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# The I-70 Scout

Volume 30, Number 30

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

Thursday, June 20, 2024

## CORE network fails 2x in 5 days

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

Although the I-70 Corridor is in the midst of its annual summer storm season, a pair of power outag-

es last week that impacted more than 4,600 customers combined had nothing to do with the weather.

According to officials with CORE Electric Cooperative, a late night June 10

power interruption west of Strasburg and a mid-morning outage east of Strasburg June 15 were both the result of some fearless fliers around power lines.

“[Monday] at 9:59 p.m.,

we had an outage at our Victory Substation located north of Bennett on Converse Road. The outage was caused by a bird getting between grounded and energized conductors,”

said CORE Bennett branch manager Robert Kiess the morning of June 11.

The Monday night outage resulted in just over

**SEE CORE OUTAGES  
PAGE 16**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout



GABRIEL CASSATA/Myers & Sons Construction

Reopening County Road 2/15th Avenue between Bradbury-Krebs Road and Highway 36 by July 1 appears closer to fruition after the 36-foot-wide by approximately 850-foot-long concrete slab through Bijou Creek was laid last week. The Myers & Sons Construction crew poured and smoothed the new surface June 13-14 and completed the work a couple hours ahead of Friday afternoon’s rain. New asphalt approaches on both sides of the new crossing are among the finishing touches still to be completed.

## Strasburg School Board addresses breach of protocol at May meeting

by **Douglas Claussen**  
Publisher & Editor

STRASBURG — A serious breach of protocol at the May meeting of the Strasburg School District 31j Board of Education was addressed by its president this month.

The breach occurred May 14 when director Julie Winter expounded aloud on her reasons for voting against the employment of Ben Lundstrom as athletic director after a 2-2 tie resulted in his rejection for the post. Her critique mentioned his lack of experience, the long drive from his home in Greeley to Strasburg, and the absence of terms such as “student-driven” and “culture” during his interview.

“It should come as no surprise to anyone sitting at this table that I got a ton of feedback on what transpired over the last four weeks,” said board president Michael Marrero at the June 11 meeting.

School board members participate in the hiring of only one employee — the superintendent — Marrero continued. They oth-

erwise approve or disapprove — without comment — the hiring recommendations brought to them by the various school committees and superintendent. He added that the board used its May 31 work session to address board norms, what happens when recommendations come before the board, and, what exactly it is approving when a recommendation is made — that the position is open; that the school has funding for the position; and that no glaring legal concerns exist.

“Anything beyond that has to be addressed with the superintendent. And that recommendation that comes forward from the superintendent is the record,” Marrero said. “That should never happen again and that’s our commitment to the community. We’ve learned a ton from it and, you know, we went back and reopened positions and we did interviews and we have those recommendations.”

He also noted that the school board and various committee

**SEE STRASBURG BOE  
PAGE 10**

## Sable Altura Fire Rescue honors crew, dispatcher for baby’s delivery on I-70

by **Douglas Claussen**  
Publisher & Editor

AURORA — The field delivery of a newborn is not a common call, but it is one that often has wonderful and lasting memories for an emergency responder.

At 9 a.m., April 24, a couple was rushing to the hospital for the arrival of their new baby. Upon reaching the area of mile marker

291 on westbound I-70, the child wasn’t going to wait any longer, and the family pulled off to the shoulder and called 911.

The father worked carefully with the 911 dispatcher, who, while instructing the father on what to do, was also arranging a response by emergency crews from Sable Altura Fire Rescue.

**SEE BABY  
PAGE 16**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The crew who helped deliver newborn Slater Williams poses with his family for a photo. Pictured are South Metro Fire Rescue dispatcher Luz Vazquez, left; Sable Altura Fire Rescue Division Chief Tara Jo Monks; Sable Altura Office Manager Hope Williams of Watkins holding grandson Luca Williams, father Justin Williams; mother Faith McKellip holding newborn Slater; Firemedic Will Hasz; and Lt. Trey Thurmond.



# COMMUNITY CORRAL

## I-70 Chamber of Commerce sets summer farm festival

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Summer on the Farm celebration from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, June 22, at May Farms, Byers.

The event will feature a Youth Decorated Cake Showcase, lots of family-friendly activities, including a bouncy house, barrel train, vendor fair, petting zoo, yard games and music.

Admission is free. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

For more information, call (720)731-1954.

## Family film nite returning to Arapahoe Fairgrounds

AURORA — Pictures on the Plains is returning with two animated movie favorites on separate evenings in June.

Movie-themed activities and live entertainment start at 5:30 p.m. with a showing at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, June 22, for "Secret Life of Pets" and Saturday, June 29, for "Moana" at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds, 25690 E. Quincy Ave., Aurora.

Tickets cost \$5 each at [www.arapahoecountyeventcenter.com](http://www.arapahoecountyeventcenter.com) or \$7 at the door.

## DOD Ham Radio Field Day slated for 'Burg residence

STRASBURG — The annual Department of Defense Ham Radio Field Day will take place on Saturday, June 22, at Star Haven Observatory, 1155 Yellow Jacket Road, Strasburg.

Visitors are welcome from 12-10 p.m.

Ham Radio Field Day is the national radio communication's emergency preparedness test which happens all over the United States and Canada June 21-23 each year.

The purpose each year is to test emergency radio systems that provide communications during local,

## \$8,500 gift made to women's center



Knights of Columbus Council 13221 representatives James VonFeldt, left, and Jerry Mosbrucker, right, present an \$8,500 check to Deb Jackson, director of the Eastern Plains Women's Resource Center of Byers, June 5. The funding was raised at the KC's annual Culture of Life dinner and auction fundraiser Feb. 25 at the Byers American Legion Hall. Proceeds were split between the Eastern Plains Women's Resource Center of Byers and the Northeast Colorado Genesis Mobile Ultra-Sound Unit of Brush. KC Council 13221 belongs to Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers.

state, national and international crisis. Ham radio was used during Columbine, Katrina, tsunamis in Sri Lanka, and earthquakes in Mexico, for example.

For further information, call Jim at (720)879-7059.

administration the day of the event will increase to \$30 and \$20, respectively.

For sponsorship inquiries, call or text (720)320-0445. For other information, visit [i70ccoc.com](http://i70ccoc.com) or [www.combatherobikebuild.org](http://www.combatherobikebuild.org).

## Motorcycle poker run set by I-70 biz organization

STRASBURG — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will host the 2024 Riders on the Plains Motorcycle Poker Run on Saturday, July 27, starting from 9:30-11 a.m. at Lulu's Inn, Watkins, and ending from 2-3 p.m. at May Farms, Byers.

The event is a benefit for Combat Hero Bike Build. Other stops include Rookies in Strasburg, Shooters Bar & Grill in Byers, and the Deer Trail Elks Lodge.

Pre-registration is open through June 30, but participants can register the day of the event at Lulu's. Early registration costs \$25 per rider and \$15 per passenger. Reg-

## 2 ArapCo commissioners plan town hall in Aurora

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County Commissioners Jessica Campbell and Jeff Baker will host a town hall from 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 20, at Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club in Aurora.

The discussion will focus on senior resources with Courtney Stryker, county senior resources and veteran services division manager. The commissioners will also discuss the county's budget shortfall.

A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club is located at 23155 E. Heritage Parkway.

## Church in Byers announces vacation Bible School plans

BYERS — Byers Community Church is hosting an opportunity for children in kindergarten through the sixth grade to spend four days singing, making music, crafting instruments, playing games and moving to the beat.

This year, King's Kids Music Camp runs from 9-11 a.m., Monday through Thursday, June 24-27, at the church located at 135 S. Sherman St., Byers.

For information or to register, e-mail to [byerschurch@gmail.com](mailto:byerschurch@gmail.com) with "Music Camp" in the subject line.

## Arapahoe seeks volunteers for VetConnections job fair

AURORA — The Arapahoe County Veterans Services Office is seeking volunteers for VetConnections, a free resource and job fair for veterans, active service members, and their families, on Saturday, Aug. 10, at Arapahoe County CentrePoint Plaza.

Volunteers are asked to sign up for a two-hour shift to assist with event set-up, take-down, or greeting veterans and their families as they enter the event.

For more information or to sign up, visit [arapahoegov.com](http://arapahoegov.com).

CentrePoint Plaza is located at 14980 E. Alameda Drive, Aurora.

## Free baby items available thru Byers women's center

BYERS — The boutique at the Eastern Plains Women's Resource Center will open from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, June 22, to anyone needing items for their children.

The boutique offers items such as diapers, baby wipes, formula, baby food, spring and summer clothing (baby-size 6), bottles, toys, books and baby blankets at no charge.

Donations can be dropped off while the boutique is open.

The Eastern Plains Women's Resource Center is located at 228 W. Front St., Byers.

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# The I-70 Scout

Published weekly by the I-70 Publishing Company, Inc.

P.O. Box 555 • 1522 Main St., Strasburg, Colo. 80136  
 e-mail: [dclaussen@i-70scout.com](mailto:dclaussen@i-70scout.com) • [www.i-70scout.com](http://www.i-70scout.com)  
 (303)622-4417 • Fax: (303)622-9794

The Eastern Colorado News is a legal newspaper for Adams County and the Town of Bennett, Colo. Periodical postage paid at Strasburg, Colo. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Eastern Colorado News, P.O. Box 555, Strasburg, CO, 80136

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# ArapCo leaders ponder new funding streams at annual address

AURORA — Commissioners unveiled a slate of current undertakings, successes and challenges and reemphasized Arapahoe County's difficult financial future as part of the annual State of the County address June 6 at the fairgrounds.

"We accomplished a lot since we were here last year," said Carrie Warren-Gully, chair of the Board of Commissioners. "We were able to do this by listening to our residents and stakeholders and being responsive to the needs of our communities. This leads to great outcomes."

Commissioners opened the address by celebrating recent accomplishments, focusing on service to residents and the community, including:

- the county's new Public Health Department completed its first year of operations;
- the Open Spaces program marked its 20th anniversary;
- renovation of the detention center added 37 new beds for medical and behavioral observation;
- a revamp of oil and gas regulations increased setbacks, protected wildlife areas, and added soil, air and noise monitoring requirements;
- the addition of Accessory



Arapahoe County Commissioners Carren Warren-Gully, left, Jessica Campbell, Jeff Baker, Leslie Summey and Bill Holen discuss county issues at the State of the County address at the county fairgrounds June 6.

