



The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 1

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

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Bennett School nixes will serve request

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Developers proposing new housing subdivisions in and around Bennett might have one unanticipated obstacle in their

way for the foreseeable future. At its Nov. 19 regular monthly meeting, the Bennett School Board appeared to give credence to a ban or moratorium on will serve letters to new residential subdivisions planned within the district.

During the meeting, realtor/broker Justin Reyher asked the board to reconsider a previous denial of a will serve letter for the proposed Greenland Estates subdivision near County Road 6 and Brick Center Road southwest of Bennett.

According to Reyher, the 160-acre development has been modified from 54 2½-acre lots to eight parcels of 20 acres apiece. Reyher said the original plans accounted

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A 16-year-old youth perished in this overturned Infinity G37 on eastbound I-70 near Strasburg Nov. 10.

Teen killed in I-70 crash ID'd

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — Officials have released the identity of the Denver-metro teenager killed in a single-vehicle rollover near Strasburg the Sunday morning following a four-day storm that stymied traffic and most other activities earlier this month. The Arapahoe County Coroner's Office identified Alex Jose Flores-Mecias, 16, as the decedent in the crash that occurred a little after 3:30 a.m. Nov. 10

on eastbound I-70 about a quarter-mile west of the Strasburg interchange. "Went off the left side of the roadway into the median where it hit snow and started rotating and, in the process, overturned multiple times in the median to return back on the interstate, coming to rest on its roof," a Colorado State Patrol spokesperson said about the Infinity G37 involved in the wreck. Flores-Mecias, who was pronounced deceased at

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Agate School bumps wages 5%

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

AGATE — Agate School staff members will receive a 5% mid-year raise across the board. The Agate School Board approved the raise Nov. 18 and updated the certified and classified salary schedules to reflect the increase. The action followed the

approval of the audit for the year ending June 30. The audit was presented by Scott Szabo of Lauer, Szabo & Associates, PC. Highlights included an end of fiscal year fund balance of \$1,389,555. Of that amount, the general fund ending fund balance was \$1,363,422 with the apartment, pupil activity, and food service funds adding

the remaining balance. Szabo summarized the difference between the original and final budget amounts. The final adopted budget appropriation was \$2,723,000, of which only \$1,829,246 was spent, allowing the district to retain \$893,754, he said. Other features included

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Milo harvest in full swing



Fall crop harvest across the I-70 Corridor finally picked back up this past weekend, 10 days to two weeks after a winter-like snowstorm covered fields made access difficult because of muddy conditions. The above milo harvest photo was taken Nov. 23 along Highway 36 about a mile west of Manila Road.



Adams and Arapahoe county planning divisions jointly hosted the first of two Strasburg Subarea Plan open houses Nov. 20 at TBK Bank in Strasburg. Residents and business owners rotate around various stations to give their input on a variety of subject matters, including water and zoning concerns and what types of businesses should be recruited in the future. From left photo, Eric Hart and Cindy Fahey, both with real estate offices in downtown Strasburg, give their input on future development along Colfax Avenue, and Adams County Economic Development Manager Lucas Workman receives feedback on which future businesses are most preferred. A second open house is scheduled from 9-11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 2. The last Strasburg Subarea Plan was released in 2002 and officials with both counties want to update it next year.

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Mountain View Fellowship begins Christmas toy drive

STRASBURG — The MomCo at Mountain View Fellowship is organizing a Christmas toy drive for struggling families.

Donations of new and like-new toys for kids of all ages are wanted, but cloth toys and stuffies will not be accepted for sanitary reasons. Like-new toys should be cleaned and in working condition; new batteries are a bonus.

Toys can be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 1, at MVF, 1955 Headlight Road, Strasburg.

A no-cost shopping day for struggling families will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at the church.

Performing arts boosters plan food drive in Bennett

BENNETT — The Bennett Performing Arts Booster Club will host a winter food drive from Dec. 2-18 to help families along the I-70 Corridor to stay fed all winter long.

The following unexpired items are needed: canned fruit and vegetables, hot and cold cereal, rice, pasta and juice.

Drop-offs donations are during any concert throughout December in the Bennett High School auditorium.

Items collected will benefit the Bennett Community Food Bank. For more information, contact the Bennett Performing Arts Booster Club at BennettPABC@gmail.com.

CSU Crops Clinic planned in Julesburg on Dec. 5-6

BURLINGTON — Registration for the Colorado State University Crops Clinic is now open.

The clinic is planned for Thursday and Friday, Dec. 5-6, at the Julesburg Community Center, 102 W. Sixth St.

The meeting will also be broadcast via Zoom.

The clinic offers 14 certified crop

Chamber of Commerce elects new officers



The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce elected officials for 2025-26 at its Nov. 20 meeting. The new officers are Debbie Stone, Byers representative; Angie Serna, at-large west representative; president Becky Zierer; Nathan Sumner, Bennett representative; vice president Lindsey Wheaton; treasurer Kristy Funk; and president pro tempore Robbin Schinke. Officers Lindy Cosgrove, Robert Kiess and Candice Rosenbach are not pictured.

advisor credits — one nutrient management, four soil and water, five pest management, and four crop management credits.

Pesticide applicator recertification credits will be offered in categories 101, 102, 103, and commercial pesticide applicator credits in 303 and 114. Cost is \$100 per person.

For additional information, go to goldenplains.extension.colostate.edu. To register, visit www.eventbrite.com.

Business Builder grants offered farms, food biz

DENVER — The U.S. Department of Agriculture and its Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center have launched a \$6.75 million Business Builder program to support farm and food businesses in local and regional markets.

The funding will be distributed on a rolling basis from 2024-27 through three pools of funding.

Applications are being accepted for the first Focus on Place funding pool in Colorado. The center has \$200,000 available in Busi-

ness Builder grants for farms and food businesses in Colorado and expects to make 20-60 awards.

The Request for Applications is open through Jan. 10.

Additional funding will be announced as it becomes available. For more information, visit nwrockymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com.

FAA allocates \$15 million for baggage system at DIA

DENVER — The Federal Aviation Administration recently designated \$23 million to improve airport infrastructure in Denver and Colorado Springs.

The funding comes through the Airport Terminals Program, made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which awarded \$970 million to 125 U.S. airports spanning 46 states, Guam and Palau.

The funding includes \$15 million for Denver International Airport to increase the efficiency and capacity of its baggage handling system; and \$8 million for Colorado Springs Airport to improve energy efficiency and accessibility

and modernize gate areas.

In 2024 alone, the FAA has provided nearly \$140 million for Colorado's airports.

Governor orders creation of forensic services panel

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis Nov. 22 issued an executive order creating the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Forensic Services Committee as part of his efforts to make Colorado one of the top 10 safest states.

The committee's work will help law enforcement catch and convict criminals by fostering collaboration between the criminal justice and science communities and providing a forum to discuss issues, concerns and oversight related to CBI forensic services.

Individuals who wish to contribute their expertise are encouraged to apply for appointment to the committee or other state boards and commissions through the boards and commissions application page at www.colorado.gov.

Contributions requested to boost Byers cemetery

BYERS — The Byers Community Cemetery Association is seeking donations to defray seasonal maintenance costs.

Contributions of any amount are greatly appreciated. They can be sent to BCCA, P.O. Box 733, Byers, Colo. 80103.

Town of Bennett readies for Breakfast with Santa

BENNETT — The Town of Bennett Board of Trustees will again host Breakfast with Santa from 8-11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Bennett Community Center.

Along with breakfast will be music and opportunities for photos with Santa Claus.

Tickets cost \$5 per adult; \$3 per child; and free for children 3 and under.

Proceeds support the Bennett Holiday Help Program. Donations to the Food Bank will be accepted.

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How to get relief from unexpectedly high medical bills

by Cora Lewis
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Unexpectedly high medical bills are common in the United States, but relief is available. According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, one in five Americans are affected by outstanding medical debt for a total cost of \$88 billion.

In a 2022 study, the bureau found that roughly 20% of U.S. households report that they have medical debt, with collections appearing on 43 million credit reports. As of the second quarter of 2021, 58% of all bills in collections on credit records were medical bills.

Medical debt affects households unevenly, too, according to the agency. Past-due bills are more prevalent among black and Hispanic people than white and Asian people, and medical debt is more common in the southern U.S., in part because states in that region did not expand Medicaid coverage.

While the process of fighting high medical bills can be time-consuming and frustrating, advocates stress that patients shouldn't be intimidated by the system. If you've received a surprise medical bill, here's what you should know:

CHARITY CARE: DO YOU QUALIFY

When Luisa, 33, received a medical bill for over \$1,000 after an emergency hospital visit for a viral infection, she was able to have the whole amount covered by the hospital after appealing to their financial assistance policy.

"At first I thought it was just a cold, but it turned out to be something I needed specific medication for," said Luisa, who asked to be identified only by her first name due to privacy concerns. "It was really bad by the time I went to the ER."

Luisa had heard about the patient advocacy organization Dollar For thanks to a viral video, and she filled out the nonprofit's online form after receiving her surprise bill. The orga-

nization contacted the hospital, which was based in central Florida. Eventually, the hospital contacted Luisa directly to let her know she did in fact qualify for financial assistance. Even though she had already paid a portion of the costs with a credit card, Dollar For was able to get those payments refunded.

