



The I-70 Scout

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

Volume 30, Number 7

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Man accused of running over pedestrian

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS — An Aurora man is facing a felony DUI charge after the vehicle he was driving ran over and seriously injured an in-law in

southwest Byers the middle of last month.
Thomas Cruz Dater, 38, of Aurora is facing Vehicular Assault-DUI, a Class 4 felony, for his role in a Dec. 15 pickup versus pedestrian accident involving his sister-in-law.

Dater was taken into custody by state troopers and booked into the Arapahoe County Detention Center on \$50,000 bond and had his first court appearance the following day. An online inmate search last week indicated Dater was no longer in

custody. Dater is scheduled to appear in Arapahoe County District Court Room 207 at 10 a.m., Monday, Jan. 29.
According to the arrest affidavit, **SEE DATER PAGE 8**



A bald eagle patrols the skies over County Road 6 south of Strasburg Dec. 30.



PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

A dozen hopefuls vie for Ken Buck’s U.S. House seat

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

DENVER — Nine Republicans and counting have declared their intentions to run for U.S. Rep. Ken Buck’s seat in Colorado’s

4th Congressional District. The Democratic primary ballot is less crowded with three candidates vying for the seat so far.
Buck announced his decision to step away from the House Nov. 1. He has served

five terms representing the district, which includes most of the rural Eastern Plains including the entire I-70 Corridor.
The massive 4th District curves around most of metro Denver but also includes

the suburban cities of Highlands Ranch, Parker and Castle Rock to the south and Loveland and Wellington to the north.
CO-04 is the most solidly Republican district in the state. According to a Col-

orado Redistricting Commission analysis of eight elections between 2016 and 2020, the Republican advantage in the 4th District averaged 26.6 percentage **SEE CD4 CANDIDATES PAGE 4**



Aida Dieudonne & Jaylynn Warren demonstrate their labor exploits at the annual member auction to benefit the Bennett FFA chapter Dec. 8.



PHOTOS BY RICHARD SOUTHARD/For The Scout

Left photo, left to right from top row, kindergartners Isaac Villazana Gonzales, Alanna Jaramillo, Adalynn Chavez, Scarlett Nelson, Catalina Ibarra, Miranda Rincon, Ivy Harrington, Olivia Touchette, and Sylvia Copeland sing during the combined kindergarten and Tiger Tones intermediate concerts hosted by Bennett Schools Dec. 6. Right photo, Tiger Tone soloists Kaylee L'Heureux-Bell, Bethany Barela, and Kaylee Wiser sing “You’re a Mean One Mr. Grinch.”

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Oil Pastels on Burlap: Art class planned in Bennett

BENNETT — People ages 16 and up can join the Corridor Creative Arts League and Bennett Arts Council for a unique oil pastel on burlap workshop from 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave., Bennett.

The class will be led by fine artist Megan Morgan. Participants should bring a staple gun and a hammer and will learn to stretch the burlap canvas and complete a masterpiece.

They will also take home a 24-pack of oil pastels along with their completed work.

Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythin-klibraries.org.

Byers women’s place plans public meeting, boutique

BYERS — The Eastern Plains Women’s Resource Center will host its annual public board meeting starting at 6 p.m., Monday, Jan. 15, at the center, 228 W. Front St., Byers.

This month’s open boutique will run from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27.

Participants are asked to enter through the front door to register before they shop from a large selection of baby to size 6 clothing, shoes, coats, diapers and other clothing.

For more information, call the center at (303)822-9368.

Adopt-A-Pole assistance sought for 2024 holidays

STRASBURG — With 2023 concluding, the Strasburg Lighting Crew is seeking donations for the 2024 Adopt-A-Pole program.

Anyone can adopt as many poles as they like at \$20 each, with contributions to fund the decorations for Christmas 2024.

Each year, volunteers donate time, talents and equipment to repair, rebuild and create new lighting and ground scenes to be placed

No-till conference set for Burlington

KIT CARSON — The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association will offer certified crop adviser credits for 30 different sessions at the High Plains No-Till Conference Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 6-7, at the Burlington Community & Education Center.

The crop adviser credits include nine in Nutrient Management, four in Soil and Water Management, nine in Crop Management, seven in Professional Development, and one in Sustainability.

“The 2024 conference will not only include topics related to no-till, soil health, and regenerative ag, but it will also provide information on tax and estate plan-

ning, market strategies, weather, and business management,” said Joni Mitchek, CCTA coordinator.

Nicole Masters, Jerry Hatfield, and Don Day Jr. will serve as keynotes for the two-day event, with breakout sessions featuring producers and ag industry professionals in the High Plains region.

Attendee fees are \$140 before Jan. 15 and \$200 for late registrations and walk-ins.

Each registration includes lunches, snacks and access to all sessions for both days.

For more information, call (719)892-0379, e-mail to coordinator@highplainsnotill.com, or visit www.HighPlainsNoTill.com.

on the first Saturday of December.

The improvements include replacement of old lights with LED bulbs.

Checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 14, Strasburg, Colo. 80136 or delivered to Western Hardware.

Free monthly lunch on tap for local veterans, seniors

BENNETT — I-70 Corridor military veterans and senior citizens age 65 and older can receive a free lunch on the second Friday of each month at the Bennett VFW Hall.

The next meal is scheduled at 12 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12.

Veterans and seniors from all along the I-70 Corridor are invited. Meals will be served by a group of local volunteer women.

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

Strasburg seniors group plans Jan. lunch meeting

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Seniors Comanche VIP Association will host a potluck starting at 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 16, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.

This month, Leila Schaub, director of the Bennett Parks & Recreation District, will speak.

The group meets at 11:45 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

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

Business group luncheon scheduled for January 17

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly Lunch & Learn from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 17, at May Farms, Byers.

A local FBLA chapter and other I-70 Corridor youth organizations will speak. Lunch sponsor is May Farms.

To reserve a seat, call (720)731-1954, or e-mail to i70ccoc@gmail.com by Friday, Jan. 12.

Polis applauds president’s nationwide weed pardons

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis Dec. 22 applauded President Biden’s nationwide pardon for all marijuana use and possession offenses.

“This overdue action will help people who were convicted for something that is no longer a crime get jobs, housing and more,” Polis said. “This is a major step toward breaking down barriers and helping more people and our economy thrive.”

In 2020, Polis issued an execu-

tive order pardoning Coloradans with marijuana possession convictions of one ounce or less, erasing 2,732 total convictions. In 2021, following increases to the legal amount of marijuana a person could possess, Polis pardoned another 1,351 possession convictions.

The actions removed barriers for Coloradans whose past convictions were no longer illegal under updated present laws.

Adams Co. citizens invited to criminal justice classes

BRIGHTON — The 17th Judicial District Attorney’s Office is inviting residents of Adams and Broomfield to participate in a free four-week program where they learn about the inner workings of the DA’s office and criminal justice system.

The program will run from 5:30-8:30 p.m., every Tuesday and Thursday from Feb. 20 through March 14, at the 17th Judicial District Attorney’s Office, 1000 Judicial Center Drive, Brighton.

To apply, visit <https://forms.office.com/g/D2S4cfrGD>.

Polis appoints new judge to Arapahoe County Court

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis Jan. 4 appointed Christina M. Apostoli to the Arapahoe County Court in the 18th Judicial District.

The vacancy was created by the appointment of Chantel E. Contiguglia to the 1st Judicial District Court and is effective immediately.

Apostoli is presently a District Court Magistrate in the 18th Judicial District, a position she has held since 2011. Her docket consists of protective proceedings, including mental health, probate and paternity cases.

She earned her bachelor’s degree from Colorado State University at Fort Collins in 1991 and her law degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2000.



Polis 1,351 possession

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SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

ArapCo lays record 46K tons of asphalt

LITTLETON — A highlight of the season was a unique partnership between Arapahoe and Douglas counties to fully repair damaged portions of East County Line Road near Centennial Airport.

The road separates the two counties and is an important east-west route of travel.

Neither county had planned to work on the road in 2023 because of funding constraints.

To fix the roadway, and make up for the budget shortfall, the counties pooled their resources. Douglas County repaired the concrete along the roadway, removed the old asphalt, and purchased new asphalt for the road.

Arapahoe County provided all equipment and labor to patch and pave the roadway and paint new lane markings.

“This project was a huge success as both agencies were able to formulate a unique plan to get this roadway completed,” said Arapahoe County Road & Bridge Infrastructure manager Douglas Stern.

Other notable 2023 paving projects include East Hampden Avenue near the Tall Grass Neighborhood and numerous roads within the Four Square Mile neighborhood. The mild fall weather also allowed

work to continue into October in the eastern portion of the county as stretches of County Roads 149 and 129 were paved.

In all, about 52 miles of county roadways were improved with a cost of \$5.2 million. The cost includes prep work, patching and removal of the top layer of asphalt prior to paving.

Road & Bridge operations manager Michael Haraldson credits the hard work of staff from the paving and patching departments for the record year, despite short-staffing.

“They put down a really great product that everyone is extremely proud of,” Haraldson said.

The crew of seven also completed 24 miles of shoulder work and also helped prep roads for patching.

“Paving is not the only part of their duties,” Stern said. “It is a great accomplishment when you consider all the other work assigned to them.”

Road & Bridge is gearing up for the 2024 paving program and expects to lay down an estimated 43,000 tons of asphalt. The department has also added 2028 to its five-year paving plan.

For an interactive map of future road improvement projects, www.arapahoeco.gov.

Poster contest honors missing children

LAKEWOOD – In honor of missing children across the country, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation is hosting a poster contest for Colorado fifth-graders as part of a national campaign sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Every year the DOJ takes time to commemorate the valiant and unselfish acts of the many organizations and individuals who bring our missing children home. Since 1983, May 25 has been designated as National Missing Children’s Day.

The poster theme is “Bringing Our Missing Children Home.” It will feature the artistic talents of kids throughout the United States. All Colorado posters must be submitted to the CBI by Friday, Feb. 9.

One Colorado entry will be submitted to the DOJ. The national office will not accept entries. The

poster representing Colorado will be submitted to the national office.

The DOJ will announce the winner at the annual National Missing Children’s Day Ceremony in Washington, D.C. on May 22. The winner of the national contest and their teacher and parents, will attend the ceremony.

The CBI will also recognize the top three Colorado students for their winning poster entries at an event next May.

Posters must be submitted to: CBI, Attn: Poster Contest, 690 Kipling St., Ste. 4000, Denver, Colo. 80215.

For more information, contact Melissa McGaw at (303) 239-4227 or Melissa.Mcgaw@state.co.us.

A complete packet of information, including poster requirements, can be found at cbi.colorado.gov.



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CD4 CANDIDATES

FROM PAGE 1

points; making the winner of the GOP primary a safe bet to take the seat in November.

REPUBLICANS

Nine Republican candidates include, in alphabetical order:

Marisel Bailey is a former congressional staffer from Highlands Ranch who worked for several Republican representatives.

She got her start in politics interning for two Colorado lawmakers — former Rep. Mike Coffman and former Sen. Cory Gardner.

