



# The I-70 Scout

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

Volume 29, Number 51

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

## Firefighters rescue Bennett resident



PHOTOS COURTESY ADAMS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

A fire badly scorched the back one-third of a home on Sixth Street in Bennett Nov. 3.

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — A house fire in the old part of Bennett resulted in the evacuation of an occupant and neighbors during the early morning hours Nov. 3.

Around 5 a.m. Friday, Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue personnel and Adams County Sheriff's deputies were first on scene to a residential fire in the 300 block of Sixth Street.

Upon arrival, firefighters reportedly rescued one person who was asleep and a couple of pets from inside the house on fire and evacuated nearby neighbors for precautionary reasons. No injuries were reported.

The fire reportedly spread from the backyard earlier Thursday night into Friday morning and breached the back wall and significantly damaged the back third of the home.

Other specifics of the blaze were unavailable at press time.

## Buck: Many GOP leaders are lying

by **Kathy Smiley**  
Staff Writer

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Republican Rep. Ken Buck will not seek another term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Buck, who was first elected in November 2014, has served five terms as the representative for Colorado's 4th Congressional district, which includes most of the rural Eastern

Plains and the entire I-70 Corridor.

He announced his decision to step away from the House Nov. 1 in an online video message to his constituents, in which he cited frustration with both the policies of the left and members of his own party who, he believes, are veering dangerously off course.

Buck said Democratic policies  
**SEE BUCK  
PAGE 24**



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP Photo

Rep. Ken Buck, R-Colo., followed by reporters, arrives at the Oct. 16 Republican caucus meeting at the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Buck announced Nov. 1 that he would not seek a sixth term in Congress, citing many in his party who refuse to accept the results of the 2020 presidential election and to condemn the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol.

## 9 months going on 90 years?



DAVID MAGDANZ/For The Scout

Harlow Dibble, 9 months, gets into the Halloween spirit with her best "Golden Girls" impression during the Trunk or Treat hosted by Christ Our Redeemer Church in Bennett Oct. 31.  
**SEE PAGES 12-13**

## Officials: Bigger law enforcement budget sought for east ArapCo

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — The disparity of representation between the eastern rural two-thirds of Arapahoe County and the western end remains in place and narrowing that divide when it comes

to law enforcement remains an arduous process.

During a Nov. 2 Commissioner Conversation at the Arapahoe County Eastern Services Center south of Bennett, District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker and Arapahoe County Sheriff's Capt. Christopher Gulli said efforts are underway to devote a larger portion of the county's law en-

forcement budget dedicated to eastern unincorporated areas, but the fight is difficult.

"Our biggest part of the [county's] budget is with the sheriff's office but there are four other districts besides mine and they are all to the

**SEE E. ARAPCO SHERIFF'S \$5  
PAGE 8**





## METROGRO Farm works to combat wheat stem sawfly infestation

The METROGRO Farm is experimenting with a different variety of wheat and crop rotation to deal with a growing pest issue.

The 52,000-acre dryland farm is operated by Metro Water Recovery. Much like a growing number of Colorado farms, the wheat stem sawfly has proven to be a challenge in the three years since it began infesting the crops.

The sawfly’s larvae feed on the upper stem of the wheat, often causing it to break just before harvest. According to a 2022 study by the Colorado Association of Wheat Growers and Colorado State University, this pest causes approximately \$33 million in damage annually to Colorado’s wheat crop.

For the upcoming season, the farm is planting a new variety of winter wheat with a stronger stem that should be more difficult for the sawfly to destroy. Barley and milo crops will be rotated to stop the sawfly from spreading.

The 2023 harvest season wrapped up on Aug. 22 and was successful thanks to unusually wet spring conditions following extreme drought the year prior.

An unprecedented 26 inches of rain fell this year compared to the typical 10-12 inches. While the extra moisture helps overall quantity, it can degrade the wheat quality as the threat of fungus increases.

The crew harvested approximately 313,000 bushels of wheat this year for a yield of more than 36.5 bushels per acre. To minimize sawfly damage, 5,354 acres were swathed and windrowed before combining. About 2,000 acres of wheat were lost due to hail.

As for other crops, more than 3,000 acres of milo were planted in the spring in failed wheat fields and are expected to provide good yields. Just over 71,000 bushels of milo were harvested in 2022. 🌱



The METROGRO Farm produces an average of 250,000 bushels of wheat a year.



Crop storage at the farm.



Equipment at the farm.

## Metro updates strategic plan

The updated strategic plan for Metro Water Recovery will take the organization’s mission, vision, values, and goals to the next level.

Building upon the accomplishments of Metro’s 2016 Strategic Plan and reflecting a commitment to continuous improvement, the plan has outlined what organizational success will look like for the next five years. The details provide a roadmap to support Metro’s role as a regional leader.

As the largest resource recovery and clean water agency in the

Rocky Mountain West, Metro is committed to educating and engaging with our communities.

Learn more about the updated plan at [metrowaterrecovery.com/strategicplan](https://metrowaterrecovery.com/strategicplan). 🌱



The sun rises at the Robert W. Hite Treatment Facility.

## PFAS monitoring expands at Metro

Metro Water Recovery has begun monitoring biosolids for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), along with our ongoing monitoring of the treated wastewater.

PFAS are not byproducts of the wastewater treatment process but are present in the wastewater that enters facilities from homes and businesses. All of Metro’s PFAS levels meet permit requirements and sit below the trigger level for required actions.

Metro monitors and tests treated wastewater for PFAS levels established

by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, regularly sharing raw data with the public since May 2022. At the beginning of this year, Metro began monitoring and sharing PFAS data for biosolids as well.

Metro Water Recovery is committed to being part of the solution and offers a webpage with more information, community resources, and access to the monitoring data at [metrowaterrecovery.com/pfas](https://metrowaterrecovery.com/pfas). 🌱

## Biosolids Distribution for 2023

The chart below summarizes the breakdown of biosolids distributed to the METROGRO Farm, private farms, and a private composter for the first eight months of 2023. All biosolids produced during that period at the Robert W. Hite Treatment Facility (RWHTF) and the Northern Treatment Plant (NTP) were beneficially reused.

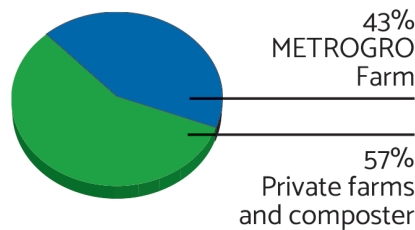
Distribution from RWHTF.....	Dry Tons
METROGRO Farm.....	8,815
Private farms.....	11,529

Distribution from NTP.....	Dry Tons
METROGRO Farm.....	401
Private composter.....	621

A total of 21,367 dry tons (104,610 wet tons) of biosolids were beneficially reused from January through August.

Dry weight is the solids from biological treatment of wastewater after all water is removed. The average METROGRO® Cake solids content for the first eight months of 2023 is 20.50% for RWHTF and 20.51% for NTP. 🌱



Questions or comments? The METROGRO Update is a publication of Metro Water Recovery.

If you have questions or comments, please contact: Patrick Stanley, Metro Water Recovery, 6450 York Street, Denver, CO 80229, 1-800-237-6603, [MetroWaterRecovery.com](https://MetroWaterRecovery.com)





PHOTOS BY KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Fall corn harvest got into full swing along the I-70 Corridor over the last half of October and beginning of November. Among the busy farm families cutting this year’s crop were the Linneburgs from Byers and Deer Trail. Above, grain is harvested at a field along Hank’s Crossing Road north of Highway 36 northeast of Byers on Nov. 3.



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Contact the Community Connections Team at [communityconnections@adcogov.org](mailto:communityconnections@adcogov.org)

# YOUNG AT HEART

NOVEMBER 1-30

## Adoption Special

**\$20** adoption fees for all dogs five years old and older\*

**\$10** adoption fees for all cats five years old and older\*

*\*Some exclusions may apply*

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Public Agencies /AdamsCountyCo

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Hello, this is Denise A.K. Goins coming to you to ask for you to participate in my doctoral research. I am a PhD candidate at Northcentral University, JFK School of Psychology and Social Sciences. The research will be part of my credits toward my PhD in psychology.

You are eligible if you are:

- At least 18 years old,
- A resident of the Mountain or Midwest regions of the United States,
- &
- Have lived with your dog (puppy) for at least 6 months.


# The Merged Theory of Mind, Sentience, & *Umwelten* between Humans & Dogs through Cohabitation: A Phenomenological Adventure!



**PLEASE COME & PARTICIPATE in MY RESEARCH**

If you choose to participate, you will be interviewed by me in Zoom regarding your thoughts, feelings, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors surrounding your dog. The questions in the interview are there to help keep the discussion on track and on time, which will be approximately 60 to 90 minutes. The time can be broken into smaller blocks of time as necessary.