Laws governing hospital charity care require that nonprofit hospitals lower or write off bills for individuals, depending on household income. To determine if you qualify, you can simply Google the hospital along with the phrase "charity care" or "financial assistance policy." Dollar For also provides a simplified online tool for patients to see if they qualify.

"Federal law requires hospitals to have these programs to keep their tax-exempt status," said Jared Walker, CEO of Dollar For. "If you're within their income range, they will write off, waive, forgive or reduce your bills."

Even if you've already been paying off medical debt, the hospital will be required to refund the payments you've made, he said.

"It was my first time go-



Medical bills are seen in a medical facility in Temple Hills, Md.

ing through something like that," Luisa said. "I tried to be an informed consumer and ask questions when I was in the hospital about the costs, but obviously it's hard when you're sick in the emergency room."

APPEAL TO NO SURPRISES ACT

While protections against surprise bills have long existed for those who have Medicare, Medicaid and Tricare, laws are now also in place for those with private or marketplace insurance.

The federal No Surprises Act covers people who have insurance through their employers, the marketplace, or individual plans. It says that insurance com-

panies must reasonably cover any out-of-network services related to emergency and some non-emergency medical care. It means that, if you're being charged more than you're used to or expect when you receive in-network services, that bill may be illegal.

To challenge any bill covered under this law, you can use the free help desk and hotline of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Many states also have free consumer assistance programs to help with disputes and insurance questions. You can always contact the medical billing department of any hospital in writing to say

that you believe a bill is in violation of the No Surprises Act and ask the hospital to deal directly with your insurance company.

"The complexity of the system itself is as big a problem as affordability," said Kaye Pastaina, who heads research on patient protections for KFF, a non-profit health policy organization. "A lot of it is from the fragmented system and complex rules, but also lack of awareness about existing protections that are a part of federal law that might help."

ASK FOR AN ITEMIZED BILL

Even if you don't qualify for charity care or you're not sure your bills are covered by the No Surprises Act, you may be able to reduce the charges.

Medical billing is notoriously byzantine and rife with errors. Anytime you receive a bill, ask the hospital or provider for an itemized bill that includes the billing codes of all the care you received. The Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) mandates that providers share this information.

Next, check whether the billing codes are accurate. Again, simply Googling the codes with the phrase "medical billing code" can help. If something is off, contesting your bill with your medical provider or physician's office can yield changes.

Another approach: comparing the bill with insurance companies' estimates of fair charges for services. If the price you were charged is more than average, you can have your costs lowered. You could even take the provider to small claims court over the discrepancy (or let them know you have a case).

Finally, compare your insurance company's "explanation of benefits" to the bill. This explanation of costs covered and not covered must match the hospital's bill. If they don't, you have another reason not to pay and to ask the provider to work with your insurer.

SEE MEDICAL BILLS
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CO legislators urged to address 'hidden' hospital 'facility fees'

by Eric Galatas
Public News Service

"Facility fees" originally meant to help struggling hospitals keep emergency room doors open 24 hours a day are now being applied to outpatient services and, from 20-22, the fees cost Colorado patients and their insurers more than \$13 billion, according to a new report ordered by state lawmakers.

Priya Telang, communications manager for the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, said hospitals are piling the hidden fees onto health costs many cannot afford to pay.

"Patients are not going to seek care and health outcomes are going to be

worse," Telang contended. "They are going to have to seek a higher level of more expensive care by avoiding those smaller, outpatient procedures."

Telang noted the state's critical access hospitals, which are more likely to experience financial struggles, are not responsible for the bulk of fees charged. The report showed 80% of fees went to 10 of the state's largest hospital groups. UC Health, which took in one-third of all fees, is urging lawmakers not to act on the report's findings. UC Health said there was not enough time, data or participation from stakeholders for it to be reliable.

Telang noted facility fees, which are separate from fees charged for doctor care, have proliferated

in recent years as hospitals consolidate and gain more marketplace power.

"As we see these huge hospital systems buying up smaller providers and expanding their reach, we're going to see more of these facility fees being charged, because they can," Telang asserted.

UC Health, which has \$6 billion in reserves, has grown from owning five hospitals to 14 across Colorado in the past decade. Telang believes action at the state and federal level is needed to protect consumers.

"It's our lawmakers' duty to help their constituents not be saddled with immense medical debt that is crushing and they can't afford," Telang stressed.

Free Christmas Toy Shop

Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers is sponsoring a toy shop for local families in need. Toys and gifts for children up to age 14 will be available to parents on:

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 7

186 N. McDonnell St., Byers

To register children from Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail or Agate: tinyurl.com/OLPtoyshop (thru Nov. 30)

For info or to donate, call:

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- Preparing and presenting claims and applications to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
- Advocating for benefits
- Finding resources
- Getting referrals to a variety of supportive community programs and services

Meet with the Rocky Mountain Veterans Advocacy Project (RMVAP)

The RMVAP is a Colorado-based non-profit that provides legal services for veterans in the areas of VA benefits appeals, discharge upgrades, estate planning, and family law.

March 12, 2025

Drop-in times available from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 160 | 278 W. Front St., Byers

Unable to attend? Call **303-738-8045** for other appointments.

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WEEK OF NOV. 25

Big no-till party set for Burlington

KIT CARSON — The Colorado Conservation Tillage Association has announced that the 37th annual High Plains No-Till Conference will be held Feb. 4-5 in Burlington.

Allen Williams, Roy Pfaltzgraff, and Don Day Jr. will serve as keynote speakers.

Williams, a sixth-generation family farmer and founding partner of Understanding Ag, LLC, the Soil Health Academy, and Regenified, LLC, will headline the event by exploring the advantages of transitioning farms and ranches to a regenerative approach. He will also discuss the practical application of key regenerative principles based on his experience consulting with thousands of producers in the United States and more than 45 other countries.

Williams is a world-renowned speaker and has been frequently featured in national media, including the Carbon Nation film series, the Dr. Oz Show, ABC Food Forecast News, and the Farmer's Footprint film series.

Pfaltzgraff will also take the keynote stage for CCTA in February. Hailing from Haxtun, Pfaltzgraff utilizes both conventional and nonconventional methods for regenerative agriculture. His family farm focuses primarily on soil health and has reduced commercial inputs, created a diverse cropping rotation, increased organic matter, and started direct marketing several of its products.

Pfaltzgraff has also been featured in both regional and national publications, including The Furrow, DTN Progressive Farmer, Denver Business Journal, Edible Denver, and the Farm Journal.

Returning by popular demand, the final speaker will be Day, president and chief meteorologist of Day Weather, Inc. For over 25 years, Day has provided customized broadcast weather services to over 70 radio stations across Wyoming, Colorado and Nebraska. For this event, he will contribute his expertise in long-range and seasonal weather forecasting as it relates to agricultural producers on the High Plains.

Additionally, the two-day conference will showcase more than 40 breakout sessions presented by producers and industry experts on topics such as composting, grazing, specialty crops and soil health economics. A trade show, outdoor equipment display, Beer & Bull Social, and FFA Day are also planned.

For more information, visit www.HighPlainsNoTill.com.

MEDICAL BILLS

FROM PAGE 3

ance company further first.

PERSISTENCE PAYS

Despite the hassle, these steps can save you considerable sums of money. Even after taking these steps, you can always appeal health claims with your insurance company, if you think there is any reason the bills should be covered entirely or more than the company initially decided. You can also contact your state insurance commissioner for support.

"What we've seen in our research and the data is that those folks who appeal — and there are few who appeal — but for those who appeal, there's a high level of overturning," Pastaina said.



BLOWOUT TENT SALE



NOV 23 - DEC 8

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E. coli: McD's drops \$100M to regain diners

CHICAGO (AP) — McDonald's is investing \$100 million to bring customers back to stores after an outbreak of E. coli food poisoning tied to onions on the fast-food giant's Quarter Pounder hamburgers.

The investments include \$65 million that will go directly to the hardest-hit franchises, the company said.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has said that slivered onions on the Quarter Pounders were the likely source of the E. coli. Taylor Farms in California recalled onions potentially linked to the outbreak.

Colorado reported at least 30 cases; Montana reported 19; Nebraska, 13; and New Mexico, 10. The illnesses were reported between Sept. 12 and Oct. 21. At least 104 people got sick and 34 were hospitalized, according to federal health officials. One person died in Colorado and four people developed a potentially life-threatening



MGM ONLINE

kidney disease complication.

The Food & Drug Administration has said that "there does not appear to be a continued food safety concern related to this outbreak at McDonald's restaurants."

But the outbreak hurt the company's sales.

Quarter Pounders were removed from menus in several states early in the outbreak. McDonald's identified an alternate supplier for the 900 restaurants that temporarily stopped serving the burgers with onions. McDonald's has resumed selling Quarter Pounders with slivered onions nationwide.

Holiday event set for ArapCo Fairgrounds

AURORA — Residents and visitors alike are invited to swing by Visit the Village, a holiday-themed family fun day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds & Event Center, 25690 E. Quincy Ave., Aurora.

