

## Opinion from America's Outback

### IF YOU THINK THAT'S BAD...

CJ: Thank you kindly for putting *RANGE* together. I've been with you for longer than I can recall. I'm an old farm kid who worked for government organizations for a long time, so I have seen both sides. Had a sign in my office that stated, "If you think the problems we create are bad, wait until you see our solutions." Fits the government well. (My other sign was, "My cow died so I don't need your bull.") Your hard work and your heart are greatly appreciated. Kick back a bit now, but don't wander off too soon.

JEFF PILGRIM, SIOUX CITY, IOWA

Dear Rachel: Ten years ago my cousin Stan Simmons and his wife, Leia, who runs Walker River Resort in Smith, told me that *RANGE*

was the best cowboy/ranching magazine in America. Well, allow me to tell you that getting to know *you* has been *our* icing on the cake. Don't change a thing!

DENNIS BARK, STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

### COW FARTS

To Ron Rasmussen [re "The Destroyer" letter in Winter 2025/2026]: Just another closed mind that can't handle anything that your ideological masters haven't told you is okay. I've always been taught to learn from all sides and that everyone has their own opinions. You can choose to no longer subscribe, but then you limit your intelligence and wisdom to only the propaganda your delicate psyche can handle. Me? I'll continue to watch Newsmax, Fox, CNN and MSNBC and read *Time* or *Newsweek* and *RANGE*. I have enough confidence to be able to decide on my own what is and isn't valid or just some cow farts.

LAURA BILLER, MESQUITE, NEVADA

### FIGHT FOR TRUTH

The problem we face in America is that 50 percent of the nation forgets our courageous history and are soft, distracted, uneducated and guided by security, not liberty. Are there still enough of us to fight for the future of our nation? *RANGE* magazine does! Thank you *RANGE* from the bottom of my God-fearing heart. The stories of waste and corruption that you cover are preventable and common sense here.

How we fix this is through fixing our failed school system. Teach your children the

The vet said the anti-scratch cone would be \$50.00. Tractor Supply had it for \$19.95...



real history, and get involved by voting and common sense might come back.

JOHN SCHROER, FRISCO, COLORADO

### PRAISE FOR RANGE WRITERS

[Re "Dawn at Sunset" by Barry Perryman in Winter 2025/2026] Excellent piece, Sir, it brought "little tears" to this old grump's eyes. Thank you and *RANGE*.

JEFF SHELDON, VIA EMAIL

I feel like [Perryman's piece] was taken right out of Thomas Jefferson's brain, possibly a few other of our founding fathers as well. We need more "thinkers."

MARTHA TODD, QUINLAN, TEXAS

Hank Vogler for governor! More water, less stupidity.

CODY CANALE, RUTH, CALIFORNIA

### RANCHING WITH NANA

There is a place for everyone on God's earth and folks need to "take her [Sydney O'Connor] seriously as a rancher" with words of wisdom, kindness and, above all, support. [See "Ranching with Nana," Winter 2025/2026 by Rebecca Wells Dolph.] This is a great story with a storied past and hopeful future. The facial picture of Sydney and Baby Cow captures facets of trial, tribulation, uncertainty and success. And we wish her success and happiness. The author put you right in the family history and story line. Kudos. It is essential for America that *RANGE* con-



PHOTO COURTESY SYDNEY O'CONNOR

tinues to be successful, people skillful like Rebecca keep writing, and young folks like Sydney keep the spirit of their families alive while grumpy old guys like me continue to resist the onslaught from the outside looking in. Big thanks to the author, as well as CJ, for keeping us on the straight and narrow.

RANDY SHIPMAN  
ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

*Thanks so much for your reaction to my story. It had a lot of heart in it and I am SO glad it came through. And I think one of the best things*

*about the ranching community is people like you, people like Sydney's neighbors who see the whole picture and reach out to encourage.—Rebecca Wells Dolph*

### SEND TO THE DUSTBIN

I have no allegiance to any country in the world. I think nation states are archaic relics of bygone global nonsense that will hopefully soon drift into the dustbin of history. My loyalty and "patriotism," if you will, is to community. And the beautiful rural, multiethnic, multilingual, multiracial, politically balanced community that I live in could exist in Canada, Bolivia, England, Finland, Scotland, Peru, Ireland, Denmark, Wales or pretty much anywhere in the world. And I'd live there happily, heating my house by burning national flags in my woodstove. (I left Wyoming in 1964 as a Goldwater Republican. Took me a while to see through that crap.)

