



The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 30

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

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

'Burg Schools shuffle principals for '25-26

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — About 2½ months after being part of five staff suspended because of an investigation surrounding a boys locker room incident, the two lead administrators at Hemphill Middle School were formally fired and their replacements for the next school year named.

During a 7 a.m. special board meeting June 20,

the Strasburg School Board unanimously approved Superintendent Kelle Bongard's recommendation of "rescission of prior offer" to both Hemphill Middle School Principal Johnnie Echer and Assistant Principal Avis Devlin.

"All administration contracts were recommended and approved by the board of education at the March meeting," Bongard said. "Since the board approved the renewal of the two administrative contracts, the appropriate process was to rescind

those renewals accordingly."

The board also approved JaLee Kitzman as new Hemphill principal and Jeromie Bongard as middle school dean of students. Kitzman was in her first year at Strasburg Elementary principal, and Bongard was high school dean when they were transferred to the middle school to replace Echer and Devlin. No middle school assistant principal

SEE STRASBURG BOE

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Shari Mathias, left, kicks through a board held by her daughter, Jocelyn, during the June 14 grand opening of the new Colorado Martial Arts Academy in Strasburg. SEE PAGE 9.

Deer Trail board OKs new gas station; new mechanical sewer plant delayed

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — A new large-scale gas station and convenience store in Deer Trail is another step closer to fruition after town trustees recently approved preliminary plans from the developer.

In addition, plans for a new, more expensive mechanical wastewater treatment plant has apparently been put on hold.

During their June 10 meeting, trustees unanimously approved the minor subdivision plat proposal for the new Maverik station and auxiliary lot at 512 and 555 Seventh Ave. The location is immediately off the westbound interchange with I-70 and between Cedar and Date streets along Seventh Avenue.

The east side of the roadway is where the fuel pumps and convenience store will be located while the west side will house highway-visible signage and a detention pond for runoff collection purposes. The west lot is where the current Phillips 66 gas station is located, but it will be demolished.

Conditions of approval include:

- A development agreement quantifying and securing all public improvements — street repaving, right-of-way landscaping, detention pond and sewer line relocation/installation — including financial security to ensure the town can complete improvements if Maverik defaults.
- Installation of a guardrail along the south and west sides of the

SEE DEER TRAIL BOT

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Bennett board softens on water valve expense to residents

by Shylo Bockenfeld
Staff Writer

BENNETT — Bennett's Board of Trustees indicated recently that it hopes to take some pressure off homeowners with changes to the town's mandatory Pressure Reducing Valve Program.

During its June 10 regular meeting, the board laid groundwork for increasing the rebate to \$552 per homeowner and delaying the pressure change to September of 2026.

Homeowners will still have the option of self repair but town code must be adhered to. A preliminary rebate of \$322 was mentioned during the board's May meeting, where it was also announced that the number of impacted residents had doubled from preliminary estimates and that the total cost jumped from approximately \$800 to \$1,000 per home.

The board is considering three options to assist impacted residents after learning

earlier this year of additional costs for twice as many homes as expected, particularly in the older parts of town. Town staff was directed to prepare a resolution for the board to vote on during its June 24 meeting, which occurred after press time.

Option one was instruction for homeowner self repair for which the town would post instructional videos on its website. Self repair was already approved by the board and this option would not increase the rebate or affect the budget. Multiple trustees indicated self-repair was the most unlikely option to be taken by most residents.

"The homeowner, if they did the work, they would be liable if something happened, right? So hopefully their homeowner's insurance would take effect, right?" Asked trustee Denise Smith, who also wondered if option one could make the town liable for unsuccessful repairs. The town attorney, Scotty Krob, advised that the town



A couple of young ladies listen to Eric Golden and his band during Party in the Park at Trupp Park in Bennett June 13.

would not be liable.

"Option one looks nice in print but in a practical application it's not going to work," said Trustee Larry Vittum, who estimated that 1 in 10 Bennett homeowners might

be able to complete the installation on their own. "If you offer that to them, you're going to get a pretty high rate of failure and that is not the result the town is looking for."

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin

Barden, himself a longtime contractor, confirmed homeowners could struggle with a self repair.

"This does disproportion-

SEE BENNETT BOT

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COMMUNITY CORRAL

Master Gardener plans talk on support for pollinators

AURORA — Colorado State University Master Gardeners will host an informative talk on creating a habitat for pollinators in a yard from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, June 26, at Aurora Central Library, 14949 E. Alameda Parkway. At a presentation entitled "Creating Pollinator Habitat," CSU Master Gardener Ron Hogan will discuss pollinators, their needs to survive, and the plants that attract them so that participants can help support pollinators and ecosystem health in their own backyards. For additional information and to register, visit <https://auroraco.libnet.info>.

1 John conversation, potluck planned at Lutheran church

STRASBURG — A five-star and five-chapter discussion on the First Epistle of John will start with a potluck at 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, July 9 and 23, at Saron Lutheran Church, 1656 Main St., Strasburg. Evening prayer and Bible study will follow dinner with discussion centered on 1 John, which is thought to be a "sermon" about love, joy, and truth versus deception, harshness and the idea of the anti-christ. The basis of all — God is love. Conversation on 2-3 John is also planned. For more information, visit www.SaronStrasburg.org.

Rain barrel class participants offered free installation kit

LITTLETON — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce and Arapahoe County will host a rain barrel workshop from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, July 19, at Kelter Library, 585 S. Main St., Byers. Participation, which is limited to 30 people, includes a do-it-yourself rain barrel installation kit with diverter, hoses and spigots with seals, hole saw kit, and winter cover for diverter. According to a release, rain barrels help save money as a free water source; lessen runoff pollution; prevent soil erosion; reduce reliance on

Geometry, construction meet



Students in Corey Green's geometry class at Byers High School work on their final project — designing and building a model cabin. Above, Green checks in with sophomore Audrina Salomon, left, sophomore Ethan Hardee and freshman Aerro Frees.

drinking water water supplies; and control moisture around foundations. For more information or to register, visit www.coloradoraincatcher.com.

DT Pioneer Museum is open every Saturday thru August

DEER TRAIL — The Deer Trail Pioneer Museum will again be open from 2-4 p.m. every Saturday in June, July and August this summer. The museum is located at Second and Fir streets next to the town park. Admission is free. Donations are appreciated. For more information, call (303)884-8365.

18th Judicial District Court: Governor names new judge

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis June 18 filled a new judgeship created pursuant to Senate Bill 25-024 to the 18th Judicial District Court. James X. Quinn, the appointee, is presently a magistrate for criminal matters in the 18th Judicial District, a position he has held since 2019.

Previously, he was an assistant solicitor general (2016-19), first assistant attorney general (2011-19), and senior assistant attorney general (1999-2011) in the Colorado Attorney General's Office; and an attorney for Campbell, Bohn & Leffert, LLC (1995-99), The Law Office of Martin J. Plank, P.C. (1994-95); and Montgomery, Little & McGrew, P.C. (1992-94). Quinn earned his bachelor's degree and juris doctorate from the University of Colorado in 1989 and 1992, respectively. The appointment is effective July 1.

Late registration commences for gymnastics, cheer season

STRASBURG — While the early bird deadline to register for Quarter 3 of Twisters Gymnastics & Cheer has passed, sign-up is still available. The summer season runs 12 weeks from Monday, June 30, through Tuesday, Sept. 30, at the Strasburg Recreation Center, 1932 Burton St. Registration after Thursday, June 26, costs an additional \$25.

Participants can choose from recreational gymnastics, cheer classes, or competitive teams for ages 2 and up. Each class is carefully constructed to motivate the children in a fun and progressive environment with the primary emphasis on safety and proper training methods for injury prevention and physical growth.

Spaghetti dinner scheduled to benefit Byers firefighters

BYERS — Byers Fire Protection District 9 will host its ninth annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 4:30-8 p.m., Thursday, July 3, at the Byers Firehouse, 100 N. Main St. The meal will consist of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drinks. Meals can be pre-ordered to eat-in or take out at byersfire.org. Cost is \$8 per adult; \$7 per senior ages 65 and up; and \$6 per child.

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WEEK OF JUNE 23

ately impact our lower income areas in town,” added Mayor Whitney Oakley, who continued to encourage the board to look for room in the budget to assist homeowners in the repairs.

Option two was using \$201,093 from the water fund, which allots an additional \$228 per homeowner, bringing the total rebate amount to \$552 per homeowner. Option three would split the expense over two years from the general fund.

