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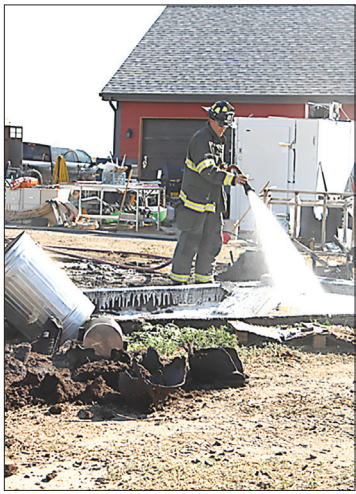
The I-70 Scout

Volume 30, Number 27

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

Thursday, May 30, 2024

Fires scorch properties at 'Burg, Byers



by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

Corridor fire departments were busy last week with two structure fires within three days of each other and, while both dwellings were severely damaged, injuries were mitigated.

STRASBURG HOUSE FIRE

A Strasburg woman escaped an overnight residential fire northwest of

**SEE FIRES
PAGE 16**

Left photo, a local firefighter douses a hot spot from an outbuilding fire just west of Bradbury-Krebs Road near Byers May 19. Center, firefighters examine the charred debris. Right, an Arapahoe County deputy uses a garden hose to help prevent the fire from spreading to a nearby livestock corral.

PHOTOS BY BRIDGETTE CUMLEY/Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue

Bennett High School Commencement



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMTO/For The Scout

From left photo, freshman Caden Reams and sophomore Damien Wise sing during Bennett's Saturday evening commencement ceremonies at Paul Read Field May 25; principal Brian Schipper welcomes the crowd of family and friends; and Katelyn Faczak presents one of the senior speeches.

Deer Trail High School Commencement



PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Deer Trail High School held its commencement ceremonies May 25. From left photo, seniors Trenton Haight, left, Zac Haas and Logan Cox are among the procession exiting; all nine Eagle grads celebrate their accomplishment; and senior classmates Soraya Sotelo De La Torre, left, Sunnie Perez, Victor Ibañez, Ally Hardwick and Haight get a final laugh together.

Bennett annexes cemetery land 'Burg School Board rejects AD recommendation

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

BENNETT — The Bennett Board of Trustees approved the annexation of the Mount View Cemetery into the town by ordinance May 14.

The town owns three parcels totaling 8.897

acres that were subject to annexation. Bennett has owned the property since 2000 when it was acquired from the Bennett Cemetery Association. The existing cemetery is on the western half of the property. Cemetery expansion is anticipated.

**SEE MT VIEW CEMETERY
PAGE 4**

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — While its new superintendent was selected without issue during the original hiring process, the Strasburg School District recently reopened a second search for a new athletic director after

the school board narrowly rejected the nominating committee's recommendation.

During their May 14 meeting, board members voted 2-2 on the motion to approve Ben Lundstrom as athletic director and, because of the tie, his hiring was kiboshed. Board

president Michael Marre-ro and first vice president Diana Elliott voted in favor of Lundstrom, while Julie Winter and secretary Mary O'Malley dissented. Second vice president Daymon Johnson was absent and unable to provide the

**SEE 'BURG AD
PAGE 8**

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Byers cemetery org seeks gifts to ease summer costs

BYERS — The Byers Community Cemetery Association is requesting donations to defray seasonal maintenance costs for mowing and trimming.

Contributions can be sent to the Byers Community Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 733, Byers, Colo. 80103.

Bennett residents offered free access to dump June 8

BENNETT — The annual town of Bennett Clean-up Day will run from 9-11:30 a.m., Saturday, June 8, at the Republic Services East Regional Landfill.

During those hours, residents can take their green waste, electronic waste, and other household garbage to the landfill, 8201 Schumaker Road, Bennett.

Prohibited items include paint, oil, chemicals, hazardous materials, pharmaceuticals, tires, refrigerators, stoves, liquids, batteries, antifreeze, tires or items containing freon.

Electronics including CRT/tube TVs, flat screen TVs and TVs containing lead or mercury are also excluded.

'Burg history society plans discourse on Constitution

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

Cliff Smith, curator of the Comanche Crossing Museum in Strasburg, will discuss the U.S. Constitution from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, June 20, at the TBK Bank Community Room, 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg. He will discuss stories behind the adoption of the Constitution.

The event will start with a snack from 6-6:30 p.m.

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

Trucker totes Tonka Truck



A trucker on westbound I-70 near the Byers exit May 8 has a light load on this trip.

only.

Future topics include the Bill of Rights and amendments to the Constitution July 18 and the Comanche Crossing Museum Aug. 8.

AdCo offers home recycling thru private trash services

BRIGHTON — April was Earth Month, but Adams County residents can celebrate all year long by recycling at home.

All residents of unincorporated Adams County can now sign up for recycling through their current trash service.

For more information, visit adco.gov.org.

Strasburg museum readies for annual Pioneer School

STRASBURG — Registration is underway for the Pioneer School for children ages 6-12 with four week-long sessions during July.

In-person registration will occur at the Comanche Crossing Museum schoolhouse in Strasburg from 1-3 p.m. June 1; or at the museum from 1-4 p.m. daily.

Each class runs for one week, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday-Friday, July 1-5, July 8-12, July 15-19, and July 22-26, at the Comanche Crossing Museum. Children play pioneer games, learn

pioneer history, take lessons on a slate, do pioneer chores, make pioneer crafts, and are welcome to dress in pioneer-era clothes.

Class sizes are limited. The cost is \$35 per child for all sessions except July 1-5, which costs \$28 as the class will not meet July 4.

For more information, call Robyn Handy at (720)717-2956.

Book giveaway slated by Arapahoe Libraries

Summer Reading kicks off at Arapahoe Libraries on Saturday, June 1, and, to celebrate, readers up to age 18 can visit any Arapahoe library to choose a free book, while supplies last.

The library will also host events for all ages, including author visits, art workshops and movie screenings.

Summer Reading concludes Aug. 3.

Lieutenant gov. admitted to hospital with infection

DENVER — Lt. Gov. Dianne Primavera was admitted to the hospital May 22 due to an infection and will continue to be monitored by Colorado's medical professionals.

"Lt. Gov. Primavera is one of the strongest and toughest people I know and we are glad she is taking

extra caution and getting the care she deserves so she can return to her role as the best lieutenant governor in the country as soon as possible," said Gov. Jared Polis.

Primavera leads the Office of Saving People Money on Health Care, the Office of eHealth Innovation, the Colorado Disability Funding Committee and Disability Policy, the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, Serve Colorado, and Aerospace and Defense.

Concert band performance with sea theme announced

BENNETT — The High Plains Music Ensemble will present a free concert, "Sounds of the Sea," starting at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 1, at the Bennett High School auditorium.

Selections will include "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest," "Beyond the Sea," "Sea Shanty Saga," and "Titanic."

A reception will follow the performance.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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CO GOP chair splits party with embrace of Trump tactics

by Jesse Bedayn
Associated Press

COLORADO SPRINGS (AP) — At a recent primary debate, congressional candidate Dave Williams took the microphone and unleashed the same MAGA arguments that vaulted him from a former state representative to chairman of the Colorado Republican Party.

“Right now we have a battle for the soul of our party,” Williams said.

Williams’ zeal and deployment of former President Donald Trump’s combative style of politics as state party chairman has riven the Colorado GOP, reflecting the Trump-shaped rift in the national Republican Party.

But recent brazen moves by Williams, including using his position as chair to try to usher himself into Congress, inflamed tensions. Some Republican officials in Colorado fell in lockstep, others demanded his resignation.

