REDWAY, CALIFORNIA

We have been *RANGE* subscribers for years and want you to keep on keeping on with the truths you are telling no matter what they are. We need your magazine to counter all the dirty politics Americans are dealing with.

EVELYN BINGHAM, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

I believe *RANGE* is the most important magazine in America.

JOHN CRABTREE, LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA

RANGE is a light in the dark!
BOBBY SCHWAB, KENDALIA, TEXAS

Great publication. It's nice to read fact-based opinions rather than opinion-tailored facts.

Newt Rumble, Ridgefield, Washington

Chase Layton Stouard of Spring Creek, Nev., is a roper. He went fishing with his grandpa but had roping on his mind.

KAY PEARCE, ORLAND, CALIFORNIA

I live 70 miles from Blaine County, Idaho, and even in 1998 it was filling with people who didn't have the slightest idea how to plant a tomato or dig a ditch. My younger years were spent on a ranch at Fairfield. The only time we went to town was for flour, sugar and salt. Everything else came from the garden, fields, cattle or hunting and fishing. We were not poor; we had money, but we didn't spend it.

Life was good and easy. When I saw what happened to Blaine County, I was horrified.

MARY SEVERE, HAGERMAN, IDAHO

We appreciate your hard work and good, sound thinking. You are truly our hero in today's unbalanced world.

KENT HOWELL, DAYTON, IDAHO

# **CONSERVATIVES NEED HELP**

Love your magazine! We conservatives need all the help we can get in this administration that threatens America's very existence.

ROBERT CURTIS, MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Been a reader for a long time. Y'all do a very great service to all of us who read, study and share the wisdom and science that you include in your writings. May the Lord our God bless all of you at *RANGE*.

MARLENE & DEWEY WOOD, SAN SABA, TEXAS

### WONDERING WHY

Thomas Sowell grew up in Harlem, N.Y., served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, graduated magna cum laude from Harvard and has a master's from Columbia University. He is an economist, social theorist, philosopher, author

and senior fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He won the National Humanities Medal and Francis Boyer Award.

Many colleges and universities are openly opposed to permitting Mr. Sowell to lecture their students and faculty. I wonder why? Mr. Sowell is retired at age 91 so we don't hear much from him these days.

VIA INTERNET, WITH NO SOURCE We need more Thomas Sowells.—Ed.

You are doing work hardly anyone else is doing—truth telling.

HARRIET & ALAN HENDERSON CHALLIS, IDAHO

Love the magazine, appreciate your stance.

Neal Horneck, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin Dang! Such a wealth of good reading on *every* page! There's scary information, too. I think I had been living under a rock until I started reading *RANGE*. "West First!" by Dave Skinner in Spring 2021 is a prime example. Your publication has opened my eyes.

After several wonderful and informative articles, it was "Bits & Spurs" on page 85 [by Marjorie Haun and the *Washington Post*] that made me run into the next room and read aloud to my husband. Those brief two articles

were wonderfully written. Kudos to the author(s), and to you for recognizing the logical good in them.

BOBI ALLARD, BILLINGS, MONTANA

My continuing interest in *RANGE* is my current residence in Montana, and the fact that all four of my great-grandparents arrived in California in the 1850s, and two of them via trailing cattle to California and the West. As you might surmise, I am a conservative seasoned citizen living in the liberal enclave of Bozangeles (Bozeman), Mont., who might want to return to my former expat home of Gardnerville, Nev., to be close to family in California, but it's a little too close to my former native home there.

I find your magazine kind of a microcosm of the division in the country! So many of your readers just can't handle the occasional slight diversion from their ultraconservative views, and so want to cancel their subscription! Why would one not want to hear/read about alternative points of view? Sad, the divisions we are seeing. I can't even hint at politics with my brother, though younger sis and I have similar points of view.

BILL MEYERS, BOZEMAN, MONTANA

Seems every issue has someone wanting to cancel their subscription because something in the magazine offended them (and not many publications would print that). I wish these people would let the rest of us know what they read that never offends them. I pride myself in being an independent, but have to be careful what I say in my emails because family and friends can't stand to hear something they don't agree with. I've lost a few friends and family from my email list, but don't consider it much of a loss. Practiced medicine in Livingston, Mont., in the '70s and always planned to return, but life got in the way. RANGE just rekindles missing Montana.

