



Andrea Haitz and the puppet master, Brad Miller.

Haitz' Hate: On CHSSA, Curriculum, and Local Control

By Jacob Richards

On April 14, three Mesa County School District (D51) Board of Education members signed on to a letter, signed by 80 far-right school board, and charter school board members asking Colorado High School Sports Association (CHSSA) to bar transgender students from competing in girls' sports, citing recent executive orders from the MAGA regime.

The letter to CHSSA stated: "The implications for CHSAA are unmistakable. By maintaining policies that permit boys to compete as girls, CHSAA risks exposing Colorado schools to federal investigations, the potential loss of critical funding, and legal liability under Title IX."

The letter ends on a threatening tone, "We stand ready to collaborate with CHSAA to ensure a swift transition to policies that protect girls' sports in Colorado.

However, we will not hesitate to escalate this matter to state and federal authorities if our expectations are not met. The time to act is now."

D51 Board President Andrea Haitz, and fellow board members Angela Lema and Barbara Evanson signed the letter, but it is not the official position of the board and is not D51 policy.

It's unknown how many trans athletes compete in Colorado high school athletics, but D51 has confirmed to the Sentinel that there are no known transgendered athletes in D51.

This seemingly grassroots appeal by 'educational leaders' is very much a minority view representing just fifteen Colorado School Districts, an online home-school, and ten charter schools—a paltry 8% of school districts and 6% of Colorado

HAITZ HATE on Page THREE

Finding Hope in the Grand Valley's History of Resistance

By People's History of the Grand Valley

On April 7, The Supreme Court approved Trump's invocation of the Enemy Aliens Act to deport migrants. On April 28, Trump signed an executive order titled "Strengthening and Unleashing America's Law Enforcement to Pursue Criminals and Protect Innocent Citizens." Which federalizes local law enforcement, protects law enforcement officers from civil rights oversight, and indemnifies officers from any wrongdoing in the course of their duties, it additionally seeks to use the military in domestic law enforcement. Many rightfully fear this order is martial law by a different name.

These are real fears, and these are unprecedented times, but there are some lessons from local history that can help us navigate these troubled waters and hopefully inspire resistance to federal repression in the future.

Martial Law in Grand Junction?

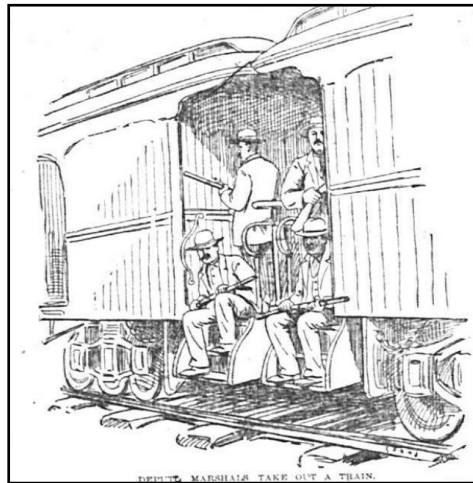
In 1894, one of the most consequential labor strikes in U.S. history brought the nation's railroads to a halt. Grand Junction railroad workers were largely organized into Eugene Debs's American Railway Union. In late June of 1894, the ARU voted to boycott, not work any train with Pullman sleeper cars, in support of an ongoing wildcat strike at Pullman's company town named (appropriate enough) Pullman, Illinois.

Grand Junction workers enthusiastically halted work in solidarity with workers at Pullman. President Cleveland invoked the Insurrection Act to quell the strike through force; some 80 strikers and sympathizers would be murdered by the state across the country.

Quickly, U.S. Marshals deputized and armed 600 men from the streets of Denver. America was in a depression far worse than the Great Depression, which ironically enough was started by a trade war of ever-escalating tariffs.

The U.S. Marshals and their newly

deputized thugs set off to squash the strike in every rail junction between Denver and Ogden, Utah. The citizens of Ogden had captured a number of trains, setting up camp in front of and in



Recently deputized deputies bound for Ogden Utah and all points in between. Rocky Mountain News July 2, 1894.

the rear to keep the trains from moving.

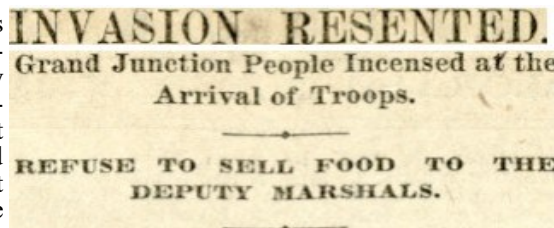
The strike breakers first encountered trouble in Glenwood Springs where workers had dynamited 100 yards of tracks. They rebuilt the tracks quickly, many of the newly deputized Marshals being unemployed railroad men.

In New Castle, a man was arrested for attempting to burn down the railroad bridge into town. New Castle was a coal mining town that was heavily

unionized by the militant Western Federation of Mine Workers. Additionally, the main switch in the New Castle train yard had been sabotaged.

A few miles west of New Castle, a small bridge over a dry gully was packed with firewood and set ablaze.

Eventually the train arrived in Grand



Rocky Mountain News, July 10, 1894.

Events & Orgs: Praxis in Action

Mesa Valley Education Association
Support out teachers! Negotiations are under way! May 8 5pm-8:30pm;
Saturday May 10 8am-5pm.
Wear red.