Through it all, Williams has caught Trump’s attention, a fact he didn’t let the crowd forget at the May 16 debate against his Republican rival for a Colorado House seat, Jeff Crank.

“I’m Dave Williams. I’m chairman of the Colorado Republican Party. And I’m also the Trump-endorsed candidate,” he said in his first utterances of the debate, later touting Trump’s cell phone number saved in his own phone.

Crank tried to make sure the audience didn’t forget the tempest around Williams, referencing Williams’ refusal to step down as party chair after joining the primary race, allegedly using the state party’s e-mail list to announce his campaign for Congress and spending party money to purchase mailers that included an attack on Crank.

“My opponent has spent too much time fighting other Republicans than fighting Democrats,” Crank said. “Where’s all the money to fight Democrats? It’s going to him, it’s going



PHOTOS BY JERILEE BENNETT/The Gazette via AP

Republican candidate Dave Williams, left, and Jeff Crank speak during a debate at Centennial Hall in Colorado Springs May 16. The candidates are running for the U.S. House 5th Congressional District seat that U.S. Rep. Doug Lamborn is vacating.

into his pocket and it’s going into his campaign.”

Williams’ maneuvers flouted state party norms across the U.S.

“He’s cannibalizing the Republican party so he can go to Congress,” said Kelly Maher, a veteran GOP operative who filed a complaint against Williams with the Federal Elections Commission.

A statement from Williams did not respond to the complaint’s accusations, instead lobbing invectives at Crank and calling the complaint an attempt “to generate fake news.”

Williams’ ascension and campaign mirror the national split among the GOP between a more combative, MAGA flank, which includes Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, and

more traditional Republicans, some of whom, such as Rep. Ken Buck of Colorado, have fled Congress while citing the new divisiveness in their party.

The winner of the GOP June 25 primary for the reliably Republican seat being vacated by retiring Rep. Doug Lamborn will likely win the general election. Williams unsuccessfully challenged Lamborn in the 2022 primary when a judge barred him from listing his name on the ballot as Dave “Let’s Go Brandon” Williams.

“The Colorado Republican Party, in my opinion, certainly under Williams’ leadership, has been forced to ask questions that they never grappled with before,” said state Rep. Matt

**SEE DAVE WILLIAMS
PAGE 4**

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DAVE WILLIAMS

FROM PAGE 3

Soper, a Republican who worked with Williams in the Statehouse. “What kind of Republican Party do we want to be?”

Williams’ tenure has left the Colorado GOP rife with public infighting, largely prompted by his own attacks on other Republicans. While avoiding interviews, Williams, who has also served as Arapahoe County GOP chair, has sent short statements amounting to diatribes against rival Republicans, Democrats or the media.

Some Republicans welcome the defense of the party’s conservative core from moderate members they see as muddling the movement and failing constituents.

“We’ve had decades of Republicans telling us that they are going to go and limit government, but then they don’t,” Williams said at the debate, as some crowd members murmured in agreement.

That agenda has pushed Williams to wade beyond the traditional purview of a state party chair. State parties, at least publicly, tend to stay out of primary races, giving voters breathing room to choose their candidates. Under Williams, the Colorado Republican Party endorsed Republican primary candidates over others.

That included Republican Rep. Lauren Boebert, who faced her own accusations of opportunism after hopping congressional districts. Boebert politically falls near Williams as an unyielding, far-right member of Congress in line with Gaetz.

In April, Williams ejected a journalist from an official Republican Party gathering, provoking a national outcry and disapproval from Colorado Republicans, including Boebert primary opponent Deborah Flora. The state party subsequently announced its endorsement of Boebert over Flora.

Seth Masket, a University of Denver political scientist, noted

that, while political parties are supposed to be neutral, in internal primaries they often informally back one candidate or another. Williams has erased even the appearance of neutrality, he said.

“There are definitely lines being crossed,” Masket said. “Williams is doing it in a much more overt and official way. There’s nothing subtle about it.”

Kolby Zipperer, chairman of the El Paso County Young Republicans, attended the May 16 debate. When he entered the room, Zipperer, 35, was leaning toward Crank, concerned in part about the accusations of a lack of integrity against Williams.

“If I hear something in the lines of you’re a king, or your breaking the rules to benefit yourself. If I heard the same thing about (Crank) I’d have the same problem,” Zipperer said.

By the end of the event, the winner was a coin flip for Zipperer, who liked Williams’ calmness and talking points. While Williams can mirror Trump’s fiery disposition in statements and social media posts, in front of an audience he is more even-keeled.

“If he’s lying, he’s tricking me,” he said, adding that he also really likes Crank. “It’s like trying to pick two step dads.”

Former Colorado GOP Chairwoman Kristi Burton Brown doesn’t see the party’s divide as being between Trump and anti-Trump, saying she supports Trump not because of the former president’s political style, but chiefly because of his U.S. Supreme Court appointments and policy during his time in office.

“You can embrace that without thinking that, ‘Oh good. Now our entire party needs to adopt a combative, shove your face in the dirt style,’” Brown said. “Hate and divisiveness eventually blows up in its own face.”

MT VIEW CEMETERY

FROM PAGE 1

ed on the eastern half.

Community Development Director Greg Thompson noted that state statutes offer an abbreviated process to annex municipally owned property into the town limits by ordinance.

“Annexation eligibility requirements must still be met, and they have been,” he said.

Property to be annexed is required to be zoned within 90 days. In preparation for this requirement, the board approved an ordinance last month changing the zoning code to allow cemeteries to be permitted use in the Public Zone District.

“When that ordinance becomes valid at the end of May we will bring that application forward to you,” Thompson said.

After unanimous approval, Town Manager Trish Stiles said the action has been long overdue.

“I have been working on annexing the town cemetery as long as I took over as town manager over 10 years ago; it had its frustrations for sure, and I have to give a big shout out to Greg and (town attorney) Scott Krob for finally figuring this one out,” she said.

POTENTIAL DATA CENTER

CORE Electric Cooperative Director of Business Development Robert Osborn discussed the opportunities and benefits of a data center in Bennett.

He noted that data centers are storage and distribution hubs for electronic data.

“The stored data is taken in and distributed to a network of worldwide customers,” he said.

The proposed data center site CORE is interested in promoting is in the Muegge Farms planned development area identified in the Bennett Comprehensive Plan as land for commercial use and as an employment center.

“In talking to team members of the town and to the property owner, we are looking at opportunities to promote this as a site which would bring a data center,” Osborn said. “Muegge Farms is one of those areas that we identified as having a possibility for data center uses and industrial load users.”

Osborn said CORE believes having a data center in its coverage area will help keep the cooperative’s fixed costs low — a necessity because 90% of its business is residential.

“There are a lot of fixed costs and assets associated with managing the electric company, and we sell a commodity, which is a kilowatt hour,” he said. “The more kilowatt hours that flow through our wires, the more we get to recover a portion of that fixed asset cost. High-load users like data centers use a lot of energy and we can push it through a lot of the exist-

ing infrastructure without having to make a lot of new investment — all which helps stabilize our members’ rates.”

This site sits north of I-70 and west of Bennett and includes 102 acres zoned for employment center use and 23 for commercial use.

Osborn said data centers can be built to complement community character. They provide competitive, high-paying jobs, and will generate sales tax revenue with minimum impact on public services.

After discussion, trustees were amenable to considering such development through the town’s building regulations and requirements.

“This is the way of the future,” said Trustee Donna Sus. “I am very excited to hear all this coming this way.”

“I’d like to thank CORE Electric for looking at us,” added Trustee Kevin Barden. “It could be huge for the town and community.”

MAYOR’S MENTION

Mayor Whitney Oakley recognized the exemplary work by town staff who went above and beyond their duties during the transition between law enforcement agencies.