Vittum preferred option three because the general fund is partially made up of sales tax which would relieve some of the tax burden on Bennett residents. He cautioned that option two could raise the cost of water for Bennett residents in the future.

“To be clear, option two does not raise water rates. It takes from the reserve in the water fund,” said Oakley, who also reminded the board that it would be required to vote to raise water rates.

Expectations are that the planned one-pressure system will be more cost effective, and trustee Royce Pindell pointed out that some sales tax (no more than 10%) can be attributed to the water fund later if necessary.

Pindell, Vittum and Donna Sus voted no to a draft recommendation on option two, while all four remaining trustees voted yes. The board was expected to have a resolution to vote on this week.

Over the past 10 years, the town decommissioned the historic elevated water storage tank north of the train tracks and built a 500,000-gallon elevated water storage tank near town hall to increase water pressure.

The move to a one-pressure-zone system is expected to enhance efficiency and reliability and in an effort to reduce maintenance on the water distribution system.

Initially town officials considered placing PRVs on their portion of the lines, but decided to pass the expense and complications on to homeowners of longstanding dwellings within town boundaries.

ANTISEMITISM NOT TOLERATED

Bennett will adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance’s working definition of antisemitism in order to address the issue as it appears in municipal issues such as graffiti.

“This is not a partisan issue. This straddles both sides of the line so this is not political. This is about hate and it is one of the oldest hates in the world — against the Jewish people,” said Oakley, who herself is Jewish.

The definition states, “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and

religious facilities.”

BENNVEST

A group of landowners in and around Bennett is forming a local authority for the purpose of making intergovernmental agreements with the town of Bennett, and they are calling it BennVest. Taxes from the new development will pay for the infrastructure needed to serve the new development.

The project currently has nine stakeholders and covers 3,712 acres of land across 26 parcels. Some of the stakeholders own multiple parcels, and each stakeholder placed \$1,000 in escrow upon joining. Financing will help fund regional public infrastructure such as water, sewer, storm, facilities and transportation, including road maintenance.

CIVIC CENTER PARK LIGHTS

The board approved a \$419,100 change order for a full buildout on 60-foot field lights for the new park’s two baseball fields.

The initial design on which the budget was based did not include a second baseball field or field lighting. Suss acknowledged the board for pushing for a second ball field and commended town staff for thinking ahead on the field lights. Installation of the lights before full buildout is preferred because the process becomes significantly more difficult with sidewalks and landscaping already in place.

WATER CAMPUS

Trustees approved change orders for the water campus design and construction amounting to an additional \$78,259.33. Suss voted no and noted that the change orders led her to wonder whether the town did its due diligence on the water campus bid.

Town Manager Trish Stiles reminded the board that the project is still under budget and change orders are typical to the process.

Vittum pointed out the board was asked to pay out roughly \$902,000 at the June 10 meeting alone with the PRV program and the two sets of change orders.

“Where is the money coming from for this? Is this in the budget? How is this going to affect taxation of people in our community?” he asked.

Stiles said the lights would come from the general fund with a possible grant match on part of the expense, while the board would need to choose between the water fund and the general fund if they provide additional assistance on their PRV program, and the well change orders will come from the water fund’s new development fees, as opposed to the maintenance budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Paul Venable is Bennett’s new community development coordinator. He has a background in policy and community engagement as well as an undergraduate degree in business administration and a masters degree in sustainable urban planning.

The town’s increased traffic enforcement has already begun with one ticket already on the docket for driving 9 mph over the posted speed limit.

The town set an eligibility hearing on July 22 for the potential annexation of Prairie Grass East and Prairie Grass West.

The annual State of the Town Address will occur on July 18 next to the Muegge House.



2025 4th of July Celebration

“Small Town Freedom”

Sunday, June 29th
11:00am - 2:00pm - 3rd Annual Car Show @ May Farms
-Event Hosted by May Farms

Wednesday, July 2nd
7:00pm - Byers Annual Rodeo
- Tickets \$5 per person
- Event Hosted by BPRD @ Quint Valley Fairgrounds

Thursday, July 3rd
5:00pm - 8:00pm - Byers Fire District Spaghetti Dinner
- Event Hosted by Byers Fire Department @ Fire House - (Donation per Meal)

Friday July 4th
7:30am - 9:30am - Knights of Columbus Breakfast Community Breakfast - Tickets \$5.00 per meal
- Event Hosted by Knights of Columbus @ Byers American Legion Hall

10:00am - Annual Parade (Free Event)
-Event Hosted by BPRD @ Front Street in Byers

10:45 - 3:00pm - Independence Festival - (Free Event)
Quilt Show / Car Display / Kids Activities / Street and Vendor Fair Celebration
- Live Bands - Eric Golden Band and Paul and Amie Hart
- Event Hosted by community businesses and BPRD @ Byers community Park

Saturday July 5th
5:00pm - 9:00pm - Community/Family Team Tournaments (Free Event)
-Event Hosted by BPRD @ Quint Valley ball fields / Arena Softball-Volleyball-Kickball Tournaments

9:00pm - BPRD Firework Display (Free Event)
- Quint Valley Fair Grounds in Byers

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PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout
Ominous clouds and threatening weather didn't keep I-70 Corridor residents away from the season-opening Party in the Park at Trupp Park in Bennett June 13. The event also included the sixth annual Corridor Creative Arts League (CCAL) Art Show & Artisan Market. Starting with top photo, attendees peruse the wide variety of vendors that set up shop; Arapahoe County Sheriff's Deputy Todd Ross stands alongside Beth Daniels after painting a miniature masterpiece. Arapahoe County Deputy Dennis Dempsey shows off his two-wheel mode of patrol transportation to interested youth spectators.



Flat recording fees effective July 1

LITTLETON — The Colorado Legislature approved legislation last year to increase document recording fees for the first time in more than 20 years. As a result, a flat fee of \$43 will replace current, variable fees that often incur charges for multiple pages beginning July 1. Additionally, recording documents related to a death will now cost a nominal fee of \$3. For many years, Colorado set a fee of \$13 to record the first page of a document and \$5 for each additional page. This payment structure made budgeting tough to predict, made calculating costs difficult for customers, and required county staff to spend

hours counting pages. Modernizing recording fees will make budgeting and revenue projection easier for county clerks across the state, according to Arapahoe County Clerk & Recorder Joan Lopez. Customers, she says, will appreciate consistency. “A predictable fee makes it easier for customers to know exactly how much their recording will cost,” Lopez said. “It will also streamline our process. Clerks won’t have to count pages to determine appropriate fees or reject submissions that don’t include correct payments because a customer miscounted.” For more information, visit www.arapahoeco.gov.

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DEER TRAIL BOT

FROM PAGE 1

signage and detention pond site to prevent vehicles from entering.

- Recording of the re-plat will occur in a way to not void the Phillips 66 station's new liquor license before it is no longer in business.

Throughout the preliminary approval process, developer representatives and town officials have reiterated that the approximately 5,600 square-foot store with 12 vehicle and eight semi fuel pumps will not become a truck stop, comparing the proposed facility to the QuikTrip in Bennett and not Love's.

"No overnight parking or much additional traffic to go further north of Date (Street)," said Deer Trail Mayor Judd Behrens.

Developer representatives have indicated a desire to commence construction later summer with a completion date between 180 and 200 days after breaking ground. A time frame on demolition of the existing station is unclear.

SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

Evolving state statutes regarding wastewater discharge permits, particularly for rural municipalities, have led the board to move forward with a revised, phased approach for the town's sewer project, including plans to defer construction of a new mechanical plant for approximately eight years.

In the more immediate future, plans are to remove the existing lift station, install a new bar screen upstream of the existing sewer ponds, repair two failed high-pressure lines, dredge the lagoons of sludge, and install new bubblers in the lagoons to replace clog-prone aerators.

The town will continue to conduct a cultural resource study to determine the location for a new lift station and new high-pressure sewer lines. The board has an approved a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,000 for the study.

Town officials, including water/wastewater Wayne Ramey, have said the updated plan "demonstrates proactive compliance" and is expected to satisfy Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment rules but that future regulatory changes could be sprung on short notice.

The town is already aware that an alternative of evaporative ponds is not agreeable to the state health department because of insufficient land availability. Deer Trail currently has about 25 acres available, compared to the state requiring 100 acres of space.

CODE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST BUILDER

The board authorized the town attorney to initiate code enforcement against Clayton Homes for failure to build a required asphalt road for their modular home development and installation of non-compliant 6-foot front-yard fences without permits.