DAN CALIENDO, M.D., ANDOVER, KANSAS Thanks for being a RANGE reader. I need everyone I can find and will print letters from those who disagree, even though "vague complaints" and "anonymous" do not show much grit. However, I am happy that they read enough of the issue to complain!—Ed.

# **CONTROL OF WATER RIGHTS**

Are you all following the Klamath Lake area and dispute with Bundy and those two individuals who own the Head Gate property, and the government agencies that are against releasing water to downstream ranchers and



# I STAND FOR THE FLAG

I stand for the Flag because I am deeply and proudly rooted in the heroic history and heritage of this greatest of nations, whose lofty founding principles represent the greatest opportunity for Liberty and Justice for All. I stand for the Flag because I am deeply, unspeakably, humbly grateful for the sacrifices and hard work of all who have gone before me, whose blood, sweat, tears, hopes and dreams have allowed me and all Americans to freely pursue our hopes and dreams in peace. I stand for the Flag to honor all who served and all who gave their lives to preserve our nation and her principles. I stand to

honor all who share those principles and who work hard to care for their families and communities while making this tough old world a better place. I stand to honor and support all who labor courageously still to keep this nation great and her people free. I stand to say "Thank you" for the precious gifts of my birthright and citizenship. I stand to honor the bravest, brashest, boldest, most generous, biggest-hearted nation in human history.

I frequently take up my many grievances with government and with domestic enemies and detractors of America, but I will always stand for the Flag and our National Anthem and feel kinship with others who also stand. And, ever more as I grow older and more appreciative of all that is extraordinary (if imperfect) about America, I struggle to understand those who flaunt their flagrant disrespect, as I struggle to choke back the emotion I feel when the Anthem plays or the Flag is flying.

God bless America.
JOHN HOAK, BIG HORN, WYOMING

farmers?

It is also happening in a much smaller way on the coastal ranges. We have had to discourage Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife agents from walking up our streams on several occasions, looking for fish and checking the flow of the stream, to see if we are changing its historical flow. This is not the issue; the issue is they are doing it for control of our water rights. We own the water rights to the stream and it flows entirely on our property, yet they feel that they can conduct surveys without the permission of the landowners.

ED TYNER & SUSIE BREUER CATCHING CREEK, OREGON

Congratulations on publishing Jim Petersen's article, "Who Controls Nature? Nobody." He said what needed saying and folks will listen when *RANGE* prints it. They sure as hell didn't listen to me during my 33-plus years in the U.S. Forest Service. I retired in disgust after the last 12 years as a forest supervisor.

HUGH THOMPSON, ALADDIN, WYOMING



Just for your daily doggie fix: Lance Pekus' sixyear-old daughter, Gracie, and our fierce Rottie, Inga, at a recent branding.

BERT JEFFRIES, SALMON, IDAHO

### **LOSING HORSES**

It is June and I am predicting a death loss of around 10 to 20 percent through this summer and fall on all ages for feral horses. I see where they are hauling water by helicopter to the wildlife which means that things are getting critical. Fifty thousand horses (or however many there are) will need 500,000 gallons of water on a daily basis and a similar amount of forage. How is this even possible? The problem is Congress, the weakness of the advisory board, and the inability to get the horse kissers to concede anything.

Congress makes a ruling that the feral

# **BIG BIRD RIDER**

I saw Larry Turner's story in Summer 2021 on egrets, herons and the symbiosis between them and ranchers, and was reminded of just how deep that relationship is. As a photographer and lifelong wanderer of the Oregon wilds, I am continually reminded of the place of the cowboy in the natural scheme of things and I



wanted to share one of my shots from the Klamath country.