Harry Butler Board Room , R-5 High School,
455 N. 22nd St. Grand Junction.

Mutual Aid Partners' Distro Day!
Every Tuesday!
10am to 1pm Drop Donations
11am to 1pm Receive Donations
262 Ute Ave, Grand Junction

Solidarity Not Charity
Free Food for Free People
Feeds every Saturday at 4pm at the Resource Center. Grand Jct.
solidaritynotcharityginfo@gmail.com

Falconer Workers' Society
Anti-Capitalist and Revolutionary Book Club
Grand Junction. Email for an invite.
falconersworkerssociety@gmail.com

Be the Media!
Help Edit, Write, Distro
The Revolutionist
therevolutionistgj@gmail.com

The Invisible Patient Movie Screening
6:30pm May 15th
Main Branch of the
Asteria Theater at CMU, Grand Jct

<https://tickets.coloradomesa.edu/event/mental-health-awareness-film-screening-10gypj>

Cortez Food Not Bombs
Serves a community meal every Sunday at
Veterans Park. 12pm-2pm
Cortez, Colorado

Pro-Palestine Rally
Join Humanity and Justice Advocates of Grand
Junction, for thier bi-weekly rally against genocide in Palestine.
12th and North
10:30am to 12:30pm May 10 and May 24

**Join the Mesa County
Democratic Socialist of America
(DSA)**
Memberships are on a sliding scale!
www.mesadsa.org
Contact the local chapter:
info@mesadsa.org

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RESIST on page FOUR

BRIEF From Page THIRTEEN

government. Their resistance has a lesson to teach us. On April 9 and 10, the working masses held a one-day general strike with three of the largest Peronist unions. Flights were cancelled, businesses and government offices were closed and the banks were closed as workers took to the streets. The government imposed new laws against protesting and authorized police to use increased violence and tear gas (formerly prohibited) against workers who struck and they marched in mass regardless of the threats of repression.

GJ SS Office To Stay Open

Landlord confirms that the Grand Junction Social Security Office originally listed for closure by DOGE has reversed the cancellation of the lease. So it seems the GJ office will remain open—a relief to many.

TRUMP: Federalizes Local Law Enforcement, Arrests a Judge, and Deports Citizens

April 28 Trump signed an Executive Order titled “Strengthening and Unleashing America’s Law Enforcement to Pursue Criminals and Protect Innocent Citizens.” The EO indemnifies law enforcement, unleashes Homeland security task forces to enforce domestic laws, and seeks ways for the military to become directly involved in local law enforcement. It is by all standards a declaration of martial law, by other means. Additionally on April 25, the FBI arrested a sitting Milwaukee judge, Hannah Dugan, for allegedly obstructing an arrest by ICE. That same week three young children were deported with their mothers to Honduras. All the children are American citizens, and one is currently battling cancer. They have crossed the Rubicon.

Citizens Take Action, Push 9th Judicial District Court to Push Back Against ICE

Recently, Chief Judge John F. Neiley of Colorado’s 9th Judicial District which covers Pitkin, Garfield, and Rio Blanco counties issued an administrative order reasserting the state law that prohibits ICE, Department of Homeland Security, or Enforcement and Removal Operations from enacting civil arrests at courthouses in

the District. Neiley’s order threatened officers with ICE, DHS and ERO contempt of court charges and/or lawsuits if they violated the order. Questionable activities by ICE at the Glenwood Springs courthouse caught on camera prompted the issuance of the administrative order.

Numerous calls to the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) hotline put the community on notice and led to an arrest being filmed by a responder.



Still from video: courtesy of the Colorado Rapid Response Network responder who captured the moment when immigration enforcement officers apprehended a man as he left court in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, on March 27.

The video captures the moment a man leaves Glenwood Springs Courthouse property and is swarmed by three federal agents wearing ERO and HSI on their vests. The responder can be heard asking for the agents to identify their agency affiliation and show a valid judicial warrant, but these requests are all but ignored. The individual who was just moments before attending a court proceeding was bundled into one of the three unmarked vehicles and driven away.

This scene shows the scenario that many people fear and can have a chilling effect on court proceedings and trust. This scene underlines the importance of the state law and ultimately compelled the Chief Judge in the 9th Judicial District to take the step to issue an Administrative Order restating the law and reaffirming the courts commitment to protect the ability of every indi-

vidual to safely and freely access the protections and duties of the courts.

The order appears to have been effective as the hotline and local advocates have not seen any ICE activity at the courthouse since it was issued.

Montrose Methodist Rack-up Another Win

Montrose District court has refused to take-up the case between the Methodist Church and the City of Montrose. The city has sought to shut down an encampment of unhoused people that the church is allowing to camp on their land. The decision sends the case back to the municipal court.

Hot and Dry

While the regime is firing climate scientist, Colorado has one the lowest snow-packs in living memory. Millions from Denver to LA depend on that water. Snow pack is just 57% of median.

HAITZ HATE From Page ONE

charter schools, had one or more board members sign the letter, and even then, it was not a formal position that had been adopted by these school boards. Many like Delta County school district D50J, had only one member sign the letter, in Delta County’s case— Beth Suppes.

Furthermore the majority of signatories are school districts and charter schools that are clients of Brad Miller. Miller is a man that likes to remain behind the scenes. A far-right education lawyer/activist with the firm Miller Farmer Carson Law. Miller is known for busting teachers unions, targeting trans students and spreading fear about Critical Race Theory.