According to town staff, the missing road creates access and maintenance issues, especially during winter.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Water sold in May totaled 1,043,934 gallons with approximately 7,500 gallons (0.3%) loss from hydrant flushing and testing.
- The board approved a special event permit for the Elks Lodge for an anticipated July 26 poker run.
- The trustees next meet in regular session at 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 8.

STRASBURG BOE

FROM PAGE 1

hire was announced.

Elementary assistant principal Cameron Schiller was approved as interim elementary principal for 2025-26 and longtime elementary teacher Jami Hopwood has been named interim elementary assistant principal.

According to Kelle Bongard, the new building administration hires are the same as they've been since April 11.

"Due to the timing of the hiring season — typically around spring break

— and to maintain consistency for students, staff, and the community, the administrative positions will remain as they have been since April," she said.

Per school board policy, the superintendent can appoint interim positions for up to one year. In the case of Schiller and Hopwood, the interim title is necessary because their new positions are considered promotions and must be posted before filled permanently.

Friday morning's personnel actions confirmed reports that Echer and Devlin had been permanently relieved of their duties during June 12 meetings with Kelle Bongard.

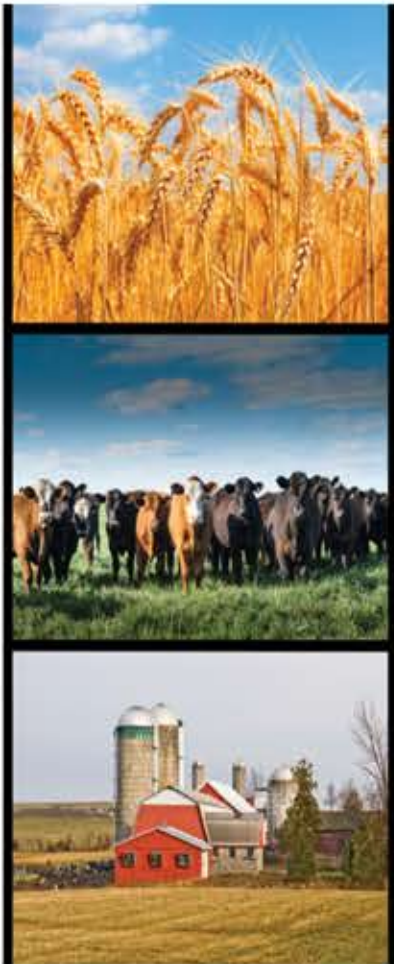
"Two employees were found to have violated at least one district policy," Bongard said in a June 13 e-mail to The I-70 Scout. "Two employees have been cleared of any policy violations. The outcome concerning the remaining employee is still in process."

The two staff members that were cleared of any violations had their resignations approved during the April 7 board meeting, a few days prior to their suspension with pay.

As of the end of last week, there was no resolution concerning the fifth suspended employee.

The student altercation that led to the staff movement remains under investigation.

"There are two separate investigations: one regarding employees and one regarding students," said Kelle Bongard in her June 13 e-mail. "Both investigations are being conducted by independent investigators to ensure impartiality and fairness for all parties involved."



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ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout
Anythink Bennett library hosted a Sew & Stamp workshop as part of its mySummer program. The program was presented by the Art Students League of Denver. Above, Michelle Miller starts sewing fabric pieces together for a shoulder bag.

LIBRARY NEWS

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Create Shark-tastic Memories: How have sharks adapted to rule the ocean? Curious young minds ages 9-11 will dive into this fin-tastic session with the Downtown Aquarium in Denver to uncover the secrets behind these powerful predators. Through dynamic demos and interactive exploration, children will discover shark anatomy and behavior and learn why sharks are essential to keeping ocean ecosystems in balance. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 10-10:45 a.m., Thursday, June 26.

Stitch by Stitch – Learn to Knit: Teens ages 12-18 will learn the fundamentals of knitting in a hands-on class with local expert Denise Brokaw. Whether a participant is brand new or just needs a refresher, they'll leave with the skills needed to keep stitching on their own. 2-3:30 p.m., Friday, June 27.

Create with Color – Stained Glass Workshop: Adults can learn the fundamentals of stained glass and create a

vibrant sun catcher in this hands-on workshop with Little Glass Art. They will leave with a one-of-a-kind piece to let the light shine through the window. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday, June 27.

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

Zumba class: Adults of all fitness levels will get moving with a fun, high-energy Zumba class. Instructor Caitlin Phillips will present an easy-to-follow dance fitness program set to Latin and international beats. No dance experience needed. 10-11 a.m., Friday, June 27.

Learning on the Go: Toddlers ages 18 months to 5 years old can enjoy storytime and songs, then take home free books and activities to continue learning at home. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 2.

Tea at 2: Join us for tea, conversation, and relaxing activities like coloring, puzzles or cards. Tea and activities provided—or bring your own! 2-3 p.m., Wednesday, July 2.



Denver Railings & METAL ART
3803 Headlight Road
Strasburg, CO 80136
(720) 277-3534
www.DenverRailings.com
Show Room Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m., M-F

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ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO





STARS & STRIPES
JULY 3
RIVERDALE REGIONAL PARK
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4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601

 /AdamsCountyGov  @AdamsCountyGov

 Public Agencies  /AdamsCountyCo

Adcogov.org



Deer Trail School hosted its fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade spring concert May 13. From top photo, sixth-graders keep rhythm on five-gallon buckets; Emmalin Thomas performs a piano solo; and Omar Hussein, left, and Abdikadir Haji lead the sixth grade in a song and dance.

MCC welcomes new Bennett Center chief

FORT MORGAN — The Morgan Community College Bennett Center has a new coordinator, and two other officials have been added to the staff at the main campus in Fort Morgan.

Cheyenne Espinosa was recently appointed the coordinator of the Bennett Center. She brings a diverse background in health care and education, having previously worked as an optometric technician and early childhood educator. Her multifaceted experience will enhance MCC's community-focused approach, according to a release.

Former Bennett Center Coordinator Robbin Schinke is now MCC director of Regional Community Outreach for both Bennett and Limon.

Cade Hartless joins MCC as Custodian I, contributing hands-on experience in high-level sanitation and environmental safety. Previously employed by Rocky Mountain Biohazard as part of a biotech cleanup crew,



Espinosa

Hartless's background will support MCC's commitment to maintaining clean, safe, and welcoming facilities, the release continues.

Erick Romero-Loera has been hired as College Recruiter and Social Media Engagement Specialist.

An MCC alumnus, Romero-Loera earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in 2023 after receiving an associate's degree in general studies from MCC. He has managed teams of over 100 associates, implementing process improvements and mentoring colleagues.

Romero-Loera's leadership skills, bilingual fluency, and passion for connecting with students make him a key asset in expanding MCC's outreach and engagement efforts.



Hartless



Romero-Loera

Gel Blasters, fire dancers, BMX riders added for 119th annual Arapahoe Fair

AURORA — Tickets to the 119th annual Arapahoe County Fair are now available at arapahoecountyfair.com.

This cherished rite of summer returns from Thursday, July 24, through Sunday, July 27, at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Park. It showcases the county's agricultural and Western heritage through 4-H, traditional farming and educational activities, and family entertainment.

Tickets cost \$25 per person. Admission is free for kids under 36 inches tall. Tickets include parking, unlimited carnival rides, Colorado Pro Rodeo Association competition, fireworks if allowed, live entertainment, truck and tractor pulls, the Canine Stars Stunt Dog Show, mutton bustin,' public contests, a petting farm, 4-H livestock shows, the Kids Corral and more. Food and beverages will be available for purchase and vendors are located throughout the fairgrounds.

"Each year brings something new and exciting to the fair," said Commissioner Leslie Summey.

New this year are a silent disco, Gel Blasters (paintball but for younger children, Polynesian fire dancers, a BMX showcase, axe-throwing, and a trampoline show.

Pours on the Plains — the county's special ticketed craft brew festival for ages 21 and over — returns from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, July 25. The event features 15+ local breweries, a golf simulator and other games, and live music. Pours on the Plains is not included in the general admission.

Fair hours are 4 p.m. to midnight July 24; 11 a.m. to midnight July 25-26; and 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. July 27.

Schedules and tickets are available at www.arapahoecountyfair.com.

The Arapahoe County Fairgrounds & Park is located at 25690 E. Quincy Ave. Aurora.

