



# The I-70 Scout

Searching for news in Watkins, Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail, and Agate

Volume 29, Number 9

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

## HIGHWAY ROBBERY?

Key intersection cost: Surprise CDOT requirement dents Bennett for additional \$47,000

by **Kathy Smiley**  
Staff Writer

**BENNETT** — The town of Bennett's intersection improvement project at Highway 79 and Marketplace Drive just got more expensive after a new requirement by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) almost doubled the

price of third-party inspection services.

The change order request was ultimately approved by the Bennett Board of Trustees Jan. 10 but not without consternation on the part of some trustees and town staff.

The highly visible project to improve the busy intersection in advance of eventual signalization began in October 2021 when the Board of Trust-

ees contracted with Morton Electric to construct an eastbound right turn lane with a channelizing island, corresponding curb ramps, drainage improvements, and signal poles with conduit, controller and associated signal equipment. The project is now substantially complete.

**SEE UNEXPECTED FEE  
PAGE 8**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

High school clinician Dr. Alan W. Mills forcefully directs band students during their performance of "Where the Black Hawk Soars" by Robert W. Smith at the Eastern Colorado Honor Band Festival Jan. 12 at Bennett. Mills, a music professor at Colorado State University in Pueblo, founded the university's annual Festival of Winds, which several Eastern Colorado Honor Band honorees will attend next month. **SEE PAGE 24.**

### New grad reqs OK'd 3-2 at DT School

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**DEER TRAIL** — Amended graduation requirements and the search for a new permanent superintendent highlighted the Deer Trail School Board's Jan. 9 meeting.

Following several months of debate, directors voted 3-2 in favor of two changes to graduation requirements to take effect with the 2023-24 school year. As part of the 25-credit requirement, the board voted to not require geometry as one of four

math credits and to remove a foreign language requirement. While board president Candice Reed, Patrick Duff and Richard Haight voted in favor of the changes, board members John Burcl and Mike Cowell dissented.

Burcl stated his opposition to the removal of geometry from the list of required courses, but interim superintendent Mike Jobman and counselor Carey Carson both indicated that the class is still available

**SEE DT GRAD REQ  
PAGE 4**

### Firehouse drawings delivered to Byers FPD

by **Kathy Smiley**  
Staff Writer

**BYERS** — Conceptual drawings of the Byers firehouse addition are in the hands of district officials, paving the way for a call for bids for the project.

The Byers Fire Protection District Board received an update on the new addition Jan. 9. Chief Mike Disher recently received the long-awaited bid documents from

F&D — the architectural and engineering firm contracted to design and manage the project in mid-2021 — and forwarded the document to board members. Directors reviewed the plans and voted for approval Monday night; results were not available at press time.

The district is awaiting a survey by Adams and Arapahoe counties to verify the property boundaries

**SEE BYERS FPD  
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## Recent storm rehydrates region; women injured in 1-car crash



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Residents at the northwest corner of the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Date Street in Deer Trail clear their driveway Jan. 12, the morning after approximately 5 inches of snow blanketed the eastern reaches of the I-70 Corridor.

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

Last Wednesday's snow-storm not only added anywhere from 2-6 inches of new snow to existing stands across most of the I-70 Corridor; it also made the commute along both the interstate and side roads treacherous most of the day.

While much of the Front Range, including Denver International Airport, didn't record as much as an inch Jan. 11, the I-70 Corridor between Watkins and Agate

**SEE STORM  
PAGE 2**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Local plow drivers on Jan. 12 not only contended with fresh snow from the previous day but also with several inches of existing snow and ice that has been around since mid-December.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Among the many slide-offs that occurred during the Jan. 11 storm was this semi and trailer about two miles west of Deer Trail in the median of I-70.

**STORM**

**FROM PAGE 1**

received between two and six times that amount with deeper accumulations further east.

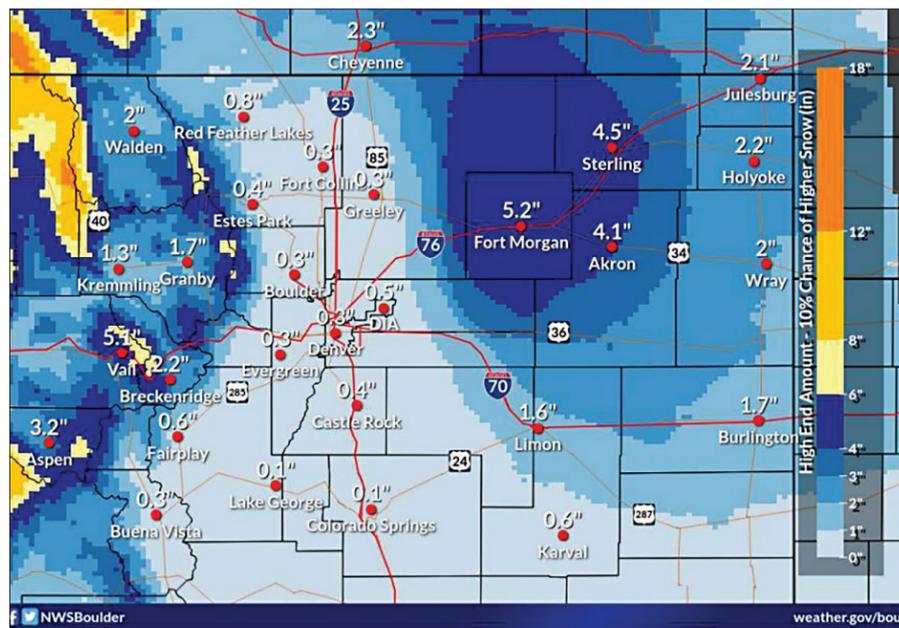
A combination of National Weather Service and Colorado Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network reports for Jan. 11 indicated 2-3 inches fell around Watkins, Bennett and Strasburg with 4-plus inches mostly falling between Byers and Agate. Instances of 6 inches were reported in and around Deer Trail.

In addition to the snowfall, cold temperatures and fog complicated matters on roadways.

At about 9:45 a.m., less than an hour after the snowfall commenced, the first of many accidents were reported.

But, according to the Colorado State Patrol, the worst of the local interstate incidents was the first one reported when a 19-year-old female from Towner was transported with moderate injuries after her vehicle crashed into the bridge guardrail near mile marker 308 about two miles west of Strasburg.

Approximately 20 slide-offs and other property damage crashes between Watkins and Deer Trail were reported, including a handful involving semis, but no fatal or



The Jan. 11 snow storm that hit the Eastern Plains included 2-6 inches between Watkins and Agate with the higher accumulations further east. Neighboring areas northeast saw more significant snow totals.

life-threatening injuries were reported.

"Things rolled in earlier and quicker than expected, so caught a lot of drivers off guard," a State Patrol spokesman said. "But, thankfully, our guys responded to mostly property damage and were out of

harm's way for the most part."

Further east, freezing fog resulted in the closure of I-70 at Limon.

Strasburg Schools Superintendent Dan Hoff said his return road trip from meetings on the Eastern Plains Wednesday night was less than enjoyable.

"Miserable, a lot of clutching the steering wheel and unable to see hardly in front of you," said Hoff, who has only resided in the Corridor since August. "This I-70 drive is no joke, especially in this kind of

stuff."

Side routes on both side of the interstate were also difficult to navigate.

The high school clinician for the Jan. 12 Eastern Colorado Honor Band in Bennett said that his commute Wednesday night from Pueblo was nerve-racking.

"My work started last night with the drive," said Dr. Alan W. Mills, director of bands at Colorado State University in Pueblo, Thursday night as he was getting on stage to lead the 75-plus-member high school ensemble. "The fog was bad on I-25, had some accidents, and my GPS told me to get onto a back route. Fog was probably worse and it was a very slow trip. Finally got in about 11 (p.m.)."

In terms of moisture, last Wednesday's snow reverted back to the more usual "dry, fluffy" stuff with 0.1 inches or less of moisture in it. The high-water mark for Wednesday's precipitation estimate was 0.41 inches coming from 5-plus inches of snow about five miles north of Deer Trail.

So far for the month and year, much of the Corridor is around 5 inches of snow with some areas approaching 8 inches or more. Added with last month's accumulation, which has stuck around because of frigid temperatures, much of the area still has standing snow depths approaching a foot.

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# State Education Commissioner Anthes will step down in July

by Erica Meltzer  
Chalkbeat Colorado

Colorado Education Commissioner Katy Anthes plans to resign in July.

Anthes, who has led the Colorado Department of Education for six years, announced [Dec. 20] her plan to step aside. Her decision comes as an expanded, nine-member State Board of Education is set to take office in January and as Colorado schools settle into long-term pandemic recovery after more than two years of severely disrupted learning.

Advocates, superintendents and State Board members praised Anthes as someone who listened to all sides and strove for consensus on politically contentious issues.

“She was pretty exceptional at managing really disparate views and threading the needle to implement policy,” said Van Schoales, senior policy director at the Keystone Policy Center.

Anthes said in a press release that she was proud of the department’s work during her tenure.

“Through all the challenges, I’ve always been committed to listening to diverse perspectives, and aiming for the productive middle ground on issues that could have divided us — with a clear focus on students,” she said. “I’m proud to have helped build a culture of responsiveness, transparency and pride in providing excellent customer service at CDE.”

Anthes, 48, acknowledged in an interview that the pandemic took a toll — “I don’t have all the 110% energy that I did before” — and said the arrival of new State Board members makes now



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP Photo

Dr. Katy Anthes, state commissioner of education, makes a point during a news conference about the increase in COVID-19 cases and how parents need to enroll their children in school during the pandemic on Sept. 29, 2020, in Denver.

a good time for leadership transition.

“We have new board energy, new board leadership,” she said. “I just think it’s time for someone with fresh ideas and that a fresh look on things at the state would be good.”

Unlike other cabinet-level department heads who are appointed by the governor, Colorado’s education commissioner is hired by the independently elected State Board of Education to run the state Education Department.

While on the job, Anthes could have stayed

in her silo, said Jen Walmer, state director of Democrats for Education Reform. Instead, she worked closely with the governor’s office and other state departments, including with the Colorado Department of Higher Education on ways to improve the quality of teacher instruction and open more pathways for aspiring educators, Walmer said.

Anthes first was hired as an interim commissioner by a Republican-majority board in May 2016 but largely served under a Democratic majority that took office in January 2017. During her tenure, Colorado implemented a school accountability system that allows state intervention in struggling school districts, adopted new academic standards, and stepped up efforts to improve reading instruction in the early grades and career learning opportunities for high school students.

And she led the department through the pandemic, which saw many students in remote learning for extended periods of time and schools experimenting with new instructional models.

“She got Colorado through one of the most disruptive times with the pandemic,” Walmer said. “She was a consistent leader who always put students first. I have no doubt that it took a tremendous toll on her personally to lead through that time.”

Rob Stein, who retired earlier this year as superintendent of the Roaring Fork school district, said he could call Anthes and vent during the most difficult decisions around school reopening, when state guidance was limited and incon-

**SEE ANTHES  
PAGE 4**

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## DT GRAD REQS

to students and can be part of the four-credit math requirement. Staff also added the same is true for algebra II.

Cowell stated concern that the amended requirements kowtow to a handful of students, particularly sophomores and juniors, who are currently behind in their studies and might not graduate under current curriculum requirements.

"There is still the rest of this school year, the summer, and next school year to catch these kids to where they need to be, isn't there?" asked Cowell, particularly focusing on the near-term future of the junior class.

The changes do not impact this year's senior class.

Previous options included a two-track system where one diploma would be for a vocational direction while the other would be for students on a higher education path.

No other subject matters are impacted.

## SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

The board voted unanimously to move forward with the search for a permanent, full-time superintendent to replace Budd "B.J." Buchmann, who surprisingly resigned Oct. 10. Board members agreed to start the process with an internal posting of the job opening for current staff before advertising it externally, which is required by state statute.

According to Duff, the internal posting "is the right thing to do," citing the ability for district staff to have more time to determine their direction, most specifically current interim superintendent Mike Jobman, who was named Buchmann's temporary replacement during the

## FROM PAGE 1

Nov. 14 school board meeting.

"It's in the best interest of both the school district and, I think, for Mike, assuming he's going to apply for the position," Duff said.

Jobman was previously the secondary principal and athletic director. Also in November, Greg Swiatkowski was named interim secondary principal and Sandra Humbert assistant principal through the end of 2022-23.

