



The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 11

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

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Construction of new 'Burg park delayed

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — Efforts to make Strasburg's newest recreational jewel come to fruition have been delayed, but officials hope to be back on track for completion by the end of year.

During a special meeting Feb. 5, the Strasburg Metro Parks & Recreation District Board of Directors unanimously voted to reject all three final bids for Community Park East and provide District Manager Angie Graf the authority to proceed in finding a satisfactory resolution within the project's \$3.5 million budget.

Four companies submitted bids for the project with the board perusing the three finalists whose proposals met the scope of work and timeline requirement; however, all three bids were over the budgeted amount. Final bids were just under \$3.7 million from Taylor Kohrs LLC, just over \$3.96 million from Building by Design, and approximately \$4.15 million

SEE STRASBURG PRD PAGE 24



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The transition of a former electric cooperative equipment yard into Community Park East along the east side of Wagner Street between Colorado and Sunset avenues in Strasburg has been delayed as Strasburg Metro Park & Recreation District officials recently rejected all three final construction bids.



LANCE MANGHAM/For The Scout

Last week's winds made for clear skies and phenomenal viewing of planets and stars, including this view of the Horsehead Nebula about 9:30 p.m. Feb. 5 from the Wolf Creek Run subdivision in northwest Strasburg.

Schools set plans for ICE visits

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

While school officials statewide are hopeful the trend of no immigration enforcement interruption continues, indications are that any campus visits will be minimally invasive and low-key.

In the case of a visit from ICE agents, protocols are in place to protect local students, teachers and staff in areas that are off-limits.

Through the end of last week, recommended protocols for handling Immigration and Customs Enforce-

ment actions on campus have not yet been utilized by any Colorado school district.

"A survey of superintendents found no reports of ICE officials visiting schools in Colorado," said a memo to school districts statewide. "If ICE visits a school, it is more likely due to parents being detained and arranging care for their child."

Last week's memo came from education oversight groups, including East Central BOCES, which includes Bennett through Agate. I-70 Corridor superintendents have also met as a group to

discuss how to handle the situation.

School officials and staff have been reminded that ICE officers are not offered any exceptions to laws regarding restricted access to classrooms or student information.

"If ICE arrives at the school seeking access to a student or records, immediately contact the principal and superintendent. As with any directory request, follow FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) and district policy, which prohibit the dis-

SEE ICE & SCHOOLS PAGE 16

DT School proceeds with principal search

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — In addition to an update on the search for a new secondary principal, the Deer Trail School Board was informed Feb. 3 of recent efforts by the district's library partner to upgrade the inventory of books for older students.

According to Superintendent Mike Jobman, the district has received 10 applicants for the middle and high school principal position, currently held by the retiring Greg Swiatkowski.

"Our selection committee will get it narrowed down to probably three or four (finalists) with the plan to have interviews on Feb. 21," he said. "That's a staff development day as well, so should be a good opportunity for a

lot of interaction with the staff and input afterwards."

The school hopes to name Swiatkowski's successor before spring break.

LIBRARY NEWS

Davies Library School Librarian Liaison Katie Musser updated the board about efforts to bulk up the inventory of books and materials for students and customers above elementary age.

Of the 226 new titles recently purchased by Musser, 112 were in the young adult category, 53 for middle school, 12 adult, and 49 in the elementary — 23 for the lower grades and 26 for the upper levels. A previous purchase was heavily weighted for the school's youngest

SEE DEER TRAIL BOE PAGE 16