Organizers seek volunteers for various positions

AURORA — The Arapahoe County Fair is seeking 100 or more volunteers to help with tasks ranging from greeting and directing fairgoers to assisting with craft activities inside Heritage Hall.

Volunteers receive a free T-shirt, snacks, beverages and preferred parking.

Many positions are outside and will require volunteers to stay on their feet for significant periods of time, but plenty of indoor and sit-down options are available. Individuals ages 16 and groups are welcome to volunteer.

Volunteers who volunteer for eight or more hours are eligible for one free admission into the fair on the day of their choosing.

For more information, visit www.arapahoegov.com or contact Sara Overby at soverby@arapahoegov.com or (303)738-7938.

PUBLIC COMPETITIONS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are also needed for the public competitions (formally known as Open Class Living Arts) to provide a unique opportunity for members of the community to show off their talents in culinary, visual, fiber and skilled arts.

Volunteers assist with the entry process, help with judging, and create exhibit displays. Shifts for the public competitions are open from Monday through Thursday, July 21-24 before the fair opens to the public.

For more information, contact Kathy McDaniel at (303)919-2177.

CommUNITY Fair links people, resources

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County Human Services will host its biannual Thriving CommUNITY Resource Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 12, at Town Center at Aurora.

The fair connects underrepresented Arapahoe County families with local organizations and services that support basic needs.

"Our goal is to showcase wrap-around services to residents of Arapahoe County beyond what the county can offer," said Volunteer & Community Outreach Supervisor Kate Slater. "From food insecurity and mental health to housing and social support, we aim to connect those in need with those who can help."

Services offered in addition to the county resources include:

- AllHealth Network, a nonprofit community mental health and substance use recovery center. The center provides wraparound care such as counseling, psychiatry, crisis services, substance use treatment, and case management.
- BenefitsInAction, a nonprofit, strives to increase understanding, access and utilization of health care resources. Its team works with individuals to help them recognize the health-related benefits they qualify for, apply for those benefits, and utilize them as effectively as possible.

The Butterfly Foundation has been helping people adversely affected by tragedy or hardship rebuild their lives through acts of compassion, generosity and financial assistance.

The Center on Colfax is the largest LGBTQ community center in the Rocky Mountain region, giving voice to Colorado's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community and playing a pivotal role in statewide initiatives to reduce harassment and discrimination.

Show & Tell provides one-on-one parental advisement by phone call, e-mail, virtually, or in-person to discuss with parents' specific challenges, concerns and goals. Its parent educators can provide tailored guidance and advice. Show & Tell also organizes workshops, webinars and training sessions that focus on various aspects of raising a child with a disability.

Urban Sanctuary provides communities of color across Denver with access to yoga, mindfulness and wellness practices that are vital to healing from systemic oppression.

The Thriving CommUNITY Resource Fair will also feature live music, food trucks, and family-friendly activities.

Town Center at Aurora is located at 14200 E. Alameda Ave., Aurora.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

From left photo, owner Jesse Bernal cuts the ribbon on his new Colorado Martial Arts Academy, 1402 Monroe St., Strasburg, as family students and community members join in during a grand opening ceremony June 14. Holding the ribbon are Bernal's wife, Shawna, left and I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce President Becky Zierer; and James Durbin is used like a battering ram by Connor Bernal, left, Jesse Bernal during a board-breaking demonstration. Fellow student Shari Mathias holds the board as it is split into multiple pieces.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Right photo, Magik Mirror Metaphysical, 56171 E Colfax Ave., Units 7-8, celebrated its 2-year anniversary in mid-May with a celebratory delayed ribbon-cutting May 13 with members of the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce. Pictured, from left, are Chamber board member Angie Pinela and Zierer, Magik Mirror co-owners Zona Post and Tonja Zabel, and Chamber Vice President Lindsay Wheaton.



KATHY SMILEY/The I-70 Scout

Participants in the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn meeting at May Farms June 18 heard a presentation about Teens for Change June 18. Teens for Change is the youth component of the I-70 Corridor Communities That Care coalition. The youth group organizes and participates in events, projects, and outreach to improve youth health, equity and safety. It holds skill-building workshops and plans projects that enhance members' leadership abilities and teach them the importance of giving back to their community. Group members also achieved certifications in CPR, first aid, and American Sign Language. Above, Teens for Change member Morgyn Daniel speaks about the organization, noting that 2024 activities included Water Day, Sports Day, CSI Day, Inflatable Day and Bingo Day. Upcoming events this year include a Bowling Night and a Community Night Out, and group members will speak at the Bennett State of the Town luncheon. Morgyn will be a freshman at Bennett High School when school starts in August.

ARAPAHOE COUNTY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CASE NO. LDC24-007,

COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE (CMRS) /

LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LDC) TEXT AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL: Modification of the Land Development Code (LDC) concerning Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF), which are currently referred to as Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) in the LDC. The proposed amendment retitles the CMRS regulations to WCF and establishes specific regulations for WCF.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 15, 2025, 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 allowed to be heard concerning the above-described Case No. LDC24-007, Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) / Land Development Code Text Amendment. The agenda will typically be posted by 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. You can also reach us by calling 720-874-6650 or by emailing planning@arapahoegov.com during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Joan Lopez, Clerk to the Board

Published in The I-70 Scout on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, and Eastern Colorado News on Friday, June 27, 2025.

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New gym floor among summer projects at Byers School

by Kathy Smiley
Staff Writer

BYERS — Byers School students and staff will start a new school year in August with new pencils, new goals, and a shiny new gym floor.

Work on replacing the floor of the big gym began the day after school closed for the summer, and the project is proceeding ahead of schedule. The Byers School Board discussed

the floor replacement at its June 19 meeting but were unable to get a look at the progress — the gym is locked down and declared a “no walk” zone by the contractor Ryan Brand of Brand Name Quality Flooring.

The almost \$180,000 project was approved by the Byers School Board last October. The boards on the previous gym floor were curling and cracking and too thin to take more sanding. Board president Donna Sauer noted

that the floor had been in place for 45 years.

“It’s been in there since ‘79,” she said at the October board meeting.

The project includes tearing out the existing floor and caulking and sealing the concrete.

“We will lay 6 mil plastic as a moisture barrier, then we will lay a sheet of five-eighths plywood with the sleeper system attached ... then a three-quarter-inch sheet across the top of that,” Brand wrote in an e-mail quote in October. “This is a true floating sports floor. The way it’s supposed to be done.”

The top layer is Infinity maple, made for sports floors. After installation, the floor is sanded and the game lines are painted. Staining and stencil work complete the process.

“They’re on their final stages,” said Superintendent Tom Turrell June 19. “They’ve gotten all their sands done. They’ll do a sealant and their staining

and painting.

“Then they’ll go ahead and put a couple coats of finish on it, and we’ll be good to put that jigsaw puzzle of bleachers back,” he said.

Sections of bleachers line the halls around the gym. The bleacher removal and reattachment was contracted to H2I Group for a base price of \$4,150.00.

Other work scheduled this summer includes an upgrade of a teacher apartment and the painting of cabinets and installation of new countertops in junior high classrooms.

Stalls in the junior high and high school restrooms will be upgraded with doors from floor to ceiling for increased privacy and security. The board approved a \$57,652 bid for the work from Continental Partition Systems out of Frederick in October.

In fiscal business, the board adopted a 2025-26 budget totaling \$96,912,177 — of which approximately \$94.8 million is allocated to the general fund, \$1 million to the designated grant fund, \$71,000 to capital reserves, \$118,000 to the childcare fund; \$209,000 to the food services fund, \$438,000 to the activity fund and \$3,000 to the endowment fund.

Supplemental appropriations were made to three funds in the 2024-25 budget because additional funding was received after the budget was finalized. Supplemental funds included \$412,000 into the general fund, \$1,000 into the capital reserve fund, and \$30,370 into the designated grant fund.

The board approved the extra duty contracts for coaches of spring sports. While other extra duty contracts were approved in April, contracts for those involved in spring activities are not finalized until the season is over and staff evaluations are complete.

A notice to participate in the coordinated election in November was also given the nod by the board. The notice is a formality; open board seats and the possibility of placing a question on the ballot will occur in August.

Turrell said he will, at that time, ask the board to consider placing a question on the ballot asking voters to extend the mill levy override that has been in effect for the past five years.

“It would not be any additional tax dollars; it would be equal to what’s being currently levied,” he said, adding that the funds would go to safety and communications improvements including potentially including upgrading the school’s antiquated fire alarm system.