Lauren Boebert is currently in her second term in Congress representing Colorado’s 3rd District on the western slope. Boebert’s surprise announcement Dec. 27 to switch districts came as she was losing ground in a reelection bid in CO-03.

Like Buck, she is a member of the hard-right Freedom Caucus in the House, but she and Buck part ways on many key issues, including the legitimacy of the 2020 election — which Boebert denies — and the impeachment inquiry of Joe Biden — which Buck says is based on flimsy evidence. Boebert uses social media to push culture war issues while Buck eschews seeking “likes” on social media over voting one’s conscience.

Boebert enters the race with a campaign war-chest of more than \$1 million and an abundance of name recognition, but her audacious behavior has offended some would-be supporters.

Deborah Flora is a conservative radio show host from Parker. Flora attempted to enter the 2022 Sen-



Flora

ate race but didn’t make the ballot for the Republican primary.

She is active on conservative education issues including parental rights and protecting children from “woke indoctrination.”

Ted Harvey is a former member of both the Colorado House of Representatives and Senate from Highlands Ranch. He recently served as chairman of the Committee to Defeat the President PAC, which endorses Donald Trump’s 2024 campaign. He has blasted Biden and House Democrats and also criticizes Republicans who have not taken on the “liberal media” or fought for conservative values.



Harvey

Richard Holtorf is a current member of the state House representing the 63rd District on the northeastern plains. He is the Minority Whip. A rancher and Army veteran, Holtorf focuses on rural issues. He has criticized Buck for not pushing the “Trump agenda.”



Holtorf

Holtorf formally pledged to sponsor and support a term limits amendment to the U.S. Constitution in Congress that would restrict politicians to three terms in the House of Representatives and two terms in the Senate.

Holtorf was reprimanded for his use of a racial slur to describe a colleague during a legislative debate in 2021.

Trent Leisy was appointed to the Weld County Council in May 2023 after a resignation. His bio on the

Weld County website describes his four years in the U.S. Navy and his passions as politics and agriculture.

He started a small business selling corn seed and a social media company called FyreFox Media, which promotes the America First agenda. Leisy backs Trump as the “rightful President” and has posted on X that elections have been overtaken by fraud and he would fight for single-day elections and paper ballots and against mass mail-in voting. He has also called for the four Colorado Supreme Court justices who voted to keep Trump’s name off the state’s primary ballot to be arrested and tried for treason.



Leisy

Mike Lynch is in his second term in the state House and serves as Minority Leader, making him one of the highest-ranking elected Republicans in the state. He is a former U.S. Army officer who graduated from West Point. Lynch has said he is in politics to get things done on issues of importance, including the fentanyl epidemic. He notes that, in spite of being in the minority, a number of his proposals have become law. He will continue to serve in the state House as he seeks higher office.



Lynch

Justin Schreiber is a real estate investor and U.S. Army veteran who entered the race in June but, according to Colorado Public Radio, has not shown any money raised since then through FEC filings and doesn’t currently have a website.



Schreiber

Schreiber, who lives in Limon, notified Colorado Springs news channel KRDO in November that he is facing multiple felony charges, including stalking, harassment, and attempting to influence a public servant. Court documents confirm the charges which he says are fabricated.

Schreiber, in a Ballotpedia candidate filing survey, wrote he is running “to restore the constitution fully, dismantle the IRS, ATF and

FBI, they are domestic terrorists.”

Jerry Sonnenberg, a rancher, served in both the state House and Senate before becoming a Logan County Commissioner in 2022. In the Senate he represented District 1 in Colorado’s northeastern corner. In his announcement to run for Buck’s seat, he said he would focus on combating “Bidenomics,” securing the southern border, and achieving energy independence.



Sonnenberg

DEMOCRATS

Three Democratic candidates include, in alphabetical order:

Karen Breslin is a lawyer and political science instructor at the University of Colorado at Denver. In a video announcement, she said she is “deeply concerned about the inequities that rural communities experience around things like maternal health care (and) lack of food security.”



Breslin

Breslin led an unsuccessful challenge to Michael Bennet for the Democrat nomination in 2022.

Ike McCorkle is a former Marine and Purple Heart recipient. He faced off against Buck in 2020 and



McCorkle

2022, losing each time by double digits. He believes that Buck’s retirement makes the seat more attainable and states on his website that “trust and confidence in

government must be restored,” and that he will “turn aside improper and immoral financial offers and will fight for what is best for Colorado, America, and the world.”

John Padora Jr. is a manufacturing engineer and addiction recovery advocate who has been public about his experiences as a recovering drug addict. He states he will fight for working class families and Coloradans, “not special interests in D.C. or companies based out of state.”



Padora

PRIMARY ELECTION

March 19 is the filing deadline for Colorado’s June 25 primary election. The state’s primary elections are semi-open; registered Democrats will get a Democratic ballot and registered Republicans will receive a Republican ballot. Registered unaffiliated voters will get both ballots but can only return one for it to count.

The nominated candidates from each party’s primary ballot will be placed on the November General Election ballot.

In presidential elections years such as 2024, the state also holds a primary presidential election in March.

This year Colorado will join at least 14 other states with the presidential primary on March 5 — Super Tuesday.



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Best wishes & stay safe this winter season!

CO blames Biden, drug-makers for Canada import delays

by Phil Galewitz
KFF Health News

Colorado officials say their plan to import cheaper medicines from Canada has been stymied by opposition from drug-makers and inaction by the Biden administration, according to a state report obtained by KFF Health News.

The Dec. 1 report, prepared for the state legislature by Colorado’s Department of Health Care Policy & Financing, says that state officials approached 23 drug-makers in the last year about an importation program. Only four agreed even to discuss the proposal; none expressed a desire to participate.

“Generally, the challenges that remain are outside state authority and rely on action by FDA and/or drug manufacturers,” the report reads.

Lawmakers in both parties, at the state and national level, have sought for decades to legalize the importation of drugs from Canada. Since 2020, when President Donald Trump’s administration opened the door to Canadian drug imports with regulations issued just weeks before he lost reelection, only a few states have filed applications with the Food & Drug Administration to create importation programs.

The FDA hasn’t yet ruled on any of them. Colorado filed its application in December 2022. Florida, which applied in 2020, has been waiting nearly three years for a decision from the Biden administration on its importation plan, pushed by Gov. Ron DeSantis, now a Republican presidential candidate.

FDA spokesperson Cherie Duvall-Jones said the FDA has not acted on states’ importation applications because it has not determined whether they would save significant money for consumers without posing risks to public health.

U.S. consumers pay some of the highest prices in the world for brand-name pharmaceuticals. Drugs are generally less expensive in Canada, where the government controls prices.

Under Trump, the federal government declared that importing drugs from Canada could be done

safely — satisfying for the first time a condition spelled out in a 2003 law.

But Colorado officials cited another catch: The rule didn’t take into account that states would have to negotiate directly with drug manufacturers, which oppose selling their brand-name drugs in the United States at Canadian prices.

“As the federal Final Rule did not contemplate the need for this negotiation step, we have urged FDA to release further guidance regarding how states can operationalize the program with this in mind, but to date, no guidance has been released,” the Colorado report said.

Unlike many other Trump administration health policies, Biden hasn’t revoked or revised the importation rule. But his administration hasn’t shown much support for the idea, either. Health & Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra told KFF Health News in December 2022 that he wouldn’t commit to the FDA ruling on any state application in 2023.

The president has repeatedly suggested that under his watch Americans would be able to import drugs from Canada. During his 2020 campaign, Biden said he’d allow for the importation of drugs the government certified as safe. In 2021, he ordered the FDA to work with states to import prescription drugs from Canada.

In a 2022 speech about his plans to reduce drug prices, he cited Colorado estimates of how much people in the state could save through importation.

FDA officials responded to Colorado’s application in March by asking for more information and a smaller list of drugs to target, to prove that importation could save money. Colorado’s initial application listed 112 high-cost drugs. The state estimates residents and employers could save an average of 65% on the costs of those medicines, including drugs for diabetes, asthma and cancer.

Colorado said it plans to submit an updated application this year. By then, it’s possible the FDA will have ruled on Florida’s application.

The Colorado and Florida impor-

tation proposals differ. Colorado’s program is intended to directly help consumers obtain cheaper medicines. Florida’s plan aims to cut spending on drugs in government programs such as Medicaid, the prison system, and facilities run by the state Department of Children & Families.

The drug industry has argued the Trump administration didn’t properly certify that drugs imported from Canada would be safe, jeopardizing Americans’ health. Canada’s government, too, has expressed concern that U.S. imports would lead to shortages and higher prices in its country.

Drug manufacturers “will do anything to protect their golden goose that is United States consumers and patients who pay the largest amount for drugs in the world,” said Colorado state Sen. Sonya Jaquez

Lewis, a Democrat, pharmacist and leading advocate for drug importation.

The White House and Congress, she said, should force drug-makers to negotiate with states to start importation programs.

In its initial response to Colorado’s application, the FDA listed several types of information it still needed, including plans on labeling and drug eligibility, according to a March letter from the FDA to the state. Another problem, the FDA said: The state planned to import medicines across the U.S. border in Buffalo, N.Y. The FDA said the only port of entry it allows for medicines is in Detroit.

Colorado officials told the FDA in March that, without federal approval of its application, it was

SEE CANADA DRUGS PAGE 6

William Burt Reynolds



It is with profound sadness and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of William Burt Reynolds. Burt peacefully departed this earthly life on December 21, 2023, at the age of 86 in Watkins, Colo. He was born on April 27, 1937, in Georgetown, Ohio

For 68 years, he stood by the side of his wife, Mary Ruth Reynolds, sharing a love that withstood the test of time. Burt’s love and guidance extended to his sons, David (Sue), Miles (Sandy) and Wayne (Cathy) Reynolds. Burt’s legacy lives on through his 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Burt found solace and spiritual nourishment at Bennett Baptist Church, where he faithfully attended.

His departure leaves a void that can never be filled, but his memory will forever be cherished in our hearts. May his soul find eternal rest, and may his loved ones find solace in the cherished memories they shared with him.

Corrin Bell-Salgado



Corrin Bell-Salgado, 41, of Deer Trail passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 1, 2024, at her home. Corrin was born on June 25, 1982, to Jerry and Annette (Brown) Bell in Aurora, CO.

Corrin began her elementary education in Deer Trail until the family moved to Strasburg when she was in fourth grade. Corrin was a member of the 4-H Club and graduated from Strasburg High School in 2000. After graduation, Corrin traveled before returning to her hometown.

In 2006, Corrin welcomed her baby girl, Addison Rexanna. Corrin loved being a mom and when she fell in love with Brad in 2009, she was blessed with a bonus son, Tyler. During this time, Corrin worked in the automotive industry alongside her mom and Brad.

In 2010, Corrin attended cosmetology school at Pickens Technical Institute where she completed her requirements as a Nail Technician. In 2011, she joined her lifelong best friend at Salon Envy in Byers where they enjoyed many years together. She built meaningful relationships with each and every client.

You could always find Corrin cheering on her daughter at various softball and volleyball games. She was a true lover of all living things and wouldn’t hurt a fly. Corrin enjoyed cooking, gardening, landscaping her new yard, reading and constantly learning new things. Even though the sun was her enemy, she loved to be outside working, camping, or watching sports. Not only will her humans miss her, but her herd of fur babies will too. Her newest joy in life was becoming Nana to Piper.

Anyone that has had the pleasure of sitting in the chair across from Corrin during a manicure or pedicure knows what a selfless, animal-loving, Mountain Dew-chugging, incredible person she was. It’s not very often that you meet someone that would literally do anything for you, no questions asked, but that was our Corrin. We have all been blessed to have known her.

Corrin was a daughter, sister, wife, mother, and friend to many.

Corrin is survived by her dearest, Brad Schwinkendorf, Deer Trail; loving son, Tyler (Bailee) Schwinkendorf, Pearl City, HI; beloved daughter Addison Bell, Deer Trail; parents Jerry and Annette Bell, Strasburg; sister Summer (Josh) Rich, Deer Trail; nephews Devon and Brandon Vansyoc, Strasburg, and William and Zander Ramirez, Deer Trail; and granddaughter Piper Schwinkendorf, Pearl City, HI.

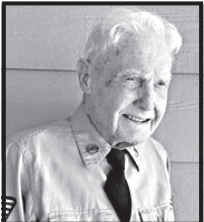
Corrin is preceded in death by maternal grandparent Willard Brown, paternal grandmother Odella(Norris) Bell, grandfather Earl Bell, and uncle Rick Brown.

She also leaves behind special friends Missy and Carolyn, many other friends, clients and extended relatives.

A Memorial Service is scheduled at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 13, at Mountain View Fellowship Church, 1955 Headlight Road, Strasburg.

Her passing has left a huge hole in so many hearts — any support you may be able to provide her family would be greatly appreciated through her GoFundMe page.

Mel Hoover



Melvin Harold Hoover, age 92, passed away on December 15, 2023, surrounded by the love of his family. He was born on June 17, 1931, in Newton, Kan., to Thelma and Harold Hoover and preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Robert.

Melvin, known to many as Mel, is survived by his sister, Bonnie Miller; his devoted wife, Claire Hoover, and their loving children, Janet Lane and Beverly Morrow. He leaves behind a legacy of cherished memories for his grandchildren: JJ Lane, Brett Lane, McCall Morrow, and Cassidy Morrow. Mel’s spirit will live on in the hearts of his great-grandchildren, Gemma Lane and Nelle Lane.

A proud and honorable veteran, Mel served his country in the United States Air Force from November 6, 1951, to November 5, 1959, rendering faithful and dedicated service. Following his military service, Mel worked for the Federal Aviation Administration as an Air Traffic Controller, retiring on July 1, 1986, after 33 years of meritorious and dedicated service.

In retirement, Mel’s most cherished years were spent at a small acreage near Strasburg, Colo., tending to a bountiful annual garden, caring for several farm animals, and immersing himself in his woodshop.

Melvin Harold Hoover’s enduring legacy is marked by an unwavering commitment, a tireless work ethic, dedicated service to his country and profession, and profound love for family, defining his remarkable journey through life. As we mourn his passing, we find solace in knowing Mel has found eternal peace in the embrace of heaven. May the memory of his remarkable life continue to be a source of comfort and inspiration for all who hold him dear in their hearts, guided by the Christian faith that shaped his values and character.

Visitation with family is scheduled 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, January 18, at Newcomer - East Metro Chapel, 190 Potomac St., Aurora, CO 80011

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations, or memorials to be sent to: Rocky Mountain Honor Flight, 26473 Lucky Stone Rd., #101 Bonita Springs, FL 34135 or via the website: rockymountainhonorflight.org.

CANADA DRUGS

FROM PAGE 5

having difficulty securing commitments from drug manufacturers to obtain medicines.

“It has been made clear that potential partners will be more interested in committing to participate once our program has been approved by the FDA,” Kim Bimestefer, executive director of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing, wrote to the FDA. “While we understand the regulatory framework does not permit for a provisional approval, we know that showing progress towards an approved program will aid in our negotiations with drug manufacturers.”

Another complication is that the FDA’s rule doesn’t allow states to buy drugs directly from secondary drug wholesalers. Instead, they must purchase medicines direct-

ly from manufacturers, said Marc Williams, a spokesperson for the Colorado agency.

That’s challenging because manufacturers have prohibited the export of products intended for sale in Canada to the United States, Williams said.

“Without their permission and a supply agreement directly with a manufacturer, Colorado is unable to buy and import these lower-priced drugs that would save people money,” he said.

KFF Health News is a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues. It is one of the core operating programs at KFF — an independent source of health policy research, polling and journalism.

CDE report: Post-high school education provides good ROI

by Eric Galatas
Public News Service

Coloradans who graduate from college or trade schools are ready to join the labor market equipped with high-demand, highly competitive skills needed to thrive in their chosen career path, according to the Colorado Department of Higher Education’s latest Return on Investment Report.

Angie Paccione, Ph.D — the department’s executive director — said any education or training beyond high school can yield significant benefits.

“When you attain higher education, you get higher earnings, better health outcomes,” Paccione said. “You get less unemployment. Typically, debt goes down.”

Nine out of 10 employers in the state say they have jobs to fill but can’t find skilled workers.

Colorado ranks second nationally with more than 60% of its residents with some postsecondary education, including large numbers of people who move to the state with a degree in hand.

But just 25% of black adults have a degree or credential, according to Justice for Black Coloradans.

Paccione pointed to the success

of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative, which has shown that it’s possible to bridge that attainment gap.

But she said more funding is needed to scale up and reach more students.

“It was designed for low-income students, first-generation students, and students of color to get both the scholarships and the wrap-around support services,” Paccione said. “These students will change the trajectories of their families, and of themselves, of course.”

Each new postsecondary graduate in Colorado contributes more than \$132,000 to the state’s GDP.

Colorado workers without a degree or credential earn on average less than \$1,000 per week, compared with \$1,500 per week for those with bachelor’s degrees, and more than \$2,000 per week for those with advanced degrees.

Paccione said the state has taken steps to remove cost as a barrier.

“We have about 12 occupations that students in Colorado can pursue at zero cost for tuition and fees,” Paccione said. “The construction trades, firefighting, elementary and early-childhood education, forest management, certified nursing assistants.”

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AS SEEN ON ANIMAL PLANET

State forecasts positive economic growth

DENVER — The Governor’s Office of State Planning & Budgeting released its quarterly economic forecast Dec. 20 showing Colorado’s strong economy continues experiencing steady growth.

“Colorado continues to have one of the strongest economies in the country as well as one of the lowest unemployment rates,” said Gov. Jared Polis. “We want to build on our economic strength by continuing to create more housing that Coloradans can afford, strengthening our workforce through expanded training and education opportunities, and saving people money.”

The economic forecast projected an increase in economic growth

expectations from the September forecast because of a rebound of consumption and investment in 2023. Disposable income is positive and outpacing pre-pandemic growth. The economy is expected to avoid a contraction as consumer demand holds firm, in large part due to services spending and increased non-residential investments.

The OSPB General Fund revenue was revised up \$247.3 million for fiscal 2023-24 and down \$78.1 million for fiscal 2024-25. General Fund revenue is expected to grow 4.6% to \$19.1 billion in fiscal 2025-26 because of stable growth in income and sales revenue as the economy grows.



Cancer

Fighters

to the Rescue

THANK YOU!

Dear family, friends, and community,

This year went by so quick; it is hard to believe the 14th annual Toy Drive is over... I cannot believe the year we had; it started off slow, but it ended with such an amazing turnout. We ended the year with more than 3700 toys, and I could not be more grateful for the support we had this year. I have so many thank yous, I have no idea where to begin! First off, I want to say thank you to my awesome ambassadors Katie, Aubrie, and Kenade for everything you did this year. There was a bar set on how we wanted the drive to be operated, and you guys surpassed that bar and went above and beyond. I could not be more grateful for you three. Secondly, I want to thank multiple organizations starting with the Outlets at Castle Rock as well as Audi Denver, the Colorado State Patrol and APS for supporting my drive and really helping to expand it so much more. I look forward to our partnership throughout the upcoming years! Thirdly, I want to say thank you to my family and friends. Your support throughout the years has helped me through so much, not only the toy drive, but everything. When life gets hard and giving up sounds so easy, you guys help me retract from that and become my support system from hundreds to thousands of miles away! Lastly, I want to say thank you to my awesome community. I know I say this year after year, but without you guys, this drive would be absolutely nothing. I cannot be more grateful to have all of you in my life, and I love all of you guys. This drive has grown so much throughout the years, and it would still be stuck at square one if it wasn't for you all, so thank you! I am looking forward to next year; the 15th annual Cancer Fighters to the Rescue Toy Drive, let's make it big! Remember, Kindness starts with you!

Daniel Alvarado



14th TOY DRIVE

kindness starts with you

LIBRARY NEWS

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

Building social, emotional skills in kids: Families with children ages 20 months to 6 years can help their kids develop age-appropriate social skills from early childhood mental health consultant Brittany Healy. She will discuss important developmental skills like understanding and coping with emotions, waiting, sharing and turn-taking. Care-givers will practice each new skill with their child during an interactive time after the program. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 1-2 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12.

Story Time Yoga for Littles: Toddlers and young children ages 2-6 explore yoga poses and movement through stories, songs and play that encourage their imaginations. 11-11:45 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 11.

Coffee & Cards: Adults will drink coffee, eat snacks and play hearts, poker, cribbage, Farkel and other games. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12.

Yoga in the Stacks: Adults can practice poses that focus on alignment, stability and flexibility with local yoga instructor Scott Noble. Mats provided. All skill levels welcome. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 13.

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, Jan. 13.

Afterschool Art Night: Kids ages 7-14 will paint, draw and craft every Wednesday after school. 4:15-5:15 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Little Explorers: Children from infants to age 4 and their caregivers will explore early literacy and learning through hands-on sensory activities. They will move, build and create. Wear clothes appropriate for messy play. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18.

How To Save More Online: Adults can learn to maximize savings by using digital coupons and finding online discounts. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20.

Fun with Bennett Fire Rescue: Kids ages 2-6 and their families can be inspired to dream big with firefighters as they learn what it takes to be

a community helper. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 31.

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

Aromatherapy: Adults will enjoy an afternoon of aromatherapy crafts to support winter wellness. All supplies provided. 1:30-3 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 17.

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

Friday matinee: All ages are invited to an afternoon showing of “Wreck-it Ralph” (2012, rated PG, 1 hour, 41 minutes). 1-3 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12.

ARAPAHOE LIBRARIES ON ZOOM
To reserve a spot or for more information on Zoom programming, call (303)542-7279 or visit arapahoelibraries.org.

How to draw cute stuff: Angela Nguyen, author of the popular ‘How to Draw Cute Stuff’ series will facilitate a virtual drawing workshop for kids ages 5-12. She will also discuss her books and creative process and answer audience questions.