After the interview is finished, you will receive an e-copy of the transcript for your review. This step is very important. It provides me with the reassurance that what you said is what you meant to tell me. This will take you between 15 and 30 minutes over a 5-day period. Once you are satisfied with the transcript, and your changes, and corrections, then you will email it back to me at [GoinsResearch@wolfshheartcircle.digital](mailto:GoinsResearch@wolfshheartcircle.digital). At that point, your participation is finished.



**75th annual Turkey Shoot scheduled by Byers Legion**

BYERS — Byers American Legion Post 160 and auxiliary will host its 75th annual Turkey Shoot Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12.

The trap shooting competition will run from 8 a.m. until dark each day one mile north of town on U.S. 36.

Bingo begins at 1 p.m. with other activities planned throughout both days at the American Legion Hall, 278 W. Front St.

**Basketball clinic slated for challenged children**

STRASBURG — Big D's Warriors Adaptive Basketball Clinic for elementary and middle school students aims to give children with physical and mental challenges the chance to play and compete.

During the free clinic at 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 16, at Hemphill Middle School, participants will learn to dribble, shoot, pass, and play in a game situation. To register, visit [www.strasburgparks.org](http://www.strasburgparks.org).

**Constitution amendments key to historical discussion**

STRASBURG — The Comanche Crossing Historical Society in Strasburg is inviting the public to the second of four evenings of history.

Cliff Smith, curator of the Comanche Crossing Museum in Strasburg, will discuss the the Bill of Rights and constitutional amendments from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9, at TBK Bank, 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg. This presentation will be a continuation of the October talk on the U.S. Constitution.

A free will offering will be accepted to benefit the Comanche Crossing Historical Society and its museum. Organizers prefer adults only.

**LUNCH MENUS**

**AGATE**

Thursday, Nov. 9: Beef and potato wrap.

Monday, Nov. 13: Chicken nachos.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Hot dog, chips.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Thanksgiving dinner.

**BENNETT**

Thursday, Nov. 9: Ravioli in red sauce, Texas toast, carrots, peaches.

Monday, Nov. 13: Beef and potato wrap, tortilla, refried beans, orange.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Chicken nachos, tortilla chips, Ranch-A-Boom Sauce, cheddar cheese.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Hot dogs, chips, carrots, fruit snacks.

**BYERS**

Thursday, Nov. 9: Sweet and sour meatballs, steamed rice, egg roll, sliced cucumbers with ranch, grapes.

Friday, Nov. 10: Macho Nacho, Goldfish, corn, applesauce.

Monday, Nov. 13: Walking tacos, cornbread, refried beans with cheese, apples.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Hamburgers, French fries, baby carrots, pears.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Chicken soft tacos, tortilla chips, green beans, grapes.

**STRASBURG**

Thursday, Nov. 9: Walking tacos.

Friday, Nov. 10: Cheese quesadillas.

Monday, Nov. 13: Hot ham and cheese sandwich.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Mozzarella sticks with marinara.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Chicken sandwiches.



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COMMUNITY CORRAL

Yearly election of officers, mtg set by business group

STRASBURG — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce has issued its final call for candidates to be voted on at its Lunch & Learn starting at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 15, at May Farms in Byers.

The following positions must be filled: president, treasurer, Deer Trail/Agate representative, Strasburg representative, and at-large representative.

Chamber membership is required to apply. To participate, contact Becky Zierer at lzbalpacas@aol.com or (303)644-4110.

Representatives from Adams and Arapahoe County health services will speak at the Lunch & Learn. For lunch, RSVP by Friday, Nov. 10, to (720)731-1954 or officei70c-coc@gmail.com.

Byers church’s kids choir starts rehearsing Nov. 13

BYERS — The Byers Community Church seasonal choir for kindergarteners through sixth-graders on the I-70 Corridor is now forming for the holiday season.

King’s Kids Singers is an opportunity for children to sing songs and play handbells and other musical instruments.

The choir will hold four practices from 4-6 p.m. every Monday from Nov. 13 through Dec. 4 at the church at 135 S. Sherman St.

A program is planned on Saturday, Dec. 9. Watch *The I-70 Scout* for more details.

Children can be preregistered by phone message at (303)822-5717 or e-mail to byerschurch@gmail.com with the child’s name, current grade in school, emergency contact and phone number, and any allergies.

’Burg seniors organization plans Thanksgiving dinner

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Comanche VIP Seniors Association will host its annual Thanksgiving potluck starting at 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Stras-

Byers: Yearly Christmas toy drive commences

BYERS — Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers is hosting its annual Christmas toy drive through Wednesday, Dec. 6.

The event benefits local low-income families and those temporarily unemployed, at no cost, who need gifts for their children up to age 14. Donations of new or gently used toys can be delivered to Byers General Store and Maverick Mercantile in Byers, Western Hardware in Strasburg, or the Bennett Recreation Center.

The drive will culminate with burg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.

Meat will be provided; members are asked to bring side dishes. The VIPs are also collecting small stuffed animals for distribution to I-70 Corridor fire departments and sheriffs’ stations.

The group, which provides a social outlet for area senior citizens, meets at 11:45 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

For more information, contact Mary Humphrey at (303)622-4695.

Comedy by area playwright key to Nov. 18 production

BENNETT — A comic dinner theater performance presented by the Bennett Arts Council will begin at 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Bennett Community Center.

The council will produce “Rebel Without a Clue,” a 1950s melodrama written by local Eric Zacharias and directed by Robbin Schinke and featuring area actors and crew.

Tickets cost \$40 each for both the dinner and the show.

The event is appropriate for ages 10+. To purchase tickets, visit townofbennett.colorado.gov.

Free lunch and chili dinner on tap for veterans et. al.

BENNETT — I-70 Corridor military veterans will be honored at the annual Bennett Chili Cook-off starting at 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov.

the annual Christmas Toy Shop from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church, 186 N. McDonnell St., Byers.

In case of inclement weather, the event will run from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Families of Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail and Agate are asked to register their children by Dec. 6 at tinyurl.com/mwb92b-nu or by calling Jane Benz at (303)621-2981. Para español llamar a Karla, (720)226-8720.

11, at Tri-Valley VFW Post 8449 in Bennett.

The public is encouraged to participate in the competition, and prizes will be awarded for first through third place.

In addition, veterans and senior citizens age 65 and older can receive a free lunch starting at 12 p.m., Friday, Nov. 10, also at the VFW Hall. The meal takes place on the second Friday of each month, also at the Bennett VFW Hall.

The meal is served by a group of local volunteer women.

For more information, call Flora Goodnight at (303)549-2589.

Nature walk on local birds set for 17-Mile Farm Park

CENTENNIAL — Denver Audubon and Colorado State University Extension in Arapahoe County will host a Nature Walk ‘N’ Talk from 9:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 15, at the 17-Mile Farm House Park, 8181 S. Parker Road, Centennial.

Participants will explore the year-round resident birds and search for nests recently exposed with the changing of the seasons along the Cherry Creek trail. They will also learn how native insects survive the winter and check out native plants that provide winter food for birds through seed and berry production.

Walkers are responsible for their own binoculars, water and snacks. Cameras are permitted.

Advance registration, including

signing of the liability waiver, is required. To sign up, visit denver-audubon.org.

For more information, call Kate Hogan at (720)214-2743.

Teacher prep programs topic of virtual session

FORT MORGAN — MCC Education and Early Childhood Education faculty will present valuable insights on teacher preparation pathways during an informative virtual session from 5-6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 13.

At the session, participants will learn about various licensure pathway options available for aspiring educators; MCC’s comprehensive teacher preparation programs, covering early childhood, elementary, and secondary education; and personalized advising to help prospective students plan for the spring semester.

For more information and to access a Zoom link, visit www.morgancc.edu or contact Taylor Schneider at (970)542-3235 or Taylor.Schneider@MorganCC.edu.

Extension offices announce webinar on meal planning

The Arapahoe and Jefferson county extension offices will host a free one-hour webinar entitled Meal Planning with Confidence from 7-8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 8-9.

Class participants will explore the benefits of meal planning; review the basic steps for creating and organizing a meal plan; use a meal planning template to create a customized back-to-school menu; and create a shopping list based on each participant’s meal plan.

The class includes printable meal planning and shopping list templates, and five master recipe guides for pasta, frittatas, soups, casseroles, and stir-fry meals.

Registration is required one week before the scheduled training so each participant can be sent a voluntary pre-survey.


To sign up, visit arapahoe.extension.colostate.edu.

# The I-70 Scout

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NOVEMBER 11 & 12, 2023

TRAP SHOOTING @  
QUINT VALLEY  
(1 MILE NORTH ON HWY 36)  
8 A.M. UNTIL DARK  
BOTH DAYS

BINGO & PICKLES  
@ LEGION HALL  
(278 W. FRONT ST.)  
BINGO STARTS @ 1 P.M.  
BOTH DAYS

Free Meal  
VETERANS  
DAY

November 11, 2023

High Plains Diner  
7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The Town of Bennett is honoring all those who have served with a free meal at High Plains Diner.