SMOKE SHOW MEATS

Tues. - Sat.; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
56761 E. Colfax Ave.
Strasburg, CO
smokeshowmeats.com



Weekly Specials! Happy 4th of July

July 1 - 5

• \$1 Off/Lb. Brats & Burger Patties

July 8 - 12

• \$1 Off/Lb. Short Ribs & Pork Shoulder Steak

Come Celebrate Our Country's Independence In Byers July 2-5!



A Celebration of Community and Freedom

Join us for an unforgettable day filled with live music, games, food, quilt show and fun as we celebrate our nation's independence!

Come out for a family-friendly event that has something for everyone.

Date: July 4th
Time: 10:30AM - 3:00 PM
Location: Byers Centennial Park
Admission: Free!
Parking: Free parking available on-site

Live Music All Day Long!

Eric Golden Honky Tonk Band: Get your boots tapping to the lively sounds of this local favorite.

Paul and Amie Hart: Enjoy beautiful, heartfelt melodies perfect for a relaxing afternoon.

Quilt Show

Experience the artistry and tradition of quilting at our quilt show, where beautifully crafted quilts tell stories of heritage, creativity, and community. Don't miss this stunning display of talent and craftsmanship!

Outdoor Games & Activities for Kids

• Bounce houses, relay races, face painting, carnival games, and more fun-filled activities!

Delicious Food from Local Food Trucks & Vendors

• Satisfy your cravings with a variety of tasty treats and mouth watering meals.

• Explore our local vendors offering unique products and handmade treasures.

Car Display

• As part of the Independence Festival, we're excited to showcase a classic car display, featuring vintage automobiles that embody the spirit of Americana and celebrate our nation's rich history.

Bring your friends, family, and neighbors!

This is a community event you won't want to miss. Let's celebrate the 4th of July together in the best way possible!

Byers Independence CPRA July 2nd Rodeo

Rodeo Performance Starts @ 7pm - July 2nd

Slack @ 9am

Contact Jennifer Miller 303-622-9745 or text 303-594-7716

www.coloradopriderodeo.com

Extra Activities, Mutton Bustin', Sheep Scramble, Boot Scramble. Enter kid contestants at the rodeo.

Visit our website for more information: www.byersparkandrec.com



**INDEPENDENCE
COMMUNITY
BALL
TOURNAMENTS**

**FIREWORKS
DISPLAY**

Saturday, July 5th, 2025

5:00pm - 9:00pm @ Quint Valley Fairgrounds: Free Event

Food Trucks available for Food and Drinks

Gather your team and join the fun! We're calling church groups, businesses, and families to compete in our Community Ball Tournament, featuring softball, kickball, and volleyball. Battle it out for the coveted Top Ball Trophy and year-long bragging rights. Get creative with custom team shirts and enjoy an exciting afternoon and evening of competition, food trucks, vendors, and community spirit. The tournament culminates with our spectacular fireworks display, making it the ultimate ball game event of the year!

To register, e-mail: 4thofjulyevents@byersparkandrec.com

Free Firework Display Starts at 9:00pm



July 4th, 2025

Quilt Show is Free and Open to the Public

July 4th: 8:00am - 3:30pm
Byers American Legion Hall

Quilt Show Theme: "Something Borrowed, Something Blue, Something Old, Something New!"

Step into a world where creativity meets tradition at our spectacular Quilt Show! Join us for a celebration of craftsmanship, color, and community. Marvel at a breathtaking display of intricate quilts, each a masterpiece woven with love and passion. From classic designs to innovative techniques, explore a kaleidoscope of patterns and textures that tell unique stories.

Interested in entering a quilt? Click Here to Register or Email us at: 4thofjulyevents@byersparkandrec.com

This is a non juried event to welcome all levels of talent.

Attendees will vote for their favorite quilt. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes awarded!

Contact JaLee Kitzman by phone or email:
4th of July Event Coordinator
Byers Park and Recreation District
4thofjulyevents@byersparkandrec.com
303-947-2288



Hang your quilt July 3rd from 9am - 1pm
Byers American Legion Hall
278 W Front St, Byers, CO 80103



The Gift Shop

**Your GIFT SHOP
on the
I-70 Corridor!**



Downtown Strasburg CO
56781 E. Colfax Ave.
303-622-4226

BYERS WSD 2025 Drinking Water Quality Report

Covering Data For Calendar Year 2024

Public Water System ID: CO0103010

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year’s water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact KAGEN KITZMAN at 303-822-5384 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality.

General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminant Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time.

You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family’s risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact KAGEN KITZMAN at 303-822-5384. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Service Line Inventory

New state and federal laws require us to inventory all water service lines in our service area to classify the material. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. Byers WSD is still working to determine if there is any Lead or Galvanized Iron within the distribution system and service connections. If you would like to view a copy of our service line inventory or have questions about the material of your service line, contact KAGEN KITZMAN at 303-822-5384.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcdcompliance.com/ccr. The report is located under “Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports”. Search the table using our system name or ID, or by contacting KAGEN KITZMAN at 303-822-5384. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur. It does not mean that the contamination has or will occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed below. Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

Sources (Water Type - Source Type)	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
WELL NO 5 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 1 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 2 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 3 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 4 (Groundwater-Well)	EPA Chemical Inventory/Storage Sites, Low Intensity Residential, Fallow, Small Grains, Road Miles

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

- **Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants

BYERS WSD routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm <u>OR</u> If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2024	Lowest period percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	1	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System									
Lead and Copper Individual Sample Results									
Contaminant Name	Time Period	Tap Sample Range Low - High	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	09/05/2024 to 09/05/2024	0.021 to 0.078	0.06	10	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	09/05/2024 to 09/05/2024	0 to 3	1	10	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	12.2	12.2 to 12.2	1	ppb	60	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	74.2	74.2 to 74.2	1	ppb	80	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic	2022	1	1 to 1	1	ppb	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2022	0.02	0.02 to 0.02	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
									metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2022	2	2 to 2	1	ppb	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2022	1	1 to 1	1	ppb	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2022	152.4	152.4 to 152.4	1	ppm	N/A

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

No Violations or Formal Enforcement Actions


Significant Deficiencies			
A situation, practice, or condition that may potentially result in drinking water quality that poses an unacceptable risk to public health and welfare and/or may potentially introduce contamination into the drinking water.			
Date Identified	Deficiency Description	Deficiency Explanation and Steps Taken or Will Take to Correct	Estimated Completion Date
6/21/2022	T310 - PRIOR TO ENTRY POINT STORAGE CONDITION; The condition of the storage structure may allow potential sources of contamination to enter the tank.;	The town worked with Swedish Industrial Coating to rehab the storage tanks to resolve the violations discovered during the June 21 st , 2022, Sanitary Survey	Resolved with CDPHE on April 7 th 2025
6/21/2022	T310 - PRIOR TO ENTRY POINT STORAGE CONDITION; The condition of the storage structure may allow potential sources of contamination to enter the tank.;	The town worked with Swedish Industrial Coating to rehab the storage tanks to resolve the violations discovered during the June 21 st , 2022, Sanitary Survey	Resolved with CDPHE on April 7 th 2025



During the last week of May, members of the Strasburg High School Class of 2029 traveled to Washington D.C. and New York City. The group visited many historic sites including Arlington National Cemetery, the WWII Memorial, Library of Congress, Mount Vernon, and the Holocaust Museum in the nation's capital, and watched The Lion King on Broadway and visited the Statue of Liberty and the 9/11 Memorial while in the Big Apple. Above, outgoing eighth-graders of Hemphill Middle School, parents and chaperones pose for a photo on Broadway.


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Survival rates of reintroduced wolves are falling below key threshold

by Chase Woodruff
KUNC

It's been a week of bad news for supporters of Colorado's voter-mandated efforts to reintroduce gray wolves.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife officials announced May 30 that agents had shot and killed wolf 2405, a yearling male belonging to the first litter of wolf pups born in the state since reintroduction, after a series of livestock attacks in Pitkin County. That news was followed June 2 by CPW's announcement of the death of a recently reintroduced wolf, 2507-BC, in northwest Colorado on May 31.

The latest confirmed death means at least five of the 15 wolves relocated from Canada in January have now died. Two animals traveled north into Wyoming, where wolves are largely unprotected under federal and state laws; one was killed by federal officials after livestock attacks, and

the other is widely assumed to have been legally hunted — Wyoming wildlife officials have invoked a hunter confidentiality law when asked for details.