There's something for everyone — from holiday shopping with local artists and vendors to a Santa meet-and-greet, petting farm, horse-drawn carriage rides, games, gingerbread house-making, and a group pajama contest for prizes.

Tickets cost \$10 per person (kids 2 and under get in free), or donate a new, unwrapped gift and receive one free admission per household. The donation will support the Arapahoe County Human Services Partnering for the Holidays gift-giving program that supports the most vulnerable and at-risk

children and adults in the county.

5K FUN RUN

Dec. 7 will open with the Yeti Set Go! 5K Fun Run at the fairgrounds.

A prize will be awarded to the best-dressed Yeti at this 5K run or walk that ends at Visit the Village.

The race starts at 9:30 a.m., and tickets for entry into the 5K Fun Run and Visit the Village cost \$15 each. Children ages 5 and under can participate for free.

TICKETS & SHIRTS

Yeti Set Go! 5K Fun Run shirts will be available for purchase through Big Frog (local Aurora printer); shirts will be approx. \$25 each, with 15% of proceeds benefiting AnderLoch Foundation.

To purchase tickets or shirts, visit www.arapahoecountyevent-center.com.

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Jackie Lowell Hicks

Jackie Lowell Hicks: July 9, 1936 – Nov. 11, 2024 (88 years)

Lowell was born to James and Alta Hicks in Denver, CO, on July 9, 1936 and was brought home to Peoria, CO.

They moved around over the course of the next few years from Peoria to Arkansas for a very brief time and back to Colorado, south of Byers. When he was nine, they settled two miles north of Byers, until he graduated from Byers High School. During this time he spent his years growing beans, milking cows, and cleaning chicken coops. He claims to have never had chickenpox because of all the chicken coops he cleaned. This was also when he completed his first engine overhaul — this was something he was very proud of.

In 1955, Lowell enlisted in the Army. He served our country for two years to find direction in life. He found his calling in mechanic work, although unrelated to his service duties, he gained some knowledge through a friend and carried this passion on for a lifetime. After his service he returned home and worked for Continental Airlines as a mechanic.

He met and married Joyce in 1958 after a brief three month courtship. They were wed on his birthday so he would not forget an anniversary. Soon after, they began their family which has grown and grown over the generations. This family continued to gather for holidays, birthdays, and dinners; and a fond memory is the shoe collection at the door expanding each year.

Lowell was interested in exploring new places. His children noted some family favorites including numerous trips to Arizona, Taos (New Mexico), and Mesa Verde, as well as some mountain camping trips. He seemed to be drawn to places with Native American history as well as history of the old west (Cowboys and Indians-grandkids Devon and Phoenix joked). He loved history (especially local history), and his arrowhead collection is remembered fondly by his rock collecting grandkids.

Lowell enjoyed being an active member of his community; volunteering in the Strasburg Fire Department and owning multiple businesses. Not many knew his artistic side, but Lowell loved creating- painting and carving were great sources for that outlet. He was always seeking creative outlets (repairing things creatively, decorating Christmas cookies, and carving pumpkins to name a few).

He loved watching his family prosper, and the grandkids could feel that as he stayed in touch as they made lives and families of their own. After several hard years of looking after his beloved wife of 63 years, Joyce passed away Feb. 18, 2022. Although his heart was broken he continued life with an open mind and created many new friendships. Lowell met Yvonne and the companionship they shared in his last few years were a treasure.

Lowell is survived by his sisters Barbara and Elenore; his brother Larry; his children Len (Roxanna), Tracy, and John (RaeLynne); and many grandchildren, great grands and great-great grands.

He is preceded in death by his wife Joyce, his father James, his mother Alta, his daughter Pam, his brothers Joe and Edward, and his sisters Gloria and Verna.

A memorial service was held Nov. 23 at Strasburg Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Strasburg Presbyterian Church, the Strasburg Fire Department, or the Comanche Crossing Historical Society.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Law enforcement and first responders were dispatched to Highway 36 just north of the overpass in Byers at about 6:30 p.m. Nov. 20 on report of a multiple-vehicle crash. Upon arrival, three vehicles were found involved with multiple minor to moderate injuries reported and one of the drivers arrested for suspicion of DUI. Additional specifics were unavailable at press time. Above, one of the involved SUVs remains at the scene on the east side of the highway in front of the hotel the following morning.

BENNETT BOE

FROM PAGE 1

for approximately 30 students and that he received a strong, verbal “no” from school district officials when he first requested a will serve letter. Last week’s request indicated that the possible impact to the school district would be “approximately two students (total) from those properties.”

He added that it would be anywhere between two and five years before any students might be living in those lots.

While no vote was taken on the updated request last week, at least one board member was vocal in his support of a continued moratorium on future development regardless of how many future students might be involved.

“Personally, I have no appetite to grant any exemption or exception,” said Board President Kyle Meyer. “We are steps away from drowning

in students with nowhere to put them. I’m against opening up the possibility for more [developers] to come forward. It’s a scary time for the Bennett School District.”

None of the three other board members in attendance — Andrew Thornton, Darvin Harrell or Alyssa Pae — commented on the issue.

In reply to a follow-up inquiry from *The I-70 Scout* last week, Bennett Superintendent Robin Purdy indicated that no formal moratorium policy is on the district books but, instead, it was direction from a previous iteration of the board.

“I believe it would have been in the 2022-23 school year,” she said. “The will serve moratorium was instated [by] the previous board after two mill levy override failures and two bond failures.”

One member of the previous board also told *The I-70 Scout* she didn’t recall any formal ban on will serve letters being approved.

Reyher, who said he had meetings with Purdy in 2023 and 2024, said that the lack of a will serve letter from the district was a primary reason behind Arapahoe County denying the original Greenland Estates plan. Whether the second denial might nix county approval of the updated lot plan was uncertain. Reyher also added that there no further effort will occur to change lot size because of a desire to maintain agriculture zoning.

Purdy said 1,300 students are enrolled at the main campus in town, and that, recently, the number of new enrollments have ranged from five to seven per week. Much of the absorption is at the high school, but preschool enrollment is also growing.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Harrell reported he met recently with Bennett Town Administrator Trish Stiles to discuss a couple of revenue possibilities for the school. While he said Stiles wasn’t fully on board with a request to have a portion of town sales tax go towards the school district, she was more open to the idea of a fee added to municipal court tickets to go towards paying for a school resource officer from the sheriff’s office.
- Purdy mentioned that the recent snowstorm resulted in roof and gutter damage as well as water damage inside the primary building, particularly the library and surrounding classrooms. Repair efforts were ongoing.
- After the recent storm resulted in class cancellations for two days, Purdy said the district still has three “snow days” left.
- Recent metrics indicate academic growth gains of 10% throughout the middle school.
- Purdy said an effort has begun to file an extension for the audit of last year’s books.
- The board unanimously approved the disposition of surplus equipment, including 300 old laptops and an antiquated phone system.
- The December meeting has been moved to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11. The original meeting date conflicts with the holiday break.

Progressing Towards Better Banking



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LIBRARY NEWS

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

Teen Advisory Board: Kids ages 12-17 can apply to serve on the new Teen Advisory Board at Bennett library. They can take an active leadership role in planning and implementing programs and big events and use their voices to promote and advocate for youth services. The board meets monthly. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org. 4:45-6 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Tsik+ri Amulet Workshop: Ages 16 and up can learn about Meso-american culture and the practice of constructing Tsik+ri amulets in an informative and hands-on workshop with local expert Andres Duarte Ortiz. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7.

De-stressing the Holidays: Library fans of all ages can take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays. They can snuggle a puppy from Lifeline Puppy Rescue, play video games in a luxury event truck, and enjoy sipping hot drinks. Some gifts wrapped at free gift-wrapping station. 1-4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7.

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

Learning on the Go: Families can enjoy stories, songs and play with their little ones, then leave with books and fun activities for learning at home. All family members, from grandparents to caregivers, are invited. The program is geared to ages 18 months to 5 years, but younger children are welcome. 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Dec 4.

Tea at 2: Adults are invited to Tea at 2 for tea and activities, such as playing cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages. Patrons can also bring their own activities. 2-3 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Little Makers Club: Children ages 18 months to 5 years can learn about arctic animals through activities, crafts and snacks. Each session in-

Arapahoe Libraries
'Geek Out' entries
open thru Nov. 30

ENGLEWOOD — Teens ages 11-18 can unleash their creativity in the annual "Geek Out" creative contest at Arapahoe Libraries.

Each entrant must submit an original piece of art inspired by their favorite fandom. The contest is open to any form of art — cosplay, drawing, music or writing, for example. Participants must enter online or in person from Nov. 1-30 for a chance to win exciting prizes.

Winners will be notified by Thursday, Dec. 12, and all participants can attend the awards ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 14, at Koelbel Library, 5955 S. Holly St., Centennial.

For more information, call (303)542-7279 or visit arapahoelibraries.org.

cludes a take-home goody bag to continue the learning at home. For more information and to register, visit arapahoelibraries.org or call (303)822-9392. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 6.

