

"Should fascism come to power, it will ride over your skulls and spines like a terrific tank. Your salvation lies in merciless struggle. Make haste, you have very little time left!" —Leon Trotsky—

## Hickenlooper Admits Gaza a Genocide

By Jacob Richards

Senator John Hickenlooper probably thought he was just grabbing a beer with the party regulars on Friday in Grand Junction, Colorado.

But the question and answer portion of the event, billed as "Happy Hour with Hickenlooper," was anything but happy for the former governor and first-term senator.

According to those in attendance, it was a bizarre display of fence dancing, but one in which Hickenlooper said the quiet part loud.

"It is a genocide," Hickenlooper said in response to repeated questions about his continued support of military aid to Israel.

Despite acknowledging that Israel was violating numerous international laws, and that it was in fact a genocide, Hickenlooper said that he would not oppose funding until he "found a bipartisan solution that could get the votes."

"He admitted it is a genocide, he admitted Israel was in violation of international law, and then infuriatingly said basically 'there is really nothing he could do to stop them,'" said Shelly Grossman.

The first four questions the Senator fielded were about his ongoing support of the genocide in Gaza.

Grossman was one of the people in attendance that had hard questions to ask.

Grossman didn't let Hickenlooper off the hook, though he wriggled.

When he called it a "war," Grossman interrupted.

"THIS IS A GENOCIDE!"

Maybe it was the late summer mugginess, the happy hour brews at Gemini Brewing, or the tightly packed intimate setting, but Hickenlooper acknowledged her and said, "It is a

genocide."

He then tried his standard "October 7th!-Israel-has-a-right-to-defend itself" routine, but Grossman interrupted again, reminding the Senator that under international law, the occupier of a land does not have the right to defend itself. The occupied do. Afterward, Hickenlooper admitted that Israel is in violation of international law.

But Hickenlooper soldiered forward with some cold-war bizarre logic by blaming China for "dividing us on this issue."

But the American people are not divided on this issue. Recent polling by Gallup found just 32% approval for Israel's actions in Gaza. Just 8% of Democrats approved and 25% of inde-

pendents.

In truth, Hickenlooper has been divided from both the people and reality by AIPAC money.

Hickenlooper has taken \$272,445 directly from the Israeli lobby according to FEC filings via [opensecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org).

Hickenlooper is not alone; far too many American politicians pay their campaign bills with AIPAC money.

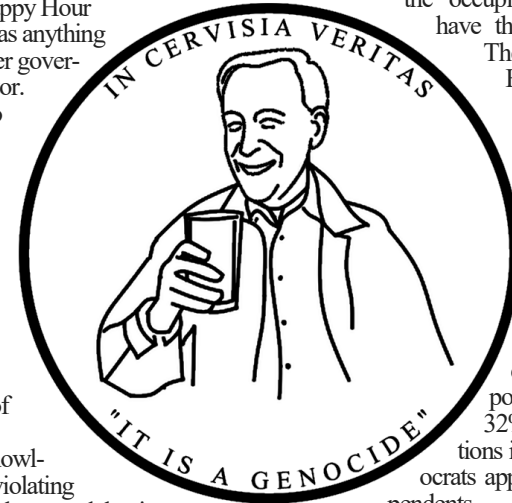
But the first rule is "don't call it a genocide," and it appears Hickenlooper has broken this unwritten commandment.

One audience member said after the event that Hickenlooper "looked pretty shook."

"Poor fucker thought he was just getting a beer with the townies," said another participant.

Hickenlooper then pulled the oldest trick in the book, said he had an important call and left the event twenty minutes early.

Hickenlooper's office has not yet responded to our requests for a comment. ★



# Anti-Intellectual Movement and CMU

## By Workers' Red Horizon

As CMU students return to campus this fall, it is important to discuss the disease that infects their education. This is a man-made disease that tears families apart as it reinforces bigotry and greed in the country we call home. This disease has a name, the "Anti-Intellectual Movement." The Anti-Intellectual Movement is a product of conservatism and capitalism, and it fortifies the commodification of information, leading to an uneducated society. This work shall examine the intricacies of the movement, as well as call out its presence at CMU.

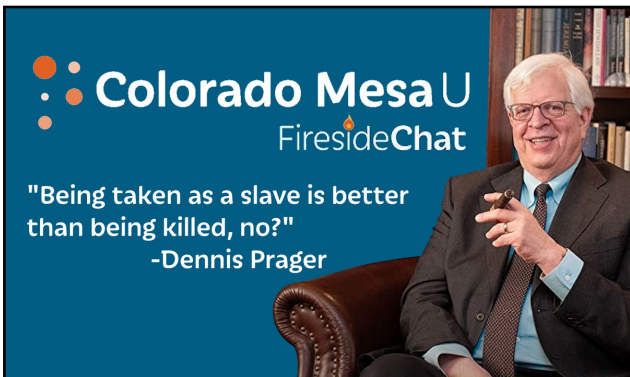
Defining the term "anti-intellectualism" is essential, as without an understanding of its meaning, no argument about it can be truly meaningful. In this article, anti-intellectualism is a movement and its components that try to undermine facts in support of a fictional "truth" to create an uneducated and easily manipulated society. Important members of the movement include Charlie Kirk, who brands college as a scam, Robert F. Kennedy, who promotes a "healthy" America by spouting pseudo-scientific claims, and Jordan Peterson, whose political commentary relies on bigotry and fragile arguments that he attempts to back with his PhD. Knowing some examples of anti-intellectuals, in addition to the definition of "anti-intellectualism" itself, one may progress to an explanation for the root causes of this movement in the United States.