MARK DOWIE, POINT REYES STATION, CALIF.

I got the Fall issue of *RANGE* and read of the changes to the masthead. I'd like you to know that on top of the great and informative ar-

ticles and outstanding pictures, I always enjoy your opening remarks. I appreciate your drive and dedication to explaining and defending life in the West, which is very different from further east which has more rainfall and mostly private property. Having ranched in both areas, the greatest common theme is the fight against government overreach, power-hungry “environmental” groups, and a misinformed public, all of which you address.

I also hope that *RANGE* will continue as the premier defender, booster, and explainer for ranching in the West.

RICK TATE, MARFA, TEXAS

Thank God *RANGE* goes forward. Interesting times all around. God help us.

KAT JENSEN, WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA

## RANGE RANTS

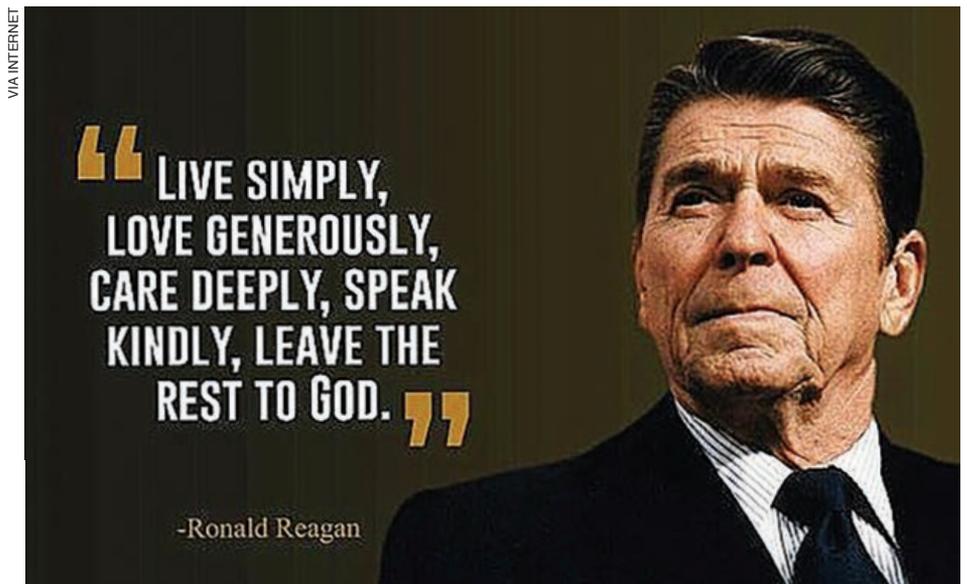
Rather than the rants of writers in your magazine, your readers could become informed about what even Ms. Eunice Newton Foote knew about burning fossil fuels by the mid-19th century. Anyone interested can read what working climate researchers around the world know at [realclimate.org](http://realclimate.org) and the debunking of AGW deniers at [skepticalscience.com](http://skepticalscience.com). But I doubt anyone



who would print the errant nonsense you do could become educated. Prove me wrong.

MARK SCHAFFER, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
*My time would be wasted. But you could go to [rangedex.com](http://rangedex.com), search for “climate change” and find 22 stories from a variety of writers that might enlighten.*—Ed.

Thanks for *RANGE* magazine so we can see how some of the most self-sufficient Americans are still holding on against the want-to-be global controllers. Their centuries-old money and power led them to set up the MI6, CIA and Mossad to undermine representative government and to impose regulation and control of every aspect of the lives of individ-



uals who ought to be free. Taxation, regulation and war are their tools of control and power. While we individually and as a country are put in debt, they suck us dry of our hard work's reward and leave us with their sneering “so[ulless]tion” of government control and dribbled-out government dollars that would best be left to those who earned them in the first place.