Humbert was promoted after serving the district as an elementary teacher and, most recently, on special assignment.

Swiatkowski, previously served at Deer Trail as teacher, coach, athletic director and K-12 principal from 1978 to 1994 and had a couple more recent stints as an administrative consultant. Swiatkowski moved from Deer Trail to Burlington where he held similar positions in the school district.

The board also decided to move forward with Jobman's performance review next month.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- The board approved budget allocations for the current year, including about \$215,000 in expense adjustments with more than a third on the increase because of a bus purchase and additional weather-related energy expenses. Finance director Nanci Sweet indicated that last month's significant cold snap ramped up energy costs with the heating of sidewalks to prevent icing-over.
- Among the anticipated subjects for the Feb. 13 board meeting are teacher age rental agreements and fundraising policy for school groups.

## ANTHES

## FROM PAGE 3

sistent. She always heard him out.

"Through COVID, there was a lot of conflict, and she put her head down and tried to find solutions," he said. "She was a real servant-leader."

Colorado's system of local control gives school districts broad autonomy and constrains the role of state government.

Board Chairwoman Angelika Schroeder said in a press release that Anthes created a positive foundation for challenging school improvement work. In Colorado, schools and districts with persistently low test scores qualify for extra help but schools that still don't improve can lose autonomy. Under Anthes' leadership, the Colorado Department of Education often has endorsed district-developed improvement plans.

"Many of the districts that came before the board are now seeing positive trends, and I credit Katy for these outcomes because she understands that we can go farther when we listen to each other and work together respectfully to support students," Schroeder said.

A notable exception has been the Adams 14 School District, whose superintendent ousted a state-mandated external manager and unsuccessfully took the state to court to fight a State Board order that the district be reorganized after more than a decade of low test scores.

But after district officials testified in court about how the largely symbolic loss of accreditation had hurt the district's ability to hire bilingual teachers, Anthes recommended that accreditation be restored while reorganization efforts proceed.

Aurora Public Schools has several schools under state orders to improve student achievement. Superintendent Rico Munn frequently has disagreed with the state approach, but he said he always found Anthes willing to listen and consider alternatives.

"I appreciated that because we always had a lot of alternative ideas for how things should work," Munn said.

And, as a former State Board member, Munn said he appreciates the tightrope that the commissioner walks, serving students, district leaders, educators and the State Board of Education.

Anthes served a board that was deeply divided on key issues, such as the adoption of new social studies standards that included perspectives from diverse racial and ethnic groups and LGBTQ people. But many State Board decisions have been unanimous or nearly so, and broad consensus has occurred on new approaches to reading instruc-

tion and workforce training.

Vice Chair Steve Durham, a Colorado Springs Republican, said Anthes always has respected different perspectives while keeping a focus on student achievement.

"We've been able to make great strides in several key areas under her leadership — especially the expansion of work-based learning opportunities for our high school students and the meaningful implementation of the READ Act to ensure all students are reading at grade level," Durham said in the press release.

The State Board is expected to discuss the replacement process in early this year, after the new board takes office and chooses a chair. Anthes said she gave six months' notice because she wants the new board to have some time to work together before making a decision and to avoid the disruption of an interim commissioner.

Anthes replaced Rich Crandall, who abruptly resigned in 2016 after only four months on the job during a time of turmoil at the state Education Department. She was hired as commissioner after serving as interim for seven months.

She first joined the department in 2011 to oversee the state's roll-out of a landmark teacher evaluation law. She later served as the department's chief of staff, earning a reputation for being a consensus builder amid often tumultuous policy debates, before becoming commissioner.

Anthes' career with the state spans a period during which a broad bipartisan consensus around certain education reform policies has frayed.

Anthes said she has never stopped believing in the power of data to shed light on problems in education and drive solutions. She also worries that the accountability system is seen as punitive, when it should be seen as a source of help.

"It takes strong leadership and a strong culture in the organization to counter that natural tendency" to reduce schools and teachers to ratings, she said. "You have to say, 'No, this is about improvement. This is about serving our students. This is about understanding where we are so we can get better and so we know what to hone in on.'"

Stein said that Anthes' focus on finding a middle ground didn't necessarily move Colorado closer to real resolution of policy differences.

"Under her tenure, there were some important questions that remained in stalemate," he said. "I don't know that she could have driven that to more consensus or closure. I don't know if a stronger hand might have broken the log-jam or just led to more conflict."

Anthes said she wishes she could have done more to offer leadership training for principals, who hold some of the hardest and most important jobs in the education system.

She said some of her most rewarding times as commissioner were announcing Teacher of the Year awards and recognizing Blue Ribbon schools.

"You see how important teachers are in the lives of students and in the lives of their colleagues," she said. "I just think there are a lot of really creative, innovative things going on in schools."

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## COMMUNITY CORRAL

### Corridor biz group slates Jan. members' luncheon

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly Lunch & Learn at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 18, at May Farms, Byers.

Speakers and lunch sponsors are Elizabeth Carlson of Lighthouse Bookkeeping and Christina Pastori of the Real Estate Connection.

Participants are asked to RSVP by Friday, Jan. 13, by calling (303)644-3332 or e-mailing to officeI70C-COC@gmail.com.

### Bennett Arts Council seeks sponsors for 2023 season

BENNETT — The Bennett Arts Council is seeking sponsors for its upcoming 2023 season.

This year the council has updated sponsorship levels and benefits for residents and businesses alike, including a ticketed VIP event for all sponsorship levels and inclusion on a new donor wall.

The Bennett Arts Council supports free arts and cultural events in the town of Bennett and on the I-70 Corridor.

For more information, visit [townofbennett.colorado.gov](http://townofbennett.colorado.gov).

### Area co. sees \$159K profit during its fiscal first 1/4<sup>th</sup>

WATKINS (AP) — Pure Cycle Corp. (PCYO) Jan. 9 reported profit of \$159,000 in its fiscal first quarter.

The Watkins-based company said it had profit of 1 cent per share.

The water and wastewater services company posted revenue of \$1.3 million in the period.

### Bald Eagle Festival set for Barr Lake State Park

BRIGHTON — The 11th annual Bald Eagle Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4, at Barr Lake State Park.

Nature's Educators will attend for live Bald Eagle presentations every 30 minutes. The presentation is free but donations to the organization will be greatly appreciated. Activi-

### Area wheat farmer wins PlainsGold category

FORT COLLINS — A local grower of a brand of PlainsGold winter wheat owned by the farmer-governed Colorado Wheat Research Foundation received first place in one of several categories in the 2022 National Wheat Foundation National Wheat Yield Contest.

Mark Linnebur, a farmer in the Byers and Deer Trail areas, took first place in the Colorado Winter Wheat Dryland contest with Kivari AX. The yield was 33.32 bushels per acre.

David Leonard won the Kansas Winter Wheat Irrigated classification with Langin, which yielded 119.57 bushels per acre, and Elden Harry took the New Mexico Winter Wheat Irrigated category with Canvas and a yield of 163.22 bushels per acre.

To enter the 2023 National Wheat Yield Contest, contact PlainsGold seed and trait specialist Tyler Benninghoven at (970)449-6994. PlainsGold will cover the entry fees for the first 10 growers.

ties include kids crafts, a face painter, and shuttle rides to the gazebo.

A guided hike led by Barr Lake volunteers to the gazebo boardwalk will begin at 9 a.m.

The Barr Lake Nature Center is located at 13401 Picadilly Road Brighton. To register, visit [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us).

### Arapahoe elected officials key to telephone town hall

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County will introduce its newest elected officials, reintroduce its existing ones, and discover what's on tap for Arapahoe County in 2023 starting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 26.

Residents can participate by calling 1-855-436-3656 and pressing \*3 to ask a question; visiting [www.facebook.com/arapahoecounty](http://www.facebook.com/arapahoecounty) or using the live streaming window at [www.arapahoegov.com](http://www.arapahoegov.com) (A question field will appear when event goes live).

To register to receive an automatic phone call when Telephone Town Hall begins, fill out the form on the Town Hall Meetings page at [www.arapahoegov.com](http://www.arapahoegov.com) or text ACGOV to 1-833-898-5483. Registration may take up to 24 hours to go into effect.

### AdCo adds new app to help its residents report issues

BRIGHTON — Adams County is now using an application that allows residents in unincorporated Adams County to report non-emer-

gency issues to the county.

Through the SeeClickFix app, citizens can report potential code compliance violations such as overgrown weeds, trash, junk and inoperable vehicles.

To report issues directly to the county, downloaded the SeeClickFix app to an iPhone or Android, or visit [adcogov.org/report-issue](http://adcogov.org/report-issue).

### Vegetable garden classes: 3-pt. series starts Jan. 28

BRIGHTON — The first class of the annual Spring Vegetable Garden Series hosted by Adams County Extension will run from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28.

The class, "Intro to Vegetable Gardening," will be followed by "Vegetable Varieties" on Saturday, Feb. 25, and "Container Gardening" on Saturday, March 25.

For the registration link, visit [adams.extension.colostate.edu](http://adams.extension.colostate.edu). For more information, contact Cassey Anderson at [cmanderson@adcogov.org](mailto:cmanderson@adcogov.org).

### ArapCo health dept assists suburb with meth residue

ENGLEWOOD — Arapahoe County Public Health is working closely with the city of Englewood to assess and provide direction regarding the clean-up of methamphetamine residue from locations within the Englewood Public Library and City Center.

Affected areas in the building are closed to the public. Additional testing is planned, and test results will inform next steps.

Health risks to the general public are considered low. Visitors should comply with all posted signage and avoid all closed areas while remediation is in progress, which may take several months.

### Bennet among contingent to Abraham Accords lands

DENVER — Sen. Michael Bennet will join six other U.S. Senators on a delegation to the Abraham Accords member countries of Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco.



Bennet

Bennet and his colleagues will see firsthand how the Abraham Accords have strengthened regional integration and cooperation, according to a release. They will also discuss the reinforcement and expansion of the Accords going forward.

"This trip is an opportunity to reinforce America's bipartisan commitment to peace in the Middle East by fostering enduring diplomatic, security, economic and cultural bonds between these countries and the United States," Bennet said.

### Medical readiness focus of OEM course in Bennett

BENNETT — The town of Bennett and Adams County Office of Emergency Management will host a free health and medical preparedness course from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19, at Town Hall, 207 Muegge Way.

Participants will learn to prepare their household for disaster, develop backup resources for its health care needs, and provide instructions on improving its recovery.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis and is limited to 40 people. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

## The I-70 Scout

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**SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM**

# Feedback sought on future nature library

THORNTON — To gather creative community input, Anythink has launched Dream & Design: Exploring Nature and Architecture, an immersive experience at Anythink Wright Farms where visitors can contribute ideas for the future Anythink Nature Library.

People of all ages can help create a diorama using natural materials, guided by a prompt related to one of five focus areas: creating a space that is boundless, where nature education is seamlessly provided within the library and throughout the surrounding land; wellbeing, focusing on the health and wellness of the community; environmental stewardship, expanding individual responsibility to the earth; heritage, celebrating the history and culture of the people, animals, flora and

fauna of the West; and beauty, creating a space that inspires.

Every two weeks, visitors can respond to a new prompt, so the space will evolve over time. The nature library architects will use the ideas to inform the new library's design.

Anythink Libraries and the city of Thornton entered into an intergovernmental agreement in June to build a nature library on 15 acres of the Aylor Open Lands property at 136th Avenue and Quebec Street in Thornton. The library district plans to build a 35,000-square-foot nature library on the land. The other 140 acres will be programmed by the Anythink team and reserved for nature learning and exploration. Construction will tentatively begin in the third quarter of 2023 with an anticipated open date in 2025.

# LIBRARY NEWS

## ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

495 Seventh St.  
(303)405-3231  
anythinklibraries.org

**After-school Art Box Mini Paintings:** Kids ages 7-14 will use tiny materials to make tiny paintings to fill the Free Little Art Box at the library entrance. 4:15-5:15 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 18.

**Baby Social Hour and Footprint Crafts:** Parents with infants up to age 1 year old who want to meet and socialize with other new parents are invited to hang out and play with their little ones in baby circle time activities. They will also make foot and handprint keepsakes. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19.

**Magic, D&D, board games:** Gamers ages 12 and older can play Dungeons & Dragons (5E) or a variety of card or board games in this beginner-friendly, monthly event. Participants can bring games from home or play one provided. 1-4 p.m., Friday, Jan. 20.