First, conservatism is a significant cause. All conservatives believe that progress is limited and that there is a point at which trying to strive further only leads to

disorder. In this manner, conservatism is inherently anti-education, as the goal of education is to promote progress, regardless of a society's successes or failures. The second leading cause of the movement intertwines with conservatism; this is capitalism. The primary objective of capitalism is to maximize profits, so if lying is profitable, capitalists will engage in deception to the fullest extent to accumulate maximum wealth. In tandem, because information is a commodity in a capitalist society, capitalists will privatize education as much as they possibly can to raise the price of information.

However, capitalism and conservatism have another goal in their anti-intellectualism. This goal is to prevent the public from gaining class consciousness. It is a fact that education makes people generally more left-leaning and, therefore, more likely to advocate for the destruction of capitalism. So, if capitalists can prevent education from falling into the hands of the impoverished (the people with the least to lose and most to gain), there will be fewer individuals to stand in their way of maintaining the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie. In addition, if education is too expensive for the ordinary person, only members of the bourgeoisie will have access to it, and therefore never make the full shift to the left.

The reasons above are why the horrific privatization of schools and the Trump administration's attacks on the Board of Education are so dangerous, as privatizing schools makes education less available, especially for the groups that need it the most. These groups are the marginalized peoples of society whose interests are never recognized. Because things like institutional racism beget poverty for minorities, their chil-



# Events & Orgs: Praxis in Action

**Grand Valley Zine Club**  
Sunday September 14th 3pm-5pm  
Downstairs at the main branch of  
the Mesa County Public Libraries.

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

## Penny Arcade at Lithic Books!

Avant-guard performance artist, queer activist, radical feminist, stand-up comic, playwright, actress, and all around badass will be performing for two nights at Lithic Books in Fruita on September 19th and 20th, 7pm

See <http://therevolutionistgj.org> for a full length article about Penny Arcades 50+ year career.

## Grand Junction IWW is Organizing

Join the one big union! At <https://redcard.iww.org/>  
Then contact local organizers at  
grandjunction.iww@gmail.com

## Pro-Palestine Rally

Join Humanity and Justice Advocates of Grand Junction, for their bi-monthly rally against genocide in Palestine.  
12th and North  
9:30 to 10:30am September 20th and Oct. 4th

## Be the Media! Help Edit, Write, Distro The Revolutionist

[therevolutionistgj@gmail.com](mailto:therevolutionistgj@gmail.com)

**Solidarity Not Charity**  
Free Food for Free People  
Feeds every Saturday at 4pm at the Resource Center. Grand Jct.  
[solidaritynotcharitygjinfo@gmail.com](mailto:solidaritynotcharitygjinfo@gmail.com)

**Mutual Aid Partners' Distro Day!**  
Every Tuesday!  
10:30am to 1pm  
402 Grand Ave. Grand Junction.

## Join you local Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)

### Contact your local chapter:

Mesa County: [info@mesadsa.org](mailto:info@mesadsa.org)  
GarCo: [CAD.Garfield.county.DSA@proton.me](mailto:CAD.Garfield.county.DSA@proton.me)  
YDSA @ CMU: [cmuydsa@protonmail.com](mailto:cmuydsa@protonmail.com)

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## BRIEF From Page THIRTEEN

learned that talking about his little hands gets under his skin, like 9 years ago, and still haven't dropped it. Maybe they will start burning their American flags. One can only hope.

### GJ Mayor Attacks Press, Blocks Citizens, Cancels Coffee

Recently Mayor Cody Kennedy lashed out at *Daily Sentinel* reporter Sam Klomhaus for daring to ask hard questions. In a Facebook comment he states "I will



not be interviewing with Sam again, and I'll encourage everyone I know to not grant him interviews as well." Kennedy is not a fan of tough questions, or accountability, and has long blocked citizens from his 'Cody for GJ' Facebook page. Additionally, Kennedy has canceled five of his weekly 'Coffee with Cody' outreach events since July.

### Vail Settles Lawsuit with SeeWalker

"Vail cancelled Ms. SeeWalker's artist in residency because of the viewpoint

of her speech. This action follows a long pattern of suppressing and censoring the voices of Native American people, but Ms. SeeWalker bravely said 'not this time; and this settlement shows that individuals pushing back can make a difference," said Tim McDonald, Legal Director of the Colorado ACLU. Vail agreed to fund a new art program for marginalized people, host a powwow organized by SeeWalker free of fees for the next five years, sponsor a forum on Palestine, and provide cultural sensitivity training for the Arts and Public Places Department. SeeWalker had her residency canceled for art that linked Gaza and our genocide of Native Americans. (See issue #6 of the *Rev*).

### Polis Balances Budget on the Poor

It seems that the rich paying more is never an option, it's always the poor that can do without. Colorado Governor and multi-millionaire tech-bro, Jared Polis called a special session of the Colorado Legislation to address an 800 million dollar short fall. He also snuck in some legislation protecting AI companies from accountability. The effects of the cuts are going to be brutal, people's lives will be shortened, homelessness will increase, and the wealthy second homeowners and trophy ranch buyers could easily afford it.

