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

Volume 30, Number 18

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

'Burg museum, rec district merger slated



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The Easter Bunny greets 10-month-old Wyatt Hicks of Strasburg at the Strasburg Parks & Recreation District's Egg-stravaganza March 23 at Lyons Park.

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — The anticipated merger between a local recreation district and historic society isn't expected to change how Strasburg's museum is managed.

During the March 18 meeting of the Strasburg Metropolitan Park & Recreation District, directors unanimously approved acquiring the Comanche Crossing Historical Society. Under the arrangement, the historical society would lease its two-acre museum property on the west edge of town from the rec district.

According to rec district administrator Angie Graf, rising insurance premiums precipitated museum curator Cliff Smith and historical society board members to inquire about the transaction.

"They're solvent but anticipate difficulty in paying insurance premiums that have more than tripled," Graf said. "That hail storm last year, really did a number on them in more ways

than one. They would move under our insurance."

Graf reiterated that the acquisition will not change how the museum is operated or maintained.

"The historical society will continue to run the everyday operations," she said. "But it would create new opportunities and potential programming partnerships between the entities. Seems like a win-win for both sides."

According to rec district attorney Robert Timbals, the only way a partnership with the historical society is legally possible is to acquire the property.

"Transfer of ownership to [the rec district] would be necessary in order to provide insurance coverage," Graf said. "The historical society would then lease the property from SMPRD and continue with business as usual."

The approved motion allows rec district staff and Tibbals to move forward with the necessary paperwork to finalize acquisition and lease agreements.

Graf added that the his-

torical society's board must still approve the arrangement, but no obstacles were anticipated.

OTHER BUSINESS

Parks & Recreation Manager Nick Dickens reported that renovations at the Wolf Creek Run West fields northwest of town will be completed in time for spring practices. The subdivision developer is completing drainage upgrades surrounding the property.

Demolition of the deteriorating building on the site of the future Community Park East on the east side of Wagner Street is progressing as 12-plus contractors, including several local businesses, have shown interest in the project.

According to Dickens, a meeting concerning the demolition and removal of the former IREA building is schedule for April 1 and any interested bidders are urged to attend.

At full buildout, the new park is expected to include a water park, including a

SEE 'BURG REC PAGE 8

Byers School renews principals' contracts

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

BYERS —The Byers School Board extended the contracts of both the Byers elementary and secondary principals through the 2024-25 school year March 21.

Superintendent Tom Turrell, in recommending the administrators for another year, gave both positive endorsements.

Elementary principal Machaela Eymann took over this year following the retirement of

SEE BYERS BOE PAGE 14



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Roof replacement continues on the old gymnasium of Byers Schools the afternoon of March 21.

Rd 2 closure hot topic at AdCo mtg

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS — "Hopefully they follow through, but we'll believe it when we see it."

That was the overriding sentiment of local residents last week as they left the first formal public get-together with Adams County officials and representatives of the contractor for the 15th Avenue/County Road 2 closure at Bijou Creek between Strasburg and Byers.

The March 21 meeting at Kelter Library in Byers was the first time in 10 months that neighbors to the creek and farmers and ranchers in eastern Adams and Arapahoe counties had their opportunity to publicly voice their displeasure about the slow reaction to repair the washout that was the result of flooding last May and early June.

"You continue to do nothing about something that has a lot of impact on our livelihoods out here," one meeting attendee told county officials. "But you guys aren't out here enough to understand that. Very frustrating."

As the spring farming push commences — including additional tractor, semi and heavy equipment traffic — the clamor for an immediate fix to the impasse has intensified and officials with both Adams County and civil engineering firm Kimley-Horn said they now understand why a temporary resolution is desired by resi-



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Russell Moos was among almost 40 eastern Adams County residents at a March 21 open house about the 10-month-old 15th Avenue closure at Bijou Creek.

dents.

"This is exactly the kind of feedback we are needing to determine the best way to move forward," said Joseph Cuffari with Kimley-Horn. "We are looking into a temporary at-grade roadway and then move into figuring out a long-term solution."

Neighbors to the collapsed crossing reiterated that they've repeatedly voiced their concerns since the flooding last spring and have received no satisfactory response from Adams County, particularly the public works department.

SEE ROAD 2 PAGE 9



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO



FREE TREE BRANCH Drop-Off

End up with some broken branches or downed limbs after the recent storm? Take advantage of Adams County's free branch drop-off event now until Saturday, March 30. Residents can drop off branches at Riverdale Regional Park, 9755 Henderson Rd., Brighton, from 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.



SEEKING

GENERAL CONTRACTORS FOR MINOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Adams County is seeking professional general contractors to perform single-family and manufactured home repair in the county. The contractors are paid through Community Development Block Grant funding and must meet federal requirements. To learn more and apply, scan the QR code or visit adcogov.org/mhr.



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STRASBURG PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT
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- ♦ **Youth Pitching Camp** - Deadline March 29th
 Date: March 30; Beginner: 9-11am, Advanced: 11:30am-1:30pm; Fee: \$40
- ♦ **Youth Volleyball Camp** - Deadline April 1st
 Dates: April 9, 11, 16, 18; Grades: 3rd&4th: 5:45-7pm, 5th-8th: 7:15-8:30pm; Fee: \$50
- ♦ **BYBSA Pink Sox Softball & Strasburg Baseball** - Deadline April 1st (Register: www.bybsa.net)
- ♦ **Peewee T-ball** - Deadline April 10th
 Dates: Tuesdays, starting May 14 (6 wks); Ages: 2-4 yrs; Fee: \$45 (includes T-shirt & award)
- ♦ **Senior Excursion: Manitou Cliff Dwellings** - April 25th, call to RSVP; Fee: \$10
- ♦ **Youth Baseball Camp** - Deadline April 28th
 Dates: May 14 & 16; Ages: 6-10 (5-6:30pm), 11-14 (6:30-8pm); Fee: \$50 (includes shirt)

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KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Byers Park & Recreation District Board directors Janet Herman, left, and JaLee Kitzman speak at the March 20 meeting of the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce.

I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce hosts presentations by local recreation districts

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

BYERS — Participants in this month's I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn at May Farms were educated about the Bennett and Byers park and recreation districts.

The featured speakers at the March 20 meeting were Bennett Park & Recreation District Director Leila Schaub and Byers Park & Recreation District Board President JaLee Kitzman and Vice President Janet Herman.

The Corridor towns of Bennett, Strasburg and Byers each have park and recreation special districts. Special districts are a form of local government that provide certain municipal-type services in unincorporated or rural areas of the state.

Special districts are financially independent and run by elected boards. They operate with limited tax dollars from a property tax designated for the district for properties within its boundaries.

BENNETT PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

The Bennett Park & Recreation District's story began in 2000 when four local residents decided to form a recreation center for their town and community. They spent the next two years working on the formation of a board and establishing the recreation center as a special district. In 2002, local voters approved a \$1.8 million bond to build the rec center and set aside the minimal amount needed to initially fund operations. The bond was a 30-year note.

For every property appraised at a \$100,000 value, the district receives a total of approximately \$70 — \$30 of which is earmarked for operations and the remainder allocated for the bond fund.

Schaub said the district is not affiliated with the town of Bennett financially, although they have been strong partners over the years. Confusion also exists over the district's boundaries, which are smaller than those of the town. The Bennett Park & Recreation District is located within the immediate town of Bennett on the Adams County side only. As a result, when a resident lives on the Arapahoe County side of Bennett, they are charged out-of-district rates.

"We have a lot to offer, and we have a lot to grow," Schaub said.



KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Director Leila Schaub represents the Bennett Park & Recreation District at the meeting.

"We have had some challenges."

The recreation center was constructed in two phases. Phase 1 was built using the initial bond and was completed in 2007. It included a large gymnasium, locker rooms, small fitness room, and a weight room. Phase 2 was built with a \$2.1 million grant from Adams County Open Space and added a junior Olympic-sized pool, toddler pool, continuous pool, and steam rooms.

"P.S. — if anybody ever offers you

SEE REC DISTRICTS
PAGE 4



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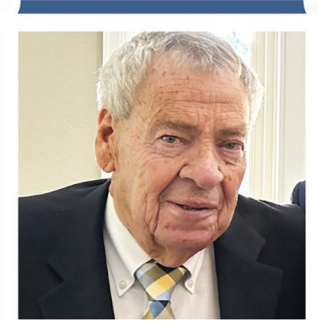
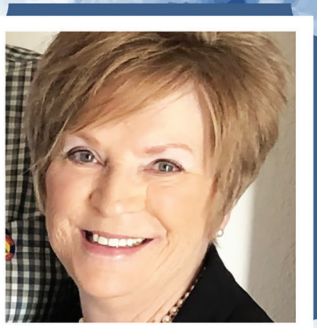
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REC DISTRICTS

FROM PAGE 3

a free pool, do not take it," Schaub quipped, adding that the budget was not amended for operating expenses for the pool, and those expenses effectively drained the district's coffers.

The pool closed in November 2013 after a ballot question to raise the district's mill levy failed. It reopened on a limited basis in 2015. The district cut expenses and leveraged grants over the years but wasn't running in the black until 2019.

"We slowly came back, but we still need to close the pool during the winter months because, first of all, the user load is not there. People don't seem to want to get wet when it's cold out," Schaub said, adding that the second reason is the cost of operation. From Dec. 15, 2022, to Jan. 19, 2023, the facility's gas bill was \$8,525.

Closing the pool in the winter,

coupled with the district's classes and other opportunities, have made a big difference, according to Schaub.

"Our financial situation now is better than it has been in 17 years," she said.