Miller, according to an amazing expose by Logan M. Davis and Chloe Ragsdale in the Colorado Times Recorder, confirmed that he wrote the letter, and that all but three of the eighty signers are clients of Miller, or have clear personal or professional connections to Miller.

The article continues by holding the media to account for their surface level reporting:

“A letter which the local media credulously covered as an organic expression of concern by education professionals was authored by one man; 72.5% of the letter’s signatories are his clients, and another 24.25% are connected to him in some way or other; and yet his name was barely mentioned in the coverage. It’s a remarkable saga: a remarkable failure by the local press corps and a remarkable success by Miller.”

Miller’s connections to Adrea Haitz, President of the D51 Board of Education, first came to public view in 2021, when newly elected Haitz attempted to push through the hiring of Miller’s legal firm to represent District 51, in violation of

open meetings laws.

LGBTQIA+ groups are concerned. Ashley Stahl, Executive Director of Cook Inclusive and PFLAG of the Roaring Fork Valley said in a statement:

“I am deeply disgusted by the language used in this letter. While it claims to focus on fairness in girls’ sports, it is clear that its primary goal is not to support athletes, but to dehumanize and erase transgender people. The rhetoric used is harmful, divisive, and undermines the dignity of transgender students across Colorado.”

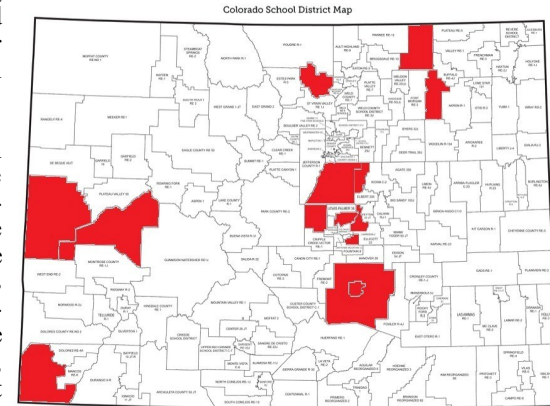
CHSSA largely sidestepped the issue in a statement: “It is important to underscore that the ultimate resolution of these issues will not come from CHSAA, but rather from the highest levels of the State and Federal judiciary.”

Locally, citizens also pushed back, voicing their concerns in emails and on social media posts. Andrea Haitz, predictably fell back into her familiar role as the victim.

“What has been disheartening is the vitriol directed at myself Angela and Barb. We’ve been called bigots and white supremacists— ironically by women— because we took a stand for girls,” said Haitz in a now deleted post from April 20, on her ‘Andrea Haitz Board Member for D51 School Board’ Facebook page.

This is a well-worn path for Haitz. When she gets called a bigot, after doing or saying bigoted things, she plays the victim. She played this card back in 2022 when a series of transphobic memes on her personal Facebook caused a controversy.

The day after the letter that Haitz, Lema, and Everson signed was sent to CHSSA, at the regular school-board meeting on April 15, Haitz and Everson object-



Colorado school districts that have at least one member that signed on to the anti-trans athletes.



Recently deputized U.S. Marshals pose with passengers stranded in Grand Junction during the Pullman Boycott and Strike. July 1894. Photo Courtesy of Gerry Brewer.

RESIST from Page TWO

Junction a few days behind schedule. The citizens of Grand Junction knew the train was coming, and the Populist Party, the ARU and citizens standing in solidarity held a mass meeting in a park and made a plan for how our community would resist. U.S. Marshal Joseph Israel reported back to his superiors in Washington that:

"The conditions of affairs at Grand Junction were extraordinary, my deputies were met not only by the strikers at that point but by the citizens who met in a public hall prior to their arrival and resolved to not only resist the entry of the deputies to the town, but also to give them no quarters or sell them anything to eat!"

The Marshals backed the train up to Palisade for provisions, and in the middle of the night re-entered Grand Junction. They took possession of the railyard and arrested nine leaders of the strike, sending them to Denver via train in secret.

Grand Junction woke up on July 4, 1894, to martial law. A few days later, federal troops would arrive against the protests of Grand Junctionites.

While still under martial law, local populist party activist and poet Jacob Huff published a poem in the *Grand Valley Star-Times* entitled "Stand Up Americans." Here's just one stanza:

"This is no time for prejudice, no time to fight
Over politics or public men;
Stand shoulder to shoulder, each man

for the right,
and shout this o'er valley and glen;
'Tis the land which our fathers have
died to make free
From the grasp of old England's
crown;
If we stand up like men for our own
liberty,
They dare not shoot the lab'ring man
down."

WWI and the Rise of the Super Patriot

World War One was not a popular war, and to squash dissent, Woodrow Wilson invoked the Enemy Aliens Act to deport foreign-born critics of the war, and leftist radicals. Wilson also passed the Sedition Act which criminalized anti-war speech. The act was used to squash dissent, locking up writers, publishers and orators.

Locally a Home Guard, which was organized ostensibly to fill the role of the Colorado National Guard which had been deployed to Europe, ran amok. Some 400 men in Mesa County were under arms in this quasi-official militia.