**Artist meetup:** The Corridor Creative Arts League will ring in the New Year with its reintroduction, updates and challenges. Adults will learn what the CCAL has in store for 2023 and how they can participate. 2-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 21.

**Sled Dog Talk:** Karen Land, a three-time participant in the 1,000-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, and her dogs will teach people of all ages how to dress for the Arctic and care for a team of huskies. 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 25.

**Kids Adventure Yoga:** Children ages 2-6 can practice yoga with local instructor Scott Noble, using their imagination to explore movement through stories, songs and play. The class will focus on yoga poses (and noises) related to animals. Caregivers are encouraged to participate. Yoga mats provided. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 26.

**Pop-Up Studio:** The Studio at Anythink is guided by the philosophy that customers of all ages thrive when they follow their passions, collaborate with others, and become creative. Anythink's Studio team will explore and create using different technology and tools each month. 1-5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 26.

**Gel printing workshop:** The Corridor Creative Arts League, Anythink Bennett and the Bennett Arts Council will host a gel printing workshop appropriate for ages 16 and older with local artist Angie Perryman. The fun and addictive technique is easy for artists of any level. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. The program will run from 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 E.

Colfax Ave.

**Teen video production workshops:** SeriesFest's Mobile Cinema Lab will visit Anythink Bennett to present this weekly program through February. Kids ages 12-18 will work in teams to write, produce and edit their own short films and TV pilots. They will learn to use the latest filmmaking technology with SeriesFest instructors. Participants are urged to attend the full series and can win prizes for recurring attendance. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25.

## KELVER LIBRARY

585 Main St., Byers  
(303)822-9392  
www.arapahoelibraries.org

**Gentle Movement:** Members of the Byers community can connect with each other while learning light exercises to remain active in the new year. The guest presenter is an expert in gentle movement. Each month features a different subject. 1:30-3 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 18.

**Bug Safari:** Families and children ages 5-12 years old can join a bug safari with the Butterfly Pavilion. They will meet invertebrates from environments worldwide and learn more about their characteristics, living environment and importance. 1-2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 21.

**Stories & More:** Caretakers will listen to stories, sing and play with their little ones. Families will leave with books and activities to facilitate learning at home. The program, activities and materials are geared for ages 18 months to 5 years, but younger children are welcome. 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 1.

## DAVIES LIBRARY

128 Second Ave., Deer Trail  
(303)769-4310  
www.arapahoelibraries.org

**Beyond Books:** Teens ages 14-18 discuss their favorite books. 6-7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 18.

**Adult book club:** "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini. 6-7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23.

**DIY tea blending:** Tweens and teens ages 9-18 can learn the basics of blending loose leaf teas to suit personal tastes. They will make several personalized blends to take home. 4-5 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 25.

**Cardboard construction:** Children ages 5-12 years can explore cardboard and construction through STEAM — science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Families with children might find that STEAM makes learning fun. 4-5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 26.

# Church Directory

**LIVING SPRINGS COWBOY CHURCH**  
BYERS, CO  
Sundays at 10:00 AM  
2722 S. County Rd 173 Byers, CO  
In-person services every Sunday, but be sure to visit our website and Facebook page for up to date information.  
LivingSpringsCowboyChurchByers.org  
719-659-8848

**Strasburg Church of Christ**  
Serving Christ and His children on the high plains  
Service at 8:30  
Meeting Sundays at Pizza Pit Stop  
56551 E Colfax Ave, Strasburg, CO 80136  
Please visit our web site to learn more...  
<http://StrasburgCOC.org>

**Saron Lutheran Church**  
1656 Main St. | Strasburg, CO | saronstrasburg.org  
Worship 8:30 a.m. In-Person or on Facebook  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**BYERS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
135 S. Sherman St., Byers, CO  
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m.  
byerschurch@gmail.com, (303) 822-5717

**Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Missouri Synod  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
275 Ash Street, Bennett • 303-644-3044  
www.corlcms.org

**Mt. Tabor Baptist Church**  
278 S. Sherman St., Byers  
303-822-9366 • mttaborbyers.org  
Sat., 6:00 p.m. .... Saturday Service  
Sun., 9:00 a.m. .... Sunday School  
Sun., 10:15 a.m. .... Worship (Nursery available)  
Awana..... Tuesday, 5:15 to 7:15, Dinner provided  
**Matthew 24:4 — Take heed that no man deceive you.**

**Strasburg Presbyterian Church**  
56635 Iowa Ave., Strasburg, CO  
www.spcusa.us  
303-622-4325  
• Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
• Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Mountain View Fellowship**  
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SUNDAY SERVICES  
8:30am & 10:15am  
1955 Headlight Road in Strasburg  
Sunday Service Livestream at  
<https://www.mvcolorado.online.church>  
Middle School Youth Group- Mondays @ 7pm  
Midweek Elementary Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:30pm  
High School Youth Group- Wednesdays @ 7pm  
AA- Fridays @ 5:30pm  
mvcolorado.com  
303.622.9600

**calvary bennett**  
A verse by verse teaching of God's Word  
Sunday Service - 10:45 AM  
Meeting @ VFW in Bennett  
115 Palmer Ave.  
-Also-  
Streamed Live On Facebook  
Calvary Bennett  
Office Hours:  
Mo, Tu, Th 9AM-5PM  
303.261.8853  
Info@calvarybennett.org  
calvarybennett.org

**Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church**  
Pastor: Fr. Jeff Wilborn  
186 N. McDonnell St., Byers CO 80103  
Parish: 303-822-5880, Hall: 303-822-5889  
Sacramental Emergencies: 303-351-2551  
www.ourladyoftheplains.org

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Saturday 4:15-4:45 pm  
Sunday 8:15-8:45 am & 10:45-11:15 am  
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# Zoom talk with noted author planned

BRIGHTON — An award-winning and bestselling author of more than 20 novels will speak via the Zoom platform at 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 19, and patrons of Anythink Bennett library are invited to participate.

Novelist Kristin Hannah, author of blockbusters such as "The Nightingale" and "The Great Alone," will discuss her latest book, "The Four Winds," a "Read with Jenna" book club selection. A moderated question-and-answer session about her books will follow the presentation.

Each attendee can receive one free book, courtesy of the author,

while supplies last. Recipients must attend to obtain a book. Additional copies of Hannah's books are available from The Bookies at thebookies.com.

To register or for more information, visit arapahoelibraries.org or call (303)542-7279.

The movie adaptation of "The Nightingale" is slated for release early this year and "The Great Alone" also has been optioned for the big screen.

Hannah's other titles include "Winter Garden," "Night Road" and "Firefly Lane."

# FDA issues advisory warning about recalled alfalfa cubes

BROOMFIELD — State and federal agencies Dec. 17 cautioned horse owners not to feed alfalfa hay cubes from a manufacturer in Colorado after horses in four states showed neurological symptoms consistent with botulism.

Of at least 98 afflicted horses discovered in Louisiana, Texas, Colorado and New Mexico, 45 died or were euthanized. Twenty horses died in Louisiana alone. At press time, it appeared that Top of the Rockies alfalfa cubes was the only common food source among all cases.

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry (LDAF) said it had confirmed with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration and the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory that Clostridium botulinum type C, which causes equine botulism, was in the alfalfa cubes, *The* (Lafayette, La.) *Advertiser* reported.

Louisiana state investigators had received information that an unopened bag of the affected alfalfa cubes, produced by Manzanola

(Colo.) Feeds east of Pueblo, contained animal remains.

“This finding indicated that material from an animal or animals may have been incorporated into the cubes during alfalfa harvesting,” a release from LDAF said. “Clostridium botulinum, the bacterium that causes botulism, is commonly present in decaying animal carcasses.”

The FDA confirmed that Manzanola Feeds distributes products to feed stores and co-ops in 10 states: Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Texas, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

Consumers with Top of the Rockies alfalfa cubes marked with date codes 111222, 111322, 111422, 111522 or 111622 should immediately check the date codes and discard any affected feed, according to the FDA and the Colorado Department of Agriculture. Horse owners should immediately contact a veterinarian if a horse ate the product and is showing signs of neurologic illness.

For information on safe disposal of the cubes, visit [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov).

## ArapCo ponders secondary dwelling regs

LITTLETON — The addition of regulations to the Arapahoe County Land Development Code to expand housing options and address housing affordability and availability within unincorporated areas is under consideration.

Currently, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) — secondary dwellings that can be added to, created within, or built adjacent to a detached single-family dwelling — are not allowed in the county.

Public feedback is wanted. Draft regulations are available at [www.arapahoegov.com/adu](http://www.arapahoegov.com/adu) for review, and residents can weigh in by participating in a short survey.

The public comment period ends Feb. 1.

After the comment period ends, public hearings by the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners will be held this spring.

The proposed regulations would:

- allow both attached and detached ADUs in all agricultur-

al and most residential zoning districts on lots of at least 5,000 square feet;

- require detached ADUs in urban areas to be in the rear or side yard, behind the principal dwelling;
- limit ADU square footage based on the size of the lot and the principal dwelling;
- create minimum design requirements;
- require off-street parking;
- require owner-occupancy of the principal dwelling or the ADU; and
- except for large properties of 19 or more acres, allow a maximum of two bedrooms.

Comments and concerns about the draft regulations can also be directed to Arapahoe County Public Works & Development Department Project Specialist Gretchen Ricehill at [gricehill@arapahoegov.com](mailto:gricehill@arapahoegov.com).

The county began working on the draft regulations with a public survey in the fall of 2021.

## Low-cost radon test kits now available

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis has proclaimed January National Radon Action Month, and the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment is urging Colorado residents to test their homes for radon with a low-cost radon test kit.

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers in America. It claims the lives of about 21,000 Americans each year. Radon exposure studies indicate that children can be at greater risk for developing cancer. In Colorado, nearly half of homes have high radon levels, and more than 500 lung cancer deaths in the state each year are attributed to radon.

The best way to protect against radon is to perform a simple, low-cost test of your home.

“Testing your home for radon is simple and should be done when all your doors and windows are closed. That’s why January is a great time

to test,” said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, executive director, CDPHE. “Our low-cost testing program helps keep the public safe, especially families who may not be able to afford to test for radon otherwise. We want everyone to be safe from this silent cancer-causing gas.”

Homeowners who already have radon mitigation systems should retest their homes every few years to ensure the system is working properly. More information is available at [www.coloradoradon.info](http://www.coloradoradon.info).

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Shirley Schaffer



Shirley Schaffer of Strasburg, 77, passed away on Jan. 4, 2023.

Shirley was born in Denver to Charles and Lorraine Ciancio on April 14, 1945. A Colorado native, she attended grade school at Assumption Catholic School in Welby, Colo., and then Marycrest High School in north Denver, graduating in 1963. In 1964, she married Ken Schaffer and they started a family. Shirley worked as an account manager at banks in the metro area, most recently Guaranty Bank in Bennett. Shirley and her husband relocated to Byers in 2000 and immediately became active members of the community. Shirley loved family, traveling, horses, enjoyed bowling with Ken in a league in Strasburg, and was actively involved in church ministries.

Shirley is survived by her brother Charles Ciancio Jr.; son Chris (Tammy) Schaffer; daughters Sheila Schaffer and Stacey (Patrick) Malone; and granddaughter Katie Schaffer. She is preceded in death by her husband Kenneth Schaffer and grandson Taylor Schaffer.

Visitation will be at Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Wheat Ridge on Thursday, Jan. 19, from 4:30 — 6:00 pm. Funeral service will be held at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers on Friday, Jan. 20, at 11:00 am with a rosary at 10:30 am. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Our Lady of the Plains Altar and Rosary Society.

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**UNEXPECTED FEE****FROM PAGE 1**

The traffic signal itself will not be added until the intersection meets CDOT traffic and safety warrants, which are granted after specific vehicle and pedestrian traffic, accident history and vehicle delays are met. Town Manager Trish Stiles indicated a date will be set soon for a warrant analysis of the intersection, at which time the parameters should be met.

Capital Projects Director Daymon Johnson said that, pending further delays, “the signals will arrive in the middle of February and installation occur in March, at which time we should be operational.”

Johnson, in his staff report on the proposed change order, reviewed the background of the project, noting that, in October 2021, when the contractor was engaged, the town also contracted with Rock-Sol Consulting Group Inc. to act as the third-party inspector for the project, per CDOT requirements. The original contract was for \$49,916.20. The project was anticipated to take 40 days, with completion expected near the end of 2021. He reminded the board of the substantial delays the project has incurred.