An unexpected windfall last year gave the district an infusion of cash.

"When the sale of the Broncos went through, there was tax money that was refunded and, without applying for it or signing anything, we received a grant for \$286,000," Schaub said.

The money was for youth funding and capital improvements, and, after seven years of putting buckets under leaks, the roof was repaired last year.

"Our revenue ebbs and flows on so many factors," Schaub said. "We are always wanting to be better and to accommodate everyone's needs."

The Bennett Recreation Center

provides youth and adult sports leagues, programs for seniors, yoga, pickleball, swimming lessons, lap and open swims, water aerobics and more. Facility rentals for parties and other events are also offered.

The rec center is located at 455 S. First St.

BYERS PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

The Byers Park & Recreation District does not have a recreation center, but it oversees several facilities and provides community events — the largest of which is the Fourth of July parade and Quint Valley rodeo. The district's Quint Valley property has a Quonset that can be rented for meetings or activities, a rodeo arena, baseball fields, a trap shooting area, and camping area. The district also maintains Byers Community Park, which was recently renovated with funding from Arapahoe County Open Space and Colorado Health Foundation grants. A historic church at 184 S. McDonnell St. was donated to the district years ago and is used for occasional prayer services and other gatherings.

The district board has gone through several periods of turmoil over the past few years, including extensive director turnover. Kitzman joined the board in spring of 2023 and became president last fall. She said she came onto the board without knowing much about the district except for the divisiveness within the board and between the board and the community.

"We've done a lot of research on that and thinking about how the district could meet the needs of the community and our businesses and pull everybody together," she said.

"We've kind of been 'under construction' as a board since October," she added. "We've gone back and looked at our mission and what we're trying to accomplish."

Kitzman said the board's four goals are to update and maintain district facilities; to establish systems, procedures and policies; to develop activities and programs; and to build community collaboration.

The board has been working on updating the Quonset — currently focusing on the kitchen.

"Over the course of the next year, we'd like to do the bathrooms and the meeting room," Kitzman said.

The baseball fields need mainte-

nance.

"We've been working on getting rid of all the stickers and weeds — I'm wearing boots next time; it's real nasty," Kitzman said.

The district is actively working to collaborate, not compete, with other groups providing activities along the Corridor. The rec district traditionally holds an annual Easter egg hunt which this year will be followed by a "hop" where kids can visit businesses around town to gather more eggs.

"We're planning a Byers cleanup day in May which we hope will involve businesses, community members and park and rec people all working together," Kitzman said.

Fourth of July activities this year will be held with a focus on collaboration, also. Two groups will provide breakfast options: the Knights of Columbus will sell breakfast burritos and a veteran's group will bring back the traditional pancake feast. Wide Open Heating, Air Conditioning & Electric is expanding its street fair, and the district will have activities in the park after the parade and before the rodeo begins later in the day.

The celebration will continue on Saturday, July 6.

"The Northeastern Antique Tractor Pullers are coming out to do a tractor pull on the 6th at Quint Valley and I'm working with a Quilt Guild of Colorado to get a quilt show organized," Kitzman said.

The district heard the voices of community members who want to see the return of a Quint Valley fireworks show, so a display was booked for Saturday night.

"We looked for firework companies from all over the state and everyone is booked on July 4, and pyrotechnic (display operators) are hard to find," Kitzman said. "We're looking at training a couple of people in town who can be our pyrotechnics and serve our show every year. We're going to try to get fireworks back on the Fourth."

Policies and fees for facility rentals are on the district website, byersparkandrec.com.

Rental fees are invested back into facility upkeep and improvement.

Kitzman said the district relies on support from businesses, and that a display of signs to recognize business sponsors will soon be installed at Main Street and Highway 40.

Quint Valley is located at 601 N. Highway 36, Byers.

*Notice of Election for the Town of Deer Trail

The Town of Deer Trail will conduct a polling place municipal election on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. The 2024 Town Board election ballot will be for four (4) Town Board Trustee seats. The top three vote-getters in the Trustee election will each serve a four-year term, with the next top vote-getter to serve a two-year term.

Trustee Candidates are (in ballot order): Brandon Rowley, Ashley Buss, John Ketting, Sanford Bell, Mary Arnold, Dashedle Guertin, Robert Rhodes, Dara Sanders, and Phil Steel.



The ballot also includes the following Tabor Sales Tax and Use Tax Question: "SHALL THE TOWN OF DEER TRAIL'S TAXES BE INCREASED BY ONE AND THREE QUARTERS PERCENT (1.75%) ANNUALLY (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR INCREASE) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY THE ADOPTION OF A SALES AND USE TAX AT A RATE OF ONE AND THREE QUARTERS PERCENT (1.75%), SUCH SALES TAX TO BE IMPOSED ON THE SALES OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AT RETAIL AND THE FURNISHING OF TAXABLE SERVICES, AND SUCH USE TAX TO BE IMPOSED ON THE PRIVILEGE OF USING OR CONSUMING CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS IN THE TOWN, OR FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF STORING OR USING ANY MOTOR VEHICLE AND OTHER VEHICLES PURCHASED AT RETAIL ON WHICH REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, AND SHALL ALL REVENUES DERIVED FROM SUCH SALES AND USE TAX BE USED AS FOLLOWS: SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF SUCH REVENUES TO PAY FOR TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A PERIOD OF 20 YEARS, AND THEREAFTER SUCH FUNDS SHALL GO TO THE TOWN'S GENERAL FUND, TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) SHALL GO TO THE TOWN'S GENERAL FUND AND SHALL THE TOWN BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT AND SPEND SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20, OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?"

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

This year's election is polling place only and will be hosted at Deer Trail Town Hall, 555 Second Ave. Ballots can be cast from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 2. THIS IS NOT A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION.

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

/s/ Kimberly Sullivan, Town Clerk

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COMMUNITY CORRAL

Byers Community Church releases Holy Week plans

BYERS — Byers Community Church, 135 S. Sherman St., will host a special Maundy Thursday service with communion at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 28.

A Tenebrae service in combination with Saron Lutheran and Strasburg Presbyterian will begin at 7 p.m., Good Friday, March 29, at Saron Lutheran, 1656 Main St., Strasburg.

An Easter celebration will start with a potluck breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by worship at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, March 29.

For additional information, send an e-mail to ByersChurch@gmail.com or call (303)822-5717.

Youth volleyball camp set for 3rd- thru 8th-graders

STRASBURG — The Strasburg High School volleyball program will host a youth camp on four evenings during April.

Camps for third and fourth-graders will run from 5:45- 7 p.m. while camps for fifth- through seventh-graders will run from 7:15-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, April 9 and 16, and Thursdays, April 16 and 18, at the Strasburg High School gymnasium.

Participants will work with Strasburg coaches and players to learn volleyball fundamentals through drills, game activities, and scrimmages.

The registration deadline is Monday, April 1.

To sign up, visit www.strasburgparks.org.

For additional information, call (303)622-4260 or send an e-mail to activities@strasburgparks.org.

Marriagepalooza returns to June AdCo Pride event

BRIGHTON — A mass wedding ceremony provided by the Clerk & Recorder's Office at Adams County Pride is returning in 2024.

Marriagepalooza welcomes all couples.

The ceremony will run from 1:30-

AdCo depts unite on Bennett health events

BRIGHTON — Adams County health teams are partnering on regular health-related events each month in Bennett.

The county health and human services department are providing Women, Infants & Children (WIC) services from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave. The next visit is slated for April 18.

The human services public assistance team will be on-site to answer questions and help fill out applications. Walk-ins are wel-

come.

The health department's Harm Reduction and Sexual Health teams will also attend to provide safer sex resources; sexually transmitted infection testing; Naloxone; gun locks; syringe access; and fentanyl test strips.

To schedule a WIC appointment, call (303)439-5990. For more information, visit adco.gov.

The teams can also provide referrals to other services. For more information, visit adamscounty-healthdepartment.org.

2:30 p.m., Saturday, June 8, at Riverdale Regional Park, 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton.

Stella Diver will officiate the ceremony, and AllSpyce, named one of Westword's "Freshest Faces of Colorado Drag" in 2023, will serve as the maid of honor.

For additional information on Marriagepalooza and the Pride celebration, visit adco.gov.

Bennett FFA chapter puts Easter bouquets on sale

BENNETT — The Bennett FFA chapter is making beautiful Easter-inspired floral arrangements to sell during the Lenten season.

Each bouquet includes a customized arrangement, vase and a personalized or generic greeting card. Each bouquet costs \$25.

Bouquets can be picked up for free on Thursday, March 28, at Bennett High School or delivered within Bennett town limits for an additional \$3.

For additional information or to place an order, contact Kendal Linnebur, chapter advisor, at (303)408-3992 or klinnebur@bsd29j.com.

Air & Space Port receives \$500K grant for pavement

BRIGHTON — Colorado Air & Space Port at Watkins has received a \$500,000 aeronautics grant from

the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to rehabilitate the existing West Ramp and Taxiway Alpha pavement.

In addition to the grant allocation from CDOT, CASP is also providing \$55,555 toward the work for a total project cost of \$555,555.

The funding will be spent on pavement maintenance, including crack sealant, a seal coat application, and new markings.

The maintenance will extend the existing pavement life and reduce concerns about foreign debris, according to a release.

The project is set to begin this spring.

Limb drop-off, yard tools offered via Adams County

BRIGHTON — Adams County is offering a free place to drop off tree branches broken off by snowstorms this winter as well as free yard tool rental this spring.