Veterans of the corridor are welcome to a free meal all day. Take-out or dine-in. Limit to \$15 per meal. Excludes Prime Rib. Use the code "VETERANS2023".



Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Assoc., Inc.  
Public Notice

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Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Assoc., Inc. provides the following basic telecommunications services throughout its designated service area:

- \* Single-party voice-grade service with connectivity to the public switched network;
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- \* Access to emergency services;
- \* Access to operator services;
- \* Access to interexchange service;
- \* Access to directory assistance;
- \* Toll blocking, 900 and 976 number blocking.

Basic services are offered at the following rates:

Single-party residence service	\$22.25/mo*
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\*The above rates do not include charges for long distance, operator services, Directory Assistance, 911 emergency services, or other state, federal and/or local taxes and fees.

Discounts are available to members who qualify for participation in Lifeline telephone assistance programs. Eastern Slope also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) which would provide eligible members a monthly discount of \$30 on their internet services. For information concerning these programs, and other discounts that we offer please visit [www.easternslopetech.com](http://www.easternslopetech.com) or call our Business Office 719-743-2441.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Not-So Dusty Pages

**25 YEARS AGO**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 1998**  
Byers School Superintendent Mike Grandstaff had two words for Byers voters — thank you.

“We’re appreciative of all the support we received from the community,” he said.  
Throughout the election process, Grandstaff was cautiously optimistic that Ballot Issues A and B, asking Byers taxpayers to fund much needed school additions, would pass.  
“Obviously,” he said, “we want what’s best for the kids.”

Issue A passed in Adams County 60-47 while Issue B won 63-45. In Arapahoe County, Issue A won 238-196 while Issue B passed 235-202.

This expansion will allow for more space, including more classrooms, as well as more teachers. Grandstaff added that funds will be applied directly to what kids use every day, such as a new lunchroom.

Grandstaff attributes the win to the community. He said it saw a need existed and it responded.

“Maybe that’s what makes this country the best country in the world,” he said of the election process.

“This is a community school. The board is going to have a lot of decisions to make.”

**20 YEARS AGO**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2003**  
Voters in Agate School District No. 300 voted to term limit school board members, 110 yes to 107 no, and defeated a bond issue to raise \$1.8 million to add classrooms, 156 no to 61 yes.

Voters in Limon School District RE-4J voted to defeat eliminating term limits, 481 no to 269 yes, and voted to support changing the district status to at-large for all districts, 396 yes to 352 no.

**15 YEARS AGO**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2008**  
Bennett residents in Adams County voted against a Bennett Park & Recreation District request for a \$500,000 debit increase to supplement grant monies to finance the construction of an indoor swimming pool, aqua therapy area, and activity and classroom space in the Bennett Recreation Center.

A large portion of funding has from an Adams County Open Space grant, but another grant is needed to complete the construction, but won’t be awarded until the next cycle next year. The \$50,000 from voters would have allowed the pool to be built while the second grant request goes through the county approval process.

Voters went against the request 668-545.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 8, the 312th day of 2023. There are 53 days left in the year.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT

On Nov. 8, 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power in Germany with a failed coup in Munich that came to be known as the

“Beer-Hall Putsch.”

ON THIS DATE

In 1793, the Louvre began admitting the public, even though the French museum had been officially open since August.

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln won reelection as he

defeated Democratic challenger George B. McClellan.

In 1889, Montana became the 41st state.

In 1935, the movies “Mutiny on the Bounty,” starring Clark Gable and Charles Laughton, and “A Night at the Opera,” starring the Marx Brothers, premiered in New York.

In 1942, Operation Torch, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War II as U.S. and British forces landed in French North Africa.

In 1950, during the Korean War, the first jet-plane battle took place as U.S. Air Force Lt. Russell J. Brown shot down a North Korean MiG-15.

In 1966, Republican Ronald Reagan was elected governor of California, defeating Democratic incumbent Pat Brown.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS

Singer Bonnie Raitt is 74. TV personality Mary Hart is 73. Actor Alfre Woodard is 71.

—The Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: THANKSGIVING

ACROSS

1. "If all \_\_\_ fails..."

5. End of philosophical system

8. Center of our orbit

11. Indian flatbread

12. Take down, as in a dragon

13. Yemeni neighbor

15. Homer's "Iliad", e.g.

16. \*Copper coin with issuer of Thanksgiving Proclamation

17. A sign or symbol, archaic

18. \*A certain famous Mayflower rock

20. \*5K, a.k.a. Turkey \_\_\_

21. Blair or Hayek

22. Spy org.

23. Like hikers' camps

26. Tourney grid

30. Beehive State native

31. Casual top

34. Money in Milan

35. Belches

37. Roth \_\_\_, acr.

38. Low-ranking workers

39. Old Norse texts

40. Major Black Sea port

42. Dog command

43. Resize

45. \*Thanksgiving, a.k.a. \_\_\_ Day

47. Baby goat

48. Subway entrance

50. Parting words

52. \*Massachusetts' contender for first Thanksgiving celebration

55. Oyster gem

56. One thing on a list

57. Of two minds

59. Sonnets and such

60. Mastercard rival

61. Carve in stone

62. Ted Turner's "baby"

63. Lt.'s inferior, in the Navy

64. "James and the Giant Peach" author

DOWN

1. Compass dir.

2. Arctic native

3. Flying jib, e.g.

4. Enclose in a cyst

5. Part of small intestine

6. \*Traditional occupant of the last parade float

7. \*Pumpkin pie at the first Thanksgiving, e.g.

8. Asian food thickener

9. \*Tbs. or tsp., in Thanksgiving recipe

10. Zip

12. Chews out

CROSSWORD

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13. Ostium, pl.

14. \* \_\_\_ on 34th Street"

19. '90s TV sitcom "Boy \_\_\_ World"

22. TV tube in days gone by, acr.

23. \*Sweet one or russet one

24. Short musical composition

25. Smart candy?

26. Women's undergarments

27. Newsstand, e.g.

28. "Sesame Street" Muppet

29. \*Dinner exclamation?

32. Sweep under the rug

33. Fury

36. \*Lions' opponent this year

38. \_\_\_ exclusion principle in physics

40. Like something for a wedding day

41. Bad rep

44. Supermarket walkway

46. Let for money

48. Form of civil disobedience

49. Lock of hair

50. Past participle of "be"

51. Knitter's ball

52. Long live, in French

53. Itty-bitty bit

54. Like part of McDonald's logo

55. Rubber substitute, acr.

58. Stanley Cup org.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 18

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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 23

Mercury’s Escape

Mercury launches into adventurous Sagittarius. Is there something you want to be free of? Consider that in some way you are already detaching from it by simply noting the ins and outs of the cycle. Awareness doesn’t feel like effort, but it’s the first step, if not leap. And in some cases, one leap is all you need to be on the other side of a problem.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Your humor is more than a talent; it’s a coping mechanism. Wherever it comes from, your ability to call out what’s funny in a situation will attract friends and followers who love to laugh with you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Just like food can only be processed through eating, feelings can only be processed through feeling. Intellectualizing the process won’t work. The only way out is through.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You’ll be captivated by a dauntingly deep subject or a person who is impossible to fully know. “The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.” — *Albert Einstein*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** People say thank you for many reasons having nothing to do with gratitude including manners, habits and humility. True gratitude is born of pleasure, comfort and happiness. What are you grateful for?

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You didn’t get to do things the way you wanted to, and there’s a lingering sense that you’ll never know how it would have turned out. Under different circumstances and with other people, it will work, which you’ll know in the future.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You regularly put your feelings on the line. You’ve gotten used to such risks. People with less experience will remind you of your younger self. You’ll be careful with people. Your kindness will be remembered.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Within the

same language is many ways to use it, which tell people where you’re from geographically, culturally, emotionally and more. You’ll create trust when you speak someone’s language to them.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You don’t always think of your interactions as creations, but they are. You put thought into your approach and choose your topics carefully. There’s an opportunity for beauty in each scene unfolding on the stage of your life.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You didn’t get where you are by being unconcerned with results. So, while your inner critic serves an important purpose, you need very little from them to stay on track. A one-sentence review is enough, then shut it down.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** There are those who will create a false or unnecessary sense of urgency to make their cause seem more important and to get people to respond quickly. Take back the power. Do things on your timetable, not theirs.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** It seems counterintuitive, but less time allotted to work on a project will lead to more creative results. The crunch will focus you on the heart of the matter, and this concentration on what matters will make your work sing.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Organized work habits, effective communication skills, loving mannerisms — these are all things that seem like personality traits but are actually skills that can be learned. Knowledge and practice will take you wherever you want to go.

**TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 8).** You love life and life loves you right back. The more specific you are about what you want to accomplish, the more you will gain the knowledge, tools and resources to create wondrous results. You’ll work off established plans, then you’ll innovate and be paid well for the improvement. Capricorn and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 1, 33 and 16.

— Horoscopes by Holiday



E. ARAPCO SHERIFF'S \$\$

FROM PAGE 1

west,” Baker said, noting that he’s the lone Republican on the board of county commissioners.

Gulli added that even the recent addition of three deputies to help cover from the Watkins area to the eastern border has only led to the number of patrol teams bumping up to six.

“Not all deputies get out here every shift, so it’s a problem. It’s been a problem when it comes assigning shifts,” said Gulli, citing the department’s delayed response to a shooting incident from a large overnight gathering in the 900 block of Imboden Road south of Watkins Oct. 28. “We had one deputy that night covering from Watkins basically all the way out to almost Agate. We had a lot of assistance come from other deputies but they were coming from other areas. We also had Aurora (Police Department) and Colorado State Patrol involved.”

Gulli noted that the department has nine deputies whose sole jurisdiction is the city of Centennial and that, while they will assist with violent situations farther east, Centennial officials have complained when deputies are indisposed for too long or for “simple stuff.”

In addition, the hiring of officers in general has become a greater challenge.

“Very cannibalistic — we steal from Aurora (or vice



Arapahoe County District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker and Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Capt. Chris Gulli speak to a gathering of local residents at the county’s Eastern Service Center south of Bennett Nov. 2.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

he is skeptical of the projection, that state population estimates indicate the county will be the most populous in Colorado by the start of the next decade.

“If the projections of the demographers pan out, they’re saying we’ll surpass Denver County by 2030. That’s 800,000 people,” said Baker, noting the county is currently at about 657,000 residents. Just short of 50% of the county, about 323,000 people, reside in Aurora.

Baker said one of the county’s priorities is concluding a water study by the end of next year. The study would address water supplies and availability through 2050.

“We hopefully are able to get it done by the end of 2024,” he said. “We are trying to get ahead of the development projected coming our way.”

When it comes to county-wide reforms to oil and gas drilling rules under land development code, the second round of changes are being introduced to the planning commission this week (6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 8) with the board of county commissioners expected to conduct a public hearing on the issue at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the county administrative offices, 5334 S. Prince St., Littleton.

For more information, visit [www.arapahoeco.gov](http://www.arapahoeco.gov).

versa) and then Florida (or somewhere else) takes them from us,” said Gulli, noting his first five years as an officer were in Tempe, Ariz., before he came to Arapahoe County where he’s been the past 16 years. Another area that officers have been lost to is Las Vegas.

Baker indicated that requests to strengthen law enforcement in the eastern part of the county will remain among his priorities.

But despite the difficulties with staffing, Gulli said the department continues to work hard to put a dent in criminal activity.

“Auto theft is so far down 24%,” he said. “A lot of that goes to we are recovering the actual vehicles and making life hard for the bad guys. They don’t like the attention, so the moment something is spotted, they

are pretty much out of the picture.”

He also said that recent legislation basing penalties for auto theft on value of the vehicles stolen has helped.

OTHER ARAPCO NOTES

Baker noted that the county has already spent \$500,000 to repair or rehab eastern county roadways damaged by this past spring’s flooding. Of the 15 areas of most significant damage, only the County Road 38 bridge over Bijou Creek remains, but it is open to vehicles under five tons with a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour. A time frame on the bridge being fully operational was unknown.

All county open spaces have been reopened after the wettest June on record, but trail and fence repair

still are required at the Richmil Ranch Open Space near Deer Trail.

Arapahoe County residents were unable to escape the statewide increase in property taxes. According to Baker, the average bump for the county is 42%, including 22% up for multifamily properties and 20% for commercial sites. Almost 31,000 appeals were filed by Arapahoe County residents with 23% resulting in a lessening of property valuation and an average tax reduction of 4.03%.

“None resulted in an increase in assessment or taxes,” Baker said. “The same can’t be said for some of the counties up in the mountains where people challenged and then had their property’s valuation increase even more.”

Baker also noted, while

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LOCATIONS TO DROP OFF TOYS (Deadline Saturday, Dec. 17):

Strasburg Parks & Rec; Bennett Parks & Rec; Byers General Store; Gift Shop, Strasburg; O'Malley's Mercantile (1600 Hudson Rd., Watkins); Ladybug Landing (31 W. Bijou Ave, Byers); Escape the Clock (251 U.S. Hwy. 40, Byers); Tractor Supply (200 West Marketplace Dr, Bennett); NAPA Auto Parts, Strasburg; Salinas Mexican Food, Strasburg; Latina Salon II (992 S. Abilene St., Aurora); Outlets at Castle Rock; and 2354 Basil Street, Strasburg.



Dear family, friends, and community,

I can't believe it's already this time of year again! We are headed into our 14<sup>th</sup> annual Cancer Fighters to the Rescue Toy Drive, and I couldn't be more excited! A little update on me before anything; I am heading into my junior year of college, and I transferred over to West Texas A&M! It's been a fun year, but I am ready for the toy drive to start! This year I am welcoming three new ambassadors. They are all seniors in high school, and I am so happy to have them on the team. They are Katie Seligmann, Aubrie Archuleta, and Kenade Hickson! I know they are all going to do a great job, and I am ecstatic to see the results! If you are new to this, let me introduce myself and my cause. My name is Daniel Alvarado, and I run a Christmas toy drive every year for kids in the hospital that are diagnosed with cancer. The reason I run this toy drive is in honor of my brother, Diego. He was diagnosed with leukemia in 2010, and had a very harsh battle with cancer. I saw how hard it was for not only him, but the plenty of other kids, fighting the same battle. Christmas was my brothers and I's favorite holiday so I started the toy drive, I wanted to try and bring some happiness to them this time of year. Unfortunately, my brother couldn't be here to see how much its grown; he unexpectedly passed away in 2016. I know he's up there smiling down on all of us, and I couldn't be prouder to keep honoring his name. Since 2010, we have donated over 30,000 toys to Children's Hospital of Aurora Colorado and I couldn't have done this without your support. Cancer is a terrible disease that affects children physically and emotionally. Let's help ease this pain, even if it is just a little, by donating one toy to these Cancer Fighters! Your donations, no matter how big or small, will go towards these children who deserve it all. We are asking for **new** toys for kids aged 0-21 years old. The deadline to donate is **December 17<sup>th</sup>**! If you don't have time to go shopping, you can donate through our GoFundMe page, which allows us to do the shopping for you. Thank you all for your support! Remember, Kindness starts with you! God Bless,

*Daniel Alvarado*



CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, NOV. 9

**Veteran's Day assemblies** at Bennett Schools. 10:15 a.m. at middle school; 11 a.m. at high school; 2 p.m. at elementary and intermediate schools, Bennett High School gym.  
**Bennett Fire Protection District Board.** 7 p.m., Administrative Office, 355 Fourth St., Bennett.  
**Drama production.** 7 p.m., Bennett High School auditorium.

FRIDAY, NOV. 10

**Veteran's Day concert** hosted by the Byers Elementary School music program. 1 p.m., check in at the elementary office by 12:45 p.m.  
**Veterans Salute Ceremony.** 9 a.m., Adams County Veterans Memorial at Riverdale Regional Park 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton.

SATURDAY, NOV. 11

**Bennett-Watkins Lions Club.** 9 a.m. via Zoom. Call Diane at (303)644-3717 for log-on information.

MONDAY, NOV. 13

**Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry.** 9-11 a.m., Kelter Library parking lot, 585 S. Main St., Byers. Optional pre-registration at [newclient.link-2feed.com](http://newclient.link-2feed.com).  
**Byers Water & Sanitation District Board.** 7 p.m., District Office, 421 S. Sherman St.  
**Comanche Crossing Historical Society.** 6:30 p.m., museum office, 56060 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.  
**Byers Park & Recreation District Board.** 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

**Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry.** 4-8 p.m. or while supplies last, Hinkley High School, 1250 Chambers Road, Aurora.  
**Strasburg School Board.** 6 p.m., Strasburg High School Central Services building board room. Zoom participation available. Visit [strasburg31j.com](http://strasburg31j.com) for link.  
**Daughters of the American Revolution**

Silver Spike Chapter. 6:30 p.m., TBK Bank Committee Room, Strasburg.  
**Bennett Board of Trustees.** Work-study 5:45 p.m. Regular meeting 7 p.m. For a Zoom link, visit [townofbennett.colorado.gov](http://townofbennett.colorado.gov).  
**Deer Trail Town Board.** Work session 6:30 p.m., regular meeting 7 p.m., Town Hall, 555 Second Ave.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

**I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn.** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May Farms, Byers.  
**Anythink Board of Trustees** meeting. 5 p.m., Anythink Wright Farms, 5877 E. 120th Ave., Thornton.  
**Bennett Municipal Court.** 6 p.m., Town Hall.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

**Baby Bounce:** Children up to 23 months old will engage in songs, rhymes and stories for babies and their caregivers. 11-11:30 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.