Trump shows signs of working behind the scenes to bring down some of this power and monetary control. We should be vigilant and informed as much as possible to support that and then expose the politicians who demand we trust their plans to impose central control on us.

I again want to thank CJ for all her efforts in publishing the magazine for so many years, but also in trying to seek out the truth of the globalists', the European monarchs', and the “corporatists” efforts to bleed us dry and eliminate those who don't go along. May God bless you.

RICH GRANT, BASALT, COLORADO

Thank you for your support of the livestock industry and our way of life! Your publications are terrific to inform our non-ag neighbors.

SOUTHWESTERN COLORADO LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION, DENVER, COLORADO

Two hundred fifty years ago, several dozen citizens in Colonial America risked their “lives, fortunes, and sacred honor” on the *revolutionary* idea that individuals—not governments—should have the freedom to control their destiny. These powerful ideals so brilliantly outlined in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pa.,

eventually changed the world.

This combination of expanded individual freedom with the economic freedom of a limited government created an acceleration of human progress. The average American family's standard of living began almost doubling every decade while most of the world continued to stagnate in oppression and war.

As this information spread worldwide in the 19th century, millions of emigrants began leaving a Europe dominated by monarchs and dictators for America. This new workforce wanted the opportunity to apply their skills and own the fruits of their labor. Most, including my own grandmother from Sweden, immigrated with no guarantees. Today, new generations stand in line and even risk their lives to continue that tradition.

For over two centuries and with about five percent of the world's population, the United States has guided the rest of the planet away from tyranny. America has never been perfect and often has made two steps forward and one step back. However, contrary to the small minority of America haters, people worldwide continue to overwhelmingly vote with their feet for the freedom and opportunity of the U.S.A. Ponder our liberty this Fourth of July by reading the approximately 1,300 words in the Declaration of Independence.

MARK LINDBERG, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIF.

Enclosed is a donation to help continue the rural way of life and livelihoods of so many that help feed our nation and beyond our borders. Keep up the great work.

TERRI ARINGTON, COLUMBIA, CALIFORNIA

CJ: Everything happens for a reason. I chose to believe that your struggles prior to publish-

Non-resident from Illinois claims massive trophy buck! His biggest since Back in 1985!



ing this magazine in 1991 were divinely driven...giving you the grit, experience and determination to birth *RANGE*. I doubt there's another magazine on the planet that is so appreciated and thoroughly digested by its subscribers. What a positive impact you have had on my life and the world!

BILL ENNIS, BEAUFORT, NORTH CAROLINA

On Aug. 9, 2025, Stan Del Orto of Moke-lumne Hill, Calif., lost his life when his horse fell on him while crossing a draw here in the Sierras while tending his cattle with his son. Stan's visage graced your pages along with those of his grandchildren, taken by his widow, Robin. His death leaves not only his family mourning, but also both Calaveras and Amador counties' old-time families.

Generally, city folks have no clear picture of the toil, tribulations and dangers involved in providing the many commodities they need and use daily. Whether it be a loaf of bread, a piece of meat or a two-by-four, they are dependent upon us in the field, woods, or on the range to produce without their thanks or thoughts.

Keep up the good work and God bless.  
BRIAN SMITH, WEST POINT, CALIFORNIA

### GIT ALONG...

Good for the 10th Circuit Court judges who ruled in favor of the Missouri hunters. [Check "The Plot Thickens" by Chance Gowan in the Fall 2025 issue via rangedex.com.] "Many ranchers are overly possessive of public land where they only have grazing rights. It's a shame that hunters and ranchers cannot work together since ranches do a lot of good for wildlife habitat. Maybe ranchers should consider hunters as allies since they both fight against well-heeled organizations that want to eliminate both hunting and ranching!

MIKE COLVILLE, PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA

VIA INTERNET

I was blessed to live Out West for many years after retiring from the U.S. military. During my time in service, I sadly learned, "first-hand," the lies told to service members and the public. We were not in the Southwest Asia Op area to protect American interests, but to enrich a few corporations and their board members. "To this day, no one truly talks about it or cares!" To this point, I am grateful your magazine is fighting the "good fight" and exposing the corruption and lies disrupting ranchers' lives, bankrupting their families, and stealing their lands.