The big picture is that last year Polis called a special session on the behest of anonymous billionaires through a dark money fund, and they lowered property taxes to the tune of a billion dollars a year. Polis DOGE'd our state budget before DOGE was even a thing. Capitalists are going to capitalist. ★

### SEND NEWS TIPS, LEAKED DOCUMENTS, WEIRD UNDER-REPORTED STORIES, and LETTERS TO:

**Therevolutionistgj@proton.me**

*Graphics for the News Briefs, and the Hickenlooper and Anti-Intellectualism articles by the funny and talented*

*@DaltonTrombone.bsky.social*

# We Must Fight Back!

By Nikoli Weir

Freedom, by its very nature, looks different everywhere. Tyranny tends to look the same. Wrapped in a flag and carrying a cross, it has finally come to America. Enabled by the moribund institutions of the United States government, Trump's reign of terror spreads across the nation, unimpeded by so called "checks

and balances." The republic crumbles like a house of cards caught in a gust of wind.

Six months into the second Trump Administration, the President's narrative of the "American Golden Age" has crumpled beneath the weight of his own ineptitude. Every single promise made has been broken, from the Epstein files to a more affordable economy. He has shown his true colors as a vicious attack dog of the capitalist class, and of finance capital specifically. All for capital, and nothing for the working class; that is his mission, and he will do anything to see it succeed. Right now that means deploying the National Guard and federal law enforcement to occupy Washington, DC. Who knows what it will mean tomorrow?

We may not know what tomorrow holds, but we know what's happening now. The National Labor Relations Board has been ruled unconstitutional by the Fifth Circuit of the United States Court of Appeals; the genocidal war against Palestine accelerates at an apocalyptic rate; ICE detains and deports thousands of workers; federal unions are gutted and thousands of federal employees are laid off; Los Angeles and DC groan under the yoke of federal

occupation; Trump has recently declared his intent to send federal troops to Chicago.

It seems likely that military presence will soon become the norm in major

American cities. With soldiers at the door and the Gestapo not far behind, what is a freedom loving American to do?

Amidst all the horror, the Democratic Party, nominally the opposition

party, stands by and does nothing. Governor Jared Polis hands over lists of undocumented migrants to the federal government; Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, one of the most left wing members of Congress, votes to fund Israel's Iron Dome defense system, which plays a crucial role in the Israeli orchestrated and American backed genocide of Palestinians; Republican Representative Jeff Hurd makes a trip to Israel in the middle of its gruesome slaughter of tens of thousands; New York City democrats forge an unholy alliance with the Trump administration in an effort to defeat Democratic Socialist Zohran Mamdani's campaign for mayor.

The Democratic-Republican uniparty has proven itself utterly bankrupt and incapable of fostering positive social and political change; it is, in fact, one of the greatest obstacles to such change. Every prominent member of the Democratic and Republican Parties serves at the behest of billionaire oligarchs and a murderous foreign power; they revel in their orgies of imperialism and war as America crumbles and Gaza burns.

How much more will it take be-



*National Guard occupation of D.C. Photo by Amaury Laporte.*

# Stella Rae on PRIDE

By Payton Young

Pride, the celebration of queer life and liberation, is formally held in June in honor of the Christopher Street Liberation Day (1969 Stonewall Inn raid) anniversary. Due to the scorching desert heat of the Grand Valley, we hold ours in September. But that's not without some correlation to other major parts of queer history.

In September following the raid at the Stonewall Inn, the Gay Liberation Front held a march protesting The Village Voice for its homophobic editorial coverage of the Stonewall raid and the refusal of the Voice to publish ads in the classified section for GLF meetings and dances because they had the word "gay" in them. In the spirit of protest, community, and celebration that defines both events, it feels right to introduce readers to one of the local queens embodying that spirit: the one and only Stella Rae. As we face adversity, getting to know one another is a vital step in building a stronger community.

And who better to know than a queen? Stella Rae is a profound expression of authenticity. Having navigated the rigid expectations of conservative Mormon culture, she now breaks free as her truest self. She calls her style 'Glamour-Camp,' taking inspiration from the concept of beauty in the abstract; Venetration (Noun) is the act of making something more beautiful. Proliferating the meaning of beauty. Stella is also enamored by the fashion of Hollywood stars of the 20's through 40's. Channeling that real Golden Age style through her expression; Being taken by the style of haute couture, high fashion, and powerful 90's supermodels; And Fulfilling the glamour half of glamour camp. Tapping into the Camp aspect, Stella uses the celebratory of camp performance to enhance the experience and really make it hers, giving an involved concept to the audience to convey a message.

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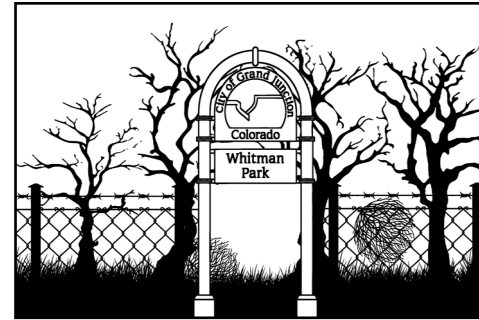
Photo by Aiden McVay, March 2024, Cesar Chavez Celebration.

In her Early days, her Mother who brought her to performances which often had a fundraising aspect of it (Second Saturday shows here at Judy's do as well wink wink) and was enamored by the idea of a community involved drag scene. Early seasons of RuPaul's Drag Race gave her the confidence to believe she could perform herself. Her first live show was a

Tenacious Brothers production called Drag Me To The Beach, where she was captivated by the art, the queens, and the electricity of a packed venue. Grand Junction would go on to have it's first Pride that year, and that's where Stella met Xavier Van Dyke and one of the queens who would go on to put her in drag for the first time. Her first performance was to Rihanna's S&M with Xavi's group. The Haunted Night of Drag was Stella's first independent show, and was put together as a Halloween show with her group the CDS (Coco, Donatella, Stella).