- Dwelling Units (ADU) to the Land Development Code, which will expand housing options within unincorporated parts of the county;
- the commencement of a water supply study to plan through 2050;
- collaboration with municipal and state officials to increase housing options. Arapahoe County has more than 108,000 housing units approved and ready to be built; and

- creation of the homeless coordinating committee, partnering with more than 100 local municipalities, agencies and individuals to take a regional approach to the issue.
- Commissioners were candid about the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to kickstart new programs while simultaneously supporting residents and businesses through the pandemic. "We've accomplished a lot with ARPA that we couldn't do with

our existing budget," said Commissioner Bill Holen. "The funds were used strategically to help get residents and businesses back on their feet after the pandemic and to pilot new programs and services that would not have seen the light of day if not for the funds."

In addition to the homelessness plan and remodel of the detention center, ARPA funding helped:

- open an early childhood education center on the GOALS campus in Aurora, creating 70 child care slots in an area of the county that lacks sufficient child care options;
- launch a new health innovation center at Arapahoe Community College to train future health care workers; and
- support a STEM program focusing on power mechanics and sustainable energy at the Community College of Aurora.

Commissioners highlighted responsible budget stewardship while also warning of possible cuts to services without new revenue streams. Decades of fiscal conservancy coupled with historic growth and caps mandated by the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) have created an urgent need to

**SEE ARAPCO ADDRESS PAGE 4**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

From left, Mark Linnebur of Byers, Kent Kalcevic of Bennett, and Colorado Wheat Executive Director Brad Erker listen intently to Colorado State University wheat breeder Esten Mason during the review of variety test plots at the annual wheat field day held June 12 at Cooksey Farms near Roggen. For more coverage, see the June 21 *Eastern Colorado News*.

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**ARAPCO ADDRESS** **FROM PAGE 3**

stabilize county funding sources and modernize finances.

“Commissioners and elected officials have been hitting the pavement the past few months talking about a significant budget shortfall,” Warren-Gully said. “After years of insufficient tax revenues combined with a continued increase in demand for services, Arapahoe County is facing a choice, and we are asking for input

from our residents and stakeholders.”

The county is seeking community feedback on three potential options to address financial hurdles beginning in 2025. Those choices include reducing or eliminating some essential county services; asking voters to approve a ballot measure that would add a new 0.25% sales tax; or asking voters to raise its mill levy back to pre-TA-

BOR levels.

“You are most likely familiar with TABOR,” said Commissioner Jeff Baker. “It limits the amount of revenue that governments in Colorado can retain and spend.

“Our policy has been to adjust the county’s mill levy and essentially provide a tax credit to residents. For example, this year we reduced our share of property taxes by 29%, leaving more than \$74

million uncollected.”

Arapahoe County receives only 12 percent of the total property taxes residents pay. For a home valued at \$500,000, for example, the county keeps only \$32 a month to fund all services.

“These could be significant cuts and have a deleterious impact on our residents,” warned Commissioner Jessica Campbell. “The cuts include up to \$12 million less for the Sheriff’s Office budget, which would affect crime prevention and response. Public Works could be cut by about \$3.7 million, affecting road safety, quality and congestion.”

Other areas that could experience cuts include Human Services, Public Health, and Community Resources could face a combined reduction of \$4.7 million. Homeless prevention and response programs, support to keep older adults in their homes, funding for affordable housing construction, and funding for nonprofit partners could be nixed.

ARPA funding dries up at the end of the year, creating an urgency for commissioners to solve the budget challenge.

“This is so important for us to solve as funding affects everything we do and our ability to do it,” Baker said. “To be truly responsive to our community, we must hear from and engage with our residents and partners about this challenge.”

The county began surveying residents about the options in March.

“There has been no silver bullet, no one solution that comes out ahead, but it has opened the door to talking about the budget and how it affects our community,” Baker continued.

Commissioners must decide by August whether to place an initiative on the November ballot.

“You’ll be hearing a lot about this over the next few months because funding affects everything we do and our ability to provide quality programs and services to our growing community,” Campbell said.

The event attracted more than 250 stakeholders, including elected officials, economic development partners and nonprofit, civic and educational leaders.

**Food contributions sought by county aging agencies**

LITTLETON — The Arapahoe County Council on Aging (ACCOA) and Adams County Aging Network will collect food donations at the ACCOA meeting at 12 p.m., Monday, June 24, at the Byers American Legion.

Donations of non-perishable items only will go to the Little Free Pantry near the parking areas at 1656 Main St., Strasburg.

Recommended items include cereal, instant oatmeal, granola bars, ramen, macaroni and cheese, dry beans, lentils, dried fruit, protein bars, peanut butter or cheese crackers, hygiene items, toilet paper, lotion and shampoo.

For more information, contact Courtney Stryker at (303)738-7892 or cstryker@arapahoegov.com or Jackie Lanning at (720)570-6591 or jjlanning@yahoo.com.



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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Commuters traveling 144th Avenue immediately west of Highway 79 no longer have to detour about 8 miles out of their way (one way) after the contractor replacing the bridge over Sand Creek completed a low-water wrap-around at the project site earlier this month. A time frame on the bridge replacement is uncertain but travelers from eastern unincorporated Adams County now have a shorter, smoother route to Brighton. The bridge was one of the casualties from last summer's flooding that wreaked havoc across the I-70 Corridor. Left photo shows the view facing east from the west side of the detour. Right photo, the new asphalt roadway wraps around the cavernous hole where the bridge once was.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The driver of an F150 that rolled on I-70 about 3 miles east of Byers between 5:15-5:30 a.m. June 15 miraculously escaped unscathed. According to the Colorado State Patrol, the vehicle was eastbound near mile marker 319 when it rolled at least one full rotation into the median. The vehicle came to rest facing northeast. "Standing outside when we got there and dusted up pretty good, but not a scratch on him," said one local responding firefighter of the driver's condition. State patrol indicated the driver was cited but the charge was unknown at press time.

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I don't know who all get the Eastern Colorado News paper, but there was a front page article on what ACTUALLY happened at the UPS store in Bennett, and I thought that in the interest of fairness I would pass the info along. I tried to find the article to post but I am not subscribed. To be honest, I was not sure of the guy but as usual the social media "know it alls" spread lies like crazy. I have seen on here, the guy had "beat some old lady to a pulp." In fact she was the one who attacked him. He did retaliate. Both were arrested and charged with assault. I am not sure if the guy is still in custody or not. I am not sure if the old lady is still in custody or not. I am not sure if the guy is still in custody or not. I am not sure if the old lady is still in custody or not.

**"I don't know who all get the Eastern Colorado News paper, but there was a front page article on what ACTUALLY happened at the UPS store in Bennett, and I thought that in the interest of fairness I would pass the info along."**  
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# CORRIDOR CALENDAR

## MONDAY, JUNE 24

**West Arapahoe Conservation District Board.** 5 p.m. Virtual meeting information at [westarapahoeconservationdistrict.wordpress.com](http://westarapahoeconservationdistrict.wordpress.com).  
**Agate School Board.** 6 p.m.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 25

**Senior citizen game day.** 1-3 p.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall.  
**Bennett Board of Trustees.** Work-study 5:45 p.m. Regular meeting 7 p.m. For a link, visit [townofbennett.colorado.gov](http://townofbennett.colorado.gov).

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

**Bennett Municipal Court.** 6 p.m., Town

Hall.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 27

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

## EVERY MONDAY

**Snackivities.** 4:15-4:45 p.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.  
**High Plains Music Ensemble** rehearsal. 6:30 p.m., Bennett High School band room. For additional information, contact conductor Kurt Elliott at (303)895-7568 or [hpmemusidirector@gmail.com](mailto:hpmemusidirector@gmail.com) or visit [www.highplainsmusicensemble.com](http://www.highplainsmusicensemble.com).

# Church Directory

**LIVING SPRINGS**  
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BYERS, CO

Sundays at 10:00 AM  
2722 S. County Rd 173 Byers, CO

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Midweek Elementary Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:30pm  
Middle/High School Youth Group - Wednesdays @ 7pm  
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**Saron Lutheran Church**

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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

**Malachi 4:6** And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.

**Church Directory ads start at \$13.50/week**

 **ARAPAHOE COUNTY**

**ARAPAHOE COUNTY**

**CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMISSIONERS**

**Jessica Campbell**  
Commissioner District 2

and

**Jeff Baker**  
Commissioner District 3

Thursday, June 20  
6 p.m.

You're invited to join District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker and District 2 Commissioner Jessica Campbell and special guests from Arapahoe County Community Resources for a community conversation.

**Thursday, June 20 | 6-7:30 p.m.**  
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club  
23155 E. Heritage Pkwy., Aurora, CO 80016

The evening will highlight resources available in Arapahoe County for seniors and older adults and discuss the County's budget shortfall. The Commissioners will also lead an informal conversation about County initiatives. Following the discussion, Baker and Campbell will answer questions from the public.



### Food Drive

Arapahoe County Council on Aging (ACCOA) and Adams County Aging Network are collecting food for the Little Free Pantry in Strasburg.

Bring food to donate to the **June 24** ACCOA meeting at **12 p.m.** at the Byers American Legion.

Food can also be dropped off by **June 21** at **Arapahoe County Senior Resources** 1690 W. Littleton Blvd. Suite 300 Littleton, CO (ATTN Courtney).



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**Arapahoe County Budget**



### Arapahoe County faces a significant budget shortfall starting in 2025

After years of insufficient tax revenues, combined with a continued increase in demand for services, Arapahoe County faces a choice—and is asking for your input. Read more and provide your input at [acbudget.com](http://acbudget.com).

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## LIBRARY NEWS

### ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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[anythinklibraries.org](http://anythinklibraries.org)

**Hat design workshop:** Teens are invited to a creative quest with local muralist and sculptor Bimmer Torres. They will paint their own designs on blank hats to transform them into personalized masterpieces.