The Home Guard harassed socialists and persons of German and Austrian descent, spread fear about the Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W.) and even ran I.W.W. farm workers out of Palisade at gunpoint. They burned Jehova's Witnesses' books for their non-cooperation with militarism and the draft, they arrested German immigrants for disloyal utterances, and threatened citizens that were not significantly patriotic enough. In addition, the Home

RESIST on Page FIVE

MAY NEWS BRIEFS

ICEs Evolving Tactics in Colorado

On April 27, an underground night club in Colorado Springs was raided by Colorado Springs Police Department, El Paso County Sheriffs, DEA, ICE and DHS. Hundreds were detained, 114 arrested including multiple active duty service members, 105 people are still in custody. Earlier that same week ICE, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO), were conducting welfare checks in a trailer park in New Castle, CO. The whole encounter was caught on a ring camera and published on Spanish language radio host Samuel Bernal's on Facebook page.

Idaho Police Kill Non-Verbal Autistic Child

On April 5, Victor Perez was shot nine times by Boise police. The non-verbal autistic teen was engaged by officers, and then fourteen seconds later they opened fire. Ana Vazquez, Perez's aunt, told NBC News, "The police didn't even ask what the situation was when they arrived. They didn't listen; they didn't even hesitate to shoot," Vazquez said. "They just shoot to kill."

Colorado Bureau of Investigations Seeks Outside Labs to Clear Rape Kit Backlog

CBI has sent off roughly a third of the Bureau's backlog of over 1400 rape test kits to outside labs. Tests have been taking about eighteen months to process, leaving victims in limbo. CBI's problems are only further complicated by the recent arrest of career CBI forensic scientist Yvonne "Missy" Woods. Woods has been charged with over 100 felonies for manipulating DNA results. Woods had been employed with CBI since 1994, and at least 803 samples will have to be retested at an estimated cost taxpayers over \$7.5 million dollars.

Deputy Sentenced for Killing Christian Glass

Clear Creek deputy Andrew Burns was sentenced to the maximum three years for the 2022 killing of Christian Glass. Glass was suffering a mental health crisis and had called 911 for help. Burns's first trial resulted in a hung jury. He was recharged with the lesser crime of criminally negligent homicide.

Mass Mobilizations Across Western Colorado

Western Colorado came out in force for the national "Hands-Off" protests held on April 5. Some 2500 people rallied in Grand Junction. Around the region: 1200 people in Mont-

rose, 200 in Paonia, 200 in Eagle, 200 in Alamosa, 300 in Pagosa Springs, 200 in Frisco, 100 in Bayfield, 1000 in Steamboat Springs, 600 in Cortez, 1800 in Glenwood Springs, 200 in Telluride, 1000 in Durango, and 300 in Gunnison. An estimated five million people around the county took to the streets. Actions on April 19 and May 1st were also well attended.

Denver Activists Demand City Stop Funding Salvation Army's Failed Efforts

On April 8, activists and a number of different organizations held a protest outside of the Salvation Army headquarters in Denver. The Salvation Army has been one of Denver Mayor Mike Johnston's key partners in the city's attempts at reducing homelessness. TSA has been awarded \$27 million dollars in contracts since 2022. Allegations of substandard conditions, discrimination, and abuse were highlighted by protesters. Recently, TSA employee Billy Johnson, a man with a long history of sexual assaults, was arrested for sexually assaulting a homeless woman while employed by TSA and working in a City of Denver-owned facility. The protest was organized by the Housekeys Action Network Denver (HAND).

Bodies Spotted at El Salvadorian Prison

Trump has deported 238 migrants, many with legal status, without due process to El Salvador's super Max CECOT prison where people "never leave." Even the pro-Trump supreme court has ordered the government to stop the deportations and to facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father, a sheet metal apprentice and a member of a union. The MAGA regime is now openly talking about sending Americans to this "concentration camp." Google Earth satellite images seemed to show a pile of bodies and bloodstains on the ground at CECOT, (13° 32' 1" N, 88° 48' 18" W). After the disturbing images made their way around social media, both Google Earth and Apple Maps changed their imagery of CECOT in what appears to many to be an attempt at censorship. We should be asking how they keep putting people into a prison that they say "one ever leaves?"

Argentina Gen. Strike: Model for Resistance

Argentines are eighteen months into a far right crypto-scam posing as a legitimate

BRIEFS on Page FOURTEEN

RESIST From Page ELEVEN

But more serious resistance also occurred. Tillman Bishop, a long time local politician was then head of the local draft board. In November 22, 1969, his home office was burglarized and the local draft boards' records were burned in the yard. Numerous young men resisted the draft; they failed to register, they failed to induct, they fought prolonged court battles winning their appeal after the local draft board misrepresented what conscientious objector meant, and others fled and sought asylum in Canada and Sweden. Non-cooperation is resistance.

In 1969, the Atomic Energy Commission, in a quixotic attempt to find domestic uses for nuclear bombs, decided to go forward with Project Rullison. Project Rullison was a crude,



Protestors near Rullison, CO, opposing the 40 kiloton nuclear test.

and ultimately unproductively radioactive attempt at fracking for natural gas just outside of Parachute, Colorado.

Though the government had given the project the green-light, activists had other plans. Chester McQueary wrote in High Country News about his experience at ground zero:

"On Wednesday, Sept. 10, the go-ahead was given, and we scattered over the mountain in twos and threes, so that we could not all be removed in one fell swoop by authorities. We listened on portable radios to the countdown for the blast being broadcast on Rifle's KWSR.

