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The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 3

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

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Active shooter notice called false alarm

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

According to the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, last week's active shooter notice to the three most eastern school districts under its jurisdiction was a false alarm.

On Dec. 12, an emergency alert citing an active shooter situation from LifeSpot was received but quickly recalled because no threat existed.

"All the schools (out there) got it – Byers, Deer Trail and Bennett," said sheriff's office spokeswoman Ginger Delgado. "It was an is-

sue with the LifeSpot app. It somehow malfunctioned, (but) our deputies cleared all three schools and everything was fine."

Delgado added that a company e-mail stated the error was the result of a technical problem.

SEE FALSE ALARM

PAGE 8



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Alicyn Dieter, 6, of Bennett was first in line to visit with Santa during Christmas Night in Strasburg activities at Lyons Park Dec. 7.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Director Kurt Elliott asks the crowd about one more song during Christmas with the High Plains Music Ensemble Dec. 14 at the Bennett School auditorium.

Byers FPD OKs budget Vandals ravage Bennett's newest ATM

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

BYERS — The Byers Fire Protection District Board adopted the 2025 budget and approved the appropriation of funds Dec. 9.

Treasurer Shawn Palmer said the FPD will get property tax revenue of \$604,725 from the three counties within district borders — approximately \$6,000 more than 2024. The district serves 700 square miles, which include parts of Adams and Arapahoe counties plus a bit of Elbert County.

Expected income in 2025 is \$1,004,725 and planned expenditures, \$1,255,635. Available funds in 2025 total \$2,362,274.

Two additions to the Byers

fleet include a command vehicle and a brush truck — both replacements for older vehicles. The command vehicle, a 2019 Chevy Tahoe, is already in service and the 2010 Ford F-550 Commercial 4x4 brush truck will be soon. The vehicles were procured from Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus in Union Grove, Ala.

"(District mechanic) Gustavo (Llanes) is getting a few minor things looked at," said Chief Mike Disher, concerning the brush truck. "I'm hoping to have it in service at the end of next week. Then we'll be back to two brush trucks, and we will officially retire the old girl."

The "old girl" is a 1995 truck that will be sold. Disher said

SEE BYERS FPD

PAGE 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Employees of the new Bennett branch of F&M Bank showed up to work the morning of Dec. 12 to find the drive-through ATM destroyed by vandals.

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Within two months of opening its doors, Bennett's newest financial institution is recovering from an assault on its exterior cash machine.

An Arapahoe County Sheriff's deputy arrived on scene of F&M Bank, 1077 Cedar St., at about 8 a.m. Dec. 12 on a report of ATM vandalism that occurred about 3½ hours earlier.

"This attempted burglary happened on Dec. 12 around 4:30 a.m.," said sheriff's office spokeswoman Ginger Delgado, noting that on-scene surveillance cameras captured the incident. "Two male suspects pulled up in a truck to the ATM and tried to break into the machine but were unsuccessful getting into the machine and fled. They did cause extensive damage."

The investigation determined that

SEE VANDALS

PAGE 22

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Byers Park & Rec plans Bright Christmas Night

BYERS — Byers Bright Christmas Night is coming to town from 5:30-8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Quonset at Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

Santa will hand out free gifts to the kids, Mrs. Claus will read stories, and both Clauses will be available for photo opportunities. Activities for the children with hot chocolate and sugar cookies are also planned.

The Byers Park & Recreation District is also collecting gifts for local families in need. Gifts should be taken to Byers General Store by Friday, Dec. 20. The presents will be distributed at Byers Bright Christmas Night.

For additional information, visit www.byersparkandrec.com.

Big address signs offered at cost by Strasburg FPD

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Fire Protection District is offering address signs at cost.

The price is \$33 for each reflective 6- by 30-inch sign.

The signs are available in green or blue with 4-inch white numbers.

According to a release, the signs significantly help the emergency crews find an address in a faster and safer manner, especially at night when the addresses on the front of a house are not lit.

For additional information or to have a sign made, contact the Strasburg Fire Protection District at (303)622-4444, ext. 1.

Credit cards are not accepted.

Christmas Eve gathering slated for Saron Lutheran

STRASBURG — Advent and Christmas Eve gatherings are coming to Saron Lutheran Church in Strasburg.

A Holden Evening Prayer service, a quiet time to reflect on the birth of Jesus, will start at 7:15 p.m., Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18 For those that can arrive earli-

Northern Arapahoe Partnership explained



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg High School senior Dakota Strasser explains the mission of the Strasburg Northern Arapahoe Partnership (SNAP) Council Nov. 20 at the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce's Lunch & Learn at May Farms. Several years ago, Strasburg Schools entered an agreement, which allows the district to retain its Indians mascot under state law, with the Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wind River, Wyo. The school also teaches Native American culture and history and has hosted multiple powwows with members of the Wind River reservation. Strasser is a co-chair of the SNAP Council with classmate Anahera Friedrich.

er, potluck soup supper is planned at 6:30 p.m.

A Christmas Eve service will start at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24. The service will include many of the favorite carols, closing with a candlelight singing of "Silent Night."

Saron Lutheran Church is located at 1656 Main St., Strasburg.

For additional information, visit saronstrasburg.org.

Adopt-A-Pole assistance sought for 2025 holidays

STRASBURG — With 2024 concluding, the Strasburg Lighting Crew is seeking donations for the 2025 Adopt-A-Pole program.

Anyone can adopt as many poles as they like at \$20 each, with contributions to fund decorations for Christmas 2025.

Each year, volunteers donate time, talents and equipment to repair, rebuild and create new lighting and ground scenes to be placed on the first Saturday of December. The improvements include re-

placement of old lights with LED bulbs.

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

Breakfast with Santa set for Deer Trail Elks Lodge

DEER TRAIL — The town of Deer Trail and Deer Trail Elks Lodge 2307 will sponsor Breakfast with Santa from 8-10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Elks Lodge, 664 Second Ave.

A breakfast of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice and coffee will be served. The cost is \$10 per adult and free for kids 12 and under.

Photos with Santa will be available for \$5 each.

For more information, visit deertrailevents@gmail.com.

Trombone choir concert planned at Limon church

LIMON — The Eastern Colorado

Trombone Choir will perform an hour-long concert starting at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, at Limon Methodist Church, 770 B Ave.

The band will play many traditional Christmas carols but also not-so-mainstream tunes like "Linus & Lucy" from Charlie Brown, "Wassail Song" by Gustav Holst, and "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow" an American Spiritual.

The trombone choir is under the direction of Mike McCallum.

The event is casual and free. Refreshments will be served after the show.

New book relates history of CO state parks system

DENVER — Colorado Parks & Wildlife's first book chronicling the history of the Colorado parks system is on sale for 30% off through Jan. 5 at cpwshop.com and state park visitor centers.

"At Home in Nature, The History of Colorado's State Parks" explores the rich history of Colorado's state parks, from their inception to the present day, and is a must-read for anyone interested in the state's natural and cultural heritage. The story and its creation was recently featured on Colorado Parks & Wildlife's Colorado Outdoors podcast.

Mountain View Fellowship plans New Year's Day dash

STRASBURG — Mountain View Fellowship will offer a healthy way to kick off 2025 with its First Run 5K and 1-Mile Walk on the first day of the year.

Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m. with the run starting at 2 p.m. on the MVF property, 1955 Headlight Road, Strasburg.