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

Wacky Wednesday: Kids and tweens, drop in for snacks, games, cool tech and creative crafts. Enjoy a new activity each month. Ages 5-12. 4-5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Tea at 2: Adults are invited to Tea at 2 on the first Wednesday of every month. The library will provide tea and activities, such as playing cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages. Patrons can also bring their own activities 2-3 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6.

Gnome sewing: Teens are invited to learn the whimsical art of gnome sewing. No experience necessary, all supplies provided. 4-5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11.



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Strasburg Subarea Plan Community Open Houses
• 9-11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 2 •
TBK Bank, 56641 E Colfax Ave, Strasburg



Join both Adams and Arapahoe County Staffs and the Strasburg Plan Steering Committee to discuss survey findings and existing conditions research and to provide feedback as the planning process moves forward.

For more information:
visit engageadams.adcogov.org/strasburg; or
contact Ella Gleason at (720)523-6923.

ARAPAHOE COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE NO. ASI24-001, EASTGATE / REGULATIONS
GOVERNING AREAS AND ACTIVITIES OF
STATE INTEREST (1041 REGULATIONS), MAJOR WATER
AND SEWER PROJECT & CASE NO. GDP23-003,
EASTGATE / GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PROPOSAL: The applicant and property owner, Property 292, LLC (John Wake-man and Sharon Dowhan) are requesting approval of a 1041 permit for a Major Water and Sewer Project and approval of a General Development Plan to serve the development known as Eastgate, located at the southwest corner of Interstate 70 and Monaghan Road, 27500 and 27450 E Colfax Avenue. The proposed water and sewer extension to be considered for the 1041 permit would serve and the General Development Plan would approve zoning for approximately 405,000 square-feet of commercial, retail and light industrial property and approximately 1,000 single-family attached and multi-family residential units.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 17, 2024, the Arapahoe County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M., or as soon as possible thereafter at 6954 S Lima St., Arapahoe Room, Centennial, CO 80112; at which, all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the above-described ASI24-001, Eastgate / 1041, Major Water and Sewer Project & GDP23-003, Eastgate / General Development Plan. The agenda will typically be posted by the Friday afternoon preceding the hearing and can be viewed on our website at <https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar>. You can also listen to, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1-855-436-3656. To join the speaking queue, press *3 on the telephone keypad.

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

Joan Lopez, Clerk to the Board

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024, and *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, Nov. 29, 2024.

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SPORTS



'Burg 9th at state unified bowling tourney



The Strasburg trio of Kade Colburn, Rylee Tiffany and Carson Byorick finished ninth of 28 schools at the Colorado State Unified Bowling State Championships in Lone Tree Nov. 22. Pictured are Colburn, left, head coach Vicki Manahan, Tiffany, Byorick and assistant coach Shalin Zuther. For full state coverage, see the Nov. 29 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.

December 7, 2024

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Kids - \$3
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Arapahoe County winter plowing preparations are snow joke

LITTLETON — When snow blankets the county in the weeks to come, Berman Goodnight will rely on his experience and training to keep roads open and safe for the traveling public.

“Plowing snow out east presents different challenges compared to our snow operations in the western urban area,” said Goodnight, who has worked at the Eastern Service Center in Bennett for nine years. “For one, it is hard to see. We don’t have the benefit of streetlights. Secondly, the wind can cause low visibility and drifting snow.”

With seasonal warm weather baking the county this fall, the recent snowfall is a reminder that more is around the corner. During snowstorms, the county’s Road & Bridge division deploys snowplows from its Eastern Service Center at County Road 129 and

Quincy Avenue and its Peoria Service Center in Centennial.

To gear up for the upcoming season, both centers held trainings in September for staff with details of the county’s winter snow plan.

During training, snow equipment is hooked up to trucks and operators drive their assigned routes. They get familiar with the routes and identify possible hazards like medians, low-hanging tree branches, mailboxes and other obstacles that could interfere with snowplowing.

Training includes classroom work focused on snow operations, procedures, safety protocols, severe winter driving conditions, and effective distribution of de-icing material.

It also gives the crews a chance to ensure the trucks and equipment are properly maintained and

enough time is available to make repairs, said Mike Prinsloo, Eastern Service Center supervisor.

The National Weather Service in Boulder is predicting La Niña conditions for this upcoming winter. For La Niña, the Denver metro area typically experiences dry winters with most snowfall occurring in the northern mountains.

Heading into winter, a majority of Arapahoe County is experiencing drought conditions as a hot summer has been followed by a dry, warm fall.

The National Weather Service is predicting that the winter months will be filled with slightly above average temperatures and below average precipitation. Drought conditions are expected to persist.

Arapahoe County can expect several minor snowstorms that will result in 2-3 inches of snow with at least one major snowstorm of 8 inches or more.

When snow accumulates on roads, the county has 23 snowplows to tackle 11 routes that total about 670 miles within unincorporated Arapahoe County. Road & Bridge has stockpiled salt for icy and snow-packed roads, and five graders and four loaders are available when needed. Arapahoe County typically gets anywhere from 60-90 inches of snow every winter.

During the winter, Road & Bridge staff stays in constant communication with Skyview Weather, a contracted weather service that provides real-time storm models that accurately forecast weather conditions and predict snow accumulations. Staff also utilize the traffic signal camera system to verify roadway conditions.

At the start of a winter storm, scouts are sent across the county to monitor ambient and pavement temperatures, as well as roadway conditions as snow starts to accumulate. Plow crews are then dispatched as needed.

With a shortage of snowplow drivers, crews will focus on clearing roads that are designated as Priority 1 and Priority 2 in its plowing system. When plowing snow, crews work 12-hours shifts until a storm has passed.

Priority 1 roads are major thoroughfares, like Broncos Parkway and Arapahoe Road, along with roads that serve most schools and major business centers. Priority 2 roads are collectors that connect residential corridors to major thoroughfares. Residential roads are not plowed by the county.

For the Eastern Service Center, monitoring I-70 is critical as the Colorado Department of Transportation will close the interstate at Airport Road during extreme conditions.

“When I-70 is closed, we have to make sure the county roads are passable,” Prinsloo said. “We really feel the pressure.”

The Colorado Department of Transportation recommends motorists stay back three to four car lengths from snowplows. Don’t tailgate and never pass a snowplow on the right.

“We will do everything we can to keep the roads safe and open this winter,” said Road & Bridge Operations Manager Michael Haraldson.

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Arapahoe County Government (303) 795-4630
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Lunch and Learn/Member Meeting
Third Wednesday of the month
See website for details

www.i70ccoc.com
Phone: 720.731.1954
Email: Officei70ccoc@gmail.com

Toy collection for yearly Christmas Shop start

BYERS — The annual Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church Christmas Toy Drive is underway through Thursday, Dec. 5.

The event benefits families in financial need with gifts for their children up to age 14. Donations of new or gently used toys can be delivered to Byers General Store, Western Hardware in Strasburg, or the Bennett Recreation Center.

The drive will culminate with the annual Christmas Toy Shop from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church, 186 N. McDonnell St., Byers.

Families in the Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail and Agate areas should register their children at tinyurl.com/OLPtoyshop.

For information, call Jane Benz at (303)621-2981. Para español llamar a Karla, (720)226-8720.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

SATURDAY, NOV. 30
Small Business Saturday with silent auction. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bennett Recreation Center, 455 S. First St.

MONDAY, DEC. 2
Strasburg High School Athletic Booster Club. 6 p.m., high school library.
Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Legion Hall.
Deer Trail School Board. 7 p.m., Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room at Davies Library.

TUESDAY, DEC. 3
Adams County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m. by phone. To sign up, call (303)405-3298. Appointments available at Anythink libraries for one-on-one discussion with a volunteer attorney using the library's computer link. Space limited.
Arapahoe County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m. by phone. To sign up, call (303)739-6630. Appointments available at Aurora Main Library for one-on-one discussion with a volunteer attorney using the library's computer link. Space limited.
Strasburg Elementary holiday con-

cert for grades 2 and 4. 6 and 7 p.m., Mountain View Fellowship.
Bennett first-grade concert. 6 p.m., Bennett High School auditorium.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4
Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.
Bennett second-grade concert. 6 p.m., Bennett High School auditorium.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5
Bennett Parks & Recreation District Board. 5:30 p.m., Bennett Recreation Center, 455 S. First St.
Bennett Elementary concert featuring kindergarten and Tiger Tones (grades 3-5). 6 p.m., Bennett High School auditorium.

EVERY THURSDAY
Gaming Club: Patrons ages 10 and up play video games after school. 4-5:15 p.m., Bennett Anythink library.

EVERY FRIDAY
Preschool storytime: Hear a story, sing a song, and spend time together to promote literacy for preschoolers. 10-10:15 a.m., arapahoelibraries.com.



Byers School has experienced a flurry of activity recently. From left photo, fifth-graders Jayden Salomon, left, Emily Gurley and others practice bus safety during Bus Safety Week; firefighter Ashtin Kerns talks to fifth-graders during Fire Safety Week Oct. 7; and, from left, Angel Hernandez, Kelton O'Dell, Brynlee Fournier, and Analya Hernandez Villa conduct an experiment.