BILL CARNES, MILWAUKIE, OREGON

horse shall not be slaughtered for anything, including feed for big cats, predator birds and sporting dogs, let alone human consumption. The Malthusian theory is about to be proven. The thought that number could increase on a yearly basis with no complications is idiotic, to say the least. Nothing that they have tried has worked—reproduction control for example. According to one who has been at the front of all gathers, the Bureau of Land Management won't accept any suggestions; the depredation of the range will take years to recover; and cheatgrass is already a problem in Nevada and getting bad elsewhere.

JOHN E. RADOSEVICH, DVM ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

# **LUCRE FOR TYCOONS**

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance's April 2021 mailer is cringeworthy for its hollow rhetoric and hackneyed "send us money or the wilderness will be destroyed" angle. Self-awareness is not a strong characteristic of green groups generally, and SUWA's tiresome pleas for money ring hollow when so many of its initiatives have led directly, or indirectly, to both the neglect and overuse of Utah's lands and resources.

SUWA has been churning out pitches such as "Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance has defended these incredible landscapes, and they deserve protection now more than ever before" for 40 years, yet threats to the environment in southern Utah have only grown as tourism explodes and livestock are systematically removed from the range. One might begin to believe the only "green" that Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance really stands for is the lucre being raked in from foreign ty-

coons and gullible donors.

Marjorie Haun, La Sal, Utah Check "Monetizing the Scenery," Summer 2021 at www.rangemagazine.com.—Ed.

Want to know what a "sad day" entails? It's when you've read the latest issue's last page. So, to compensate, I just go through some of my back issues.

RICKEE EDDLEMAN, EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

Here in jolly old England, even our police aren't armed, and we seem to prefer to bring out commemorative stamps bearing pictures of Florence Nightingale, Churchill, the Beatles, or even, just recently, a commemorative coin for Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Queen Elizabeth II wishes us all to plant a tree for her 70th jubilee. Seems kinder.

SALLY HADLEY

MINCHINHAMPTON, ENGLAND It is kinder. Let's hope the U.K. survives.—Ed.

I discovered your mag while a guest in Colorado and have very much enjoyed each issue. In last spring's issue, however, there is a very glaring error: page 63 contrasts the 18-yearolds who stormed ashore at Normandy with today's 18-year-olds needing safe spaces. The main problem is that the 18-year-old soldier appears to be Russian, but there were no Russian soldiers involved in that invasion. The Russians contributed very heavily, and very sacrificially in defeating Hitler at Stalingrad and their resistance fight with the Germans but were not involved in D-day. I do note that the comparison came from the Internet. Also, I will take issue somewhat with the comparison itself; I have met, coached (highpower rifle) and trained 18-year-olds who fought in the Middle East following 9-11 to include Gulf War I, II and present-day Afghanistan. They did so voluntarily and honorably. NOT all of them need a safe place.

STAN JAROSZ, CRAWFORD, TEXAS

I am so sorry you lost Strider ("Up Front," Summer 2021). It is always a heart-wrenching, soul-tearing time—and their lives are so short. It happens often in our lifetimes, but as you know, having them for however long is worth it. Nevertheless, I weep with you.

MARY BRANSCOMB, LAMOILLE, NEVADA

In 10th century England, those found guilty of debasing the currency had one hand chopped off. If we reinstated this law, we would either have sane monetary policy in this country or a lot of one-handed politicians.

ROGER WHITTEN
DEER PARK, EASTERN WASHINGTON

# **AMERICA WILL SHINE AGAIN**

In response to "NO COMMIES!" [Letters, Summer 2021]: I have lived for 64 years and was raised to respect others until they give me a reason not to. Doesn't matter the skin color or the party affiliations. I'm a member of the Republican Party although centrist. It appears that the current political climate is conditioning people to think it is acceptable to make written judgments based on party affiliation without having deeper conversations.

I would like to think we as Americans are better than that. Getting together, the exchange of new ideas and "can-do" discussions are what will allow America to shine again. Can you imagine a world where everyone is exactly the same? What a boring world it would be.

TED RUDOLPH, YERINGTON, NEVADA

To the folks who have to write in and say they are leaving: Please don't go away mad. Just go away, and do not let the door hit you on your brains. Please and thank you.

MITCH SPENCE, SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS