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The I-70 Scout

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

Volume 30, Number 10

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

AdCo Sheriff gives Bennett until Jan. 31

Claps tells town trustees they have until Wednesday to pay for service contract extension

by Kathy Smiley
Steven Vetter
The I-70 Scout

BENNETT — Negotiations are continuing regarding the town of Bennett's transition from law enforcement services from the Adams County Sheriff's Office to the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office.

The Bennett Board of Trustees opted for the change Jan. 9.

The Adams County Sheriff's Office's 2024 contract proposal was \$489,922.64 — up nearly \$100,000 from last year's \$390,000 contract. Bennett staff had budgeted a 6% increase for 2024 based on the reported 6% increase reported in calls for service in the town during the third quarter of 2023. A 26% increase was deemed untenable by trustees and Adams County Sheriff Gene Claps was unwilling to negotiate any lower, according to a Jan. 11

**SEE SHERIFF'S CONTRACT
PAGE 8**



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Left photo, Adams County Sheriff Gene Claps concludes his comments during a Jan. 23 Bennett trustees work session where he told town officials they have until the end of January to sign a three-month law enforcement service contract or lose the sheriff's office services immediately. Right photo, Bennett Mayor Royce Pindell listens to Claps' comments before stating his displeasure with the ultimatum.

Bridge near Deer Trail reopened to all traffic



COURTESY ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Above photo, last summer's floodwaters washed away all the riprap and fill around the eastern supports of the Arapahoe County Road 38 bridge over Bijou Creek a couple miles west of Deer Trail. Below, emergency repairs included replacing the worn away riprap with concrete.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — Recently completed flood-related repairs will ensure a bridge a couple miles west of Deer Trail will stay open for all local residents, essential services drivers and other back road commuters in the area.

The County Road 38 bridge over Bijou Creek has been fully reopened to all traffic without restrictions after approximately \$300,000 in emergency structural repairs were completed around the first of the new year. While another \$1 million in creek channel and embankment restoration will be required and is likely to start later this year, the bridge is able to handle a full traffic load. Since the summer, vehicles and loads of 5 tons or more have been restricted from the bridge and were forced to utilize a detour that was longer than 20 miles.

"Twenty-two miles to be exact, so we know it was out of the way, but we were able to get a contractor that was able to get out here between it's other jobs and try to restore normal traffic across the bridge as quickly as we could," said Arapahoe County Transportation Engineer Trent Marshall during a Jan. 26 tour of the partially restored bridge. "We knew things were pretty bad after the floodwaters came through, and it got worse as the summer went along."

The emergency repairs, which were

**SEE CR 38 BRIDGE
PAGE 24**

Bennett OKs new mortuary

by Kathy Smiley
Staff Writer

BENNETT — Plans are moving forward for a mortuary and crematory building in the town of Bennett.

The Bennett Board of Trustees approved the final development plans (FDP) for Tabor Mortuary Jan. 23. The building will be located at 1072 Cedar St., south of the corner of Cedar and Pearl streets in the Bennett Crossing commercial area.

In his staff report to the board, planning manager Steven Hoesse said the 6,061 square feet building will be situated on a 42,836 square feet lot.

A parking lot accommodating 38 vehicles will be on the front of the building off Cedar Street.

"There is a drive that goes around the rear of the building and vehicular access is via a full-movement

**SEE BENNETT MORTUARY
PAGE 8**

Bennett School District remains focused on housing boom plight

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Contention and scuttlebutt about bond/mill levy ballot questions or other funding alternatives for new schools in the Bennett School District isn't expected to die anytime soon as a population boom across the district continues to appear inevitable.

During the Jan. 17 board meeting, Bennett Schools Finance Manager Keith Yaich reiterated that current plans account for more than 24,000 new homes throughout the district in the foreseeable future. While no time frame has been set for construction of approximately 10,000 of the proposed dwellings until 2026 or later, Yaich indicated that a majority of the rest are expected to start going verti-

**SEE BENNETT BOE
PAGE 3**



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Middle- and high-school student musicians from a dozen scholastic music programs converged on Bennett Jan. 11 to participate in the annual Eastern Colorado Honor Band. The local I-70 Corridor was represented by numerous participants from Bennett Schools and one from Strasburg High School. The middle school contingent was taught during the day and directed during Thursday night's concert by Dr. Karen Gregg, band director at Lyons Schools. The high school group was led by Dr. Brett M. Keating, Director of Bands and Brass at Western Colorado University in Gunnison. Other school represented were Calhan/Peyton, Ellicott, Genoa-Hugo, Hi-Plains, Karval, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Limon, and Miami-Yoder. Left photo, the local high school participants are, front row from left, Bennett's Angelia Castilleja, Katelyn Russo, Joselyne Hermosillo, and Sage Olivia; and back row, Strasburg's Aiden Lang, and Bennett's Robbie Harris, Ava Black, Faith Humbert, Justin Wilson, Danica Bertram, Wyatt Farley, and Kaleb Chavez. Right photo, all 14 Corridor middle school participants came from Bennett. Pictured are, front row from left, Victoria Mayo and Kaydince Berndt; middle row, Reaylenn Moore, Bella Villa, Julee Hawley, Joseph Harris, Emma Faczak, Tucker Chase, Jordan Jacoby, Jakob Krieger, Morgan Daniel; and, back row, Adeline Cranwill, Logan Grear and Adrian Sanchez.

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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 June 14, 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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City, State, Zip Code

#2904
Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesdays, January 31, and February 7 and 14, 2024.

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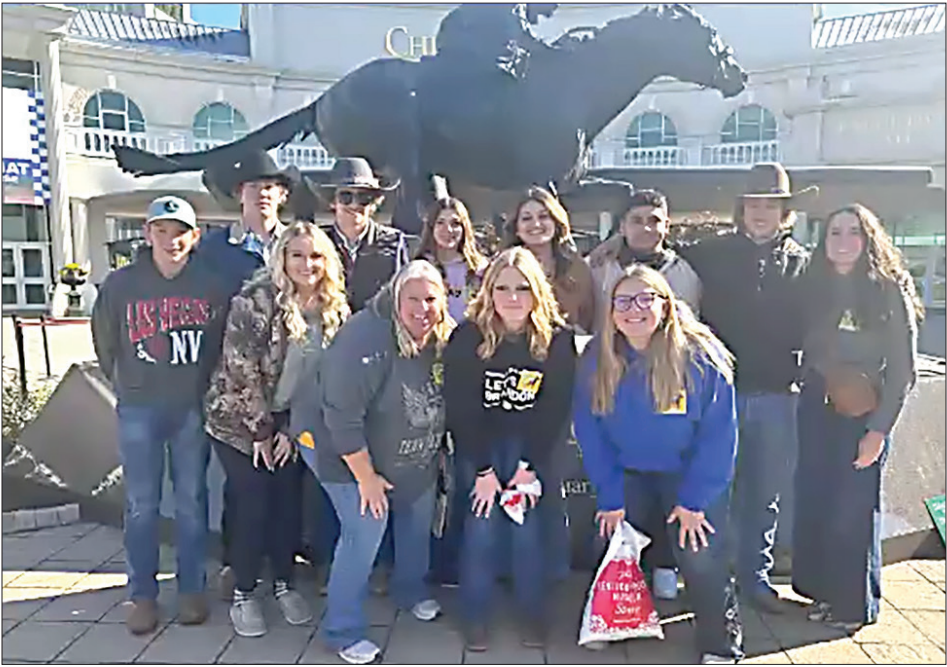
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Bennett FFA members attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis over the first week of November. The trip included a visit to historic Churchill Downs in Kentucky, above.

BENNETT BOE

FROM PAGE 1

cal over the next two years.

“That’s just the ones we’ve been informed of right now and could come to fruition and drop on the ground now. That’s the likelihood for the near future,” Yaich said. “We still have several [developments] that haven’t been run through the proper channels. When those are out for public consumption, we’ll let you know as quickly as possible.”

Yaich’s list of future homes consisted of all formal developments within Bennett and unincorporated Adams and Arapahoe counties, including the Sky Ranch, Prosper Farms and Aurora Annex subdivisions near Watkins on the western

edge of the district that account for about 11,000 future residences.

At least 1,000 homes are likely to be newly occupied throughout this year with another couple thousand likely in 2025.

Yaich’s list did not include estimates for individual parcel development.

District plans to accommodate at least a doubling of the current student enrollment of approximately 1,400 over the next few years have hit roadblocks in the form of a pair of defeated ballot questions asking district residents to approve construction bonds for a new high

SEE BENNETT BOE
PAGE 4

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Learn more at rtd-denver.com/fares-passes/fares

2024 Presidential Primary Dates

Monday, Feb. 12: Ballots begin mailing to voters. 24-hour drop boxes open.

Monday, Feb. 26: Vote centers open. See website for dates and times.

Monday, Feb. 26: Last day to register to vote and still receive a mail ballot.

Tuesday, March 5: Presidential Primary Election Day!

- Vote centers open from 7 a.m.–7 p.m.
- Ballots must be received by 7 p.m.

The future is on your ballot. ArapahoeVotes.gov

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WEEK OF JAN. 29

school and expansion/improvement of the existing campus. In 2022, a request for \$50 million was rejected by about a 26% margin (63% against, 37% in favor). While the margin of victory was almost cut in half, last year’s question for \$80 million was defeated 56-44%.

While no clearcut plans have been put in place yet for another bond or mill levy question this year, a likelihood exists.

While the current environment around skyrocketing property tax assessments and other economic hardships for first-time family homeowners and senior citizens mostly on fixed incomes has been acknowledged, school district officials have repeatedly noted that longstanding shortages in state funding for schools and other financial limitations are difficult to overcome.

According to the Colorado School Finance Project, between 2009-23, the Colorado State Legislature’s mandated budget stabilization factor, also termed the “BS” or “negative” factor, robbed more than \$10 billion in school funding statewide, including almost \$13 million from the Bennett School District. While the budget stabilization factor has been stricken from regulation starting with the 2023-24 school year, the shortfalls

from the previous 14 years will not be recouped. That per-pupil-operating revenue (PPOR) is also first dedicated to the day-to-day operations throughout the school year, leaving a relatively small amount that can be set aside for capital improvements or significant construction projects.

In addition, developers are not obligated or mandated to pay for schools in their subdivisions or neighborhoods; instead they can either provide the necessary land required for a school campus or pay a per-house cash-in-lieu fee to the local school district.

During the last school board meeting of 2023, Bennett Superintendent Robin Purdy said the decision to move forward with another bond question will lie with the new school board, which was seated Dec. 11.

“But I don’t see that it can be avoided with the growth,” Purdy said. “But we need to go back to the drawing board and we need to talk to our stakeholders, our (district accountability committee), and our staff. We’re looking for suggestions from those that voted no.”

NATIONAL FFA TRIP

Members of the Bennett FFA Chapter made a presentation about their trip to the National FFA Con-

vention over there first week of November in Indianapolis.

In addition to the FFA leadership sessions and career expo, highlights of the group’s visit to the Midwest included Hunters Honey Farm and Landess Farms in Indiana and the historic Churchill Downs racetrack and Louisville Slugger bat manufacturing plant and museum in neighboring Kentucky.

“The differences in farming back there is pretty amazing,” said Bennett FFA member Tyler Hill, noting Landess Farms’ multiple-faceted operation including a corn maze and variety of crops. “They are making a living on 120 acres, which is kind of unheard of here. They said 120-bushel wheat, which is a crazy good wheat crop.”

“We got to see the bees, the bottling of honey, and had an opportunity to buy some of the honey,” said another FFA member.

During the Louisville Slugger visit, the bats of several Major League Baseball players were on display. “We got to hold the bats of Ronald Acuna Jr. (from the Atlanta Braves) and (the Rockies’) Charlie Blackmon,” a student said.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Purdy indicated that the district is closely monitoring whether the district might

have to add class days after a severe cold-snap in early January resulted in three more days of weather-related closures. All grade levels remain over their minimum requirement for student-teacher hours but that could change if more “snow days” occur. As of the January board meeting, scheduled high school and middle school contact hours are at 1,120 and 1,133, respectively, compared to the minimum requirement of 1,056. In the elementary grades (K-5), 990 hours currently planned are ahead of the 968-hour minimum requirement.

- Middle school principal Sal Conca said that the cell phone ban in classrooms has been relatively effective and that he or staff is “maybe collecting five phones over a week.” Students can access their phones in their lockers between classes and before or after school.
- Yaich added that, for the current school year, expenses are trending 1.65% under the 2023-24 budget.
- Purdy and technology director Jeff Bain are investigating a new phone system, one especially focusing on 911 compatibility.

CALENDAR

- THURSDAY, FEB. 1**
Bennett Parks & Recreation District Board. 5:30 p.m., Bennett Recreation Center, 455 S. First St.
Comanche Crossing Horsemen’s Association. General meeting at 6:30 p.m., board meeting follows at 7 p.m., Quint Valley, Byers.
- SATURDAY, FEB. 3**
Bennett Community Food Bank. 8-10 a.m., Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave.
- SUNDAY, FEB. 4**
Free basic archery class for 16 students ages 8 and up. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To register, call (720)520-1876 or (303)659-6005.
- MONDAY, FEB. 5**
Strasburg High School Athletic Booster Club. 6 p.m., high school library.
Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Legion Hall.
Deer Trail School Board. 7 p.m., Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room at Davies Library.

- TUESDAY, FEB. 6**
Adams County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m. by phone. To sign up, call (303)405-3298. Appointments available at Anythink libraries with a volunteer attorney using the library’s computer link. Space limited.
Arapahoe County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m. by phone. To sign up, call (303)739-6630. Appointments available at Aurora Main Library with a volunteer attorney using the library’s computer link. Space limited.
- WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7**
Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

- EVERY MONDAY**
AA open meeting. 7 p.m., white historic Victorian schoolhouse at Ace Hardware parking lot, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Limon. For more information, call Sara at (828)243-7681.
- EVERY THURSDAY**
Family story time. 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

Mark William Hogan

Mark William Hogan, who passed away Jan. 23, 2024, was born Jan. 19, 1988, in a blizzard at home on the family ranch to James Timothy and Janice Agnes Hogan. Mark endeared himself to the Cheyenne and Kiowa County communities right away. The dad crews worked all day to clear a path that finally allowed Doctor Hadley to arrive just in time to deliver Mark. His first cries were cheered by those workers waiting and warming themselves in the next room, staying to make sure Mom and Baby didn’t need further transportation. Mark was named after his cousins Mark Goodman and Zane William Pearce and William Connelly, Sr. who passed away in the same winter blizzard.

Mark was the youngest of three and was born 15 years after his brother Richard, making his childhood akin to that of an only child after Richard left for college. His imaginary friends Dick, Bob and brother Jimmy kept him company and took the blame for many “transgressions”. He was a gregarious child making lifelong friends as soon as he started school at Kit Carson. Mark was known for his sense of humor. His teachers would comment that they wished he’d work as hard on his schoolwork as he did at being the class clown and his friend’s parents would say how much they loved his wit. His father said that “Mark kind of made cussing acceptable”. As a young boy Mark spent a lot of time with his dad Tim on the ranch, loving the way of life so much he returned home after two years at Fort Hays State University. He was always proud to have been a third-generation graduate of Kit Carson High School and he was glad that he went to college as he was able to make numerous life-long friendships there as well.

Mark was proud to be a member of Kit Carson. Mark gave back to his community by serving as a member of the Kit Carson Volunteer Fire Department for 14 years, helping with the annual KC Day rodeo and BBQ, Doing the community melodrama, helping friends with their brandings and the like, and running chains at the local high school football games. Football was a game Mark loved both playing in junior high and high school and watching both locally and Colorado’s Denver Broncos.

Mark messaged his future wife Alyssa using an online dating service in June of 2015. They messaged back and forth throughout the summer without ever meeting in person due to both of their busy schedules. They finally had their first date on Oct. 25, 2015 after the state softball tournament, where they met at Oscar’s in Limon. The date went so well, Limon became a frequent meeting point for dates for the following year and a half. Alyssa’s first time meeting the Hogans was at a Sunday mass with Father Jason in Kit Carson. She met many of his friends a few weeks later when he took her to a Bronco game. Alyssa loved that Mark had so many friends and that the Kit Carson community was so close. Mark was so sure of the relationship he told Alyssa he loved her in the spring of 2016. For whatever reason, Alyssa made him sweat for a couple weeks before she finally said it back before leaving for a 6-week tour of Europe. A fact he never let her live down. While she was gone, he bought the new Cody Johnson album and picked out what became their wedding song—“With You I Am”. He sent a clip of the song to Alyssa, which is when she knew she was going to marry him. Alyssa moved to Kit Carson in the spring of 2017 and Mark proposed November 22, 2017, in the living room of their home. They were married in Burlington, Colorado on August 4, 2018, and found out they were expecting shortly after. Mark realized he was going to be a nervous father. Clare Janice Hogan was born in Aurora, Colo., on April 17, 2019, and Mark confirmed that babies made him nervous.



But that never stopped him from cuddling that sweet girl whenever he could. Diapers were another story. He was very excited and nervous (again) when they found out about their next baby in May of 2020. He even went so far as to threaten his friends not to tease Alyssa about her limited help during brandings as she was very early along in the pregnancy and they “weren’t telling anyone” yet. However, both were so excited that in a matter of days everyone knew. They welcomed Hannah Elizabeth Hogan on Feb. 2, 2021, in Aurora, Colo., and began a crazy busy life as a family of 4. Mark believed in providing for his family and worked tirelessly to do so. He ran his own cow/calf operation, a haying business, worked as an Operator at the Ladder Creek Helium Plant for many years, worked in the oilfields servicing pumping units and hauling water, and other odds and ends for RT. He worked so hard he was able to build a new home back on Hogan land and keep his family comfortable. Alyssa and the girls were always so grateful for his drive, but treasured the times he was home most of all. Some of their favorite times were dancing in the living room to “good country music”, rocking on the front porch, hide and seek, and tickle fights. Mark always made time to “show his affection” through tickles, raspberries, little pinches, shoving his cold hands on their stomachs, and wedgies. When Clare asked him why he had to do those things he said it was the only way to prove how much he loved them. Mark and Alyssa loved to travel together. They tried to take one trip a year. Mark also loved history, specifically military history and World War II. Many of their trips were planned around the tours they could take. They actually toured Pearl Harbor twice. On Oct. 29, 2023, Mark and Alyssa found out they were expecting their third child. Just before Christmas, the doctor confirmed they would be having their first baby boy. Mark was ecstatic. He was so excited to have a little boy to raise to love football and ranching just like his dad had. They immediately began talking names on the drive home and Mark’s first suggestions were, Hank William, Merle, and Waylon as a nod to the country music he loved so much.

Mark loved to be with family, but he also loved to spend time with his friends and play gigs with the Rodeo Road Apples. He always said the band was his favorite, and only, true hobby. He found such joy in the camaraderie of the band and getting to play with his dad and had missed them so much since September of 2023 when they played their last gig. While he worked A LOT, whenever you could pull Mark away from work, he was the life of the party or he made it a party. Mark was a friend to so many. It is ironic he thought he was socially awkward, as you could argue that there wasn’t another person in Kit Carson who was part of so many different groups of friends. He was the glue to them all. The Hogan branding brought together so many people and were some of the best days of the year. Mark hated his own branding days due to the stress and worry, but he always looked forward to everyone else’s so he could tease and torment to his heart’s desire.

Mark was unbelievably humble and sometimes unsure of his place in the world and his importance to it. Something everyone who loved him will never understand. There will never be enough words to describe Mark. His mother Jan said he lived a very colorful life and that his wife and kids brought even more color to it. Alyssa smiled and mentioned he very much colored outside the lines. Mark will be missed in so many ways for a very long time.

Mark is survived by his wife Alyssa; daughters Clare and Hannah; future son Baby Boy Hogan expected this summer; his parents Tim and Jan Hogan; sister Jamie Conaway and nephews TJ (Megan) and Tanner; brother Rich (Rebecca) Hogan and nieces Taylor and Abby; and many more family members and in-laws. Mark is preceded in death by his grandparents George and Beulah Hogan and Ed and Agnes Shade, and many other beloved family members.

The family is extremely thankful to the emergency crews and Keefe Memorial staff, who worked diligently to try and save Mark.

If anyone should want to honor Mark, the family asks donations to be directed to the Mark Hogan Memorial Fund located at any Eastern Colorado Bank location.

A funeral mass was held Jan. 27 at the Kit Carson High School with burial following at the Kit Carson Cemetery. Friends and family can register online condolences and sign the guestbook at www.brownfuneraldirectors.com. Visitation and funeral services were entrusted to the care of the Brown Funeral Home.

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Great Backyard Bird Count set for Brighton state park

BRIGHTON — Residents of all ages are invited to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17, at Barr Lake State Park.

The worldwide Great Backyard Bird Count is a collaborative effort to see what birds remain in their community at mid-winter. The Barr Lake bird walk will occur during the first two hours followed by a kid-friendly do-it-yourself bird feeder workshop for the last hour.

The activity is free, but a daily or annual parks pass is required to enter the park. Daily individual passes cost \$4; daily vehicle passes, \$10; and annual passes, \$80.

To register, visit www.birdconservancy.org. For more information, contact Becky Heath at (303)659-4348, ext. 49, or becky.heath@birdconservancy.org.

Painting with watercolors: Class scheduled in Bennett

BENNETT — The Corridor Creative Arts League will host a fun, hands-on watercolor painting workshop from 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave., Bennett.

The workshop will be led by artist Lori Presley and sponsored by the Bennett Arts Council.

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

Railroad, Strasburg origins key to historical discussion

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

Cliff Smith, curator of the Comanche Crossing Museum in Strasburg, will spearhead a presentation called “The Railroad and the Founding of Strasburg” from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, at TBK Bank, 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

ArapCo seeks comment on future of EVs

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County wants public feedback on its Regional Electric Vehicle Action Draft Plan, which crafts a shared and cohesive vision for supporting plug-in electric vehicles in the future.

To get input on the plan, which can be found at www.arapahoeco.gov, the authors will host a virtual meeting from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8. Comments will be taken through Thursday, Feb. 15.

The 2040 Arapahoe County Transportation Master Plan identified “building and supporting

EV charging infrastructure” as one way the county can facilitate the increase of EV usage. The Colorado Energy Office projects that, by 2025, the EV adoption rate will be 4-6% (21,000 to 30,000 EV vehicles) and 10-15% (60,000 to 80,000 EV vehicles) by 2030.

The plan outlines strategies for outreach and education, increasing charging infrastructure, fleet electrification, and electric multi-modal transportation.

A final draft will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners in the coming months.

The program will address the background of the railroad and the founding of Strasburg from 1870 to the present time.

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

The final topic of the four-part series will address the Comanche Crossing Museum in Strasburg March 14.

Business group luncheon scheduled on February 21

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly Lunch & Learn from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 21, at May Farms, Byers.

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

To reserve a seat, call (720)731-1954, or e-mail to i70ccoc@gmail.com by Friday, Feb. 16.

Rain ravaged road reopens in Cherry Creek State Park

AURORA — Cherry Creek State Park reopened East Lake View Road Jan. 26 after the road was closed for eight months due to heavy damage sustained by storms in May.

The park recorded historic water inflow levels last spring which caused infrastructure washout,

wetlands area habitat damage, and erosion on the swimming beach. Road and culvert construction, which cost about \$607,000, began in early November.

The occasion was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting at the 12 Mile North Picnic Area.

Lenten dinners scheduled by Catholic church in Byers

BYERS — Fish fries and soup suppers will return for the Lenten season from 5-6:15 p.m. every Friday for six weeks starting Feb. 16 at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers.

Fish fries are planned on Feb. 16, March 1 and March 15 with soup suppers on Feb. 23, March 8 and March 22.

The church is located at 193 W. Bijou Ave, Byers.

Barr Lake State Park plans Bald Eagle Festival Feb. 5

BRIGHTON — The 12th annual Bald Eagle Festival will return from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3, at Barr Lake State Park near Brighton.

A guided bird hike will occur at 9 a.m. Dogs are not allowed.

Nature’s Educators will present live bald eagle presentations every 30-45 minutes. The presentation is free.

Activities will include kids crafts,

a face painter and shuttles to the gazebo.

The event is free but a pass is required to enter the park. Daily passes cost \$4; daily vehicle passes, \$10; and annual passes, \$80.

Donations to Friends of Barr Lake and Nature’s Educators will be accepted. For more information or to register, call (720)520-1876 or (303)659-6005.

Ag economist scheduled to speak at CO Ag Forum

CORTEZ — The 32nd Annual Colorado Ag Forum will host renowned agricultural economist Dr. David Kohl as keynote speaker for this year’s event on Thursday, Feb. 29, at the Westin in Westminster.

Kohl has keen insight into the agriculture industry gained through extensive travel, research and involvement in ag businesses. He has traveled over 10 million miles; conducted more than 7,000 presentations; and published more than 2,500 articles in his career.

Tickets for the forum are now on sale at coloradoagforum.com. The cost is \$160 if purchased before Feb. 1 and \$210 thereafter.

The Colorado Ag Forum is produced by members of Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program Class 16. For more information, visit www.coloragleaders.org.

Dearfield studied for spot within nat’l park system

DENVER — The National Park Service has launched a public comment period as part of a study to identify whether the historic Dearfield Settlement meets criteria for potential inclusion as a unit of the national park system.

Established 25 miles east of Greeley in Weld County by entrepreneur Oliver Toussaint Jackson in 1910, Dearfield was the largest African American homesteading settlement in Colorado, reaching its peak in the late 1910s and early 1920s.

The public comment period will extend through Feb. 23.


The National Park Service has resources at parkplanning.nps.gov.

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SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

Backyard birds of winter focus of Barr Lake activity

BRIGHTON — A family and homeschool program for all ages on winter birds is planned from 9-11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, at Barr Lake State Park near Brighton.

Participants will learn about the food eaten by the birds of winter and make suet. Feeders and Project Feederwatch, a November through April survey of birds in backyards, nature centers, and community areas will also be addressed.

A daily or annual pass is required to enter the park, and the cost of the program is \$7 per student.

Registration is required. To sign up, visit www.birdconservancy.org. For more information, contact Sarah Doxon at (303)659-4348, ext. 53, or sarah.doxon@birdconservancy.org.

Church Directory



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278 S. Sherman St., Byers
303-822-9366 • mttaborbyers.org

Sat., 6:00 p.m. Saturday Service

Sun., 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Sun., 10-10:30 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Church

Awana Tuesday, 5:15-7:15 p.m., Dinner served

Mark 11:25 Forgive, if ye have ought against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.



Strasburg Presbyterian Church
56635 Iowa Ave., Strasburg, CO
www.spcusa.us
303-622-4325

• Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Church Directory ads start at \$12.60/week

ARAPAHOE LIBRARIES ON ZOOM

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

Meet Kwame Alexander: As part of a celebration of Black History Month, Arapahoe Libraries and The Bookies Bookstore will host a free virtual conversation with Kwame Alexander, poet, educator and No. 1 New York Times bestselling author of “Why Fathers Cry at Night.” During the moderated conversation with adults, teens and tweens, Alexander will answer questions submitted by the audience. Attendees can submit questions in advance at arapahoelibraries.org.

Alexander is the award-winning author of 39 books. His titles include “Becoming Muhammad Ali,”

LIBRARY NEWS

which he co-authored with James Patterson, and “The Undeclared,” a love letter to black life in the United States.

Alexander is a frequent contributor to NPR’s Morning Edition and creator and host of the Why Fathers Cry podcast. 4-4:45 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7.

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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

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, Feb. 1.

Mahjong: Adults will learn to play mahjong at a beginner’s game on the first Friday of each month. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2.

Virtual writers workshop: Adults can share their work with other aspiring writers in a fun, supportive online workshop. Participants will learn to write better and hone their skills through creative exercises. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. A Zoom link will be provided in ad-

vance. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3.

Visualizing Sound & Music: Kids ages 10 and up can discover a new perspective on music and sound by visualizing sound waves and experimenting with electronic musical instruments. 2-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3.

Intro to Music with Grasshopper Kids: Kids ages 7-14 can be welcomed to the wonderful world of music, full of drumming, singing, music production and more! Teacher Aedan from Grasshopper Kids will create a fun and safe environment where children can explore and discover their creativity while learning the basics — from recognizing the rhythm of a song to singing along to karaoke hits. 4:15-5:15 p.m., Wednesdays, Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Story Time with Opera Colorado: Children ages 2-6 can step inside Bravo Books where stories come to life with Opera Colorado. There, they will meet the Finley brothers, owners of the bookstore. The brothers know just how magical a story can be and will share that knowledge with anyone who drops in. Each chapter pulls the reader into the pages of some of the most beloved tales and tunes from opera, musical theatre and more. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 13.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

Thursday, Feb. 1: Chicken patty sandwich, chips.
Monday, Feb. 5: Crunchy chicken wrap, chips.
Tuesday, Feb. 6: Shredded pork, mashed potatoes and gravy.
Wednesday, Feb. 7: Fish bites, seasoned potato cubes.

BENNETT

Thursday, Jan. 25: Chicken potato p
Thursday, Feb. 1: Beef tacos, lettuce, cheese, cilantro rice, corn, banana.
Monday, Feb. 5: Corn dogs, chips, baked beans, coleslaw, apple.
Tuesday, Feb. 6: Crunchy chicken tender wrap, lettuce, cheese, Ranch-A-Boom sauce, fresh fruit, pepper strips.
Wednesday, Feb. 7: Chili, salad, cinnamon roll, fritos, peaches.

BYERS

Thursday, Feb. 1: Macaroni and

cheese, roll, steamed carrots, mixed fruit.

Friday, Feb. 2: French toast with syrup, sausage link, country potato, applesauce.

Monday, Feb. 5: Popcorn chicken, biscuit, broccoli and carrots with ranch, pears.

Tuesday, Feb. 6: Cheeseburgers, French fries, sliced cucumbers with ranch, peaches.

Wednesday, Feb. 7: Chili, cinnamon roll, corn, applesauce

STRASBURG

Thursday, Feb. 1: Hot ham and cheese sandwich.

Friday, Feb. 2: Totchos, Italian sausage, cheese.

Monday, Feb. 5: No school.
Tuesday, Feb. 6: Meatballs with buttered noodles.

Wednesday, Feb. 7: Sloppy joes, baked beans.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 3, 2004
A 40-mile police chase out of Denver ended east of Byers with an arrest and two cars with flat tires, one belonging to law enforcement.
Denver police attempted a stop at 38th Avenue and Holly Street about 7 p.m. on Jan. 29, but the driver refused to stop.
He instead drove north to Interstate 70 and then headed east, a Denver Police Department spokesman said.
Denver Police cars and a helicopter, Adams and Arapahoe County sheriff's offices, and the Colorado State Patrol were all involved in the chase.
The patrol used stop sticks at milepost 308. Adams County deputies used the device at milepost 306.
The chase ended at milepost 318, east of Byers.
"When the (36-year-old male) driver stopped, the left two tires were gone," said Cpl. Larry Stoermer of the patrol. "He was driving on rims."
One car belonging to law enforcement also hit the stop sticks, puncturing one tire.

15 YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 3, 2009
MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, WASHINGTON — One of the U.S. military's highest honors was recently bestowed upon one of the Corridor's own.
Staff Sgt. David Kechter, a 1999 Strasburg graduate, recently received a Purpler Heart, a U.S. military decoration awarded to those wounded or killed while serving. Kechter incurred an eye injury in Iraq in November 2007 when the

Humvee he was traveling in was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED). In an interview with The I-70 Scout Jan. 23, Kechter recounted the incident that occurred near Camp Bucca, Iraq. At the time he was serving as a gunner on the lead vehicle of a Quick Response Force team.
"A couple of Iraqi children came up to inform us that there was a moral round," Kechter recalled. "We drove up with the children, but up around the mortar round, and called for an explosive ordinance disposal team from Basra to detonate or diffuse the mortar round."
When Kechter's unit was relieved by a second unit, the Humvee was struck by the IED when leaving.
"It hit my vehicle and took off the front of my truck," he said. "When it went off, it kind of blew me back, and my driver and commander were both knocked unconscious."
Kechter received shrapnel to the eye when his safety glasses were knocked off during the explosion.
Kechter, who officials received his Purple Heart in a ceremony held at McChord AFB Dec. 15, returned from his tour in May.

10 YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 4, 2014
BENNETT — Construction on a new large-scale retail store in Bennett could commence by the end of the month after town trustees approved the developer's plans during a Jan. 28 public hearing.
The board 6-0 approved the final plat and final development plans for an approximately 22,000-square-foot Tractor Supply Co. store on a 3.72-acre plot on Muegge Farms' property just west of the Love's Travel Stop.

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

SOLUTION ON PAGE 20

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2024. There are 335 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT
On Jan. 31, 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite, Explorer 1, from Cape Canaveral.

ON THIS DATE
In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.
In 1865, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery.
In 1919, baseball Hall-of-

Famer Jackie Robinson was born in Cairo, Ga.
In 1945, Pvt. Eddie Slovik, 24, became the first U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion as he was shot by an American firing squad in France.
In 1961, NASA launched Ham the Chimp aboard a

Mercury-Redstone rocket from Cape Canaveral; Ham was recovered safely from the Atlantic Ocean following his 16½-minute suborbital flight.
In 1971, astronauts Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS
Former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., is 83. Baseball Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan is 77. Singer-musician Harry Wayne Casey (KC & the Sunshine Band) is 72. Actor Kelly Lynch is 65. Actor Minnie Driver is 54.
— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SUPER BOWL

ACROSS

- Desert bloomers
- Request for tailor
- Paul Bunyan's companion
- Delivered by plane
- Boiling emotion
- Match play result?
- Like the North vs. the South war
- Bag, † Paris
- Nymph of lakes and springs
- *Team that never made it to Super Bowl
- *Last year's Super Bowl winner
- *Safety value
- Disfigure
- *Birthplace of NFL
- Roofed colonnade
- Dr. Seuss' Yertle
- Auctioneer's final word
- Sea eagles
- Popular winter boot brand
- Largest ethnic group in Rwanda
- User's destination
- Like Twiggy's skirt
- Former anesthetic
- Not all
- Death notice
- Like r in American English
- Luau souvenirs
- Opposite of WSW
- Vatican's head
- Cattle prod
- *AFC's top seed
- *Host state of this year's Super Bowl
- Like allergy spray
- Second person of be
- Pleasant odor
- Fervent
- Grazing ground
- "When pigs fly!"
- Modeling material
- *NFL Honors' announcement
- Trento's Council of ____

DOWN

- Chlorofluorocarbon, abbr.
- Alight, past tense
- Boat mooring spot, e.g.
- Short for betwixt
- Wife's parents
- Serpentarium noise
- Time period
- Hajj destination
- Hillside, in Scotland
- "Dream on!" (2 words)
- Constricting snakes
- * ____ zone
- Bad blood

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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20. Post-it user

22. Not miss

24. Street opening

25. *Half-time show entertainer

26. Compass point

27. In spite of the fact, arch.

29. Loads from lodes

31. *CBS announcer and former QB

32. Native American group

33. Famous Bolshevik

34. *Like the Super Bowl players

36. Sonny & Cher, e.g.

38. Ditto

42. Neutral shade

45. With mature appearance

49. Bamboozle

51. Learned one

54. Religious song

56. Defier

57. Not top-shelf

58. On the ocean

59. Deviate

60. Type of tide

61. Peace symbol

62. End of grace

63. *49ers' conference

65. Short for one time around

67. Short for Arthur

ANSWERS ON PAGE 18

HOROSCOPE

Reflections on a Libra Moon
Relationships are stories with multiple narrators. The plot is never fully controlled by one person, and that's what makes it an adventure. The last day of the month under a well-aspected Libra moon offers insight into partnerships. Often what we wanted going in isn't the full extent of the treasure we find there. What surprises do you appreciate? What do you wish going forward?
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll keep company with talented people, and that makes you want to practice and improve your own bag of tricks. The command you have over your gifts is more important than which gifts you have.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Science will impact the day. What can be proven via systematic observation, measurement and experiment has the potential to change your scene, improve your work or light up a relationship. Make your hypothesis and test it.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). You wanted a thing. You're now realizing the cost, financial and otherwise, is far steeper than you thought. So, do you want it bad enough to do what it takes to get it? You'll now decide, realistically, if this is the case.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though you strive for an ideal, you don't expect yourself to perfectly achieve it. The little ways you veer off make the journey personal and exciting. Whatever you don't get right gives you a point of connection with your fellow flawed humans.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As all the magicians know, magic isn't something to wait for; it's something to create. You'll be stuck by an idea worth putting effort into. You're up for learning, practicing and ultimately mastering the skill that will bring on the magic.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sure, stress affects you. But you've learned that nothing good comes from reacting too strongly to the signal. Instead, you'll turn that signal down by burning off some energy or by taking a break in a serene environment.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Ambition alone

can't get you to the goal. Many other qualities will kick in, like tenacity, intelligence and diplomacy, which is crucial. A successful strategy depends on figuring out what others want.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are a generally trusting person, and yet you have a feeling that it would be unwise to give up too much power, information or money. You'll be wary of anyone trying to persuade you. Go with your gut instinct — it's spot-on.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're still getting to know someone, and the relationship is somehow at once familiar and strange. It will groove much better once you work a few things out — not through conversation, though. Feel your way through.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are times in life when conflict is necessary, invigorating, and just the thing to sharpen and motivate you. This is not one of them. The prize in question is simply not worth fighting for. Avoid conflict. Embrace compromise and negotiation.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The last word goes to the one who is the most obstinate, not the most correct. Either way, it's a childish thing to fight for, and you'll avoid the situations that seem to challenge people's maturity level.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Success doesn't hinge on one interaction going right. You'll continue to build a body of work and hone your stellar attitude, knowing you'll ultimately have many chances to get what you need.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 31). Your drive to achieve is motivated by a need in the world you know you can fill. That you are astute enough to recognize it is the brilliance that ripples out and out, connecting you to ideal partners, plentiful resources, and goodwill so sincere and abundant it cannot fail. More highlights: an upgrade in style, and keys to the room where magic happens. Taurus and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 42, 3, 20 and 18.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

SHERIFF'S CONTRACT

FROM PAGE 1

town of Bennett release.

Bennett officials have called into question some of Claps' data, including his count of residents in the Adams County portion of Bennett, which they say is inflated.

"Bennett's population from the [Department of Local Affairs] demography office states that in July of 2022 our population on the Adams County side was 2,676," said Mayor Royce Pindell. "We've added 141 houses. (With an average of 2.67 people per house,) that adds 376 people, for a total population of 3,052 — not the 4,500 that the Sheriff has been telling people."

Claps presented his position in a study session held before the Jan. 24 regular meeting that included fourth quarter and annual reports by both the Adams County and Arapahoe County sheriff's offices.

Claps said that, after the contract ended on Dec. 31, 2023, his office extended terms to the town to provide temporary and full law enforcement services for up to three months during the transition.

"However, no communication (has been forthcoming) concerning the contract extension," he said. "If the billed month of January is not paid by the end of January and the new contract signed by the end of the day on Jan. 31 the Adams County Sheriff's Office will no longer provide complete law enforcement services to the town."

Claps outlined what Adams County, by law, is required to provide in unincorporated areas.

"Starting on Feb. 1, 2024, in absence of any contract, the sheriff's office will only provide emergency services to keep and preserve the peace and quiet and suppress all affrays, riots, unlawful assemblies and insurrections," he said, quoting portions of Colorado Revised Statute

30-10-516.

Pindell, in response, told Claps the invoice is in the hands of the town attorney.

"We'll figure out which of this we're able to do in the time limits you just presented us," he added. "Generally, I'm not used to people I have a contract with giving me time limits like this."

According to Communications Director Alison Belcher, who replied to an e-mail query from The I-70 Scout Jan. 25, town staff requested more information after receiving the invoice.

"We asked that the Sheriff's office provide clarification for the services being billed for by Friday, Jan. 26, so the Mayor and Board would best be able to provide direction to staff," she said, adding that the invoice was sent on Jan. 11 and billed for the entire month of January for services performed after the contract ended on Dec. 31.

The board of trustees discussed the invoice in executive session Jan. 23.

"Following the executive session, [town manager Trish Stiles] reached out to the Sheriff's office for clarification regarding a specific breakdown of the service that were being invoiced for," Belcher said. "Once he has responded to the request for clarification, the town will determine next steps for interim service payments."

Belcher noted that the town of Bennett is committed to the safety of its residents.

"And while we continue to work with Arapahoe County to expand their services, we expect the Adams County Sheriff to continue to serve the taxpayers in Bennett."

Stiles said that negotiations with Arapahoe County are progressing.

"Following a recent meeting with Sheriff Tyler Brown and his staff, the Board of Trustees are encouraged about this expanded relationship

and are confident in this decision moving forward," she said.

BENNETT SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPACT

The dissolution of law enforcement services between the town and Adams County would also result in the Bennett School District losing its current School Resource Officer.

"If sheriff's office is not providing its services to the town via contract, we will not have an officer in the 29J Schools," said Adams County Undersheriff Paul Gregory during the Jan. 17 Bennett School Board meeting. "We're hopeful the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office can provide an SRO to the schools but we don't know that for sure."

When asked by Bennett Schools Superintendent Robin Purdy why they would lose their SRO while Strasburg would retain their's, Gregory said it's because Bennett has its own local government.

"Bennett is incorporated [and has a legal] obligation to provide full law enforcement. Bennett has had the contract through our sheriff's office," Gregory said. "It's the same reason sheriff's offices don't provide SROs to cities or towns. If that was so, we'd be providing SRO service to Thornton and Westminster high schools, etc., and, quite frankly, we just aren't able to do that."

Strasburg is in unincorporated Adams County and not restricted by any articles of incorporation.

Gregory concluded that his office is "committed to a smooth transition," if Arapahoe County is able to staff an SRO at Bennett Schools.

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office currently has two SROs who split duties between Deer Trail and Byers school districts.

BENNETT MORTUARY

FROM PAGE 1

driveway to Cedar Street on the west side of the site," he added.

The one-story building will accommodate a mortuary and crematory with a porch and drive-up carport. The plan locates the building in the middle of the site, surrounded by parking and landscaped areas with a carport on the south side of the building and parking on the west side. Building materials include stone veneer and brick with metal or timber trim.

"The building incorporates many elements of the town's design guidelines and will be an attractive addition to the Bennett Crossing commercial area," Hoese said, adding that the structure is well-articulated on all four sides with attention to materials and detailing. "Staff believes the proposed design, materials and colors are of high quality and compatible with existing and future development in the

area. Mechanical equipment will be screened."

Hoese noted the plan complies with the town's land use and development regulations.

The board unanimously adopted a resolution approving the Tabor Mortuary FDP. Trustees Denice Smith and Larry Vittum were absent and excused.

LIQUOR LICENSE ACTIONS

In other business, acting as the local licensing authority and following a public hearing, the Board of Trustees approved an application for the transfer of a liquor license.

The ownership of JD's Liquor located at 100 S. First St. was transferred in 2023 to Amber Corp., which submitted an application for the transfer of the liquor license. Town Clerk Christina Hart brought the application to the

board, noting that all applicable licensing requirements had been met. With the approval, Amber Corp. is licensed to sell beer, wine and spiritous liquor at its Bennett location.

Also acting as the local licensing authority, the Board of Trustees continued a public hearing for a liquor license for Family Dollar stores until the Feb. 13 meeting so the consultant for the business could be in attendance.

FLEET ADDITIONS

The board waived the request for proposals (RFP) process and approved an ordinance and master lease purchase of a street sweeper and a dump truck. The equipment had been previously approved, but action was required to move forward with the financing.

In her staff report, Public Works director Robin Price noted the town

currently owns two International dump plow combos — 2003 and 2006 models. The current fleet also includes a 2004 Elgin street sweeper. The town will maintain the older dump plow combos but the old street sweeper, which is expensive to repair and hard to find parts for, will be sold.

The 2024 Freightliner will be purchased from Transwest Truck Trailer RV in Brighton for \$331,909. The E35 sweeper from Williams Equipment will cost \$339,348. The five-year lease purchase from Tax-Exempt Leasing Corp has a yearly interest rate of 5.95% with an annual payment of \$159,137. The lease purchase was appropriated in the 2024 budget in the sales tax capital improvement fund.

The equipment will likely be delivered to the town fleet around March 2025.



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SPORTS



Lady Tigers rip at Tiara Challenge tourney

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

CASTLE ROCK — Young women from Strasburg and Bennett high schools competed in the Douglas County Tiara Challenge girls wrestling tournament in Castle Rock Jan. 19-20.

In team scoring, the Tigers placed 17th with 87.5 points while the Indians tied for 33rd with 26.

Strasburg additionally participated in the Tournament of Knights, a major event with 44 teams, at Severance High School Jan. 13 and dual Fort Morgan Jan. 17.

@ TIARA CHALLENGE

The Bennett Lady Tigers trio of seniors Marie Jordan (100 pounds) and Katelyn Faczak (105) and sophomore Vivienne Gitke (140) fared well with Jordan taking first place and her peers both placing second.

Jordan was 7-0 — six wins by fall — over the two-day affair.

“Marie Jordan ... wrestled the plan (and) was very offensive with her takedowns,” said Bennett head coach Brittaney Hudson. “We are extremely excited about her performance and the growth she is making every day.”

Faczak went 6-1 including a dramatic 13-9 win in the semifinals over Isabella Smouse from Brighton High School.

“[Kate] flaired Smouse into the air to her back on the mat to finish out the match,” Hudson said.

Faczak was defeated by Rylee Balcazar of Fort Lupton by fall in 0:47 in the finals.

“[Kate] was wrestling to win all day,” Hudson added. “You could see it in her takedowns.”

Gitke was 5-1 over the course of the event, falling in the finals to Camryn Scott from Chatfield High School by fall in 5:29.

“Our finals match was a tough match but I know that when we see Scott from Chatfield again we will be a new wrestler who is grown and developed and got better,” Hudson said. “Vivi also wrestled like a champ all day. She works really hard to get her takedowns every match and took some tough girls into the third (period).”

The Strasburg Lady Indians weren’t as successful as Bennett at the Tiara Challenge, but all six Lady Indians in attendance came home with at least one win. Sophomore Olivia Le Fors (235) had the day’s best record for the Indians at

3-4 while junior Sierra Aberle (120) was 3-5 and sophomore Autumn Kulpa (115) 2-4.

Sophomores Lindsey Hobson (190) and Sierra Nicholas (125) and junior Carly Larson (170) won one match each.

TEAM SCORES

1. Eaglecrest 215.5
2. Chatfield 189
3. Douglas County 168
4. Pomona 151.5
5. Pueblo Central 121
6. Fort Lupton. 119
7. Severance. 113
8. Lamar 106.5
9. Broomfield 104
10. Alamosa 102
- 11-12. Brighton, Regis Jesuit 101
13. Arapahoe 100
14. Cheyenne (Wyo.) East 98
15. Legacy 95
16. Poudre 94
17. Bennett 87.5
18. Prairie View 73.5
19. Columbine 73
- 20-21. Cheyenne (Wyo.) Central, Overland 66
- 22-23. Evergreen, Vista Ridge 64
24. Calhan 62
25. Greeley West 56
- 26-27. Jefferson, Smoky Hill 45
28. Vista Peak 44

29. Walsenburg 42
30. Bayfield 41
31. La Junta 34
32. Arvada West 33
- 33-34. Northfield, Strasburg 26
- 35-36. Thomas Jefferson, Westminster 24
37. George Washington 21
38. County Line 19
39. Las Animas 14
- 40-41. Abraham Lincoln, Florence 12
42. Del Norte 7
43. Liberty 6
44. Mountain Valley 1

ADD’L STRASBURG EVENTS

The Tournament of Knights at Severance was a long day with only three wins for five Indians in attendance.

Their overall mark for the day was 3-10, with Larson winning two matches and junior Erin Johnson (130) taking one.

Against Fort Morgan, only three matches were wrestled and the Mustangs won all of them. Because of forfeits, Strasburg won 18-15.

BENNETT SCHEDULE

Feb. 3: @ Northridge Invitational

STRASBURG SCHEDULE

Feb. 1: James Irwin dual

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bennett rec district opens youth baseball registration

BENNETT — The Bennett Parks & Recreation District has opened early bird registration for spring youth baseball.

Discounted rates are available through Feb. 15.

Practices, which start in April, will be held once or twice per week along the I-70 Corridor. The 10-game regular season will include games along the I-70 Corridor and at Brighton, Broomfield and Fort Lupton.

An end-of-season tournament is also scheduled for late June.

For more information, visit www.bennettrec.org or e-mail to Duce Ortiz at basesball@bennettreco.org.

Soccer association begins sign-ups for spring season

BENNETT — Registration for the spring soccer season through the Eastern Plains Youth Soccer Association for kids ages 3-15 is underway.

The co-ed teams and organization also need coaches.

Registration for the children of

coaches is free.

For players ages 13-15, practice starts Monday, March 11, in Strasburg with games played in Aurora.

For kids ages 3-12, practice starts Monday, March 18, in Strasburg. Games will also be played in Strasburg.

For more information or to register, visit www.epysacolorado.org.

Strasburg HS cheer squad plans clinic for young kids

STRASBURG — The Strasburg High School cheer squad is hosting a clinic for boys and girls from age 4 through the fifth grade.

Participants will learn several new cheers and chants and each age group will learn a short routine to perform at halftime of the Strasburg varsity girls game on Friday, Feb. 9.

The clinic will run from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 3, and from 3:25-5:40 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, Feb. 5, 6 and 8.

The cost is \$60 for early registration or \$65 at the door.

For more information, contact Stephanie at speabody@strasburg31j.com.

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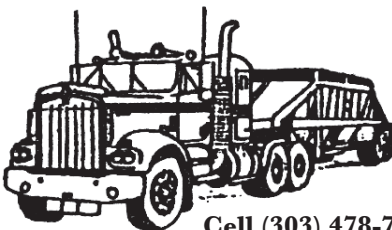
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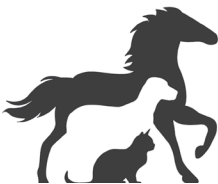
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- ♦ **BYBSA Pink Sox Softball and Strasburg Baseball** - Deadline February 15th Register at <https://bybsa.net/current-programs>
- ♦ **75 “Medium” Fitness Challenge** - Deadline February 19th Date: March 1 – May 15; Location: Virtual/weekly meetings; Fee: \$20 per person **75 MEDIUM**
- ♦ **Superhero Summit** - Deadline February 19th Date: February 24, 1-3pm at the Legion Hall; Ages: Preschool & Up; Fee: \$35
- ♦ **Lacrosse League** - Deadline February 25th Dates: Starts 4/13 (Sat. for 5 wks); Grades: 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th, & 7th-8th; Fee: \$50

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Strasburg head boys basketball coach Kyle Bollers poses with his team and a placard of congratulations for his 150th win at Brush Jan. 25.

Indians win pair with ease

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

shots for the Indians.

@ BRUSH

The Indians took care of business against inferior teams in a pair of road wins over Frontier Academy Jan. 23 and Brush Jan. 25. Strasburg defeated the Frontier Academy 76-47. The Indians jumped to an 18-11 lead after one quarter before blowing out the Wolverines 21-4 in the second for a 39-15 halftime advantage. “Against Frontier, we didn’t shoot it the way we wanted but we had a huge second quarter where we were able to run and force them to play us full court,” said Strasburg head coach Kyle Bollers. Strasburg shot 56% from two-point range but hit just six of 26 three-point attempts.

Strasburg led 21-7 after one period, 35-13 after two, and 54-28 after three before coming home with a 68-31 victory over the Beetdiggers. “We were able to score a ton in the paint,” Bollers said. “We had a size advantage across the board.” Velasco, Glatfelter and Manahan controlled the boards consistently with 11, 10 and five rebounds, respectively. Bollers scored 16 points followed by Martin with 15 points on five-of-10 shooting from three-point range while the rest of the Indians hit just three of 23 attempts. Velasco and Glatfelter each had 12 points, and Martin tacked on 10 assists. “Landen shot the ball well from the outside for us and continued his streak of double-digit assist games,” Bollers said. “Tyce was able to score in transition on rebound outlets and our formula of playing well with speed was the key again.”

“Our shooting from inside the three-point arc continues to be really efficient,” Bollers added. “We were not great from three but (we) generated enough run-outs to make up for it.” Top scorers for Strasburg were junior Tyce Bollers with 24 points, senior Austin Velasco with 20, and senior Landen Martin with 9. Martin also paced the Indians with 10 assists and five steals. “Landen controlled the pace really well and created a lot for us in the paint,” Bollers said. Top rebounders were sophomore Cam Manahan with 11, sophomore Nick Glatfelter with 10, and Velasco with seven. “Our rebounding was tremendous and we controlled the boards all night,” Bollers said. Glatfelter added five blocked


COMING UP

Strasburg now stands at 13-1 overall with a 4-0 record in the Patriot League. The Indians were ranked No. 4 in Class 3A by Maxpreps Jan. 22 and No. 8 in the Colorado High School Activities Association Seeding Index. Yuma, ranked No. 2 in both polls, travels to Strasburg Feb. 3.

COMING UP

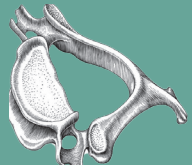
Feb. 3: Yuma
Feb. 9: @ Wellington
Feb. 13: Estes Park

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PHOTOS BY SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg boys take on wrestlers from Valley High School in Gilcrest. Pictured are, clockwise from top left, Charlie Spriggs (215 pounds); Alejandro Hernandez (132); Thomas Devlin (175); and Aiden Bongard (157). Spriggs and Devlin won their matches.

Strasburg wrestlers compete at Chatfield tournament

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

LITTLETON — The Strasburg boys wrestling team attended the War Horse Wrestling Invitational at Chatfield High School, finishing in a tie for 19th place in the 30-school event. Senior Thomas Devlin took third place to pace

the Indians at 175 pounds. He went 4-1 for the day, losing only to a ranked contender from Class 5A in the semifinals, then rebounding to defeat Wyatt Walston of Erie by fall in 2:49 in the match for third place. He also won his first three matches by fall in 2:48, 1:45 and 1:20, respectively. “He’s got a good shot to win his region,” said

Strasburg head coach Jordan Ross. No other Indians placed, but senior Alejandro Hernandez went 2-1 at 132 pounds, and sophomores Ben Nuttall (106 pounds), Kingston Rodriguez (157), and Carter Kinyon (157 JV) and seniors Alden Thompson (165) and Charlie

SEE W STRASBURG
PAGE 12

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PHOTOS BY RICHARD SOUTHARD/For The Scout

Byers’ Jonathan Brank, left photo, and Bryce Brewer, right, try to keep control of their Peyton opponents at 106 (JV) and 215 pounds, respectively, during a quadrangular hosted by the Bulldogs Jan. 23. The other two teams in attendance were Akron and Dayspring Christian.

Byers Bulldogs battle thru series of dual wrestling meets

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

Byers wrestlers got their first head-to-head team wins at a bracketed duals tournament at Platte Valley in Kersey Jan. 20.

Byers lost its first two duals to Florence (51-18) and Platte Valley 47-21 before the Bulldogs were nipped by Forge Christian High School of Arvada 37-36.

Forced to the consolation bracket, the Bulldogs won their final duals 48-24 over Timnath and 30-24 over Wiggins in the match for 13th place.

Seniors Ethan Becerra (190 pounds) and Kaiden Powell (175) had the most

success, ending the day with marks of 4-1 and 3-1, respectively. Four other Bulldogs won one or more matches — sophomores Brodie Fisbeck (2-1, 106 pounds) and Torrin Wardall (2-2, 126) and freshmen Ben McPherson (2-3, 144) and Bryce Brewer (1-1, 215).

DUALS @ BYERS

The Bulldogs also hosted duals against Peyton and Akron Jan. 23.

Peyton defeated Byers 39-18 with Powell winning the only individual match by pin in 0:48.

Forfeits allowed Byers to tie Akron at 30-30, but the Bulldogs lost all three head-to-head contests.



RICHARD SOUTHARD/For The Scout

Bulldog Torrin Wardall tries to escape the grasp of Peyton’s Nate Burdick during a 126-pound match at a quadrangular hosted by Byers Jan. 23.

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W STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 11

Spriggs (215) all won one match.

“They’re probably not quite where I’d like them to be,” Ross said. “But I’ve just got to keep in mind that we’re just so young and inexperienced.”

TEAM SCORES

1. Chatfield 231

2. Cherokee Trail 222

3. Fort Collins 170

4. Erie 134

5. Bear Creek 123

6. Burlington 116

7. Pueblo West 106

8. Abraham Lincoln 102

9. Pomona 97.5

10. Valor Christian 87

11. Thomas Jefferson 86

12. Legend 80

13. Fowler 76.5

14. Littleton 75.5

15. Vista Peak 65

16. Pine Creek 53

17. Thornton 51

18. Highlands Ranch 48.5

19-20. Broomfield, Strasburg 48

21. Golden 39

22. Lakewood 36

23. Arvada 34.5

24. Aurora Central 28

25. Ponderosa, Rangeview 23

27. Westminster 21

28. George Washington 14

29. Evergreen 8

30. Gilpin County 6

VALLEY

The Indians hosted the Valley Vikings Jan. 24, losing 54-24 in the team scoring.

Devlin and Spriggs both won their matches by pin in 2:00 and 4:25 respectively.

“It was a tough night for us,” Ross said.

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PHOTOS BY SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Lady Indians Peighton Marrero, left photo, Wynne Winter (14), Hannah Damron and Taryn LaForce (32) tear it up against Frontier Academy Jan. 23 at home.

Strasburg ladies blow past Frontier Academy, Brush



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg’s Natalie Damron puts up a short hook against Frontier Academy.

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

The Strasburg girls basketball team took care of business without letting down in a pair of easy wins over Frontier Academy and Brush last week.

“Both those teams are pretty inexperienced,” said Strasburg head coach Merci Ames.

The Lady Indians whipped Frontier Academy 76-18 at home Jan. 23 and Brush on the road 63-38 Jan. 25.

“It was kind of nice for my kids to come out and have a little killer instinct and not play down to the competition,” Ames said. “So we were glad that we continued to play hard the whole time.”

Strasburg recorded 15 assists against the Lady Wolverines and 17 against the Lady Beetdiggers.

“I was really pleased with how we moved the ball,” Ames said.

The Indians pounced on both opponents early and often. They were ahead of Frontier Academy 27-6 and Brush 24-0 after one quarter.

Ames used the big advantages to work on different sets and played the entirety of her bench extensively.

“I not only played everybody, but I backed us all into a zone and we had to have one foot in the key for three quarters,” she said.

Ames said her reserves played well, particular-

ly noting freshmen Addi Kent at point guard and Wynne Winter on defense.

“(Sophomore) Mikayla Friedrich has really improved. That was really kind of cool to see,” Ames said. “And then our twin towers, (sophomores) Taryn LaForce and Mckenna Sell, also did some good things as well. Got some good rebounds and some good putbacks for sure.”

Against Frontier Academy, Strasburg recorded 33 steals, led by junior Peighton Marrero with 11 thefts to go with 14 points and seven assists. Senior Graecy Graf added 19 points and four steals; junior Natalie Damron with 11 points and six boards; sophomore Hannah Damron 11 points; senior Katie Seligmann four steals; senior Kenade Hickson four boards and three steals; and LaForce 6 points.

Statistical leaders against Brush included Graf with 17 points, eight rebounds, nine assists and six steals; Marrero 12 points, six assists, and three steals; Natalie Damron 10 points, eight rebounds, two steals and two blocks; Hickson 8 points; senior Aubrie Archuleta 6 points; and LaForce six rebounds.

The Lady Indians are now 10-4 overall and 3-1 in the Patriot League.

COMING UP
Feb. 3: Yuma
Feb. 9: Wellington



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PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMFO/For The Scout

Bennett Lady Tigers Jessica Vennenberg (4), left photo, Braidyn Neade (21) and Lily Vennenberg (12) attack the basket against the Platte Canyon Huskies Jan. 25.

Arvada, Platte Canyon fall prey to Bennett Lady Tigers

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

Regardless of the classification, the Bennett Lady Tigers continue to take care of business against Frontier League foes.

The orange-and-white remained unbeaten in conference competition, following up a 53-42 victory at 4A Arvada Jan. 23 with a 42-17 demolition of visiting 3A rival Platte Canyon Jan. 25.