“We knew the road would have its challenges,” she said. “Through it all I think we have become a better, stronger more confident and capable team than before.”

Recognition went to:

- Community Service Officers Keith Bueno and Sonya Zimmerman, who were charged with providing response to non-emergency law enforcement cases during the transition on top of their regular responsibilities including animal control, zoning and building code enforcement, administering grants to homeowners, and issuing parking violations;
- Communications Director Alison Belcher and Communications Coordinator Tiffany Chaput, who handled calls from the media and kept the residents informed during the transition;
- Deputy Town Manager Rachel Summers, who researched the Adams County budget and composed the data into easily understandable information for the public; and
- Stiles, who, along with Summers, countered the information put out to the media by the Adams County Sheriff’s office — maintaining the town’s reputation in the media and fairly representing the community in a challenging situation.

The next meeting of the Bennett Board of Trustees will be held virtually and in person at Town Hall at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 11.

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LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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Virtual writers workshop: Adults can share their work with other aspiring writers in a fun, supportive workshop. Participants will learn to write better and hone their skills through creative exercises. Space limited; registration required. A Zoom link will be provided in advance. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, June 1.

mySummer kickoff: The quest for summer readers of all ages begins with a party! Attendees can register for programs, meet with staff, and play, then immerse themselves in a world of adventure including mini golf, video games and archery.

Potion drinks and enchanting crafts will also be offered. 1-4 p.m., Saturday, June 1.

Itsy Bitsy Bugs: Through stories and dramatic play, miniThinkers ages 2-6 can let the possibilities of bug knowledge take flight in an immersive invertebrate experience with the Butterfly Pavilion. The children will meet live bugs, learn the role of invertebrates in gardens, and dress up to dance and move like butterflies, crickets and bees. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11-11:45 a.m., Tuesday, June 4.

Oogie Boogie Black Light Take-over: Oogie Boogie has taken over the library's program room and turned it into his lair! Kids ages 7-12 can help him paint it with glowing UV colors using black lights and other glowing supplies. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday, June 5.

Animals of the World: Embark on a wild adventure with Nature's Educators. Get up close and personal with live animal ambassadors

from across the globe. Learn about their diets, delve into their unique stories, explore their natural habitats, and dive deeper into their captivating world. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, June 6.

Teen Cooking Class with Sticky Fingers: Youth ages 12-17 can join Sticky Fingers to cook recipes from all around the world. They will explore food history, culture, song, geography and languages associated with each recipe. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 10-11 a.m., Friday, June 7.

Alebrije: Local artist Mamibel of Curious Papers will present the origins of alebrijes and paint and decorate an alebrije for a companion on a summer quest. The popular Mexican sculptures represent fantastical and bright animals that can be part-human and part-animal. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 12-1:30 p.m., Saturday, June 8.

Potions class: Kids ages 7-12 will create a magical potion in this hands-on workshop. Add all the ingredients, incantations and magic their heart desires. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday, June 12.

Children's Cooking Class with Sticky Fingers: Children ages 6-11 can join Sticky Fingers to cook recipes from all around the world. They will explore food history, culture, song, geography and languages associated with each recipe. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday, June 13.

Face Your Fears in VR: ages 13 and older can immerse themselves in a variety of VR games centered around phobias and overcoming

fears in this safe and fun experience. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday, June 14.

Appraisals with Art from Estates: Local residents can learn about the process of appraising objects and evaluating their worth from a professional appraiser from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 15, at Anythink Bennett. Brady Dreasher from the Art of Estates will address different types of evaluations, actions to take if filing an insurance claim, and what an evaluation means for the collection. The first 15 registrants can bring in one item to be appraised.

The program is appropriate for adults. Space limited; registration required to have an item appraised. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org.

If registration is full, participants can attend but cannot have items appraised.

Under the Sea Treasure Quest: Children ages 2-6 can join the Grasshopper Kids for an underwater adventure.

The interactive story time will take small children on a journey through the ocean depths, where they'll meet all kinds of fascinating sea creatures. miniThinkers will also discover hidden treasures on their quest as they play with crafts and game stations, each designed to teach about the wonders of the sea. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesday, June 18.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

Bingo! Library users are invited

to an afternoon of family bingo. Free entry. Refreshments provided. 4-5 p.m., Monday, June 3.

'Tea at 2:' Adults are invited to "Tea at 2" every first Wednesday of the month. The library will provide tea and activities, such as playing cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages.

Patrons can also bring their own activities. 2-3 p.m., Wednesday, June 5.

Botanical crafts: Kids ages 9-18 can attend an afternoon of botanical crafts with multimedia artist Nicole Zacharias, who will help participants design a self-portrait with natural materials. All supplies are provided and all skill levels welcome. 2-4 p.m., Tuesday, June 11.

Outdoor art for teens: Kids ages 12-18 will explore and create outdoor art using materials from cotton balls to fly swatters. All supplies provided. All skill levels welcome. 1-3 p.m., Thursday, June 13.

DAVIES LIBRARY

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

Maker workshop: Teens ages 12-18 can explore and create using tools like the Glowforge laser cutter, sublimation printer and more. All supplies are provided. Drop-ins welcome. 1-3 p.m., Monday, June 17.

Railroad Adventure: Kids ages 5-12 can discover the fascinating world of locomotives at a train-themed event with the Colorado Railroad Museum. Younger siblings welcome.

The event will be held both inside and outside the library. 1-3 p.m., Tuesday, June 18.



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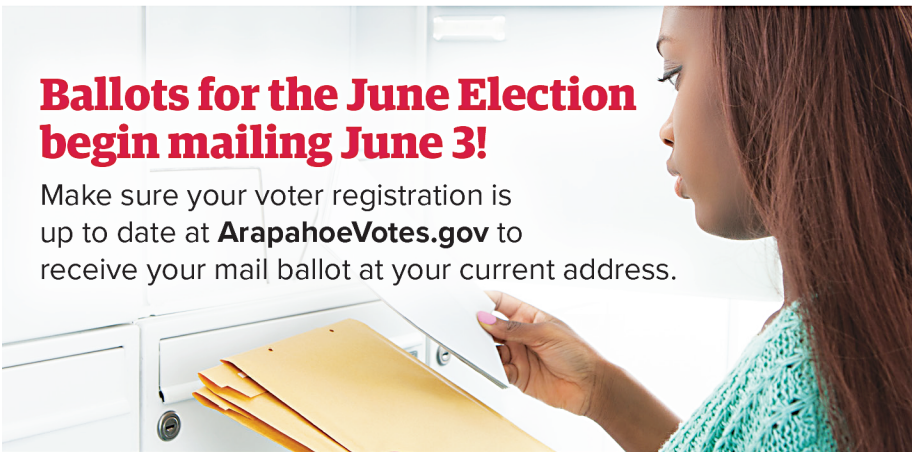
Join us for Arapahoe County Public Works and Development's annual Play Date from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 7** at Dove Valley Regional Park, 7900 S. Potomac St.

Learn more at arapahoeco.gov/publicworks.



Ballots for the June Election begin mailing June 3!

Make sure your voter registration is up to date at ArapahoeVotes.gov to receive your mail ballot at your current address.



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WEEK OF MAY 27

ArapCo survey seeks funding sources

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County continues to engage residents about the budget shortfall, which would impact essential services for residents, beginning in 2025.

After several months of conversation, the Board of County Commissioners is seeking additional input from the public to help identify the best solution. Arapahoe County residents are invited to provide feedback by completing an online survey by Monday, June 3.

The county has been relying on a patchwork of federal and state

funding and grants to maintain a basic level of services, but that funding has dried up. County commissioners are working with staff and other elected leaders to study options and are committed to finding a sustainable solution.

Survey results will be shared on the county website. Residents can also stay informed by signing up for the county newsletter at <https://bit.ly/arapahoecountyline>. Residents are also encouraged to visit a new dedicated and interactive website at www.acbudget.com.

Church Directory



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SPORTS



Soccer season ends with 2-1 heartbreaker

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

DENVER — While the Bennett Lady Tigers soccer season came to a disappointing conclusion with a heartbreaking 2-1 loss to DSST: College View in the first round of the 3A playoffs May 9, the future looks bright for the orange-and-black.

Early on, the big stage didn't seem too big for the 17th-seeded troops of head coach Mike Rinner, who were representing Bennett in the soccer postseason for the first time since 2010. The visitors took a 1-0 first-half lead on the pitch at Riverside Soccer Complex at Fort Logan thanks to a goal by junior Nadia Perez. Midway through the second 40 minutes, the host Wolves tied the contest and, in the final five minutes of regulation, College View benefited from an unfortunate ricochet that ended in the back of the Bennett net.

The contest between the No. 16 and 17 seeds in the 3A tournament proved to be tightly contested throughout as College View narrowly out-shot Bennett 13-11.

Bennett senior goalkeeper Carmen Rinner recorded 11 saves in defeat.

DSST: College View advanced to the round of 16 where they were shut-out 10-0 by undefeated, top-seeded, and eventual 3A state champion Colorado Academy, which out-scored its five playoff opponents 38-1, including a 3-1 victory in the championship game against No. 2 Jefferson Academy.

Bennett concluded the spring 2024 campaign 11-4-1 overall, including an 8-2 record and third-

place finish in the Frontier League. The Tigers' schedule proved to be tough including four playoff-qualifying teams — Frontier Academy, Middle Park and Englewood in 3A and Bruce Randolph in 2A.

While last year's squad finished 8-6 overall and one spot out of the playoffs, it was outscored by its opponents 50-29, but that script was flipped this season as the Tigers more than doubled last year's goal scoring with 64 tallies while holding the opposition to 31.

Senior Arianna Harrison recorded all but five of Bennett's goal in 2023 but, this year, the additions of Byers freshman Reese West and Strasburg Finnish exchange student Eerika Harju and the development of Tiger junior Marayha Munoz proved fruitful. West led the team in goals with 19 and had eight assists, while Harrison added 17 goals and a team-high 11 assists; Harju, 13 goals and five helpers; and Munoz eight goals.

"Much more balanced this year," Mike Rinner said. "Gave us a lot more flexibility with Arianna and other teams couldn't just focus on her."

In addition to Rinner, Harrison and Harju, Bennett loses Aileen Maciel, Lily Venneberg, Katelyn Faczak, and Arleth Rodriguez to graduation; however, West and Munoz will be joined by incoming seniors Raquel Thorpe, Hadasa Burgos and Marilyn Vazquez and to-be juniors Aracel Colburn, Emma Jordan, Natalie Galdamez as the core for 2025.

The biggest void will be in goal as Rinner played

SEE SOCCER PAGE 8



Lady Tiger Aileen Maciel (10) battles for possession while teammate Lily Venneberg (21) provides support from behind during the first round of the 3A girls soccer playoffs May 9.



Bennett goalkeeper Carmen Rinner, left photo, tips away a DSST: College View shot. Right, Eerika Harju, a Finnish exchange student at Strasburg, foot jousts with a Wolves player.



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMEO/For The Scout

Thomas King



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ALYSSA STEMOM/For The Scout

Strasburg's Aracel Colburn settles the ball in front of a quickly charging College View defender.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE 7

almost every minute of the season and recorded an 85% save percentage. Junior Ava Black was the reserve keeper.

For next two seasons, Bennett will remain in the 3A classification with 61 other schools, ranging mostly in enrollment size from 423 (Bayfield and Roaring Fork) to 1,252 (Longmont). Bennett's enrollment at the time classifications were determined was 431. Vail Mountain, with an enrollment of 150 students, will also play up

from its standard 2A designation.

A half-dozen schools with enrollment over 900 will play in 3A girls soccer over the next two-year cycle. In addition to enrollment, the Colorado High School Activities Association adjusts classifications for competitive reasons, in most cases shifting schools down a classification if they have struggled in previous seasons.

Schools can also petition to play up or play down, subject to CHSAA approval.



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMOM/For The Scout

Left photo, Marayha Munoz navigates her way through the Wolves' defense with the dribble. Right, Byers freshman Reese West prepares for a header while jostling for position with a College View player.



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'BURG AD

FROM PAGE 1

tie-breaking vote.

Lundstrom is a physical education teacher at Northridge High School in District 6, which entails the Evans and Greeley area.

Winter, who made the original motion to pull Lundstrom's hiring off the consent agenda, said the candidate's lack of athletic director experience gave her significant pause. Winter added that she observed the interviews of the two AD finalists and reviewed both their applications and resumés.

"I was very confused and left lacking something at the end of the interviews. My biggest objection is he has no experience. I am really concerned about that. I don't think that people understand what that job as AD entails and the amount of time and travel that is involved with that," Winter said, adding that it is her understanding that Lundstrom does not presently live on the I-70 Corridor. "I can't imagine the drive from Greeley to be the AD here. I think he's looking up at a very, very steep learning curve."

"I don't know how you can pass up on experience. I know everyone has to start somewhere but Strasburg has been known to be a training campground for a lot of people — they get their experience and move onto bigger and better jobs. [We need to] look for connections to the school, to the community, to the coaches."

According to Winter, Lundstrom's primary background before entering education was an extensive history with the Navy.

Winter added that she was concerned with Lundstrom's answers during the finalists interviews, particularly noting a lack of terms

such as "student-driven," "culture" and "community."

O'Malley expressed agreement with Winter's assessment of Lundstrom's lack of experience.

"I'm not distrusting the committee or anything like that, so please don't take my vote as that," O'Malley said. "But, in the corporate world, experience of somebody speaks volumes and what they're going to do and their impact."

Marrero and Elliott both said they would take the recommendation of outgoing Superintendent Dan Hoff, who was part of the AD hiring committee. Marrero added he did not review the finalists' resumés.

"The fact that this has been mentioned several times over the last several weeks, we can't like the process when it gives us what we want but not like the process when it doesn't give us what we want," Marrero said, questioning other board members assessment of Lundstrom's "lack of experience."

"We don't hire the position, we were given a recommendation that was brought forward. That's why we have a committee. My vote is more about respecting the process rather than anything else that may have come before me."

Elliott and Marrero also added that both Hoff and new superintendent Kelle Bongard gave their thumbs up to the recommendation.

As a result, the search for a replacement for Kevin Hemphill, who resigned as A.D. in February after two years, has been reopened. The board indicated the new search is open to the public, including previous candidates.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

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

Caffeine & Chrome car show. 9-11 a.m., Strasburg Community Church, 56155 Sunset Ave. Free coffee and donuts.

Highway 79 clean-up hosted by the Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. 9 a.m., King Soopers parking lot just west of Carl's Jr. Bring gloves and hat. Bags and water provided.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Prairie Stars Square Dance Club free dance party. 1:30-3:30 p.m., Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Avenue, Bennett. Singles, couples and families welcome.

MONDAY, JUNE 3

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

Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Le-

gion Hall.

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

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, JUNE 5

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

Thank You Nadine!



Please join us in honoring **Mrs. Nadine Timmons** as she retires after 33 years as a substitute teacher at **Byers and Strasburg schools**.