In terms of impact, Stella aims to build a better and more conducive world. Through Second Saturday shows and fundraising events, she hopes to establish a standard of kindness. While it's quite difficult to measure one's impact on the world, through the interactions we hold with others we extend an opportunity to all those involved to place a stone on the grand path of the world we wish to see. Building out a sect of community is one of the most lasting ways the world can be changed. For the readers, if anything is to be a takeaway from her work and performances, it is that we are stronger together as a community. When we accept each other for who we are as human beings we find our strength as a community and a collective. We should always stand together, and now more than ever we ought to recognize the larger threats faced by our community and stand against them. In addition, we should also recognize that life in the grand scheme of things is a celebration of our ability to express. Life is meant to be enjoyed. ★

# SEPTEMBER NEWS BRIEFS



## Whitman Park Closed for Two Years

Two years ago the City of Grand Junction suddenly closed Whitman Park, with no notice or public process. Whitman Park had long been associated with the unhoused, who found community, mutual aid, and public bathrooms there. Numerous organizations and private citizens utilized this gathering place to serve food to the hungry and provide mutual aid and charity. The public outcry against the park's closure forced the city to rush forward the now shuttered Community Resource Center to serve the unhoused. The Center was plagued by bureaucracy, NIMBYS and an authoritarian rules based model that never met the needs of the unhoused as well as they did for themselves in Whitman.

Now the City's own website states that "The design project for Whitman Park is currently paused."

When the park was first closed the City said that Whitman Park would be available to reserve for private functions; two poorly organized city events were held there, but since then it has sat unused for 22 months. Now the link to reserve Whitman Park has been removed from the city website. It now sits as an overgrown homage to municipal cruelty.

## Venezuelans Take Up Arms Against American Imperialism

Tens of thousands of Venezuelans have enlisted in civilian militias to defend the gains of the Chavez revolution against a build up of U.S. naval power off their

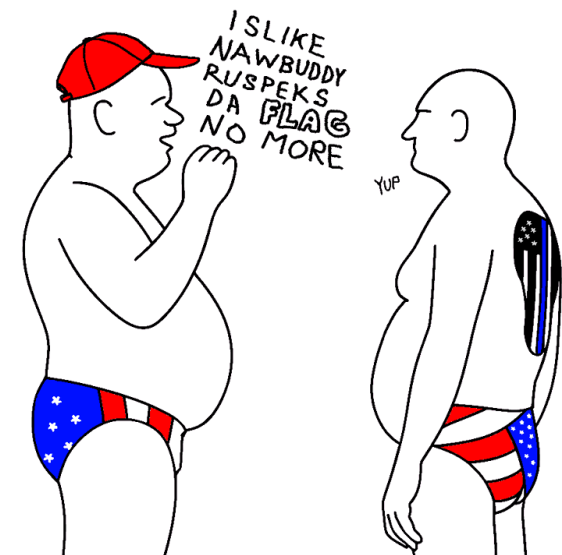
coast. Washington has recently placed a fifty-million-dollar bounty on President Maduro's head. Marking a decisive escalation of this long simmering conflict. The real issue is that Venezuela sits on a shit-ton of oil, and the people continue to vote for left-wing governments that have increased education and health access to millions of poor Venezuelans. Since the 1990s, the U.S. empire has attempted numerous coups against the Chavista movement, funded the opposition media and parties, and imposed crippling sanctions all because they dared to make the wealth of Venezuela work for Venezuelans.

## State Patrol Trooper Arrested for DV

Trooper Brandon Stevens was arrested by the Alamosa Police Department on August 9th. Stevens has been placed on leave. He faces a felony charge of Second-Degree Assault as well as suspicion of Domestic Violence.

## Trump Makes Flag Burning Cool Again

Trump's executive order making it a crime to burn a flag has given this out of date and cliché method of protest a new life. Jay Carey, a veteran, was arrested outside the White House for burning a flag days after the executive order. Liberals





the week before the agitation.

D.P. Kingsly stood out in two roles during these troubles, first as a newspaper man advocating against disorder, and as a captain in the frontier militia.

Sheriff Florida, Captain Kingsly, and the militia guarded Mow's and Sing's laundries as well as the armory for four days and prevented this effort to "drive out, kill, or scare the innocent Chinamen and destroy their property."

Denver's *Rocky Mountain News* reported "Grand Junction is having a Chinese agitation of its own. *The News* is espousing the side of the Mongols with a persistence worthy of a better cause."

These anti-Chinese race riots and massacres usually had a different ending. In 1880, Denver's Hop Alley riot cost one man his life and resulted in dozens injured and Denver's small 'Chinatown' burned to the ground. That same year miners in Leadville, dynamited the cabin of the lone Chinese resident of that mining district with him inside. In 1885 in Rock Springs, Wyoming a dispute between Chinese and white miners spilled over into mass violence and at least 28 Chinese miners were killed. 1902 vigilantes drove the Chinese residents of Silverton out of town at the barrel of the gun. Aspen and other mining towns often ran off Chinese laborers as soon as they got off the train..

Both Mow and Sing stayed in the GJ, and by 1892, Yep Mow was one of Grand Junction's most successful residents.

In 1888, *The News* reported Mow's return to the Grand Valley after visiting China for a couple of years and that "Yep made considerable money in Grand Junction in the early day [sic], that he invested in town lots, which are to-day growing valuable."