@ ARVADA

Tuesday’s matchup against the Bulldogs saw the troops of Bennett head coach Mike Rios utilize stingy defense to forge ahead in the second part of both halves. After finding themselves down 13-10 after the first quarter, the visiting Lady Tigers surged ahead 20-17 by half-time. A 19-17 advantage in the third quarter, put the orange-and-black up 39-34 entering the fourth quarter. The Bennett defense stepped up over the final eight minutes, holding the Bulldogs to 8 points.

“It was only our second game to travel to of the season and I think we were a little out of sorts,” Rios

said of his squad’s play. “But, defensively, we stepped up when we needed to and, to be quite honest, the Venneberg sisters kind of put us on their backs a couple of different times — (junior) Jessica was able to get some buckets inside, especially in the first half, and (senior) Lily came out and got us started in the second half with three three-pointers.”

The Venneberg sister duo accounted for all but 6 Lady Tiger points — Lily with 25 on 4-of-8 shooting from the arc and Jessica with 22 on a 9-of-12 performance from two-point range.

Junior Raquel Thorpe, who recently took over point guard duties, accounted for the other half-dozen points and tied Lily Venneberg for the team-high in assists with three.

“Moving Raquel to the one spot has really been big for us. She has been able to break the press with the dribble, get our offense set up and into the right places, and find the open teammates to get us really going,” Rios said. “And, defensively, she’s now at the top and has been a key in getting steals and being really disruptive to opposing

offenses.”

The Tigers dominated the battle of the boards 32-13 and were led by Lily Venneberg with nine rebounds and Jessica Venneberg, junior Olivia Schroeder, and sophomore Mya Robredo with six apiece.

Defensively, Jessica Venneberg led in steals with four, while Lily Venneberg added three and Thorpe two.

PLATTE CANYON

Thursday’s game against the visitors from Bailey saw both teams struggle to score in the second and fourth quarters. After Bennett jumped out 18-4 over the first eight minutes, the hosts posted a 2-0 shutout over the second quarter to have a 20-4 halftime advantage. Both teams ramped up the offense coming out of the locker rooms, but Bennett extended its lead to 37-14 entering the fourth quarter.

In another defense-dominated period, Bennett outscored the Huskies 5-3.

“Platte Canyon just really slowed things down and we really tried to get our bench players a lot more playing time to try and keep our

starters a little fresher,” said Rios, noting that the squad had three games in five days between Jan. 23-27. “Plus we’re going to need to have those extra legs and a deeper bench as we get closer to the playoffs.”

Four Tigers scored — Jessica Venneberg with 17, Lily Venneberg 15, and Thorpe and Schroeder with 5 apiece.

Lily Venneberg completed a double-double with 11 rebounds, while Schroeder added five boards. Thorpe had team-highs with four assists and five steals.

As a team, Bennett forced 20-plus Husky turnovers, including 11 via steal, and only committed six turnovers of its own.

The Lady Tigers advanced their record to 10-1 overall, 4-0 in 3A Frontier League play. Bennett has also played a pair of 4A Frontier teams and defeated both of them.

COMING UP
Feb. 3: @ Fort Lupton
Feb. 6: @ DSST: Montview
Feb. 7: @ Arrupe Jesuit
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Tiger wrestlers compete at Northglenn Norse tournament

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

The Bennett Tigers competed at the Northglenn Norse Varsity Invitational Jan. 20 and also took on Resurrection Christian and Weld Central in dual meetings at Keenesburg Jan. 11.

At Northglenn, the Tigers fin-

ished 16th out of 21 teams with 42.5 points.

The tournament featured an older format where a pigtail round determined who entered the championship bracket with no wrestle-backs to potentially place out of the consolation bracket. Only two Tigers, sophomores Caycen Scholz (120 pounds) and Tommy Cearn (138)

won their pigtail matches. Scholz went 3-2 for the day and finished fifth and Cearn went 1-2 but did not place.

“Caycen probably was the best wrestler on the day because he competed in the correct bracket for himself,” said Bennett head coach John Faczak. “You’re looking to get into wrestling the best guys and you got to earn your way in and I think he did a good job at that. And he competed in his matches. We made some mistakes some of those are our tactical errors in terms of how we played the game and some of those were technical errors.”

Sophomore Ethan Jordan (144) went 4-1 for the day but lost his pigtail match to a wrestler from Pueblo Centennial who he had defeated earlier this season.

“Ethan showed up to the match thinking the PC kid was gonna roll over,” Faczak said. “Hardly the case.”

Sophomores Daniel Jordan (106) and freshman Kenneth Jordan (157) went 2-2 and 2-1, respectively.

“Our kids came out and again in classic immaturity didn’t understand their brackets or how this works,” Faczak said.

The circumstances cost the Tigers the ability to go ahead and wrestle for first through fourth place. Faczak emphasized the importance of giving wrestlers opportunities to compete while not protecting them from the stiffest competition.

“We can win matches. We can beat kids. We can place. You made stupid mistakes. We had some good moments. There were some things that were really exciting,” Faczak said. “And it does show progress for them from where they were at the beginning of the year to now, but it’s a far cry from what I want to see, and it’s gonna be a process with this group.”

“I knew it was gonna be a head-scratching year. It has not failed to deliver that.

“We lack consistency. We can’t show up and play when it’s time to play. We wait ’til we get down by a whole bunch of points before we start to try hard, or we start out, we’re trying really, really hard and then we don’t have enough gusto to go ahead and finish. I mean, there’s a million ways in which we find a way to shoot ourselves in the foot and sabotage ourselves, but it all comes down to [the fact that] we’re

not very good competitors. We don’t want it bad enough to make any changes yet. And we’re waiting for the world to change to the way that we want it to be where you just give it to me instead of the way that it is. And so we’ve got a long year of learning still ahead of us.”

Bennett still has tournaments at Garden City, Kan., and Eaton prior to the regional and state tournaments.

“We have to learn how to put good matches in a row. We have to learn how to put good days in a row, and that’s it. That’s the key to success,” Faczak said. “The state tournament isn’t built on who’s hot on one day. The state tournament is built to be three days long for a reason. It’s built to make you weigh in three days long for a reason — not because they couldn’t wrestle it in one day. They could. They could all get it done in one day. But it’s not to do that. It’s to make sure that there’s consistency, that there is a there’s a drive there that you have to make that weight.”

Faczak also noted that he’s sent a wrestler to the state tournament in each of his 23 years as Bennett’s head coach.

“So I’d really hate for this to be the first one where we don’t, but this is that group that could do it,” he said.

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1. Windsor 249
2. Eaglecrest 191
3. Canon City 167.5
4. Fruita Monument 150
5. Regis 143
6. Legend 120
7. Eagle Valley 107
8. Northglenn 91.5
9. Arapahoe 85
10. Prairie View 75
11. Denver East 71.5
12. Jefferson 62
13. Pueblo Centennial 61
14. Frederick 53
15. Greeley Central 46.5
16. Bennett 42.5
17. Lyons 28
18. Steamboat Springs 27
19. Longmont 24
20. Niwot 21
21. Yuma 13

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The inconsistency of the Tigers was also evident in dual losses to Resurrection Christian (33-24) and Weld Central (54-18).

“The easy answer is we lost both duals because we gave up too many forfeits,” Faczak said.

At the same time, Bennett wrestled well against Resurrection Christian, going 4-2 in head-to-head matches, then lost focus against Weld Central, dropping two of four matches.

His team started making the same mistakes again, Faczak said.

“We want to win but we’re just not disciplined,” he added. “They don’t have enough discipline to stay in good position all the time to make sure that they don’t put themselves in bad places and, when a team wants to take us down the rabbit hole of being stupid and doing dumb stuff, we go running headlong right into it.”

Resurrection Christian defeated Weld Central 36-35 in their dual.

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Kids: color stuff in!



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Football Facts & Fun

Read these clues about the history of football. Fill in the puzzle!

I might be a groundhog, but I'm also the world's biggest football fan. I'm supposed to hibernate from October through the winter months – but that's prime football season! So, I sneak out of my burrow to watch my favorite teams play. Even when I predict six more weeks of wintry weather I watch the Super Bowl!

We made a more healthful crust, cut the sugar and filled our pie to bursting with berries.

What are your favorite snacks?

Home Visitors

1. American _____ grew out of a rough game played in England called rugby.

2. In the early days of football games, the rules were loose, and there were no special pieces of clothing to _____ the head or body.

3. A man named Walter Camp, who played and coached football at Yale University, helped to set and write down the _____ for football.

4. In 1920, some professional teams (meaning players got paid to play) started a league (APFA) to better _____ football.

5. In 1922, the APFA league became the _____ Football League or NFL.

6. A new league was formed in 1959 called the _____ Football League or the AFL.

7. During the 1960's the NFL _____ played against the those of the AFL.

8. In 1969 the NFL and the AFL joined into one _____ that we know as today's NFL.

9. The football was nicknamed "pigskin" because the ball was covered in a pig's bladder. Today the football is made with a rubber bladder covered with _____.

10. Shoulder pads, helmets, facemasks, gloves and shoes with cleats are some of the protective clothes and _____ that have been designed for today's players.

11. There are _____ players on the field for each team.

12. The object of the game is for each team to move the football forward into the other team's end zone to score the most _____.

13. The referees on the field keep _____ during the game. They make sure the rules are obeyed.

14. The Super Bowl is the yearly game for the _____.

15. Thanks to _____, it is one of the most watched sporting events in the world.

organize 2

13

protect 10

7

points 15

11

6

league

order

championship

leather

television

rules

12

teams

gear

eleven 1

8

National Football

Teams of the NFL

Read the team names to fill in the blanks. Once you have spelled them, search for the second half of the team name in the puzzle and circle it. The first one is done for you.

Start your own football team! Create a design and color in your team pennant and helmet.

AFC-North

Baltimore Ravens
Cincinnati Bengals
Cleveland Browns
Pittsburgh Steelers

NFC-North

Chicago Bears
Detroit Lions
Green Bay Packers
Minnesota Vikings

AFC-South

Houston Texans
Indianapolis Colts
Jacksonville Jaguars
Tennessee Titans

NFC-South

Atlanta Falcons
Carolina Panthers
New Orleans Saints
Tampa Bay Buccaneers

There are 32 teams in the NFL. The teams are split into 2 groups called the AFC (American Football Conference) and the NFC (National Football Conference). These 2 are then split into 4 divisions: North, South, East and West. Each division is made up of 4 teams.