Whether a budding artist seeking inspiration or simply looking for a fun activity, this program offers the perfect blend of self-expression and community engagement. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit [Anythinklibraries.org](http://Anythinklibraries.org). 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday, June 21.

**Stained glass suncatchers:** Turn the light on a new medium with an Anythink exclusive design incorporating vibrant colors and geometric shapes! Join the Little Glass Art team on a quest to immerse students in the history and awe-invoking labor of love involved in creating artwork using the copper foil method of stained glass.

With the option of selecting each piece in multiple colors, students will have a variety of possibilities to make each piece. Crafty and curious people of all levels will enjoy this class. Appropriate for adults. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit [Anythinklibraries.org](http://Anythinklibraries.org). 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, June 22.

**miniThinkers:** These special programs are intended for the youngest Anythinkers — miniThinkers! The library provides a space to spend time with a little one in meaningful ways. Practice early literacy skills by playing, singing,

talking and writing. The program is appropriate for children up to age 5. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesday, June 25.

**Mindfulness Maze:** Library fans ages 7-12 can relax and be mindful in this calming sensory experience. Pay attention to all your senses while you travel serenely through a maze. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday, June 26.

**Pop-Up Studio:** Library fans of all ages can create their own custom journal using the xTool laser engraver. Make a unique design and get ready for a summer of adventure! 3-5 p.m., Thursday, June 27.

### KELVER LIBRARY

585 Main St., Byers  
(303)822-9392  
[www.arapahoelibraries.org](http://www.arapahoelibraries.org)

**Summer Movie Night:** The community is invited to an outdoor screening of "The Secret Garden" (1993, rated G, 1 hour 41 minutes). 7-9 p.m., Thursday, June 27.

### DAVIES LIBRARY

128 Second Ave., Deer Trail  
(303)769-4310  
[www.arapahoelibraries.org](http://www.arapahoelibraries.org)

**Beach Day:** Kids ages 0-5 and their parents and caregivers are invited to drop in for Beach Day. Attendees will enjoy beach-themed books, activities and snacks and leave with a free book. No registration needed.

Families will be invited to enter as space allows. Wait times are possible. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 26.

**Friday matinee:** All ages are invited to an afternoon showing of "The Little Mermaid" (2023, PG, 2 hours 15 minutes). 1-3 p.m., Friday, June 26.

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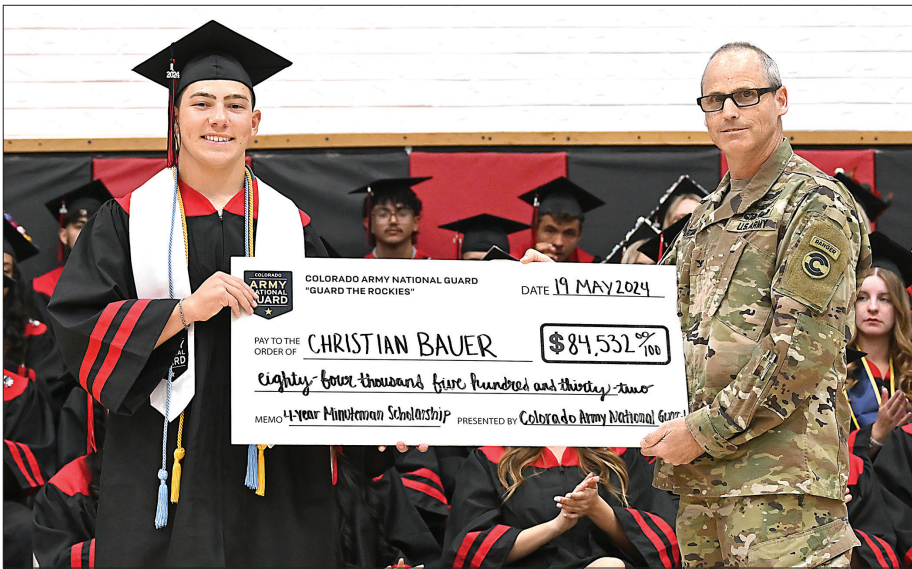


# MILITARY SIGNINGS



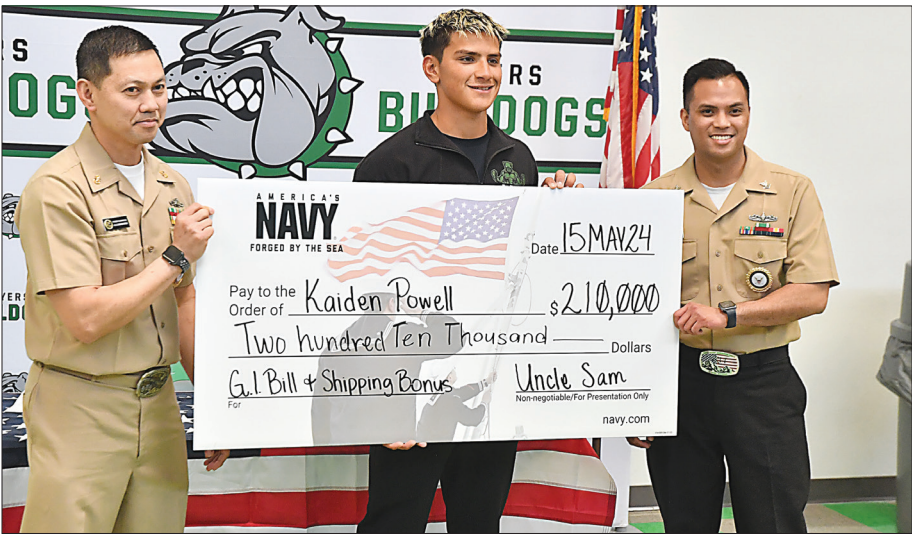
SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg seniors Charlie Spriggs, left, and Thomas Devlin take an oath during their Army induction ceremony prior to last fall's Indian home Senior Night football game against Jefferson. Both are scheduled to report to boot camp later this summer.



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Christian Bauer receives a big check signifying his four-year Minuteman Scholarship from the Colorado Army National Guard. Presenting Bauer his award is Army Col. Scott Hartman.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

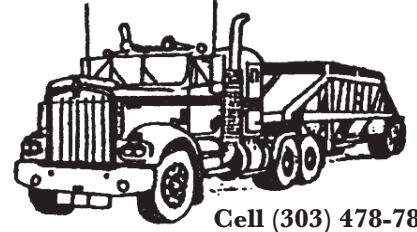
Byers senior Kaiden Powell, center, officially signed his paperwork to enter the Navy, specifically the medical program to become a corpsman, during a May 15 ceremony at the school. Presenting Powell with a ceremonious check signifying his enrollment through the G.I. Bill and a shipping bonus are area recruiters Chief Tan, left, and PSL Portez. Powell is expected to enter basic training this summer.

# STEVENS PUBLIC AUCTION

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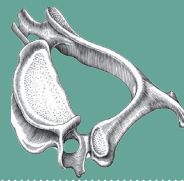
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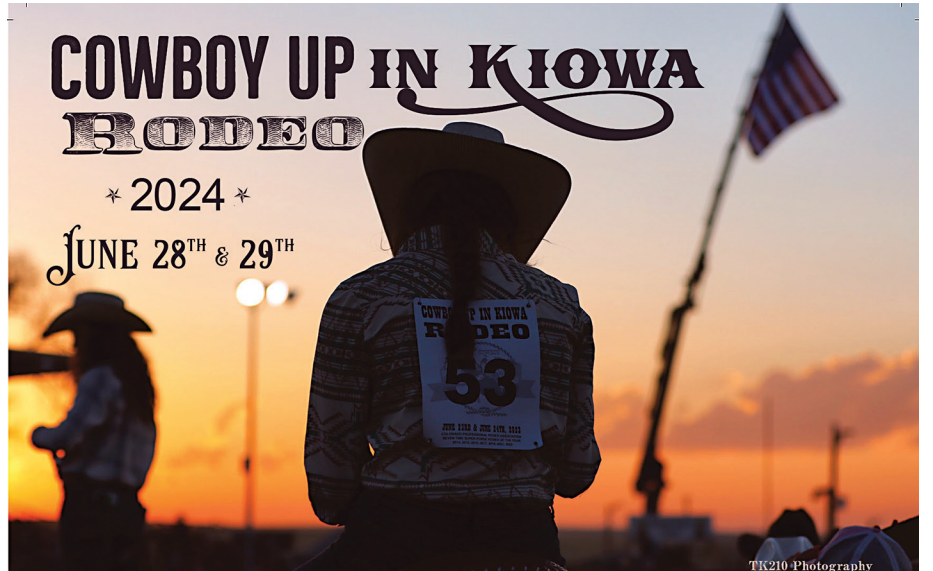


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\* 2024 \*  
 JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> & 29<sup>TH</sup>



TK210 Photography

## FRIDAY JUNE 28

Honoring Our Military, Veterans & 1st Responders

7 PM CPRA Rodeo Performance  
 Mini Bulls, Mutton Bustin  
 & Lil Wrangler Boot Scramble

## SATURDAY JUNE 29

Celebrating Our Community & Western Heritage

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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Hemphill Middle School held its annual spring choir concert prior to Strasburg Elementary's fifth-grade promotion May 9 at Mountain View Fellowship. From left photo, Francisco Barajas solos during "You Raise Me Up;" Leona Bloomfield, left, Kristin Croft, Nicole Tree, Bailey Halverson and Ayla Nelson sing a quintet; and Zoey Torrez performs a solo.

**STRASBURG BOE**

**FROM PAGE 1**

members sign non-disclosure agreements.

"It was a good discussion. It was a tough discussion, I would say, but ... I'm comfortable that we walked out of there on a high note," Marrero concluded.

**STAFF CHANGES**

With recommendations in hand and mouths closed, the board approved JaLee Kitzman as the district's elementary principal and Rick Jacoby as its athletic director.

It also reassigned high school teacher Jeromie Bongard, the husband of new Superintendent Kelle Bongard, to high school dean; middle school secretary Jennifer Hall to executive assistant and Lori Tapparo from middle school paraprofessional to long-term substitute teacher for eighth-grade social studies.