The causes of death for three wolves found dead in Colorado are all under investigation by Parks & Wildlife and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Roughly 20 other adult or yearling gray wolves remain alive and in the wild across the state, and advocates and CPW officials hope that an unknown number of pups born this spring can soon be confirmed and added to the total.

But, for now, with a small population working to establish itself in the early stages of the program, the deaths of one-third of the individuals reintroduced this year have pushed Colorado wolves' survival rate below a critical threshold outlined in the formal reintroduction plan.

Citing research derived from other states' wolf management plans and the federally-led effort to restore wolves to Yellowstone National Park in the 1990s, that plan, adopted by the Colorado Parks & Wildlife Commission in 2023, anticipated that survival rates for reintroduced wolves would range between 70% and 85% in the early years of the program. Early survival rates were listed among the benchmarks Parks & Wildlife said it would use to measure "short-term success."

"A survival rate of less than 70%" for reintroduced wolves within six months of release, the plan says, "would initiate protocol review."

"An unusually large number of losses during the first year of releases or following any modification to established protocols will prompt a full review of management procedures," the document continues. "To assure high ini-



PHOTO COURTESY COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE
A reintroduced wolf is seen shortly after release in Grand County on Dec. 19, 2023.

tial post-release survival, the project may be suspended at any time until likely cause(s) of problems are identified, and acceptable solutions can be implemented to resolve the problem(s)."

CPW spokesperson Travis Duncan confirmed to

Newsline June 3 that the agency would review its procedures, but not until causes of death for the animals are established.

"Out of an abundance of caution, CPW will assess the

SEE WOLF SURVIVAL PAGE 14

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Churches and other nonprofits! Please keep us informed of your activities for publicity and coverage! — Douglas Claussen, Publisher & Editor



PHOTO COURTESY MIKE USALAVAGE

The first wolf pups born to Colorado reintroduced wolves were caught on video in 2024. Prior to Colorado Parks and Wildlife sharing the video on Monday, Aug. 19, there was only evidence of one wolf pup in the Copper Creek Pack.

Sightings of new wolf pups confirmed

by Ali Longwell
Summit Daily News

Colorado's wolf population is growing. A Colorado Parks and Wildlife spokesperson confirmed June 12 that staff have seen new wolf pups this spring. The agency is monitoring four den sites, relying on aerial observations, ground observations, and remote trail cameras as well as public sightings to do so, a spokesperson said. Parks & Wildlife does not yet have a reliable count of how many pups there are. "(CPW) staff have begun to get minimum counts of pups by both direct observations and indirect methods," the spokesperson said. "It is important to note that sighting numbers (especially from early season sightings) are not a guaranteed number of animals since certainty in detection is low, based on continued denning,

moving to rendezvous sites and being in varied habitat." Eighteen months into the voter-mandated wolf reintroduction effort, Colorado has brought 25 wolves from Oregon and British Columbia, eight of which have since died. Last year, one pair of wolves successfully had five pups. Deemed the Copper Creek pack, these wolves have been embroiled in controversy since their inception. Six of the pack's wolves were captured and placed in a sanctuary after they were connected to a number of livestock killings in Grand County. A seventh, one of the pups, evaded capture. Following their capture, the pack's adult male wolf died in captivity from injuries it suffered from a gunshot wound. The adult female and the four pups were re-released in the wild in January. In May, one of the pack's yearlings was killed by Parks & Wildlife after the wolves were tied to livestock attacks in Pitkin County.

WOLF SURVIVAL FROM PAGE 13

mortalities of wolves translocated in 2025 to determine if any translocation protocols should be modified," Duncan said. "This cannot occur until final determinations from the USFWS necropsies have been made on the cause of the mortalities." The 70% target in CPW's plan comes from a 2015 technical report by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife assessing that state's wolf population. The Oregon report, in turn, cited three previous studies from wildlife biologists who found that wolf populations can be sustained with mortality rates as high as 25% to 30%. Crossing that threshold, the report's authors wrote, results in an "increased risk of conservation failure and biological extinction." The target also roughly aligns with benchmarks set by planners of the first-ever managed wolf reintroduction program, undertaken by the USFWS in and around Yellowstone National Park beginning in 1995. Federal officials projected that the restoration effort would be successful if overall mortality could be limited to 20% — 10% from authorized killings of wolves due to livestock conflicts and another 10% from "natural causes, accidents, or illegal killing." The 1990s efforts near Yellowstone met or exceeded those expectations, successfully reestablishing a sustainable wolf population in two areas ahead of the predicted schedule of three to five years. In the Yellowstone

area, 24 of 31 relocated wolves survived the program's first two calendar years, along with 19 of 23 their pups, for a total mortality rate of 20%. In a parallel effort in central Idaho, wolves fared even better. Although no pups were born within the first year of reintroduction, 30 of 35 relocated individuals survived the program's first 20 months, a 14% mortality rate. CPW biologists will have a better understanding of the state of reintroduction once the number of pups born in Colorado in 2025 is confirmed. The agency says it's monitoring four "potential dens" of breeding pairs. But it's clear now that Colorado's restoration effort is falling short of the successes experienced in the northern Rockies in the 1990s: Including three deaths confirmed in 2024, eight of the state's first 25 relocated wolves have died, a mortality rate of 32% — with more than half of calendar year 2025 left to go. The state's plan calls for winter releases of 10 to 15 wolves annually in the program's first three to five years, with an initial target of a stable population of at least 50 animals within the state. Without a turnaround in survival rates and pup production, however, that timeline could be in jeopardy. "CPW is developing plans for the coming year's translocation efforts, so Colorado's wolf population will continue to grow, leading toward a self-sustaining population," the agency promised in a recent press release.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO
JUNE 28, 2005

Lisa Eldringhoff's business, the Puppy Parlor in Byers, flooded during the last serve storm that struck the I-70 Corridor June 3. Somewhere between six and eight inches of rainwater poured into the back room of the Puppy Parlor this last time — straight off Highway 40.

"Every time it rains, the water runs off the highway through the front door into my shop," Eldringhoff said. "It was calf-deep on me [this time]."

Since March 1, Eldringhoff has lost five business days to flooding as a result of storms during this wetter than usual spring and summer. She estimates she would ear \$150 each day. During the latest flood, water damaged one of the dryers she uses. The dryer alone coast \$300. Then there's the peeling paint on the floor and the cracking drywall, damages she can't even begin to estimate.

"It's getting to be a pretty expensive problem," Eldringhoff said.

Eldringhoff's problem is a matter of jurisdiction. Highway 40 is a state right of way, belonging to the Colorado Department of Transportation, but Eldringhoff's business and the area between the road and the Puppy Parlor are county territory, and neither the state nor the county is sure whose problem the flooding is.

15 YEARS AGO
JUNE 29, 2010

ELBERT COUNTY — Approximately 90 acres of wheat burned June 24 at 46000 County Road 53.

"It was a wheat fire that got out of control," said Elbert County Undersheriff Shayne Heap. "There were close to six tankers

out."

In a press release form the Elbert County Department of Emergency Management, 150 large hay bales, 1,500 small hay bales, a bale wagon, a boat, a camper, a barn, and a tool shed were damaged. The fire started at 1:51 p.m., and was under control by 4 p.m. No injuries were reported. Five fire agencies from across Elbert County stepped in to help — Kiowa, Rattlesnake, Elizabeth, Agate, and Big Sandy fire departments all assisted.

In addition, two Southeast Weld County fire tenders were in the area to assist, including the U.S. Air Force, Deer Trail Fire, and South Metro Fire, which provided a mid unit for firefighter injury prevention.

10 YEARS AGO
JUNE 23, 2015

BENNETT — The town of Bennett held a community outreach meeting June 14 at the Bennett Community Center to discuss the proposed 1 cent sales tax increase for road improvement.

According to the town, the majority of Bennett's street are over 30 years old and only 2.19 miles of its streets are in far conditions, leaving 11.65 miles of road in disrepair.

Voters in 2013 ruled down the sales tax measure and the cost of street repair and reconstruction's gone up by 39 percent the last two years. As of now, the total estimated cost for the repairs is \$5.6 million, but as interest continues to rise, so will the price.

The town estimates that, of the 24,000 shoppers in Bennett, approximately 90 percent are from other communities, meaning that much of the projects would be paid for by out-of-town shoppers. Town Administrator Trish Stiles believes that this is a fair trade.