AFC-East

Buffalo Bills
Miami Dolphins
New England Patriots
New York Jets

NFC-East

Dallas Cowboys
New York Giants
Philadelphia Eagles
Washington Commanders

AFC-West

Denver Broncos
Kansas City Chiefs
Las Vegas Raiders
Los Angeles Chargers

NFC-West

Arizona Cardinals
San Francisco 49ers
Seattle Seahawks
Los Angeles Rams

D	Q	H	B	A	J	A	G	U	A	R	S	B	S	R	U	P
O	P	A	C	K	E	R	S	N	S	A	T	U	I	Y	O	
L	G	F	A	L	C	O	N	S	Y	V	Y	V	K	C		
C	P	B	T	E	X	A	N	S	S	I	E	L	J	O		
R	O	A	H	U	P	C	H	I	E	F	S	Q	N	H	L	
I	A	M	T	W	I	C	L	I	O	N	S	I	L	H	S	T
Z	M	M	R	A	B	N	C	H	A	R	G	E	R	S	J	S
L	S	A	I	Z	R	S	S	A	P	A	N	T	H	E	R	S
B	T	N	O	V	O	E	C	B	N	J	R	S	Q	H	A	X
E	E	D	T	I	N	A	A	E	B	E	T	D	S	Z	I	S
N	E	E	S	K	C	H	R	A	N	E	E	L	S	S	D	A
G	L	R	N	I	O	A	D	R	J	L	L	R	Y	F	E	I
A	E	S	C	N	S	W	I	S	I	E	O	S	M	R	N	
L	R	F	Q	G	D	K	N	L	B	9	B	C	F	U	S	T
S	S	N	X	S	I	S	A	C	4	W	E	T	L	C	L	S
E	A	G	L	E	S	C	L	H	O	U	T	I	T	A	N	S
B	R	O	W	N	S	Y	S	C	G	G	I	A	N	T	S	R

Foot Fun!

Have you noticed that some words are made up of 2 words put together? The meanings of the 2 words are often "added together" to mean a new thing. For example: foot + ball = football. The new words are called **compound words**.

Match the two bold words to the meaning of the new word they make when "added" together!

- foot + ball** (sphere used in games)
- foot + man** (male human)
- foot + note** (short message)
- foot + wear** (clothing)
- foot + stool** (seat with no back)
- foot + hold** (to have in hand)
- foot + board** (flat piece of wood)
- foot + hill** (sloped area)
- foot + bridge** (built structure)
- foot + path** (walkway)

A. structure only wide enough for a person to cross

B. opposite of the headboard, found at the bottom of bed

C. place to rest or start on a rock climb

D. narrow trail for hikers

E. sneakers, boots, sandals and high-heeled shoes

F. popular sport that is played on the gridiron or field

G. small hill at the base of a larger mountain

H. servant who waits on tables or opens doors

I. note at the bottom of page that helps explain the text

J. place to rest your feet at the end of a long day

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

Help Wanted Help Wanted

**BYERS WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT
EMPLOYEE ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Byers Water & Sanitation District is an equal opportunity Employer and will be accepting resumes for an employee to be trained in **District Office Management**, with growth possibilities in all aspects of the water & wastewater systems.

Full benefit package, including company vehicle, insurance, retirement, vacation, sick time, holidays, cost of living increases, and retirement after probationary period.

Salary Range between \$45k-\$60k depending on experience and qualifications. \$10k salary increase for all four facility required state licenses or \$2,500 salary increase per license or upon earning each license (Water D, Wastewater D, Collection 1, Distribution 1).

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.

Responsibilities will include but not limited to: Accounting, billing, collecting and depositing payments, customer service, payroll & District Board Meetings. On call alternating weekends & emergencies as needed.

Growth possibilities in: Water treatment, wastewater treatment, Collection system, Distribution System, pump maintenance & repair, electrical, & plumbing.

All employees will be held to the Personnel Rules of the Byers Water & Sanitation District. Employees must live within 30 minutes of the Byers Water & Sanitation District boundaries; reasonable distances will be considered.

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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For additional information, please e-mail Jill Schmidt at jschmidt@strasburg31j.com or call (303)622-9211, ext. 900.


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Help Wanted



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Calving season help sought. Call (303)822-5606.

Help Wanted



Byers School District 32-J


is now accepting applications for a:

Elementary Teachers For 2024-25

Certified Application can be found at: www.byers32j.k12.co.us under the Human Resources tab on the District page. Applications should be submitted to Byers School District, Attn: Stacy Sondburg, 444 E. Front St., Byers, CO 80103.

Applications may also be emailed to sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us or faxed to 303-822-9592.

For additional information, please call Machaela Eymann at (303)822-5292, x1113.



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Help Wanted

East Central BOCES is seeking a part-time, 3 days/week teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing for the 2024-2025 school year. Salary range: \$27,750-\$32,790 for 112 days dependent on experience and education. Must have or be able to attain a Colorado teaching license with an endorsement as a special education specialist (deaf/hard of hearing required). Complete assessments, attend IEP meetings, provide direct and indirect special education services. Excellent benefits including access to a company vehicle or mileage reimbursement and fully paid health insurance including vision and dental. May be eligible for loan forgiveness program. Flexible scheduling with the opportunity to complete some work from home. To apply for this position, please visit our website ecboces.org and click on the "Jobs" page, click on the job you are interested in and then click on the green button "Apply Online," located at the bottom of the job listing. Questions, contact Tracy at (719)775-2342, ext. 101. EOE. 2/7



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Byers School District 32-J

is now accepting applications for 2024-25:

Secondary Science Teacher

Certified application can be found at: www.byers32j.k12.co.us under the Human Resources tab on the District page.

Applications should be submitted to Byers School District, Attn: Stacy Sondburg, 444 E. Front Street, Byers, CO 80103. Applications may also be emailed to sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us or faxed to 303-822-9592.

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Valentine's program set for Barr Lake State Park

BRIGHTON — Kids, ages 4-8, can celebrate the heart of the season this Valentine's Day at Barr Lake.

Love is in the Air will run from 9-10 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 11, at the Nature Center at Barr Lake State Park near Brighton. Participants will learn about bald eagles and great horned owls, the early birds of the nesting season, and the nesting habits of these fantastic birds.

The event is free but a parks pass (\$8 daily or \$80 annual) is required to enter the park. Donations to Friends of Barr Lake and Nature's Educators will be accepted. For more information or to register, call (720)520-1876 or (303)659-6005.

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CHUCK WAGON



Sugar-Coated Peanuts

by **Bobbie Keefer**
For The Scout

These glazed peanuts are crunchy sweet and taste like candy. Eat them as a snack or use them in recipes.

I make an oriental salad with mandarin oranges and buy sugared peanuts from Walmart. They are in a can in the specialty food aisle. Very costly!

I was happy to find this recipe and surprised at how easy it is! My hubby puts them over ice cream and mixes them in his bowl of popcorn.

A gallon of salted peanuts from Sam's makes enough for a party! The only bad thing is you won't be able to stop eating them!

SUGAR COATED PEANUTS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup sugar

- 1/3 cup water
- 2 cups peanuts
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

DIRECTIONS

In a heavy-duty skillet, heat sugar and water to simmer. Add peanuts. Cook several minutes, stirring constantly, until sugar begins to crystallize.

Keep stirring until mixture gets a sandy coating on the peanuts. You will think it isn't working but keep going. It will happen.

Lower the heat and keep cooking to coat the nuts as much as possible without turning too dark. Toss with salt and cinnamon. Scatter on a lined baking pan. Let cool completely, breaking up clumps as they cool.

Store in a covered container.



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ARAPAHOE COUNTY



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout



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A crew with contractor Myers & Sons replaced washed away riprap from the eastern girders with flowable concrete during repairs of the Arapahoe County 38 bridge west of Deer Trail. The concrete was poured from three holes drilled through the asphalt driving surface, center photo. Last summer's rapid floodwaters reached levels of 15-18 feet high under the bridge.

CR 38 BRIDGE

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done between December and the first week of January, mostly involved the pilings on the east side of the bridge where the protective riprap was literally ripped away and planted 100-200 feet downstream from the overpass.

"We're talking floodwaters almost to the girders, probably 15-18 feet high," Marshall said. "That pressurized the water coming underneath the bridge and it blew things out underneath. We're talking big hunks of rock floating down the creek. We also lost all the fill between the two sets of girders on the east side."

In addition to pumping flowable concrete in between the sets of eastern-side supports, construction crews replaced the riprap with a multitude of tiered levels of hand-made mesh blocks of filler material to the top of the embankment.

"Six I-beams and their pilings were exposed to the

bedrock," Marshall said. "You could see the bottom of the asphalt overhead, so we pumped the concrete from on top and then built on top of that to increase the level of support."

The emergency repairs, which were conducted by California-based Myers & Sons, took about three weeks to complete.

Phase B of the bridge's restoration will likely start later this year with western embankment improvements and creek channel restoration.

"We're probably looking at a couple hundred yards both directions from the bridge. It's gonna be a lot of regrading of the stream channel, building back up of the berms that were washed away, and restoring the riprap on the west side embankment," Marshall said. "The emergency design guys we had have been hired for flood plain and environmental impacts studies. When we get done

with that, we should be able to go out for bid."

Phase B improvements are expected to be partially covered by emergency funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"FEMA has been very helpful but they have their protocols we also have to be mindful of," said Arapahoe County spokesman Anders Nelson.

A time frame for the second phase is uncertain.

According to Marshall, the County Road 38 bridge was the most heavily damaged of eight sections of roadway in eastern Arapahoe County from the late May and early June floodwaters that inundated the region.

"Lots of wash outs," he said. "The water got underneath a lot of culverts and just floated them away, a lot of them south of Byers, Strasburg and Watkins. Had to do a lot of replacement."



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Phase 2 repairs of the Arapahoe County Road 38 bridge west of Deer Trail will include regrading of the creek channel and replacement of riprap on the west embankment. While the repairs won't be made until later this year, the bridge was recently reopened to all traffic.

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