The Parks, Open Space & Cultural Arts Department is facilitating the service. Drop-offs can occur from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday, March 30, at Riverdale Regional Park, 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton.

The Tool Shed program provides Adams County residents with free access to yard and gardening tools to help them maintain their properties.

The program offers tools for both

individual yard and neighborhood clean-ups

For a list of tools or to make a reservation, visit adco.gov/toolshed.

Maintenance closure set for key back road to DIA

AURORA — Both directions of Monaghan Road between 56th Avenue and 26th Avenue will be fully closed around the clock from early morning Thursday, March 28, through early morning Saturday, March 30, to maintain infrastructure.

Commuters through the area should plan for delays. The signed detour will use a 14-mile route on 56th Avenue, Picadilly Road and 26th Avenue.

The work is required due to multi-year road closures on 56th Avenue and Hudson Road until the roads can be reconstructed following last year's extensive flood damage.

Additional planning and effort has occurred to reduce the time frame for the upcoming closure.

Monaghan Road is roughly 3.5 miles west of Watkins.

AdCo: Free tax preparation offered to some residents

BRIGHTON — Free, high-quality tax preparation services are available for Adams County residents with a household income of less than \$64,000.

In-person help is available at the Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays through April 3, at 7190 Colorado Blvd., Commerce City.

Appointments for this location can be made at taxhelpcolorado.as.me/ECPAC.

A second location is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the first and third Saturday of the month through April 6, Anythink Library Commerce City, 7185 Monaco St.

No appointment is necessary for this location.

Residents can also visit taxhelpco.org for more information.

The I-70 Scout

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SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

Annual STEM program returns to Brush High School June 3-7

BRUSH — A nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program is coming to Eastern Colorado from Monday through Friday, June 3-7, at Brush High School.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame in partnership with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in grades K-6 to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems. Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship — all in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features a new cur-

riculum inspired by some of the nation's most world-changing inventors — National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees. This year's Illuminate program encourages children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness through hands-on activities including:

- **Let's Glow:** Creativity radiates as campers uncover the science of light through illuminating inventions and glowing animals.
- **Prototyping Studio:** Children star as contestants on a game show where they mold, shape and transform their ideas into amazing inventions.
- **In the Game:** As campers create their own light-up game board, they team up to tackle athletics, design, business and invention.

• **Operation: HydroDrop:** Children embark on a global operation to help solve water challenges around the world.

"Camp Invention opened up a whole new creative world for my daughter," said the parent of a 2023 Camp Invention camper. "Now she looks around for things she can use to build new things, and she uses a creative thought process to figure out how to build it."

All local programs are facilitated and taught by qualified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves 122,000 students every year and partners with more than 2,500 schools and districts nationwide.

For more information or to register, visit invent.org/camp.

Church Directory

LIVING SPRINGS

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

CORNERSTONE
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 Worship with us! Sundays at 10 a.m.
 In-person and online:
www.cornerstonebennett.com
 Foundation Youth Group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Tuesday
 303-644-3450 | 460 3rd St., Bennett


Strasburg Church of Christ
 Serving Christ and His children on the High Plains
Sunday Service 8:30 a.m.
 American Legion Hall
 56423 Westview Ave., Strasburg, CO
 Please visit our web site to learn more...
<http://StrasburgCOC.org>


Mountain View FELLOWSHIP
 Bible-Based • Nondenominational
Sunday Services 8:30am & 10:15am
Servicio en Español a las 10:15am
 1955 Headlight Road in Strasburg
Sunday Service Livestream at
<https://www.mvcolorado.online.church>
 Midweek Elementary Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
 Middle/High School Youth Group - Wednesdays @ 7pm
 Find us on Facebook/Instagram: Search "mvcolorado"
mvcolorado.com
 303.622.9600

Saron Lutheran Church
 1656 Main St. | Strasburg, CO | saronstrasburg.org
 Worship 8:30 a.m. In-Person or on Facebook

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

MASS TIMES
 • Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri & every 1st Saturday 8:30 am
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 • Sunday 9:00 am
 11:30 am en español
SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
 Saturday 4:15-4:45 pm
 Sunday 8:15-8:45 am & 10:45-11:15 am
 Or by Appointment
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 56635 Iowa Ave., Strasburg, CO
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info@calvarybennett.org
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Mt. Tabor Baptist Church
 278 S. Sherman St., Byers
 303-822-9366 • mttaborbayers.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

John 11:25 I am the resurrection, and the life?

Church Directory ads start at \$13.50/week

LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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

Story Time Yoga for Littles: Toddlers and young children ages 2-6 explore yoga poses and movement through stories, songs and play that encourage their imaginations. 11-11:45 a.m., Thursday, March 28.

Pop-Up Studio: A team of all ages will learn the basics of 3D modeling by practicing hands-on clay sculpting and digital sculpting with the 3D software Nomad. 3-5 p.m., Thursday, March 28.

Games and Music with Plants: Patrons ages 10 and up will explore the use of plants and electrically conductive technologies in making music and playing new games. 2-3:30 p.m. Friday, March 29.

Pysanky eggs: Local expert Scott Noble will discuss the traditional Ukrainian egg decorating technique of pysanky and teach participants how to create their own at an event hosted by the Corridor Creative Arts League. Sponsored by the Bennett Arts Council, the event, appropriate for ages 16 and up, will occur at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, March 30.

Poetry Play Date: Children up to age 5 will explore poems using sight, sound and touch. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, April 4.

Brass Quest Musical Performance: Music fans of all ages can explore musical landscapes with the horn and tuba duo Brass Quest. For nearly two decades, married couple DeAunn Davis (Boulder Philharmonic) and Adam Snider (Boise

Philharmonic, Central City Opera) have delighted audiences with live performances and digital productions from Chicago to Honolulu to Denver and beyond. The duo puts its own spin on popular hits and original compositions. 1-2 p.m., Saturday, April 6.

Summer Sublimation Tumblers: Teen Techies ages 10 and up will make sublimation tumblers for summer. 4-5:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 9.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

Gallery on the Go: Participants at this afternoon of painting will create their own unique works of art in acrylic on canvas with guidance from a Gallery on the Go instructor. No art skills are needed; all supplies provided. 1-2:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 3.

WWII's 10th Mountain Division: Arapahoe Libraries and History Colorado will host a presentation on the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division in World War II. 1:30-3 p.m., Wednesday, April 17.

ARAPAHOE LIBRARIES ON ZOOM

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

"Science through Shadows:" Kids ages 5-12 participate in a virtual presentation with an astronomer from Fiske Planetarium. They will learn why eclipses occur and make a pinhole camera to safely observe them. For the camera, participants should bring a cardboard box (such as a cereal box), a piece of foil, tape and a thumbtack. 4-5 p.m., Thursday, April 4.


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AS SEEN ON ANIMAL PLANET

Strasburg School Board starts search for new superintendent

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — Four days after its superintendent announced his resignation, the Strasburg School Board is commencing the process for finding his replacement.

During the March 12 board meeting, directors unanimously accepted the resignation of Dan Hoff, who will leave the district as superintendent at the end of June. Hoff, who formally announced his resignation via a district-wide e-mailed letter March 8, will leave Strasburg after two years on the job.

All five board members expressed their thanks to Hoff for his service to the district but expressed a mixed-bag of emotions about the selection process ahead of them.

“Without you I’m pretty sure we wouldn’t have a strategic plan in place, so thank you for your diligent work on that,” said board president Michael Marrero. “I thank you for the energy you brought to [help] address that gap we were looking to fill between, you know, where we were at as a real small town and where we are emerging to.”

“I’m numb,” said an emotional Mary O’Malley, who is the newest board member being sworn after last November’s election. “They’re very hard shoes to fill, but I’m confident we can fill them.”

“I’m not looking forward to the gauntlet that awaits, but excited nonetheless to try to get on with [the process],” added director Daymon Johnson.

“There’s been a lot of good that has gone on since you came, and I’m confident they will last, so thank you for that,” said board first vice president Diana Elliott. “And I’m with Daymon, it’s like I’m not looking forward to the process, whatever it happens to be, but we need to move forward, and we’re going to do it positively.”

While the search process will likely involve an outside firm to help with determining job finalists, Johnson said he wants to make sure current prospects within the district aren’t overlooked.

“I would like to start it out internally and see if there’s any candidates emerge in-house,” he said. “I think there’s a myriad of reason for that, but the biggest to me is opportunity, right? I don’t want someone to feel like they weren’t afforded an opportunity, so I think it’s important to open that up internally, at least for a short window, and see if anybody emerges and, you know, have some discussions. If someone emerges and we’re comfortable, then great, right?”

The rest of the board indicated they agreed with Johnson that an internal search should take place over a small window of time and that an in-house person might help streamline the transition process and have priorities that align with the current direction of the district.

“If something comes out of that, it would sure make our job a lot easier and less stressful,” Johnson added.

Marrero added that, in addition to finding Hoff’s replacement, a decision must be made on how to proceed with filling a couple of administrative positions — high school principal and athletic director.

“We still have the interim tag on the high school principal, so we need to figure out what we want to do on that,” he said.

Hoff added that finalist interviews that were originally scheduled for March 13 had been postponed in an effort to update how the hiring process might proceed. Makeup date(s) for those interviews were uncertain, especially with spring breaks occurring.

In the case that the internal search for Hoff’s replacement is not fruitful, Marrero said he has already been in contact with hiring consulting firm HYA, which helped during the process to hire Hoff; however, a formal RFP/bid process for those services might be required since the price tag will likely be over \$10,000.

While a new superintendent is being sought, Marrero reminds district residents that the current administration remains in place.