The event is free and walk-ins are welcome, but advanced registration is appreciated by the organizers.

On a first-come, first served basis, participants will get a cool sticker and a free beanie until they run out.

For more information or to register, visit mvfcolorado.com.

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Publisher & Editor
Douglas Claussen • dclaussen@i-70scout.com

Office Manager
LuAnne Stegner • lstegner@i-70scout.com

Managing Editor
Steven Vetter • svetter@i-70scout.com

Staff Writers
Kathy Smiley

Advertising
advertising@i-70scout.com

Stuffing Crew
Ember Seward-Sorensen, Linda Adair,
Marilee Gillock, Bailey Sigg, Coral Oliveros

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Byers Bright
Christmas Night

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Enjoy the sparkle of Christmas lights and warm up with delicious
hot chocolate. Let's celebrate the season together!

Saturday, December 21, 2024
visit our website for more information:www.byersparkandrec.com
Quint Valley Fairgrounds Quonset

5:30pm - 8pm
Free Event



Byers Bright
Christmas Gift Donations

Help Bring Holiday Joy to Families in Need!

The Byers Park and Recreation District is collecting gifts for local
families who need a little extra cheer this holiday season.
Your generous donations will help make the holidays brighter for
those in our community.

Gift Donation Details:

Deadline for donations: December 20th

Where to donate: Byers Country General Store

Gift Distribution: Donated gifts will be handed out to families on
December 21st, during the Byers Bright Christmas Night at the
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BYERS FPD

FROM PAGE 1

an open house for the public to see the new additions will be planned.

The board approved the Disher’s requested promotion of EMS Co-ordinator Capt. Mackenzie Schle-dorn-Rudden to EMS Division Chief as of Jan. 1.

“She has definitely earned the respect of the title,” Disher noted.

The department responded to 73 total calls in November: two fires, 47 medical, two hazardous mate-rials incidents, five service calls, 15 cancelled en route, one false alarm, and one special incident.

Disher was asked if the big struc-ture fire Nov. 29 was listed as a hazmat incident. The out-building

in the 600 block of East Pleasant Avenue contained large trucks and fuel tanks that exploded.

“It was technically a fire with a hazmat component, so it goes un-der the fire category,” he said, add-ing that hazardous materials inci-dents include fuel leaks, fuel spills and carbon monoxide alarms.

Three of the five board mem-bers’ current terms will be up in 2025, and an election will be held in May. Directors Palmer, James Shelley and Grant May will be el-igible to run for their seats again. The board appointed office admin-istrator Constance Shields as the designated election official.

Country Club Ranchettes, Filing 1, Amendment 1
Case Number: PLT2023-00055

Planning Commission Hearing Date: 01/23/2025 at 6:00 p.m.
Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date: 02/18/2025 at 9:30 a.m.
Location of Hearings: 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601
Request: Subdivision Replat to amend the original major subdivision creat-ing 56 lots to replat creating 60 total (4 new) lots.

Location: Vicinity of 30400 E. 162nd Avenue
Parcel Numbers: 0156702301027, 0156702304012,
0156702304013, 0156702304011

Case Manager: Greg Barnes
Applicant: PC Homes, Ltd., 1635 E. Layton Dr., Englewood, CO 80113
Property Owner: Country Club Ranchettes, LLC

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024, and the *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, Dec. 20, 2024.

Elsie Hart

Elsie Louise Hart
January 12, 1934 – December 8, 2024

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Elsie Louise Hart. She passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 8, 2024. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend, known for her unrelenting working ethic and superior card skills.

Elsie was born on Jan. 12, 1934, in Brush, Colo., to Gerald and Thelma Whelden. She was the second oldest of six siblings: Vernon, Elsie, Wilma, Leroy, Joyce and Dwayne.

Elsie was baptized at the Bijou Baptist Church in the mid 1960s.

Elsie attended a one room primary school at Columbine School District #18 in Simpson, Colo. She was one of three students. She went to Columbine school until the 8th grade. Afterwards, she attended one year at Woodrow High School. She finished her high school years at Strasburg High School, graduating in 1951. While at Strasburg High, Elsie sang in the choir and was a cheerleader.

Elsie married her high school sweetheart, Glenn Hart, on Sept. 29, 1951. Together they had five children: Charlotte, Glenda, Jim, Val and Linda. Elsie and Glenn remained in Strasburg until 1960 when they relocated to Kiowa. In 1982, they found their home for life in Elbert, Colo., where she remained until her passing.

Elsie had a wide range of occupations during her 90 years. She picked turkeys for the Bolejack family; owned Hart’s Country Store; drove a school bus and cooked meals at Kiowa schools; held a position as store clerk at the beloved Kiowa Superette; ran local offices for Tri Valley Gas and A1 Petroleum; owned a cleaning and painting business with her eldest daughter; was a Conklin distributor; and a rural mail carrier, just to name a few.

Outside of her professional adventures, she was an avid gardener and an excellent cook and baker. She loved preserving all the bounty her garden produced through canning. If you knew Elsie, you knew she did not waste a thing. In her later years, her favorite place to stash food and goodies was her purse. No grandkid or great grandkid would starve if she was present. We are fairly certain that her purse contained just about every food group.

Elsie was always eager to join in and never passed up a good time with friends and family. Some of her adventures included snowmobiling, extreme family sledding, elk hunts, camping, working rodeos, drag racing in Fort Morgan (legal, of course), and playing cards. Elsie was nothing short of a card shark. She was both skilled and cunning. She enjoyed both playing and teaching anyone eager to learn the tricks of card games. It is rumored that her advice to a happy marriage was to sleep in separate beds and always bid 8. She was also a longtime member of the Simpson Social Club.

Elsie is survived by her husband of 73 years, Glenn Hart; siblings, Joyce Musgrave, Leroy Wheldon, and Dwayne Wheldon; children, Charlotte, Glenda, Jim, Val, and Linda; grandkids, Kenny, Lisa, JW, Bryce, Tyrel, Blake, Zach, Sarah, Caitlyn and Justin; her great grandkids, Tera, Chelsea, Trevor, Cade, Coby, Beckham, Winston, Grayson, Lainey, Haelyn, Wrenly, Josie, Avery, Colton, Tate, Peyton and Luke; and great-great grandkids, Lincoln, Vincent and Phoenix. In addition to her immediate family, she is also survived by her loving in-laws and a wide network of extended family and friends.

Elsie was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Vernon; sister, Wilma; and daughter-in-law, Joy.

Family and friends are welcome to attend her memorial service at 11 a.m., Friday, Dec. 27, at Elbert Christian Church, 23894 Broadway St., Elbert, Colo. A reception will follow the service.