Marrero addressed Kitzman, Jacoby and Hall, who were all in the room.

"Hopefully, you won't just take my word for it because you'll see it. We have a board here that will support all of you and what you're trying to do," Marrero said. "And we appreciate you taking the chance on us and we look forward to what you're going to bring to the district."

With the employment of Kitzman and Jacoby, Strasburg's administration now looks a bit like Bennett's a few years ago — Kitzman served as Bennett's secondary music teacher for 18 years, middle school principal for six years, and director of communications and federal programs for one year while Jacoby, a 1996 Tiger graduate, taught, coached football, track, wrestling and baseball, and served as athletic director from 2004-22 at Bennett.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

In his final report before his retirement from, Superintendent Dan Hoff notified the board that the district will receive two flight simulators with an aviation grant that was approved.

It was also approved for a SAFER grant through East Central BOCES but was denied a school counseling and wellness grant.

In addition, Hoff announced that director Diana Elliott has asked the district to communicate with the public regarding available Career

& Technical Education (CTE) programs in the district; that Marrero has submitted a request to do a presentation on the Strategic Plan at the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) in December; and that industry certifications for business and computer technology teacher Kim Harris have been approved by the state.

"She submitted a number of certifications that students passed this year, too, to the state," Hoff said. "So our kids are actually gaining industry certifications in our career and tech programs so far."

Marrero thanked Hoff for his two years of service in the district and the legacy that he leaves with the new Strategic Plan.

"You know, the strategic plan will always have — even though I know it was a community event — it will always have your fingerprints on it," Marrero said. "And we wish you the best."

Hoff retires with almost 30 years in public education.

"I'm so young it's hard to believe," he said. "But 30 years goes quickly and I'm looking forward to retiring and spending some fun time in July. And I'm going to spend time with family and friends and travel a little. And then I'm going to figure out what I'm going to do next, because I'm not going to sit around and watch TV."

**NEW BUSINESS**

Hoff provided updates on summer hiring for the following positions: food services director, high school special education, high school English language learners, and middle school paraprofessional and secretary.

Hoff encouraged the board to grant Bongard, formally or informally, the ability to hire as needed during July.

"I am asking that you think about it going forward, empowering your superintendent to have a July hiring window where they can do that because the last thing we'd want to do is wait to get informally approved by the board in mid-August when they've already been in school for two or three weeks."

The board advised that it would call a special meeting to employ cabinet level positions pri-

or to the start of the school year. Non-cabinet hirings will be approved at the board meeting in August unless policy prohibits it.

**JUNE WORK SESSION**

The Strasburg School District 31j Board of Education will participate in a work session from 4-6 p.m., Tuesday, June 25, at the Central Service Building. Topics will include the four-day school week, the board calendar, a board retreat, construction projects, the strategic plan, and creation of a "coffee with the board" type of social session for public interaction.

**LEGISLATION**

Elliott reported on the end of the legislative session in May. She said several bills could have policy implications and that CASB will contact the school with a special policy update.

She also noted that signatures are wanted on many initiatives out there and that one, Initiative 50, would cap property tax at 4%, reducing current levels by 2% or more.

"That would be a significant, significant blow, I think, to our budget," Elliott said.

**D.C. TRIP**

Avis Devlin and students attended the meeting to discuss their trip to Washington, D.C. Nineteen students were on the trip plus several others from Deer Trail.

Students laid a wreath from Strasburg at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Student Laura Chance, who learned to sew in a class taught by Laurie Ponserella, made a dress for the event.

**OTHER MATTERS**

- Elliott will attend a Boardsmanship Academy Aug. 24 in Limon.
- Chief Financial Officer Nancy Taylor negotiated a reduction in the cost of a sewer tap fee from \$88,000 to \$22,000 for the new concession stand and restroom facility at the football field.
- Stacey Alonzi is updating student handbooks across all buildings. She will also review staff and paraprofessional handbooks to ensure they also align.

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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The High Plains Music Ensemble hosted *Sounds of the Sea*, the group's final concert of the season, at the Bennett School auditorium June 1. Clockwise from above left, jazz trombonists Ryan Phillips, left, and Everett Godsey play their parts of "Beyond the Sea;" JaLee Kitzman, left, plays the band's newest instrument acquisition, an ocean drum, while fellow percussionist Jonah Lang is next door (inset, the band's mascot for the evening keeps a watchful eye out); Josh Wallace plays his tuba during the first song of the evening, "Garlandstone: A Nautical Fantasy;" Caleb Collier, left, and David Pershing toot their horns during the jazz band's version of "Beyond the Sea;" Justin Wilson plays a sax solo during "Beyond the Sea" alongside Aiden Lang; and director Kurt Elliott puts the band through its paces on "Sea Glass."



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East Central BOCES  
Jason Westfall, Executive Director  
820 2nd Street  
Limon, Colorado 80828  
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Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursdays, June 13 and 20.

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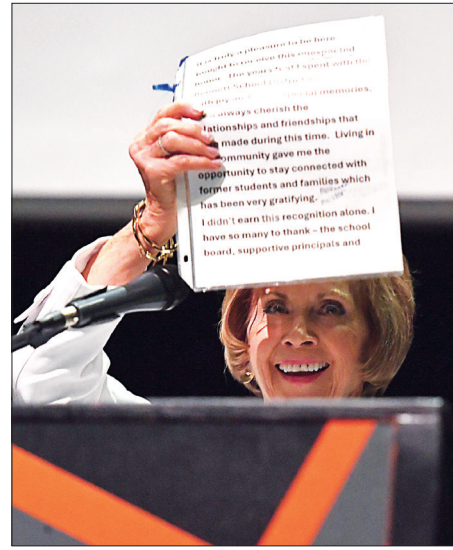
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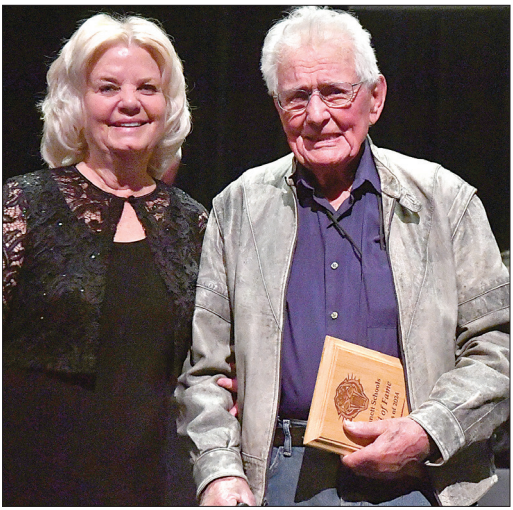
# Bennett School District conducts 2024 Hall of Fame induction ceremony May 24



Graduation weekend at Bennett School District included the Friday night induction ceremony for the 2024 Hall of Fame class. From left photo, former longtime kindergarten teacher Sara Piland receives her meritorious service award alongside her family — daughters Kristen Kellog and Kimberly Corson and husband Lowell Piland; Piland shows off her cheat sheet for her speech; Matt Sherer speaks on behalf of his family and his father Don Sherer, who was posthumously honored as a distinguished alumnus. In addition to graduating from Bennett, Don Sherer also provided decades of service to the district as the primary person in charge of bus and fleet maintenance and repair; Todd Sorensen speaks after receiving his honor for exemplary military service; Bennett alum Kyle Bronk kicks off the evening with “The Star Spangled Banner;” and longtime secondary social studies teacher Marty VanBuskirk, center, receives his award from student presenters Colten Reams, left, Aaron Driggs, Angelia Castilleja, and Vivi Cranwill. Buskirk started teaching history in Bennett in 1983 and, in 2008, became a Morgan Community College instructor, which he remains today.



Athletic inductees are longtime high school wrestling coach and former Tiger state champion grappler John Faczak and the state champion poms team of 2004. Left photo, Faczak, who has coached a dozen Tiger state champions and is responsible for 51 of the school’s 68 state tournament placer-winners, receives his award from presenters Rick Jacoby, left, and Tyler Zimmerman. Right photo, members of the champion poms team from two decades ago include, from left, Billie Miller, Kayla Zuber, Lean Wright, coach Terrie Capps, Lauren Gentry, Allie Kauffman, and Britney Bernard. Not pictured are Kinnick Wheaton and Monika Figenser. The Lady Tigers were left that year by 10 points over second-place Centauri.



Fourteen alumni — Fred “Fritz” Meyer, Alvin “Bud” Meyer, Harold Kissler, Dan Kissler, James “Pappy” Froman, Astor “Swede” Henderson, Max Campfield, Bill Gregg, Bob Bordner, Chris Wailes, A.E. “Sandy” Lancaster, Bill Bordner, Paul Bordner and Bob Wilson — join the Bennett Schools Hall of Fame for exemplary military service for their efforts in building the Bennett VFW Hall. Left photo, family members of all the inductees receive their family members awards. Right photo, Bill Bordner, the last remaining living member of the group, receives his award from niece Nancy Barden, who also was inducted as a distinguished alumni for her work as longtime Morgan Community College Bennett Center Coordinator and a past school board member.

**4th of July Celebration**  
**Sunday, June 30th**  
 11:00am - 2:00pm - 3rd Annual Car Show -May Farms

**Wednesday, July 3rd**  
 5:00pm - 8:00pm - Byers Fire District Spaghetti Dinner - Byers Fire Department

**Thursday July 4, 2024**  
 7:30am - 9:30am - Knights of Columbus Breakfast - Byers American Legion Hall

8:30am - 10:00am - BPRD 5K Fun Run/Walk- Marathon! - Byers Community Park

10:00am - BPRD Annual Parade - Front Street in Byers

10:30 - 3:00pm-Wide Open Heating, Air and Electric Street and Vendor Fair - Byers community Park

4:00pm - 7:30pm BPRD Rodeo – Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

**Friday, July 5th**  
 4:00pm - 8:00pm -Food Truck Friday - May Farms  
 7:00pm - 10:00pm - 21st Century Equipment Music Concert Danny GBand! -May Farms

**Saturday July 6, 2024**  
 8:30am - 10:00am - Community Pancake Breakfast -Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

10:00am - 8:00pm - BPRD Antique Tractor Pull -Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

10:00am - 8:00pm - BPRD Quilt Show -Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

9:00pm - BPRD Firework Display - Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

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**SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS**

The East Central BOCES Member School Districts keep records on each student to use in the instruction and guidance of each student. The records contain information about the student and his/her education, including attendance, achievement, aptitude, description, assessment and progress. Parents of students under 18 and eligible students have the right to review these records.