“Dan’s here through the end of the year, right?” he said. “I want to be clear, Dan is our superintendent.”

Hoff’s final day at the district is June 30.

Bill would force local gov’ts to live-stream public meetings

by **Kristin Oh**
Sentinel Colorado

DENVER — Coloradans are one step closer to watching all local government meetings and submitting comments online rather than in-person.

On March 20, the state House Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee approved House Bill 1168 on an 8-2 vote. The measure now moves to the House Appropriations committee to review the financial impact of the bill. A hearing date has not been set.

The bill would require that local governments live-stream their meetings, making them more accessible for people with disabilities as well as other people who can’t or don’t want to attend the meetings in person.

An amendment was added to the bill stating that local governments with less than 1,000 voters, such as those in rural communities, are exempt.

The bill is sponsored by committee chairperson state Rep. Meg Frolich, D-Englewood, and state Rep. Manny Rutinel, D-Adams County.

“We are almost 30 years after the Americans with Disability Act and three years after COVID demonstrated how remote participation is implementable and efficient,” Frolich said. “Individuals who can’t attend [meetings] in person should be able to follow the proceedings and testify as if they were able to attend in person.”

Most who spoke during public comment supported the bill. Some

who came to the hearing sat in motorized wheelchairs but had to use their feet to open the door leading to the committee room as there was no handicap automatic door opener inside. Others testified virtually.

Maureen Welch, an Aurora resident and parent to a student at Cherry Creek School District, said she supported the bill. She spoke about how the school district, until recently, had not live-streamed their meetings. The school district has often been criticized for not live-streaming board meetings like other metro-area school districts. However, they will begin to live-stream portions of their meeting starting in April, officials said.

Welch also said that she was unable to participate remotely in the Colorado State Board of Education meeting because they didn’t allow virtual public testimony. The state board does, however, live-stream meetings.

Those who didn’t fully support the bill said they wanted to see amendments that address their concerns.

Rachel Amspoker, attorney for the Colorado Association of School Boards, said she was concerned about litigation. She said that “in recent years, school districts have been faced with lawsuits from people who are not connected or harmed from open meeting law violations.”

This concern was echoed by Heather Stauffer, legislative representative for the Colorado Municipal League. Amspoker and Stauffer did not specify any recent examples of such happenings when they

spoke to the committee March 20.

Last year, Matt Roane filed a lawsuit against the Elizabeth School District, accusing it of violating open meeting laws. The school district moved to dismiss the lawsuit because Roane, who doesn’t live in the school district, “had not explained how he was actually injured by the Board’s failure to comply,” according to the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado.

Roane has been named in stories about a flurry of similar lawsuits in other places in Colorado.

Stauffer also said that “local governments have increasingly experienced disruptive and anti-semitic attacks not related to public business. ... This is in no way tied to the folks who are using these remote systems due to a disability. But this would open it up to everyone and so we have concerns about that.”

State Rep. Andrew Boesenecker, D-Larimer County, said disruptions can happen in person as well.

He spoke about a city council in his district that had to “shut down” a couple weeks ago because of unruly, in-person public comment. He did not specify what was said during that meeting.

In February, the Aurora City Council went into recess after rowdy protesters began chanting “ceasefire now” amid the war in Gaza. Also in February, Colorado Community Media reported that the Castle Rock Town Council banned people from making public comments remotely, citing concerns about potential hate speech.

“Is there maybe a better conversation to be had about how you structure public comment inside of a public meeting to make sure that agenda items are discussed appropriately,” Boesenecker said. “Because I think that’s quite frankly the responsibility of us, is to be able to accept that comment from whomever, and just sit there and listen.”

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Happy 95th Birthday to Carol Allen Josh!

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The Town of Bennett, through the Bennett Gives Back Grant, may provide a grant up to 90% of the costs of a qualifying event, project, program or activity.

The purpose of the program is for eligible organizations and special districts to obtain additional resources to help supplement services or resources provided to the residents of Bennett.

Visit townofbennett.colorado.gov to fill out an application online.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHILD FIND

East Central BOCES and/or its member districts would like to locate all 3 through 21 year olds, who may have a disability.

The Colorado Department of Education maintains a comprehensive child identification system consistent with Part B of IDEA and ensures that each Local Education Agency (LEA), in collaboration with a variety of community resources, assumes the leadership role in establishing and maintaining a process in their community for the purpose of locating, identifying and evaluating all children, 3 through 21 years, who may have a disability and may be eligible for special education services under Part B of IDEA.

If you have any concerns about your child's growth in -

- Speech/Language Development
- Learning
- Vision and/or Hearing
- Social and/or Emotional Development
- Physical Motor Development

Ages 3 through 5 year-old concerns should be directed to the following:

- Cheyenne County (Cheyenne Wells and Kit Carson Schools)
- Lincoln County (Genoa-Hugo School)
- Yuma County (Idalia & Liberty Schools)
- Kit Carson County (Bethune, Stratton, Arriba-Flagler & Hi-Plains Schools)
- Arapahoe County (Byers, Deer Trail, Strasburg & Bennett Schools)
- Washington County (Arickaree & Woodlin Schools)
- Adams County (Bennett, Strasburg, Byers and Deer Trail Schools)
- Lincoln County (Limon & Karval Schools)
- Elbert County (Agate & Kiowa Schools)
- Kit Carson County (Burlington Schools)

Please contact: Stacey Brown, Child Find Coordinator - (719) 775-2342, ext. 133

All 5 through 21 year-old concerns should be directed to the local school district administrator, special education teacher, East Central BOCES (719) 775-2342, ext. 101.

The East Central BOCES member schools are: Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail, Agate, Woodlin, Arickaree, Limon, Genoa-Hugo, Karval, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Cheyenne Wells, Arriba-Flagler, Hi-Plains, Stratton, Bethune, Burlington, Liberty, and Idalia.

References: IDEA, Part B, Section 300.125
ECEA CCR 301-8 2220-R-4.01-4.04(4)
East Central BOCES Comprehensive Plan Section III Process of Identifying

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, March 27, and Thursday, April 4.

Community feedback drives water quality protections for Commerce City refinery

DENVER — After extensive stakeholder meetings, technical analysis, and a robust community engagement process, CDPHE has published a permit to require Suncor to reduce pollution in water that comes from the refinery and goes into nearby Sand Creek.

The permit is more protective than previously and will further guard Sand Creek and downstream waters for recreation, aquatic life, agriculture and drinking water.

The permit will increase the transparency of Suncor's site operations, implement monitoring requirements, and limit dozens of toxic metals and chemicals, including, for the first time ever, PFAS chemicals.

"Thanks to a robust and collaborative community engagement process, we've developed the most protective water quality permit Colorado has issued for Suncor," said Nicole Rowan, division director of CDPHE's Water Quality Control Division. "The permit will ensure that Suncor's facilities operate effectively while holding the facility

accountable and ensuring cleaner, safer water in the surrounding community."

The federal Clean Water Act and Colorado's Water Quality Control Act require the department to make sure the water is safe for drinking and farming and protect animals in the water, like fish and insects.

In developing the permit, CDPHE deliberately engaged with stakeholders at every step. The department held five meetings with stakeholders, made materials available in English and Spanish, and received hundreds of comments on the draft permit which the division reviewed and considered during the update.

The refinery is located along the bank of Sand Creek near the South Platte River in Commerce City. The Burlington Ditch, an important source of drinking water for the suburbs, cities, and towns north of Denver, runs through the property.

Visit the Water Quality Control Division's webpage to learn more about how the division is working to protect Colorado's water.

'BURG REC

FROM PAGE 1

splash pad; outdoor sports courts; integrated trails; and an amphitheatre with an open park seating area. Once the existing building is removed, it will be replaced by a structure to house the water closet for the splash park along with bathrooms and a concession stand.

In addition, Graf said the district submitted a change of use permit for the new park site with Adams County on March 11 and that comments from planners are expected to be returned by April 16.

Opening of the new maintenance

building at the north baseball field has been delayed until CORE Electric completes the wiring and the parking lot entrance is reconstructed with new drainage.

Recreation board president Cindy Fahey requested that staff take additional efforts to post signage telling residents that no public ATVs or UTVs are allowed on fields, parks or trails. Dogs are also not allowed on fields.

The next regular board meeting has been moved from May until 6 p.m., Monday, June 17.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Call Diane, (303)644-3717, for meeting ID.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Good Friday service with communion. 7 p.m., Journey Church, 56000 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Third annual Hop the Corridor Easter egg hunt featuring 11 or more businesses. Easter egg hunt at Byers Park at 11 a.m., visits to participating businesses until 3 p.m. For more information, call Pattie Lindsay at (303)886-0771.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter service. 9 a.m., Journey Church, 56000 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

MONDAY, APRIL 1

Strasburg High School Athletic Booster Club. 6 p.m., high school library.

Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Legion.

Deer Trail School Board. 7 p.m., Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room at Davies Library.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Adams County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m. by phone. To sign up, call (303)405-3298. Appointments available at Anythink libraries for one-on-one discussion 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 for one-on-one discussion with a volunteer attorney using the library's computer link. Space limited.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Afterschool poetry workshops: Kids ages 7-14 will play with words and rhyme from silly sonnets to rhyming action games in a four-week workshop in honor of National Poetry Month. 4:15-5:15 p.m., Anythink Bennett library.

EVERY THURSDAY

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

Coffee, Cookies & Chat for all I-70 Corridor seniors. 11 a.m., Bennett Recreation Center.

Gaming Club: Patrons ages 7 and up play video games after school. 4-5:15 p.m., Bennett Anythink library.