G. McAbee, remembered Mow, in a 1957 Letter to the *Daily Sentinel*: "He was a tall, good-looking Chinese and I think he ran a laun-

dry... he must have made good at it, for he told my brother he was going back to China and marry a 'little foot' women."

When town founder George A. Crawford died in 1892, his estate paid Mow \$2.75 for Crawford's outstanding laundry bill and \$5513.45 to repay a \$5000 business loan. \$5000 in 1892 is equal to \$177,498 in today's money.

While Mow found opportunity in frontier Grand Junction, sinophobic attacks punctuate the era. In 1895, Merchants Laundry ran ads in the newspaper encouraging Junctionites "don't denounce Chinese labor and then patronize Chinese laundries."

Attacks against Chinese people and their business continued with some regularity until the last Chinese resident, Lee Chong, was assaulted in March of 1921. His business was damaged, and he soon left town.

*The Daily Sentinel* objected:

"It doesn't look good for the law enforcement or the law protection facilities of this community when a resident—even though he may be a Chinaman—must be set upon and injured and frightened to such an extent that he leaves town after a long, peaceful and respectable residence here.

More than once this sort of thing has occurred here and the only offense of the victim was embodied in the fact that he was a native of China."

The Chinese Exclusion Act would eventually be repealed in 1943, but by then a race-based quota system for immigration was firmly in place that favored immigrants from western European countries.

Unable to form families, the Chinese population dwindled and were largely replaced by Japanese laborers, who in turn were herded in internment camps during WWII.

Immigrants today, like Mow, continue to be exceptionally good at starting businesses—willing to perform the hard unpleasant but necessary labor that makes society function. To this day the peaches don't pick themselves, and the toilets in Aspen are not self-cleaning. ★



1895 Advert, *Grand Junction News*

# Palestinian Voices Cannot be Silenced



Photo by Hosny Salah.

**By Steven Gardner**

Palestine is experiencing a genocide in real time. Israel has been escalating their violent occupation of the region, Gaza and the West Bank, for decades now. The violence on October 7th, 2023 committed by Hamas and Israel, the latter of which engaging in what's known as the Hannibal Directive, was Israel's justification to entirely devastate Gaza and increase their aggression within the illegally-occupied West Bank. It's important to note that 2023 was the deadliest year on record, at the time, for Palestinian children, meaning that Israel had already been targeting civilians.

The last month or so has seen some of the worst atrocities to have come out of Gaza. Multiple journalists have been killed doing nothing more than their jobs. The videos emerging from the area show outright murder and war crimes by the IDF, through drone strikes and direct fire. Food trucks have been raided and destroyed or looted by Israeli civilians. This has had a direct impact on how the actions by the IDF are being documented. If it weren't for those videos, we wouldn't have a clue about what happens in Gaza or the

West Bank. Israel has made one of their goals to make sure no journalists from outside of the region are able to get in while they either kill or discredit those journalists who survive the steady barrage of bombing runs in Gaza. The alternative is the narrative given to mainstream outlets, either "left" or right-leaning, by Israel themselves, which is deeply problematic.

Mainstream outlets, such as MSNBC, CNN, and Fox News, are only using what information they can get out of Israel, which isn't going to highlight their violent acts against a civilian population. Reporters on the ground are able to get some of their stories out, while others struggle with Internet connections and a lack of basic services, and the stories that do get out aren't circulated by any big news publications or are criticized into obscurity. The New York Times, for example, ran a piece about a child who was malnourished in Palestine due to the ongoing siege by Israel, and was forced to issue a correction about the story as it didn't mention the pre-existing medical conditions of the child. That took the attention off of the ongoing starvation happening in Gaza right

## FIGHT From Page THREE

fore we say enough is enough? Must we wait for the Gestapo to turn up at our doorsteps? By then it will be too late. The fascists are relying on the democrats doing what they always do; nothing. We cannot continue to hitch ourselves to a party that long ago ceased to represent the working people of this country.

Right now, the age-old slogan of "socialism or barbarism" is more relevant than ever. The capitalist government has become a bloated parasite that sucks the blood of the people it supposedly represents and protects. It knows that it is in its death throes; it is doing everything in its power to suck as much life as possible, to prolong its stagnant existence just a little longer so that it has enough time to carry out its Final Solution; the destruction of all democratic institutions and the privatization of society.

Everything indicates that this is the case. From the "Big Beautiful Bill" which is destroying the foundation of government services and is empowering ICE to act as a rogue private army at the behest

of capital, to the commissioning of four of Palantir's executive officers to serve as Lieutenant-Colonel's in the U.S. army.

Only one conclusion can be drawn from all of this; our government has abandoned us to the tyrannical whims of tech oligarchs and ultra rich financiers. They will strip this country bare and suck the marrow from its bones to feed their voracious appetite for human suffering, all the while using our money to slaughter millions all over the world.

People often ask themselves what they would have done to stop the rise of fascism in Germany or Italy if they had lived through it. That question is no longer a hypothetical. Fascism is coming, fast. We must fight back; rise, or forever be crushed by the boot of tyranny. Our government has abandoned its duties towards its people; it can therefore be reasoned that the people no longer have any duties towards their government. Only one duty remains; the duty to resist and rebel by any means necessary. ★

## GAZA From Page FIVE

now and led to accusations of Palestinians "faking" their plight.

Thankfully, through the use of independent media, stories about Palestine have been able to fight their way through the noise so that folks who care about what's happening there can learn more and possibly help out. Left wing media outlets have been amplifying Palestinian voices by having journalists in the region speak on their shows and tell their stories.