Student records are kept in the school building the student attends. If records are not kept in the school the student attends, this will be noted by the person in charge of records in the building. The principal is responsible for maintenance of student records in each building.

To review a student's records, the parent(s) of students under 18 or the eligible student should contact the records custodian. The records will be shown to you as soon as possible and in no case more than three days after the request. If you desire a copy of the educational record, a charge of 10 cents per copy may be charged, unless this fee prohibits your access. The records will be explained to you at your request.

Parents of eligible students may question the content of the records. Any other access to student records will only be allowed if written consent is obtained, upon court order or by any legally issued subpoena.

Student records are reviewed and inappropriate material removed periodically. Those records not of permanent importance must be destroyed at the parents request after graduation or when the student stops attending permanently. Parents of students with disabilities or eligible students will be notified before any personally identifiable information is removed from a record and destroyed. A record of those persons reviewing the records will be kept by the records custodian and can be reviewed by the parent or eligible student.

A school official may release directory type information to the public. To prevent the public release of such information, a parent or eligible student must file a written objection with the records custodian within ten days after receiving this notice. For more detailed information about records, procedures and policies or to file a complaint, contact the local school district administrator, the East Central BOCES Executive Director or the Special Education Director. Letters may be addressed to: Jason Westfall, Executive Director, East Central BOCES, P. O. Box 910, Limon, CO 80828. Unresolved complaints can be appealed using the established appeals process.

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, Idalia, & Liberty.

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursdays, June 13 and 20.

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We're planning lots of activities to...      ...keep busy and have fun all summer!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com  Annimills LLC © 2024 V21  Kids: color stuff in! 

## School's Out! Summer's In!

### Summer is a fun and active time!

In the summertime we like to come out and visit at dusk, the cooler time of day.

What are you planning to do during your summer vacation? Do you like to spend long, hot summer days reading and sipping lemonade under a tree by your house? Or do you need **action** every minute? Most of us enjoy both active times and quiet times. There are many activities to choose from to fit all schedules and budgets. Whatever you do, wherever you go, have a fun and safe summer!

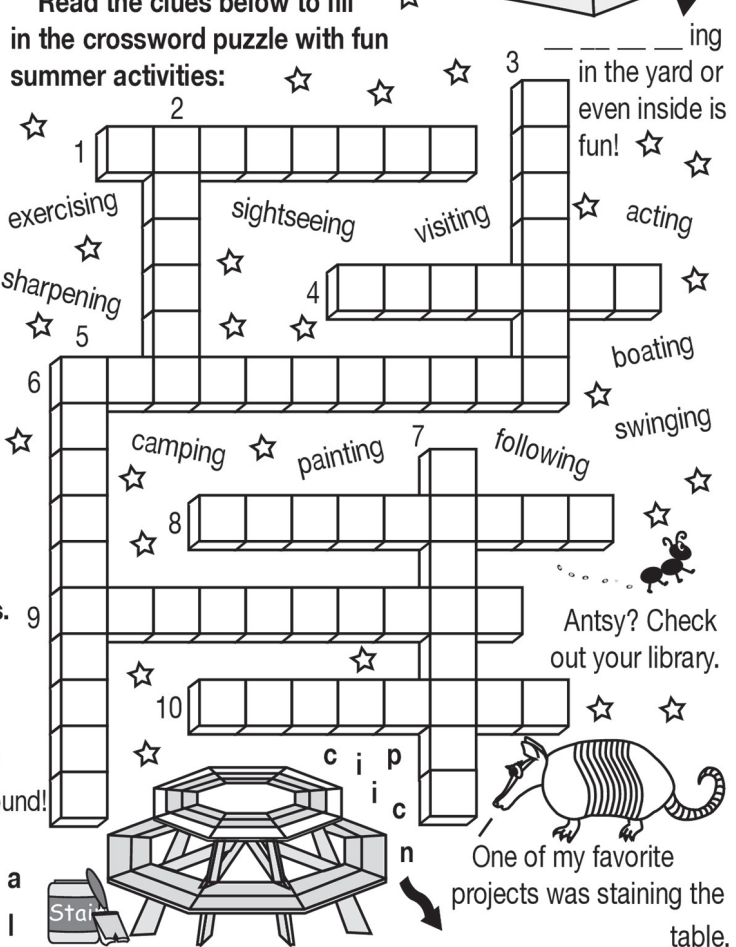
There are 3 areas of scrambled letters. Unscramble the letters to spell out summer fun!

Head to the \_\_\_\_\_ ground!

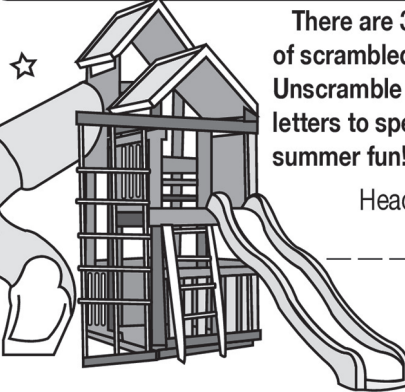
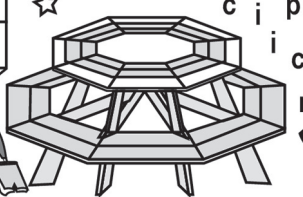
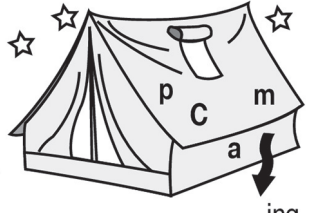

Antsy? Check out your library.

One of my favorite projects was staining the \_\_\_\_\_ table.

Read the clues below to fill in the crossword puzzle with fun summer activities:



- \_\_\_\_\_ a shirt during an arts and crafts class
- \_\_\_\_\_ in a role in a theater production
- \_\_\_\_\_ in a national park
- \_\_\_\_\_ and fishing on the river
- \_\_\_\_\_ skills in summer school
- \_\_\_\_\_ in a historic part of town
- \_\_\_\_\_, climbing, sliding at the playground
- \_\_\_\_\_ safety rules while biking
- \_\_\_\_\_ muscles by dancing or playing sports
- \_\_\_\_\_ relatives and friends

### Summer is... Can you match up all these fun (and some not-so-fun) summer happenings?

- chirping
- dripping
- sizzling
- bare
- longer

- cracks in the
- picking
- corn in the
- lighter
- glowing

- squirting
- biting
- bandage on
- wearing
- rubbing skin with

- sticky, steamy
- booming
- overnight
- juicy
- coolers for

- juice bars
- heat
- crickets
- days
- feet

- strawberries
- earth
- clothes
- fireflies
- field

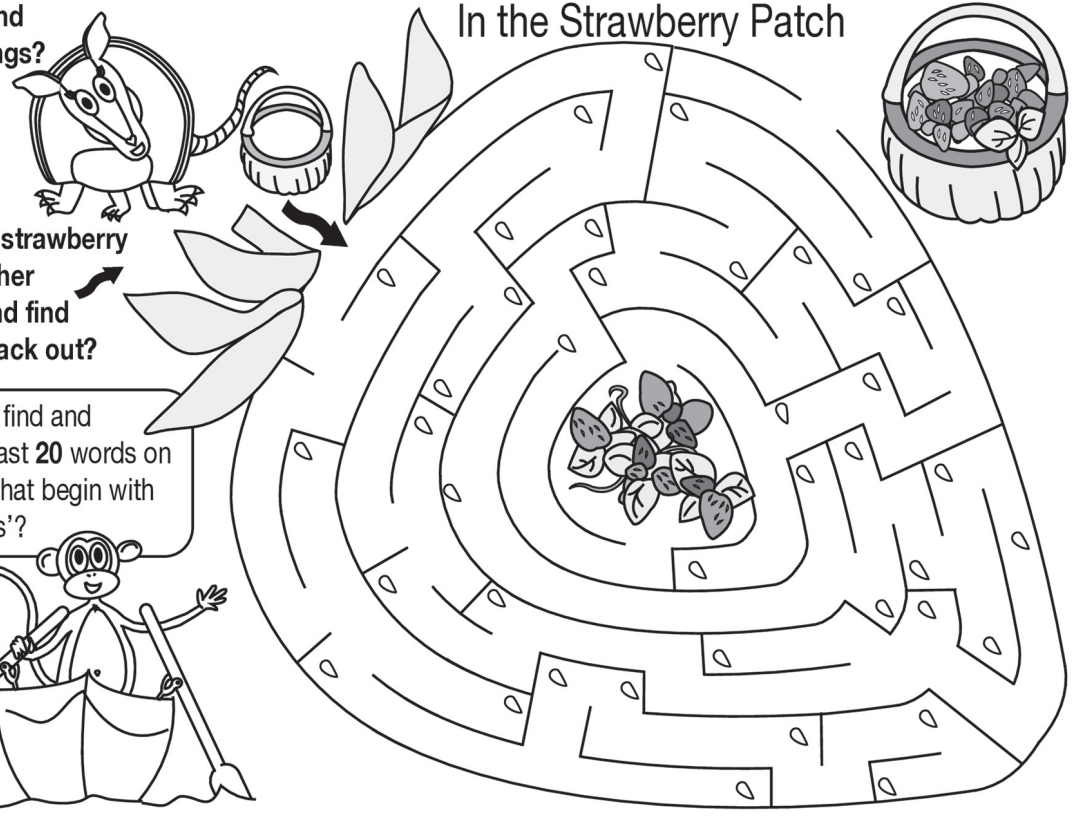
- hats
- small cuts
- mosquitoes
- sunscreen
- hoses

- thunder
- campouts
- watermelon
- picnics
- weather

Can you help Arid get to the strawberry patch, fill her basket, and find her way back out?

Can you find and circle at least 20 words on this page that begin with the letter 's'?