EVERY FRIDAY

Storytime: Hear a story, sing a song, and spend time promoting literacy for preschoolers. 10-10:15 a.m., arapahoe-libraries.com. Click on "virtual events."

ROAD 2

FROM PAGE 1

“Every week, sometimes two to three times a week, we’ve let [the county] know how bad things are, but really no urgency at all,” one area farmer said. “I hope they prove me wrong, but don’t think anything will happen soon. They don’t live out here and they don’t understand how important this is.”

Byers School District Transportation Director Janet Herman added that the road closure has resulted in a shift in bus routes and made it more time

consuming and expensive to pick-up students in the area, particularly north along Bradbury-Krebs Road.

“We had to change which buses pick up which kids,” Herman said. “It’s been a big inconvenience. A lot of extra miles.”

Without the creek crossing open, the detour includes Highway 36/40 through Byers or about five miles north to 88th Avenue on Bradbury-Krebs Road, but the latter route is also fraught with dangerous

road conditions.

“Good luck getting across 42nd (Avenue) up north, especially with a tractor or some other big implement,” another neighbor said.

Residents added that the extra oversized traffic through town is a safety concern, especially during the school year, and that several highway crossings are too tight for comfort for big farm tractors and implements.

Cuffari said the possible “fix it now and long-term solution later” plan will

likely commence in April with sediment and debris removal from the site, but any time frame on construction of the new passage was unknown.

What the excess sand will be used for is still uncertain but county officials hope to use much of it on trails or other roadways throughout the county.

Adams County Commissioners Emma Pinter and Lynne Baca, who represents local District 5, also attended the meeting. They said the county commissioners

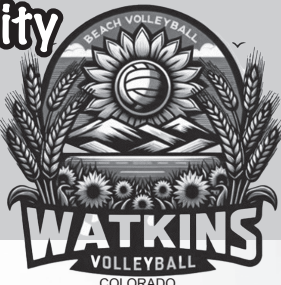
are fully in favor of a timely resolution but declined to reply when asked about I-70 Corridor residents’ assertion that similar issues on the west end of the county would have already been addressed.

“I can’t talk to that,” said Pinter, board chair. “[But] we are making important progress with our engineers to address a resolution that focuses on a combination of community safety and access.”

**SEE ROAD 2
PAGE 10**

**Join Our Beach Volleyball Community
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Thursdays @ 5:55 & 7:05 p.m.
Cost: \$300/team

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(Schedule on website)

Volleyball at Lulu’s Inn, 33355 E. Hwy. 36, Watkins
To Register: www.watkinsvolleyball.com/home

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Anythink Libraries Bennett (303) 405-3231
Arapahoe County Government (303) 795-4630
Aurora Mental Health & Recovery (303) 617-2300
Barnyard Boutique (303) 345-4460
Bennett Parks & Recreation District (303) 644-5040
Bigfoot Auctions (720) 276-4225
Bijou Telephone Co-op Assoc. (303) 822-5400
Blue Sky Party Rentals (303) 622-6777
Browning Blades, (303)547-6790
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Colorado Space and Airport (720) 523-7311
Colorado Trailers Direct (303) 731-4631
CORE (303) 622-9231
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ES Tech (ESRTA) (888) 999-3778
FNB Bank (303) 644-5100
Front Range RV Storage LLC (303)644-5800
Grothe Financial Services, PC (303) 644-4600
Hally Albers (303)946-4373
High Plans Restoration (720) 266-7803
I-70 Corridor Communities that Care (303) 644-5049
I-70 Publishing Company (303) 622-9796
I-70 REAP (720) 587-7501
Integrity Insurance & Five Rings Financial (303) 644-4872
Independent Bank (303) 622-4201

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Smoke Show Meats (785)534-7412
South Havana Motor Company (303)644-4221
Stayin' Alive AED & CPR Training (918) 497-8384
Strasburg Parks & Recreation District (303) 622-4260
Strasburg 31J School District 303-622-9211
Sum Financial Services Group (720) 613-6160
TDS Telecom (970) 344-9613
Tuff's Ranch & Tuff's Animal Rescue (501c3) 720-263-2279
Town of Bennett (303) 644-3249
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**ARAPAHOE COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE NO. CZ23-001, GREENLAND ESTATE ACRES /
CONVENTIONAL REZONE**

PROPOSAL: The applicant, Beacon Real Estate Services, on behalf of the property owner, Greenland Investment, LLC, is requesting approval of a Conventional Rezone application for approximately 160 acres located southwest of County Road 129 and County Road 6 (Parcel ID: 1981-00-0-00-023). The subject property is currently zoned A-1, Agricultural, where a 19-acre minimum lot size is required. This application proposes rezoning to RR-B, Rural Residential B, where a 2.41-acre minimum lot size is required. If approved, the proposed rezoning would permit an increase in allowable residential density from eight units to 67 residential units.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 23, 2024 at 9:30 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the calendar of the Arapahoe County Board of County Commission permits, a public hearing will be held; at which, all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the above-described Case No. CZ23-001, Greenland Estate Acres / Conventional Rezone. The public hearing will be held at 5334 S Prince St., East Hearing Room, Littleton CO 80120, with the option to participate remotely. The agenda will typically be posted by the Friday afternoon preceding the hearing and can be viewed on our website at <https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar>. You can also listen to, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1-855-436-3656. To join the speaking queue, press *3 on the telephone keypad.

More information about this proposal is available at the offices of the Arapahoe County Public Works and Development Department, Planning Division, 6924 S Lima St., Centennial CO 80112 (please call ahead to schedule an appointment if you plan to walk-in), by calling 720-874-6650, or by emailing planning@arapahoegov.com during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Joan Lopez, Clerk to the Board

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, and *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, March 29, 2024.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

From left photo, Adams County Board of Commissioners chair Emma Pinter, left, and Joseph Cuffari from Kimley-Horn welcome local residents to an open house on the County Road 2 closure at Bijou Creek; District 5 Commissioner Lynne Baca chats with Byers farmer Levi Craig; and Adams County Public Works Capital Improvement Manager Rene Valdez speaks with Dan Crouch of Byers.

ROAD 2

FROM PAGE 9

Cuffari said his firm's services were originally procured by the county in late August but that the planning process has been lengthy and tedious.

"A pretty complicated project," he said.

But one local farmer pointed out that one part of project planning should be easy to resolve.

"Your hydrology study has already been done for you," quipped Mark Linnebur, citing that the report-

ed 100-year storm event has already presented the worst case scenario. "Really shouldn't be a whole lot more work today there."

But Adams County officials said they aren't convinced that last spring's floodwaters reached the parameters of a 100-year storm.

In addition to starting site cleanup, county officials said they hope to have final temporary options defined and another public meet-

ing with local residents next month. But a time frame on a short-term resolution remains unknown.

Additional concerns voiced at last week's meeting included the rapid deterioration of nearby road conditions and the amount of hardware and debris left behind during maintenance operations.

Local dairy owner Greg Pearson showed Adams County Public Works Director Brian Staley pictures

of a pile of nails and other miscellaneous shards of metal that he's collected after county road graders work on Bradbury-Krebs Road.

"We do our own tire repair and that kind of stuff but I know for a fact that Janet (Herman) has a log of all her receipts for the tire and other damage to her buses," Pearson said. "It's just not right. Something needs to be done."

Herman also added that

other bridge crossings north of Byers must be addressed, most notably on Calhoun-Byers Road between 72nd and 80th avenues.

"I'm scared of getting that call one day from one of my drivers that the bus has fallen through," she said. "Then what do we do?"

In a one-on-one discussion with Herman, Pinter reportedly indicated the additional concerns will be addressed.

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SPORTS



Bulldogs rally late for first win in 8 innings

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS — The Byers Bulldogs were down to their last out before pulling out an unlikely come-from-behind, eight-inning 15-14 victory over visiting Simla March 19, the green-and-white's first win of the season.

The momentum of the last three innings on Tuesday carried over two days later as the Bulldogs crushed visiting Calhan 13-1 in 4½ innings March 21.

"Maybe that's the learning-to-win moment that these kids needed," said Byers assistant head coach Matt Eymann as the teams walked off Walt Weiss field Tuesday evening. "We haven't had many, so good to get that one."

SIMLA

In an abrupt turn of fortune, the Bulldogs were down 14-8 with two outs in the bottom of the seventh when nine straight batters reached base with six scoring to send the game into extra innings. The rally started with walks to junior lead-off hitter Chase Long and left-handed freshman Gabe Price. After a double-steal, Long scored on a passed ball and Price crossed home plate on an RBI single by junior Garrett Crecelius. Sophomore cleanup hitter Alan Brewer singled and a walk to junior Carson Gaudot loaded the bases. Brewer and Crecelius both scored after the Cubs committed an error on a ball put in play by sophomore Jack Earl; in addition to closing the gap to 14-12, Gaudot advanced to third on the play. Freshmen Kaden Bennett and Dane Curry walked to bring in Gaudot, making the score 14-13. Another Simla error, this time off the bat



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Bulldog Gabe Price slides safely to home to score the game-winning run in the eighth inning against Simla March 19.

of junior nine-hole hitter Kaleb Willoughby, tied the score at 14, forcing extra baseball.

In the top of the eighth, the visitors got a runner to third with two outs but Byers junior hurler Drew Mohatt coerced a pop-up that was corralled by Earl at third base to end the Cubs' threat.

In the bottom of the eighth, Price walked, stole second, and advanced to third and home on consecutive passed balls to score the walk-off run for the hosts.