Hasan Piker, the largest leftist live-streamer on the platform Twitch, has had Palestinian journalists and social media influencers on his show over the past two years, all of whom have brought very unique perspectives on Gaza and the West Bank to everyone outside of those regions. Hasan is less of a journalist and more of a casual interviewer, but the conversations do cover many important aspects of life in Gaza and what it means to be constantly surrounded by death and destruction.

Noah Samsen is a YouTuber who writes video essays, basically long-form

articles that are spoken aloud with visual accompaniments. He has dedicated his channel almost entirely to covering the ongoing genocide in Gaza and has no plans on stopping until Israel ceases their violent campaign. His most recent video is a perfect example of the disconnect between what gets reported by mainstream media and what Israel does. In the video, he talks about an Israeli official who was able to flee the country after being caught in a child predator sting, a story that was entirely ignored by major news outlets.

There are resources out there, aside from cable news and corporate-owned newspapers, where the truth is being told. Right now, the most important way to help Palestine, aside from mass protesting against further military aid being sent to Israel, is to make everyone more aware of what Israel is doing. Speak out so that we can form a coalition to fight back. Find alternative media sources and learn more. but necessary labor that makes society function. ★

# Yep Mow: Grand Jct.'s First Immigrant

## By People's History of the Grand Valley

Yep Mow made news when he first arrived in Grand Junction in November of 1882, from Gunnison, via wagon. He opened a laundry, and invested in Grand Junction real estate seeing the potential of this 'future metropolis.'

Just months before his arrival in Grand Junction, the Chinese Exclusion Act had been signed into law. The act made immigration from China illegal, and consigned Chinese people already in America to the status of 'resident aliens' without the same basic civil-rights, and blocking any path forward to citizenship.

The lesser known Page Act, passed back in 1875, effectively barred women of Asian descent from immigrating to the United States. The Page Act coupled with wide-spread Miscegenation Laws, which made interracial relationships illegal, made it almost impossible for Chinese laborers to build families.

Before these two laws, America had an open immigration policy. This is the point that our country became a "papers please" society. It was the starting point in a long arc of history that has led to the ICE raids of today.

These immigration laws were also the beginning of the idea that certain people are illegal, or are criminals. Before these laws, which criminalized people's mere existence based on race, people were not viewed as criminals, as an identity, but as people who had committed crimes.

Coupled with alcohol and narcotics prohibitions in coming decades was the genesis of our modern idea of 'criminals.' And the resulting police state.

Mow was lucky, and already had his application for citizenship filed before the passing of the Exclusion Act, and

would eventually gain citizenship in 1892.

While Yep Mow was the first Chinese immigrant to Grand Junction, Chinese laborers were already at work in Mesa County, building the narrow gauge railroad that first linked Grand Junction with the outside world.

Archaeological evidence indicates that Chinese laborers worked and lived at the Excelsior station, just east of the Colorado/Utah border.

By August of 1883, encouraged by race-based laws being passed in D.C., motivated by xenophobic labor movement firebrands, and inspired by anti-Chinese race riots around the west, an anti-Chinese agitation started to brew in Grand Junction.

It started with a petition demanding that the railroad quit using Chinese labor in Mesa County, then reports of an opium den spread through town, (later turned out it was run by white citizens), and culminated as a mob organized by a ruffian, and

would-be labor organizer, Buck Gilliland, to run Yep Mow, and the one other Chinese laundry owner, Sam Sing out of Grand Junction.

The mob was reportedly given permission by the town Marshal to run the Chinese businessmen out of town, and the mayor was in the mob plying the would-be rioters with booze.

The editors of *Grand Junction News*, Edwin Price and D.P. Kingsly, refused to let this "most damnable disgrace," happen in their town. In the columns of their paper they argued against lawlessness, even publishing a letter by early Chinese civil rights leader, Wong Chin Foo,



Denver's 1881 Hop Alley Riot.



# English Only Will Divide Us

By Dr. Thomas Acker

On July 14, 2025, Attorney General Pam Bondi in her memorandum directed the DOJ to immediately remove “guidance to recipients of federal funding regarding Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act’s prohibition against national origin discrimination affecting limited English proficiency persons.”

The Colorado Language Access Coalition expressed its disapproval of the DOJ’s action because that will result in a reduction in multilingual services.

Language access services include translation: written documents being converted from one language to another. These are documents like birth certificates, court documents, etc.

Interpreting services are orally provided. They can be used in a medical setting so that the patient can understand what his or her doctor is telling them to do. These services have been legally required since Title VI was added to the 1964 Civil Rights Act by the Clinton administration.

For the first time in the history of our country, the president, through Executive Order 14224, has ordered that English be designated the official language of the United States.

Many people may be surprised to learn that, up until now, English is not the official language of the U.S. That may be because the vast majority of U.S. citizens speak only English. Our school systems tend to fail in second language instruction, due mostly to the fact that second language instruction isn’t introduced in many cases until high school, when our abilities to learn another language are greatly limited because our brains have lost the “elasticity” of the younger ages, when we are most able to acquire a second language.

There are other misperceptions about language acquisition. For example, the misconception that one can really only learn to speak ONE language well, when in fact, it has been demonstrated repeatedly that one can learn three and even four languages proficiently if taught young enough.

Conversely, another misperception is that immigrants who arrive in the U.S. as adults that don’t learn to speak English is because they are lazy. In fact, second language acquisition as an adult is

very difficult, especially, as is often the case, if one spends 8 hours a day in a working environment where one’s language is being spoken because the other workers are also mono-lingual speakers of a language other than English. Added to that situation, with rare exceptions,

there are few adult language classes in most communities, so the likelihood of becoming proficient in English for working adults is greatly reduced.