During the workshop, the kids will learn the basics of drawing people, animals and more, using simple shapes to make their work absolutely adorable. 4-5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 11.

Qigong: Adults can start the New Year feeling refreshed with the healing practice of qigong. To help them, Arapahoe Libraries will host three virtual sessions facilitated by certified instructor Juli Kramer, who will lead the class through a gentle qigong sequence. Attendees will learn 18 movements designed to balance emotions, nourish joints and organs, and bring a lightness of spirit. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Jan. 16, 23 and 30.

“Not-So-Common Cents:” A virtual presentation for kids ages 9-12 by Sarah Wassner Flynn, award-winning author of “Not-So-Common Cents: Super Duper Important Facts About Money You Can’t Afford to Miss.” Everyone in the world uses money to pay for goods and services. In this presentation, tweens will learn all they need to know about money, including how to make it, save it and multiply it. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 24.

CO low-income energy assistance applications rise more than 10%

DENVER — For the second straight year, Colorado’s Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is receiving a record number of applications to start the heating season as the cost of energy and other essentials continues to rise and many Coloradans struggle to pay their bills.

As a federally funded, statewide program, LEAP helps eligible individuals and families pay a portion of winter home heating costs by making a one-time payment directly to the utility company on behalf of each LEAP-eligible household. Since Nov. 1, more than 65,500 Coloradans have applied for LEAP, a 10% increase over this time last season.

This season, eligible families can expect to receive between \$200 and \$1,000 in energy assistance, depending on the type of heating fuel, income and other determining factors. Applications will be accepted through April 30.

“No one should have to live in a cold home or choose between heating their home and paying for essentials like food and rent,” said Theresa Kullen, LEAP manager. “If you think you may be eligible for LEAP, we encourage you to take a few minutes to apply.”

Other steps can be taken to help lower heating bills. Coloradans can ensure their home’s furnace is ready for winter by having it inspected by a professional and changing the furnace filter every three months during the winter. Sealing gaps around doors and windows can also help keep in the heat on cold days. In addition, LEAP recipients may be eligible to receive furnace repair and replacement in heat-related emergencies and weatherization services pending the results of a home energy audit.

To qualify for LEAP, Coloradans may have an income up to 60 percent of the state median income, equating to a household income of less than \$71,112 a year for a family of four.

Additionally, LEAP recipients must pay home heating costs directly to a utility company or landlord as part of their rent and have at least one U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States living in the household.

For the LEAP application, visit cdhs.colorado.com/leap. Online applications are processed through the Colorado PEAK system. Applicants can also call 1-866-432-8435 to receive an application form via mail or e-mail.

Notice of Election for the Town of Deer Trail CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Town of Deer Trail will conduct a municipal election on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. The 2024 Town Board election ballot will be for five (5) Town Board Trustee seats. The top two vote-getters in the Trustee election will each serve a four-year term, with the next three vote-getters to serve two-year terms.



Nomination Petitions are now available at the Town Clerk’s office, and must be returned to the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Monday, January 22, 2024. Only petitions obtained directly from the Town Clerk’s office may be circulated. Blank petition forms may not be copied for the purpose of obtaining additional signatures or to give to other candidates. Petition forms from the Town Clerk’s office may NOT be disassembled. Each candidate must turn in all of his/her petitions at one time. The Town Clerk’s office is at Deer Trail Town Hall, 555 Second Ave.

Every registered elector 18 years of age or older may be a candidate for office, if he/she has resided within the Town for a period of at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the date of the election. Residency within the territory annexed to the Town shall count towards the residency requirements in the Town.

Nomination petitions require a minimum of 10 signatures. Each signer must be a registered elector residing within the Town limits. No registered elector shall sign more than one nomination petition for each separate office to be filled.

Persons desiring to vote in the upcoming election and who have not registered to vote must do so on or before Election Day. Persons may register to vote at the Arapahoe County offices at 5334 South Prince Street in Littleton or Arapahoe County Motor Vehicle Office, 538 N. Highway 36, Byers, CO 80103. Persons may also register to vote online at govotecolorado.com.

For more information, including absentee ballots and other election assistance, please contact Deer Trail Town Hall at (303)769-4464.

Kimberly Sullivan, Town Clerk

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesdays, January 10th and 17th, 2024, and in the *Eastern Colorado News* on Fridays, January 12th and 19th, 2024.

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CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 11
I-70 Regional Economic Advancement Partnership. 11:45 a.m., CORE Electric, 1092 Cedar St., Bennett. Visit I-70reap.com for more information.
Bennett Fire Protection District Board. 7 p.m., Administrative Office, 355 Fourth St., Bennett.

SATURDAY, JAN. 13
Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. 9 a.m. via Zoom. Call Diane at (303)644-3717 for log-on information.

MONDAY, JAN. 15
East Adams Conservation District Board. 9 a.m., Farm Service Agency office, 133 W. Bijou, Byers.
Strasburg Parks & Recreation District Board. 6 p.m., TBK Bank, 56641 E. Colfax Ave. Call (303)622-4260 for information.
2022 meeting dates: Oct. 16, Nov. 20
Byers Fire Rescue. 6 p.m., Byers Firehouse.
Bennett Planning & Zoning Commission. 6 p.m., Town hall or virtually. Visit the Planning & Zoning meeting agendas page at townofbennett.colorado.gov for information.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16
Comanche VIP Seniors luncheon. 11:45 a.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.
Bennett Arts Council. 4 p.m., Bennett Town Hall.
Eastern Colorado Beekeepers. 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. E-mail info@easterncoloradobees.com or visit easterncoloradobees.com for link and location updates.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17
I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

May Farms, Byers.
EVERY TUESDAY
Preschool Storytime: Children up to age 6 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that promote early literacy. 10 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.
Family story time. 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.
Music & Movement: Ages 2-6 can sing, dance and learn to play musical instruments. 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Anythink Bennett library.

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 FRIDAY
Storytime: Hear a story, sing a song, and spend time together to promote literacy for preschoolers. 10-10:15 a.m., arapahoelibraries.com. Click on “virtual events.”
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.

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 information, contact Kurt Elliott at (303)895-7568 or hpmemusicedirector@gmail.com or visit www.highplainsmusicensemble.com.

Meals on Wheels volunteers sought

BRIGHTON — The nonprofit Senior Hub recently reported it was running out of funds to continue its Meals on Wheels program in Adams County.
To ensure Senior Hub’s existing clients continue to receive meal delivery, Adams County has partnered with The Senior Hub, Volunteers of America Colorado (VOA Colorado), and the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) to fund emergency meals while a long-term strategy is developed to continue the services into the new year.
“As the Area Agency on Aging in the metro area, we’re committed to helping older adults age well in

their homes, and nutritious meals are obviously a key to that,” said Douglas Rex, executive director of DRCOG.
Over the next few weeks, The Senior Hub will continue coordinating its existing volunteers to deliver meals prepared by VOA Colorado while Adams County and DRCOG will provide temporary funding to cover the costs of the meals. In addition, all partners will reach out to their own networks to recruit additional volunteers for support.
To volunteer, e-mail to areaagencyonaging@drcog.org or call (303)480-6700. Call (303)426-4408 for delivery information.



Above, Ryler Warren and Allison Krieger participate in the Bennett second-grade holiday concert Nov. 28. Below, Kinslee Haefele, Aspen Moon, Mariana Chavez, Ximena Ocon, and Valentina Chavez Natividad sing loudly.



DATERFROM PAGE 1

at approximately 8:23 p.m., Colorado State Patrol troopers were dispatched to the 500 block of South McDonnell Street and upon arrival found a blue Ford F-150 on the shoulder of the road. The victim, a 42-year-old Byers woman, was transported to a hospital prior to the troopers’ arrival; it was reported she “sustained serious bodily injury to include multiple fractures.”
Dater was in the pickup when it reportedly struck the victim.
“[Dater] said he was arguing with ... his brother’s wife. She was refusing to get out of the way of his truck and let him leave for work,” the arrest affidavit said, adding that Dater said the victim was hanging onto the mirror of the pickup in an effort to persuade him to let her ride with him. “[He] began driving at approximately 5 [mph] and eventually heard a thud under his car and felt like he had driven over a bump. [He] then exited the vehicle and attempted to render aid.
“He got down to help her and said her dog began biting him. He told me that he contacted the police and reported the incident.”
Dater, who was reportedly intoxicated, was arrested a little after 9 p.m.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of William Brackenridge Kitchens, William B Kitchens, Deceased
Case Number 2023PR477
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to District Court of Arapahoe County, Colorado on or before May 15, 2024, or the claims may be forever barred.

Christine D Godsey
Type or Print name of Person Giving Notice

43859 E Arkansas Pl
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Bennett, CO 80102
City, State, Zip Code

#2904
Published in The I-70 Scout on Wednesdays, January 10, 17 and 24, 2024.

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ALEX HAGER/KUNC

Docks and buoys, once floating atop dozens of feet of water, sit stranded on the sand at Bullfrog Marina April 9 of last year. More than two decades of drought have strained the water supply for tens of millions of people, and policymakers have struggled to rein in demand.

Drought: New climate report reveals effect on human health in Southwest

by Alex Hager
KUNC

The arid West is getting drier, and shrinking water supplies pose a boatload of risks to human health throughout the region.

Those findings come from a new federal report on climate change that also covers a broad range of hazards caused by changing climate patterns related to human activity. Those hazards span from flooding to wildfires, from drought to rising sea levels.

The Fifth National Climate Assessment identified drying in the Colorado River basin as one of the greatest climate risks facing the Southwest, as well as the region's biggest area for future climate mitigation and adaptation.


The problem hinges on one key fact: The Southwest is getting drier,

and it's likely not a temporary phenomenon. Climate change is shrinking the amount of water on the surface and underground, shaping a trend that goes beyond the normal ebb and flow of occasional drought. Instead, scientists say a permanent resetting of the baseline for how much water the region should expect to see each year is occurring, a process called "aridification."


Higher temperatures mean a shorter snow season and less water piling up as snow. Two-thirds of the Colorado River starts as snow in Colorado. At the same time, the snowmelt that does fall is being absorbed by thirsty soil and failing to make it all the way to rivers.

Heidi Steltzer, a professor of environment and sustainability at Fort Lewis College in Durango said the

SEE DROUGHT & HEALTH PAGE 10






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Drop off your Christmas trees at Riverdale Regional Park. Signs will direct residents to the drop-off site. Please remove all lights, ornaments, and decor. Tree limbs, yard waste, or trees from commercial operations will not be accepted. For additional information, call the Parks Department at **303.637.8000**.



CLERK & RECORDER
Josh Zygielbaum

The Clerk & Recorder's Office exists to support and educate our community through prioritizing trust, inclusion, accuracy, and continuous improvement.

Our hours are changing in 2024! Beginning Jan. 2, all Clerk & Recorder Offices will open at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Here's the full list of 2024 business hours:

MOTOR VEHICLE*
M, Tu, Th, F: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. **W:** 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
*Bennett Motor Vehicle closes each day from noon – 1 p.m.