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

SOLUTION ON PAGE 2

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, June 25, the 176th day of 2025. There are 189 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On June 25, 1950, war broke out in Korea as forces from the communist North invaded the South. The conflict would last for over three years and would

be responsible for an estimated 4 million deaths, an estimated 3 million of whom were civilians.

ON THIS DATE

In 1876, the Battle of the Little Bighorn, also known as Custer's Last Stand, began in southeastern Montana Territory. As many as 100 Native Americans

were killed in the battle, as were 268 people attached to the 7th Cavalry Regiment, including George Armstrong Custer and Mark Kellogg, the first Associated Press reporter to die in the line of duty.

In 1947, "The Diary of a Young Girl," the personal journal of Anne Frank, a German-born

Jewish girl hiding with her family from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II, was first published.

In 1973, former White House Counsel John Dean began testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee, implicating top administration officials, including President Richard Nixon as

well as himself, in the Watergate scandal and cover-up.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor June Lockhart is 100. Singer Carly Simon is 82. Actor-comedian Jimmie Walker is 78. Musician Tim Finn is 73. Actor-writer-comedian Ricky Gervais is 64.

— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: HUMAN BODY

- ACROSS
1. Composer Joplin's first name
6. Stomach pain-causing acronym
9. Boxing practice
13. Horatio ___ of "Ragged Dick" fame
14. Not cooked
15. This and desist
16. *Torso, pl.
17. Wrath
18. *DNA half
19. *Body part, not Elvis
21. *Part of blood, not type of TV
23. *Lung filler
24. Same as on top
25. Seth MacFarlane's bear
28. Helps
30. Genus, pl.
35. Paper unit
37. Comme ci, comme Áa
39. Burdened
40. Egg on
41. *Pumps blood, not tires
43. Type of nuclear missile, acr.
44. River in West Africa
46. Fraternity recruitment season
47. Purse to go with evening gown
48. "Annie Hall" star
50. Urban myth, e.g.
52. Kenan Thompson's TV show, acr.
53. Target of a joke
55. Cemetery jar
57. *Fingers, not numbers
60. *Muscle, not skeletal or cardiac
63. Enticed (2 words)
64. ___ Baba
66. Scary movie consequence
68. "___ came a spider..."
69. Old towel, e.g.
70. Nail salon file
71. *Gallbladder contents
72. ___ of Sam
73. Poet ___, Alighieri
- DOWN
1. Fri follower
2. Hoofbeat sound
3. Princess Fiona, by night
4. Unit of magnetic flux density
5. Ken Jennings' forte
6. *Part of an eye, not a flower
7. "Cheers," e.g.
8. Moved under the rug
9. Witnesses
10. *Part of a hand, not a tree
11. Continent
12. Tyrannosaurus follower
15. "___ of Love" by The Dixie Cups

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13					14			15			
16					17			18			
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20. Like one from Dublin
22. Lincoln lumber
24. Battery's partner
25. *Torso, not part of a tree
26. Fear-inspiring
27. Cannabis, in South Africa
29. Not talker?
31. Umberto Eco's "The ___ of the Rose"
32. Marks on a manuscript
33. Old episode
34. *Part of an ear, not blacksmith's block
36. Swimming competition
38. Guesstimate phrase (2 words)
42. Monotonous hum
45. Dressing a priest, e.g.
49. Bolt's partner
51. Washed away
54. Nicholas I and Alexander III
56. Marilyn Monroe's original name
57. Cold cuts shop
58. Graven image
59. Departed
60. Manual communication gesture
61. Thirteen-year-old, e.g.
62. Wagner or Powers in a TV classic
63. Chemist's office
65. Burmese neighbor
67. Yellow #5, e.g.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

HOROSCOPE

Mamma Moon

The new moon in Cancer is the ideal mother. She wants us to succeed even though she knows that success might mean we'll fly far. She wants to give us everything but doesn't because it's the limits that form our character. In this moment of the moon's blessing, what would you nurture in yourself if you were her? "We are born of love; love is our mother." — Rumi

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Nothing motivates you quite as much as the prospect of getting attention from someone you admire. Your drive is deeply connected to connection. This doesn't mean you're needy — it means admiration is a kind of fuel. You're lit up by the exchange of energy today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The hard tasks appeal to you. You have an inkling about what you can do, and there's nothing quite like the thrill that comes over you when you realize you're actually doing the thing that seemed so impossible but a few short incarnations ago.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Today has rhythm and symmetry. How you begin sets the tone. Start with full focus and strong interest. If you're only half in, it won't carry. But when you lead with genuine energy, the finish will match the start.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There are those who search for extraterrestrial life in hopes of finding someone in this big universe who might be willing to shed some fresh light on the experience. You can relate. You too await a distant affirmation, and today you finally get a sign.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Where there's a lack of structure, your influence will make a difference. Today shows you stepping into a situation that needs what you do best: clarity, order and direction. You'll use what's there, rearranging the elements in support of the plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Unhelpful and irrelevant thoughts pop to mind based on your past experiences, habits or worries — not unlike internet ads that track your browsing history. But just because a thought appears doesn't mean it deserves your attention or action. Click the "X" and it goes away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Golden collaborations are coming together. Encourage unity. It doesn't mean losing your identity, just syncing up for the sake of a common goal. Pretend the group is one mind working for the betterment of all.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Good people wrestle with what they've done, not to punish themselves but to grow. The ones who feel nothing can't change. So, if you feel bad, take heart — it means you're still someone worth trusting. Regret can only be felt by those who care.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Knowing enough to be dangerous means having just enough knowledge to feel confident but not enough to be wise — a risky place to operate from. Today, it's better to stay curious. When something tugs at your attention, go deeper. It could save you from a costly oversimplification.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be effective as long as your intensity and emotion are in check. Avoid coming in hot. Check in with others about how your presence is being received. A simple "How are you feeling about that?" goes a long way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Friends may hold back their truth because they don't want to risk hurting you or causing tension in the relationship. That restraint can be a sign of respect, loyalty or emotional intelligence — and it's also why you need opinions from outsiders.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Working harder than necessary is the very definition of inefficiency, and you can't stand inefficiency. That's why you tinker with your plan and strive to create excellent systems, ones that reduce friction and maximize momentum.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 25). Your decisions in the world are like a dance of legendary grace, not because there's a smooth dance floor beneath your feet but because you've stopped expecting there to be one. Your sense of humor sharpens, your sense of purpose deepens, and people will follow your lead. More highlights: A wild idea finds structure. A relationship will be your great, shining pride. Scorpio and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 17, 22, 30 and 9.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

TOWN OF DEER TRAIL 2025 Drinking Water Quality Report

Covering Data for Calendar Year 2024

Public Water System ID: CO0103030

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year’s water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact JOE KUBITSCHKEK at 303-564-5236 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality.

General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminant Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time.

You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family’s risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact JOE KUBITSCHKEK at 303-564-5236. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Service Line Inventory

New state and federal laws require us to inventory all water service lines in our service area to classify the material. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. Deer Trail is still working to determine if there is any Lead or Galvanized Iron within the distribution system and service connections. If you would like to view a copy of our service line inventory or have questions about the material of your service line, contact JOE KUBITSCHKEK at 303-564-5236.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcdcompliance.com/ccr. The report is located under “Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports”. Search the table using our system name or ID, or by contacting JOE KUBITSCHKEK at 303-564-5236. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur. It does not mean that the contamination has or will occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed below. Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

Sources (Water Type - Source Type)	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
WEST WELL (Groundwater-Well) NORTH WELL (Groundwater-Well) HILL TOP WELL AKA EAST WELL (Groundwater-Well)	Permitted Wastewater Discharge Sites, Aboveground, Underground and Leaking Storage Tank Sites, Other Facilities, Commercial/Industrial/Transportation, High Intensity Residential, Low Intensity Residential, Fallow, Small Grains, Pasture / Hay, Septic Systems, Road Miles

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon-222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants

DEER TRAIL TOWN OF routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm <u>OR</u> If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm						
Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2024	Lowest period percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	2	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System									
Lead and Copper Individual Sample Results									
Contaminant Name	Time Period	Tap Sample Range Low - High	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	09/06/2024 to 09/09/2024	0.008 to 0.08	0.04	10	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	11.1	11.1 to 11.1	1	ppb	60	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethane (TTHM)	2024	57.6	57.6 to 57.6	1	ppb	80	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Gross Alpha	2020	1.71	0.8 to 2.63	2	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	2020	0.55	0.2 to 0.9	2	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium	2020	0.5	0 to 1	2	ppb	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Barium	2023	0.02	0.02 to 0.02	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2023	3	3 to 3	1	ppb	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2023	0.63	0.62 to 0.63	2	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium	2023	3	3 to 3	1	ppb	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits;

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
									discharge from mines

Volatile Organic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Ethylbenzene	2024	0.63	0.5 to 0.8	3	ppb	700	700	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes	2024	4.5	3.6 to 5.6	3	ppb	10,000	10,000	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low - High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2023	133.3	133.3 to 133.3	1	ppm	N/A

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Endorsement Actions

Non-Health-Based Violations		
These violations do not usually mean that there was a problem with the water quality. If there had been, we would have notified you immediately. We missed collecting a sample (water quality is unknown), we reported the sample result after the due date, or we did not complete a report/notice by the required date.		
Name	Description	Time Period
PUBLIC NOTICE	FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC/CONSUMERS	07/06/2019 - 06/27/2024
Additional Violation Information		
Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.		
Describe the steps taken to resolve the violation(s), and the anticipated resolution date: The public notice violation was resolved in 2024 following the inclusion of the required Tier 3 notice in last year’s Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). However, it appears again in this year’s CCR because the violation remained open during a portion of the 2024 calendar year.		