EVERY THURSDAY

**Family story time.** 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.  
**Coffee, Cookies & Chat** for all I-70 Corridor seniors. 11 a.m., Bennett Recreation Center.  
**Gaming Club:** Patrons ages 7 and up play video games after school. 4-5:15 p.m., Bennett Anythink library.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous.** 6 p.m. in Byers. For additional information, call (303)968-6934.

EVERY FRIDAY

**Storytime:** Hear a story, sing a song, and spend time together to promote literacy for preschoolers. 10-10:15 a.m., [arapahoelibraries.com](http://arapahoelibraries.com).  
**Alcoholics Anonymous.** 6 p.m., Mountain View Fellowship, east entrance, 1955 Headlight Road, Strasburg. For more information, call (303)644-4899.

EVERY SUNDAY

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** 9 a.m. in Byers For information, call (303)903-6734.

Free food offered to hungry AdCo families

BRIGHTON — The Adams County Sheriff's Office and the Food Bank of the Rockies will host the 19th annual Operation Freebird from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 18, at Mountain States Toyota, 201 W. 70th Ave., Denver.  
Each family in attendance will receive a food box with all food needed for a holiday meal, including a Butter Ball turkey voucher.  
The event will serve approximately 800 families on-site or until supplies run out.  
Attendees will also have the opportunity to receive free health screenings, dental screenings, vaccinations, mental health services, and various other Adams County

programs for employment assistance and child care.  
"This is also a great opportunity for our staff to connect directly with the community members they serve daily," said Sheriff Gene Claps.  
To reduce hunger in the county, the sheriff's office has connected with more than 40 community partners to ensure Operation Freebird is a success.  
"We are seeing more need now than before the pandemic," said Aditi Desai, chief marketing officer at Food Bank of the Rockies. "To meet the needs of our neighbors experiencing hunger, we are spending triple what we were pre-COVID on food purchasing every month."

Have Questions on: Medicare? Health Insurance (ACA under 65)?



Medicare Annual Enrollment Now Open Thru Dec. 7  
ACA Open Enrollment Now Open Thru Jan. 15  
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Every year you have an opportunity to adjust your Medicare and Health insurance programs. These are the questions you need to ask yourself:  
1) What are the changes in your program?  
2) What health needs do you have now?  
3) Do you have someone that advocates for you?

I am scheduling 1-on-1 Benefit Reviews, or you can come by one of my Resource Centers/Seminars!  
Call me from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at (720)327-0619, or e-mail to [Orlando@guardianhealthins.com](mailto:Orlando@guardianhealthins.com).



Every Tuesday (Through Dec. 15): 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: KIT Agency, 555 Palmer Ave., Bennett; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Byers General Store, 586 U.S. Hwy. 36

Thursdays, Nov. 9, Nov. 23 & Dec 7: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Strasburg Clinic, Rocky Mountain Internal Medicine, 56441 E. Colfax Ave.

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Note – Tom acquired this land in 1952 and to settle his estate the land must be sold. This property offers dryland farming, livestock grazing, excellent deer & antelope hunting plus other recreational features located 20 miles South of Ft Morgan, CO.

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# Juried holiday art show and sale scheduled at Morgan Community College

FORT MORGAN — A juried holiday art show and sale, featuring a collection of artworks by talented local artists, will go on display from Nov. 12 to Dec. 21 at a fine art gallery in Fort Morgan.

The gallery is open most weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition, a reception with the artists is scheduled from 4-7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 16, at the Morgan Community College Center for Arts

& Community Enrichment Gallery of Fine Art, 300 Main St., Fort Morgan. The MCC show is a celebration of art, community and the joy of gift-giving, according to a release. The artists will showcase items such as note cards, magnets and small matted prints, providing a selection of affordable, one-of-a-kind holiday gift options. Participants will also be given the

opportunity to socialize with the talented artists behind their creations. "This event is an opportunity to support local artists and discover unique holiday gifts that represent the spirit of the season," said Suzanna Spears, CACE coordinator. For additional information, call (970)542-3180, e-mail to Suzanna.Spears@MorganCC.edu, or visit [www.morgancc.edu](http://www.morgancc.edu).



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# Lady Indians punch state tournament ticket

STRASBURG — For the second straight year the Strasburg Lady Indians qualified for the 2A Bracket of the Colorado State Volleyball Championships, taking place this weekend at the Denver Coliseum.

The No. 8 red-and-black took the 2A Region 8 title with a pair of four-set wins Nov. 4 — 25-18, 27-29, 25-17, 25-20 over No. 29 Wray and 26-24, 25-13, 20-25, 25-21 against No. 17 Rangely.

“What a battle,” said Strasburg head coach Larry Deffenbaugh after the almost seven hours of volleyball action on Saturday.

The Indians start state

play at approximately 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9, facing off against Union Pacific League rival Burlington, who advanced despite being seeded 30th.

With a win, the Indians would play No. 3 Sedgwick County at approximately 5 p.m. on Thursday, but a loss would drop them to the consolation bracket at 8 a.m. Friday.

For postseason updates, visit [www.i-70scout.com](http://www.i-70scout.com). The state tournament will be available online via [nfsnetwork.com](http://nfsnetwork.com); a subscription fee applies.

For full coverage of regionals, see the Nov. 10 *Eastern Colorado News*.



The Strasburg Lady Indians celebrate with the title trophy after winning the 2A Region 8 tournament on their home court Nov. 4. The red-and-black will play at the state tournament at the Denver Coliseum starting on Thursday.

**Bracket Notes**  
The 8 a.m. match time is firm. All remaining match times are approximate. The final selection and seeding Index published prior to regionals is the only seeding criteria for the state brackets.

### 2A STATE VOLLEYBALL BRACKET

Winners			Final 4		Contenders		
FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	THIRD ROUND	SEMIFINALS	CHAMPIONSHIP	THIRD ROUND	SECOND ROUND	FIRST ROUND
A 11/9 • 8:00 AM 8 Ignacio 9 Meeker <a href="#">Preview</a>	E 11/9 • 2:00 PM 1 Wiggins Winner A <a href="#">Preview</a>	M 11/10 • 2:00 PM Winner E Winner F <a href="#">Preview</a>	SF1 11/11 • 12:00 PM Winner M Winner Q <a href="#">Preview</a>	Final 11/11 • 6:00 PM Winner SF Winner SF <a href="#">Preview</a>	R 11/11 • 9:30 AM Loser M Winner P <a href="#">Preview</a>	P 11/10 • 6:30 PM Winner K Winner L <a href="#">Preview</a>	K 11/10 • 11:00 AM Loser H Loser A <a href="#">Preview</a>
B 11/9 • 9:30 AM 5 Plateau Valley 12 St. Mary's <a href="#">Preview</a>	F 11/9 • 3:30 PM 4 Mancos Winner B <a href="#">Preview</a>		SF2 11/11 • 2:00 PM Winner N Winner R <a href="#">Preview</a>		Q 11/11 • 8:00 AM Loser N Winner O <a href="#">Preview</a>	O 11/10 • 5:00 PM Winner I Winner J <a href="#">Preview</a>	L 11/10 • 12:30 PM Loser G Loser B <a href="#">Preview</a>
C 11/9 • 11:00 AM 6 Strasburg 11 Burlington <a href="#">Preview</a>	G 11/9 • 5:00 PM 3 Sedgwick Cour Winner C <a href="#">Preview</a>	N 11/10 • 3:30 PM Winner G Winner H <a href="#">Preview</a>					I 11/10 • 8:00 AM Loser F Loser C <a href="#">Preview</a>
D 11/9 • 12:30 PM 7 Swink 10 Limon <a href="#">Preview</a>	H 11/9 • 6:30 PM 2 Rye Winner D <a href="#">Preview</a>						J 11/10 • 9:30 AM Loser E Loser D <a href="#">Preview</a>

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# Indians, Bulldogs advance to football quarterfinals!



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

The Strasburg Indians threw a 21-0 shutout against visiting North Fork in the first round of the 1A playoffs Nov. 4. The No. 6 red-and-black will travel to third-seeded Gunnison for the quarterfinal round at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11. Above, Julian-raul Valencia, left, and Thomas Devlin (23) pave the way for Indian quarterback Landen Martin on a touchdown run against the Miners. For full coverage of the first-round playoff victory, see the Nov. 10 *Eastern Colorado News*.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The sixth-seeded Byers Bulldogs advanced to this weekend's quarterfinal round of the 8-man playoffs with a hard-hitting 28-16 victory over No. 11 Sanford Nov. 4. The green-and-white now travel to Haxtun for a 1 p.m. kickoff on Saturday, Nov. 11. Above, Bulldog defensive end Garrett Crecelius sets his sights on the Mustang quarterback. For additional coverage of Byers's play-off victory, see the Nov. 10 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.