“These delays are due solely to CDOT’s inability to provide a timely review of the Access Permit application and the issuing of the subsequent Notice to Proceed to the town,” he said, adding that the town applied for the permit in August 2021, before the project was put out for bid. “The town didn’t receive final approval until April 25, 2022 ... (and) the required Notice to Proceed wasn’t issued until June 16, 2022 — nine months post-bid.”

Johnson said the change order that adds another \$47,480 to Rock-Sol’s contract is a direct result of the delays and a requirement set forth by CDOT representative Robert Williams at a second pre-construction meeting last September to have a full-time inspector on site.

“At no time (when the original Rock-Sol contract was negotiated) was there any indication that a full-time inspector would be required,” Johnson said. “It was understood that the inspector would come in as needed at defined inspection times, as required by CDOT. In the second pre-construction meeting, that was changed.”

Johnson said that everyone involved in the project was “shocked” by the new edict.

“Rock-Sol does a lot of work with CDOT and (the Rock-Sol representative) was shocked,” Johnson said, adding that the contractor on the project and town consultant were also incredulous.

Johnson indicated that, without the extra inspector, Williams wouldn’t have allowed the project to continue. Trustees grappled with the reason behind the edict, wondering whether the man had reasons to retaliate against the town, which has had a complicated relationship with CDOT in the past.

“It does feel arbitrary to me,” Johnson said. “Unfortunately, without (the additional inspector), the project would be dead in the water.”

Trustee Larry Vittum had stronger language. “I am beyond appalled,” he said. “This is embezzlement.”

Johnson and Stiles noted that staff’s relationship with CDOT in other aspects has improved.

“Town staff has been working on (building) a fruitful, fair partnership,” Johnson said.

Following discussion, the vote to approve the change order as recommended by Johnson and town staff was unanimous.

“After thoroughly reviewing the change order cost from Rock-Sol, [we] feel comfortable recommending that the town execute this change order,” Johnson said, adding that the firm has been a helpful partner on the project. “Their help and guidance in dealing with CDOT has been hugely beneficial for all parties involved.”

The change order will be funded with Sales-Tax Capital Improvement Fund revenues.

**FIRE, EMERGENCY IMPACT FEE UPDATE**

Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue Fire Marshal Caleb Connor presented the results of a recent impact fee study, noting that, in 2016, the Colorado Legislature passed a bill to allow fire districts to work with counties and municipalities to enact development fees for providing emergency services to communities as a direct result of new development.

“In 2018 the Bennett-Watkins Fire District and the town of Bennett entered into an intergovernmental agreement to collect fees that are directly related to development,” Connor said, adding that the agreement requires a review of the fees every seven years.

A third-party review was conducted in 2022 through BBC Research & Consulting that examined the district’s capital needs, current community growth and anticipated future needs. The results were presented to the town in December.

Connor said the intergovernmental agreement and the impact fees collected have been essential in the continuation of the department’s ability to provide a high level of emergency services to the community.

“As you know, we’ve experienced some growth and expect that to continue,” he said. “That growth has created impacts. We respond to the new neighborhoods fairly regularly.”

Connor said Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue finished 2022 with 1,291 calls — a 13% increase over its previous record year and a 30% overall increase in calls over the last three years.

The money collected is earmarked for equipment and facilities that are directly attributed to new development. Fees are subject to annual inflationary adjustments. The residential single family and multifamily impact fee per dwelling unit was \$1,500 in 2015 and had increased to \$1,613.87 by 2022. The new study increases that an additional .26%, to \$1,618.

The impact fee on nonresidential and commercial development will decrease from \$0.72 per square foot to \$0.68 per square foot. Connor said commercial development accounts for less call impact to the fire district.

“We can continue this program and collect the fees needed to provide these services, but it’s also not a large increase and there are some reductions to encourage further commercial development,” Connor concluded.

An ordinance amending the Bennett Municipal code to update the Fire and Emergency Services Impact fee was approved unanimously. The ordinance will become effective Feb. 10.

**ADA SURVEY**

The board authorized a contract for \$83,860

with Mile High Accessibility Consultants for completion of an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan.

In her staff report proposing the contract, Bennett Safety Officer Gerilynn Scheidt said the plan is necessary because ADA codes have changed and require a new survey to ensure compliance.

A consultant was sought to “properly review and evaluate policies, programs and activities that may present challenges to people with disabilities in our properties and facilities that may be out of compliance with the requirements of the ADA,” Scheidt said.

The first step in the process of creating and implementing a transition plan is to conduct a self-evaluation by inventorying and accessing existing pedestrian facilities to identify access barriers along roadways, primary sidewalks and curb ramps to document what facilities are present and in compliance and those that need to be constructed or improved for compliance.

Public outreach will occur to engage interested parties or organizations to participate in the development of the transition plan.

“The transition plan will consist of identifying the physical barriers that limit accessibility of programs, activities or services, methods to remove the barriers, a schedule to get the work completed, cost estimates, and where the budget funds will come from,” Scheidt said.

Before the survey is taken, the legislation requires the town to have an ADA coordinator; Scheidt acquired that certification.

“The grievance process that is also required is outlined on the town’s website, so people have an opportunity to file a complaint and know how the complaint gets handled,” Scheidt said.

A request for proposals was issued in October and four qualifying bids were received. Staff completed an initial review then evaluated and scored each proposal. Interviews with the top two scoring firms were held before the staff recommended Mile High Accessibility Consultants — the lowest bidder.

The project will be paid for through a one-time expenditure from the general fund balance, which may result in a 2023 budget amendment.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Bennett Board of Trustees also:

- reappointed Charles Bayley as a director on the BennT Creek Water Authority Board for an additional three years with a term ending in April 2026. Bayley, a former town trustee, has served as a director on the water authority since 2020;
- adopted a resolution approving the intergovernmental agreements with Adams County Open Space for three open space grants the town was awarded in November 2022. The grants include funding for construction of Civic Center Park, a mural art-in-the-park project, and a sidewalk concrete replacement project at Trupp Park; and
- approved an incentive for a reduced sewer impact fee for builders identified by town staff. The incentive will be offered for 12 months beginning March 31, after which the fee will revert to the 2023 fee schedule. The approval came after discussion in an executive session.

**BYERS FPD****FROM PAGE 1**

where the addition will be built. The land on which the fire station sits is owned by the district and it has a 99-year lease with a Turecek family trust on property to the north of the firehouse where the addition is planned.

The property starts at the building and extends 118 feet to the north — to about 30 feet from the Quonset building located there.

Disher said that conversations with the executor of the trust indicate she may be interested in selling the land to the district.

“She has given me permission to get that plot of land appraised,” he said. “She doesn’t want to make any

decisions until [the survey is complete].”

The survey will be scheduled by F&D.

The original lease agreement is missing and is wanted for clarity on its signers and its 99-year term. The district’s former attorney may have access to the document.

In other discussion, an intergovernmental agreement signed last month with Strasburg Fire Protection District for a joint EMS Coordinator was revised. After conversations with the Strasburg Fire District board, a switch will occur with Byers taking the primary role in paying the salary and benefits,

and Strasburg paying half. The shared position will be created as Byers’ Battalion Chief and current EMS Coordinator Karen Williams exits the department sometime in the new year.

The shared EMS Coordinator will be Lt. Josie Fischer, who is currently the EMS Coordinator for Strasburg. The one-year agreement stipulates that Byers and Strasburg will pay equal shares of her salary. Fischer will be promoted to captain. She is expected to take the position Feb. 1.

Fischer’s contract is still under negotiation. Disher will finalize the document and the board will vote on its approval at the Jan. 16 meet-

ing continuation.

In other business:

- Disher’s contract was renewed;
  - Resolution 2023-1 was adopted appointing a designated election official and authorizing the counties to conduct the coordinated mail ballot election on May 2; and
  - The district website was designated as the location for posting public notices.
- Disher reported the department responded to 86 calls in December: six alarms, 63 medical calls, five fires, three designated “other,” seven public assists, and two hazmat calls.

Girls can do anything: hiking, baking... ...robotics, rocketry, engineering...their choice! Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2022 V45



## Girl Scouts & Guides In Action!

Have you ever thought about joining a Girl Scout group? Millions of girls and women across the world gather to have meetings, plan their schedules and then spring into action! Girl Scouts can work in groups to help their communities and take part in fun activities. They also can choose areas of interest of their own and work by themselves to build skills and earn badges. Some of the scouts I know are interested in the fields of science, technology and engineering. They are designing or programming robots. I like to learn about and cook up dishes from around the world. There's something for everyone.



Read the clues to learn about the Girl Scouts and to fill in the puzzle:

1. in Savannah, Georgia in 1912, Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low held the first meeting (18 girls) of what would become the Girl \_\_\_\_\_ of the USA
2. in the U.S. there are over one \_\_\_\_\_ members (including adults); worldwide there are 10 million girls and adults in 152 countries
3. \_\_\_\_\_ are grouped by grade: Daisies (K-1), Brownies (2-3), Juniors (4-5), Cadettes (6-8) Seniors (9-10), Ambassadors (11-12)
4. they meet in groups at schools, churches and homes and are led by adult scout leaders who help them \_\_\_\_\_ what they want to do
5. Girl Scouts keep learning and doing; they earn \_\_\_\_\_ of their choice
6. they learn about \_\_\_\_\_ and wildlife while having fun – hiking, camping
7. they gain \_\_\_\_\_ skills by selling cookies and earning money
8. they take field trips to visit places and mingle with \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere
9. Girl Scouts try to be honest, friendly, caring, \_\_\_\_\_ and respectful...
10. they learn \_\_\_\_\_ tips, how to live well, and even learn some first aid
11. \_\_\_\_\_ service projects, like food drives, are high on their lists
12. Girl Scouts work to "...make the \_\_\_\_\_ a better place"

community 10 badges  
Scouts 5  
nature  
strong  
safety  
business world  
people  
million  
members  
plan  
Hmmm, we need to test the motor for our robot again.

## Learning and Earning!

Girl Scouts can choose areas of interest, like **photography**, and work on skills that will earn badges for those areas. During the first years of the Girl Scouts, there were about 25 badges to choose from. Today there are hundreds of badges offered, ranging from cooking and product design to entertainment technology and programming robots. You can even create and design your own badge (to build a skill)!

A T N K P  
J E W E L E R T H L  
S E G O O A L I O A P K  
K T S T M U L T R S E U J V W  
C V A H B P O I T H W N B E G O  
T O C Y B D W H S L O G K L B R O S  
G M K I O R W O O I F S H I C S D W M  
A I O N U O Y A P T O O H C G G W B U  
A R C S G B N I G H T O W L S E E O A S  
T D A H F A V P N T A K G R P W O R G I  
Y E R F I R S T A I D I F R E C C K W C  
J N T T T G E R I L G F L C A A E E I  
E I E G S S H S N M G O V K P C R E A  
R S T M E W T I O H A W N E V H X Z N  
G T S P M E W F I G N E W R R E Y X  
R T R S A A L P N U R N G B R L I  
Q L R N E W C U I S I N E T R  
D E K T L E R H T B O E A  
H C A M P I N G N R  
A K E I A

Fill in the blanks to spell the names of some of the badges girls can work on and earn. Then, find and circle all of the subjects in the "badge."

1. je \_ el \_ r  
2. g \_ r d e \_ e \_  
3. \_ lo \_ ers  
4. co \_ ic ar \_ is \_  
5. pho \_ og \_ aph \_

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G = Green T = Tan



# ARAPAHOE COUNTY



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It's a new year and a fresh outlook! Meet the County's newest elected officials, reacquaint yourself with the existing ones, and discover what's on tap for Arapahoe County in 2023. Scan QR Code with your smartphone for details.




## 2023 Nominations

Nominations for the Arapahoe County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Awards, a scholarship program for exceptional high school seniors, are now open. Deadline for submissions is **March 3**.

Visit [arapahoegov.com/youthawards](http://arapahoegov.com/youthawards)

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WEEK OF JAN. 16



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### PUBLICATION REQUEST

**ADAMS COUNTY**  
 COLORADO

**Case Name:** Text Amendments to the Adams County Development Standards for Aviation-Related Regulations  
**Case Number:** PLN2022-00015  
**Planning Commission Hearing Date:** January 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.  
**Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date:** February 21, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.  
**Case Manager:** Nick Eagleson  
**Request:** Text amendments to Section 3-36 of the Adams County Development Standards and Regulations  
**Location of Request:** Unincorporated County-Wide  
**Applicant:** Adams County  
**Public Hearings Location:** 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601  
 Please visit <http://www.adcogov.org/bocc> for up-to-date information. The full text of the proposed request can be obtained by accessing <https://adcogov.org/current-land-use-cases>.