At 30 minutes before blast time, we set off smoke flares to confirm for AEC officials that we were still on the mountain and inside the quarantine zone. A blue, twin-rotor Air Force helicopter soon hovered 50 feet above the aspen clearing where Margaret Puls and I stood. Men in

the open door gestured and shouted inaudibly at us. They could not land on the steep slope safely, and we had no intention of being passively taken off the mountain so the AEC could then claim that they had lived up to their word regarding a human-free quarantine zone. Since they'd known of our presence on the mountain for nearly a week, we wondered if some sort of special forces might suddenly slide down ropes from the helicopter door."

McQueary further describes the 40 kiloton nuclear blast: "Then a mighty WHUMP! and a long rumble moved through the earth, lifting us eight inches or more in the air. We felt aftershocks as we lay there looking at each other, grateful that we were still breathing and all in one piece."

Takeaways

Dalton Trumbo's words, quoted earlier, seem almost prophetic today, likely seemed prophetic when Trumbo was blacklisted and imprisoned during the Red Scare, and will likely ring with prophecy again in the future.

"It will always be a cause with ideals so high that no mere law can restrain the execution of its judgments. And it will always be based on hatred and fear. To-morrow it may come again."

The world today is clearly different, and this community is not the leftist enclave it used to be a hundred years ago or the heavily unionized town that it was in 1894 when Grand Junction resisted federal strike breakers and martial law.

Yet, there are still lessons to be learned about how we can resist in the coming years. There is inspiration to be found in the bravery of those who have fought before us, there is a pattern of direct action and civil disobedience to studied, there are precedents of welcoming Japanese-Americans into our community to strive for, and there is a narrative of perseverance, as even anti-socialist suppression and the rise of the KKK could not keep the socialists or their ideas from moving forward.

What will some future historian write about our resistance to MAGA fascism? Will we leave them something to write about? Will some future radical find inspiration in our derring-do, find courage in the stands we make today, or find resolve in our actions in the face of hopelessness?

We hope so.

RESIST From Page FOUR

Guard intimidated the local socialist paper, *The New Critic*, into cessation of publication after they published an anti-war piece entitled "To Feed The Flies!" which ends:

"Multiply it by the fifty men who were taken, then think of it.

Multiply it again—by the thousands of cities over the nation where the same black tragedy is being enacted.

What a huge toll of human misery.

For many can never return. They will leave their rotting bodies on the fields of France—to make the world safe for democracy. (And they say there is a God who punishes blasphemy.)

To make the world safe for democracy
NO! To make the world safe for the money lender.

To feed the flies!"

The article was published the same week that fifty draftees from Grand Junction boarded a train destined eventually for the horrors of trench warfare in Europe. L. Ross Conklin, the editor, got the message. He never put out another issue of the *New Critic*, but he did publish one last circular about free speech. In Colorado Springs, the Home Guard burned down the socialist newspaper's headquarters. Walter Walker's *Daily Sentinel* was very much in support of the Home Guard and the shuttering of his competition, as well as their other extrajudicial activities.

Yet people still resisted. The Home Guard was openly heckled in



Fruita in 1917. Some horses belonging to the Home Guard were stolen in Grand Junction while the Guards drilled in Whitman Park in 1918.

People regularly failed to register for the draft and failed to induct when drafted.

Around the nation and here in GJ, vigilante groups were funded and encouraged at the highest levels. Locally, Walter Walker, through the pages of *The Daily Sentinel*, was cheerleading the witch hunts by the Loyalty League who terrorized leftists, immigrants, and anyone not displaying appropriate amounts of patriotic fervor while publishing calls for citizens to spy on and report their neighbors to federal and local law enforcement by the American Defense Society. The ADS was a semi-official national spy/vigilante group, and in these calls to action, suspicious people were to be categorized as: 1) Enemy Alien, 2) Pro-German, or 3) Anti-government.

The superintendent of the Appleton school, E. E. Cole, was tarred and feathered by masked men with the Loyalty League in April of 1918. Also in April of 1918, the *Montrose Daily Press* reported that, M.O. Douglas, a Clifton farmer, had his house painted yellow (a sign of cowardice or lack of patriotism), was threatened with lynching and "forced to change his attitude, swear his allegiance to the United States, promised to support the president, and [buy] a Liberty Bond." It was alleged that Douglas had made

LOCAL SOCIALISTS
REFUSE TO FIGHT

Above: *Daily Sentinel*, June 12, 1915 *Daily Sentinel*.

Left: The community of Grand Junction seeing off the first of many rounds of local draftees to be sent to the trenches of Europe. Grand Junction train station on October 2, 1917.

HAITZ HATE from Page THREE

ed to the 4th grade social studies curriculum being adopted. They halted the process after eighteen months of open-houses and public input and months of hard work by the Curriculum Committee.

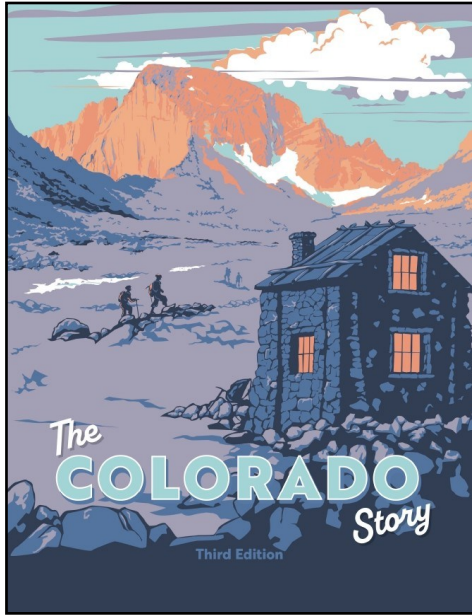
Everson worried that the inclusion of the BLM movement and the police killing of Coloradoan Elijah McClain in the 4th grade social studies textbook would lead kids to think “cops are bad.”