Unincorporated Arapahoe County sign regs revised

LITTLETON — Signs between 6 and 25 feet are now allowed in unincorporated Arapahoe County based on updated signage regulations adopted by the Board of County Commissioners following a Nov. 12 public hearing.

The changes codify common practices and simplify processes within the county's Land Development Code, according to a release.

The regulations require a building permit for all signs exceeding 6 square feet in area or 6 feet in height, unless otherwise exempted by the regulations. In addition, a building permit is required any time the size is increased and any time a static message is converted to an electronic message.

The revisions allow for increased freestanding signage depending on the size of the property and, if adjacent to a local streets, changes to the permitted number and size of fascia signs.

For lots 10 acres or less, one sign is permitted. If adjacent to a local road, the maximum sign size is 6 feet. It's 8 feet for a collector road and 10 feet if the lot is adjacent to a freeway.

For lots 10 to 100 acres, two signs are allowed with similar size restrictions.

For lots more than 100 acres with civic or institutional use, two signs are allowed with a maximum size of 25 feet if adjacent to a collector road or freeway only.

The changes remove special allowances for specific uses and update definitions for certain signs.

BENNETT REC. 455 S. FIRST STREET





SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 30 9AM - 2PM

ARTWORK
GIFT
CERTIFICATES

SILENT AUCTION

HOME GOODS
HOMEMADE
ITEMS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30 9AM-2PM

455 SOUTH FIRST STREET, BENNETT, CO 80440-5040

Habitat Stamp panel seeks active agricultural landowners

DENVER — Volunteer agricultural landowners are wanted for the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee beginning in 2025.

The committee represents a broad constituency; however, the current opening is for landowners actively engaged in agriculture. The application deadline is Friday, Dec. 6.

Committee members meet 3-4 times per year and are tasked with reviewing proposed projects and making recommendations to the director of Colorado Parks & Wildlife and the Parks & Wildlife Commission. The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program offers funding for landowners who wish to voluntarily provide wildlife-related recreational access to the public or protect wildlife habitat.

The committee selects projects that protect big game winter range and migration corridors; provide public access for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing; protect habitat for species of concern; and preserve the diversity of wildlife.

The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee is a volunteer-based committee composed of four sportspersons representing each quadrant of the state; two representatives of nationally or regionally recognized conservation organizations with missions focused on nongame wildlife; two landowners actively engaged in agriculture; one citizen at large; and two Colorado Parks & Wildlife representatives as ex-officio members. Appointments are for terms of four years each and limited to two consecutive four-year terms.



20th ANNIVERSARY

Christmas Night IN STRASBURG



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 AT 4PM

FREE FESTIVITIES at LYONS PARK
(parking available behind Independent Financial)
Santa and his Reindeer * Hot Chocolate * Reindeer Food Craft * Wreath Contest * Hot Soup * Cookie Decorating * Popcorn * Vendor Booths

2024 Schedule:

- Visit **SANTA & his Reindeer** from 4-7pm
- Christmas Tree Lighting at 5pm
- FIREWORKS at 7:30pm
- Hayride Route: Lyons Park – Colfax – Arapahoe
- Craft Fair at Legion Hall from 10am-4pm
- Roasted Chestnuts, U.S. Mechanical 1486 Main St.
- Visit **LOCAL** businesses for specials and extended hours. See website for full event schedule!

PH: (303) 622-4260 WEB: STRASBURGPARKS.ORG







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COLORADO AIR &
SPACE PORT



DEC. 7-8

Hey kids – are you ready to turn your STEM ideas into a space mission? Head to Colorado Air and Space Port to spend time with astronauts and STEM experts working on hands-on projects that fly to space!

Register or learn more by scanning the QR code below.



COLORADO AIR AND SPACE PORT
5200 Front Range Pkwy., Watkins

Help the County Enhance E-Mobility
We Want to Hear from You!



Adams County Enhancing
Short Trips Survey

Interested in environmentally friendly transportation options in unincorporated Adams County? Give your input on community shuttles, carshare, e-bikes, e-scooters, and more by scanning the QR code below!



adco.gov.org/short-trips

STAY CONNECTED:

4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601

/AdamsCountyGov @AdamsCountyGov

Public Agencies /AdamsCountyCo

Adcogov.org



ISAAC MANAUGH/For The Scout



Mountain View Fellowship Church hosted the Strasburg Schools Talent & Art Show for grades K-12. Emmory Owens, People's Choice Karoki, grades 4 and 5.

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AUCTION

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CARL STEITZ/For The Scout



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/For The Scout

Nov. 15. Audience members enjoyed a laugh of comedy, the visuals of a song and dance, and the Ice Award; Ensley Owens, grades 6-8; Naomi Redd, grades 9-12; Morgan Plunkett, K-3; and Avishai

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ARAPAHOE COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CASE NO SD24-002, EASTGATE METRO DISTRICT NOS 1-6 / COMBINED SERVICE PLANS

PROPOSAL: Jeffrey Brit, Ed+ Law, LLC, is proposing to establish six metropolitan districts to serve the development known as Eastgate, located at the southwest corner of Interstate 70 and Monaghan Road, 27500 and 27450 E Colfax Avenue. The proposed special districts would serve approximately 405,000 square-feet of commercial, retail, and light industrial property and approximately 1,000 single-family attached and multi-family residential units.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 17, 2024 the Arapahoe County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M., or as soon as possible thereafter at 6954 S Lima St, Arapahoe Room, Centennial CO 80112; at which, all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the above-described case number, SD24-002, Eastgate Metro District Nos 1-6 / Combined Service Plans. The agenda will typically be posted by the Friday afternoon preceding the hearing and can be viewed on our website at <https://arapahoelegistar.com/Calendar>. You can also listen in, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1-855-434-3456. To join the speaking queue, press *3 on the telephone keypad.

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

Joan Lopez, Clerk to the Board

Published in The I-70 Scout on Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024, and Eastern Colorado News on Friday, Nov. 29, 2024.

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Chatter works so hard making her...

...tasty holiday dishes and treats!

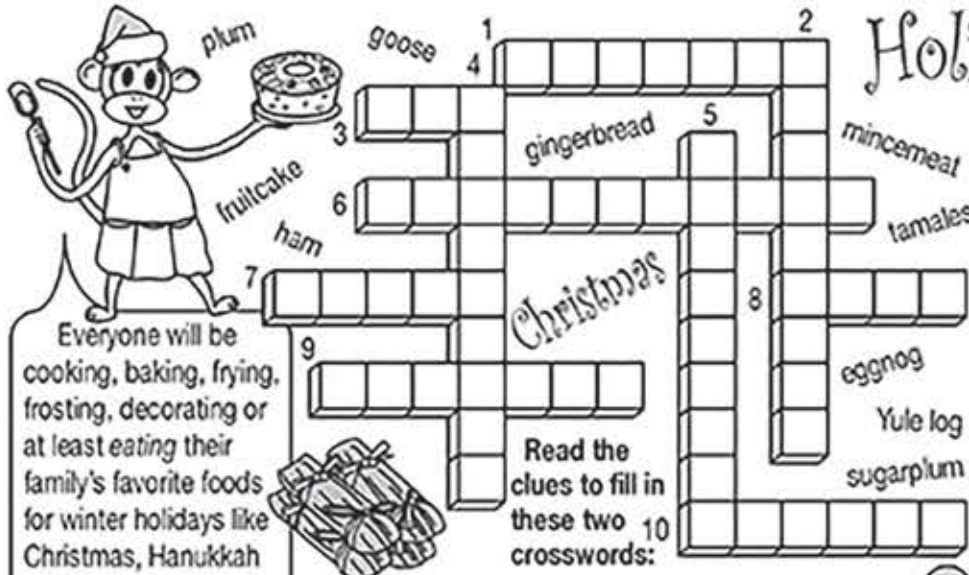


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Kids: color stuff in!



Everyone will be cooking, baking, frying, frosting, decorating or at least eating their family's favorite foods for winter holidays like Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa!

Read the clues to fill in these two 10 crosswords:

1. traditional Mexican Christmas dish, popular in southwest U.S. – corn dough with spicy pork or beef filling, wrapped in corn husks before cooking – served with sauce, cream or crumbly fresh cheese
2. treat of sugar, fruits and nuts: rolled into a ball or shaped to look like a fruit or a star
3. meat glazed with honey, brown sugar, mustard and pineapple juice
4. this pie is mostly dried fruit such as raisins – used to be made of chopped meats
5. cake made with candied fruit, nuts, spices
6. treat shaped into a cookie or a house
7. bird roasted, stuffed with apples, prunes, onions and sweet chestnuts (Germany, the United Kingdom and China)
8. pudding; been around for 600 years! – made with meat, pastry and fruits
9. spongy cake rolled like a log and, when cooled, filled with cream – decorated with powdered sugar, candy mushrooms and fresh berries; Bûche de Noël
10. yolks, milk, sugar and cream drink – often spiced with cinnamon or nutmeg



What? You think only Chatter can whip up delicious treats?