So there is a great need for the services of translation and interpretation for the millions of speakers of other than English. These members of our community provide essential services in healthcare, housekeeping, childcare, construction, agriculture, and many others. But when these same community members have to testify in the courts, or receive healthcare, they will likely need the support of language services for them to fully participate.

President Trump’s executive order is based on the erroneous perception that forcing people to speak English will bring us all together. Rather, it will create a country where a large portion of its residents will suffer because they are denied the tools necessary to participate wholly in our complicated systems. ★



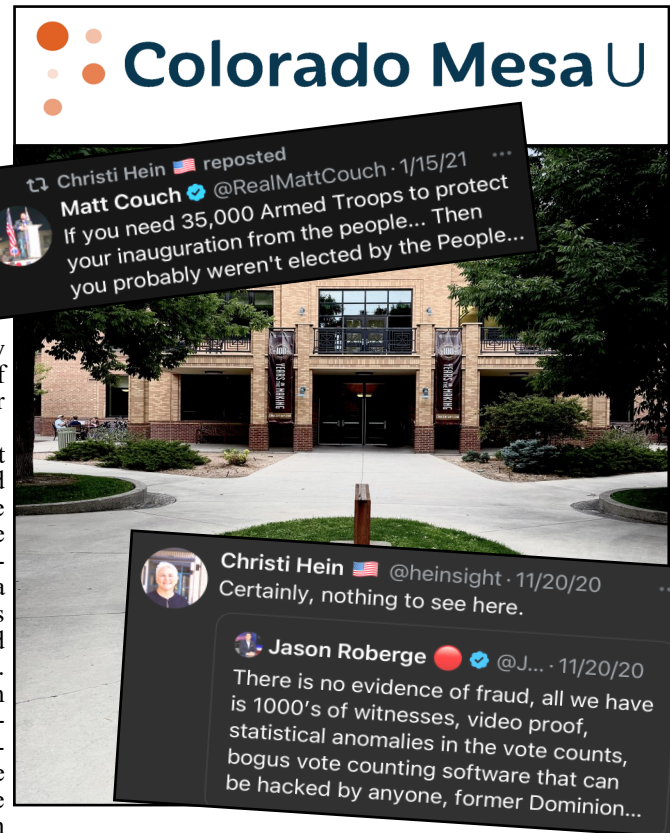
US-Mexico boarder wall, photo credit: wikiimages

CMU from Page TWO

dren will be less likely to have the best education, and will stay blind to the wrongdoings of the society that beats them down. Thus, the anti-intellectual movement not only impacts college campuses but also K-12 education, thereby affecting every American, regardless of whether they pursue higher education or not.

Finally, it is not only the conservatives and capitalists in charge of the system that are part of the problem, but even the educators themselves can be a problem, and often are, as CMU’s administration and professors demonstrate. Many are familiar with John Marshall’s heinous acceptance of White supremacy on campus, but fewer are familiar with one of the most important figures in allowing it to happen. This figure, of course, is Christi Hein, the co-chair of the Free Speech and Civil Discourse Committee at CMU, who also teaches political science classes. Hein is a friendly and humorous professor who holds a dark side. Students from her Spring 2023 US Government class recall her spouting lies about topics such as White privilege, the 2020 election, as well as women’s reproductive rights.

One of the most bizarre moments from her class was when she showed *No Safe Spaces*, a documentary narrated by the notorious pseudo-intellectual Dennis Prager. In one scene, the film explains that DEI programs in education are a form of reversed racism that holds White people back. This is the type of rhetoric that the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and other oppressors spew to make White people feel persecuted so that they may vote against the interests of the working class, oftentimes shooting themselves in the foot in the process. People like Jared Taylor spout the same arguments when explaining the fictitious Great Replacement Theory.



As for election denial, Hein cited *2000 Mules*, another right-wing “documentary” that promotes the idea that the Democrats stole the 2020 election through widespread voter fraud. When she brought it up, she stated that she did not know whether or not Democrats stole the election. Time and time again, evidence indicates that this was not the case, and the fact that she promotes disinformation makes it very clear where she stands in the Anti-Intellectual Movement. Other delusional lies she spouted were regarding abortions, as she claimed that there were abortion parties in New York, and that in some unnamed state, women were able to have abortions up to two weeks after giving birth.

Overall, conservatism and capitalism work together to maintain hierarchy and prevent the public from gaining class consciousness. Politicians are not the only ones involved in this movement, but many educators also participate, as Christi Hein’s erroneous claims make evident. The bourgeoisie has a chokehold, not only on our nation, but on the world, and access to education will provide us with immunity to the disease that torments us all. ★

# Q and A with Better Together

*Editors Note: The Rev is always excited by local grassroots media covering our community. We tune-in for all of Better Together's podcasts. We wish them all the success moving forward.*

