

COMMENTARY

LETTERS

FROM PAGE A5

combined with H2O by sunlight. Only when photosynthesis evolved did the green life that surrounds us explode, replacing the CO2 with O2, allowing us animals to exist and driving the CO2 levels down to the few molecules per 10,000 (less than argon) in today's atmosphere.

It is criminal that now children leave grade school fearing the very molecule out of which every bite of food they eat and, therefore, they themselves are made.

- The entire change in our mean temperature since before the industrial revolution, from whatever causes, is perhaps 0.8 Celsius, a change from perhaps 288 to 288.8 Kelvin. We are lucky the sun is that stable.

Bob Armstrong Woodland Park

Thanks for the pizza

The Golden Eagle seniors would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Blue Moose Pizza in Beaver Creek for providing a wonderful lunch for us.

The pizza buffet was wonderful, the food was terrific, and the staff treated us like family. Thank you, Blue Moose Pizza.

The Golden Eagle Seniors

Best use of property

In the middle of winter and on occasion I would return from Vail to my town. In approaching, I would view snow-laden fields just to the east of Eagle. There would be cow elk gathered at the Eagle River Station property for refuge from the travails of higher climes.

Where else would this sylvan scene

exist? Not the environs of Los Angeles, New York, Denver or other metropolises throughout the country. These observations revealed a truth that we humans can co-exist with all things wild if only we respect and protect their home, too.

The lower valleys (such as Eagle River Station) are the historic wintering grounds for elk and deer and should be recognized as such and then preserved for future generations of wildlife to survive and our children to also bear witness.

What sets our town apart from other boroughs is this co-existence factor between humanity and other forms of life in the wilds. This is a unique characteristic and makes Eagle's historic lifestyle worth protecting.

Were it possible for RED to grasp the meaning of what I say in this respect, and then incorporate this factor into its plans for profit, I would be the first to say that its property rights have substantive integrity and are in keeping with the spirit of the Eagle Area Community Plan — that being to preserve the historical significance of our very unique community.

Property rights are a part of the fabric of a free market and of liberty itself. However, is the protection of those human rights worth the sacrifice of other creatures, great and small, to co-exist in harmony with us? Do the property rights of RED to develop its lands trump the rights of nature itself? That is a philosophical question worth considering when there comes a time to end it all for the wild things in our backyard.

We humans, yes all 7 billion of us, have an obligation to preserve nature in our time, even to the extent of self-sacrifice. This is an altruism, rather than a mandate from an authority.

I would propose that RED revisit its

"lifestyle" that it wishes to bring to our hamlet and the effect it would have on Eagle's residents and the wards under their protection — the children and the wildlife that we enjoy.

In my opinion, the RED plan subverts the constitutional entitlement of its investors and it plays upon the extravagance of the consumer. But it is deleterious to the natural rights of all life that frequent this valley.

I really cannot envision my herd of elk congregating on an asphalt parking lot amid the bustle of shoppers and the fumes of fossil fuels. For whom does the Eagle Area Community Plan serve — RED or for the denizens of Eagle, including those with whom we co-exist in harmony? As stated, RED's projected plan is speculative at most regarding its success and supposed benefits to Eagle, but for a certainty, it would be the end-game for a historical way of life as we know it.

Fredric Butler Eagle

Coffee with a Cop

The Vail Police Department would like to thank Amy, Joel and Susan at the Sapphire Restaurant & Oyster Bar for hosting the October Coffee with a Cop. The program was formed to give the citizens of Vail a place to come and talk one on one with a police officer or code enforcement officer on any issue and, of course, enjoy a good cup of coffee. You are very good hosts, and next time, I will grab a paint brush!

The next Coffee with a Cop will be Nov. 16, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., at Joe's Famous Deli on Bridge Street. You may even register your new skis or snowboard. Bring your questions.

Moses Gonzales Vail Police