### In the Strawberry Patch

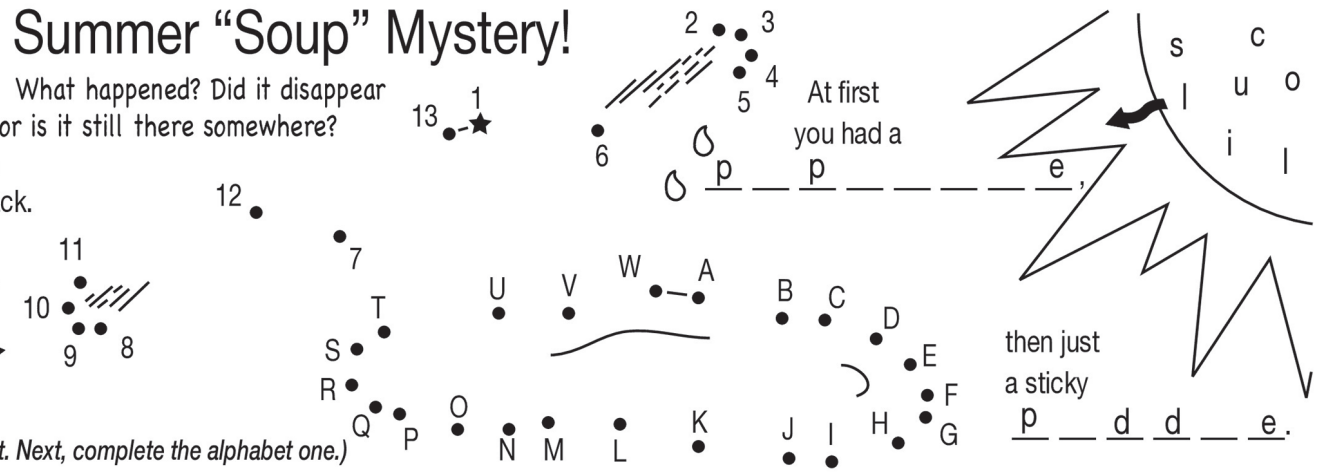


### Summer "Soup" Mystery!

It's a *sizzling* afternoon. You rummage around in the freezer, looking for something really cold. Ahhh...the perfect treat! You run outside and sink down onto the picnic table bench and unwrap your snack. As you begin to drool, your phone – that you left on the kitchen table – rings. You lay down your treat, jump up and rush back inside to grab it. When you come back you find...

What happened? Did it disappear or is it still there somewhere?

(Hint: Do the numbered dot-to-dot puzzle first. Next, complete the alphabet one.)



At first you had a \_\_\_\_\_  
p \_\_\_\_\_ e \_\_\_\_\_  
then just a sticky \_\_\_\_\_  
p \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ e \_\_\_\_\_

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

Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2024



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

### 20 YEARS AGO JUNE 22, 2004

KIOWA — About 120 Elbert County residents who answered jury summons June 18 had a surprise stapled to the jury questionnaire — the prosecution plans to call more than 70 witnesses during the 10 days of trial for Donald James Cowell, 50, of Deer Trail.

Cowell is charged with first-degree murder.

Residents packed the agriculture building at the Elbert County Fairground to hear the beginning of many instructions as prosecutors of the 19th Judicial District Attorney's Office and the defense team began scrutinizing questionnaires for the 12-person jury with two alternates.

The prosecution intends to call 72-74 witnesses during the trial. There already are more than 5,100 pages of transcript for the case.

Cowell is charged in the stabbing death of Kristen Angelina Titello, 40, of Aurora, July 10. Titello's body was found before 7:30 a.m. along Colorado 86 near the intersection with I-70.

### 15 YEARS AGO JUNE 23, 2009

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Volunteer Fire Department will go under the umbrella of the Strasburg Fire Protection District in July.

The district board of directors approved a motion for the merger at its meeting June 18. Details of

the unification were worked out at a June 17 word-study session.

"The volunteer department started first (in 1927)," said district office manager Kathy Duryea. "The fire district was formed after that. [The district has always taken] care of the fire equipment — [vehicles, the firefighters' gear, hoses, whatever, and [the volunteer fire and] rescue took care of the ambulances."

Both parties agree the move is in the best interest of the entities and the community.

### 10 YEARS AGO JUNE 24, 2014

ROGGEN — Wheat harvest can't come fast enough for area farmers who still have a crop and are looking at prospects of above-normal yields.

"This is one of the best looking crops so far that I've seen in many years," said Colorado Wheat Executive Director Darrel Hanavan during the annual Wheat Field Day for Arapahoe, Adams and Weld county producers June 15 at Cooksey Farms near Roggen. "I think we could be looking at a lot of 50- and 60-bushel wheat, maybe even some 70."

A wet fall last year and well-above average precipitation this spring/early summer could bump yields about 50% more than the 10-year average of approximately 35 bushels per acre and more than double of last year's crop, which averaged mostly between 18-22 bushels.

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

© StatePoint Media  
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 17**

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, June 20, the 172nd day of 2024. There are 194 days left in the year.

### TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On June 20, 1837, Queen Victoria acceded to the British throne following the death of her uncle, King William IV.

### ON THIS DATE

In 1782, Congress approved the Great Seal of the United States, featuring the emblem of the bald eagle.

In 1863, West Virginia became the 35th state.

In 1943, race-related rioting erupted in Detroit; federal troops were sent in two days later

to quell the violence that resulted in more than 30 deaths.

In 1944, during World War II, Japanese naval forces retreated in the Battle of the Philippine Sea after suffering heavy losses to the victorious American fleet.

In 1947, Gangster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel was shot dead

at the Beverly Hills, Calif., home of his girlfriend, Virginia Hill, apparently at the order of mob associates.

In 1972, three days after the arrest of the Watergate burglars, President Richard Nixon met at the White House with his chief of staff, H.R. Haldeman; the secretly made

tape recording of this meeting ended up with the notorious 18½-minute gap.

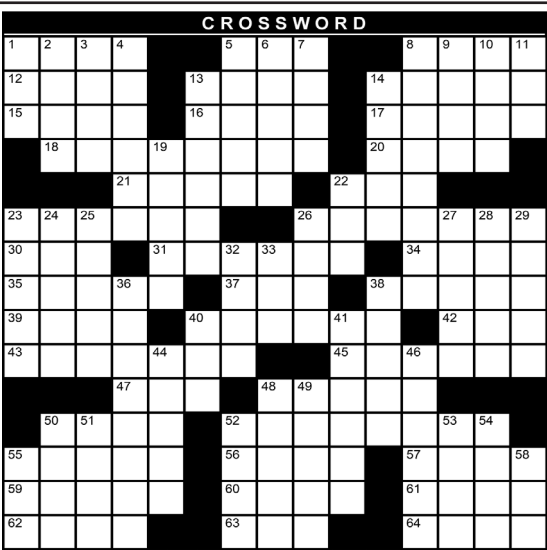
### TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Singer-songwriter Brian Wilson is 82. Singer Anne Murray is 79. TV personality Bob Vila is 78.

—Associated Press

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: THE 4TH OF JULY

- ACROSS**
- South American palm berry
  - Chi preceider
  - Tatted cloth
  - "Knee high in July"?
  - Hole-making tools
  - Sign in (2 words)
  - Discharge
  - Violin's Renaissance predecessor
  - Nursemaid in India, pl.
  - \*On the grill on the 4th?
  - Tropical tuber
  - Propelled like Argo
  - "Fresh Prince of \_\_\_-Air"
  - \*#18 Across, picnics and such
  - Yellow ride
  - Not well
  - Heavy lifting injury
  - "Brave New World" drug
  - Feudal estates
  - Storm center
  - Rand McNally book
  - Singer-songwriter Amos
  - Deserving veneration
  - Giant "Master Melvin"
  - Y on Periodic Table
  - Unkind one, slangily
  - Clairvoyant's gift, acr.
  - "\_\_\_ under the rug"
  - Cry like a baby
  - \*Number of stripes on Old Glory
  - Birch bark vessel
  - Object of Frodo's obsession
  - Norse war god
  - Cut mission short
  - Fairy tale beginning
  - Tangerine/grapefruit hybrid
  - MTV's "\_\_\_d" (2003-2015)
  - Like Willie Winkie
  - "Team" homophone



CROSSWORD

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- DOWN**
- Fighter pilot
  - Toothy groomer
  - Operatic solo
  - Openings
  - Between once and thrice
  - Viva voce
  - Maroon's home
  - \*As opposed to Patriot
  - Lab culture
  - Type of salmon
  - Short for ensign
  - Not sympathetic
  - Potentially allergenic glove material
  - Tubs
  - Farm cry
  - \*Number of stars on Old Glory
  - "The Waste Land" poet
  - Heads-up
  - Wedding cake layer
  - 2-dotted mark
  - Stradivari competitor
  - Moisten, as in a turkey
  - 500 sheets
  - \*Largest Fourth of July pyrotechnics display loc.
  - \*Celebratory combustible
  - Highly skilled
  - Break bread
  - Come into view
  - Even smaller than #7 Down
  - Dined elsewhere (2 words)
  - Use a shoe polish
  - Grimace in pain
  - Hindu Mr.
  - Before long, to Shakespeare
  - Think, arch.
  - Part of a seat
  - World's longest river
  - Upper limit
  - Jodie Foster's "\_\_\_'s Island"

ANSWERS ON PAGE 21

## HOROSCOPE

### Strawberry Solstice

From the bonfires of the Celtic festival of Litha, to the vibrant midsummer holidays of Scandinavian countries, the longest day of the year has been celebrated by ancient and modern societies alike. Cancer season's sweetness needs no ripening this year. The party will start early and rage on past tomorrow's strawberry moon.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** When the plan goes right, you have a result. When the plan goes wrong, you have a story. Today the pan will swerve in and out of effectiveness, so you'll have both an adventure and a result. Life is sweet!