Haitz danced around the issue, “My son will be in 4th grade next year, and I was just looking at some of the material, and I’m thinking like, this is a little heavy or over his head for some of this stuff, especially like the Black Lives Matters stuff. I was like, I don’t know if this activism stuff is really appropriate for him at fourth grade. As a parent I’m not ready to have that conversation with him.”

When confronted by state educational guidelines, Haitz said, “I think we would butt up against the state a little bit on that, as much as we can push... this is why we have local control, right?”

At a follow-up meeting on April 21, the fourth-grade curriculum was further tabled in a 3-2 decision. The adoption of the curriculum is now in limbo as the board waits to examine another textbook—currently there is no fourth-grade social studies curriculum approved by District 51.

An email from Tom Acker with the Hispanic Affairs Project to the D51 School Board, reminded the board that the state curriculum guidelines for fourth grade social studies include: “describe how a citizen might engage in local and state government to demonstrate their rights or initiate change.”



The Colorado Story, the textbook put into by limbo by Haitz and company.

Acker also asked if the board’s actions to obstruct the adoption of the curriculum violates the district’s own policy.

Seems pretty clear, D51 policy III states: “Since the Board is a policymaking body, it delegates to the District’s professional personnel the authority for the selection of instructional and library materials in accordance with this policy.”

“Ms. Evanson and Ms. Haitz state they want to “protect the kids.” My question is: protect them from what?” asked Acker in closing.

Haitz says she stands for local control, while taking marching orders from a shadowy cabal of far-right front-range education activists led by Brad Miller, and pushing D51 to adhere to federal edicts, the very opposite of local control. She is mirroring

Trump’s playbook of destroying the Department of Education under the guise of returning education to the states while at the same time trying to dictate how schools should operate and what they should and should not teach.

Haitz and the cabal of the far-right school board members across Colorado are a threat to education and marginalized students across the state. They will continue to use their position and networks to undermine Colorado’s laws and protections for students while eroding our educational standards.

There is clearly lots of work to do in the world today, but taking back our local school boards is a good, actionable, place to start.

Check out this online version of this story for all the links, and a pdf of the letter sent to CHSSA, at <https://therevolutionistgj.org>

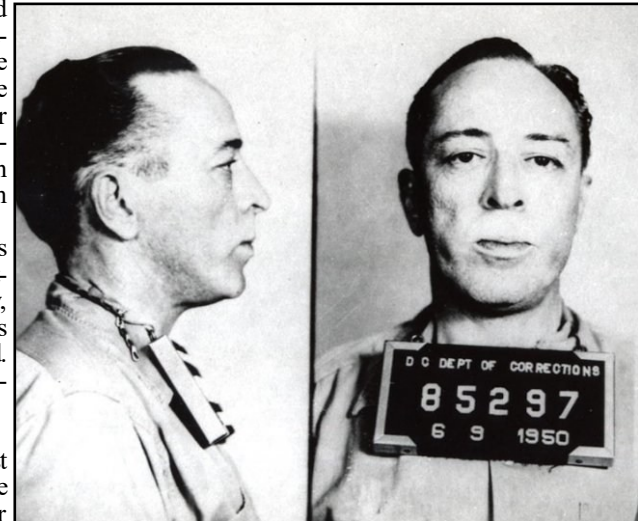
RESIST from Page TEN

did the Mesa County Commissioners, Lions Club’s, and most unions. Lewis told the meeting and was quoted by the *Sentinel* that he was only aware of six purchases of land by Japanese refugees in Mesa County. Racial tensions continued to simmer through 1944 and into 1945.

A cross burning on the ridge above Orchard Mesa in October of 1945 was likely a reminder for those refugees still in the Grand Valley that it was time to leave.

Paul Shinoda, another voluntary evacuee who fled initially to Idaho before resettling in Grand Junction, was happy to leave. He buried his father here. His wife and kids were arrested while ice skating on the Gunnison River near the then-secret Manhattan Project uranium procurement operation that is now the Department of Energy, and he left as soon as he could. In an oral history, he stated:

“if they just picked the Japanese for an evacuation again... I’d raise holy hell and I’d sit here until they pretty well shot me before I’d move.”



Dalton Trumbo’s mugshot from federal prison for charges of contempt of congress. 1950.

Dalton Trumbo and McCarthyism

Dalton Trumbo was born in Montrose and raised in Grand Junction, and is by all measures the most famous person the Grand Valley has produced. He published a poem in *The Daily Sentinel* at age 12, and by his late teens he was working as a cub reporter for the *Sentinel*. He published a few novels, famously *Johnny Got His Gun*, an anti-war classic and National Book Award winner, but he really made a name for himself as a screenwriter in Hollywood.

Then in 1948, Trumbo and his comrades were brought in front of the House Un-American Activities Committee in an effort to

root out leftists—specifically communists and socialists—in Hollywood. They were asked the infamous question: “Are you now or have you ever been a communist?” And instead of cooperating, or pleading the fifth, they chose to plead the first: to talk back, to ask questions of their interrogators, to decry a purity test in a country that supposedly supports free speech. They became known as the Hollywood 10, and they each spent a year in federal prison for contempt of congress, and then returned to Hollywood only to find that they were ‘blacklisted.’