Starting in 1991 at Byers and then the following year in Strasburg, Nadine was a teacher's aide, subbed in all grades K-12, including electives and specials classes, and numerous long-term maternity leaves at both schools. She also did a brief stint at Deer Trail School. We are so proud of the years of work and support she has poured into the students and teachers in our communities.

Her additional free time will be filled with her 10 grandchildren (spread between Kansas, Texas, and Colorado), gardening, baking, crafting, and staying active in her church & continuing to learn more about her faith.

Bulldogs bow out in first round following competitive loss

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — If the progress from last season to this year carries through, the 2025 campaign for the Byers baseball team looks promising.

The green-and-white concluded this spring's diamond campaign with a 6-1 loss to Dayspring Christian Academy during the first round of regional play at Burlington May 18, but the troops of head coach D.J. Jackson showed steady improvement to win three more games than 2023, including the last four games of the regular season.

"We were definitely bigger, faster, stronger, which translates into being a lot more competitive," Jackson said. "Still have a lot to improve on but played a lot better than about anytime last year."

PLAYOFF GAME

When Dayspring Christian traveled to Byers for a May 1 regular-season contest, the visiting Eagles escaped with a 17-15 victory, but their 2A Region 6 matchup was a bit of a different story as the Bulldogs struggled to touch junior hurler Logan Vaniddekinge, who allowed one hit, struck out 19, walked one, and hit one over 6²/₃ innings. Byers lone run, which tied the game 1-1 in the top of the third, was the result of a combination of a dropped third strike that allowed junior Kaleb Willoughby to get on base with two outs, a single by classmate Chase Long, and a passed ball by the Eagles catcher that allowed Willoughby to score.

But Dayspring Christian replied with 5 runs in the bottom of the third, which proved more than enough to get the victory. After opening the inning with a walk, the Eagles strung together three singles and two doubles off Long to put the game out of reach.

Dayspring Christian defeated Wray 7-1 in the regional championship to advance to the new double-elimination Great Eight format over the weekends of May 24-25 and May 31-June 1 at the Runyon Complex in Pueblo. After the first weekend of state tournament play, Denver Christian has punched its ticket to the 2A state title game and is waiting on Limon, Lyons

and Buena Vista to battle it out to face them. In the championship bracket second round, Lyons upset top-ranked Limon 6-1 but the Lions were then defeated 6-2 by Denver Christian in the semifinal contest. Buena Vista won a pair of consolation games and will play on Friday against Limon, which defeated the Demons 17-7 in the first round.

SEASON CONCLUSION

While the season ended earlier than hoped, the Bulldogs concluded the 2024 campaign 8-13 overall. In addition to the four-game winning streak to end the regular season, including a doubleheader sweep of visiting Yuma May 14, the Bulldogs won five of its last seven regular-season games.

"Played a lot better down the stretch," Jackson said.

In the weather-impacted twin bill against the visiting Outlaws, Byers took the first game 6-3 and dominated the nightcap 14-1. Lightning in the area resulted in a 1½-hour interruption three innings into the first contest. The second game was about two hours late starting, resulting in the teams finally leaving Walt Weiss Field after 9 p.m.

Despite the final 3-run margin of victory, the hosts controlled the first game throughout, scoring 3 runs in the first, 2 in the third, and an insurance run in the fourth. Yuma tallied single runs in the third, sixth and seventh frames.

Despite the victory, the Bulldogs were out-hit by the visitors 7-4 but were the beneficiaries of six walks and one hit batsman. The green-and-white also showed their speed on the base paths with seven steals. Freshman Gabe Price provided a majority of the Byers offense with three hits, two runs scored, and an RBI.

Long threw the first five-plus innings, giving up 2 runs, 1 earned, on six hits while striking out five and walking three. Freshman Kaden Bennett threw an inning, allowing an unearned run on one hit while walking one and striking out two. Sophomore Jaxzen Egger also threw an inning, allowing no runs and striking out one.

In game 2, the hosts took advantage of depleted and beleaguered Outlaw pitching to tally 4 runs in

both the first and second innings, 1 in the third, and 5 in the fourth. Yuma scored its only run in the top of the fifth.

Despite the scoring barrage, the Bulldogs only recorded three hits while taking advantage of 18 free passes — 14 walks and four hit batters — two Yuma errors, and seven stolen bases. Willoughby recorded two of the Bulldogs' hits while Long had the other base knock on a double.

On the mound, Byers recorded a no-hitter. Egger threw the first four innings and walked three while striking out six. Junior Drew Mohatt threw the fifth inning, al-

lowing a run on four walks with one strikeout.

The Bulldogs will return almost its entire roster next year, including all members of the starting lineup.

Amongst the anticipated returnees in 2025 are: junior Chas Butterfield (.386 average, 24 RBIs, 10 doubles), Long (.356 average, 7 extra base hits, 28 stolen bases); Egger (5-4 record, 64 Ks); Price (21 walks, 26 steals); and Willoughby (.308 average). Other key cogs from this year are Mohatt; Bennett; juniors Garrett Crece-lius, Carson Gaudot and Marshall Hacker; and sophomore Jack Earl.

Eastern Slope Scholarship Winners CONGRATULATIONS



Lexi Sondburg

Lexi Sondburg, daughter of Carl and Stacy Sondburg, is a senior at Bennett High School and is a winner of the \$1,000 Traditional Scholarship.

She plans to attend the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley and major in Nursing. She plans to be an ER Nurse or work in ICU after graduation.

This summer she will attend Front Range Community College to obtain her Certified Nursing Assistant degree.

Congratulations Lexi!



Tyler Hill

Tyler Hill, son of Brian and Marlena Hill, is a senior at Bennett High School and is a winner of the \$750 Vocational Scholarship. Tyler plans to continue his education at Northwest Kansas

Technical College where he will be studying Precision Agriculture Technology. In this program, he will learn about the application of technology, equipment and software in production agriculture. Following college, Tyler plans to pursue a career in the precision agriculture field and work towards the goal of starting his own farming operation in Western Kansas.

Congratulations Tyler!

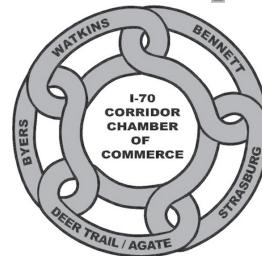
Other Scholarship Winners are: Jaylen Stone, Arriba-Flagler High School; KaCee Jo Saffer, Arriba-Flagler High School; Logan Sitzman, Genoa-Hugo High School; and Gunner Nestor, Genoa-Hugo, High School.



CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Byers catcher Kaleb Willoughby reaches to tag out a Yuma runner scrambling back to third base during the schools' first game of a doubleheader May 14.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Randy Gradishar Day celebrating the legendary Denver Broncos linebacker's election into the Pro Football Hall of Fame's Class of 2024 takes place on the steps of the state Capitol May 3. The celebrities include Denver Mayor Mike Johnston, third from left, Gradishar and his wife Beth Gradishar, Gov. Jared Polis (24), and other officials and mascots from Broncos Nation. Gradishar made Broncos history with a franchise-high 2,049 tackles, 19.5 sacks, 20 interceptions, 13 fumble recoveries, and four defensive touchdowns.