**Congratulations & Good Luck Emma and the Entire Team!**

*We love you!*

♥ Mom, Ellen, Aunt Kathy, and Grandma! ♥



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**Congratulations Lady Indians!**



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**Good Luck Jenna!**

— Mom, Dad and Kurt

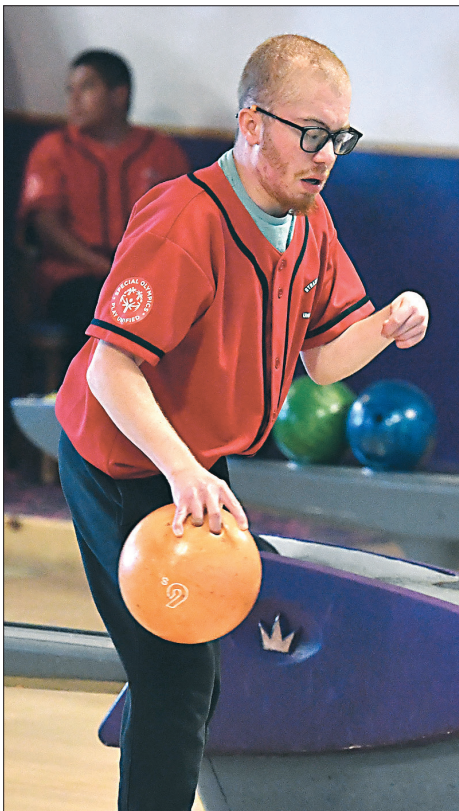
**Congratulations Katie & Lady Indians Volleyball!!!**

**Good Luck at State!!!!**

— Love, Mom



**Good Luck Lady Indians! Pass, Set & Spike to a State Title!**



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg High School will be one of seven teams trying to qualify for the State Unified Bowling Tournament during the Region 2 meet, which is scheduled to take place at 3 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9 at Highland Park Lanes, 1900 59th Ave., Greeley. Further information will be made available on the Forever Indians of Strasburg High School Facebook page. Above, seniors Michael Sanders, left, and Kade Colburn compete during an earlier home meet at Lucky Strike Lanes.



ALYSSA STEMIO/For The Scout

Wylla Turner is all smiles as she gets her mini basketball signed during the Harlem Wizards fundraising basketball game Oct. 21 at the Bennett High School gymnasium with all proceeds going towards the locally based Hands, Heart and Hope Foundation.



# CO poet laureate announced

BOULDER — Gov. Jared Polis and the Colorado Creative Industries division of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade announced the selection of a new Colorado poet laureate.

Andrea Gibson, a Boulder-based queer activist, author and slam poet, will succeed Bobby LeFebvre. She will serve in the role for two years.

“Andrea’s voice holds a fierce conviction in inspiring others to pursue art and take action toward solving social issues and they personify our Colorado for all spirit,” Polis said. “I know Andrea will be a strong advocate for the arts and art education as a way to bring us together, has a strong desire for unity and to bring people together through poetry.”

Gibson, a four-time Denver Grand Slam Champion, centers her work around a range of topics including LGBTQIA+ issues, spirituality, feminism, mental health, gun reform, and the dismantling of oppressive systems.

“An artist’s job is to redirect awe, astonishment and wonder back into people, something we were born with but culture takes out of us as we grow older,” Gibson said.

Much of her work today addresses her treatment journey after she was diagnosed with Ovarian cancer two years ago. “I spent so much time writing about what was wrong with the world, now I write about

SEE GIBSON  
PAGE 16



SUBMITTED PHOTO

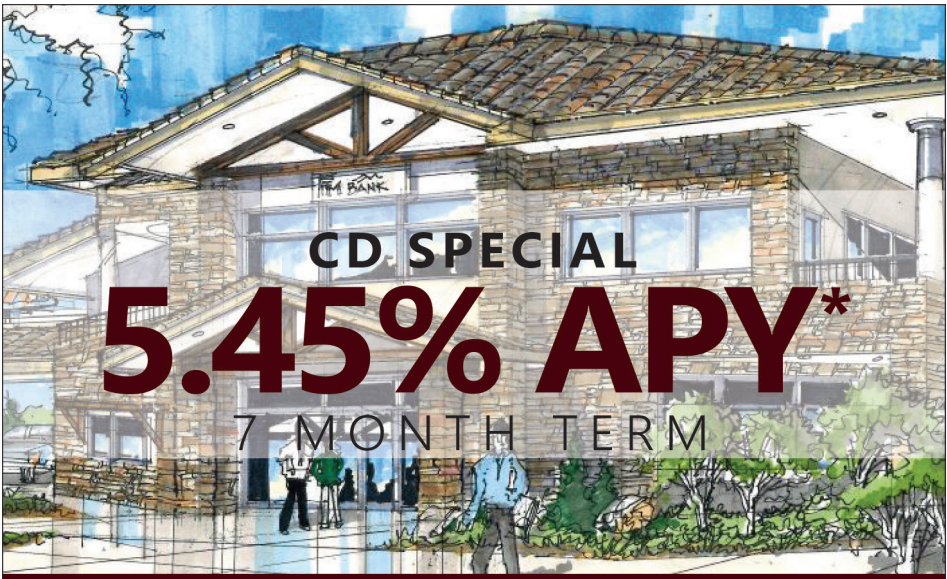
Kerrie Joy will serve a two-year term as Adams County poet laureate.

## 1st AdCo bard strives to connect community via ‘Sincerely’ initiative

THORNTON — Adams County Parks, Open Space & Cultural Arts and Anythink libraries have selected the county’s first poet laureate, part of “Sincerely” — a joint initiative designed to connect the Adams County community through poetry.

Kerrie Joy will embark on a two-year residency, providing an opportunity to advance her art, advocate and promote her work, and serve as a public face and idea ambassador for the

SEE JOY  
PAGE 16



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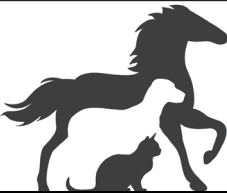
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WEEK OF NOV. 6

GIBSON

FROM PAGE 15

what I dream the world can be.”  
Gibson is the author of six full-length collections of poetry. She is a two-time winner of the Independent Publishers Award, a three-time Goodreads Choice Awards Finalist, and the winner of the first Women’s World Poetry Slam. In 2017, Penguin Books published “Take Me With You,” an illustrated collection of Gibson’s most beloved quotes, and, in 2019, Chronicle Books published her first nonfiction endeavor, “How Poetry Can Change Your Heart.”  
As the new Colorado poet laureate, Gibson plans to help other people fall in love with poetry.  
“I want to come up with new and inventive ways to help a larger population fall in love and appreciate poetry,” she said. “I want everyone to have a poem that they can go to like you would with a song. Poetry can be the vehicle that allows us to know each other and expand humanity. That’s what I hope to help

do with this role.”  
Polis announced Gibson’s appointment at the Colorado Chautauqua in her hometown, Boulder. The Colorado Chautauqua, which marks its 125th anniversary this year, fosters lifelong learning, love of nature, and cultural enrichment.  
Colorado became one of the first states to name a poet laureate when Gov. Oliver Shoup appointed Alice Polk Hill in 1919. Since then eight other people have served: Nellie Burget Miller (1923-52); Margaret Clyde Robertson (1952-54); Milford E. Shields (1954); Thomas Hornsby Ferril (1979-88); Mary Crow (1996 to 2010); David Mason (2010-14); Joseph Hutchison (2014-18); and Bobby LeFebre (2019-23).  
LeFebre was the youngest poet laureate and the first poet laureate of color. He has participated in more than 130 panel discussions, keynote addresses, performances and readings during his tenure as Colorado poet laureate.

JOY

FROM PAGE 15

county. A series of events over the next two years will allow people to engage with Joy through both performances and writing sessions.  
“One of the greatest impacts that I hope to have is that individuals fall further in love with themselves through these words and through these communal events,” Joy said. “That’s always the greatest hope.”  
Joy is a poet, singer/songwriter, storyteller, educator and revolutionary based in Denver. She channels her creativity through poetry, hip-hop, song, graphic design and fashion. Through her role as county poet laureate, she hopes to find beautiful ways to create poetry in the community and help residents fall in love with the art form.  
“Sincerely” will enable Joy to connect with Adams County residents and to create original works

inspired by their experience. In the first year, Joy will spark civic dialogue, amplify voices, break down barriers between the community and poetry as an art form, and enrich the lives of residents through access to arts and culture.  
“Sincerely” has three main components: a public programming series, commissioned poetry and original works, and public readings.  
“Kerrie’s passion for poetry, community, and representation will inspire future generations of poets locally,” said Stacie Ledden, Anythink director of strategic partnerships. “Many people may not yet see poetry as a tool for expression, healing and cultural understanding — Kerrie is the perfect person to engage in these creative discussions while showcasing her own voice and talent.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
The Adams County commissioners and other officials, including Bennett Mayor Pro Tem Whitney Oakley, far right.