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** The fisher finds peace in the rhythm of a well-cast line and the pull of a strong catch. So does the salesperson, the seducer and the entertainer. You will find yourself in this club today, too.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** When you want to be, you're a rockstar on the job, in a relationship or working a room. When you don't want to be, you can blend into the wallpaper, no problem. You'll be strategic with your shine and your cloak of invisibility.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** When an advertiser can press on your pain point, they might win a sale. But what about creating points of pain that weren't even there? It's diabolical but commonplace. Look out for those who profit from seeding self-doubt in others.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** The scene from your past seems perfectly intact in your mind, like an ancient insect caught in amber. But memories are more malleable and easily romanticized, which is something to consider making decisions going forward.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** When deals get complicated, it's a sign that something on the foundational level is off. Go back to square one and everything gets simple again. An adjustment in timing and/or location is the simple fix.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Love is inextricably connected to vulnerability.

Love is offering up the softer parts of the heart and agreeing, to some extent, to trust them to another. The one who doesn't risk anything of value is not invested enough to properly call it love.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Let people help you. Don't resist their offerings even for a minute. They may not give you exactly what you need or want, but it will still turn out to be useful, and, in retrospect, you just might be amazed.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You're sending out vibes and lobbing subconscious messages out like corked bottles into the cosmic ocean. You won't have to say what you want to get because your entire being is sending the word out and the universe has heard you.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** One of the many lessons of social media is that loving yourself is different from loving how others love you. Self-support means paying attention to your own enjoyment, rhythms, attractions and annoyances instead of preening yourself for the gaze of others.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Think of your entire situation and take on responsibilities that fit comfortably into the rest of the schedule. When you really reason this out, you will notice there is far less room for new commitments than you thought.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You could say more, and saying less will do it for you — especially when you deploy your superstar smile. Emotional warmth is something people want to be near even when it's hot outside.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 20).** This year goes down in the books as you'll make yourself and others extremely proud. Tenacity is the buzzword as you build a lasting legacy brick by brick, moment by moment. More highlights: Renovations and beauty. You'll be surrounded by people who remind you how loveable you are. You'll change up your financial strategy to excellent effect. Scorpio and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 15, 28, 14 and 36.

—Horoscopes by Holiday





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**CORE OUTAGES**

**FROM PAGE 1**

2,650 customers losing power for at least an hour. While about half of the impacted residences had power restored between 11-11:15 p.m. Monday, the other half didn't have power restored until approximately 12:45 a.m. Tuesday.

"Total outage duration was 2 hours, 47 minutes," Kiess said of the outage that impacted residents mostly in and around Bennett.

Another 2,000 customers between Byers and Deer Trail lost power for at least a couple of hours starting at 10 a.m. Saturday. Power was first restored to the Byers area

about 12:30 p.m. with customers further east getting reconnected by approximately 2:30 p.m.

Kiess had a similar story to report on the area's second outage within five days.

"A large bird got into energized equipment on the transmission system knocking out power to the towns of Byers and Deer Trail," he said of Saturday's outage. "The two bird-related outages both occurred inside of substations, which not only affects more members but, yes, they can take significantly longer to restore the power."

**BABY**

**FROM PAGE 1**

After the crew arrived, they assisted with the newborn child, even helping the father, Justin Williams, cut the umbilical cord. The crew then transported the mother and child to the hospital.

The crew and dispatcher were nominated for the Sable Delivery award, which recognizes staff who have assisted with the field delivery of a newborn.

"Making this case a bit more special is that it hits very close

to home," said Sable Altura Fire Chief Rich Solomon. "It turns out that the new father is the son of our office manager, who was at work at our station that morning."

On May 31, Sable Altura Fire Rescue reunited the crew, the 911 dispatcher, and the family to recognize them with its Sable Delivery award. They listened to the call audio and shared thoughts outside of a hectic emergency scene, ambulance and hospital.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Before other members of the Rocky Mountain Police & Fire Chaplains at the state Capitol Jan. 24, Chief Rich Solomon, left, congratulates Sable Altura Fire Rescue chaplain Scott Padre Ross for Ross' recognition by the Colorado General Assembly for his actions during the Marshall Fire in 2021-22.

**Area chaplain honored for Marshall Fire response**

DENVER — At Colorado Emergency Response Chaplains Day Jan. 24, a member of Sable Altura Fire Rescue was recognized with other members of the Rocky Mountain Police & Fire Chaplains by the Colorado General Assembly.

Scott "Padre" Ross is a sworn member of Sable Altura and has undergone fire-based training and education, but he is not a front-line responder. Still, hearing what was happening on Dec. 31, 2021, he was moved to go to the station to provide support to crews deploying to the Marshall Fire.

Ross ended up deploying with

the Sable Altura crew as a support person but was pressed into service at the scene. He saw firsthand the unpredictable and dangerous environments firefighters face.

Ross, according to a release, was deeply impacted by the experiences of others at the fire. He continues to monitor the Sable Altura staff and the types of calls they go on and to be involved in their lives as a trusted resource.

Sable Altura Fire Rescue is based at Fox Ridge Farms in Aurora.

The Rocky Mountain Police & Fire Chaplains has 102 law enforcement and 38 fire agencies in its membership.

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

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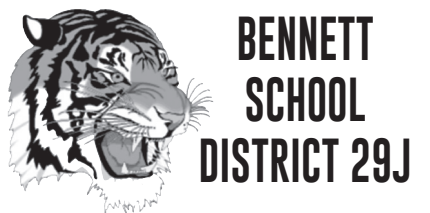
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Benefits include Health, Dental, Vision, and Life insurance. Certified application available on Human Resources page of the District website, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us).

Inquiries should be directed to: Kelly Boren at (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](mailto:sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us).

**Parmer's Automotive in Hugo** is now hiring. Seeking an experienced automotive technician and a tire/oil change technician (willing to train). Full-time positions offering competitive hourly pay up to \$30/hour according to experience. Monday-Friday workweek; benefits include paid sick days, vacation and holidays, Colorado Secure Savings and more. Call today: (719)743-2180. 7/4

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Letter jackets and chenilles. Harriet McNeill, (303)919-2065. 6/20c

Photos from *The I-70 Scout & Eastern Colorado News* in color or black and white. 4x6 \$6; 5x7 \$8; 8½x11 \$12. (303)622-9796. 7/11c

English creme golden retriever puppies. Available June 15. 5 males, 2 females. \$400. Nikki, (720)315-1587. 7/4

## BOATS & RVs

2022 Grand Design Imagine 2670MK for sale. Fantastic RV in excellent shape. See in Strasburg. Asking \$36K. Call or text (303)591-0366. 7/4

## FREE

Free, free, free. Pick up of autos, farm equipment, batteries, all nonferrous metal types. Also available for a minimal fee, pick up of appliances, TVs, piles, etc. Call Blaine today at (303)819-7659. 7/11c

## GARAGE SALES

Basement sale at St. Isidore Catholic Church. 32100 E. Colfax Service Rd., Watkins. Friday-Saturday, June 28-29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 6/27

56122 E. 23rd Ave., Strasburg. Friday, June 21, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, June 22, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Wine rack, minifreezer, minirefrigerator, tonneau cover, home décor, electronic items, Christmas dishes, books, men's dress shirts and suits, women's clothing and shoes (variety of sizes), and much more. 6/20

## Blackstone Ranch Community Yard Sale

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., June 21-22

E. 22nd Ave.: youth fundraiser — chocolate espresso beans and "Fretters."

E. 23rd Ave.: Antique clocks & more.

Wagner St.: puzzles, crafts, sleeping bags, smoker, Christmas trees.

Adams Ct.: Specialty items.

Vendors located at:

E. 22nd Pl.: Five Hearts Creation.

E. 24th Ave.: Simply Cowgirl.

E. 24th Ave.: Annie's Homemade Bath & Body.

E. 24th Pl.: Touched by Tallow.

Drive through entire neighborhood for unlisted items!

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Commercial office space or ? in Strasburg. Approximately 550 sq. ft. (303)345-4460. 6/20

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

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**Stephanie Ward - Associate Broker**  
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**I-70**

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**MARY ZIMMERMAN | 970.380.0078 | FARMHAND118@AOL.COM**

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5706 S Juliet Ct Strasburg-Land \$249,00  
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 4370 Sq Ft Home on Golf Course!

4000 Adams St. Strasburg \$875,000  
 2.52 Acre lot with amazing home and shop!  
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21478 E Mansfield Pl Aurora - UNDER CONTRACT

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- 5 miles from Bennett and 5 miles from Strasburg •
- Private access road off of county road •
- Adjoins Kiowa creek, fenced •
- \$425,000.00, owner may carry. Covenants exist! •

**303-902-2396 or 303-644-3030**

## Commissioners vote for better internet across Adams County

BRIGHTON — Google Fiber will bring faster speeds and better service to Adams County internet users, as the Adams County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement May 14 with the company that allows the installation, maintenance and operation of a fiber-optic broadband network in the public right-of-way.

The agreement will increase broadband access and speeds and ensure currently underserved neighborhoods have equitable access to

the internet.

“Staying ahead with new tech is key for our area’s growth. We are all about attracting people and businesses, making sure they’ve got what they need to thrive, which includes reliable internet access” said Commissioner Emma Pinter, board chair. “Plus, even non-customers stand to benefit. We’ve seen in other markets that once Google enters the picture, other companies step up their game!”