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### A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF)

§1-13.5-501, 1-13.5-1102(3), 32-1-905(2), C.R.S.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and, particularly, to the electors of the \_\_\_Byers Water & Sanitation\_\_\_ District of \_\_\_Arapahoe\_\_\_ County(ies), Colorado.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on the \_\_\_2<sup>nd</sup>\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_May\_\_\_, 2023, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, \_\_\_2\_\_\_ directors will be elected to serve 4-year terms and \_\_\_0\_\_\_ directors will be elected to serve 2-year\* terms. Eligible electors of the \_\_\_Byers Water & Sanitation\_\_\_ District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO):

\_\_\_Craig White\_\_\_ (Designated Election Official)  
 \_\_\_421 S. Sherman St.\_\_\_ (DEO Address)  
 \_\_\_Byers, CO 80103\_\_\_ (DEO Address)  
 \_\_\_303-822-5384\_\_\_ (DEO Telephone)  
 \_\_\_Craigwhite400@gmail.com\_\_\_ (DEO email)

The Office of the DEO is open on the following days: \_\_\_Monday-Friday\_\_\_ from \_\_\_8\_\_\_ a.m. to \_\_\_5\_\_\_ p.m.

The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance is close of business [5:00 pm] on **February 24, 2023** (not less than 67 days before the election).

Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the designated election official by the close of business on **Monday, February 27, 2023** (the sixty-fourth day before the election).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, an application for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on **Tuesday** preceding the election, **April 25, 2023**.



Designated Election Official Signature



# SPORTS



## Lady Tigers start '23 with 2 league wins



RICHARD SOUTHARD/For The Scout

Lady Tiger Lily Venneberg races by a Jefferson defender on her way to the basket and 2 of her game-high 31 points Jan. 12. The Bennett junior completed a triple-double with 11 rebounds and 10 steals.

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — The Bennett Lady Tigers started 2023 scrubbing the bitter taste of last month's final pre-Christmas hardwood game — an 81-22 loss at Colorado Springs Christian Dec. 8 — with a sweep of its first two Frontier League foes last week.

The orange-and-black showed little rust after its month-long layoff, easily dispatching of visiting The Pinnacle 69-14 Jan. 10. Two nights later, the troops of Bennett head coach Mike Rios struggled early on their home court, but dominated the middle two quarters to defeat much-improved Jefferson 57-43.

"It was a blowout on Tuesday but the girls did what we needed to do and took care of business," Rios said

Thursday night. "Tonight we left a lot more points out there than we should have but a good game to help us start the new year."

**JEFFERSON**

After outscoring the Lady Saints in their previous four meetings over the past three seasons 258-71, Bennett found itself in unfamiliar territory after the first quarter Jan. 12, behind 12-9. But the hosts ramped up their intensity on both ends of the court over the middle two periods and took control of the contest, outscoring Jefferson 14-4 and 18-8, respectively. Despite winning the fourth quarter 19-16, Jefferson never threatened the Tigers over the final eight minutes.

"A much better, more competitive group of girls that really seem to fight and give their all for her," said

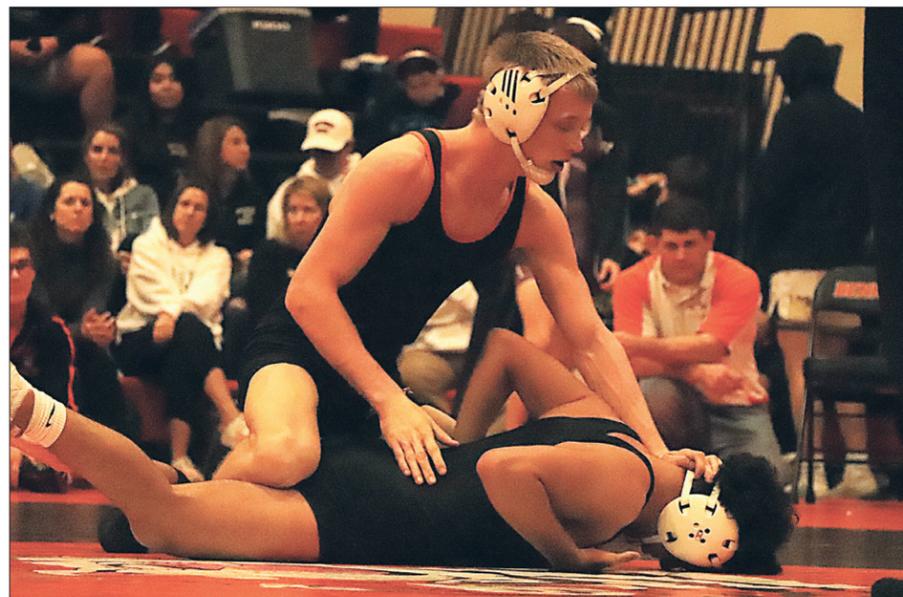
Rios, referring to Jefferson and their head coach Davi Albury. "If not our toughest game the rest of the season, one of them."

Offensively, once the hosts decided not to directly challenge the taller, sturdier Saint post players, particularly sophomore center Te'Aira Nutter, points came easier.

"I'll bet (Nutter) had eight blocks. We weren't smart when we got in around her and decided to shoot directly at her," Rios said. "Definitely got frustrated in the first quarter or so, but the girls finally played a lot smarter the last three quarters."

Scoring was never an issue for Bennett junior guard Lily Venneberg, who led her squad with a game-high 31 points on 3-of-6 shooting

**SEE GB BENNETT**  
**PAGE 12**



MARYSUE HAUSER/For The Scout

From left photo, Tiger Carson Hawkins won the 132-pound title during Bennett's own Mark Purslow Invitational Wrestling Tournament Jan. 7, and Strasburg's Zach Marrero, left, defeats Byers' Lain Yapoujian in Saturday night's 144-pound championship match in a third extra period tie-breaker.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

## Trio of locals take weight titles at Bennett tourney

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — As has become the normal in state high school wrestling circles, Bennett hosted a two-day extravaganza on the opening weekend of the new year, including the 42nd Mark Purslow Invitational Jan. 7.

Saturday night's championship round saw seven Corridor girls and boys compete for weight titles with three bringing home the gold.

Among the evening's highlight was an anticipated rematch at 144 pounds between Strasburg senior Zach Marrero and Byers senior Lain Yapoujian, both two-time state champions and top-ranked in 3A and 2A, respectively. Marrero gained revenge after the pair battled two days

earlier with Yapoujian winning 5-2. This time around, the evenly matched pair wrestled three extra minute-long periods before Marrero came out on top 3-1 via the tiebreaker.

"Good hurdle to finally get over," said Strasburg head coach Jordan Ross of Marrero's victory.

Strasburg had a second weight champion as senior Egen Stephens pinned his way to a 4-0 day and the 215-pound title. In total, Stephens had 5 minutes, 30 seconds of mat time.

"If he stays at the pace he is going at, we're looking pretty good as regionals and state roll around," Ross said of Stephens, who is ranked in the top four in 3A at 215 pounds. "Need to stay focused on being aggressive but being smart."

The host school had one titlist as senior Carson

Hawkins won the 132-pound medal with a 10-2 major decision over Arvada's Joseph Ortiz Jr. in the final round.

Bennett had three other grapplers qualify for the finals but fall short in their championship tilts.

Tiger freshman Caycen Scholz made the 113-pound boys final but was pinned in the first period by Dolores Huerta's Miguel Franco.

In the girls tournament, Bennett senior Alissa DuBois and junior Marie Jordan both finished second at 155 and 100 pounds, respectively.

DuBois and Eaglecrest's Gianna Falise faced each other twice over the weekend and, after defeating the taller Raptor grappler by a 15-6 major

**SEE W BENNETT WEEKEND**  
**PAGE 14**

**Watch for upcoming Spring Auctions**

More information to be posted online soon!

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- 75 "Medium" Fitness Challenge - Deadline January 22nd  
Dates: February 6 - April 21; Fee: \$20; Registration includes: a 5K training plan, fitness app recommendations, meal prep/freezer meal recipes, and 50% off the Earth Day 5K Fun Run in April.
- Senior Excursion: The Paint Cellar - January 26th  
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- 2023 BYBSA Pink Sox Rec Softball & Strasburg Baseball - Deadline February 14th  
Practices begin in April in Strasburg. Games will be played the end of April-June on weeknights with the exception of 5/20 for baseball & EOS tournament June 24-25. Go to [BYBSA.net/current-programs](http://BYBSA.net/current-programs) for more information and to register.

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**ADAMS COUNTY**  
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## ADAMS COUNTY FOSTER CARE INFORMATION MEETINGS



Adams County is looking to expand its team of foster parents to care for school-aged children in need of a temporary home. Please join the Adams County Foster Care Program and Adoption Division for upcoming virtual information meetings:

**Saturday, Jan. 21, 9-11 a.m.**

To learn more and register, scan the QR code or email [fostercare@adcogov.org](mailto:fostercare@adcogov.org).



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Tues., March 21

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## GB BENNETT

FROM PAGE 11

from behind the three-point line and going 4-of-8 at the free-throw stripe. Venneberg also completed a triple-double on the evening with team highs of 11 rebounds and 10 steals.

“Just a really good night for her,” Rios said of his squad’s leading scorer.

Seniors Martha Jordan and Stefanie Jordan added 7 points apiece while sophomore Jessica Venneberg chipped in 6. As a team, Bennett shot 42% from the field, including 5-of-10 behind the arc, and was 6-of-10 from the charity stripe.

On the glass, Bennett corralled 34 rebounds, including Stefanie Jordan’s nine and six from sophomore Elizabeth Westendorf.

The Tiger defense forced 30-plus turnovers, including 28 steals. Stefanie Jordan collected five thefts while the younger Venneberg and senior Rio Smith had four each. Bennett also recorded four blocked shots, led by Westendorf with two.

### THE PINNACLE

The Tigers dominated early on their way to Tuesday’s 55-point victory. The game was out of reach after a 29-2 first quarter in favor of the hosts. The visiting Timberwolves were held to 5 or fewer points every quarter.

All 12 members of the varsity roster got playing time with all scratching at least one statistics column.

Nine Tigers scored, led by a trio in double-figures — Jessica Venneberg with 17 points, Lily Venneberg 13, and Stefanie Jordan 11. Smith added 8 points, while Westendorf and freshman Mya Robledo had



RICHARD SOUTHARD/For The Scout

Bennett’s Stefanie Jordan (32) looks to dish off to a teammate in the paint as teammate Martha Jordan trails the play against Jefferson Jan. 12.

6 apiece. As a team, Bennett made 47% of its 71 field goal attempts, but was only 1-of-8 from the three-point line.

Both Venneberg sisters completed point and rebound double-doubles — Jessica with a dozen boards and Lily with 10.

The Tigers recorded 22 assists, led by Lily Venneberg with five and Jessica Venneberg and Westendorf with four apiece.

Defensively, Bennett had 25 steals, led by Lily Venneberg with five and Jessica Venneberg, Smith and Stefanie Jordan with four apiece.

After last week’s action, Bennett is 6-1 overall, 2-0 in conference play.

### COMING UP

Jan. 19: @ Englewood.

Jan. 21: @ Bruce Randolph.

## CORRIDOR CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18

**I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn.** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May Farms, Byers.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 19

**Bennett Parks & Recreation District Board** work-study. 5:30 p.m., Bennett Recreation Center, 455 S. First St.

**Bennett School Board.** Work session 5-6 p.m., regular meeting 6 p.m., Bennett High School V-net room. Visit [bsd29j.com](https://bsd29j.com) for a Zoom link. For public comments, e-mail [rpurdy@bsd29j.com](mailto:rpurdy@bsd29j.com).

**Byers School Board.** 7 p.m., Byers High School lecture hall. Visit Board of Education at [byers32j.k12.co.us](https://byers32j.k12.co.us) for a link to a live meeting via zoom.