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LIBRARY NEWS

**ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY**  
495 Seventh St.  
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[anythinklibraries.org](http://anythinklibraries.org)  
**After-school printmaking:** Kids ages  
7-14 can learn various printmak-  
ing techniques including relief,  
linoleum cutting and even “kitch-  
en lithography!” 4:15-5:15 p.m.,  
Wednesdays, Nov. 8, 15 and 29.  
**Yoga in the Stacks:** Adults can  
practice poses that focus on align-  
ment, stability and flexibility with  
local yoga instructor Scott Noble.  
Mats provided. All skill levels wel-  
come. Space limited; registration  
required. To sign up, visit Anythin-  
klibraries.org. 10:30-11:30 a.m.,  
Saturday, Nov. 11.  
**A Brief History of Death:** Adults will  
learn about the history of death and  
funerary practices in this unique  
and macabre historical overview.  
2-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11.  
**Anime club:** Fandom friends ages 14  
and up watch, read and discuss all  
things anime and manga with new  
projects, activities and discussion  
topics each month. Snacks provided.  
3:30-5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11.  
**Creepy Crawlly Storytime:** The But-  
terfly Pavilion representatives will  
visit the library for a special story  
time for ages preschool to 6 years.  
By reading beloved stories and en-  
countering live animals, children  
and families come to appreciate  
various invertebrates as they take  
on a whole new dimension as liter-  
ary characters. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.,  
Tuesday, Nov. 14.  
**Sublimation tumblers:** Kids ages 12  
and up can make their own tum-  
bler or a gift for a loved one in this  
installment of Teen Tech. 4-5:30  
p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14.  
**Artist meet-up:** Adults can join  
the Corridor Creative Arts League  
to explore the work of artist John  
Singer Sargent.  
The color for the month is brown  
and the theme is fire, something  
with an “S,” or thankfulness, or  
participants can choose to design a  
tablescape. 2-3:30 p.m., Saturday,  
Nov. 18.  
**KELVER LIBRARY**  
585 Main St., Byers  
(303)822-9392  
[www.arapahoelibraries.org](http://www.arapahoelibraries.org)  
**Adult book club:** “The Brilliant  
Life of Eudora Honeyset” by Annie  
Lyons.  
The novel tells the joyous story of  
an elderly woman ready to embrace

death and the little girl who reminds  
her what it means to live. 6-7 p.m.,  
Tuesday, Nov. 14.  
**Cozy fall crafts:** Adults can enjoy  
crafting and connect with other  
members of the community. All  
supplies provided. 1:30-3 p.m.  
Wednesday, Nov. 15.  
**Black light painting party:** The library  
will turn down the lights and turn up  
the fun with a black light painting  
party for tweens and teens ages 9-17.  
Using a black canvas and fluorescent  
acrylic paint, the kids will create art  
that glows under a black light. For  
extra fluorescent fun, wear white or  
neon colors.  
Attendees will receive free glow  
accessories and their own black light  
to take home. 1-2 p.m., Saturday,  
Nov. 18.  
**DAVIES LIBRARY**  
128 Second Ave., Deer Trail  
(303)769-4310  
[www.arapahoelibraries.org](http://www.arapahoelibraries.org)  
**Friday matinee:** All ages are invit-  
ed to an afternoon showing of “The  
Grinch” (2018, PG, 1 hour, 30 min-  
utes). 1-3 p.m., Friday, Nov. 10.  
**Chilly day crafts:** Kids ages 9-17 can  
prepare for the chilly days of fall  
with a selection of seasonal crafts  
including a collaging project and a  
no-sew scarf and more. All supplies  
included, and all skill levels wel-  
come. 4-5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov.  
15.  
**Social skills workshop:** Master magi-  
cian and author Christopher Manos  
will facilitate “Putting a Little Mag-  
ic in Your Life!” where adults will  
learn to mingle in a group and use  
magical methods, such as puzzles  
and business card deceptions, to  
engage others, spark conversa-  
tions, and make new friends. 6-7  
p.m., Thursday, Nov. 16.  
**10 years of ‘Geek Out:’** Fans ages 11-  
18 of books, comics, games, movies,  
music, sports and more can show-  
case their favorite fandoms by en-  
tering Arapahoe Libraries 10th an-  
nual “Geek Out” contest.  
Original creations will be accept-  
ed from Nov. 1-30.  
Prizes include a PlayStation 5,  
iPad and Apple Pencil, Meta Quest  
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All winners will be notified Dec. 7.  
A party and awards ceremony will  
run from 5-7 p.m., Saturday, Dec.  
9, at Smoky Hill Library.  
For more information, visit [arapahoelibraries.org/geek-out](http://arapahoelibraries.org/geek-out) or call  
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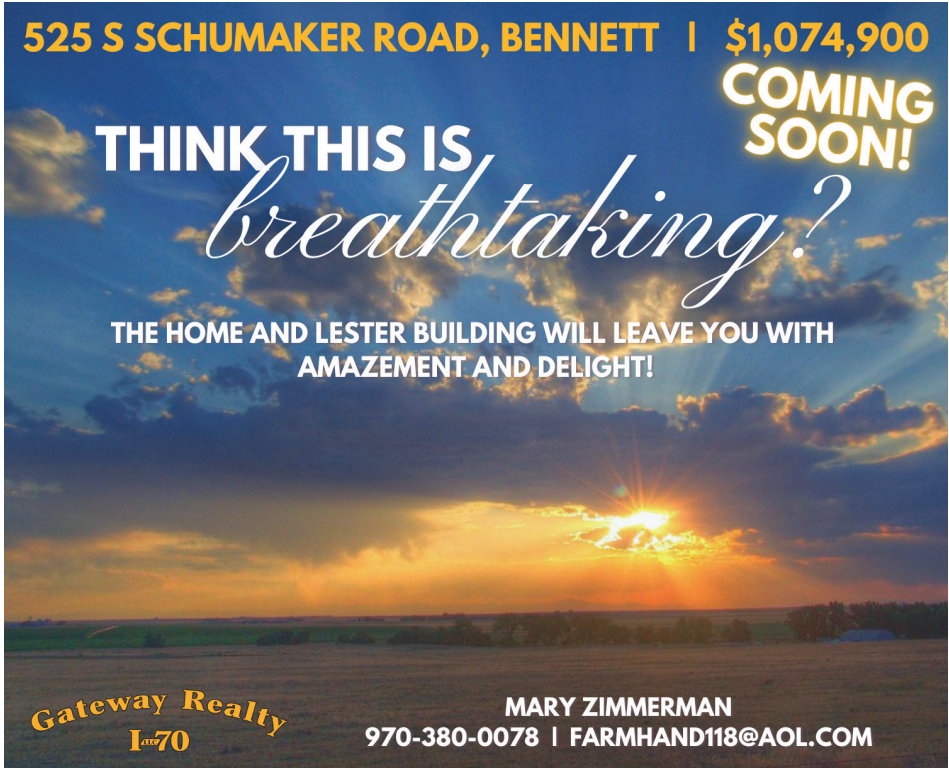
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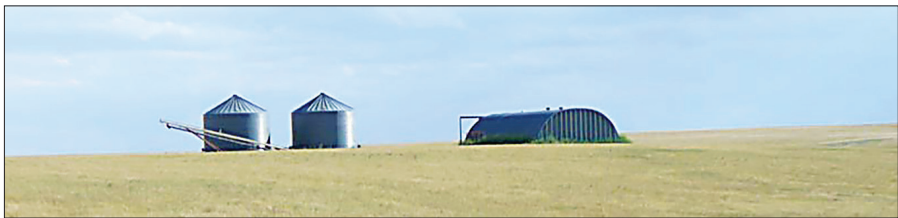
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Help Wanted



STRASBURG  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 31J

OPEN POSITIONS:  
District

- Small Car Driver
- \*Grant Writer
- \*Interpreter/  
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(\*Temporary as needed)

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- Asst. Principal
- English Teacher\*\*  
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- Teacher
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- Paraprofessional
- Custodian
- Teachers

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**Looking to fill a mechanic technician position** at Burroughs Service in Bennett. Needs to have alignment experience, as well as experience with other light duty truck and automotive engine repairs. Must be able to pass background check and drug screening. Apply in person at 610 E. Colfax Ave., Bennett. 11/29

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2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

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**Full-Time Custodian**

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Position open until filled.  
Questions can be directed to Tim Barber at: (303)822-5292, x1138.