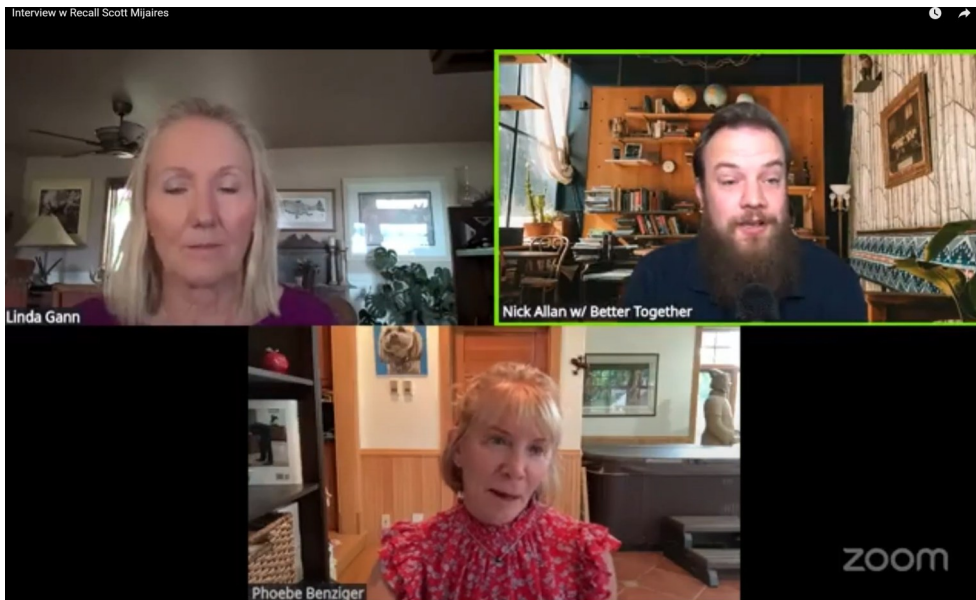
**The Revolutionist:** What is Better Together?

**Better Together:** Better Together is an organization dedicated to empowering local people to take collective action for a better world. We believe in the principle that “when we all do better, we all do better.” Our focus is on issues that directly

people, they just need an opening to claim it.

**TR:** Where is BT headed? Where do you see BT in 5 years?

**BT:** Better Together will evolve, exactly how remains to be seen. In my organizing experience, trying to predetermine an exact outcome can sometimes hinder growth. What matters most is having a vision. Our vision is to become a fully functioning, member-led, employee-owned organizing cooperative with paid staff and the resources to take on meaningful campaigns.



Nick Allen with Better Together interviewing Linda Gann and Phoebe Benziger about the Recall Mijares effort in Montrose County. <https://www.youtube.com/@Nick91092>

impact our community, local, populist concerns that often get overlooked. These include projects like saving the Orchard Mesa Pool.

We celebrate community. Right now, Better Together operates as an interview and political analysis show. We feature conversations with local elected officials, union leaders, journalists, and community activists. Our goal is to educate people about the levers of power and how they can access them. Power belongs to the

It's essential to fight climate change and challenge Citizens United, but it's also essential to organize around practical, everyday issues, getting a stoplight installed, fixing a pothole, and saving a community pool. Our goal is to show people that their government can work for them, not against them, and that they have the power to make change happen.

**TR:** Better Together is very local focused, why is that?

**BT:** Because local organizing is the most direct way to show people their power. National movements are important, but when we only focus on big-picture goals, we miss the opportunity to engage new activists who haven't yet realized their own influence. Working on local issues that matter to people, what they want to organize around, connects them to the process and builds confidence that they can create change.

**TR:** What power is there in acting and organizing locally?

**BT:** That's where real power lies. Tight-knit, locally focused groups have always been the foundation of big shifts in society.

Even in an increasingly digital world, people crave real connection. Organizing locally brings people together, and when you stand alongside others, you can feel that power in your bones. Humans have always survived and thrived through cooperation. Local organizing creates opportunities for neighbors to work on something tangible that improves their lives.

Take the Orchard Mesa Pool as an example. While its future is still uncertain, the organizing efforts around it have repeatedly kept it open. Every time the community comes together to save it, they strengthen their bonds. That's the power of local action.

**TR:** What do you each of you (Nick and La'hua) bring to the show?

**BT:** I'm thrilled to have La'hua as part of the team. They bring an essential perspective to both the community and the show. La'hua has deep knowledge of organizing, both in theory and in practice. Their work guiding people through decolonization is inspiring. Their interviewing skills and unique insights will make our conversations richer and more expansive.

**TR:** These are trying times, what can people do?

**BT:** Start organizing. That doesn't always mean taking to the streets or planning a boycott. It begins with building relationships, getting to know the people around

you: your coworkers, friends, family, the barista who makes your morning coffee.

Once you connect, you start to find shared concerns. Maybe you and a colleague are both struggling with child-care costs. That conversation can lead to more conversations, and eventually, a group of workers might come together to demand better support for working families. That's organizing, it's about turning shared concerns into collective action.

**TR:** How can people get involved with Better Together and the community more broadly?

**BT:** It's easy! The simplest way is by joining our Patreon, membership starts at just \$2 a month, or you can contribute labor toward building Better Together. Members get early access to upcoming guests and advance notice about organizing efforts.

You can also follow us on Facebook or subscribe to our YouTube channel to stay connected and informed.

**TR:** If you could interview anyone, living or dead, who and why?

**BT:** Octavia Butler, without question. She once described herself in a way that has always stuck with me:

“I'm a 48-year-old writer who can remember being a 10-year-old writer and who expects someday to be an 80-year-old writer. I'm also comfortably asocial, a hermit in the middle of Los Angeles, a pessimist if I'm not careful, a feminist, a Black, a former Baptist, an oil-and-water combination of ambition, laziness, insecurity, certainty, and drive.”

I also love her work. In one of her last series, she wrote about a dystopian America ravaged by climate change and fascism, led by a Christo-fascist president campaigning on the slogan “Make America Great Again.” She wrote that in 1998. I'd want to ask her what she saw coming, and what she sees in our future. ★