ELECTIONS AND RECORDING
M, Tu, Th, F: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **W:** 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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[Public Agencies](https://www.adamscountyco.gov) [i /AdamsCountyCo](https://instagram.com/AdamsCountyCo)

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Recall of nearly 5M portable blenders starts because of unsafe blades, burns

BlendJet is recalling about 4.8 million of its portable blenders over laceration and fire hazards after receiving dozens of reports of injuries, federal regulators said last month.

BlendJet 2 Portable Blenders can overheat or catch fire, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and their blender blades can break off during use.

Reports to date of blades breaking during use number 329, the CPSC said, as well as 17 more reports of overheating or fires that resulted in about \$150,000 of property damage claims. The company has also received 49 reports of minor burns and one reported laceration injury.

Regulators urged consumers to stop using the recalled blenders immediately and contact BlendJet for a free base unit replacement. To receive the replacement part, customers must remove and cut up the base’s rubber seal and e-mail or upload a photo on BlendJet’s website.

BlendJet said in a prepared statement that the recall impacts older

Blender 2 blenders and that BlendJet 2 blenders now available for purchase through the company’s website and retail partners have updated components and are not subject to the recall.

“Out of an abundance of caution, our company updated the base of the BlendJet 2 to feature thicker blades and an improved electrical configuration,” BlendJet wrote in a release. “These updates were incorporated many months ago into all BlendJet 2 devices manufactured by the company.”

BlendJet 2 blenders with serial numbers that begin with numbers 5543 or higher are not under recall, the Benicia, Calif., company said. Consumers can also confirm whether or not their blender is under recall with product information on BlendJet’s website or contacting the company. According to the CPSC, the recalled BlendJet Portable Blenders were sold between October 2020 and November 2023 online and in stores at retailers including Costco, Walmart and Target.



DROUGHT & HEALTH

FROM PAGE 9

situation means people living in a dry region will have to develop practices that use less water, changing from “a scarcity mindset to an abundance mindset.”

“If we don’t have a lot of snow in any given winter, or over a five- or 10-year stretch, where and how can we shift to some of these behaviors that ensure everybody has enough, even if it’s not as much as we used to have?” Steltzer asked.

Steltzer didn’t work on the Fifth National Climate Assessment but helped author a major United Nations climate report in 2019. She said rural communities, which often steward much of the nation’s land and natural resources through agriculture, should be a bigger part of conversations about climate change. The new federal climate report doesn’t include many new scientific findings but rather summarizes a lot of existing research and puts it in a context accessible to the general public. It also highlights the human health risks caused by climate change. Across the country, those risks include heat-related deaths, breathing problems induced by poor air quality and wildfire smoke, and mental trauma related to natural disasters.

The report said already-marginalized groups — such as people of color, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness — are disproportionately vulnerable to such climate-related health hazards.

The assessment’s authors say the latest report has an increased focus on climate justice compared to previous reports. In the Southwest, the report highlights drought-related health risks for Native American communities. Heather Tanana, a law professor at the University of California at Irvine who focuses on tribal water infrastructure and Indigenous health policy, helped author the report.

“In the Southwest, a lot of Native American homes don’t have infrastructure to get clean running water or sanitation,” she said. “The climate impacts of drought or flooding in an area where infrastructure is not sufficient is just going to make those inequities worse.”

Tanana said fixing those problems starts with better data about the impacts of climate change.

“When we have better data, we’re able to be more adaptive to implement climate solutions,” she said.

Climate data about tribal communities, in particular, has historically been limited.

Water policymakers across the Southwest are working on new ways to reduce demand as a response to shrinking water supplies brought on by climate change. State leaders are under pressure to agree on new water management rules by 2026, when the current set of guidelines for managing the Colorado River expires. They are also facing steady calls to give tribal groups a larger voice in those negotiations.

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Friday, January 5, 2024

SPORTS

Bennett Lady Tigers shine at Ohio tourney

by Douglas Clausen
Publisher & Editor

FINDLAY, Ohio — Bennett has just three girls wrestling this year, but the team still finished in the top third of the Findlay (Ohio) FIGHT Girls Wrestling Tournament at the University of Findlay Dec. 21-22. Bennett finished 18th out of 59 teams from across the nation with 70 team points after sophomore Vivienne Gitke placed second at 140 pounds with 28 points; and seniors Marie Jordan (100) and Katelyn Ficzak (105) each took third with 22 and 20 points, respectively. "I'm very, very, very excited," said Bennett girls wrestling coach Brittaney Hudson. "The girls got some great national competition and then they also got to tour and meet with some college programs and coaches, which is really nice." Gitke won four consecutive matches by fall in 0:35, 0:20, 2:59 and 5:51 before losing in the championship match by pin in 1:51 against Rejan Al-Hashash of Avon Lake, Ohio. Hudson described Gitke as "just aggressive." "She loves getting the first takedown," Hudson said. "She's a forward motion kind of competitor and just got caught in a bad shot and put to her back and that's tough. ...

"Vivi, I think, was a bit discouraged after this one when, in all honesty, she was the one being offensive and just got caught in a mistake. And so not disappointed in that at all."

Jordan won four straight matches and Ficzak three consecutive before falling in the semifinals. Jordan by falls in 1:28 and 1:38 in her first two contests, then won decisions of 12-9 and 4-2 before she was defeated by pin in 3:32. She rebounded to take third with a 9-4 decision over Lily Enos of Batavia (Ill.) High School. "We had a really, really, really tough quarterfinals match. Came across a tough girl in the semis. I think we could have performed a little bit better than we did," Hudson said. "We got stuck on bottom for too long. I think we definitely



Bennett poses for a photo in the Adelsperger Wrestling Complex at Tiffin (Ohio) University. Vivi Gitke, left, Marie Jordan, Bennett boys wrestling coach John Ficzak, and Kate Ficzak are pictured.

could have got off bottom with her but ended up wrestling a pretty decent semifinals match. Ficzak won her first two matches by fall in 1:06 and 3:29 before she was pinned in 1:28 to put her into the consolation semifinals where she took a 7-6 decision before defeating Anna Burma of Fowlerville (Mich.) High School for third place. "Kate is an aggressive wrestler but she wrestles too close and so we're really focusing on stretching the score and getting more points so that we can get a little bit more comfortable wins," Hudson said. The Lady Tigers will compete in

SEE W LADY TIGERS
PAGE 10

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Lady Tigers Vivi Gitke, left, Marie Jordan, Katelyn Ficzak and team manager Audrey Harrell were allowed to practice at the Tiffin (Ohio) wrestling facility because former Bennett wrestler Alissa Dubois now competes there.

W LADY TIGERS
FROM PAGE 9

the Mark Purslow Memorial Invitational Wrestling Tournament at Bennett Jan. 6.

"What I'm most proud of is that we are Bennett Tiger wrestling," Hudson concluded. "And I'll be the first to say that we are better competitors because of the teammates we're competing with in the room, because of our male teammates that make us stronger and better."

Bennett was invited to the fiercely competitive event last April after the Lady Tigers placed ninth at the state tournament with just four participants, including 2023 graduate Alissa DuBois, who placed third at 155 pounds at the Colorado State Championships last February. DuBois now competes at nearby Tiffin (Ohio) University, and the connection allowed the Bennett girls to practice at university facilities. "I also really love how our team's like a family. It's a lot of siblings wrestling together, which makes it really nice, and dad, which is really nice, and uncle and you know yada yada. So I'm really really excited for the rest of the season and post-season coming up."

COMING UP — BOYS
Jan. 5: Bennett open duals
Jan. 6: Mark Purslow Memorial, Bennett
Jan. 12-13: @ Mel Smith Invitational, Florence

COMING UP — GIRLS
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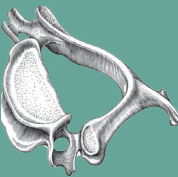
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Gun rights groups sue Colorado over state’s ban on ‘ghost guns’

by **Jesse Bedayn**
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Gun rights groups have filed a federal lawsuit challenging Colorado’s ban on so-called ghost guns — firearms without serial numbers assembled at home or 3D printed that are difficult for law enforcement to trace and allow people to evade background checks.

The litigation filed Jan. 1 is the latest of several Second Amendment lawsuits aimed at a slew of gun control regulations passed by Colorado’s majority Democratic legislature and signed by Democratic Gov. Jared Polis last year.

The ban on ghost guns took effect Jan. 1 and follows a dramatic rise in their reported use in crimes, jumping by 1,000% between 2017 and 2021, according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives.

The law bars anyone in Colorado except licensed firearm manufacturers from creating gun frames and receivers, which house internal components. It also prohibits the transport and possession of frames and receivers without serial numbers.

The lawsuit filed by the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners and the National Association for Gun Rights alleges that the ban infringes on Americans’ Second Amendment rights.

“This law is an outright assault on the constitutional rights of peaceable Coloradans. It’s not just an overreach; it’s a direct defiance to our Second Amendment freedoms,” said Taylor Rhodes, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, in a statement.

Rhodes said the Supreme Court’s ruling last year, which is considered an expansion of gun rights, reinforces their case in Colorado, pointing to a long history of citizens serving as their own gunsmiths.

“The Supreme Court made it clear that any law infringing on the right to bear arms must align with the historical understanding of the Second Amendment,” Rhodes said. “If homemade — unserialized — guns weren’t legal at the time of our nation’s founding, we would all have a British accent.”

Shelby Wieman, a spokesperson for Polis, declined to comment citing ongoing litigation.

As Colorado’s governor, Polis was named as the defendant in the lawsuit.

The other gun control laws passed last year facing legal challenges include raising the minimum age to purchase a firearm from 18 to 21 and imposing a three-day waiting period between purchase and receipt of a firearm.

Democratic President Joe Biden has similarly cracked down on ghost guns with the new rules also being challenged in federal court.



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Study: Who backs Putin? Men, older people, traditionalists

by Daniel Strain
CU Boulder Today

BOULDER — An international team of researchers has released an exhaustive look at support for Russia’s autocratic President Vladimir Putin across several neighboring countries.

The study, published Nov. 30 in the journal *Political Geography*, was a massive effort. From 2019-20, researchers led by John O’Loughlin at the University of Colorado at Boulder contracted with local polling companies to survey more than 8,400 people face-to-face in six nations: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Ukraine.

The team’s findings give a deep look at the type of people who support Putin, a former KGB spy who once held a photo shoot of himself riding a horse shirtless. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the results reveal that Putin is more popular among men than women and less popular among younger and more educated people.

“Our research has shown that Putin’s machismo and his authoritarian personality appeal to people who have more close-minded personalities, hold traditional values, and don’t trust science,” said John O’Loughlin, professor in the Institute of Behavioral Science and Department of Geography.

In the former Soviet Union, Putin remains a complicated presence.

In Georgia, for example, the survey found that Putin was wildly unpopular, with more than 70% of respondents indicating that they had “no trust at all” in the leader. He boasted much more favorable ratings in Belarus and Kazakhstan, which have traditionally held close ties with Russia.