"Just a matter of time I guess until our young talent started to figure things out, especially at the plate. Showed a lot of resilience and want-to at the end," said Byers head coach D.J. Jackson.

"I knew we were already playing better baseball than about anytime last year, now we have that first win to prove it."

Things looked bleak over the first half of the contest as Simla went up 2-0 after the first and extended their advantage to 6-1 after the fourth; Gaudot scored Byers' first run after he walked, stole second, advanced to third on a passed ball and scored on an RBI groundout by Bennett.

The Cubs appeared to take further control with 5 runs in the fifth, but Byers tried to keep pace with 4 of their own in the bottom of the frame. Similar to the seventh inning, Long got the fifth-inning rally started but, this time, he singled to right field with no outs, advanced to second on a Simla error that also put Price on at first. Long scored and Price advanced to second on a line-drive single to center field by Crecelius. After a strikeout, Gaudot was hit by a pitch to load the bases. An Earl single scored Price and Crecelius. A groundout off the bat of Bennett scored Gaudot, who stole third the previous pitch. After five Innings, Byers closed the gap to 11-5.

Control issues plagued Mohatt in the next inning as the Cubs walked four times en route to scoring 3 more runs but, again, the Bulldogs responded with 2 runs in the bottom of the frame to bring the score to 14-8. Junior pinch hitter Chas Butterfield smoked a line-drive double to dead center field to start the inning. Long was intentionally walked to put runners on first and second. A ground out off the bat of Price advanced both runners, who eventually crossed home plate on a two-RBI single by Earl. After

**SEE BB BYERS
PAGES 12-13**

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**Agate School District
Kindergarten and
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11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Thursday, April 4

Screenings will occur at Agate School, 41032 Second St., Agate, CO 80101. For more information, parents or guardians can call the main office at (719)764-2741.

For your child to be registered for the 2024-25 school year, bring a birth certificate and updated immunization record. **OUR PRESCHOOL IS FREE!**

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Egg Hunt Starts 10:00am @ Byers Community Park

Hop to your local businesses from 11am - 3pm

Event is free and open to the public!

BYERS BOE

FROM PAGE 1

long-time principal Gloria Mitchell. “I can’t express how impressed I was by Ms. Eymann in her first year,” Turrell said. “She is very conscientious of the (job expectations), the community, and the kids. I’m extremely proud of the work she’s done.”

Secondary principal Kelly Boren is in his eighth year at Byers.

“I’m proud and pleased with Mr. Boren’s willingness to accept the vision of the board concerning hands-on learning and continuing to implement more of those opportunities,” Turrell said.

Under Boren, the school has initiated a school-based enterprise that creates and sells Bulldog apparel and other items and is planning to expand Career & Technical Education opportunities next year.

“I’m hearing from a lot of parents who feel we are very fortunate with the principals we have here,” noted director Allison Harris. “The kids like them and find they are easy to talk to.”

The extended contracts were approved unanimously.

Two of the district’s teacherage apartments will be vacated at the end of the school year and each will be updated. The board approved a bid from Davis Construction for \$32,826 for the apartment needing the most work — including a full bathroom remodel, flooring, doors, paint and electrical. The other apartment has been previously updated and will only require some in-house updates.

In other business, the board approved an overnight trip for 20 students, plus sponsors and judges, to attend the Future Business Leaders

of America state conference April 1-3 at the Gaylord Rockies Convention Center in Aurora.

The final 2024-25 calendar was also approved and will be posted on the district website.

Turrell reported that the project to replace roofs damaged in last year’s hailstorms is nearing completion, with roofing contractor BluSky Restoration making good progress over spring break. Insurance covered new roofs on the part of the main building that wasn’t replaced with a 2013 BEST grant, and those on district-owned apartments and other structures on campus.

“(Last week) they got the cafeteria and the kitchen re-roofed, along with the ag building, the bus barn and concession stand,” Turrell said. “They’re getting close to being wrapped up.”

The district has filled one elementary teaching position and is still seeking a second hire. Turrell said a part-time psychologist/counselor position for the elementary has also been posted. A music position is still open but applicants are few and far between.

The student ambassadors to the school board at the March meeting were junior Allie Pelton and sophomore Danica Lancaster. The plan to invite students to board meetings came after four Byers students attended a student strand of the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) annual convention in December. Different representatives will be chosen to attend each meeting. The ambassadors are asked to bring issues, ideas for improvement, and other feedback to the board.



KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Sophomore Danica Lancaster and junior Allie Pelton share ideas with the Byers School Board as student ambassadors at the March 21 meeting.

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Advocacy orgs seek end to SNAP interview reqs

by Cora Lewis
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Student and legal advocacy groups are petitioning the U.S. Department of Agriculture to lift the interview requirement for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applicants to receive food aid.

The groups argue the interview requirement is burdensome and prevents those who qualify for food aid from receiving it. The National Student Legal Defense Network, the Center for Law & Social Policy and the California Student Aid Commission are among the organizations calling for its removal.

A spokesperson for the Department of Agriculture said the agency is reviewing the proposal.

SNAP helps low-income families supplement their budgets so they can buy groceries, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. An estimated 42 million Americans currently receive the monthly benefits at an average of \$212 per person or \$401 per household.

Currently, within 30 days of an application for SNAP, a state agency must complete an applicant's initial certification interview, either by phone or in person.

Expedited interviews may take place within a seven-day window for people in particular need who meet certain income criteria. Seasonal farm workers, migrants, and certain other households may also receive expedited interviews.

Eligible households next

receive a notice indicating their certification period, or how long they'll receive SNAP benefits.

Before that period ends, a participant's local SNAP office contacts them with information on how to re-certify.

Aviana Kimani, 24, a student at West Los Angeles College, received SNAP benefits for a year-and-a-half before leaving the program, she said, in part because of the difficulty of scheduling the mandated re-certification interview.

Initially, Kimani had signed up for food assistance through her local food bank, but she found the process of going to the social services office in person to renew her eligibility during its open hours challenging because of work and school obligations.

She was moving at the time, she said, and everything within the SNAP assistance program was paper-based in her case, meaning there was an additional challenge in keeping up with the process and changing her address post-move.

"You don't get to pick the time — it's just given to you — and, usually since it's during the day, it can inconvenience you if you work or go to school," Kimani said. "You also don't know how long the call will be. If I didn't have to go through the screening process, I definitely would have been on benefits longer. But if you don't keep up, you're knocked off."

When SNAP was established in 1978, the Agri-

culture Department kept the interview requirement inherited from the previous food stamp program, stating that the interview both helps the agency understand a household's circumstances and helps the household understand the program.

"On the basis of past experience, the department believes that the interview is critically important to the certification process and must be carefully monitored and regulated," the agency said at the time.

But interviews are not mandated by the federal statute governing the SNAP program, the organizations petitioning the government note. They argue that the current regulatory requirement is an outdated bureaucratic hurdle.

A 2021 review of enrollment data in California found that 31% of SNAP applicants in Los Angeles County were denied SNAP due to missing their interview, compared to just 6% who were denied for failing to meet eligibility requirements. Missed-interview denials were even higher among working families and college applicants, affecting as many as 40% of otherwise eligible applicants.

Allan Rodriguez, press secretary for the USDA, said 78% of people eligible for SNAP participated in the program and received benefits from October 2019 to February 2020, the last pre-pandemic period from which data is available.

During the pandemic, when interview and other



EVAN VUCCI/AP Photo

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack holds up a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Electronic Benefits Transfer (SNAP EBT) card during a news conference at the White House in 2021 in Washington, D.C. Student and legal advocacy groups are petitioning the U.S. Department of Agriculture to lift the interview requirement for SNAP applicants to receive food aid.

requirements were eased, the USDA encouraged states to use existing program flexibility to improve access to SNAP, such as by using online or phone SNAP applications or allowing participants to stay on SNAP without reapplying for the maximum amount of time allowed.

According to Ty Jones Cox, vice president for food assistance at the Center for Budget & Policy Priorities, the changes contributed to hunger staying level in 2020, rather than increasing during the early stage of the pandemic. That's in contrast to during the 2008 recession, when it increased from 11.1 percent to 14.7 percent.

"Hunger was poised to soar early in the COVID-19 pandemic, but SNAP's structure and policy changes made it easier for families to access SNAP during this period," she said.

Kimani also says the pan-

demic proved the policy change can be done.

"During COVID-19 they allowed people to be automatically re-certified to continue their benefits, instead of using an appointment in person to determine eligibility," she said. "I wonder why we can't continue that way to ensure people don't lose benefits."

In a recent report, the Center for Budget & Policy Priorities found that the interview requirement "can be an important way for states to gather accurate information and for applicants to have their questions answered, but it can be a labor-intensive task and delay approval."

Student Defense President Aaron Ament said the organization hears too often about obstacles students face to scheduling the required government SNAP interviews when juggling schoolwork, a job and child care or elder care.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO MARCH 30, 2004

STRASBURG — Two days after a fire claimed a local building, five Strasburg businesses reported break-ins.

D's Liquor, Western Hardware, F&C Realty, Comanche Crossing Counseling and Rocky Mountain Internal Medicine (RMIM), all located on Colfax Avenue, were hit in the string March 25. Western Hardware suffered the most damage, losing a plate glass window and \$95, D's Liquor had losses of only \$20, but also lost a window in the back.

"We think he triggered the alarm near the window and heard the buzz in the alarm panel and left before getting to another register," said Western Hardware co-owner Bill McNeill.

RMIM had children's cough medicine taken.

10 YEARS AGO MARCH 25, 2014

BENNETT — The recall effort of Bennett's mayor will proceed after enough petition signatures were confirmed from town residents.