**Strasburg Fire Protection District Board.** 7 p.m., firehouse.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 21

**Bennett Community Food Bank.** 8-10 a.m., Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave.

**Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry.** 9-11 a.m., 370 Aspen St, Deer Trail.

### MONDAY, JAN. 23

**West Arapahoe Conservation District Board.** 5 p.m. Virtual meeting information at [westarapahoeconservationdistrict.wordpress.com](https://westarapahoeconservationdistrict.wordpress.com).

### TUESDAY, JAN. 24

**Senior citizen game day.** 1-3 p.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall.

**Bennett Board of Trustees.** Work-study 5:45 p.m. Regular meeting 7 p.m. For a Zoom link, visit [townofbennet.colorado.gov](https://townofbennet.colorado.gov).

### EVERY MONDAY

**Snackivities.** 4:15-4:45 p.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

**High Plains Music Ensemble** rehearsal. 6:30 p.m., Bennett High School band room. For additional information, call (303)895-7568, e-mail [hpmemusicdirector@gmail.com](mailto:hpmemusicdirector@gmail.com) or visit [www.highplainsmusicensemble.com](https://www.highplainsmusicensemble.com).

**AA open meeting.** 7 p.m., white historic Victorian schoolhouse at Ace Hardware parking lot, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Limon. For more information, call Sara at (828)243-7681.

### EVERY TUESDAY

**Family story time.** 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

**Storytime:** Preschool children up to age 6 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that promote early literacy. 11-11:30 a.m., Anythink Bennett.

**Music & Movement:** Ages 2-6 can sing, dance and play musical instruments. 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Anythink Bennett.



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# 'Burg girls fall short in pair of hardwood nail-biters

by **Marysue Hauser**  
For The ECN

STRASBURG — The Strasburg girls lost two extremely close home games last week.

Turnovers and poor free-throw shooting plagued the Lady Indians in their 63-60 loss against Highland Jan. 10 and 51-46 versus Ellicott Jan. 12.

Against Highland, Strasburg had 20 turnovers and shot 46% (7-of-15) from the free-throw line, compared to the Huskies' 66%. The Indians shot 40% from the field while Highland shot 42%. In rebounds, Strasburg outdid Highland 42-24.

"Highland's a pretty good team, they really are. They're scrappy. They shoot exceptionally well. They're pretty strong and aggressive and quick. They're a top 12 team, I would say," said Indian head coach Merci Ames. "Once we got past the first quarter, we thought we moved the ball very well. We had some great defense and started to really see the openings and take advantage of them."

Strasburg was down after the first quarter, 18-11, but came back strong in the second quarter scoring 17 points and closed the gap to 4 points, 31-27, at halftime. A nip-and-tuck second half saw the Indians within 3 points, 48-45, to enter the final period. Both teams added 15 points over the final eight minutes.

"We need to make sure that we come out and capitalize right away," Ames said. "However, Natalie Damron definitely had a breakout game, and Autumn Stone contributed greatly as always."

Damron, a sophomore, had 18 points and led her team in rebounds with 17. Senior Autumn Stone also contributed 18 points with five re-



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

From left photo, Lady Indian Autumn Stone puts up a contested jump shot against Ellicott Jan. 12, and teammate Graecy Graf goes for a steal in the fourth quarter.

bounds and two assists.

## ELLICOTT

Strasburg had a considerable number of turnovers against Ellicott as well, committing 18 compared to the Lady Thunderhawks' 13. The Indians fell short shooting-wise as well, going 33% from field goal range compared to Ellicott's 38%.

Strasburg was behind at the half, 31-20, but came back in the third quarter, outscoring the Thunderhawks 13-11. Strasburg maintained its scoring advantage in the fourth quarter, 13-9, but Ellicott held off Strasburg at the end.

Strasburg had a higher three-point shooting percentage, 26%-24%, but fell behind in overall made shots.

"First of all, we've got to come out believing in ourselves right away, we cannot give these teams these big head starts," Ames said. "We're able to come back and tie it. But we gotta have more confidence in ourselves and believe that we can get these wins."

The 4-4 Lady Indians are ranked 16th in Colorado Division 3A. Strasburg plays Patriot League foes Liberty Common in Fort Collins tonight and hosts Platte Valley this Thursday.

# Youthful, undermanned Indian boys lose two straight

by **Marysue Hauser**  
For The Scout

The Strasburg varsity boys suffered two consecutive losses last week, leaving their record at 1-6 overall, 0-1 in 3A Patriot League play.

Low free-throw and three-point shooting percentages were a common theme in losses of 86-65 at Highland Jan. 10 and 74-61 to visiting Ellicott Jan. 12.

In both games, the Indians shot below 60% from the free-throw line and 25% and 24% from the three-point range, respectively.

## AT HIGHLAND

Against the Huskies, Strasburg found itself ahead 18-17 at the end of the first quarter. However, the Indians lost momentum in the second quarter and they trailed 46-31 at the break. The Huskies' lead stayed relatively consistent throughout the third quarter, with Strasburg scoring 21 points and Highland having 22. Strasburg was not able to narrow the gap.

According to Strasburg head coach Kyle Bollers, Highland, a new 3A Patriot League member this year, will likely be a final four team in 3A, but his squad put up a good fight.

"We knew it was going to be tough and, without (junior point guard) Landen Martin, we have some young kids handling the ball," Bollers said. "I thought that early on we didn't show any fear and absolutely attacked them. You know, we had some mistakes, but those mistakes came with us going 110 miles an hour. We got three freshmen playing against a team of seniors and I thought we did really well."

Martin went out early in the season with a broken wrist, but Bollers said that underclassmen have certainly stepped up to contribute and help fill Martin's important role.

"(Freshman) Cade Hemphill took two charges in order to get their point guard in foul trouble early on in the game, which really helped us," Bollers said. "(Senior) Dalton Bergstrom attacked the basket really well, and (junior) Austin Velasco rebounded his tail off for us."

Velasco and Bergstrom made over half their team's points with 21 and 19, respectively. Additionally, Velasco had his fifth double-double of the season, leading his team not only in points but also in rebounds with 12. Hemphill contributed 2 points and three rebounds.

## ELLICOTT

The Ellicott Thunderhawks came into Thursday's game with a 5-5 record and three more games under their belt than Strasburg. A couple of minutes into the game, Ellicott already had a 7-0 lead and, at the end of the first quarter, the Indians were trailing 22-7. Strasburg fought back in the second quarter, but Ellicott didn't let up for a 42-29 halftime score.

"I honestly don't think Ellicott did anything that well. They were just able to take advantage of some mismatches on defense. They had a 6'7" kid that they ran every play for," Bollers said. "On top of that, it was probably our poorest performance of the season as a team."

Velasco led with another double-double, scoring 17 points and pulling down 11 rebounds. Sophomore Tyce Bollers was the second-highest scorer, contributing 13 points, and adding five rebounds.

The Indians are ranked 30th in



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Indian Hayden Turner (4) gets rid of the ball after a steal and before falling on top of an Ellicott player Jan. 12.

3A, and will play two Patriot League games this week before a weekend tilt against an I-70 Corridor rival.

## COMING UP

Jan. 17: Liberty Common.

Jan. 20: @ Platte Valley.

Jan. 21: Byers.

Jan. 24: Frontier Academy.

Jan. 26: Brush.

Jan. 31: Timnath.

Feb. 7: @ Yuma.

Feb. 10: Wellington.

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**W BENNETT WEEKEND**

**FROM PAGE 11**

decision during a Friday night dual, the second-ranked Bennett competitor was pinned in the final 10 seconds of the first period in Saturday's finals.

"We really worked her over on Friday night, really wasn't even close, and just dominated," said Bennett girls head coach Brittaney Hudson. "Pretty disappointing outcome on Saturday, but a lot more to wrestle for this season."

Jordan was pinned at the end of the first period by top-ranked, undefeated Katey Valdez of Doherty.

In the boys team standings, Strasburg finished sixth with 99 points, Byers was ninth with 93.5, and Bennett 10th with 86. Pueblo County won the boys meet with 181.5 points, followed by Berthoud with 152.5, and Mountain Vista's 146.

Strasburg's other podium finishers were sophomore Charlie Spriggs, who placed third at heavy-weight, ad junior Thomas Devlin, who was fifth at 190 pounds.

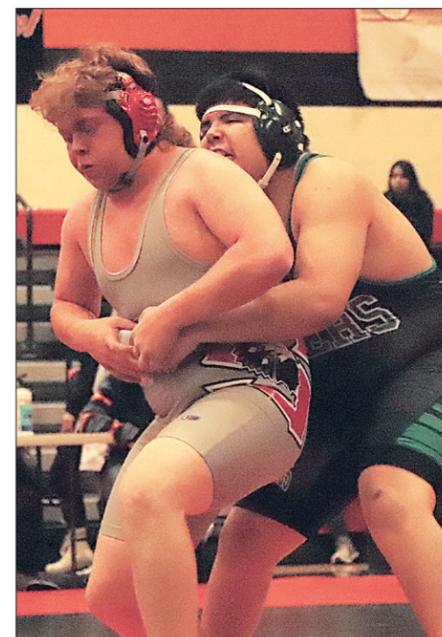
For Byers, sophomore Jon Yapoujian was third at 126 pounds; senior Tristan Davidsen and junior Kaiden Powell both fifth at 132 and 165 pounds, respectively; and sophomore Porter Snyder sixth at 106 pounds.

For Bennett, senior Isaak Cope-



PHOTOS BY MARYSUE HAUSER/For The Scout

Above, Bennett's Alissa DuBois records one of her three pins during the fifth annual girls portion of the Mark Purslow Wrestling Tournament in Bennett Jan. 7. DuBois made the 155-pound final but lost by pinfall. Right photo, one match pitting two I-70 Corridor grapplers against each other was Strasburg's Charlie Spriggs and Byers' Oscar Gonzalez in the 285-pound quarterfinals. Spriggs, who finished third on the day, won the match 7-2.



land finished third at 150 pounds while freshman Tommy Cearns was seventh at 126 pounds.

In the girls meet, the Lady Tigers finished 11th of 28 schools with 84 points, while the first-year Strasburg program was in a tie for 23rd with 22 points. Eaglecrest outlasted Severance for the girls team title, 151.5 points to 139.

Bennett junior Katelyn Faczak finished third at 105 pounds while freshman Vivi Gitke was fourth at

140 pounds.

Strasburg's Kelsey Trowbridge was fourth at 110 pounds. Three other Lady Indians competed.

**FRIDAY DUALS**

The previous night, Bennett hosted its annual open duals with the boys winning two of its three matchups and the Lady Tigers going 1-2.

The orange-and-black boys won eight of 10 contested matches on the evening, including a 3-1 record over

Dolores Huerta, which beat Bennett 34-30 because of forfeits. Bennett defeated Kiowa 36-24, winning all four matches, and beat Gateway 30-21, splitting two matches.

On the girls side, the Lady Tigers went 8-1 in contested matches. Against Eaglecrest, who won the dual 60-20, the orange-and-black won all four matches.. In its 24-12 loss to Pomona, Bennett went 2-1. The hosts also beat Kiowa 24-12, winning both matches.

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# Eagle boys bitten by shooting woes

by **Marysue Hauser**  
For The Scout

The Deer Trail varsity boys suffered two nonconference losses last week, dropping them to 2-5 for the season.

Low scoring continued to plague the Eagles in a 66-26 loss to visiting Idalia Jan. 10 and a 40-27 loss at Kiowa Jan. 12.

According to Deer Trail head coach Kyle Dasenbrock, his squad's shots continue to not fall.

Against Idalia, Deer Trail came out slow, scoring 2 points in the first quarter compared to the visitors' 23. The Eagles fought hard in the second quarter, but they couldn't quite close the gap with the score 35-12 at the break. The Eagles were unable to put a dent in the deficit in the second half.

Dasenbrock said the team's effort and heart was up 100% compared to the previous game against Hanover.

"The enthusiasm was infectious. Our bench, whenever we took a charge, was standing up and going nuts. The crowd was getting into it too," said Dasenbrock. "The score didn't show it, but it felt like we were winning the game."

Senior Sikeau "C Square" Samate scored 9 points to lead the Eagles.

Dasenbrock added that junior Zach Haas "came off the bench for us and did really good for us defensively." Haas contributed 3 points.

Against Kiowa, Deer Trail was up 10-7 at the end of the first quarter. While the game was still close at halftime, Deer Trail found itself down by 2 points, 19-17. But the Eagles quickly fell behind in the third-quarter, only scoring 2 points while Kiowa had 9.

According to Dasenbrock, the Eagles showed improvement from its previous game.