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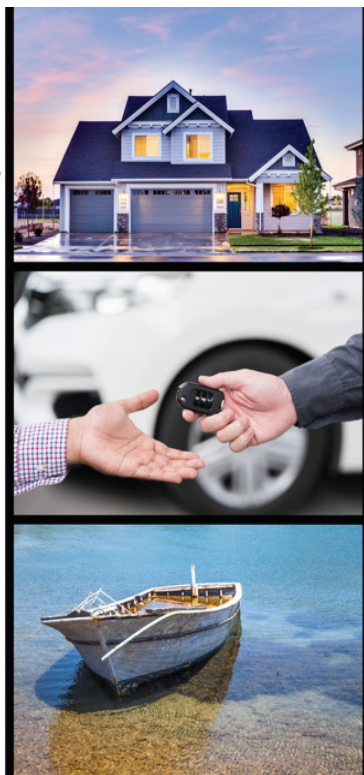
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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Strasburg head volleyball coach Larry Deffenbaugh received a 45-Year Longevity Award during the annual Colorado High School Coaches Association's Hall of Fame Banquet April 15 at the Legacy Campus Great Hall (formerly the Wildlife Experience) in Lone Tree. Presenting Deffenbaugh with his award is CHSCA President Harrison Chisum.



Congrats To Our History Makers!



So Proud of OUR Hi-Flying Lady Eagles — Ally Hardwick, Jaden Gudenkauf, Allena Sanchez-Neal & Megan Donovan — on their 4x200 Relay Title, New 1A State Meet Record, and First Girls State Track Title in school history on May 17.

FROM DEER TRAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT 26J

Wheat workshop slated at Roggen

FORT COLLINS — A 2024 Colorado Wheat Field Day will start at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, at Cooksey Family Farms, Roggen. In all, events will be held at 11 different variety trial sites throughout Eastern Colorado on June 6-7 and June 11-12.

The program at each site will involve a walk-through of the variety trial with Colorado State University wheat breeder Dr. Esten Mason. Attendees will also hear updates from the CSU Crops Testing leader Sally Jones-Diamond; Colorado Wheat Executive Director Brad Erker; and Director of Colorado Seed Programs Laura Pottorff. CSU experts on weed science, entomology and pathology will also showcase their wheat research and extension activities.

The program at each site will last about an hour.

Additional Wheat Field Days are planned at Walsh, Lamar, Brandon, Burlington, Genoa, Severance, Akron, Yuma, Julesburg and Orchard.

For more information, visit www.csucrops.org.



PHOTOS BY KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Byers School freshman Dani Seibold, above shows off her colorful acrylic painting at an Art Show & Creative Collaborative May 6 with secondary art teacher Jaclyn Pelton's students' creations on display. Below, artists Haley Morris, Allie Pelton and Addison Anderson pose for a photo. The students are all members of art teacher Jaclyn Pelton's advanced Studio Art class. Pelton also teaches elementary art at Byers.



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO

2024 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TOWN HALL MEETING



Join the Adams County Board of Commissioners for a town hall to learn more about county updates and ask your questions. Submit a question in advance at: adco.gov/question.

Monday, June 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Bennett Community Center
1100 E. Colfax Avenue, Bennett



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ARAPAHOE COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CASE NO UASI23-002, SECRET STASH OIL & GAS PIPELINE EXPANSION / USE BY SPECIAL REVIEW WITH 1041 PERMIT

PROPOSAL: The applicant, Tenderfoot Pipeline Company, on behalf of the State Land Board, property owner, requests to extend an existing oil and gas pipeline by 5.10 miles from the existing Secret Stash Well Pad to the previously permitted Tenderfoot Pipeline project. The purpose of the project is to transport natural gas and oil, and in the future, water, produced from the Secret Stash well pad operated by the applicant's parent company, GMT Exploration Company, LLC. The pipeline easement is intended to allow for installation of a produced water line, and above-ground freshwater lines in the future, all within a 50-foot-wide permanent easement. The pipeline expansion will be located within 49.26 acres in unincorporated Arapahoe County, adjacent to County Line Road and Michael Gates Drive, Sections 35 and 36 in Township 5 South, Range 65 West and Sections 31-33 in Township 5 South, Range 64 West.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 18, 2024, the Arapahoe County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M., or as soon as possible thereafter. The public hearing will be held at the Arapahoe County Administration Building, located 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 Thursday, May 30, 2024, and in the *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, May 31, 2024.

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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Deer Trail kindergartners, first- and second-graders perform at their "Here's to Friends" spring concert April 23. From top photo, kindergartners April Munoz De Los Santos, Robert (Mason) Richardson, and Abby Wailes act out "I'm Glad I Have a Nose;" kindergartners Samantha Chavira De Alba, front, and Bentley Lewis show off their wide-ranging levels of enthusiasm as they chime in during "Itsy Bitsy Spider;" first-grader Jase Murray boomwhacks his way through "Morning Mood/You Are My Sunshine;" and second-graders Ryder Morgan Jones, front row, and Laramie Dawes, Madison Heck and Sebastian Diaz De Leon Soto sing "Pirates of the Caribbean."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO JUNE 1, 2004

A routine welfare check on a 19-year-old and her 2-year-old child led Adams County Sheriff's deputies to a suspected methamphetamine lab and two homemade bombs.

Deputies arrived at 4350 Hardback Road, Bennett, about 8 a.m., May 24, to check on the mother and her child.

When they could not find her, deputies checked two other buildings and a garage on the property. Deputies noticed what appeared to be tools and chemicals used in making meth and called in the North Metro Drug Task Force.

While deputies were waiting for the task force to return with a warrant, Dean Unrein, 33, and the mother arrived. Unrein was arrested. The task force found what they believe is ephedrine, several small containers of anhydrous ammonia, and lithium battery strips, all used in making the drug.

15 YEARS AGO JUNE 2, 2009

AURORA — While having an Aurora address, a proposed professional motor sports park is expected to have significant impact on the I-70 Corridor east of the metro area.

Principals in the 6,500-acre TransPort development east of Watkins announced May 27 plans to build a combination oval/road race complex on the northeast corner of the intersection of Highway 36 and Quail Run Road. Colorado Springs-based Schuck Corporation is the developer behind TransPort.

The facility is expected to include a one-mile oval track with grandstand capacity of at least 65,000, a four-mile road course, and go-cart facility. Groundbreaking on the racing facilities could happen as soon as late 2010.

Editor's note: Plans for the track facility eventually fell through.

10 YEARS AGO JUNE 3, 2014

CENTENNIAL — The Byers man accused of armed robbery at a Strasburg bank last October will have his case heard by a jury of his peers later this summer.

Timothy Patrick Richards remains in custody on the \$100,000 bond at the Arapahoe County Detention Facility on third-, fourth- and fifth-degree felony count after he allegedly carried a weapon into the Strasburg branch of Guaranty Bank & Trust and left with more than \$20,000 in cash.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.
SOLUTION ON PAGE 2

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, May 30, the 151st day of 2024. There are 215 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On May 30, 1431, Joan of Arc was burned at the stake.

ON THIS DATE

In 1922, the Lincoln Me-

morial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated in a ceremony attended by President Warren G. Harding, Chief Justice William Howard Taft and Robert Todd Lincoln.

In 1935, Babe Ruth played in his last major league baseball game for the Boston Braves, leaving after the first

inning of the first of a double-header against the Philadelphia Phillies, who won both games.

In 1937, 10 people were killed when police fired on steelworkers demonstrating near the Republic Steel plant in South Chicago.

In 1958, unidentified Amer-

ican service members killed in World War II and the Korean War were interred in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1968, the Beatles began recording their "White Album" at EMI Recording Studios in London, starting with

the original version of "Revolution 1."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Colm Meaney is 71. Actor Ted McGinley is 66. Actor Ralph Carter is 63. Actor Tonya Pinkins is 62. Country singer Wynonna Judd is 60.

— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: FICTIONAL FATHERS

- ACROSS**
- Ice cream treat, pl.
 - Albanian money
 - Desertlike
 - Like Bananas Foster
 - Paleozoic ____
 - O. Henry's specialty
 - Printer brand
 - Always, to a poet
 - Extended family member
 - *"Breaking Bad" father
 - *"The Lion King" father
 - Unit of length of yarn
 - "___ Me Maybe"
 - * ___ Anderson, he knew best?
 - The Supremes, e.g.
 - Subject matter, pl.
 - Same as ayah
 - Plural of #14 Across
 - Like less processed grain
 - Kind of shark
 - U.S. Airline
 - Short for "and elsewhere"
 - Opposite of digest
 - Flabbegast
 - Like Gulf Stream
 - Most achy
 - Not much (2 words)
 - Reggae's cousin
 - Rapunzel's abundance
 - Maintenance closet staple
 - * ___ Rock of "Everybody Hates Chris"
 - *"Finding Nemo" father
 - Golfer's sun protection
 - Aloha prop
 - Only daughter of Michael Jackson
 - Not active
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - In the cooler (2 words)
 - *Opie's father
 - Egyptian boy king, for short
 - Button on electrical outlet

CROSSWORD

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- © StatePoint Media
- Dog-___ pages
 - Final, abbr.
 - Medicated shampoo ingredient (2 words)
 - * ___ Evans Sr. of "Good Times"
 - Idealized image
 - "Prepare to meet your ___!"
 - Wraths
 - Exclamation in a stinky room
 - Smidgins
 - *"National Lampoon" father
 - 1965 march site
 - Garden staple
 - Half a ticket
 - Carl Jung's inner self
 - Casual top
 - T, in Greek
 - Lethargy
 - Speck in the ocean
 - Heathrow craft
 - Same as genie
 - Pre-owned
 - Type of parrot
 - Atomizer output
 - Van Gogh's famous flower
 - On Santa's gift list
 - Roman road
 - Down Under runner
 - Group of dishes

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

HOROSCOPE

Lessons of Lunar Squares

Asserting boundaries takes energy. If you had to do it constantly, you wouldn't get much else done. This is why people build fences and structures. Many will be metaphorically doing this under the lunar squares preceding a Mercury conjunction. Structures render constant vigilance unnecessary and will set expectations and guide experiences for years to come.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may not be aware of it, and yet you really can't help but express your uniqueness and style. Even when you do as everyone else is doing, you won't blend in completely. You'll remain uniquely yourself. Through action you teach others.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's this feeling that keeps swinging back around, but it's a little different every time. This is evidence that you're processing life — taking it all in with greater awareness than ever. Tangible evidence of your progress will motivate you to power on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The fates favor you with inspiration, chance encounters and rapidly developing friendship bonds. Interacting with loved ones can get tricky when you care too much about smoothing their way. Instead, trust how things naturally unfold.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). As you continue in your practice of active listening, your attention span gets longer, which makes you stand out. You have qualities so rare that people find your company to be quite addicting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your own projects, quests and wishes are not always top priority because you have people to care for. Could you push them up a little higher though? Sure, loved ones will often come first, but you are one of your loved ones, too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll give your trust, not because someone necessarily has earned it, but because it's the easiest thing to do in a moment where progress must be made. Scrutiny takes time and energy you may not feel you have.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A problem has you feeling a little stuck. When you can't make headway on your own situation, try to solve an issue for someone else. One answer will pave the way for more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are many reasons that therapists get paid, but the one that seems most obvious to you today is that listening to someone talk at length about their problems can be draining. It's why you keep it short and keep it moving today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This is one of those times when the best approach to indulgence is to lean into it. You want things for a reason. If it didn't serve a need, you wouldn't want it at all. Reflect on how habits serve you, and the role of pleasure in your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Introspection will be best in small doses. Your most energizing moment of the day will involve projecting your energy outward and connecting with the world outside yourself, especially to what seems unrelated to what's on your mind.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Planning will take much longer than you think, but it's worth every minute you put into it because once you start ticking off the items in a solid plan, your mood elevates, progress becomes evident and everything hums along.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Something in your environment that is seemingly insignificant will someday become priceless. Make a move to either preserve it or enjoy it to the full extent while it is still easy to do so.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 30). You're undaunted by hard work, and challenge only excites. Even conflict won't scare you -- in fact, you'll dance on the tension. Because of this, your life and spirit grow bigger. More highlights: You'll prove you are an excellent steward of resources and be given more. You'll see the land of your ancestor. Capricorn and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 21, 14, 37 and 32.

— Horoscopes by Holiday



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

A residential fire on the eastern edge of the Wolf Creek Run subdivision early May 22 resulted in significant damage inside and to the front and rear walls and windows, but the detached garage and neighboring homes avoided damage.

FIRES

FROM PAGE 1

town May 22 mostly unscathed but the inside of the house is another story.

“If there is one take away from this one, it is to make sure you have a properly functioning smoke detector because that is what probably saved her life,” said Strasburg Fire Chief Pat Conroy following the inferno in the 3000 block of Rose Hill Street in the Wolf Creek Run subdivision about 4 a.m. Wednesday. “In this case it ensured her knowing and being able to get out of the house.”

The resident was transported to a Denver hospital with minor injuries.

According to Conroy, upon arrival at 4:08 a.m., heavy flames and smoke were whipping through

the two-story house, fueled by what Conroy termed an “extreme fire load inside the building.”

“Very involved, very challenging,” he added. “It went outside of the building and all the way up to the roof.”

It took about 25 personnel and double-digit apparatus from Strasburg, Byers, Bennett-Watkins, Sable Altura and Buckley fire departments to extinguish the blaze and keep the fire from spreading to the garage behind and neighboring homes to both the north and south.

“A combination of no side windows, so (the fire) could only vent through the front and back, and getting on scene quickly enough, kept the neighboring structures

protected,” Conroy said.

While most responders were cleared by 8:30 a.m., investigators and support staff to secure the damaged home were on scene until about 1 p.m.

Conroy said the fire was ruled accidental.

BYERS OUTBUILDING

While it took about only 15 minutes to extinguish, an outbuilding was a total loss during a May 19 structure fire between the I-70 overpass and Bradbury Krebs Road a couple miles west of Byers.

At about 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Byers Fire Rescue was first dispatched to the 62400 block of East Second Lane on report of a possible residential fire in progress.

Upon arrival, the crew with Brush 71 from Byers Fire took offensive position on a fully engulfed outbuilding and had the fire extinguished around 4:45, but not before the building was a total loss. Personnel and apparatus from Deer Trail, Strasburg, Bennett-Watkins and Buckley were dispatched for assistance but multiple units were canceled en route. Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office deputies also responded to the scene and assisted with hot spots.

Final clearance of the scene occurred several hours later.

Animals were reportedly unharmed and no injuries to residents or responders occurred.

No cause was reported as of press time.

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BENNETT SCHOOL DISTRICT 29J
NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of Bennett School District 29J for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and has been filed in the office of the Superintendent where it is available for public inspection. Such proposed budget was considered for adoption at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of said District at the Bennett High School Library located at 610 7th St, Bennett, Colo., on May 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Any person paying school taxes in said District may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register their objections thereto.

Board of Education
May 21, 2024
Bennett School District 29J
Ramie Dillingham
Secretary to the Board

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Autumn Blaze Maple #15 1 12/4"	Was \$210....NOW \$105	

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Eastern Redbud #10 1"	Was \$221....NOW \$111	
Canada Red Chokecherry #25 1 3/4"	Was \$326....NOW \$163	
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AdCo commissioners adopt public project wage policy

BRIGHTON — The Adams County Board of Commissioners took a significant step toward ensuring fair compensation for individuals working on government construction projects by approving a new Prevailing Wage Policy effective Sept. 1.