According to Bennett Town Clerk Lynette White March 20, 81-of-96 signatures were validated, well more than the 46 necessary to proceed with the recall election process for Mayor Sue Horn.

The three petitions were turned in by recall organizers March 12.

5 YEARS AGO MARCH 26, 2019

CASTLE ROCK — Three years, one month and 26 days, which also calculates to 1,150 days.

That's how long the family of former Agate rancher Ed Butler, who was murdered on his former property about 7 miles outside of the small town Jan. 13, 2016, waited for his killer to be convicted. The Douglas County jury returned with the guilty verdict, including two counts of first-degree murder, against Joe Robert Love March 18, 13 days after the trial started and a week after closing arguments. The decision occurred after the originally slated trial end date of March 15 because of a weather-induced court closure the previous two days. Proceedings were originally delayed last fall when the trial was moved from Elbert County to Douglas County District Court after the defense cited heavy media coverage and argued that seating a jury of unbiased residents was unlikely.

"Sometimes it takes a long time for justice to be done and this time that was the case. It was a tough few years but we finally have some closure," said Ed Butler's older brother Bob, following the reading of the verdict.

The jury sided with the prosecution, which said Love's recorded phone conversations after his arrest in January 2017 at Fort Bliss Military Base in Texas indicated that the fatal action was deliberate.

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 20

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, March 27, the 87th day of 2024. There are 279 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On March 27, 1973, "The Godfather" won the Academy Award for best picture of 1972, but its star, Marlon Brando, refused to accept his Oscar for

best actor, and in what would become one of the Oscars' most famous moments sent in his place actor and activist Sacheen Littlefeather, who spoke out about the depiction of Native Americans in Hollywood. (In 2022, months before her death, the Academy would apologize for the "abuse" Lit-

tlefeather received at the time.)

ON THIS DATE

In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon sighted present-day Florida.

In 1794, Congress approved "An Act to provide a Naval Armament" of six armed ships.

In 1945, during World War II,

General Dwight D. Eisenhower told reporters in Paris that German defenses on the Western Front had been broken.

In 1964, Alaska was hit by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake (the strongest on record in North America) and tsunamis that together claimed about 130 lives.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Rock musician Tony Banks (Genesis) is 74. Rock musician Andrew Farriss (INXS) is 65. Jazz musician Dave Koz is 61. Movie director Quentin Tarantino is 61. Actor Pauley Perrette is 55. Singer Mariah Carey is 54. Actor Nathan Fillion is 53.

— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: SHAKESPEARE

- ACROSS**
- Type of help center
 - Fake tooth
 - What geysers do
 - Lagoon wall
 - Acronym, in brief
 - Syrup producer
 - Papal court
 - It often comes with Aloha!
 - External
 - *Richard III: "A horse! A horse! My ___ for a horse!"
 - *Romeo and Juliet: "Parting is such sweet ___"
 - Animal's nose
 - Fail to mention
 - Capone's family
 - *Hamlet: "O, this is the poison of ___ grief"
 - Soap froth
 - Iris holder
 - "He ____, She Said"
 - ___ Apso
 - Cheap form of payment?
 - Bert's roommate
 - Not in favor
 - Hipbone-related
 - The Destroyer, in Hinduism
 - Thomas the Engine's warning
 - "Heart of Darkness" author
 - Brewer's kiln
 - Beer choice
 - Not a verb
 - Comic cry
 - *The Tempest: "We are such stuff as ___ are made on"
 - *As You Like It: "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely ___"
 - Primatologist's concern, for short
 - "This land is your land?"
 - *Macbeth: "Our ___ master's murder'd!"
 - Scoundrel
 - Hi ___ monitor
 - Wombs
 - "A Visit from St. Nicholas" beginning
 - Teacher's favorite
 - Got ready for a close up
- DOWN**
- Nordstrom's outlet
 - Purse for the red carpet
 - Cape on Tierra del Fuego
 - Set straight
 - Like a knife
 - Comes before a storm?
 - The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
 - Spectrum maker
 - Wild ox of India
 - Plotting (2 words)
 - Multitude
 - Having Everything Revealed, singer and songwriter
 - *Hamlet: "When we have shuffled off this ___ coil"
 - Corpulent
 - Tin Woodman's "medicine"
 - "Two cents?"
 - *Twelfth Night: "If ___ be the food of love, play on"
 - Convex molding
 - Nigeria's western neighbor
 - Listening devices
 - *Hamlet: "To be, or not to be: ___ is the question"
 - Capital of Vietnam
 - Bar by estoppel
 - Indian restaurant condiment
 - Petri dish filler
 - Prima donna
 - Artist's tripod
 - High tea sandwich
 - P rignon's honorific
 - Destroy a document (2 words)
 - Seize a throne
 - City in Japan
 - Type of sailing vessel
 - Capital of Latvia
 - Outback birds
 - "Blast from the ___"
 - "The ___ of Tammy Faye," movie
 - Uncommon
 - Went down slippery slope
 - Cathode-ray tube
 - *Merchant of Venice: "But love is blind, and lovers cannot ___"

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 18

HOROSCOPE

Avoiding the Scorpion's Sting

The stinger on the tail of the Scorpio moon is the lovely parting gift we take away from our interactions. Where two or more people are involved, there can be endless interpretations. Try not to be too literal, detailed or inflexible in your interpretation of things. Kindness often takes the form of an openness to other interpretations.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's something you've been wanting to get across, but you didn't know how. Now the inspiration will hit, and you'll have the exact right words — or, more likely, that which communicates beyond words.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Some friends get you on a level that other friends will never understand. That's just how it is. Your ability to roll with it and appreciate whatever people appreciate about you, is what keeps you rich in friendship.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you grow weary of the dance of opposites within you — and you will — tell the dancers to go on break. Let them drop out of the swirling vortex of contradictions to get a coffee. Then go about your business, enjoying the quiet.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Daily habits, like getting sunshine and exercise, or putting your keys in the same place every time, make all run smoothly so you can focus on what matters — the relationships you value.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Explore unconventional methods for finding happiness and enjoyment. Creative activities will allow you to explore your inner thoughts. Art and exercise will serve as an outlet for processing feelings and gaining clarity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can't make people feel, but if you could, you know just the feeling you'd want them to have. And to whatever extent you can cultivate a vibe, you will. You'll arrange an environment conducive to the mood you want to create.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Social wins

lead to other kinds of wins. Avoid gossip and limit small talk. Congratulate others on their success, acknowledge the challenges, and ignore all else. Cover those bases and you'll be considered a social genius.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your powers of empathy emerge in response to someone's pain — a brand you know well. Knowing there's a possibility you could be a major part of someone's healing, you'll apply them with generosity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your accomplishment will draw attention, and that can't be helped. Luckily, your inherent kindness disallows any of the props you get for today's success from going straight to your head.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Doing what you love, putting good things in the world and creating opportunities for others charges you up and doesn't feel like work at all. You'll be doing the sort of things you can really put your heart into.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). In moments of frustration, it seems something is happening that you don't want, though it's more accurate to say you're attached to something else — a different idea of what should be happening. To experience sudden contentment, let go of that attachment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The mystical side of you wants to dive into the ethereal depths, though your practical side resists. Why? You don't need gear to navigate the sea of dreams. There's nothing to fear in the currents of imagination. Surrender and play.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 27). You feel mystically drawn to particular scenes, and when you heed the call, relationships begin. Loved ones herald your talent for turning ordinary moments into extraordinary memories. More highlights: You'll complete three impressive jobs and be up for an award. Taurus and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 2, 8, 13 and 29.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

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BB BYERS FROM PAGE 13

on another error. Mohatt walked, advanced to second, stole third, and crossed home plate on a wild pitch. A 6-run fourth inning concluded the contest early as Byers' first three hitters reached and Butterfield cleared the bases with a double that was mishandled by the Calhan center fielder. Bennett added an RBI single, Earl drove in a run on a groundout and Long singled to score the hosts' final run. While the green-and-white scored 13 runs on nine hits, sophomore Jaxzen Egger was stout on the mound, throwing a complete game with only 82 pitches. Egger allowed only 1 run on two hits while walking two and striking out nine. The Bulldogs committed a pair of errors but the Bulldog hurler took care of business. The offense was led by Butterfield, who went 3-for-3, including a double, and four RBIs; Long with two hits, an RBI and two runs scored; and Price with two hits, an

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Help Wanted



Byers School District 32-J

is now accepting applications for the following position:

- **Secondary Music Teacher (7-12)**

Benefits include Health, Dental, Vision, and Life insurance. Certified application available on Human Resources page of the District website, www.byers.k12.co.us.

Inquiries should be directed to:
Kelly Boren @
(303)822-5292, x1115.

Applications can be sent to:
Attn: Stacy Sondburg, Byers School District 32J, 444 E. Front Street, Byers CO, 80103; (303) 822-9592 fax; or sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us.



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.

Help Wanted

THE DEER TRAIL SCHOOL



IS LOOKING TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR**
- **Elementary Teachers**
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 - **HS Social Studies**
 - **Industrial Arts**
 - **K-12 Art**
 - **Transportation Director**
 - **SPED Teacher**
 - **Head HS Basketball Coach**
 - **Small Vehicle Driver**

PLEASE FILL OUT AN ONLINE APPLICATION AT WEBSITE WWW.DT26J.COM.