O’Loughlin noted that he and his colleagues conducted the surveys before Russia launched its long and bloody invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The researchers are



Vladimir Putin meets Nov. 23 with Alexander Lukashenko, the president of Belarus, prior to a session of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation in Minsk, Belarus. Lukashenko’s presidency is not legally recognized by the United States

planning to return to the same respondents in early 2024 to see how the war may have — or have not — reshaped their attitudes toward Putin.

They separately conducted phone interviews with hundreds of people living in parts of Ukraine under Kyiv control in October 2022. Responses show that the war has backfired on Putin. In the country, support for joining NATO, a military alliance including the United States and dozens of European nations, soared from 44% to 77% since 2019.

“It was dramatic,” O’Loughlin said. “We asked the same people exactly the same questions, and the shift in attitudes was incredible.”

Whether the same shifts will happen in other former Soviet Union nations is less clear.

“We have what’s called a ‘natural experiment,’” O’Loughlin said. “We weren’t expecting the war

in Ukraine, but we can see the effects of the full-scale invasion on peoples’ attitudes about Putin and Russia and toward the West and NATO.”

PUTIN’S STAMP OF APPROVAL

Asking people about Putin, however, can be a loaded topic, O’Loughlin added.

People don’t always tell the truth on surveys. In some cases, they may be worried about the consequences. In others, survey respondents merely give researchers the answers they think they want to hear.

To get around those limitations, O’Loughlin and his colleagues undertook what researchers call an “endorsement experiment.”

During the roughly 45-minute surveys, the team asked participants a seemingly innocuous question — whether they supported drilling for oil in the Arctic. For half of the respondents, however,

the researchers tacked on an extra caveat: “President Putin of Russia strongly favors oil drilling.”

“The difference between the more neutral question and the question mentioning Putin’s endorsement gives you an idea of his real support,” O’Loughlin said.

It made a difference, too. In Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, the fake Putin endorsement made people less likely to support drilling in the Arctic.

The opposite was true in Armenia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

APPEAL OF THE ‘STRONG MAN’

The findings could provide researchers with clues about why some people find autocratic leaders in the mold of Putin so appealing.

Researchers, for example, asked the survey respondents if they agreed with the statement: “Husbands should make the important decisions in a marriage.”

People who said yes were significantly more likely to support Putin than those who disagreed. The same was true for people who agreed with the statement: “I see myself as conventional and uncreative.”

“Our biggest surprise was that these results were consistent across the different countries in our study,” O’Loughlin said. “It’s the same people in every place who like or dislike Putin.”

O’Loughlin noted that, in Russia, Putin has tapped into nostalgia for the former Soviet Union — an era that many people in the region, and especially older generations, still view as a time of relative peace and stability.

“In the U.S., that’s easy to dismiss, but many people want security, peace and quiet,” O’Loughlin said. “They believe that if you don’t have a strong, authoritarian leader, the whole society is going to collapse.”

The research was funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation.

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I should be hibernating, but Mom and Dad let me have one weekend in the snow! I love skiing, snowboarding, ice skating, rolling giant snowballs to make snowbears, and building snow forts and igloos. It's a beautiful winter wonderland out here!

I also want to eat "winter foods": thick, hot, potato or chicken noodle soups, beef stews, casseroles of bubbly, golden macaroni and cheese, chicken pot pies and, for dessert, bread pudding!

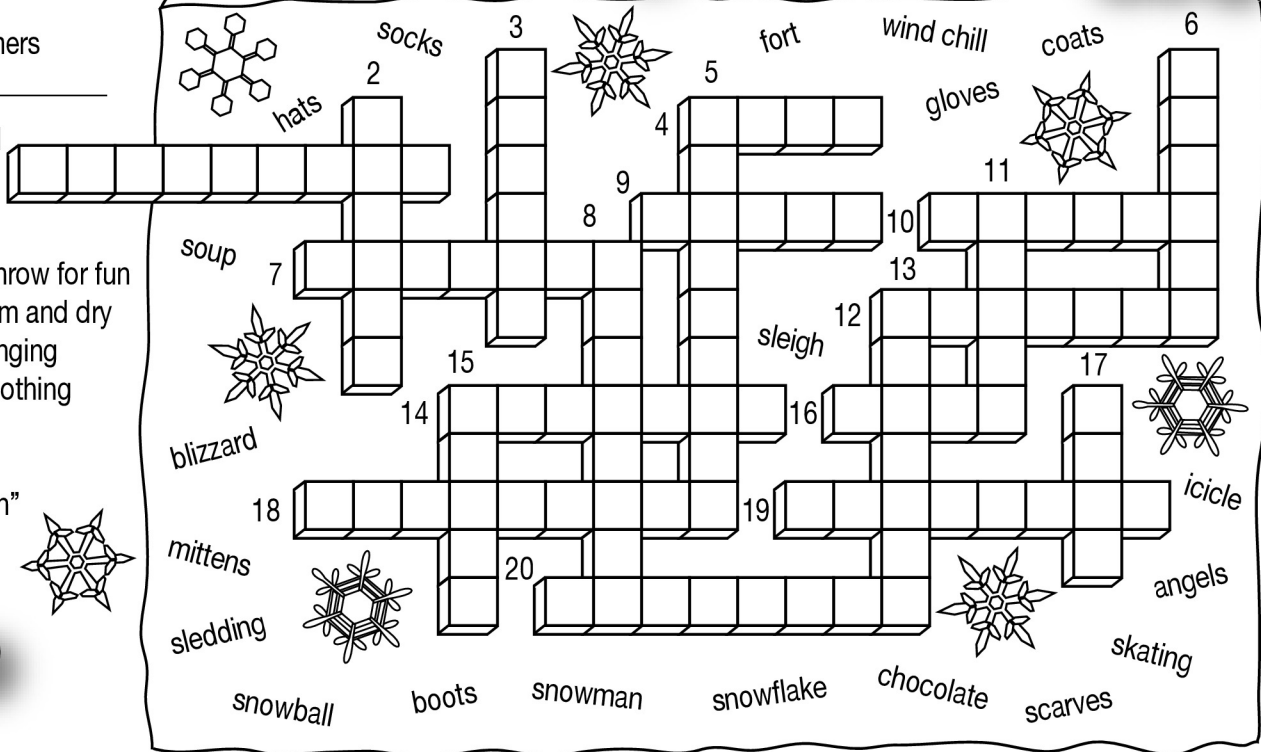
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Can you find the three snowflakes that are the same?

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- fingered hand warmers
- warm chicken _____
- unique crystal
- make snow _____
- keep your hands extra warm
- packed, made to throw for fun
- keep your feet warm and dry
- pointy, frozen, hanging
- warmest winter clothing
- neck wrappings
- gliding on ice
- coal-eyed "person"
- head warmers
- wool _____
- snow _____, protection from snowballs
- hot _____ (warm drink)
- blustery snowstorm
- downhill sliding on tubes and toboggans




Penguin Party!

Did you know that the **biggest** penguins are the **Emperor Penguins**? They grow to about 3 1/2 feet tall and weigh about 80 pounds. The **smallest** penguins are the **Little Blue Penguins** in New Zealand. They grow to about 16 inches tall and weigh about 2 pounds.

Here are 2 fun puzzles about penguins to enjoy:

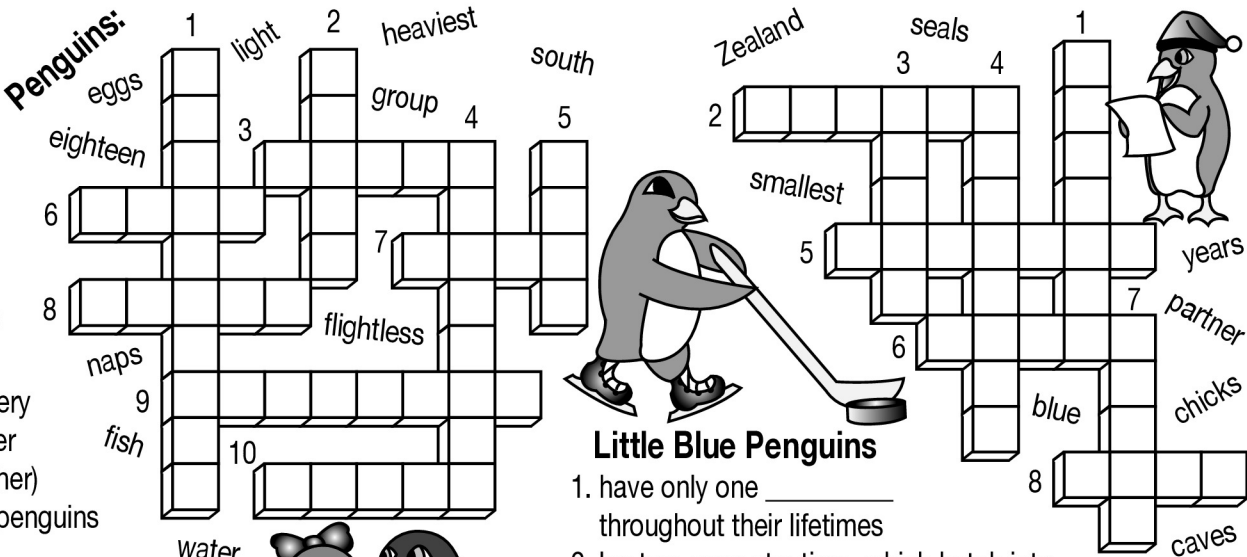
- are all _____ even though they have wings
- a large _____ of penguins is called a rookery
- all live _____ of the equator (so you'll never see a penguin and a polar bear in the wild together)
- Emperor Penguins are the _____ of all the penguins
- eat krill, _____ and different shellfish
- most females lay two _____, (Emperor/King penguins lay one)
- if there is danger on the land, some penguins take _____ in the water
- (some) spend as much as 75% of their lives in the _____
- there are about _____ different kinds
- their eyes see well underwater and in dim _____

Who is that tiny penguin?



Little Blue Penguins

- have only one _____ throughout their lifetimes
- lay two eggs at a time, which hatch into _____
- live in rock _____ for shelter
- are the _____ penguins on Earth
- are found in Australia and New _____
- have an average lifespan of about 6 1/2 _____
- are preyed upon by dogs, cats, foxes and fur _____
- have white feathers on their bellies and _____ feathers on their backs



Winter Festivals

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J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
⊙	⊘	□	×	△	⊙	⊘	⊗	×
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
?	○	!	♥	⊗	○	!	×	⊗

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Not-So Dusty Pages

20 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 13, 2004

Arapahoe County has approved the rezoning for Aurora Airpark, placing the land one step closer to becoming Sky Ranch, a mixed use development with 3,000 homes, commercial, retail, and open space, and some light industrial areas.

The next step for the developers is a final development plan.

But first the airport tenants must find a new airport home. Andy Klein of Icon Investments, the group behind Sky Ranch, said Front Range Airport was willing to take tenants for close to what they were paying at Aurora Airpark.

“I know it’s a hardship for the tenants to find a new airport, but Dennis (Heap, manager of Front Range) has rules about what you can store in your hangar, when and where you can work on your airplane and filing flight plans,” Klein said. “A lot of tenants don’t like that.”