They found ways to work under fake names and for less money. Two of Trumbo’s screenplays even won Academy Awards for

Best Story while being written under pseudonyms. Twelve years later in 1960, Dalton Trumbo would again be openly credited for his work on two films, *Exodus*, and fittingly, *Spartacus*. Finally breaking the blacklist.

The Red Scare, as it became known, touched more than just the lives of academics, government employees, and Hollywood, but

Trumbo, a Junctionite, is still very much the poster child of resistance to it.

Of Drafts and Bombs: Vietnam War Era

Forcing young people to go and fight in foreign wars is never very popular, at least not amongst those being drafted, or those whose husbands, fathers and boy-friends could be drafted.

A local resistance began to build starting in 1968, including veterans returning from Vietnam using their GI Bill benefits to attend college. There were protests on campus largely centered around the bell tower as well as teach-ins. Black armbands were worn at Fruita High School after the Kent State shooting.

RESIST on Page TWELVE

RESIST from Page SEVEN

dared risk the charge of treason....You can remember that not so long ago the Ku Klux Klan marched down main street at night, all ghostly with a fiery cross, an American flag and a drum. It was still the Loyalty League...the organized mob risen from its grave to snoop and tyrannize once more. And it will come up again and again, forever and ever! If there isn't a good cause like a war, then it will parade for a poor cause. It will always be a cause with ideals so high that no mere law can restrain the execution of its judgments. And it will always be based on hatred and fear. Tomorrow it may come again....who knows?"

WWII Grand Junction as Refuge; and Then Not So Much

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt invoked the Enemy Aliens Act and issued executive order #9066 to detain Japanese immigrants and American-born citizens of Japanese descent, specifically those living on America's Pacific coast. There was a brief window of time from March 2, 1942 through April 1 of 1942 wherein Japanese Americans could 'voluntarily evacuate' to the country's interior. Most western states were openly hostile to the resettlement of Japanese Americans in their states.

Colorado, through Governor Ralph Carr, welcomed Japanese-Americans to resettle in Colorado. Most major newspapers lambasted Carr's approval of Japanese-Americans resettling

hands, and that his department had "been turning over requests to representative Japanese families in the county at whose homes a number of the evacuees from California are staying."

Manabi Hirasaki, in his memoir, A Taste for Strawberries, describes coming here with his white farm manager, purchasing land near Fruita, and then rushing back to California to pick up his family—getting them here to safety just before the deadline. Hirasaki explained:

"We were open to Colorado because we had heard about its Governor Ralph Carr. He publicly welcomed Japanese Americans to come....We ended up in Grand Junction, located on the Western Slope, west of the Rockies, not too far from the Utah border."

Japanese internment camps were set up around the west, including Camp Amache near Grenada, Colorado. From these camps came a trickle of Japanese families that had passed a background investigation and were granted 'permanent furlough' and resettled in the Grand Valley.

Many more came to Grand Junction under armed guard from Amache for the harvests and other labor-intensive seasonal tasks. Many were U.S. citizens and were incensed that German POWs had free movement around the community unguarded.

In January of 1944, J.H. Lewis, Relocation Coordinator for western Colorado, was quoted by the *Daily Sentinel*, stating that there were fourteen Japanese families in Grand Junction before 'voluntary evacuation.' Eighteen families resettled as 'evacuees,' and an additional twenty-four families had been relocated perma-

Opposition of Inland States to Jap Evacuees Diminishing; Carr Declares Colorado, If Necessary, Will Comply

The Daily Sentinel March 1, 1942

in Colorado, buy *The Daily Sentinel* had no reaction to the news and published a statement by the Chamber of Commerce that said that the Grand Junction business and farming community had no major objection to Japanese-Americans resettling in the Grand Valley.

Just days after the voluntary evacuation period was over, Mesa County Sheriff H.E. Decker told the *Daily Sentinel* that his office had received several requests for Japanese farm

nently to Mesa County from the internment camps.

Lewis was speaking at one of many mass meetings being held by reactionaries throughout the Grand Valley and the state. The Elks initially adopted a resolution supporting legislation to bar Japanese-Americans from purchasing land in Colorado. The Grand Junction City Council then adopted the Elks resolution, as

RESIST from Page FIVE

"disloyal statements for some time."

The anti-war stance of the socialists and the I.W.W., and the heavy handed response

by the Wilson administration coupled with the local vigilantes he

PALISADE REPORTS EIGHTEEN AGITATORS OF THE I. W. W.

Delta Independent, August 24, 1917

empowered effectively destroyed both the socialist party in America and the Wobblies, both of which are just shadows of their progressive-era strength today.

Many socialists in the west, those that didn't join the Communist Party(s), re-branded into a short-lived "Non-Partisan League." But by 1921, the NPL was all but dead, but not the people nor their ideas. A few years later in 1924, former socialists, union members, and farmers were organizing around Robert M. La Follette, the Farmer-Labor candidate for President. La Follette garnered a respectable 27.28% of the Mesa County presidential vote. By the early 1930s, Mesa county would again have a socialist party fielding a full ticket of candidates.

Despite the repressions, somehow socialism survived in Grand Junction.