Google Fiber plans to begin construction on

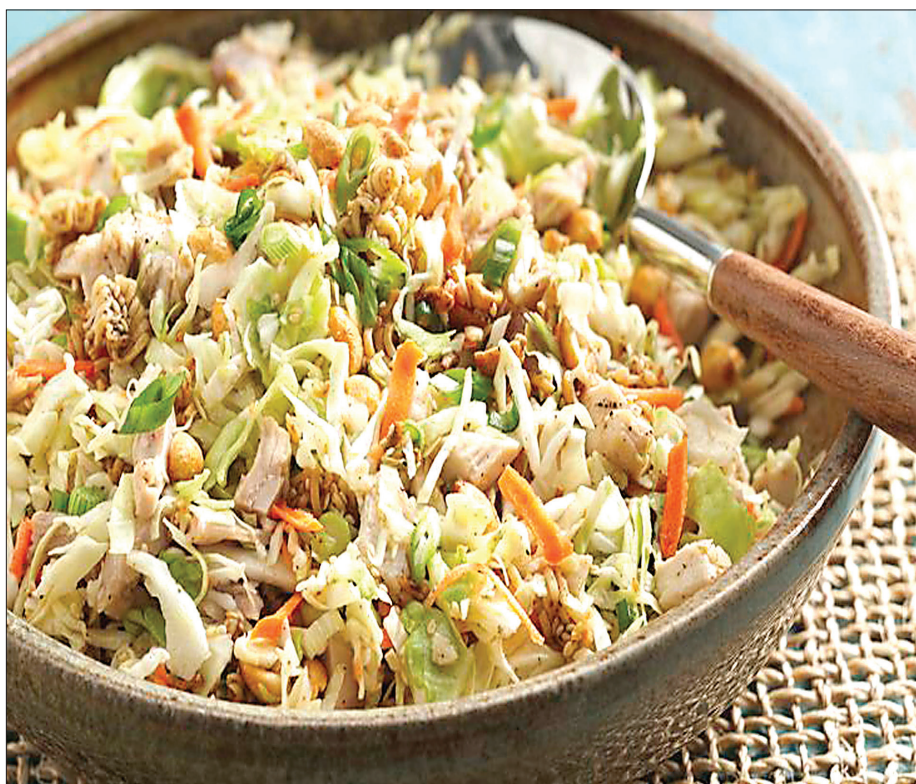
its network in early 2025. The work will include narrow trench excavation, which should help minimize the impact of construction across the county and other right-of-way property.

“Fast, reliable internet is a necessity and should be available to everyone in today’s world,” said County Manager Noel Bernal.

Google Fiber currently has right-of-way agreements with numerous cities in the Denver area, including Westminster, Wheat Ridge and Lakewood.



# CHUCK WAGON



## Crunchy Chicken Salad

by **Bobbie Keefer**  
For The Scout

Add chicken to salad and it turns a side dish to a main dish!

I make salad often. There are so many varieties, I have difficulty choosing which to make. Just changing salad dressings turns it into a different salad!

Salad needs a little crunch for my liking. Croutons, bacon bits, and candied nuts are all good.

This salad is one of my favorites. (I say that a lot). Crunchy Chicken Salad is easy to make because the coleslaw is pre-made.

I use leftover chicken from the deli with crispy crusts. Top Ramen soup mix with the flavor packet and dried noodles make it simple.

Glazed peanuts add even more tastiness! I make them but you can find them already candied in the grocery store.

Sugar-coated cashew are a treat! I use them sometimes, too.

This salad will satisfy your sweet tooth!

### CRUNCHY CHICKEN SALAD

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic pepper
- 1 oriental Top Ramen soup mix
- 1 (16-ounce) bag coleslaw mix

- 2 cups cooked chicken, cut-up
- 3 green onions, sliced
- 1/2 cup sugar glazed peanuts

#### DIRECTIONS

In salad bowl, mix sugar, vinegar, oil, garlic pepper, Top Ramen seasoning packet. Add coleslaw, chicken, green onions. Toss to coat.

Cover and chill 30 minutes. When ready to eat, break up Ramen noodles and add to salad with glazed peanuts. Serve immediately in pretty salad bowls.

**STRASBURG PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT**  
1932 Burton Street • (303) 622-4260 • [StrasburgParks.org](http://StrasburgParks.org)

- ♦ Adult Watercolor Art Class: Meadow Path (June 27) - Deadline June 21st
- ♦ Family Night at the Park: Kickball - June 26th 6pm at South Softball Field
- ♦ PeeWee Sports Camp - Deadline June 30th
- ♦ SHS Boys Youth Basketball Camp - Deadline June 30th
- ♦ 6th-8th Grade Summer Field Trip: Sky Zone (July 8) - Deadline June 30th
- ♦ 3rd-5th Grade Summer Field Trip: Denver Zoo (July 9) - Deadline June 30th
- ♦ Fall Softball & Baseball - Early Bird Deadline July 1st ([www.bybsa.net](http://www.bybsa.net))
- ♦ Kids Watercolor Art Class: Boho Sunrise (July 8) - Deadline July 2nd

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 32-1-204(1), C.R.S., that on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, a public hearing will be conducted. The hearing will be conducted at the First Floor Public Hearing Room at the Adams County Government Center located at 4430 S Adams County Parkway, Brighton, Colorado, or at such other time and place as this hearing may be continued. A public hearing will be heard upon the application on file with the Adams County Board of County Commissioners ("BOCC"), by the Petitioners for the proposed Wolf Creek Run West Metropolitan District (the "District"), for the formation of a metropolitan district. The affected property is generally located northwest of the intersection of E. 26th Avenue and Piggot Road in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, pursuant to Sections 32-1-203(3.5) and 32-1-204(1.5), C.R.S., the owner of real property within the proposed District may file a request with the BOCC, requesting that such real property be excluded from the proposed District. Such request may be filed any time after the Service Plan is filed with the BOCC, but no later than ten (10) days before the day fixed for the hearing on said Service Plan.

Reason: Formation of a Title 32 Special District  
Project Name: Wolf Creek Run West Metropolitan District  
Date of Application: November 21, 2023  
Type of District: Metropolitan

#2933  
Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursday, June 20, 2024, and the *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, June 21, 2024.

**LINNEBUR  
INC.  
AUCTIONS**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
**Sat., June 29, 2024 - 9:00 am MT**  
**670 S. Tenney St., Byers**  
**SELLERS: Chuck Barber Estate & Other Consignors**

'17 Ford Transit Cargo Van • '88 Intl S1700 Dump Tk • '15 Dodge Journey • '97 Merc Mountaineer • '09 HMD FB Trlr • Woods Zero Turn Mower • Liberty LZ-50 Gun Safe • Livestock Panels & Gates \*Bale Spear & Hay Fork Attach's • (12) Saddles, Racks & Tack (bridles, bits, saddle pads/blankets & bags, cinches, harness, leather fly nets & lariats) • Cowboy Collectibles & Western Memorabilia (horse figurines, chaps, spurs, belt buckles, hats, boots, stirrups, pictures & wall deco) • Beer Lights & Signs • Ammo • Patch Collection (police, sheriff, fire) • Hand & Power Tools • Lg Husky Tool Box Shop Equip • Furniture/Household • Lawn & Garden • Toys (police/sheriff cars, motorcycles, army tks, planes, helicopters, fire tks) • Gulbransen Piano • Animal Mounts, Antlers, Horns, Skulls & Hides • Several Trlr Loads of Misc., Too Much to List!

*We will be offering the "Cataloged" items via live/webcast at 1 pm MT. All items purchased via online/webcast will be assessed a 7% Buyers Premium. There are NO fees for all on-site bidders who attend and bid in person.*

**For more info & photos, go to [linneburauctions.com](http://linneburauctions.com)**

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PHOTOS BY CHARLES BROSHOUS/5280fire.com

Firefighters from I-70 Corridor departments ranging from Deer Trail to Sable Altura and from Buckley Space Force and South Metro Fire combined efforts to minimize damage from a June 12 grass fire, about five miles south of Bennett on Kiowa-Bennett Road, to approximately 10-15 acres.

# Local agencies extinguish two small grass fires

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

A lightning induced grass fire south of Bennett June 12 was quickly extinguished.

At approximately 4:40 p.m. Wednesday, Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue was joined by Deer Trail, Strasburg, Byers, Sable Altura, Buckley and South Metro fire departments in battling a vegetation fire in the 2600 block of Kiowa-Bennett Road.

The first units reached the scene within about 10 minutes of the original 911 call and it took approximately 2 hours for the blaze to

be entirely extinguished with only about 10-15 acres charred.

“Not only was it a quick response, but it was a quick response by a lot of us,” said one of the responding firefighters. “Pretty slow moving and we got in the way of it before it got near any homes or other structures. Took more time to douse hot spots and mop up than anything.”

Recent precipitation and still conditions also caused the flames to move more slowly than normal for this time of year.

### ANOTHER QUICK RESPONSE

A quick response by local firefighters also

prevented a spark from farm equipment resulting in widespread damage near Deer Trail June 11.

Between 9-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Deer Trail Fire Rescue was dispatched about three miles north of Deer Trail along Price Road on what was first reported as both a vehicle fire and medical emergency but, upon arrival, the scene was actually a small grass fire about an acre in size.

The blaze didn't grow much and nearby homes weren't threatened thanks to the quick response of local firefighters.

According to firefighters, a spark from a baler caused the small blaze.



PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout

Only the canopies, miscellaneous equipment and trash remain of the Diamond Shamrock gas station at I-70 and Manila Road, Bennett, as of June 16. The site will be redeveloped into a bigger truck stop.



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## ArapCo Fair slated for July 25-28

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County has announced the return of the 118th annual Arapahoe County Fair from Thursday, July 25, through Sunday, July 28, 2024.

Tickets are now on sale for \$25. Kids under 36 inches tall get in free.

Tickets include event parking, unlimited carnival rides, Colorado Pro Rodeo Association and National Sled Pullers Association events, fireworks, live entertainment, Canine Stars Stunt Dog Show, mutton bustin,' public competitions, Top Hogs pig racing, line dancing lessons, a petting farm, 4-H livestock shows, a Kids Corral and numerous other activities.

The Arapahoe County Fair is a community tradition that showcases the county's agricultural and Western heritage through 4-H programming, traditional agricultural and educational activities, and tons of entertainment.

“We are so excited to continue the tradition of the Arapahoe County Fair dating back to 1906,” said Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully. “We've added new attractions and events that are sure to be a hit with everyone in the family. The fair is the best deal in town for wholesome family fun.”

One special event — **Pours on the Plains** — the county's special ticketed craft brew festival for ages 21 and over will run from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, July 26.

The event features 15+ local breweries, live bands, Skee-Ball, and hoppin' good times. Pours on the Plains is a separate event and is not included in general admission.

The fair opens at 4 p.m. July 25 and at 11 a.m. July 26-28. It closes at midnight July 25-27 and at 10:30 p.m. July 28. Event schedules and tickets are available at [www.arapahoecountyfair.com](http://www.arapahoecountyfair.com).

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