God bless you all and keep fighting!  
AARON TASSEFE, LAKE HALLIE, WISCONSIN

I always look forward to my *RANGE* and am so glad you had the Maude story in Fall 2025. ["Malicious Prosecution" by Patricia Aiken.] My late husband, Jerry, and I lived near Heather's folks' ranch at one time and I knew her grandmother, Annabelle, well. They are all such good, honest, hardworking people who did not deserve the treatment they received. I thought the jail threat was over the top and I cannot imagine the stress and worry it caused, especially for the young children. I'm so glad for the people who are "going to bat" for them. Thank you for all *RANGE* does.

HONEY DEFORD  
BANNER, WYOMING

CJ, you are my hero! Thank you for *RANGE* magazine, and its inspiring truths about our Great American West. God bless you and God bless America.

GARY WOLLWEBER, EDWALL, WASHINGTON

Sold the cattle ranch in Jordan Valley, Ore., in 2016 and moved to Prairie City. I live by myself in a four-bedroom triple-wide. I still drive and have a cabin in the mountains at Greenhorn, a ghost town with not much there. It is about 35 miles away and a place for our five generations together. It is snowed in so won't be up there 'til spring as it's over 6,000 feet. I've always picked out the cut of meat and then built the meal around it—mainly *beef*. I've been a widow since 2013 and will turn 100 on Sept. 10, 2028. Have enjoyed *RANGE* from almost its start and met CJ at an Oregon

Cattlemen and Women meeting many years ago. Keep up the good work.

DELORES SCOTT, PRAIRIE CITY, OREGON

### NO WAY, JOSÉ

I'm no cowboy and after living there for seven years, I hate Nevada. No way, José.

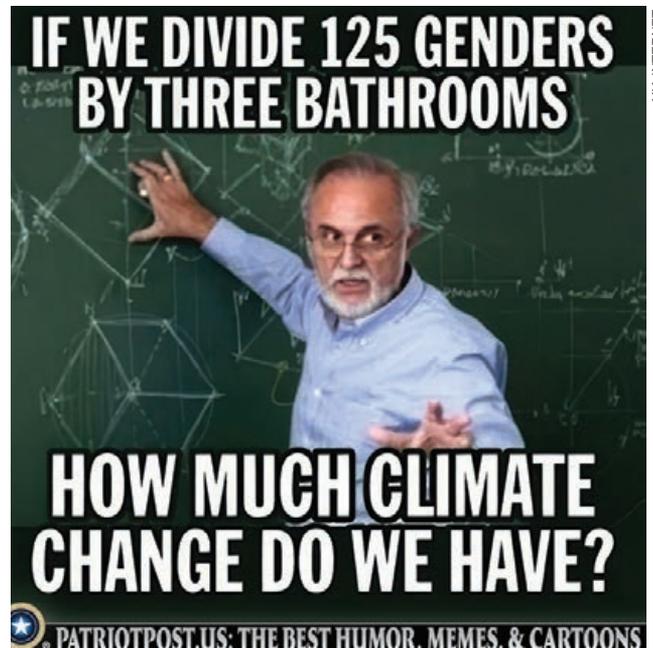
ANONYMOUS VIA *RANGE* PREPAID ENVELOPE

Ride ahead, roll on.

LARRY, VIA EMAILNA

CJ, I read with both joy and sadness of your "transfer" of power to "The Big Loop." I will cut to the chase and simply say, "Well done thy good and faithful servant." We all owe you big time and love you, as all your followers do. God Bless!

JIM & CINDY INGLIS, COTTONWOOD, CALIF.



VIA INTERNET

### A HARD-WON LIFE

Without fail you continue to put out an excellent magazine with thoughtful, informative articles and beautiful photography. You continue to "fight" for us old cowboys, cowgirls and food producers out here—by telling the truth, by gathering a world of talent and placing so much of it between the covers of *RANGE*, and by lending your readers some insight into the odds we're all up against to keep this glorious and hard-won way of life. Our heartfelt thanks for being that voice in the wilderness. Keep up the fight.

PAM WESSEL, LAVINA, MONTANA