"Kiowa plays really hard. They got some big guys," Dasenbrock said. "Across the board, they were bigger and taller than we were, and they used that to their advantage."



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Deer Trail's Kooper Eldringhoff tries to draw a charge against an Idalia ball handler Jan. 10 as first-year Eagle head coach Kyle Dasenbrock watches from the sideline.

"Something I talked to our guys about was we can't try to reenact what happened in the previous game. For example, in the Idalia game we took 10 charges, which was fantastic. But in the Kiowa game, because we had 10 charges in the Idalia game, we went charge hunting, which worked against us."

The Eagles are currently ranked 44th in 1A. Tonight's game with Colorado School for the Deaf & Blind was canceled.

**COMING UP**  
Jan. 19: Elbert.  
Jan. 20: Wiley @ Ball Arena, Denver  
Jan. 21: @ Limon.

# DT girls lose 2; still over .500

by **Marysue Hauser**  
For The Scout

The Deer Trail Lady Eagles still have a plus-.500 record this season despite suffering two losses last week.

Extremely low shooting percentages from the field and free-throw line hurt the varsity girls in both games, losses of 49-13 against visiting Idalia Jan. 12 and 73-28 at Kiowa two days later.

Against Idalia, Deer Trail shot 19% from the field, making 6-of-32 shots. They shot 20% from the free-throw line, significantly lower than their opponents' 67%.

"When playing Idalia, I think we were a little out of position on our defense, and they definitely capitalized on that," said Deer Trail head coach Phillip Donovan. "The good of it is that our girls don't stop playing, and they still have that heart and don't (quit). It was nice to see a team that showed us a different pace."

Senior Alex Donovan led her team in points with 7 and contributed four steals. Junior Ally Hardwick stepped up with 4 points and led her team in rebounds with six.

Deer Trail didn't score in the first quarter, trailing 10-0 at the beginning of the second quarter. The hosts came back fighting, however, making it 22-6 at the half. After scoring 7 points in the third quarter, Deer Trail was again shut out over the final eight minutes.

Against Kiowa, Deer Trail struggled to stop the host Indians, who



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Deer Trail's Ally Hardwick extends out for a rebound Jan. 10.

won the first quarter 18-7 and extended the advantage to 40-14 at halftime and 61-18 after three quarters.

No stats were provided for the game against Kiowa, but according to Donovan, the Eagles ran their offense and shot better against a more disciplined team.

"I think the team, we had some young players really contribute, which helped out," Donovan said. "They're starting to get some more playing time, so coming into their own."

The Lady Eagles are 4-3 and have a home game this Thursday against Elbert; a neutral site game Friday against Wiley at Ball Arena in Denver; and play at Limon Saturday.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

### 20 YEARS AGO

**JANUARY 14, 2003**

**DEER TRAIL** — A dispute over a fence blocking part of an alley has escalated to the point that a Deer Trail trustee was voted off the Board of Trustees Jan. 7, even though the town dropped the lawsuit in July.

Chuck Myers missed six meetings in a row. Town statute allows three absences without an excuse, before the board can ask for an explanation.

Mayor Tink Rector called Myers and was told he did not want to come back.

“Any thoughts?” asked Trustee Tami Stoumbaugh.

“We can remove him if we like and look for a new trustee, or we can ride this out,” said Trustee Gary La-voie. “State statutes require a trustee attend one meeting a year, so it’s up to us. We could appoint someone like Russell Ness here.”

Ness shook his head vigorously. “No, thank you,” he said.

The board voted to remove Myers from the board by a vote of 5-1.

### 15 YEARS AGO

**JANUARY 15, 2008**

**DEER TRAIL** — Trustees expressed excitement at the Deer Trail Town Board meeting Jan. 8, as representatives from a local timber company expressed their desire to set up shop in the community.

Kevan Northrup and Price Blanchard are part-own-

ers of a company call Spur Mountain Timber, which has operated on Northrup’s property 13 miles south of Strasburg. The duo said they and Utah-based partners Troy Blanchard and Kendric Wait have made Deer Trail their first choice location for transferring the business. The company is a post, pole and log cabin producer.

Northrup told trustees the company want to purchase 13 acres adjacent to Deer Trail from the Union Pacific Railroad. At the meeting, he asked the board to expedite the process that would annex the land into the town.

### 10 YEARS AGO

**JANUARY 15, 2013**

**BYERS** — The shooting range at Quint Valley is closed and will reopen only to those who obtain permit cards.

Problems at the shooting range owned by the Byers Parks & Recreation District — including vandalism and irresponsible shooting tearing up the targets — resulted in the district board’s decision.

“People aren’t going to like it, but we’ve got to cut shooting off down here completely, get everybody out, and start over,” said director Dean Gaudot Jan. 10.

A pistol range constructed as an Eagle Scout project was vandalized a week after it was built in September. The range was rebuilt by community volunteers and Scouts but it is damaged again.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.  
**SOLUTION ON PAGE 20**

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 17, the 17th day of 2023. There are 348 days left in the year.

### TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT

On Jan. 17, 1961, President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivered his farewell address in which he warned against “the

acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex.”

### ON THIS DATE

In 1917, Denmark ceded the Virgin Islands to the United States for \$25 million.

In 1950, the Great Brink’s Robbery took place as seven masked men held up a Brink’s garage in Boston, stealing \$1.2 million in cash and \$1.5 million in checks and money orders.

In 1955, the submarine USS Nautilus made its first nuclear-powered test run from its

berth in Groton, Conn.

In 1966, Simon & Garfunkel’s album “Sounds of Silence” was released by Columbia Records.

In 1977, convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot by a firing squad at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

### TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS

Actor James Earl Jones is 92. Talk show host Maury Povich is 84. Singer Paul Young is 67. Actor-comedian Steve Harvey is 66. Actor-comedian Jim Carrey is 61. Former first lady Michelle Obama is 59.

—The Associated Press

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: THE GRAMMYS

#### ACROSS

1. Spencer of Hollywood’s Golden Age
6. Eyeball, e.g.
9. “Tosca” song, e.g.
13. Theater passage
14. Bovine call
15. “\_\_\_ came a spider..”
16. \*Univision’s \_\_\_ Grammy Awards
17. Barley bristle
18. Turning token taker
19. \*President with a Grammy
21. Diabolical
23. Sold at the pump
24. Russian monarch
25. Back of a boat
28. \*Shallow, 2018 recipient from “A \_\_\_ Is Born” movie
30. \*Camila Cabello and Ed Sheeran’s nominated song
35. College dwelling
37. Footnote note
39. Shade of violet
40. Huron’s neighbor
41. Head of the abbey
43. Done in a pot
44. City in Bolivia
46. Not manual
47. Mend, healthwise
48. Eye cover
50. Egghead
52. Four quarters
53. Dog in yoga
55. Triple \_\_\_
57. \* \_\_\_.com Arena
60. \*Vegas” and “Woman” nominee (2 words)
64. Unit of electrical energy
65. Hoover’s agency, acr.
67. Discompose
68. Shade of yellow
69. I in T.G.I.F.
70. Small, olive-gray bird
71. “Cheers” regular
72. Inquire
73. Open up

#### DOWN

1. Bath powder
2. Iranian coin
3. \_\_\_ Spumante
4. Be needy
5. Gossipy ones
6. Arabian Peninsula country
7. Column’s counterpart
8. Holiday surprise for employee
9. Palo \_\_\_, CA
10. Agitate
11. Inwardly
12. \*1970 two-time winner “The \_\_\_ of

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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- Aquarius”
15. Hindu retreat
  20. Ancient Rome’s neighbor
  22. Nail a criminal
  24. Popular newspaper name
  25. \*30” performer
  26. Pillage
  27. Beef \_\_\_, dim sum choice
  29. \*Don’t Shut Me Down” group
  31. Alan Alda’s classic TV show
  32. Type of hawk
  33. Type of flu
  34. Multi-colored dog coat
  36. One of three square ones
  38. Shower with affection
  42. Human trunk
  45. Sliding fastener
  49. Part of “I”
  51. Past-life experience? (2 words)
  54. Capital of Bulgaria
  56. Airbnb option
  57. Chanel of fashion
  58. German industrial valley
  59. Big Bang’s original matter
  60. Disc, alt. sp.
  61. Popular dieter’s foe
  62. Between ports
  63. Chris Hemsworth’s superhero
  64. \*Award-winning Bon Jovi’s lead singer
  66. \*Coldplay’s collaborators

ANSWERS ON PAGE 20

## HOROSCOPE

### Lucky Lunar Fire Trine

It’s the last day of the Mercury retrograde in Capricorn. Traditions have been tested. Power structures have been jostled. A lucky fire trine ignites ideas about how you might shine in the future. A great inventor born on this day suggested: “Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What good is a sundial in the shade?” — Benjamin Franklin

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Your curious mind prevents you from becoming occupied with the mundane today. The next 48 hours feature friends, laughter and the advancement of a relationship filled with fascinating potential.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You’ve made a request, a point or an offer. Waiting for a response can be agonizing if you focus too much on it and it’s taken a while for another person to form and deliver a response. Go about your business.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You’re compassionate, empathetic and accommodating, but you’re no pushover. Some people are hard-wired to find the limits of things and will keep at it until they get a response. Be firm. Enforce your boundaries.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Rigidity is the enemy of grace, which requires relaxed strength. Looseness lets in an element of chaos, but don’t be afraid of it. This is what makes the end result so creative.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** When your body tells you what to eat or how to move, you’re receptive and amenable to suggestions. After all, your body should know how to heal and grow you. It basically made itself.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You may be fascinated by survival tales and high drama in media, but it’s not like you want to be a firsthand witness. Your “safety first” motto ensures the commotion will stay on the screen and out of your life.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You have a good sense of what’s really going on where you are and what direction you want to move next. People around you will naturally gravitate toward you and want to move with your flow.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You’d rather not talk about what you’re going to do because it steals your focus from actually doing it. Today you’re all about efficiency, economy and finding the most direct route to your desired result.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** They’ll tell you there’s a right way to do the job, but what they really mean is that there’s an *accepted* way. If what you’re doing works, do it your way. Maybe they’re not the experts at the specific thing you’re trying to accomplish.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** There’s a treat coming your way, and it may surprise you in spite of the fact that you set it up yourself long ago. The you of the past was a forward-thinker and a good friend to future you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Everything has consequences. Happy short-term results can lead to unhappy long-term results and vice versa. Like a chess player, you see the potential in each move and play to what might happen several moves ahead.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You’ll get encouragement from those who know what you need and those who don’t. Accept all well-intended kindness, but only act on the advice of those who have been where you are and succeeded.

**Today’s Birthday (Jan. 17).** You’ll often lead, inspire and fund successful efforts this year, a source of pride and lifestyle improvement. The wins of your team are your wins and vice versa. More highlights: comedy so good you’ll laugh until you cry, a well-deserved raise and the slow burn of a new interest that turns into a gripping passion. Gemini and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 10, 3, 13 and 17.

—Horoscopes by Holiday

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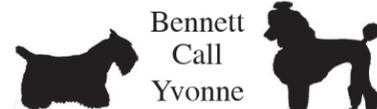
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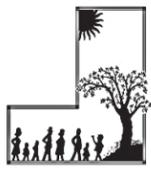
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4	5	3	2	7	1	8	9	6
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1	8	9	5	6	4	7	2	3
9	6	2	4	1	7	3	5	8
8	4	7	9	5	3	6	1	2
3	1	5	6	2	8	4	7	9

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Help Wanted

The Lincoln County Department of Human Services is looking for an enthusiastic, professional and detail oriented person to join the team. This position is for an **Account Clerk**, which is responsible for the Department's finance department.



The applicant must possess a GED or High School Diploma; prior experience and a degree in finance or accounting is preferred but not mandatory. Salary is dependent on education and experience. The salary range is \$3,334 to \$4,049 per month; however the hiring range is from \$3,334 to \$3,664. The applicant must be able to pass a background check. The applicant also must have a valid driver's license. The county offers an impressive benefit package. If you are interested in becoming a part of our team, an application can be picked up at the Department of Human Services office at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 103 Third Avenue, Hugo CO 80821, or e-mailed/faxed by contacting Bailey Mares at 719-743-2404, ext. 256.