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SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 29J

IS CURRENTLY HIRING FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR:

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- Bus Driver

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Byers School District 32-J


is now accepting applications for a:

**Part-Time Bilingual Pre-K Paraprofessional**

Hours: 12-3:15 p.m.

Classified Applications are available on the Human Resources page of the district website, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us), under the District tab, or at the District Office.

Inquiries should be directed to Machaela Eymann at (303)822-5292, x1113 or [Eymann.machaela@byers.k12.co.us](mailto:Eymann.machaela@byers.k12.co.us).



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including “defunding the police, politicizing student loans, provoking inflation with excessive spending, creating open borders (and) decimating our domestic energy production” have Americans concerned about the direction of the country and looking to Republicans for a course correction.

“But their hope for Republicans to take decisive action may be in vain,” he said. “Our nation is on a collision course with reality, and a steadfast commitment to truth — even uncomfortable truths — is the only way forward.”

Buck said that many Republican leaders are lying to America: claiming the 2020 election was stolen,

Jan. 6 was simply an unguided tour of the Capitol, and the prosecutions of those involved are a weaponization of the justice system.

“These insidious narratives breed widespread cynicism and erode Americans’ confidence in the rule of law,” he said. “It is impossible for the Republican Party to confront our problems and offer a course correction for the future while being obsessively fixated on retribution and vengeance for contrived injustices of the past.”

The MAGA Republicans and Donald Trump have significantly departed from the enduring principles of conservatives, according to Buck.

“We belong to the party of Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan; our movement has always been fueled by immutable truths about human nature, individual liberty, and economic freedoms,” he said. “The Republican Party of today, however, is ignoring self-evident truths about the rule of law and limited government in exchange for self-serving lies.”

Buck added that too many members would rather garner Instagram likes than make the hard decisions of governing.

“I made a decision to leave Congress because tough votes are being replaced by social media status,” he said.

ing on flimsy evidence.

Buck further angered the right wing of his party when he opposed Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, in his bid for Speaker of the House. The Colorado Republican Party, which Buck once led as its chairman, endorsed Jordan and urged supporters to contact Buck about his vote. Buck’s office was barraged by tens of thousands of phone calls, and he and other Republicans who voted against Jordan were the target of death threats. Buck was also evicted from his office in Windsor — an action said to have been the result of his refusal to vote for Jordan.

Buck opposed Jordan because of the Ohio congressman’s election denialism, but he eventually threw his support behind Rep. Mike Johnson, R-La., for House Speaker, despite Johnson’s own efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

Buck, 64, serves on the House Judiciary Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and several subcommittees.

According to his website, he worked his way through high school, college and law school as a janitor, truck driver, furniture mover and ranch hand. After law school he worked for then-Rep. Dick Cheney, R-Wyo., on the Iran-Contra investigation and then became a prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice. He joined the Colorado U.S. Attorney’s Office in 1990 and, starting in 2004, he was elected Weld County District Attorney three times before running for Congress.

Buck is a member of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus and is recognized as one of the most conservative members of Congress, but his recent voting record has raised the ire of those in his party who don’t believe he is conservative enough.

Buck was one of eight Republicans who joined Democrats in an Oct. 3 vote that removed Rep. Kevin McCarthy as Speaker of the House. Buck’s vote against McCarthy was based on his belief in conservative fiscal responsibility.

He had voted previously against two continuing resolutions brokered by McCarthy — the early summer bill to suspend the debt ceiling until Jan. 1, 2025, in exchange for federal spending caps, and the Sept. 30 stopgap bill to fund the government through Nov. 17 to avoid a government shutdown. He also spoke out against McCarthy’s launch of an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, saying that House Republicans were rely-

When asked to explain the apparent disconnect by NBC reporter Andrea Mitchell Nov. 1, Buck said that Johnson’s legal challenge of the election was at least a step up from the response of other members of Congress.

“Mike went to the Supreme Court with a challenge to the election,” he said. “I think going to the courts is one thing. Trying to move the mob from the mall up to the house floor and interrupting the congressional proceeding is a whole different issue.”

Mitchell asked Buck how he sees the future of the House.

“Is it impossible for any Republican such as yourself who doesn’t deny the election [or side with] the MAGA people and Donald Trump to work with the leadership and be effective?” she asked.

“I don’t think it’s impossible, but I think, from my own perspective ... the civility in politics is less now, (as is) the ability to deal with major issues,” Buck said. “But I hope the party will come together. We obviously have a lot of very important issues, and hopefully will unite behind Israeli funding, Ukraine funding, and the continuing resolution we need to pass.”

Buck said that, while he is leaving the House, he will continue to voice his beliefs.

“I’m going to be leaving Congress, but I’m not leaving the party, and I’m not leaving my role in trying to talk truth to the public,” he said.



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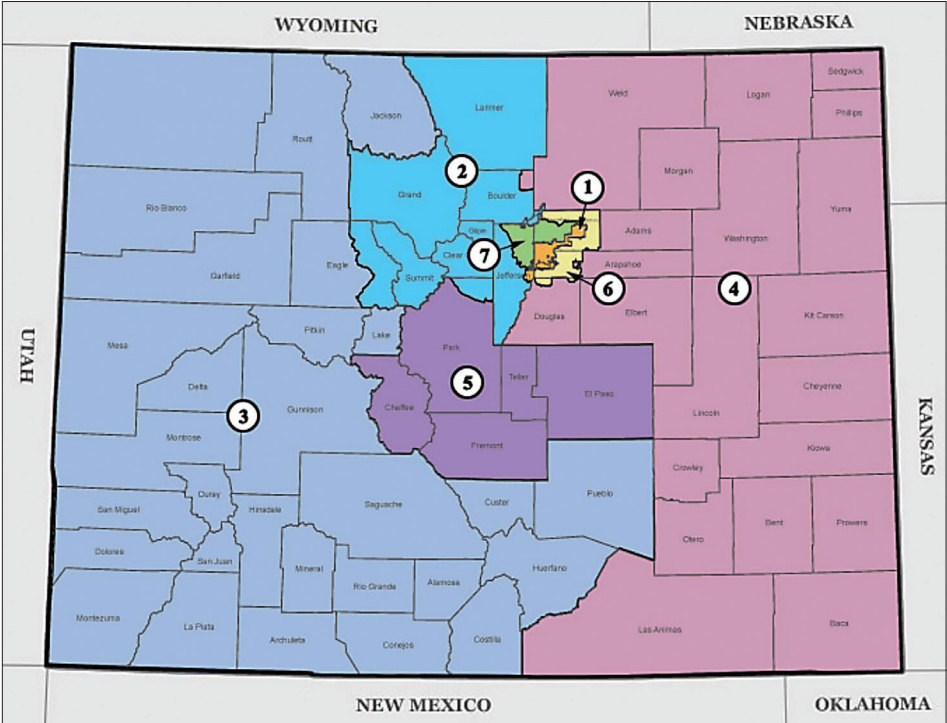


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- ♦ **Stocking Stuffer Online Auction** - November 16th, 6am - November 19th, 10pm All proceeds benefit the Friends of Strasburg Rec. New items added until Nov. 14th. <https://www.32auctions.com/SMPRDSockingStuffer2023>
- ♦ **Senior Excursion: Stranahan's Whiskey Distillery** - November 30th Call (303) 622-4260 to RSVP; Time: 10am-4pm; Fee: \$20 (plus cost of lunch)
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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Abigail and Lexi Harrel welcome visitors to the Limon Ambulance and Agate Fire departments' haunted house and axe throwing party Oct. 31.



CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Among the spookiest decorated neighborhoods along the I-70 Corridor this Halloween season is the Blackstone Ranch subdivision in Strasburg.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

From left photo, Danica Ricke, 9, gets the final touches put on her costume at the face painting station of the Bennett FFA Halloween Carnival Oct. 27; Decker Hahn, 9, spooks people during the Deer Trail PTO Haunted House Oct. 28; and a combination fairy tale and spooky entrance welcomes visitors to the annual Bennett Arts Council haunted house in Antelope Hills on Halloween afternoon.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Left photo, Strasburg Elementary is represented during Mountain View Fellowship's Trunk or Treat at the school's parking lot Oct. 31 by secretaries Margaret Baumgartner, left, and Jennifer Richardson and Principal Kelle Bongard. Right photo, Macey Green, 9, joins I-70 Chamber of Commerce representatives Crystal Frick, Kristy Funk, and Giselle Row during the town of Bennett's Trunk or Treat Oct. 26.



PHOTOS BY KATHY SMILEY/Eastern Colorado News

Left photo, Lee Bergstedt, Arloa Chadwick, 12, and Rebekah Chadwick expertly portray characters from "Coco," an animated film about Mexico's Day of the Dead as Byers welcomes trick-or-treaters on Halloween night to several stations in local businesses and government entities including the Byers Fire Rescue, Kelter Library, and Byers Park & Recreation district. Right, everyone was moved by Veronica Palmer's clever cow-themed trunk.

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