15 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 13, 2009

Two-time Indianapolis 500 champion Arie Luyendyk Sr. drove the new High Plains Raceway Jan. 9 and gave the 2.5-mile track with 15 turns his stamp of approval.

“I love it,” Luyendyk said, taking a break after taking several laps around the course. “I think it’s a great track — a very good drive. It’s got elevation, which is always great.”

Luyendyk was invited to take the first laps around the track by the Colorado Region of the Sports Car Club of America, one of the amateur road racing clubs which fi-

nanced and built the track, which will officially open in April. He drove a 2008 Corvette ZO6 belonging to Michael Pettiford, president of GO 4 IT Racing Schools.

Luyendyk found the course to be challenging. “It requires a lot of thought about how you approach the corners,” he said. “... how you’re going to go in and how you’re going to come out. ... It’s going to take a lot of laps by a lot of people here to get a rhythm going, because it’s [a difficult track. Which is good, because you don’t want to have an easy track. It’s challenging, and that makes it fun. The track requires driving skills for sure.”

10 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 14, 2014

BYERS — Three new online charter schools will operate through Byers School District 32J following the school board’s approval of contracts at a special meeting Jan. 8.

Negotiations occurred throughout December and this month with involvement from Byers School administration, the school board and the personnel committee; and attorneys for both parties worked on the documents.

Superintendent Tom Turrell said recent changes requested by Byers included the addition of a “hold harmless” agreement against any brick-and-mortar losses.

“... Some of the things we’ve learned over time with the online school are that... there needs to be some sort of ‘hold harmless’ in there that we will be made whole and, at a minimum, making \$150,000 annually,” he said.

Turrell added that, at the top end, the district would receive a 3% aggregate of the per-pupil revenue generated by the online students.

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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 19

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 10, the 10th day of 2024. There are 356 days left in the year.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT

On Jan. 10, 1776, Thomas Paine published Common Sense, a 50-page pamphlet that sold more than 500,000 copies within a few months

and called for a war of independence that would become the American Revolution..

ON THIS DATE

In 1861, Florida seceded from the Union and in February 1861 joined the Confederacy.

In 1920, the League of Na-

tions was established in Geneva.

In 1946, the first United Nations General Assembly met in London.

In 1946, radar signals bouncing off the Moon were detected for the first time.

In 1949, American boxer George Foreman, who became

the oldest world heavyweight champion in 1994, was born in Marshall, Texas.

In 1971, Masterpiece Theatre (later called Masterpiece) debuted on PBS; the first series aired was The First Chur-

chills. In 1984, the United States and the Vatican established

diplomatic relations after a 117-year break.

In 2016, British singer, songwriter, and actor David Bowie — who transformed himself from a traditional pop crooner into a trendsetting international singing superstar died in New York City. He died at age 69.

HOROSCOPE

Considerations for a Disappearing Moon

One theory is that we are each born with a unique void in our being — a particular shape of emptiness entreating fulfillment — yet we are not always the best predictors of what will work in that space. On the day before the Capricorn new moon, consider which ambitions have served you and what you would you do differently if you could. You’re about to get the chance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your perseverance in the pursuit of your dreams is sometimes a function of your passion, but not always. Sometimes it’s habit, an identity or a simple realization than you’ve come too far to turn back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). “This being human is a guest house,” said the poet Rumi, “Every morning a new arrival.” You’ll welcome all emotions and experiences, positive, negative, wanted or unwanted, as valuable guests in the house of your heart.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Find out what people want before you give them things. If you wait until after, you could let go of something valuable to you without a good reason. With the right information, you’ll aim your contributions to bring joy or solve a problem.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You’ve a knack for planning and logistics. As you get this right, other things, such as people’s feelings and moods, will follow suit. You’ll also help people communicate better because you ask good questions and then listen well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You didn’t know what you wanted from someone until you got what you didn’t want. Now you have more information to work with. You’ll start to envision what shape this relationship could take.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In science, there is no blame, only data. You’ll be scientific in your assessment of a situation and you’ll recognize the causes and effects without assigning moral or emotional qualities. This approach will help

you solve a problem.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Most things are much easier to dismantle than they are to build up. Positive feelings like confidence definitely fit the category, which is why you are constantly looking for opportunities to elevate people and moods. In this you will succeed today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In song, love has been compared to a many splendedored thing, a battlefield and a head cold. Your experience of love as, quite simply, a quality of attention is perhaps less singable, and yet your relationships will ring out like music today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There’s absolutely no point in arguing. For starters, the opposition won’t be swayed by reason. Furthermore, they will only become sharper and more motivated if you force them to articulate their side.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want to know why a person made a choice, and someday you may have the enlightenment you seek. But you do not have to wait until then to be at peace. Acceptance can come without understanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today’s work will be a cakewalk, not because the tasks are easy but because the company is. When you have fun people around you whose every intention is to assist, life gets easier.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know what you don’t know, and paradoxically, it’s this humility that makes you great. It keeps you teachable. You are never satisfied that you know enough. Your curiosity is a key element to your brilliance.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 10). You’re a superstar on the rise, undaunted by the challenges. You win, not in spite of the trials but because of them. They show you what it takes to be your best. Relationships are somehow simultaneously wild and stable. You’ll focus on love and go after what attracts you, resulting in your improved health and well-being. Sagittarius and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 19, 4 and 21.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: GEOGRAPHY 101

ACROSS

1. Village People’s “___ Man”

6. Certain tray content

9. Little bit, in Mexico

13. Ammo in a quiver, sing.

14. Geological Society of America

15. Young eel

16. Song of praise

17. Snowy ___ or great horned ___

18. Must-haves

19. *Strait between Russia and Alaska

21. *Smallest of the Great Lakes

23. Crime scene evidence

24. Peter the Great, e.g.

25. Consumer-protecting org.

28. Skiing helmet manufacturer

30. Mother-of-pearl, pl.

35. Type of sail, pl.

37. #29 Down anagram

39. Like Raphael’s cherubs

40. Face shape

41. Tie with a morning coat

43. Dwarf buffalo

44. Short version

46. “At ___, soldier”

47. Supposed giant Himalayan

48. Drool

50. Swimming hole

52. D.C. V.I.P.

53. Jim Acosta’s announcement

55. *Baltic ___

57. *of latitude

61. *Bay east of India

64. Cuban dance

65. John Keats’ “To Autumn,” e.g.

67. Fortune teller’s card

69. Jeered

70. China’s drinkable export

71. Bird-related

72. Dick and Jane’s dog

73. “Slippery” tree

74. Lean, past tense

DOWN

1. *Atlas page

2. Speedy steed

3. First Nation nation

4. Squirrel away

5. Possessing

6. Full of excitement

7. *Opposite of NNE

8. Saintly rings

9. Guilty, e.g.

10. Last word on walkie-talkie

11. Ghana money

12. Guesstimate phrase (2 words)

15. Catch in a snare

20. Nigerian money

22. A Bobbsey twin

24. Steel on boots, pl.

25. *Inlet in Norway

26. Abalone seeker

27. Olden day calculators

29. *Compass ___

31. TV personality Aiken

32. Ancient Scandinavian characters

33. What actors do

34. *Iberian Peninsula country

36. Serb or Croat

38. Comme ci, comme Áa

42. Past or present

45. Group of five

49. Actor DiCaprio

51. Like floss

54. “That’s all she ___”

56. Tequila source

57. Work units

58. Wisecrack

59. Rounded protuberance

60. Aid in crime

61. Show pleasure

62. Cantatrice’s offering

63. Student aid

66. *Tierra ___ Fuego

68. Big bang maker, acr.

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CHUCK WAGON

Classic Garden Salad

by **Bobbie Keefer**
For The Scout



Vegetable salads have many proven health benefits.

Growing up, salad was served with every meal. My hubby makes a large salad that is enough for several meals. He puts a dry paper towel over the top and puts a lid on the container. It stays fresh for several days. The paper towel will be damp the next day because it soaks up the moisture. The veggies, including lettuce, stay crisp longer.

My mom always made homemade salad dressing. I sometimes make her vinaigrette dressing, but it has many ingredients and seasonings, I find it easier and more economical to use a store-bought dressing.

Prepackaged salad is a no-no. I don't think prepackaged salad was available back then.

All salad kits aren't the same. Simply add what is missing! Or forget the kit and chop up everything you want in your salad.

OK I have to confess. I don't use prepackaged kits. I buy fresh produce and my hubby is in charge of the chopping!

CLASSIC GARDEN SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (12-ounce) package lettuce blend
- ¼ cup chopped onions
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup Italian salad dressing
- croutons
- bacon bits

DIRECTIONS

Crisp fry bacon in skillet. Remove to paper towels to blot grease.

In large salad bowl, combine lettuce blend, onions, tomatoes and cheese. Add any other fresh vegetables of choice.

Toss with dressing. Crumble bacon. Mix in salad.

Top with croutons and bacon bits, if desired.

Serve in pretty salad bowls.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Youth Services Guide Molly DeWolff, left, and Cambria Sinka run for cover after lighting a paper rocket at a program on flying for kids ages 7-12 Oct. 18 at Anythink Bennett library.

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Farming Evolutions conference slated for Holyoke in February

by Julie Elliott
Natural Resources Conservation Service

HOLYOKE — The 10th annual Farming Evolution event will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 21-22, in Holyoke.

The topic list includes the world of soil microbes and plants, wheat stem sawfly, grazing cover crops and more.

Dr. James White, a professor of plant biology at Rutgers University, will discuss the relationship between plants and microbes. Microbes don't just make nutrients available; they are physically consumed by plant roots. They are then transported through the plant to specific cells which pull the needed nutrients. Plants even "farm" needed microorganisms.

White was ranked among the top plant science researchers in the nation in 2023.

Dannele Peck, an economist and director of the Northern Plains Climate Hub, will explain the difference between climate and weather. She'll then address how one uses economic realities to make decisions about regenerative practices. How can soil health practices be evaluated from an economic perspective when planning to be resilient to climate and weather events?

Mary Drewnoski is a part of a team evaluating Economical Systems for Integrated Crop and Livestock Production in Nebraska. Her focus with Nebraska Extension is on the use of crop residues and cover crop forage for backgrounding calves and feeding beef cows. She will address cover crop species that are best for grazing beef cattle and how often cattle should be rotated.

Adam Osterholzer from Colorado State University is a principal investigator of the wheat stem sawfly. He will present an overview of the wheat stem sawfly biology and current management techniques. An emphasis will be placed upon how the pest and its management impacts on soil health.

When he wants to find out what will work on a given field, South Dakota farmer Rick Bieber, hailed as one of the world's best soil farmers, tries to take his cues from the natural world. In 33 years of no-tilling and 25 years of using cover crops,

the soil organic matter on his farm has gone from 1.2% to 3.5%. Bieber will give a dynamic and engaging talk. He'll encourage attendees to be better soil stewards.

Many farmers in the area have heard of the FARMS project. The Farmers Advancing Regenerative Management Systems is led by the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association. Meagan Schipanski, the lead FARMS researcher at Colorado State University, will present an overview of the data gathered across working farms in the project. Cooperating FARMS producers Curt Sayles (dryland) and Joel Grosbach (irrigated) will share their experiences with regenerative farming.