At the same time Junctionites were resisting federal tyranny and vigilantes at home, former Junctionites around the country were also resisting.

Carl Gleaser, an early settler of the Grand Valley, a local labor organizer, a radical feminist, and avowed anarchist was publishing a German language, socialist newspaper in Kansas City, MO. Despite the risks, he published seven anti-war/anti-draft articles by Jacob Frohrwerk and was sentenced to 5 years in Leavenworth Federal Prison. Some 1800 people would eventually be imprisoned for speaking out against the slaughter.

George Falconer owned a radical bookstore in Grand Junction from 1901-1910. He was a thoughtful radical that made a name for

himself as both a socialist and Wobbler but also as a man of letters, arts and refinement. After leaving Grand Junction, Falconer threw himself into the revolution. He reported on the Colorado Coal Wars of 1913-14. He spoke at Wobbler Joe

Hill's funeral after he was set up by and executed by the state of

Utah. Falconer would go on to be a founding member of both of the early American Communist Parties.

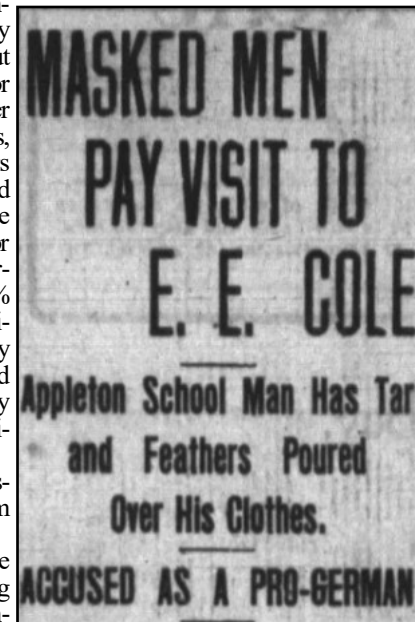
In late 1919 and early 1920, the Palmer raids targeted foreign-born radicals, including naturalized citizens, and many were deported with no due process to countries they had never lived in.

According to the biography by Granville Hicks, John Reed: the Making of a Revolutionary, during this time of extreme repression of radicals, Falconer was passing messages between John Reed and Big Bill Haywood, along with other revolutionaries forced underground.

Blacklisted communist writer, Dalton Trumbo, in his 1935 novel Eclipse, which was set in a thinly veiled Grand Junction, explained how today's repressions are but an echo or symptom of the repression unleashed during WWI:

"You formed a Loyalty League. Remember....They tarred and

feathered old Professor Fuchs. That Loyalty League did something to this town....something that will never be overcome...For the first time Art French (Sterling D Lacy), and Walter Goode (D.B. Wright) and Stanley Brown (Walter Walker), and William Harwood (George Parsons) discovered that you were participating in the history of nations. Power—that was it...the power of snooper, persecution, investigation. And no one dared oppose the snooper and persecution, because no one



Daily Sentinel, April 12, 1918.

"It Can't Happen Here!"

I always heard
Then I read about
Shays Rebellion
The Whiskey Rebellion
The Fugitive Slave Act
The Trail of Tears
Draft Riots
Andersonville
Sand Creek
Chinese Exclusion Act
JIM CROW
Mexican Repatriation
The Johnson-Reed Act
Japanese Internment
Chinese Confession Program
The War on Drugs
AIDS
It can't happen here
If it never stops
happening here

—James Blatter

Freak.

Be a freak.
values and a moral compass fully in place.
With a Do no harm, Take no shit mentality.
With intention.
For sexual energy
is divine creative energy.

as anarchists in Chile say
“The only battle lost is the one not fought.”

—Tanya Blacklight

Creation is Resistance!

"being transgender"

being transgender
a sin, so they say. but i
have never loved more.

i have met great friends,
related stories world 'round,
and learned 'bout myself.

and beyond the gale
of reports, where they regail
of sex, drugs, and whores,

i know them all well
enough to say the real sin:
being kept at bay.

imprisoning self,
holding fast to who you were,
refusing to grow.

like a fish in a
tank too small, suffocating
in stagnancy. death.

i rattled the bars
of a cage they made for me,
"why won't you just stay?"

but breaking free i
never knew, until i stood
tall for the first time,

how small the cage was.
and in disbelief that i
policed my being,

that i was afraid
to even touch those bars, i
cried at the knowing:

questioning yourself
leads to questioning it all;
the world's rotten through.

but i see a hope
in the smiles of all my friends,
an end to sorrow.

and it's more than just
being transgender; for all
the world seeks a truth.

buried beneath skin,
buried beneath culture and
law, is tomorrow.

—axyl

Untitled

it's hard to human:
 to word the says,
 to verb the verbs
 and pass the reciprocate,
 to up the pick the house and welcomesmile.
 easier to bog,
 easier to brown pine needle and leaf speck mulch, to
 mushroom and frog,
 to foot creepingly a log.
 to upright hoursandhours?
 nghh
 to stiff straightly
 jawtense
 person?
 rather flop squelch
 mossandgrow
 worm and low
 bumble
 mumble
 ssslllllowwww.
 to human?
 no.

—Heather Nicholson

Planning by Jessica Lee

We featured Jessica's self-portraits last June in the *The Revolutionist* #6. They are again doing 100 portraits in 100 days, here is just a sample of the works in this ongoing project. Check them out on Instagram @ninsian0