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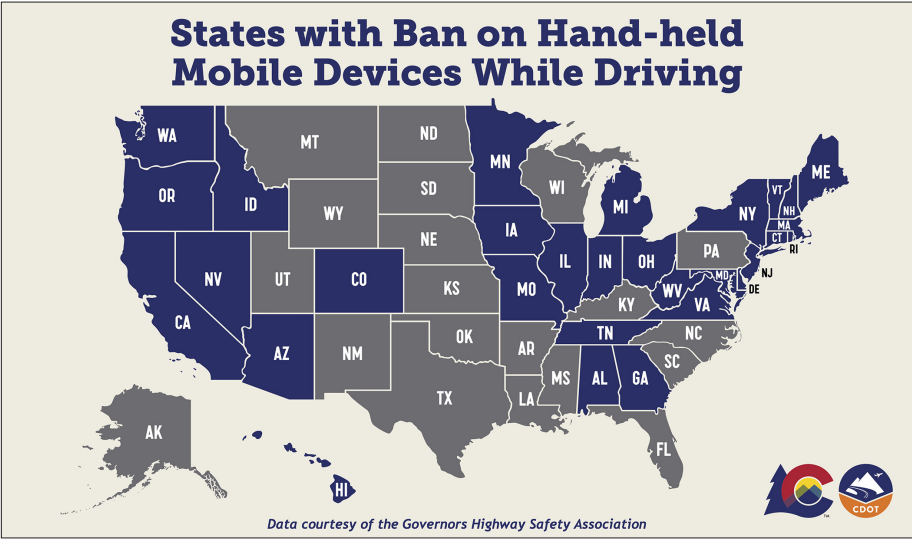
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Dec. 24 - Open Until 1 p.m.
Dec. 25 - Closed Christmas
Dec. 31 - Open until 3 p.m.
Jan. 1 - Closed New Year's

Normal Lobby Hours:
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On Jan. 1, 30 states will have a ban on using hand-held devices while driving. The new Colorado law aims to reduce crashes and fatalities caused by distracted driving.

New law that bans holding phones while driving becomes effective 1/1

GOLDEN — In a significant move to reduce distracted driving, Colorado will implement a new law beginning Jan. 1 that prohibits people from using a mobile electronic device while driving unless using a hands-free accessory. CDOT will launch an awareness campaign over the next several months to ensure all Coloradans are aware of the law. The campaign will include outreach through social media, paid advertising, and collaboration with stakeholders.

“By encouraging drivers to focus solely on the task of driving, we can reduce the number of distracted driving incidents and prevent crashes that often come with such behavior. This law aligns with best practices from across the nation and reflects our commitment to protecting all road users, whether in a vehicle, on a bike, or walking,” said Shoshana Lew, CDOT’s executive director.

According to CDOT’s 2024 Driver Behavior Report, 77% of Colorado drivers admitted to using their phones while driving, with 45% saying a hands-free feature in their car would stop them from using their phone. Studies show that using a mobile device while driving increases the risk of a crash by two to six times. Distracted drivers pose a particularly high risk to vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and bi-

cyclists. From 2015-23, deaths among pedestrians and bicyclists increased by 50% and 112.5%, respectively, while Colorado’s population grew by less than 8% during the same period. Colorado joins 29 other states in prohibiting the use of hand-held mobile devices while driving. States with similar laws have seen declines in distracted driving crashes. In Michigan, a 2023 law banning hand-held cell phone use led to a 12.8% decrease in distracted driving crashes in the first year. Penalties for violating the new law start with a \$75 fine and two license suspension points for the first offense. First-time violators can have the charge dismissed if they provide proof of purchasing a hands-free accessory. Repeat offenders face higher fines and more license suspension points. “For a long time, troopers have been able to detect when someone is driving distracted by a vehicle weaving between lanes, delayed starts at stop signs and lights, not to mention seeing a phone or other device in a driver’s hand,” said Col. Matthew Packard, Colorado State Patrol chief. “This legislation allows us to address risky and careless behaviors in a proactive way.” As January approaches, CDOT urges all drivers to put down their phones when driving, ensuring they are prepared when the law takes effect. Drivers are encouraged to acquire hands-free accessories such as dashboard mounts and car speakerphones to comply with the new law.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Adrian Sanchez plays Sherlock in a Bennett Middle School drama production call “How to Get Away with Murder” Nov. 20.



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ARAPAHOE COUNTY



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All County offices will be closed **Tuesday, Dec. 24** and **Wednesday, Dec. 25** in observance of the Christmas holiday.



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VOTES.GOV**

Arapahoe County Elections thanks our municipal partners, election judges and voters for a successful 2024 General Election!



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WEEK OF DEC. 16

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Cynthia Kay Kerns

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our wife, mother, grandmother, and sister, Cynthia Kay Kerns, of Lewellen, Neb., on Dec. 12, 2024, at the age of 69. Cindy was born Nov. 2, 1955, in Denver, Colo., to Byron and Roberta Chapelle (LeGrand).

Cindy grew up in both Arvada, Colo., and later Dallas, Texas. She graduated from Arvada High School in June of 1974 and shortly thereafter got her degree as a dental assistant, working in the dental field for eight years.

Cindy met the love of her life and beloved husband, Rocky Kerns, in high school; they were married on Sept. 17, 1977. Cindy was known for her overwhelming kindness, unwavering determination, feisty spirit, and love and support for her family and community. Along with her husband, she was a devout member of St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ogallala, Neb.

Following their marriage, Cindy and her soulmate Rocky moved to Elbert, Colo., and started their family and lived together within the community they came to love. They raised their four children: Jeremy, Justin, Joey, and Jamie on their horse ranch, where Cindy was a pillar of the Kerns 4J Ranch. Cindy was a Cub Scout den mother for her children, as well as the children of Elbert, teaching them how to tie knots, camp out, develop team-building skills, and race pinewood derby cars. She was a team mom for all her children's sports teams and was the head of the accountability committee of the Elbert school district for many years. She assisted Rocky with ranching, as well as with accounting and paperwork at AJA Travel and Tour, the agency they started in the early 1980s. She had such a kind and fun aura about her which resulted in her having countless friends.

Cindy became a Cancer survivor in 2002 and later that year was further blessed by the birth of her and Rocky's first of 10 grandchildren. Cindy loved everything about being a grandmother, and absolutely loved her grandchildren: Ashtin, Dean, Cossette, Sonja, Orin, James, Scarlett, Everett, Lydia, and Ryan. She always put her love of others before anything else. In 2014, Cindy and Rocky moved to Red Feather Lakes and started their high country livin.' Five years later they made the move to Lemoyne, Neb., trading the mountains for the beaches of Lake McConaughy.

Cindy loved visiting her southern relatives at the ocean in South Carolina, her Midwest relatives in the small farming communities of Iowa, and her southwestern relatives in the hot deserts of Arizona. She adored her camping trips in the Flat Top Mountains near Yampa, Colo. She delighted in traveling to different places throughout the world. She enjoyed family vacations, family holidays, and birthday parties. She had a passion for music, her pets, cooking, and Christmas movies.

Cindy is preceded in joining our Lord and Savior by her mother & father; brother-in-law Shawn Kerns; grandparents Archibald "Archie" and Mary "Sissy" LeGrand, and mother-in-law Mary Kerns.

She is survived by her beloved husband Rocky Kerns; sons Rokell Jeremy Kerns, Justin Kerns, and Joseph Kerns; daughter Jamie Kalcevic; daughters-in-law Candra Kerns, Stephanie Kerns, and Nadia Kerns; son-in-law Larry Kalcevic; grandchildren Ashtin Kerns (22), Rokell Dean Kerns (20), Cossette Kerns (17), Sonja Kerns (13), Orin Kerns (13), James Kerns (11), Scarlett Kerns (10), Everett Kerns (8), Lydia Kalcevic (7), Ryan Kalcevic (5); sisters Debbie (Tim) Alexander and Linda Chappelle; sister-in-law Jill (Rob) Erskine; brother-in-law Tim (Patty) Kerns; father-in-law Rokell Gerald Kerns, as well as several loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, we ask to consider supporting the family with the service costs by donating to the following GoFundMe Link: <https://gofund.me/33ce91b8>

Funeral services will be held at 12:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20 at Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church, 34201 County Rd 33, Kiowa, CO 80117. Rosary and Prayer will be offered at noon with a reception at the church hall following the services. Please contact Joey Kerns (303-885-4191) with any questions. Online condolences may be left at www.prairiehillsfuneralhome.com, who is assisting the family with arrangements.

FALSE ALARM

Upon noticing the error, LifeSpot sent a memo to the impacted school districts, indicating the situation was more widespread.

Delgado added that the sheriff's office has had no previous problems with the emergency app.

"We've never had an issue with LifeSpot before, this was the first time," she said. "We work really well with them and this was the only malfunction we've ever had and we did respond the way we were supposed to."

A Bennett School District announcement indicated a brief lockdown occurred, but that "all schools in the district have been cleared by law enforcement and it was verified there was no life threatening alert in any building."

According to local Adams County Sheriff's Office officials, Strasburg is not part of the LifeSpot network

FROM PAGE 1

and reminded Bennett families and community members that the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is now the responding law enforcement agency for the school. The shift in coverage occurred earlier this year when the town of Bennett dropped its law enforcement services contract with Adams County in favor of Arapahoe County. School Resource Officer services were moved to Arapahoe County.

"I had a lot of calls from parents and had to tell them, I had no idea what they were asking about," said Adams County Sheriff Cmdr. Karl Smalley. "We tried to contact Arapahoe County but didn't hear anything back."

When asked if the matter was communicated to Adams County, Delgado replied, "As far as cooperation with Adams County, Bennett is our jurisdiction, not theirs."

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SPORTS



Bennett, Byers split head-to-head clashes

Tiger boys topple 'Dogs for 1st time in years

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS —In a game of multiple runs by both teams, the Bennett boys had the final streak of the night to record a rare victory over Byers, 65-56, on the Bulldogs' home court Dec. 10.

"First time after seven straight wins with me coaching that they finally got us," said Byers head coach Jeremy Kerns, noting that the last three seasons, including this year, of the rivalry followed

a seven-year hiatus. "Would have still loved another win, but it was a fun, competitive night with a little bit of craziness that Corridor rivalries have kind of become known for."

"Really a hard-fought game against a well-coached bunch that we were able to finally get the last run on," said first-year Bennett coach Wesley Burke, who has had experience coaching against Kerns the past two seasons at Denver

SEE BB BENNETT @ BYERS
PAGE 12



Bulldog Cameron Eastwood and Bennett's Ethan Francis and Jayden Ivory (20) fight for a rebound Dec. 10.



CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Lady Bulldogs Joclynn Rector, left, and Madi Olsen, battle for possession with Bennett's Olivia Schroeder (24) during the Dec. 10 rivalry matchup.

Fast start helps Lady Bulldogs beat Tigers

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS — The Byers Lady Bulldogs utilized a dominant first quarter to cruise to a 47-33 victory over struggling neighbor Bennett Dec. 10.

The green-and-white ran out to a 17-4 advantage over the first eight minutes and carried a 26-18 advantage into the locker rooms at halftime. After both offenses sputtered to a 9-8 third quarter in favor of the hosts, Byers closed out strong, 12-7.

"I feel like they've taken the things we've given them and worked on them diligently, which has resulted in a gradual incline of performance each game," said Byers head coach Chris Cary, noting almost half his varsity roster are freshmen or sophomores. "Really getting contributions from all over the place and a different leading scorer almost every game. As good as some of our offensive stretches have been, our defense has been pretty consistent."

SEE GB BENNETT @ BYERS
PAGE 13

Key wrestling site honors Lady Indian

by **Douglas Claussen**
Publisher & Editor

A Strasburg freshman was named top grappler for week one of the season in Class 4A girls wrestling by a popular website and Facebook page on the sport.

Madilyn Gitke, who was unranked in the preseason, went 9-1 from Dec. 3-7 and received the Inside Colo-

SEE GITKE
PAGE 10



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Freshman Madilyn Gitke flexes her muscles after winning the Greeley West Invitational earlier this month.



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg's Nick Glatfelter (white) dives for a loose ball against Prospect Ridge Academy Dec. 10. The junior ended the game with 23 points, grabbed 13 boards, blocked three shots and dished out two assists against the Miners.

Strasburg boys roar back in second half

by **Douglas Claussen**
Publisher & Editor

STRASBURG — The Indian boys dug deep to erase a 16-point deficit in the third quarter and defeat the Miners from Prospect Ridge Academy 78-69 Dec. 10 at home.

Strasburg trailed by 9 at halftime, 45-36, after the Miners exploded for 30 points in the second period. Prospect Ridge hit three straight three-pointers of 11 total in the third

quarter to build a lead of 58-41.

"And we call a timeout. We go to the sidelines," said Strasburg head coach Kyle Bollers. "And I told [the team], I said, this thing is going to go one or two ways. And it's going to be decided by how hard you play to finish out this quarter."

The Indians responded by outscoring the Miners 37-11 over the last 12 min-

SEE BB STRASBURG
PAGE 10



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Caught in the air with the ball, Indian Cam Manahan looks to dish to a teammate. The junior scored 10 points and gathered five rebounds.



The Indians roar from behind. From left photo, junior Cade Hemphill defends against a Prospect Ridge ball handler; sophomore Colton Holloway looks to pass; sophomore Brody Hopwood reaches for a loose ball; and senior Tyce Bollers attacks the basket for 2 points.

BB STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 9

utes of the game.

“We shored up our defense. That was a big part of the comeback,” Bollers said. “But the turnovers, we had 10 turnovers in the first half and two turnovers in the second half.

“And so that was a big part of it. And, in the first half, we only had 11 rebounds. In the second half, we had 23 rebounds. So taking care of the ball and dominating the boards was the big difference in that second half.”

Junior Nick Glatfelter shook off foul trouble in the first half to become the star of the show with 23 points, 13 rebounds, three blocked shots, and two assists. Senior Tyce Bollers ended with 20 points, four rebounds, two steals and two blocks. Coach Bollers noted that his son did not shoot well from the outside, so the Indians began to attack.

“We made it a point to get to the basket. We wanted to attack the rim, and we got a lot of free throws because of it,” the coach stated. “We shot 33 free throws on the night, which is awesome.”

Other contributors included sophomore Brody Hopwood, 12 points, six boards, and two assists and junior Cam Manahan, 10 points and five rebounds.

“Anytime Cam Manahan gives us 10 points, that’s a plus because he’s just not a scorer,” coach Bollers said. “He’s mainly a defender.”

Senior Kam Gilbert added 4 points, and junior Cade Hemphill and sophomore Colton Holloway both had 3 points and three assists with Holloway also contributing three rebounds.

The Indians competed in the Simla Tournament Dec. 13-14, where they beat Denver Christian 76-53 Friday and Simla 63-62 in overtime Saturday. Watch the Dec. 20 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News* for complete coverage.

Strasburg faces Sterling at home tonight to wrap up its pre-Christmas break schedule.

GITKE

FROM PAGE 9

rado Wrestling Wrestler of the Week award for the first week of the season.

At the Greeley West Invitational Dec. 6, the freshman vanquished:

- the 5A No. 4 contender at 145 pounds;
- the 4A No. 3-ranked competitor at 155 pounds; and
- the 4A No. 10 wrestler in 4A at 155.