Attention residents: Copies of report will not be mailed but are available from Town Hall upon request. For more information, contact Deer Trail Town Hall at (303)769-4464.

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AdCo opens Neighborhood Community Fund

BRIGHTON — The Adams County Office of Strategic Partnerships & Resilient Communities (SPARC) has launched the Neighborhood Community Fund program to provide resources for the community to create projects and initiatives that strengthen neighborhoods, foster connections, and address community needs. The program is meant to support local ideas and empower neighbors to collaborate for a positive impact. Projects funded by the Neighborhood Community Fund program will align with the its priority areas:

Connection & Belonging: Initiatives foster a sense of community by creating opportunities for neighbors to connect, socialize and build a welcoming, inclusive atmosphere.

Enhanced physical neighborhood appearance: Initiatives improve the visual appeal of the neighborhood through beautification efforts or upgrades that enhance the area's overall

Strasburg man tapped to temporarily head Denver Planning Dept.

DENVER — In an effort to quickly but temporarily fill the role that leads Denver's Department of Community Planning & Development, Mayor Mike Johnston June 3 named Strasburg resident Brad Buchanan the CEO of the National Western Center Authority, as interim director.

"Having served as executive director from 2014-18, Brad knows the agency and the team extremely well," Johnston said in a press release June 3. "His deep expertise in Denver's permitting and development processes gives me full confidence in his ability to guide CPD forward as we continue overhauling our permitting processes and delivering services to our community."



Buchanan

Buchanan began his dual roles June 10. The nonprofit National Western Center Authority operates and maintains the National Western Complex.

The authority was approved June 2 by the Denver City Council on a 9-4 vote to receive up to \$812 million to further develop the National Western Center, which will include a new equestrian center, hotel and community center to enhance the experience of the site that hosts the annual National Western Stock Show. The city council approved to spend \$23.3 million through bond funding over the next 35 years with an assumed interest rate of 4.92%.

A search for the permanent executive director of the department will occur, Johnston's office stated.

The Community Planning & Development executive director was Manish Kumar until May 31 when he announced his departure after 13 months. Kumar's last day was June 6.

Johnston announced in April, by executive order, the creation of the new Denver Permitting Office to "overhaul Denver's permitting and development approval processes, making building in the city easier by streamlining permit review timelines and coordination across city departments," according to the announcement.

This story was made available via the Colorado News Collaborative. Learn more at <https://colabnews.co>.

look and feel.

Sustainability and resiliency: Initiatives support environmentally friendly practices or increase the neighborhood's resilience to challenges.

Community engagement and service: Initiatives encourage active involvement and volunteerism within the neighborhood, promoting a culture of philanthropy to address community needs and improve quality of life.

"Adams County already has such a great sense of community, and this opportunity from our SPARC team will only strengthen those bonds," said Commissioners Lynn Baca.

Applicants must be reside or own property in the county. Organizations can apply if they partner with an Adams County resident or property owner on community events. Applications should be submitted at least six weeks prior to the proposed project or event.

For more information, visit <https://sparc.adcogov.org>.

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CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

Conversations with Commissioners with
Arapahoe County District 5 Commis-
sioner, Rhonda Fields, and Human Services
Director Dan Makelky. They will discuss
the effect of changes in federal funding on
the county. 4-5:30 p.m., CentrePoint Pla-
za, 14980 E. Alameda Drive, Aurora.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

Agate School Board. 6 p.m.
Rebuilding Liberty (Part 1 of 4). This vid-
eo-based course grounded in the Decla-
ration of Independence presents eight
building blocks of liberty and a 12-step
program of action. 6-8 p.m., Holy Spirit
Livin,' 1506 Main St., Strasburg. To regis-
ter, call (303)622-4648.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

Adams County free legal clinic. 2-3:30 p.m.
by phone. To sign up, call (303)405-3298.
Appointments available at Anythink li-
braries 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 li-
brary's computer link. Space limited.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Livin' in the Spirit ladies group potluck. 11
a.m. to 1 p.m., Holy Spirit Livin,' 1506
Main St., Strasburg. (303)622-4648.
Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7
p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

EVERY FRIDAY

Preschool story time: Children ages 3-6
can enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and oth-
er fun activities. 9:30-10 a.m., Anythink
Bennett library.

EVERY SATURDAY

Deer Trail Pioneer Museum open from 2-4
p.m. through August.

EVERY SUNDAY

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

EVERY MONDAY

High Plains Music Ensemble rehearsal. 6:30
p.m., Bennett High School band room.
For additional information, contact con-
ductor Kurt Elliott at (303)895-7568 or
hpmemusicdirector@gmail.com or visit
www.highplainsmusicensemble.com.
AA open meeting. 7 p.m., white historic
Victorian schoolhouse at Ace Hardware
parking lot, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Li-
mon. Call Sara at (828)243-7681.

CHUCK WAGON



Straccetti di Manzo

by Christopher Kimball
Christopher Kimball's Milk Street

Straccetti di manzo, which translates roughly from the Italian to “little rags of beef,” is a trattoria staple. The cooking is minimal and quick, making this ideal for a weeknight dinner, but the beef must be thinly sliced.

In this recipe from our cookbook “Milk Street Backroads Italy,” we freeze the meat for about 20 minutes to firm it a bit, which allows a knife to glide through the grain. After a quick sear in a hot skillet, the steak slices go directly onto a bed of peppery arugula and sweet-tart tomatoes. We prefer tri-tip steak for this recipe, as it has great flavor and a tender texture.

Don't dress the arugula and tomatoes too far in advance or they will wilt and turn soggy. Wait until after the beef is sliced before tossing the veggies with the oil, lemon juice and salt. Also, don't stir the beef during the first three minutes of cooking. Allowing it to cook undisturbed will give the meat a chance to develop flavorful browning.

Balsamic vinegar, reduced as it deglazes the pan, acts as tangy-sweet dressing when combined with vegetables. Shaved Parmesan, along with black pepper and a final drizzle of olive oil, are perfect finishing touches

STRACCHETTI DI MANZO INGREDIENTS

- 1½ pounds beef tri-tip steak
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 5-ounce container baby arugula
- 1 pint cherry or grape tomatoes,

- halved
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided, plus more to serve
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 medium garlic cloves, smashed and peeled
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- ¼ cup balsamic vinegar
- Parmesan cheese, for shaving

DIRECTIONS

Place the steak on a plate and freeze, uncovered, until partially frozen, about 20 minutes. Using a sharp knife, slice the beef against the grain on the diagonal no thicker than ¼ inch. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper; toss to coat. On a deep, wide platter, toss the arugula and tomatoes with 1 tablespoon of the oil, the lemon juice and ¼ teaspoon salt.

In a 12-inch skillet over medium-high, heat the remaining 1 tablespoon oil until barely smoking. Add the garlic and pepper flakes; cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add the beef in an even layer; cook without stirring until only a little pinkness remains and some liquid has been released, about 3 minutes. Stir, redistribute in an even layer and cook until no longer pink, about 1 minute. Using tongs, place the steak on the vegetables, leaving the garlic in the pan.

Add the balsamic to the pan and bring to a simmer over medium-high; cook, scraping up any browned bits, until slightly reduced, about 1 minute. Discard the garlic; pour the balsamic over the steak. Shave Parmesan over the top, then finish with additional oil and black pepper.



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