

# TELL IT TO THE CHIEFTAIN: LUDLOW MASSACRE

*Pueblo Chieftain*, June 25, 2006

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## **Site revisited**

I was amused by Mike Garrett's report (June 12, "Labor's Own Twin Towers") on this year's Ludlow memorial service.

By suggesting that "no one knows" who fired the first shots that led to the deaths of women and children at Ludlow, and that these victims "reportedly" were suffocated when the tent above their cellar refuge caught fire, Garrett implies that there is significant factual uncertainty around the event.

He also implies that the "bashing of President Bush" by assembled speakers was predictable, gratuitous and self-interested, a product of history as "they" (the Democrats and Lefties) "see it."

I was the only speaker not quoted by Mr. Garrett in his report. I attended the service to dedicate a new set of interpretive exhibits that tell the story of Ludlow from the standpoint of history enriched by archaeology, and why that story has deep continuing relevance.

These exhibits - along with a rapidly expanding body of new interdisciplinary scholarship about Ludlow that demonstrates how the coal mining past is, in many ways, still present - might be of interest to the reality-based community of Chieftain readers who like their historical truth straight up, rather than politically filtered.

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