For the day Gitke went 5-0 with pins at 2:00, 0:58, 1:41 and 3:05 and a 10-0 major decision for first place.

At the Strasburg Invitational the next day, she went 2-0 in the round-robin meets and 2-0 in the brackets to win the championship.

Her only blemish was a surprising loss by pin in 46 seconds at a home dual with Wiggins Dec. 3 in the first match of her high school career. However, Gitke was wrestling at 170 pounds, not her usual 155.

@ WOODLAND PARK

The Lady Indians went 2-1 in head-to-head matches at Woodland Park Dec. 10.

Strasburg won the team score 30-24 with only three matches contested. Head coach Matt Wolfe called a victory by junior Autumn Kulpa over her Panther foe “a big win.”

Kulpa pinned Abbigail Eddleman in 4:43 at 125 pounds. Croft noted that her record last year was 5-19, but already this season is 3-6.

“It’s starting to click in her head,” he said. “It’s starting to click. You’re starting to see things come together for her to go out there and get pins at duals. That’s big for us.”

Senior Sierra Aberle won her match by fall in 57 seconds at 135 pounds over Woodland Park’s Lelrelai Patak.

Lastly, 100-pound sophomore Kiley Whitten wrestled the first match of her career, losing by fall in 13 seconds.

“She lost that, but that’s part of wrestling,” Croft said. “You’ve got to learn.”

Strasburg attended the Eaglecrest Girls Invitational in Aurora Dec. 13-14 and hosted a dual with Englewood Dec. 18. Results were not available at press time.

The Indians wrap up their pre-Christmas schedule with an appearance at the Northern Colorado Christmas Tournament Dec. 20-21.

COMING UP

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From left photo, Byers' Kaleb Willoughby makes an uncontested layup against Bennett Dec. 10; Tiger Owen Stiers runs away from Willoughby after making a steal; and Bennett's Jayden Ivory scores against the defense of Bulldog Cameron Eastwood.

BB BENNETT @ BYERS

FROM PAGE 9

Christian. “We have our stretches where we play pretty well, but now the focus is playing consistently for a full four quarters. Had our senior guys really step up, show a lot of grit and toughness, especially mentally.”

Bennett led from the start, holding a 17-12 edge after the first quarter and, after extending the lead to 9 midway through the second, went into halftime up only 28-26.

Out of intermission, Bennett again jumped up 9 before the hosts clawed within one possession; however, the Tigers led 43-37 entering the final eight minutes. While the final margin was 9 points, the game was in doubt early in the fourth as Byers tied the

score at 50 but could never seize the advantage.

“Had a few struggles, but we fought through some tough stretches and never gave up the lead,” Burke said of his squad’s resiliency. “A lot of learning, growing up going on right now under a new system. Feel pretty good where things are heading early in the season. Starting to developing a more toughness mindset, especially defensively and with our guys inside.”

“Had a couple of threes when we were within a couple of points or tied that would’ve counted if they were on those carnival- or Dave & Buster’s-type of rims, but they rattled out. If one of them

happens to go through, maybe the result is a win,” Kerns added. “But give Bennett and [coach Burke] a lot of credit — a timely timeout or two and he was able to get their ship righted down the stretch. Essentially, they have all the same kids from last year, but a lot more experienced and under a new system, a different demeanor and different strategy. A good test for us that should benefit us down the road.”

As a team, Bennett shot better than 50% from the field — 12-of-23 from two-point range and 9-of-18 behind the three-point arc — and won the rebounding battle 37-23.

The stalwart senior duo of shooting guard Owen Stiers and forward Jayden Ivory continued to lead the way for the visiting orange-and-black, accounting for two-thirds of their squad’s points.

Stiers recorded his third 30-plus point game on the young season with a game-high 32, including 6-of-7 behind the three-point arc and 5-of-6 from the charity stripe. In addition to his 12 points, Ivory recorded a double-double with 15 rebounds to go along with three assists and two blocked shots. Senior Ethan Francis added 8 points and nine rebounds; junior Austin Stiers had 8 points; and sophomore Avant Dickens 5 points.

“Our senior leaders are taking charge and the younger guys are following their example,” Burke said. “Headed in the right direction.”

The hosts had another strong game from senior A.J. Engle, who

had a team-high 24 points in the absence of classmate and starting point guard Chase Long, who was lost for the season the prior weekend because of a severe knee injury. Senior Cameron Eastwood added 12 points and a team-high seven boards; junior Quincy Eacret, 10 points and four steals; sophomore James Maes 5 points; senior Cody Harris with 3 points and was on the receiving end of two charges; and senior Kaleb Willoughby 3 points and three steals.

According to Burke, the victory is a sign his squad, which improved to 3-1, is buying into a new system and that additional success is ahead.

“We’re talking about a team that lost to Byers last year by like 30 (67-34 at Bennett), so this is a major step in continuing to build a new culture and develop a strong, consistent winning tradition,” Burke said. “I’m not coming in to be satisfied with 12 wins (last year’s win total) and the kids are starting to show that’s not acceptable either. It helps that our best players are also our hardest workers and are leading by example and giving our younger guys a lot of motivation to get better.”

Bennett finished a busy first 10 days of the season going 3-0 in its own Tiger Tip-Off Dec. 12-14, while Kerns’ group concluded a tumultuous week with victories over visiting Lyons Dec. 12 and at Dayspring Christian Dec. 14. For complete coverage of both, see the Dec. 20 issue of the *Eastern Colorado News*.

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From left photo, Lady Tiger Jessica Venneberg goes up for 2 of her game-high 19 points against Byers Dec. 10; Lady Bulldog Danica Lancaster puts up a contested layup; and Byers' Abi Green battles with Lady Tigers Mya Robledo, back, and Emilee Venneberg.

GB BENNETT @ BYERS

FROM PAGE 9

For Bennett coach Mike Rios, the focus is on finding other offensive punch to go alongside senior Jessica Venneberg, who was the Tigers' second-leading scorer last year with 15 points per game behind older sister, Lily, who graduated. Jessica Venneberg finished Tuesday night with 19 points, followed by freshman Mattie Robledo with 6, senior Olivia Schroeder 4, and senior Elizabeth Westendorf and sophomore Emilee Venneberg with 2 each.

"Byers is a well-coached program," he said. "They took our strengths away and made us look at other options. We just need to get back to what we do successfully and play to our strengths — hard-nosed defense and offensive execution."

Cary said that focusing defensive efforts specifically on Venneberg was not part of the game plan.

"We just told the girls to focus on themselves on both ends of the court and do what they know how to do," he said. "It's hard for one player to win the game by themselves and we didn't let any of their other girls hurt us. Good team effort, especially defensively."

A combination of youthful athleticism and varsity experience paid off for the victors as freshman Joclynn Rector paced Cary's troops with seven field goals for 14 points, followed by senior Allie Pelton with 9 points, junior Abi Green 8, and senior Averie Eymann and sophomore Madi Olsen with 7 apiece.

"Really coming together as a team," Cary said. "Not relying on any one person and finding the open teammate when they are available."

The win advanced Byers to 2-1 on the young season, while Bennett dropped to 1-3.

Byers concluded last week with games against visiting Lyons Dec. 12 and at Dayspring Christian in Greeley Dec. 14, while Bennett participated in its own Tiger Tip-

Off Dec. 13-14. For coverage, see the Dec. 20 *Eastern Colorado News*.