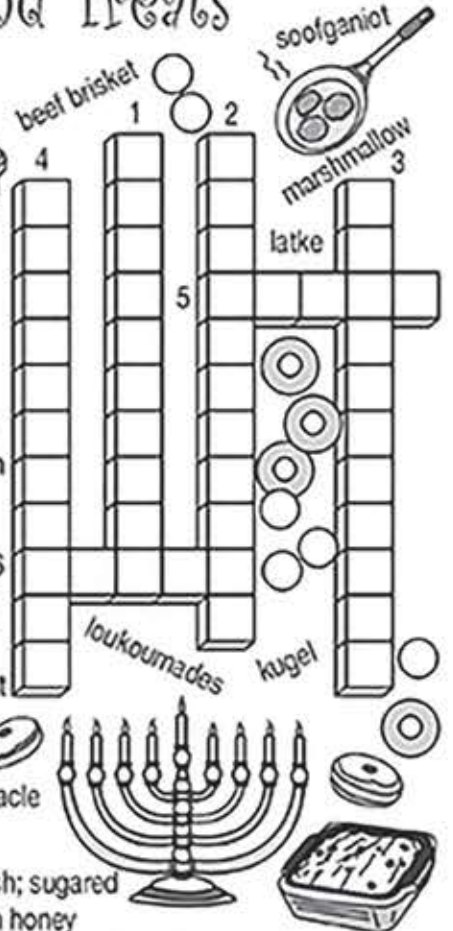
Holiday Foods and Treats



Hanukkah

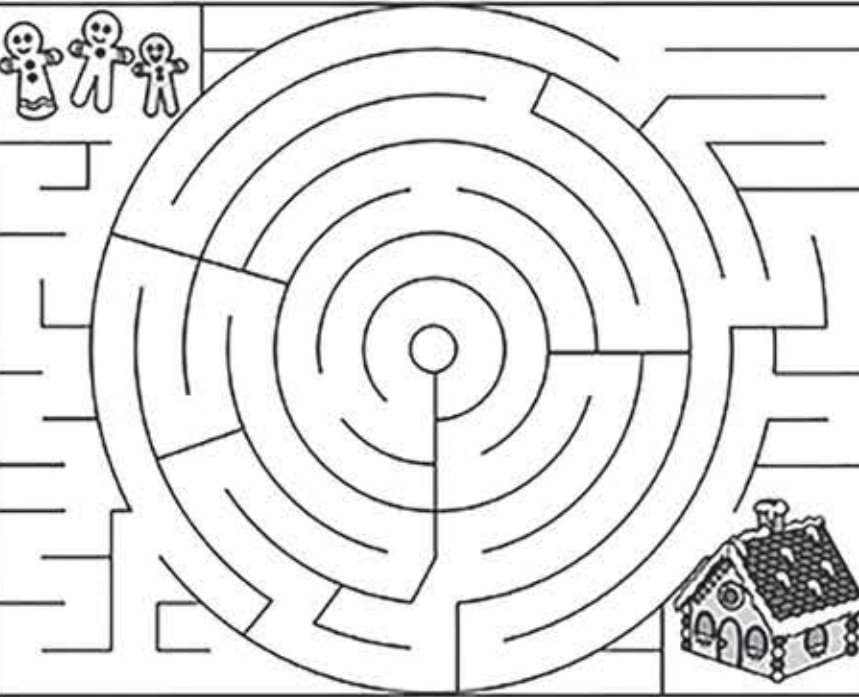
Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that honors the victory the Maccabees (a Jewish group) had over their enemy. It celebrates the rededication of their Temple in Jerusalem after it had been ruined. There was only enough oil in the lamps to keep the eternal flame in the Temple burning for one day. But, the oil kept burning for eight days while fresh oil was prepared! Hanukkah is a joyful celebration of the miracle that lasted for eight days.

1. jelly doughnut served fresh; sugared
2. deep fried puffs dipped in honey
3. part of a cow used in traditional Jewish dishes – holiday pot roast
4. _____ Dreidels – treat made using different candies
5. made with egg noodles – can be served with vegetables or fruit
6. potato pancake fried with onions – cheeses or vegetables added



Gingerbread Journey!

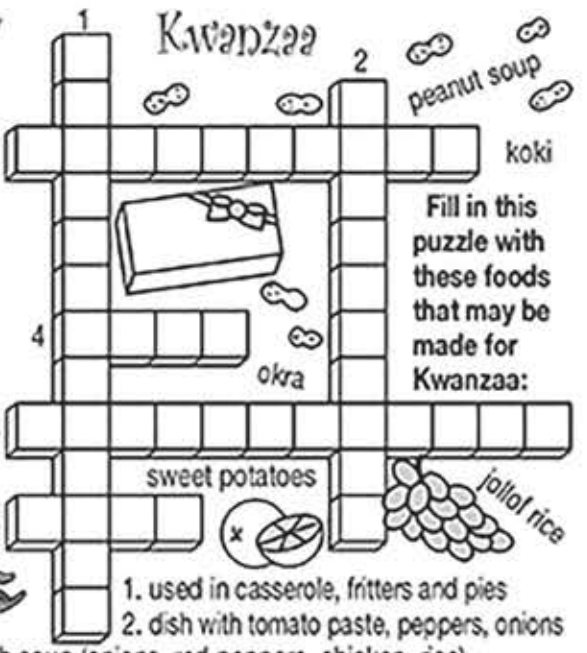
Help the Gingerbread family find its way home for the holidays.



Kwanzaa is a seven-day holiday celebrated by African-Americans and people in other countries whose families are from Africa. It is a time to think about their lives, family, history and community. It is a time of lighting candles, feasting and gift-giving.



yassa chicken



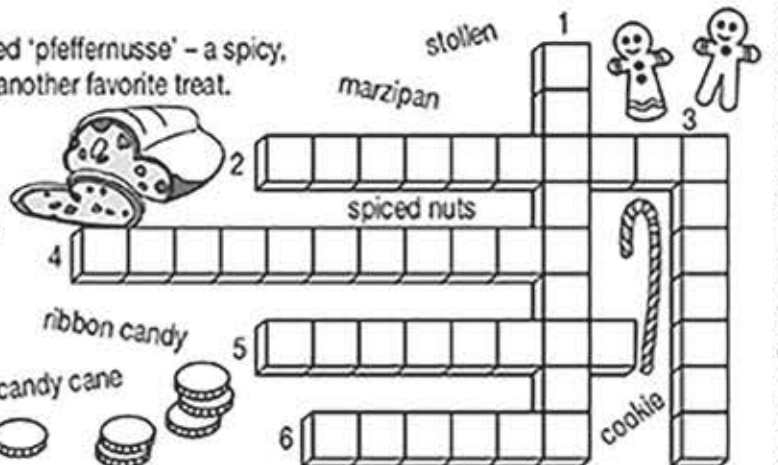
1. used in casserole, fritters and pies
2. dish with tomato paste, peppers, onions
3. rich soup (onions, red peppers, chicken, rice)
4. fried _____ – vegetable is coated with flour, cornmeal, eggs, salt and pepper
5. main dish, flavored with citrus and cooked until crispy
6. traditional appetizer made from black-eyed peas

Sweet Holiday Treats!

Oh, sweet holiday treats! One favorite cookie is called 'pfeffernusse' – a spicy, round cookie covered with powdered sugar. Silver and gold-wrapped chocolate coins are another favorite treat.

Read the clues below to fill in the puzzle with some more favorite holiday treats:

1. hard candy stick usually colored red and white – peppermint, cinnamon or fruity flavors
2. pecans, pistachios, cashews, almonds – spiced with cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, sugars
3. sweet cake made with ginger and honey – name comes from Germany
4. colorful, sugary treat stretched flat, and then folded back and forth
5. made of sugar and almond meal – origin of this treat is believed to be the Middle East – formed into all sorts of shapes, such as fruits or cartoon characters
6. dough cut into fun shapes and frosted to look like a Christmas Tree or a snowman – can be decorated with all sorts of candy toppings



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO
NOVEMBER 30, 2004
The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office responded Nov. 22 to an early morning fire at a dog kennel in Byers to find a 30-foot-long, approximately 250 square-foot, tin trailer and kennels burned; 32 of 33 dogs, including poodles and Yorkshire terriers, destroyed; and the owner overcome with smoke inhalation.

Investigators said a faulty electrical cord from the outlet to an outdoor flood light caused the fire.

15 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 1, 2009
BRIGHTON — A Watkins resident accused of murdering her father and stepmother in mid-January will face trial on those charges not quite a year after she was arrested.

According to the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office Nov. 25, the trial for Kara Lorelle Lounsbury, 32, will commence 9 a.m., Monday, Feb. 1, in Division E at the Adams County Justice Center in Brighton.

Lounsbury is suspected in the Jan. 14 overnight shooting of her father Harold Enander, 69, and his wife Velva Sue Enander, 61, at the couple's resident along East 144th Avenue near

Imboden Road. Both bodies were found the next morning. An Adams County Coroner's investigation unveiled Velva Enander was beaten on her head multiple times prior to being shot.

10 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 2, 2014
BYERS — Residents of and commuters through the center of Byers saw intense law enforcement activity midday Nov. 25 as a SWAT team helped execute an arrest and search warrant.