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Help Wanted



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District

- **Food Services Director**
- **Athletic Director**
- **Bus Driver**
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- ***Grant Writer**
- ***Interpreter/Translator** (*Temporary as needed)

High School

- **Principal**
- **Special Education Teacher**
- **Girls Golf Head Coach**

Middle School

- **SPED Teacher**
- **Science Teacher**
- **Math Teacher**
- **PE Teacher**

Elementary School

- **PE Teacher**

Substitutes

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- **Teachers**

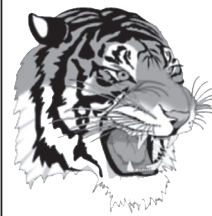
(\$150/day; meal card for free school lunch; and sub license reimbursement after 5 sub days.)

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

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

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Help Wanted



BENNETT SCHOOL DISTRICT 29J*

IS CURRENTLY HIRING FOR DISTRICT POSITIONS FOR THE 2024-25 YEAR:

- **Registrar**
- **Bus/Car Drivers**

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www.bsd29j.com.

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Byers School District 32-J

is now accepting applications for the following position:

- **High School Volleyball Head Coach**

Classified applications are available on the Human Resources page of the District website, www.byers32j.k12.co.us. Position open until filled.

Inquiries should be directed to: Jeremy Kerns @ (303)822-5292, x1188 or kerns.jeremy@byers.k12.co.us.

Wanted

Wanting to buy: coins and coin collections; jewelry; watches (wrist and pocket); Native American jewelry; silver tea sets and flatware; guns and gun collections (federally licensed). I come to you. (720)327-7867. 5/8

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Please contact Brilliant.ngeth@nuwavecom.com or Daniel.oshea@nuwavecom.com



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Garage Sales

Fundraising Garage Sale
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; April 5, 6 & 7
TBK Bank, Strasburg
Also a Silent Auction for Local Artist Lowell Hick's Work!
Call Mary at
720-670-7311(cell)
or 303-622-4896

Services

Chunky's Towing
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CLASSIFIEDS

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For Rent

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Strasburg. 2-bedroom, 1-bath, second-floor deck. Laundry room on site. (303)507-2945. 3/27c

3-bedroom (2 "non-complying"), 2 full baths, large living room, office/dining, lower level of house, shared laundry. Separate entrance, garage, parking, fenced yard, country living 2 1/2 miles northeast of Strasburg. \$1,700/month. Contact sailinginlife@netzero.net for more info. 4/18

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Thank You

A Big Thank You!
 From the Knights of Columbus Council #13221 in Byers. Thank you for our annual dinner and auction with the proceeds going to the Eastern Plains Women's Resource Center in Byers and the Northern Colorado Mobile Ultra-Sound Unit. Thanks go out to all the businesses and individuals along the I-70 Corridor for their generous donations. A special thanks to the Byers American Legion for the use of its hall. Thanks to all those who helped with the meal setup and take down.
 May God bless you all!

For Sale

Letter jackets and chenilles. Harriet McNeill, (303)919-2065. 3/27c

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I-70 Scout, 303-622-9796.

CHUCK WAGON

Cajun Shrimp Pasta

by **Bobbie Keefer**
 For The Scout

This recipe is versatile with many add-on options, including black beans, corn and snap peas.

The shrimp is the star in this recipe but I like to add sausage for more flavor. I buy shrimp that are already peeled and deveined.

I like to serve it with corn bread. Instead of heavy cream, you can use Alfredo sauce.

Many Cajun seasonings are available. Some are hot, some hotter. You can add the seasoning at the end to adjust your desired spice level.

My hubby likes a "kick" of heat. I like just a "slap."

CAJUN SHRIMP PASTA

INGREDIENTS

- 8 ounces penne pasta
- 1 pound shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons Cajun seasoning
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 onion, diced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 8 ounces smoked sausage, sliced
- 1 (14-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
- 1 cup heavy cream
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan



DIRECTIONS

Boil pasta in salted water to al dente. Drain.

Toss shrimp with garlic powder and 1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning. Heat oil with butter in skillet. Add shrimp.

Saute until the shrimp turns pink all over. Remove from pan. Add onions, peppers, sausage to same

skillet. Stir-fry until sausage is fully cooked.

Add tomatoes, cream, remaining Cajun seasoning, salt, pepper. Taste and adjust seasoning as desired. Simmer, stirring often, until sauce thickens.

Mix in cooked pasta and shrimp. When heated through, sprinkle with parmesan. Serve warm.



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ARAPAHOE COUNTY



Water Study

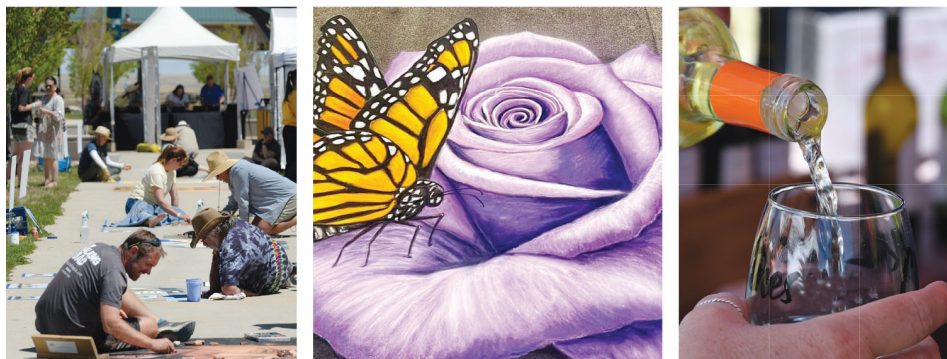
The Arapahoe County Water Supply Study will hold open houses from **5 to 7 p.m.**, April 24 at Smoky Hill Library, 5430 S. Biscay Cir., in Centennial and from **5 to 7 p.m.**, May 9 at the Kelter Library, 585 S. Main St., Byers.



Visit arapahoeco.gov/waterstudy or scan the QR code with your smartphone.



Renewal kiosks are fast, easy and issue your tags on the spot! Try our NEW kiosk inside the Bennett King Soopers or find another at: COMVExpress.com.



Spring is almost here!

Get your tickets now for Arapahoe County's fourth annual spring wine and chalk art festival at the Fairgrounds.

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WEEK OF MARCH 25



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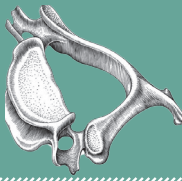
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BB BYERS

a double-steal, Gaudot crossed home plate on a ground out by Bennett.

In addition to eight hits, the hosts were helped by 15 free passes — 13 walks and two hit batsmen — and seven Simla errors.

Despite their highest scoring output to start the season, the Bulldogs stranded 11 base runners, including two early bases-loaded situations.

Crecelius led the hitting attack, going 3-of-4 with one walk and 2 RBIs. Long added two hits, two walks and scored three runs. Earl had one hit and drove in 2 runs. While Bennett went 0-for-4 at the plate, three of his outs were productive, advancing runners and driving in a run. Gaudot walked twice, was hit by a pitch and scored all three times he reached base.

Multiple Bulldogs displayed their running cleats, accumulating 16

stolen bases, led by Price with five, Earl four, and Long and Gaudot with three apiece.

On the mound, Bennett, Long and Mohatt got their opportunity and, at times, all struggled with control and were also hurt by miscues in the field; the Bulldogs committed six errors, including three in the fifth inning.

Long started and allowed 6 runs, 4 earned, on four hits while walking nine and striking out three over the first four innings. Bennett threw the fifth, allowing 5 unearned runs on no hits while walking two. Mohatt threw the sixth, seventh and eighth, giving up 3 runs, 1 earned, on no hits while walking five and striking out four.

"We struggled with the strike zone but, especially with Kaden, our defense also really let us down," Jackson said. "Very little communi-

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FROM PAGE 11

calhan. Have to clean a lot of things up."

CALHAN

In the late-week annual meeting of Bulldogs, Calhan scored its only run in the first but Byers responded with three runs in the bottom of the frame. Long led off with a single, advanced to second on a Price groundout, and stole both third base and home to score the Bulldogs first run. A single by Butterfield scored both Crecelius and Gaudot, who reached on a walk and was hit by a pitch, respectively.

The hosts tacked on 2 runs in the second and third innings. In the second, a Long ground ball was mishandled, allowing Brewer, who singled, to score, and Long crossed home plate on another Price groundout. The third inning saw Butterfield single, reach second on a Calhan error, steal third, and score

SEE BB BYERS PAGE 20



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout
Above, Byers third baseman Jack Earl settles under a pop fly for the final out in a scoreless top of the eighth for Simla March 19. Below, Carson Gaudot gets plunked in the fifth inning..



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout
Byers' Andrew Mohatt throws a pitch in the sixth inning against Simla March 19



STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kindergarten ROUND UP

The Strasburg School District will be hosting Kindergarten Roundup for next year's kindergarten students and their parents on **FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2024**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. The screening will take place at Strasburg Elementary.

Screenings will be completed on children registering for kindergarten that will be 5 years old on or before June 1st, 2024, and must reside in Strasburg School District. Parents or guardians can call the office at (303) 622-9215 to schedule an appointment for your child. Appointments will take at least 1 hour. If your child attended Strasburg Preschool this year, you do not need to attend Kindergarten Roundup.

For your child to be registered for kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year, all students will need to bring a birth certificate, an updated immunization record, and proof of residency (utility bill).

To make the kindergarten round-up successful:

- Make other arrangements for siblings
- Only one adult with each kindergarten
- Have paperwork ready to go

Teachers will be taking your child to a classroom for screening and transition children between activities.

If you know someone with a kindergarten aged child please pass along this information!

For further information or to make an appointment, please call the elementary office at (303)622-9215.

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