BYERS @ CHERAW TOURNAMENT

In their season-opening tournament at Cheraw, the Lady Bulldogs bounced back from a 56-46 loss against Evangelical Christian Academy (ECA) Dec. 6 with a 39-20 victory over the host school for third place the following day.

"I would like to have that game against ECA back right now, because, I think, if we play them now it could be a different story. We struggled in that opening quarter with a bunch of young girls out there for the first time, but they played them mostly even the rest of the way," Cary said. "Against Cheraw, we tightened the defense up and got pretty comfortable with each other."

On opening-night, Byers bounced back from a 16-7 first-quarter deficit to cut the margin to 29-23 at halftime. While the game remained within shouting distance the entire second half, the Bulldogs could never get within one possession and were outscored 13-12 in the third and 14-11 over the final period.

"We couldn't minimize the damage from one of their guards, who had 22 points, including five threes," Cary said. "Turnovers also killed us and that's really where we need to clean up things."

Eight Bulldogs scratched the scoring column, led by Rector with 13, Olsen 11, and Eymann with 8.

Byers crashed the boards for 39 rebounds, led by Olsen and Green with seven apiece, sophomore Taiya Eymann with five, and Pelton and freshman Leyla Sayler with four apiece. The Bulldogs assisted on 12 of 19 field goals, with Eymann recording a team-high five and Olsen and Green with three each; however, Cary's troops also committed 29 turnovers.

Defensively, Averie Eymann had four of her team's dozen steals,

followed by Olsen and Green with three apiece. Taiya Eymann stepped up inside for a pair of blocked shots.

In Saturday's third-place game, Byers held the host Wolverines to single-digits in all four quarters and methodically grew its advantage — 7-5 after one quarter, 15-9 at halftime, and 26-11 after three.

Another eight Bulldogs scored but none reached double-digits — Olsen led with 8, while Pelton added 7, Rector 6, and Averie Eymann, Green and junior Danica Lancaster 5 apiece.

Other highlights were Olsen with nine rebounds, three assists and three steals; Eymann five assists; Pelton five assists and three steals; and Green three steals.

BENNETT @ LAMAR TOURNAMENT

The Lady Tigers started the season with a disappointing 1-2 weekend at the inaugural Thunder

Throwdown in Lamar Dec. 5-7.

After not scoring double-digits in their first eight quarters encompassing a 53-10 loss to Liberal, Kan., Thursday night and 52-18 against University the following afternoon, the orange-and-black got into the win column with a 48-14 domination of Rocky Ford to conclude the weekend.

"A rough start to the season," Rios said.

Against Rocky Ford, Bennett took a 20-10 lead into halftime before scoring 14 points each in the third and fourth quarters and only allowing the Meloneers 4 points over the final eight minutes.

Eleven Tigers scratched the scoring column Saturday but the Venneberg sisters combined for 26 — Jessica 18 and Emilee 8 — with two scoring 4 and seven others with 2.

Statistics for the first two contests were unavailable.



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STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Volunteers put up holiday light pole and street decorations along Colfax Avenue in Strasburg Dec. 7. The festive decor was put up just in time the that evening's Christmas Night in Strasburg. Above, Greg Korb gets some direction from Mitch Swanson.

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Students at Bennett School District perform at a secondary instrumental winter concert Dec. 11. The night showcased The Marching Tigers, sixth-grade beginning band, symphonic band, and wind symphony. From top photo, Dallas Cavey plays sax in the sixth-grade band; Brailyn Neade performs with the wind symphony; and Kenneth Humbert holds down the beat with the marching band.





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Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers hosts its 36th annual toy shop for families in need Dec. 7. Toys and monetary donations are accepted and volunteers purchase, organize and sort the items in the weeks and days before the event. Families register their children and are assisted by “elves” as they choose their treasures. Left photo, Dianna Weller, left, and Alicia Perez, both from Strasburg, arrange the selection of games on display. Center, Shirley Linnebur of Byers and Strasburg resident Dianne Wilmes make sure the toys in the little girls’ section are correctly labeled. Shirley has helped with the toy shop for the entire 36 years of its existence. “It started out pretty small and just kept growing,” she said. Right, Elves Carolyn Worrell and Gemma Benz await their marching orders.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife offers \$700,000 for fishing-related upgrades

DENVER — Colorado Parks & Wildlife has announced the 2025 round of funding opportunities for Fishing is Fun grants. The program provides funding to projects that expand fishing access and angling opportunities across the state. Parks & Wildlife awards around \$700,000 in Fishing is Fun grants annually. Fishing is Fun supports projects

such as stream and river habitat improvement, access improvement, perpetual easements for public access, pond and lake habitat improvement, fish retention structures, and development of new ponds with amenities such as shade shelters, benches and restrooms. Recent projects include ADA fishing pier installations, habitat

improvement, river restoration and dredging. The program provides matching funds to local governments, park and recreation entities, water districts, angling organizations, and others for more than 35 years. Travis Long, grant manager for Parks & Wildlife, said Fishing is Fun has supported 375 angling improvement projects across the state, “from the smallest towns on the Eastern Plains and the West Slope to the largest cities along the Front Range.” A fillable application form and additional information can be found at cpw.state.co.us. Completed applications must be submitted by Friday, Jan. 31. For more information, contact Long at travis.long@state.co.us.



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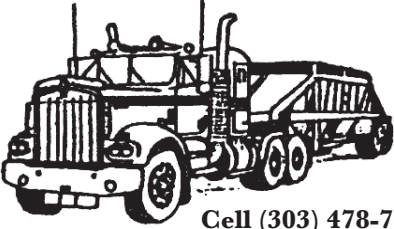
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THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 21, 2004

The small cargo plane that crashed Dec. 10 near Centennial Airport was owned by Flight Line Inc. of Watkins and operated by American Check Transport, which hauls checks and other freight for financial institutions and business customers.

The twin-engine, turboprop Mitsubishi MU-2, an aircraft popular for carrying light cargo, crashed in an empty business parking lot shortly after takeoff Dec. 10, killing pilot Paul Kysiak, 28, of Aurora, and co-pilot James “Tuck” Presba, 25, of Lone Tree.

Flight Line owns and operates 11 of the MU-2s, said Eldon Holtz, director of maintenance. Flight Line and Holtz are based at Front Range Airport, but the MU-2 piloted by Krysiak was based at Centennial Airport, Holtz said.

15 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 22, 2009

AGATE — The president of the board of Agate School District 300, one of Colorado’s smallest districts, has taken over a large job — president of the Colorado Association of School Boards.

Lyndon Burnett was sworn in at the CASB conference in Colorado Springs in early De-

cember. He will serve as president of the organization, whose membership includes boards of all 178 school districts across the state, until December 2010.

Burnett and two other Agate School Board directors attended the conference and brought back information for discussion at the Dec. 16 board meeting.

10 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 23, 2014

BRIGHTON — A county and a state official are being sued after the disclosure of a third printing error on Adams County Nov. 4 election ballot.

The lawsuit naming Adams County Clerk & Recorder Karen Long and Colorado Secretary of State Scott Gessler as defendants was filed in Adams County District Court Dec. 16. Ballots printed and mailed by Arizona based Runbeck Election System, the county’s external printing vendor, inadvertently contained a number that could potentially reveal a voter’s identity.”