A little after 12 p.m., Arapahoe County Sheriff's deputies, investigators and approximately 15-20 SWAT team members converged on room No. 6 of the Lazy 8 Motel on eastbound Highway 36 near the Main Street intersection, where they apprehended a burglary and assault suspect. Officers arrested John Eudale Enos, 46, in conjunction with a Nov. 22 incident that occurred in the 1000 block of S. County Road 157 south of Strasburg.

"SWAT did serve the warrant and the subject was take into custody," said Public Safety Bureau Chief Glenn Thompson. "We had received information that the suspect was there and determined the circumstances warranted the response."

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© 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 20

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Nov. 28, the 333rd day of 2024. There are 33 days left in the year. Today is Thanksgiving in the United States.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT
On Nov. 28, 1925, the Grand Ole Opry (known then as the WSM Barn Dance) de-

buted on radio station WSM in Nashville, Tennessee; it continues today as the longest-running radio broadcast in U.S. history.

ON THIS DATE
In 1942, fire engulfed the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, killing 492 people in

the deadliest nightclub blaze ever.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin met in Tehran for the first time to discuss Allied cooperation during World War II.

In 1961, Ernie Davis of Syr-

acuse University became the first Black college football player to be named winner of the Heisman Trophy.

In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course toward Mars, which it flew past in July 1965, sending back pictures of the red planet.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS
Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 95. Football Hall of Famer Paul Warfield is 82. Former "Late Show" band leader Paul Shaffer is 75. Actor Ed Harris is 74. Former NASA astronaut Barbara Morgan is 73. Actor S. Epatha Merkerson is 72.
—Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SPORTS

ACROSS

1. Combat vehicle

5. Semi

8. "Biathlon gear, sing.

11. Keiko of "Free Willy"

12. "Ashi Waza and jugodi sport

13. Audience's approval

15. Tandoori bread

16. Ned Stark's daughter, "Game of Thrones"

17. R'ntgen beams

18. "Warning track sport

20. Monetary "thank you," pl.

21. Indigo dye shrubs

22. "Arabian Nights" bird

23. Destroyer

26. Danced to certain Polish music

30. Crematorium container

31. One without magic powers in Harry Potter stories

34. Largest volcano in Europe

35. Do nothing (2 words)

37. Singer Yoko

38. Be at the helm

39. Tropical tuber

40. "Player who delivers in a crucial sports moment

42. Recipe qty.

43. Display proudly (2 words)

45. Smells

47. Lake, in France

48. Clean a spill (2 words)

50. #8 Across, pl.

52. "Comeback and direct snap sport

55. Russian pancake

56. Pasta option

57. Go cold turkey

59. "Reward for multiple sports championships, pl.

60. "Breaking Bad" victim

61. The Beehive State

62. King Kong, e.g.

63. Type of lightbulb, acr.

64. Spooky

DOWN

1. Boatload

2. Riyadh native

3. "Collegiate sports grp.

4. Topeka native

5. Not urban

6. Short poems of pastoral life

7. "Hockey score

8. "Powerful shot in hockey

9. 11th letter of Roman alphabet, pl.

10. Elvis' "___ Now or Never"

12. White and black stork

CROSSWORD

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13. Glorify

14. "Gully and deep mid wicket sport

19. Foe

22. Fish eggs

23. Corrodes

24. Heap of "David Copperfield"

25. Preface

26. Scheme

27. Mr. T's TV show "The ___"

28. Olden days constipation treatment

29. "Bag of nails and baby ton sport

32. "Eagle and mulligan sport

33. African migrator

36. "Turkey and split sport

38. Woody perennial

40. Chlorofluorocarbon, abbr.

41. He gets a flag?

44. Reprieve in a desert

46. Not light-transmitting

48. Dots and dashes code

49. Did like goo

50. Women's underskirt

51. Plural of cow, arch.

52. "Sports transgression

53. Plucked string instrument

54. Pinocchio, e.g.

55. Type of undergarment

58. Olden day "your"

ANSWERS ON PAGE 20

HOROSCOPE

Thanksgiving Served with a Soulful Lunar Trine

Gratitude is a perspective shift. It's a list of what's going right, sure, but it's so much more than that. When you step back to consider what had to happen before the list was even possible — to think of all that aligned to let us be here to breathe, love, connect and hope for beautiful days ahead — that's when a deeper gratitude starts to take form.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Everything starts with your sweet intention. You just want to know people better, to have a little fun and enjoy the things that make life sweet. It takes a little work to get there, and the prize is sweeter for the effort.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People bond over entertainment, sharing stories and supporting one another, even when maybe they actually don't agree. Closeness is always going to be a compromise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There was a time you strived for perfection through addition — more people, work, offerings and extras. Today you'll find great joy going the opposite direction toward simplicity with great care flowing to the essentials.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll respond beautifully to the energy of the day, reading people, reacting with care and flowing a gentle attention over the room. You're the guardian of the vibe.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). While silence includes the absence of sound, it doesn't stop there. Silence can also stretch and spread out a soft place for understanding to land. Choose your words carefully, and your pauses even more so.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People who are alive to life don't have to be convinced to show up; they're already there, just like you. This type of person won't see your energy as a novelty; they'll see it as a match.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Everyone

knows what happened to the boy who cried wolf. Alarms without reason are the enemy of peace and will eventually backfire. Protect your peace by tending to peaceful things. Also, stick with those who bring out your best.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A constructive conversation will illuminate new paths to understanding and togetherness, especially between generations. You'll learn from your elders and juniors and have plenty to teach the receptive.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When people talk, it will be a good thing for you because you're doing good things and the word needs to get out. Your reputation is growing and will get even better in the weeks to come.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Revel in your capabilities. You've learned so much over the years. You'll be inspired to test the limits, buck tradition, and break yourself and others out of anything that restricts the potential for fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're powerful, so you don't need to impress anyone or do anything at all to bring attention to yourself. You say it all with your easygoing charm, a control that draws people to the natural grace of your company.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Instead of or in addition to giving things, you'll give time, empathy and a listening ear. And even more impactful will be the gift of seeing the best in a person — viewing their magnificent uniqueness.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 28). In quiet moments, you'll hear the calling of a formidable peace from which you can draw strength, recovery, meaning and much more. In this same gentle tone, love offers quiet gifts that, one by one, stack into an undeniable force. These treasures of the year, taken together, tell a beautiful story. More highlights: a goal materializes just in time, family bonds galvanize and life-changing generosity. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 21, 36, 43, and 12.

—Horoscopes by Holiday

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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. Hitzeman

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.

Arapahoe adopts water supply study with eye on long-term conservation

LITTLETON — Adequate water exists to meet demand through 2050 but, measures must be taken to sustain a long-term supply, according to an Arapahoe County study.

The Board of Commissioners adopted the water supply study Nov. 12 after two years of work with consultants Forsgren Associates, LRE Water, Michael Baker International, and Vertex Consulting.

“As we look at continued growth in the county, it is clear that our water supply is not something to be taken for granted,” said Commissioner Jessica Campbell.

According to the study, renewable water sources and Denver Basin aquifers, which supply municipal water providers and wells in the eastern Arapahoe County, can produce up to 141,000 acre feet of water a year. One acre foot of water is the equivalent to filling a football field with 9 inches of water and can supply two to four homes with water for a year.

The current yearly water demand for the population of 656,000 is 83,400 acre feet. The study projects that by 2050, the County population will be between 900,000 to 960,000 and demand will be between 108,000 and 116,000 acre feet per year. If continued conservation measures are taken, the demand drops to 97,000 to 103,000 acre feet of water per year.

The study found that, while local water providers are working to increase supplies to meet growing demands, conservation, sharing agreements, and regional supply development partnerships can close gaps in supply and demand.

“We used water experts from throughout the county to participate in the study and this study will help us understand the impacts of approving developments, particularly out east, moving forward,” said Commissioner Jeff Baker.

The recommendations include improved water use efficiency and conservation and the extended life of Denver Basin aquifers to sustain a long-term supply. For a detailed explanation, visit www.arapahoe-co.gov/landscape.

Currently, developers must provide to the county proof of a 100-year water supply for a new development. A 100-year rule allows 100 housing units on a property compared to a 300-year rule, which would allow 33 units.

“We need to hold people accountable,” Baker said. “If they want to build, they need to make sure there is enough water to provide adequate water resources to people. This is not a green light to develop at will because this study is cautionary, we do need to insure conservation efforts from this point forward.”

The next step will be to adopt the recommendations as policies within the Arapahoe County Comprehensive Plan and as regulations in the Land Development Code.







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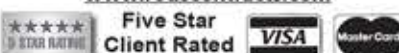
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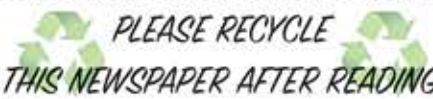
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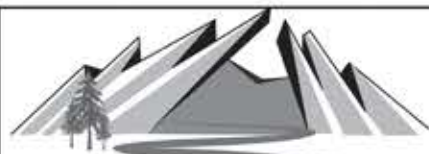
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Sun., 10-10:30 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Church
Awana Tuesday, 5:15-7:15 p.m., Dinner served
Psalm 77:1 I cried unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

AGATE BOE

FROM PAGE 1

a summary of government operating revenue, which primarily comes from the state School Finance Act (SFA) of 1994. Funding for the SFA comes from property taxes, specific ownership tax, and state equalization. Under the SFA, the district received \$22,493 per funded student which, in the 2023-24 school year, was officially counted as 68. Agate's funding included approximately 56% from state equalization. The district's assessed valuation generated \$589,026 in property taxes for the fiscal 2023-24.