**Applications will be accepted until Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2023.**

Lincoln County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## Help Wanted

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**PART-TIME REPORTERS**  
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\$150/day gr. K-5, \$175/day gr. 6-12

If you are interested in applying, please visit the district website, [www.bsd29j.com](http://www.bsd29j.com). All applications must go through the online portal. If you have any questions, please contact Cassie Salberg at [csalberg@bsd29j.com](mailto:csalberg@bsd29j.com).  
**BENNETT SCHOOL DISTRICT 29J IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.**



**Byers School District 32-J**  
 is accepting applications for an **Elementary Principal**  
 Start date August 1, 2023.

The district is looking for an individual that will provide leadership and administration which will motivate instructional and support personnel to strive for academic excellence so as to provide the best possible opportunities for student achievement, growth and development.

Inherent in the position are the responsibilities for planning, organizing, talent management, facilities and educational programs, financial management, extracurricular activities, emergency procedures, and resource scheduling, which they supervise, consistent with Colorado Revised Statutes, School Board Policies, and the Byers School District Administrative Procedures.

- This is a 200 day position with benefits.
- Salary Range \$70k - \$80k based on experience.
- Must have a Master's degree and hold or be eligible for a Colorado Principal License.
- Five years of successful elementary teaching experience preferred.
- Working knowledge of Standards Based Education.
- Experience with instructional strategies that promote academic achievement.
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS).

Administrative Applications are available on the Human Resources page of website under District tab, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us), or at the District office. Applications should be submitted to Byers School District, Attn: Tom Turrell, 444 E. Front Street, Byers, CO 80103. Applications may also be emailed to [turrell.tom@byers.k12.co.us](mailto:turrell.tom@byers.k12.co.us) or faxed to 303-822-9592. For additional information, contact Tom Turrell at (303) 822-5292 x1111.  
 Applications due February 1, 2023. Start date August 1, 2023.

**E.O.E.**

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Help Wanted



### OPEN POSITIONS: District Office

- Director of Transportation
- Grant Writer (Temporary as needed)

### High School

- Spanish Teacher
- Social Studies & History Teacher
- SPED Teacher
- Weight Training
  - Girls Golf (Head & Asst. Coach)

### Middle School

- Math Teacher
- Science Teacher

### Elementary School

- Teacher
  - Sped Teacher
- ### Part-Time
- Food Service Cook

### Substitutes

- Teachers
- Food Service
- Para-Professional
- Custodian

Please apply through the Talent Ed portal located under employment on the Strasburg School District website. Full Time positions with great benefits package including medical, life and LTD.

For additional information, please e-mail Brooke Kartus: [bkartus@strasburg31j.com](mailto:bkartus@strasburg31j.com)

STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 31-J IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND DOES NOT UNLAWFULLY DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, ETHNICITY, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, CREED, RELIGION, AGE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, DISABILITY OR OTHER PROTECTED STATUS.

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- Middle School Science Teacher
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Cafeteria
- School Nurse

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

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- K-12 PE Teacher

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## Help Wanted



### Byers School District 32-J Facility Director/ Manager

Byers School District is accepting applications for a facilities director/manager to oversee daily operations within and around the Byers School Campus. Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Scheduling staff
- Cleaning duties
- Ordering supplies
- Working with contractors
- Basic maintenance skills
- Basic HVAC, plumbing, and electrical skills needed.

Applicant must be:

- organized
- good communicator
- problem solver
- team player.

Classified Applications are available on the Human Resources page of the website under District tab, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us), or at the District office. Applications should be submitted to Byers School District, Attn: Tom Turrell, 444 E. Front Street, Byers, CO 80103. Applications may also be emailed to [turrell.tom@byers.k12.co.us](mailto:turrell.tom@byers.k12.co.us) or faxed to 303-822-9592.

For additional information, contact Tom Turrell at (303) 822-5292 x1111.

Applications due February 15, 2023. Start date April 3, 2023.  
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- Daily rate of pay is \$125.00
- MEAL CARD for free school lunch on days you sub.
- After obtaining your substitute license with the Colorado Department of Education and working 5 sub days for our district WE WILL FULLY REIMBURSE YOU THE COST OF YOUR SUBSTITUTE LICENSE.
- FUN ENVIRONMENT, great opportunity to earn some money and help our district fill some much needed substitute teaching positions.
- If you're not interested in substitute teaching we are also accepting applications for PARA PROFESSIONAL, COOKS and CUSTODIAN SUBS.

Please apply through our job posting portal on our website [www.strasburg31j.com](http://www.strasburg31j.com) or email Brooke Kartus: [bkartus@strasburg31j.com](mailto:bkartus@strasburg31j.com)

## Help Wanted

### Foreman/Heavy Equip. Operator Needed

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- Company vehicle.

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Homes & Land

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**\$279,000**

This town home could be sold as new, it is so squeaky clean. Clothes washer and clothes dryer included, fast possession. This townhome features granite counter tops, all stainless steel appliances and hard wood cabinets. Tile flooring, laminate flooring on the main floor and wall to wall carpet on the upper level. Paved road with sidewalks and front yard landscaping. This townhome is spacious in its design and obviously appeals when entering the front door and seeing the openness of the floorplan. The upper level features a loft area for additional space offering a great deal of use flexibility. Deer Trail K-12 School close. Fiber Optics installed. 566sqft on the main floor / 652sqft on the upper level.



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I-70

**Mary Zimmerman**

970-380-0078 | farmhand118@aol.com

## Homes & Land

## Homes & Land

## Homes & Land



**Sharlyn Rose**  
sharlynrose@tds.net



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**CONTACT ME FOR MORE INFORMATION TODAY!**



**Tania Stephens - Broker/Owner**  
**(303) 644-4444**  
310 Colfax, Bennett, CO 80102

**BENNETT**

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**\$881,500**

**35+ acres with outbuildings, barns and 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home.**

We are in the process of an office remodel!  
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## Notices

The **Deer Trail Rural Fire Protection District** is accepting nominations for election to the board of directors. All nominations must be filled out and received by the designated election official by Friday, February 24. Nomination forms can be obtained on the Deer Trail Fire Department Facebook page or from current board members. The election will take place on Tuesday, May 2.

## Free

**Free, free, free.** Pick up of autos, farm equipment, batteries, all nonferrous metal types. Also available for a minimal fee, pick up of appliances, TVs, piles, etc. Call Blaine today at (303)819-7659. 1/24c

# 'Expect Excellence' at Colo. Ag Forum

**CORTEZ** — "Expect Excellence" is the theme of the 31st annual Colorado Ag Forum on Thursday, Feb. 23, at its new location, The Westin in Westminster.

Beyond production and profit, what really drives agriculturists is possibility, according to a release. The 2023 Colorado Ag Forum will zero in on this innate quality with a program full of dynamic speakers and presentations, featuring the latest in innovation and collaboration as well as glimpses into the possibilities that Colorado agriculture holds not just in the present, but in the future as well.

The forum, hosted by the Colo-

rado Agriculture Leadership Program (CALP), promises a day full of networking and discovery of the future for the state's second-largest economic driver.

Pre-registration, which ends Wednesday, Feb. 1, costs \$160. After Feb. 1, the cost is \$210.

Discounts are available for all CALP or Colorado Agriculture & Rural Leadership alumni as well as students.

All registered attendees will be invited to a welcome reception from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22.

For more information, visit [coloradoagforum.com](http://coloradoagforum.com) or Colorado Agriculture Forum Facebook page.

# LUNCH MENUS

## AGATE

Wednesday, Jan. 18: Orange chicken, rice.  
 Thursday, Jan. 19: Turkey and gravy, dinner roll.  
 Monday, Jan. 23: Beef hot dog, chips.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 24: Chicken nachos, shredded lettuce and cheese, taco sauce.

## BENNETT

Wednesday, Jan. 18: Curry gravy meatballs, cilantro rice, carrots.  
 Thursday, Jan. 19: Beef Tater Tot nachos, green beans, mandarin oranges.  
 Monday, Jan. 23: Chili with beans, Fritos, salad, pineapple tidbits,  
 Tuesday, Jan. 24: Southwest queso chicken wrap, cinnamon roll.

## BYERS

Wednesday, Jan. 18: Pasta Bake, green beans, peaches.  
 Thursday, Jan. 19: Chicken nuggets, peas, pears.  
 Friday, Jan. 20: Cheeseburgers, French fries, celery sticks with ranch, orange wedges.  
 Monday, Jan. 23: Cheesy hot dogs,

SunChips, broccoli and carrots, peaches.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 24: Chicken patty sandwich, Tater Tots, mixed vegetables, pears.

## DEER TRAIL

Wednesday, Jan. 18: Beef Tater Tot casserole, shredded lettuce and cheddar cheese, black beans, salsa, apricots.  
 Thursday, Jan. 19: Chicken alfredo, spinach, bread sticks, bananas.  
 Monday, Jan. 23: Pizza, garden salad and dressing, peas.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 24: Beef rib sandwich, baked beans, carrots, Craisins.

## STRASBURG

Wednesday, Jan. 18: Orange chicken with rice.  
 Thursday, Jan. 19: Hamburger rice casserole.  
 Friday, Jan. 20: Ravioli, garlic bread.  
 Monday, Jan. 23: Pizza sticks.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 24: Meatballs with egg noodles.  
 Wednesday, Jan. 25: Chili, cinnamon rolls.

# CHUCK WAGON



## Chili Verde Burrito Bake

by **Bobbie Keefer**  
 For The Scout

These smothered burritos are easy to make and are incredibly delicious! This recipe is at the top of my list for amazing!

The process and ingredients are not authentic. Chile verde is normally made with slow-cooked pork and homemade sauce. I'm not up for that challenge. I did add pork sausage to my **Chili Verde Burrito Bake**, so that sorta makes it real.

I used to spend all day in the kitchen making scratch recipes. My cooking style has evolved into quick, simple and economical. Cooking stopped being something I did because I had to and started being something that I enjoy!

### INGREDIENTS

- ½ pound lean ground beef
- ½ pound spicy ground pork sausage
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 cup chunky salsa
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic

- ¼ cup chopped green chilies
- 1 tablespoon taco seasoning mix
- 6 flour tortillas
- 2 cups shredded Mexican cheese
- 1 can (15-ounce) green enchilada sauce

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spray 9- by 9-inch baking dish with non-stick spray. In skillet, cook beef, sausage, onion. Drain grease. Stir in salsa, garlic, chilies, taco seasoning, and 1 cup of the cheese.

Spoon mixture on center of each tortilla. Roll and fold burrito style. Arrange seam side down to fit in prepared dish. Cover with enchilada sauce.

Bake 20-25 minutes until bubbly. Sprinkle remaining 1 cup cheese over the top. Bake another 5 minutes until cheese melts. Remove from oven and let set 5 minutes. Cut in squares.

Serve on pretty plates with condiments of choice.

Watch for more of Bobbie's recipes in the Eastern Colorado News.

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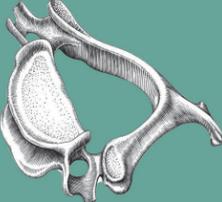
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— Aristotle



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# Eastern Colorado Honor Band



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

High school and middle school student musicians from 10 schools converged on Bennett Jan. 12 for annual Eastern Colorado Honor Band festivities. A day's worth of training concluded with a pair of concerts Thursday night. In addition the host school, Calhan/Peyton, Genoa-Hugo, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Limon, Miami-Yoder and Strasburg school districts attended. Bennett Middle School participants are, sitting from left, Julee Hawley, McKay Mayo, Nathaniel Humbert, Joseph Harris, and Saul Robles Pallares; and, standing, Lawrence Marr, Bella De Santiago, Sienna Warren, Victoria Mayo, Adeline Cranwill, Emma Faczak, Austin Humbert, and Danica Bertram. Bennett Middle School is led by first-year music director Casey Gerczynski.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Bennett High School, led by director Valerie White, is represented by: front row from left, Annissa De Santiago, Danielle Lamberty, Audrey Barela, Sage Olivia, and Aeryn Johnson; middle row, Kayla Barela, Reagan Oberts, Ava Black, Angelia Castilleja, Nicolena Taylor, and Jack Flores; and, back row, Justin Wilson, Wyatt Farley, Alexander O'Neill, Vivi Cranwill, Everett Godsey, and Robbie Harris.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg High School and Hemphill Middle School both attended, led by first-year teacher Zach Myers. Front row, middle school participants are Joshua Handy, left, Naomi Redd, and Jayden Lind. Back row, high school representatives are Rebekka Roehm, Aidan Lang, Orrin Simpkins, Scott Jones, and Daniel Handy.