For more information on FARMS project visit farmsproject.org.

Back by popular demand is Clinton Wilson, director of Rocky Mountain Farmers Union's AgWell program.

Wilson asks thought provoking questions. Why does healthy soil matter? Can't you just pump some synthetic fertilizer on it, till it a bit more, work it a bit harder, give it a little coffee, pull it up by the bootstraps and ... ? What if we see ourselves as one of the four, five, six or seven principles of soil health? Does soil health start with healthy farmers? What if we take what the soil has taught us and apply it to ourselves? And what if there is one more principle that the soil is trying to teach us, that might just make all the difference?

Logan and Brianna Pribbeno moved back to Logan's family's ranch in 2012. Moving from California's Silicon Valley to the High Plains of western Nebraska came with its own set of adjustments. Since returning, they've focused on getting the most out of every acre. To achieve the goal, they use management-intensive grazing and graze annual forage crops. Logan will share his journey to integrate livestock on the farm ground.

Registration by Friday, Feb. 9, costs \$50 for both days or \$40 for one day. Fees increase by \$10 after Feb. 9. Lunch, refreshments and handouts are included.

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7175 S CR 157	Strasburg	3 2	2418	1736	2	\$535,000	98%
231 Jefferson Dr	Bennett	4 2	1416	1416	72	\$394,500	95%
56480 E 23rd Pl	Strasburg	3 3	3950	1975	22	\$581,500	95%
7070 S Lenz St	Strasburg	4 4	3978	2993	32	\$880,000	98%
*661 Heartland Dr	Bennett	3 3	1700	1700	14	\$445,000	99%
2292 Asoka St	Strasburg	3 2	2552	1282	21	\$467,000	100%
5049 Yulle Rd	Bennett	4 2	1610	1610	417	\$650,000	97%
54673 E Wolf Creek Dr	Strasburg	4 4	2837	2825	4	\$749,000	100%
640 Centennial Dr	Bennett	4 2	1380	1380	56	\$393,500	95%
483 S 3rd Ave	Deer Trail	3 2	3052	1526	17	\$399,999	100%
*2937 Pershing St	Strasburg	3 2	1638	1638	51	\$438,490	101%
*61773 E Hampden Pl	Byers	4 2	2014	2014	11	\$645,000	100%
12251 Strasburg Rd	Strasburg	6 4	5140	5140	72	\$900,000	92%
455 3rd St	Bennett	2 1	1728	864	16	\$320,000	99%
*665 Cottonwood Ave	Bennett	3 3	1653	1653	17	\$400,000	82%
*660 Kiowa Ave	Bennett	3 3	1851	1851	7	\$429,900	100%
185 McKinley Dr	Bennett	3 2	1756	1540	36	\$390,000	92%
*55087 E 31st Ave	Strasburg	4 3	2727	2727	252	\$514,990	97%
24324 Emerald Trail	Deer Trail	2 2	2149	2149	14	\$520,000	104%
66400 E 26th Ave	Byers	3 2	2916	1458	180	\$565,000	87%
1991 Comanche Cir	Strasburg	4 2	2280	2280	351	\$585,000	89%
996 Pinehurst	Bennett	6 4	4926	4803	39	\$780,000	98%
2833 Quarterland St	Strasburg	4 2	1521	1521	6	\$400,000	100%
208 Madison Dr	Bennett	3 2	1416	1416	68	\$400,000	94%
*540 Kiowa Ave	Bennett	3 3	1851	1851	93	\$405,000	90%
*3037 Pershing St	Strasburg	4 3	2332	2332	331	\$479,990	88%
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Applicants with state licenses will be considered first. There will be a 90-day probationary period in which the person selected will serve under the General Supervision of District Manager Craig White, before being hired full-time.

Must be at least 21 years of age, with a high school diploma or equivalent, possess a valid drivers license and maintain a driving record acceptable to Byers Water & Sanitation District insurance provider, applicant must be able to pass a background check, pass a drug screening, and be able to be insured and bonded, prior to job offer.

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Please submit resumes by 5 p.m., Monday, February 12, by mail to Byers Water & Sanitation District, P.O Box 301 Byers, CO 80103; in person at 421 S. Sherman St. Byers, CO 80103; or by e-mail to bh2os@netecin.net.



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- Term of lease to be determined between parties
- No utilities available on site

303-902-2396 or 303-644-3030

MOBILE HOME IN BENNETT

2 large bedrooms, 2 baths, laundry, off-street parking, centrally located. Background & credit check required.

\$1,350

303-854-8829 (No Texts)

Services

If your trees or bushes are not becoming to you, you should be coming to us. Trees and bushes trimmed, sheared or removed. Stump grinding. Insured. Call Tim, (303)822-5572. 1/17c

Chunky's Towing

We buy junk cars and trucks!

720-560-6763

Se Habla Español

Wanted

Wanting to buy: coins and coin collections; jewelry; watches — wrist and pocket; Native American jewelry; silver tea sets and flatware; guns and gun collections (federally licensed). I come to you. (720)327-7867. 2/28

For Rent

OFFICE FOR RENT

Approximately 400 sq. ft. Office with reception/2nd office in front. Approximately 1850 sq. ft. warehouse with overhead door. 1 Bathroom. Yard space available. Nice! Located in commercial office/warehouse building in Strasburg.

303-361-9100 x 21

Farm & Ranch

Acreage For Sale

51 secluded acres, A3 zone

- Horse operation, equipment storage or other approved uses •
- 5 miles from Bennett and 5 miles from Strasburg •
- Private access road off of county road •
- Adjoins Kiowa creek, fenced •
- \$450,000.00, owner may carry. Covenants exist! •

303-902-2396 or 303-644-3030

Bar Double J

Hay For Sale

- Alfalfa • Alfalfa/Grass • Cow Hay

John James, (303)819-0122

Net wrapped mid-sized round bales; grass/alfalfa mix. Horse or cow quality. Low prices and local delivery. (303)822-5564. 1/10



Byers Park & Rec District caretaker Justina Herman, left photo, helps Larken and Jemma Young, ages 8 and 6, respectively, mix up a cup of reindeer food to spread on their lawn on Christmas Eve at Storytime with Mrs. Claus at Quint Valley Dec. 22. Children were invited to wear their Christmas pajamas to meet Santa's spouse. Right, elves Cayla Young, left, and Savannah Young, right, pose with Dilan Brewer, 12.

Farm & Ranch

Circle DL Ranch LLC

Top quality hay. Variety of types, sizes, prices. Barn stored. Delivery available.

(303) 263-4328

DAN & LORETTA BOSWELL BYERS, CO

Seeking pasture of 10 or more acres for 12-24 months' ground lease for agricultural study. Please call Seth, (303)601-6331. 1/10



KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

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

Xmas lights winners named

BENNETT — The Town of Bennett Board of Trustees has announced the winners of its annual holiday lighting contest on Dec. 19. The winners are:

1. 710 Sixth St.
2. 985 Pinehurst Court.
3. 235 Coolidge Court.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

Thursday, Jan. 11: Crunchy chicken wrap.

Monday, Jan. 15: Chicken nachos, refried beans.

Tuesday, Jan. 16: Curry meatballs with gravy.

Wednesday, Jan. 17: Barbecue chicken sandwich, chips.

Thursday, Jan. 18: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes.

BENNETT

Thursday, Jan. 11: Chicken patty sandwich, hamburger bun, carrots, ranch dressing, fresh orange.

Monday, Jan. 15: Cowboy burger, hamburger bun, coleslaw, fruit cocktail, cookie.

Tuesday, Jan. 16: Chicken fajita spaghetti, salad with ranch, Texas toast, peaches.

Wednesday, Jan. 17: Curry gravy meatballs, roll, cilantro rice, carrots, fruit.

BYERS

Thursday, Jan. 11: Chicken alfredo, bread sticks, broccoli, mixed fruit.

Friday, Jan. 12: Macho Nacho, Goldfish, corn, applesauce.

Monday, Jan. 15: No school.

Tuesday, Jan. 16: Hamburgers, French fries, baby carrots with ranch, pears.

Wednesday, Jan. 17: Colorado sandwich, cheese sauce, garden salad with ranch, orange wedges.

Thursday, Jan. 18: Chicken soft tacos, tortilla chips, green beans, grapes.

DEER TRAIL

Thursday, Jan. 11: Cheeseburger, assorted vegetables and fruit.

STRASBURG

Thursday, Jan. 11: Macaroni and cheese, dinner roll.

Friday, Jan. 12: Hamburgers.

Monday, Jan. 15: No school.

Tuesday, Jan. 16: Pretzels with cheese.

Wednesday, Jan. 17: Sloppy joes, baked beans.

Thursday, Jan. 18: Meatball submarine sandwiches.



ARAPAHOE COUNTY



MLK

MARTIN LUTHER KING

DAY

All County offices will be closed **Monday, Jan. 15** in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.

Visit arapahoeco.gov/calendar



Everyone Counts

Volunteer to support efforts to end homelessness

We're looking for one-time volunteers for the annual Point in Time Count on **Jan. 23** to help survey those experiencing homelessness.

For more information, visit arapahoeco.gov/volunteer.





ARAPAHOE COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION





Vegetable Gardening Basics: Attend a free information session about vegetable gardening, **Jan. 23, 2024, 6-7 p.m.** at the Aurora Central Library. Learn everything you need to know about growing your own food. Register now at bit.ly/CSUVeggieBasics or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

WE ARE

HIRING

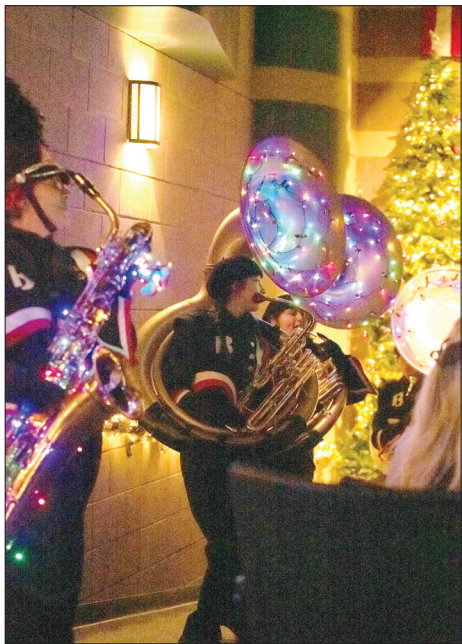
APPLY NOW

JOIN OUR TEAM

Join our team

Arapahoe County is always hiring. A full listing of open positions is available on arapahoeco.gov/jobs or scan the QR code with your smartphone.





PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMOFOR The Scout

Clockwise from top left, Emma Faczak plays her brightly lit trombone at the Bennett sixth- and seventh-grade band concert Dec. 11 in the school auditorium; marching band sousaphones bring Christmas cheer at the end of the middle school concert; and Sophia Arnold and Alondra Hernandez Tinajero play flute with the beginning band.





Keeping You
Connected
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

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1070 N. HWY 36 ✨ Byers, CO 80103