The audit report listed three uncontrollable economic factors facing the district each year:

- growth has occurred in the surrounding areas and new families have moved into the district; however, the district continues to experience instability in longevity of residences;
- enrollment has fluctuated through the past years but, as a result of legislation passed in 2013-14, the district has been funded for 50 students in the leaner years and funding is now recovering along with student enrollment; and
- the Agate School District successfully completed the fifth year of its return to a kinder-

garten through 12th grade school and the addition of a preschool.

The complete audit is available on the Agate School District 300 website.

In her report to the board, Superintendent/Principal Melida Walls noted that, in response to numerous recent snow days, make-up packets will be sent home and students will attend school on Presidents Day. She said Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) scores from last spring show positive growth.

"Our CMAS scores reflect that our students are growing faster than 49% of other students in the state," she said.

At the October school board meeting, the board approved a May 2025 senior trip. The high school's four seniors are raising money for a trip to Hawaii.

"Here at Agate School, there hasn't been a senior trip in 20 years," the seniors announced on the Agate website. "This year our graduation class of 2025 has been challenged to dream big and work hard for our future. We have been given seven months to raise \$6,000."

The web page shows the progress of the fundraising, with \$3,250 donated so far.

Carl Wayne Lane



Carl Wayne Lane, 77, unexpectedly passed away on Friday, Nov. 8, 2024, at home in Brighton, Colo., surrounded by his loving family.

Wayne was born on Jan. 5, 1947, in Littleton, Colo., to Harvey Carl and Evelyn Frances (Church) Lane. He graduated from Littleton High School in 1965 and went on to earn his Bachelor's Degree from Colorado State University in Fort Collins in 1969.

In 1967, Wayne married Blanche Neal. After their marriage and his graduation, Wayne was drafted into the U.S. Army and stationed in Nuremberg, Germany, where the couple welcomed their firstborn son, Gaelen. Upon Wayne's honorable discharge, the family returned to the United States and settled in Englewood, Colo. In 1980, the family purchased their family farm in Byers, Colo. In the following years, the Lane family embraced managing their family farm and establishing a custom farming and harvesting business, traveling across Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado.

Wayne worked the land and built the business through hard work and determination. Just like any farmer, there were years of highs and lows. Wayne was determined to make it work and would take on odd jobs in the winter to help the family survive to the next harvest season. They continued to custom farm and harvest for over 38 years. Later, Wayne expanded his entrepreneurial ventures, establishing a straw delivery business, where he traveled hundreds of thousands of miles across the western United States with his loyal dog, Rowdy, in tow.

Wayne's determination, work ethic, and mechanical expertise were legendary. He taught his son, Gaelen, the intricacies of farming and machinery, and the two spent years working side by side. While Wayne's daughter, Pam, did not inherit his love for farming, she certainly inherited his practicality, problem-solving skills, and no-nonsense attitude. For years, Wayne was a constant presence at Pam's college basketball games, traveling across the country for every game she played to cheer on his daughter. He proudly supported her team by paying for meals, making sure the girls knew how much he enjoyed them, and always bringing his trademark enthusiasm.

Wayne's greatest joy in his later years was his grandchildren. He took immense pride in their accomplishments — whether in academics, rodeos, other sports, or life in general. Despite his declining health, his face would light up whenever they entered the room, and he eagerly looked for any opportunity to watch them rodeo, play sports, or share in their successes. He made one final trip to Cooperstown, N.Y., this past summer to watch his grandson play baseball, a game he greatly enjoyed.

In addition to his love for his family, Wayne had a lifelong passion for farm auctions and sales. He spent countless hours at these events, always looking for a good deal and enjoying the fellowship of fellow enthusiasts. Even in his later years, he continued this hobby with enthusiasm, often spending time watching farm sales online with his family.

Wayne is survived by his son, Gaelen (Susan) Lane of Morrill, Neb.; daughter, Pamela (Josh) Hawkins of Brighton, Colo.; grandchildren, Coby Lane, Ryley Lane, Baleigh Lane, Lane Hawkins, Abigail Hawkins, Cooper Hawkins, and Madilyn Hawkins; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and cherished friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Blanche; parents, Harvey and Frances Lane; sister, Cynthia Lane; and grandson, Tyler Lane.

Carl "Wayne" Lane will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He was a father, proud grandfather, and loyal friend. His legacy of hard work and zest for life will be remembered by those who knew him best.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 9, 2024 at Fort Logan Cemetery, 4400 W Kenyon Ave, Denver, CO 80236. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Wreaths Across America (Ft Logan) in Wayne's memory.

CHUCK WAGON

Carrot Raisin Salad

by Bobbie Keefer
For The Scout

Even picky kids like this sweet salad.

Carrot Raisin Salad is a simple salad with the perfect mix of crunch and sweetness. An easy dish to make for a potluck, I substitute the raisins with craisins (dried cranberries) for a holiday side dish.

Do not use crushed pineapple. The salad will become soggy. Simply cut the tidbits into morsels if smaller pineapple is desired.

Oddly, my grandkids love vegetables. My granddaughter Shayla's favorite vegetable is Brussels sprouts. It tastes like cabbage — she has those German genes!

- CARROT RAISIN SALAD**
- INGREDIENTS
- 1/2 cup raisins
 - 1 small can pineapple tidbits
 - 5-6 carrots
 - 1/2 cup mayonnaise
 - 1 tablespoon sugar

DIRECTIONS

Put raisins in small bowl. Add



juice from pineapple and hot water to completely cover and plump up the raisins.

Meanwhile, peel and shred carrots. Put carrots in pretty serving bowl. Add mayonnaise and sugar. Stir to coat.

Fold in drained raisins and pineapple. Cover and chill in refrigerator.

Gently toss when ready to serve.

LUNCH MENUS

- AGATE**
- Monday, Dec. 2: Macaroni and cheese.
- Tuesday, Dec. 3: Chicken patty sandwich
- Wednesday, Dec 4: Cheesy spaghetti, dinner roll.
- Thursday, Dec. 5: Crunchy chicken tender wrap.
- BENNETT**
- Monday, Dec. 2: Crunchy chicken tender wrap, coleslaw, corn.
- Tuesday, Dec. 3: Hot dog taquito, corn chips, green beans.
- Wednesday, Dec 4: Turkey meatballs with bun, mashed potatoes, cooked carrots.
- Thursday, Dec. 5: Cheeseburger, French fries, baked beans.
- BYERS**
- Monday Dec. 2: Chicken tenders, biscuit, celery sticks, tropical fruit.
- Tuesday, Dec. 3: Soft tacos, corn bread, carrots with ranch, pears.
- Wednesday, Dec. 4: Chili, cinnamon roll, corn, applesauce.
- Thursday, Dec. 5: Meatball sub, coleslaw, oranges.
- STRASBURG**
- Tuesday, Dec. 3: Pizza.
- Wednesday, Dec 4: Chicken and waffles.
- Thursday, Dec. 5: Walking tacos.

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Small biz the focus of post-Thanksgiving Saturday

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday shopping season, sandwiched between Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lies a day dedicated to celebrating and supporting local economic engines — Small Business Saturday.

Small Business Saturday was first conceived during a time of economic struggle, in the wake of the Great Recession that gripped the United States in the late 2000s. In this challenging economic climate, many small businesses found themselves grappling with declining sales and dwindling customer bases. Unlike their larger counterparts, these small businesses often lacked the financial cushioning to withstand prolonged periods of diminished income.

Recognizing the pivotal role small businesses play in both the economy and community well-being, American Express introduced Small Business Saturday in 2010. Held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, this initiative was designed to encourage holiday shoppers to shift their spending focus from big-box retailers to locally-owned shops and businesses.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, small businesses account for 99.9% of all U.S. businesses and employ nearly half of the nation's private workforce. They are critical drivers of economic growth.

By encouraging consumers to shop small during one of the busiest shopping weekends of the year, Small Business Saturday helps ensure that more of the money spent stays in local economies. Studies have shown that for every dollar spent at a small business, approximately 67 cents stays within the local community.

Beyond the economic benefits, small businesses contribute significantly to the social fabric of communities. They offer personalized service, unique products, and a level of familiarity that corporations cannot match.

Small Business Saturday strengthens the ties between small businesses and their communities. It provides a platform for local enterprises to showcase their products and services, often leading to increased visibility and a broader customer base. Furthermore, the day's events often foster a sense of community pride, as residents come together to support their neighbors and celebrate the unique character of their local areas.

Small Business Saturday is more than just a day on the calendar—it's a movement that celebrates the essence of entrepreneurship and community.

— Marijane Jobe

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November 30, 2024

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