The lawsuit’s six plaintiffs, including Adams County Republican Party Chairman Gary Mikes, ask for the election to be voided. They also cite Long, a Democrat, for her six-week delay in revealing the error.

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

SOLUTION ON PAGE 19

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 19, the 354th day of 2024. There are 12 days left in the year.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT

On Dec. 19, 1998, President Bill Clinton was impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives for perjury and obstruction of justice. (He was

subsequently acquitted by the Senate.)

ON THIS DATE

In 1777, during the American Revolutionary War, Gen. George Washington led his army of more than 12,000 soldiers to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, to camp for the

winter.

In 1907, 239 workers died in an explosion at the Darr coal mine, near Van Meter, Pennsylvania.

In 1960, fire broke out on the hangar deck of the nearly completed aircraft carrier USS Constellation at the New York Naval Shipyard, killing

50 civilian workers.

In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, concluding the Apollo program of crewed lunar landings.

In 2008, citing imminent danger to the national economy, President George W. Bush ordered a \$17.4 billion emergency bailout of the U.S.

auto industry.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Tim Reid is 80. Singer Janie Fricke is 77. Actor Jennifer Beals is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer Arvydas Sabonis is 60. Olympic skiing gold medalist Alberto Tomba is 58.

— Associated Press

HOROSCOPE

A Question From the Heart of Venus

No omelet is made without breaking eggs. No house is built without breaking ground. No love unfolds without breaking hearts. No new order can be established without breaking the current rules. Venus floats a question to Jupiter in this late hour of the Sagittarius sun: What prize is so special it’s worth the drama of destruction?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Positive feedback is only as helpful as it is sincere. You appreciate honesty and extend leeway to those you trust. Even if people say things that don’t quite land, you’d rather hear their thoughts than anything from people less genuine.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Today, there is nothing more exciting than the sizzling potential in a room full of strangers. This is the place you can be anyone you want to be. Fresh faces are always a fresh start.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Things don’t always play out in the world the way they do in your mind. It may seem, at times, that your efforts are in vain and your lessons are irrelevant, but rest assured it’s not true, just a mood that will pass.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You never really know someone until you’ve glimpsed their vulnerabilities and quirks. A new person may enter the scene like a superstar, but superstars are human, too. The star quality dazzles, but it’s humanity that wins your heart.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Fate smiles on your approach to ordinary interest with extraordinary passion. Be reasonable with your expectations. No one requires you to be an expert right out of the gate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It is no mistake that people feel their most creative when they are around you. You have a talent for recognizing and nurturing the gifts of others. They trust you and follow you down unfamiliar paths because they feel safe in your guidance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Presentation counts for a lot usually, and it counts for even more today. You’re trying to create

something beautiful, and there is pressure to get it done fast, but you need time to get the details right. Stand by your own pacing, even if you have to extend the deadline.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You feel it when people want something but aren’t saying what it is. It’s as though the unspoken has an actual weight. You’re exceptionally charming now, and you should be able to tease out any information you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A good life includes many experiments. Working up the guts to walk into strange territory and bear the raw vulnerability that comes with trying new things is no small feat, but all the courage you need is already in you. Tap into the endless spring.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The joke is funny because it’s true. Humor reveals the essence of a person’s nature today. “Wit is a treacherous dart. It is perhaps the only weapon with which it is possible to stab oneself in one’s own back.” — Dorothy Parker.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). For a relationship to work, an adjustment must be made. With directness and honesty, it’s possible the adjustment will be cooperative and complete and made only once. Avoid confrontation and the adjustment will be a continuous solo project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No one can get things done with a lot of drama swirling around the work environment. This is where libraries, churches, nature trails and quiet spaces come into the equation, so you can leave the theatrics for the sanctuary that will provide a clear mind.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 19). Your specialty will be paving the way for others and you’ll be celebrated as a trailblazer, elevated as a teacher and followed as a star. More highlights: Your third eye has a more vivid and vibrant focus, enhancing your predictions of the future as well as your sensual experience of the moment. Also, a fitness journey invigorates your physical and personal life at once. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 10, 2, 21 and 13.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

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THEME: AT THE RESTAURANT

ACROSS

1. Bet’s predecessor

6. Ogre-like creature

9. Attorney’s bargain

13. Old but in

14. *Restaurant waiting area?

15. Located near crannies?

16. List of Catholic saints

17. Down Under runner

18. White heron

19. *___ meal, or staff meal

21. *Meat and fish, in Italian restaurant

23. Singer/songwriter Yoko

24. *What appetizers do to appetite

25. *Deuce

28. Like a reliable move

30. Not a desktop

35. “My bad!”

37. Painter Chagall

39. Beyond suburban

40. Wisecrack

41. *Nigiri, e.g.

43. *Middle Eastern bread

44. Of an arm bone

46. That time

47. Let it stand, to proofreader

48. Swellings

50. Chancy

52. Between E and NE

53. Stomach reflex

55. *Fish eggs

57. *Second C in CDC

61. *___ d’hotel

64. Not mainstream, as in art

65. “To His ___ Mistress”

67. Bracelet add-on

69. Covers with gold

70. Stiff grass bristle

71. Irving of Dallas Mavericks

72. Eyelid affliction

73. Fairytale princess test

74. Winter driving hazard

DOWN

1. Curved one

2. Table extender

3. Sicilian erupter

4. Movie trailer, e.g.

5. Perfecting, as in skill

6. Toe the line

7. Popular pickup

8. Puppy love

9. Jumping stick

10. Forsaken

11. Barely got by

12. Spumante-producing town

15. Greek god’s libation

20. Rumpelstiltskin’s machine, pl.

22. *Freshwater staple in sushi restaurant

24. Idolize

25. *Chef’s hat

26. Modified “will”

27. Offer two cents

29. Drawn tight

31. Baby porcupines

32. Commonplace

33. Like Cheerios

34. *Blue-___ special

36. Unsubscriber’s focus

38. *___ de partie, or line cook

42. ___ structure or ___ red

45. Cujo’s disease

49. Ray shooter

51. Foxhunter’s call to hounds

54. Short version

56. C2H5

57. Marlboros or Camels, slangily

58. Army group

59. Lazily

60. *Complimentary dish

61. Asian starling

62. *Steak choice

63. Great Lake

66. Be in the red

68. Were introduced

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LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY
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All Aboard: Visitors of all ages can enjoy an amazing display of a LEGO model train as it travels through a wintry landscape. A member of the Youth in Model Railroading Club will answer model train questions. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 18-19; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20.

Artist meet-up: The Corridor Creative Arts League will host an end-of-the-year potluck. Adults can bring a dish to share and make a small craft. 12-2:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, Bennett Community Center, 1100 E. Colfax Ave.

KELVER LIBRARY
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Holiday Extravaganza: Parents of Little Makers Club members ages 18 months to 5 years can drop in for a measurement of their child's height and create a custom keepsake ornament.

Each session includes a take-home goody bag to continue the learning at home. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 20.

Winter crafts: Kids ages 5-12 will make a variety of festive crafts to get into the holiday spirit. All supplies provided. 1-2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21.

New Year's Party: Little Makers Club members up to age 5 can celebrate the new year at a glow-in-the-dark party. Free goody bags provided to continue the learning at home. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 27.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DEC. 20
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 9-11 a.m., Deer Trail School bus barn, 370 Aspen St.