The policy mandates all Adams County government construction contracts valued at \$250,000 or more must adhere to prevailing wage standards.

The prevailing wage policy, passed April 16, guarantees employees working on Adams County projects receive fair wages commensurate with their work, are classified correctly, and are paid in a timely and accurate manner. The move is part of the county's commitment to upholding equitable labor practices.

The policy's development involved an extensive stakeholder process that engages labor organizations, construction companies, and the public to gather input.

"This policy reflects our commitment to fair labor practices and ensures individuals working on public projects are justly com-

pensated," said Commissioner Emma Pinter, board chair. "By ensuring fair wages and proper classification, we are investing in the well-being of our workforce and promoting economic stability within our community."

To streamline participation, the county will adopt wage scales aligned with prevailing wage statutes used by the state and utilize software consistent with both state and federal government practices.

"This is one of many times this board has shown support for our workforce, demonstrating our dedication to fostering a workplace environment where every individual is valued and respected," said Commissioner Charles "Chaz" Tedesco. "We believe this step will not only benefit workers but also enhance the quality and integrity of our construction projects."

Implementation will be preceded by an educational campaign to train staff and contractors on the new requirements. The campaign will familiarize stakeholders with the new system, which enables the entry of certified wage statements on a weekly basis.

ArapCo Open Spaces marks 20th year

LITTLETON — Coinciding with Earth Week, the Board of County Commissioners recognized the 20-year anniversary of the Arapahoe County Open Spaces program.

A proclamation was issued during the board's April 23 business meeting and staff were honored for their unwavering commitment to the program.

"We've accomplished a lot over 20 years and have a lot to celebrate, thanks to our incredible Open Spaces staff, their dedicated predecessors and the support of our residents," said Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully, board chair. "And, as we look ahead, we have much more to accomplish. We remain as committed as ever to being responsible stewards, to maintaining what we have, and to being responsive to community needs."

The Open Spaces program commenced in November 2003, when Arapahoe County voters approved a ballot measure to introduce a quarter-cent Open Space Sales & Use Tax to support local parks, trails and open spaces. The tax was renewed by voters in 2011 and

again in 2021, when it was permanently reauthorized with more than 76% of the vote.

From the Open Space Sales & Use Tax revenue, 50% is distributed directly back to participating cities and towns through its Shareback program. Funds are allocated by population and contribute to the public's quality of life and overall health via trail, playground and park improvements.

Highlights since 2003 include:

- five working groups established to improve the High Line Canal, South Platte and Cherry Creek corridors and the Dove Valley and East Metro areas;
- more than \$331 million distributed to municipalities and special districts through the Shareback and grant programs via trail, playground and park improvement projects;
- 32,000 acres protected for park and open space purposes;
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WARNING: High-tech criminals are using artificial intelligence to impersonate real estate pros and infiltrate transactions. These scammers are convincing. Don't take chances....WE have over 20 years of experience on the I-70 Corridor and take security serious. Let us be the one you trust for all your real estate needs and we will take the time to educate you so you don't become a victim.



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GARAGE SALES

Multifamily Sale
May 31 - June 2 & June 7-9
8 a.m. — 4 p.m.
985 SCR 185, Byers

Moving sale. May 31-June 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 49811 E. 48th Ave., Bennett.

Community sale in Antelope Hills, Bennett. Friday-Sunday, June 7-9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 4 miles south of I-70 on Kiowa-Bennett Road. 6/6

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CHUCK WAGON

Pan-Fried Salmon Patties

by **Bobbie Keefer**
 For The Scout

Pan-fried salmon patties are a classic southern dish. They are also known as salmon cakes, salmon cutlets or salmon burgers.

This recipe is perfect for an easy weeknight meal. I make tartar sauce by mixing mayonnaise, sugar, mustard and pickle relish. If you make it with dill relish, add a little sugar. If you make it with sweet relish, add a little dill weed.

This recipe is ideal for a can of salmon instead of the costly raw salmon from the meat department. To make it even more affordable, use tuna instead!



- tartar sauce

DIRECTIONS

In large bowl, combine egg, onion, crackers, Worcestershire sauce, Old Bay seasoning.

Remove bones and skin from salmon. Flake it with fork and add salmon to cracker mixture.

Mix well. Shape and press tightly into 6 patties. Melt butter in skillet. Fry patties 3-4 minutes on each side, flipping once, until golden brown and cooked through.

Squeeze lemon juice on top. Serve with tartar sauce and side vegetable of choice.

PAN-FRIED SALMON PATTIES

INGREDIENTS

- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 8 saltine crackers, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning
- 1 (14 1/2-ounce) can salmon, drained
- 2 tablespoons butter
- lemon wedges

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Photos from *The I-70 Scout & Eastern Colorado News* are available for purchase in color or black and white. 4x6 \$6; 5x7 \$8; 8 1/2x11 \$12. (303)622-9796. 6/13c

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- ♦ Summer Acting Workshop (June 5-27) - Deadline June 1st
- ♦ Kids Watercolor Art Class: Geometric Fox (June 10) - Deadline June 2nd
- ♦ Summer Field Trip 6th-8th Grade: Museum of Illusion (June 10) - Deadline June 2nd
- ♦ Summer Field Trip 3rd-5th Grade: Lava Island (June 11) - Deadline June 2nd
- ♦ Dads vs Sons Nerf "War" (June 8) - Deadline June 3rd
- ♦ Family Night at the Park: Sand Volleyball - June 5th 6pm at Community Park
- ♦ Outdoor Movie: HOME - June 7th at North Baseball Field; movie starts at dusk
- ♦ Big D's Warriors Adaptive Baseball - Deadline June 9th
- ♦ Senior Excursion: Celestial Seasonings (June 13) - Call (303) 622-4260 to RSVP

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Lulu's Inn

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Upcoming Live Entertainment
 Skool Daze: Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m.
 Jim Hyatt Band: Saturday, June 1, 7:30 p.m.
 Walker Williams Acoustic Show:
 Saturday, June 2, 2 - 6 p.m.

Free Dance Party!

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- No partner, no problem
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- Bennett Community Center
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Town of Bennett Community Clean Up Day!



Saturday, June 8, 2024 / 9 - 11:30 a.m.

Plan ahead and review the list of permitted items on our website.



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Strasburg Commencement



PHOTOS BY SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg graduated 81 seniors from the Class of 2024 on May 19 in the school gym. Clockwise from top left, Kaleigh Swenson celebrates her commencement; seniors Graecyn Graf, left, and Aubrie Archuleta, right, are introduced as recipients of \$1,000 Hemphill Scholarships by Strasburg teacher and coach Kevin Hemphill, the son of longtime I-70 Corridor educator Charlene Hemphill, who died last year; Jasmine Parra introduces the class Salutatorian and confetti and mortar boards are strewn about after the tassel turn led by Katie Seligmann.

Prairie Creeks Commencement



PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Prairie Creeks High School hosts its 2024 commencement ceremony May 18 at the Strasburg High School gym. Clockwise from top photo, graduates pass the Kleenex box around as tears start to flow; Morgan Sanchez gets emotional during her speech to classmates, family and friends; Idcel Ramirez, adorned in garb indicative of Mexican culture, presents her diploma; and confetti falls after the tassels are turned.

Byers Commencement



PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Byers graduated 25 seniors May 19. Clockwise from top left, Madison Brewer, foreground, and Rayahanna Montoya exit the school gymnasium; Class of '24 members toss their mortar boards following the receipt of their diplomas; Ceasar Meza displays his exuberance after receiving his diploma; class sponsors Carolyn Worrell, left, and Jessica Fournier celebrate the graduation of another class; and Annette Earl is all smiles as she finds family and friends in the crowd.

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