



Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

THE DENVER POST

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2017



RAIN/SNOW MIX ▲49° ▼18° »14A • © THE DENVER POST • \$2 PRICE MAY VARY OUTSIDE METRO DENVER

HEALTH CARE

Obamacare premiums rise

DENVER
& THE WEST

POLL FINDS 64% SUPPORT LEGALIZED POT

Sixty-four percent of Americans now support legalization of marijuana, the highest percentage ever in Gallup polling. Fifty-one percent of Republicans surveyed said they support legalization, up sharply from a year ago. »2A

Election 2017. Suburban cities consider everything from an oil and gas measure to a raise for council members. »4A

BUSINESS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLUMMETS

Colorado had the biggest drop in affordable apartments in a new report by Freddie Mac that finds nationwide a drop of such housing of more than 60 percent between 2010 and 2016. »8A

NAACP warning. The civil rights group alerts African-American flyers after incidents involving racial bias. »9A

NATION/
WORLD

FLYERS TO U.S. TO FACE MORE SECURITY

Passengers traveling on international flights to the United States will face tougher security screening beginning Thursday, the TSA says. »11A

Rock pioneer dies. Fats Domino, whose easy baritone was behind "Blueberry Hill" and other standards of rock, has died at 89. »13A



Photos provided by Thinkstock

Illustration by Jeff Neumann, The Denver Post

Corporate chains, reeling from financial slide and competition from art-house theaters, unearthing "Living Dead" and other classics

By John Wenzel The Denver Post

Chad McDonald is not impressed with most new movies at his local cineplex. To him, they often feel slapped together by a computer program.

"They really are just like pinball machines trying to generate money," said the 50-year-old film buff who lives in Saratoga Springs, Utah.

Despite living an hour south of Salt Lake City, where there's a greater selection of art-house and independent theaters, McDonald has been enjoying classic films such as "Dr. Zhivago" and "The Graduate" on the big screen at nearby corporate theater chains.

"Anytime people can see a vintage film the way it was meant to be seen in the theater, whether it's 10 years old or 75, it's good news," said film critic and author Leonard Maltin. "And, of course, theaters wouldn't be doing it if

people weren't showing up."

Corporate chains have increasingly turned to revival programming — from classics such as "Casablanca" to modern cult favorites including "The Princess Bride" and "Donnie Darko" — to fill seats and stay competitive with art-house, indie and specialty theaters amid a historic financial slump and a distracted consumer base.

In the second quarter of 2017, the average movie-ticket price hit a record high of \$8.95, according to the National Association of Theater Owners. Along with that, this past summer-movie season clocked in as the worst in a decade: \$3.8 billion in domestic ticket sales, a 14.6 percent drop over 2016's summer season, according to ComScore data.

CLASSICS »7A

Instability over marketplaces adds to cost, consultant says

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON» Premiums for the most popular Obamacare plans are going up an average of 34 percent, according to a study Wednesday that confirms dire predictions about the impact of political turmoil on consumers.

Window shopping on HealthCare.gov went live Wednesday, so across the country consumers going online can see the consequences themselves ahead of the Nov. 1 start of sign-up season for 2018.

The consulting firm Avalere Health crunched newly released government data and found that the Trump administration's actions are contributing to the price hikes by adding instability to the underlying problems of the health law's marketplaces.

President Donald Trump puts the blame on the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, saying the program is imploding, while ignoring warnings that his administration's actions could make things worse.

The Avalere analysis is for the 39 states using HealthCare.gov.

INSURANCE »16A

IMMIGRATION LAW

Decision could mean man's exit from prison

By John Ingold The Denver Post

The Colorado Supreme Court's decision this month to overturn a decade-old law on immigrant smuggling could lead to the release of at least one person from prison.

But it doesn't appear that the decision will have more widespread ripples through Colorado's current justice system because prosecutors have all but abandoned filing the charge in recent years, according to a Denver Post analysis of data provided by the Colorado Judicial Branch.

The law was passed during a contentious 2006 legislative session, and prosecutors immediately put it to use, filing dozens of cases a year for the law's first two years — far more than legislative analysts had predicted. But prosecutors have filed only six cases

SMUGGLING »5A



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