MONDAY, DEC. 23
West Arapahoe Conservation District Board. 5 p.m. Virtual meeting information at westarapahoeconservationdistrict.wordpress.com.

EVERY SUNDAY
Alcoholics Anonymous. 9 a.m. in Byers
For information, call (303)903-6734.

EVERY MONDAY
Snackivities. 4:15-4:45 p.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.
High Plains Music Ensemble rehearsal. 6:30 p.m., Bennett High School band room. For information, contact Kurt Elliott at (303)895-7568.
AA open meeting. 7 p.m., Victorian schoolhouse at Ace Hardware, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Limon. For information, call Sara at (828)243-7681.

EVERY TUESDAY
Toddler Time: Children ages 2-3 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that are just right for active toddlers. 9:30-10 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.
Family story time. 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

EVERY THURSDAY
Music & Movement: Ages 2-6 can sing, dance and learn to play musical instruments. 9:30-10 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.
Play & Learn for ages 1-3 and their families. 10-11 a.m., Kelter Library, Byers.

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VANDALS FROM P1

vehicle used during the attempted theft was stolen and abandoned about a block from the scene. The sheriff's office confirmed that the vehicle was stolen from a location in Bennett earlier the same morning. Both suspects reportedly had their faces covered and gloves on, but they were both said to be male — one wearing a gray jacket with a hoodie and light-color blue jeans and the other wearing a black coat with hoodie. Whether the attempted robbery was an isolated incident or part of a more extensive criminal enterprise was unknown at press time. Bank officials indicated Dec. 16 that efforts to repair the ATM were unsuccessful. "It is a full loss," added F&M's Colorado President Ivy Craig. F&M Bank officially opened its Bennett branch in early October.

CHUCK WAGON

Italian Pasta Salad

by **Bobbie Keefer**
For The Scout

To make this Italian salad colorful, I start with tri-color rotini pasta. It has a twisty shape with green and orange hues.

My family likes it tart. Wish-bone Zesty Italian Salad Dressing is very tangy and is a good brand. For a milder flavor, use regular Italian dressing. The two dressings use the same base of ingredients. However, Zesty Italian contains more spice for a bolder taste.

My mom made it homemade in a quart canning jar, I make her recipe and always have it on hand, It gives a “puckering” sensation. I have a granddaughter who likes to suck on raw lemons. She loves Oma’s salad dressing!

- ITALIAN PASTA SALAD**
- INGREDIENTS
- 12 ounces tri-color rotini pasta
 - 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
 - 1 can (6-ounce) sliced black olives, drained
 - 1 green bell pepper, chopped
 - 1 cup chopped red onion
 - 8 ounces salami, chopped
 - 1 teaspoon basil
 - 8 ounces mozzarella cheese,



- cubed
 - 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
 - 1 cup Italian salad dressing
 - Parmesan cheese
 - salt and pepper
- DIRECTIONS**
- Cook pasta per package instructions. Drain, rinse with cold water.
- In large bowl, add the cooled, cooked pasta, cherry tomatoes, black olives, bell pepper, red onion, salami, basil, mozzarella cheese, salt, pepper, Italian seasoning, Italian dressing.
- Gently toss. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours. Serve in pretty salad bowls. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

BYERS WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR INCLUSION OF PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PETITION FOR INCLUSION OF THE BELOW DESCRIBED PROPERTY INTO THE BYERS WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DISTRICT PURSUANT TO C.R.S. §32-1-401 ET. SEQ. Said petition has been signed by May Farms RV Resort & Sanctuary @ Byers LLC as the owner of 100% of the property described. A hearing on said petition will be held before the Board of Directors of the District on the 20th day of December, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the District offices 421 South Sherman Street Byers Colorado 80103. All persons interested shall appear at such time and place and show cause in writing why the said petition should not be granted.

Description of Property:

EXHIBIT A

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 61 WEST OF THE 6TH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE, STATE OF COLORADO BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE CENTER ¼ CORNER OF SAID SECTION 4, BEING A FOUND 2.5" ALUMINUM CAP, LS 30127, FROM WHENCE THE WEST 1/16TH CORNER OF SAID SECTION 4, BEING A FOUND 2" ALUMINUM CAP, LS 18475, BEARS S 89° 01'53" W A DISTANCE OF 1,314.70 FEET, SAID LINE FORMING THE BASIS OF BEARING FOR THIS LEGAL DESCRIPTION.

THENCE S 89° 01'53" W ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF THE EAST HALF OF NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 4 A DISTANCE OF 1,314.70 FEET TO THE WEST 1/16TH CORNER OF SAID SECTION 4;

THENCE N 01° 09'10" W, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 4, A DISTANCE OF 2,571.42 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF EAST 15TH AVE.

THENCE N 89° 59'25" E ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 1,318.73 FEET TO A POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 4;

THENCE N 89° 00'08" E, CONTINUING ALONG THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF EAST 15TH AVE., A DISTANCE OF 948.34 FEET TO A POINT;

THENCE S 01° 03'47" E A DISTANCE OF 2,572.29 FEET TO THE POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF THE WEST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 4;


THENCE S 17° 46'39" W A DISTANCE OF 937.93 FEET TO A POINT;

THENCE S 88° 59'55" W A DISTANCE OF 646.41 FEET TO THE POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 4;

THENCE N 01° 05'05" W ALONG SAID EAST LINE A DISTANCE OF 888.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 6,533,939.1040 SQUARE FEET OR 150.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2024

BYERS WATER AND
SANITATION DISTRICT


Manager
Kagen W. Kitzman

Published in the *Eastern Colorado News* on Fridays, Nov. 22 and 29, and Dec. 6 and 13, 2024, and in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursdays, Nov. 28, and Dec. 5, 12 and 19, 2024.



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO

HOME FOR
-THE-
Holidays
ADOPTION SPECIAL

DEC. 10-24

\$25 ADOPTION FEES ON PETS
ONE YEAR OLD AND OLDER

**Some exclusions may apply.*



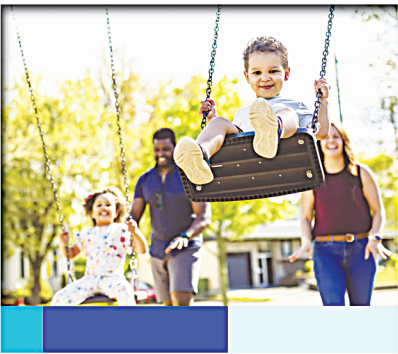
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Apply by Tuesday, Dec. 31.





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Adcogov.org

MOUNTAIN VIEW FELLOWSHIP

Presents

• EXPERIENCE •

*A Night of Joy
for the Whole Family*

A FREE OPEN HOUSE EXPERIENCE

Monday, December 23
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

4:30pm until 7:30pm

FEATURING: Dickens Christmas Carolers, S'mores Around a Fire Pit, a Petting Zoo, Arts & Crafts, Drama, a Photo Booth, Warm Drinks, and even Dinner!



Mountain View

FELLOWSHIP

1955 Headlight Rd. in Strasburg
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Sunday Services at 8:30 & 10:15am

Also offering:

- The MomCo (formerly MOPS)
- Men's & Women's Bible Studies and Special Events
- KidMid (Midweek Kid's Program)
- Weekly Middle & High School Youth Group
- A New Spanish Service Sundays at 10:15am