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The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 37

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

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

Fire fears escalate; two blazes SE of Byers

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

After a relatively mundane fire season through June and July, the first week of August had I-70 Corridor firefighters chasing after a handful of wildfires, including a pair of calls on consecutive days within or in close proximity to last year's major conflagration that charred almost two sections of ground southeast of Byers.

LAST WEDNESDAY

Around 2:20 p.m. Aug. 6, firefighters and Arapahoe County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 2300 block of South County Road 193 on reports of heavy smoke and flames

in close proximity to structures. According to the sheriff's office, Byers and Strasburg fire personnel had the flames already extinguished by the time deputies arrived.

Fire personnel indicated that it took about a half-hour to contain and mop-up the scene. The fire was first reported as "100' by 100' in size in medium to heavy fuels and progressing at a moderate rate of speed."

Preliminary indications are the fire was caused by a small child playing with matches but, as of Aug. 8, the sheriff's office said the situation remained under investigation.

A total of seven fire apparatus from I-70 Corridor fire departments limited a wildfire at Arapahoe County Roads 38 and 193 southeast of Byers to under 50 acres on Aug. 7. On back-to-back days last week, two wildfires occurred in close proximity to the southeast boundary of last year's Quail Hollow Fire, which charred about 1,150 acres.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

SEE FIRES
PAGE 24

I-70 Corridor fire departments limited a wildfire at Arapahoe County Roads 38 and 193 southeast of Byers to under 50 acres on Aug. 7. On back-to-back days last week, two wildfires occurred in close proximity to the southeast boundary of last year's Quail Hollow Fire, which charred about 1,150 acres.

School's Back in Session. Give 'Em A Brake!



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The first I-70 Corridor school district to start the 2025-26 school year was Strasburg Aug. 7. Above, a family crosses in front of stopped vehicles at the north-south crosswalk at the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Main Street in front of the high school as a volunteer crossing guard assists. Bennett and Deer Trail started classes Aug. 11 while Byers and Agate welcomed students Aug. 13. The start of the new school year comes with new restrictions for drivers around school buses. **SEE PAGE 4.**

Byers Park & Rec adds 2 board of director seats

by **Kathy Smiley**
Staff Writer

BYERS — The Byers Park & Recreation District Board will increase from five to seven members upon approval by Adams and Arapahoe counties.

Following a public hearing Aug. 6, the board adopted a resolution regarding the increase. The public hearing was required because the action amended the district's service plans with the counties.

The resolution read by the district's attorney Robert Tibbals said, in part, that the board, "after investigation and discussion, determined that the increase was in the best interest of those served by the district and community at large for the purpose of encouraging additional community participation in district activities and programs."

Tibbals will finalize the action by sending the resolution to the Adams and Arapahoe county attorneys who will present it to their respective board of commissioners for final approval. Until that happens, the two appointees — Willy Elliott and Cory Vermeer — are considered ex-officio members who can participate in all board discussions. While they can indicate how they would vote on board decisions, they can't cast votes. If the statutory re-

SEE BYERS PRD
PAGE 14

Child rescued, Denver woman arrested after interstate pursuit

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

A child was rescued uninjured while an impaired adult female was arrested on numerous charges, including a felony count, following an almost 30-mile pursuit on westbound I-70 between Deer Trail and Watkins late last month.

The incident started a little after 11:30 a.m. July 29 when the Colorado State Patrol received a call on its *277 hotline from an eyewitness

at the Conoco gas station in Deer Trail reporting that an adult woman appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs and drove away from the fuel pump with a pump handle and hose still hanging out of the green Volvo station wagon she was driving. The eyewitness also told dispatchers there was a crying child in the car screaming for help.

At approximately 12 p.m., a state trooper reported locating the vehicle in Byers and upon approach, the suspect got back in the car, avoided

apprehension, and continued to be pursued along westbound I-70 until it was suspended.

Efforts to forcibly stop the vehicle were not deemed feasible.

"Due to not knowing if the child [inside] was secure or not, a tactical vehicle intervention was not an option," the State Patrol's arrest report said. "We attempted to slow it down to bring the vehicle to a stop [but] the female driver swerved away from this attempt and sped up. The ve-

hicle sped up to 97 mph and we began to see heavy traffic ahead of us near milepost 304. The driver was placing innocent lives at risk due to her reckless behavior (and) the pursuit was called off."

As stop sticks were put in place around mile marker 299, two troopers converged on the car stopped on the shoulder near mile marker 298.

"[One] pulled in front of the vehicle, and [another] pulled indirectly behind [and] we both approached the driv-

er's door," the arrest affidavit said. "We pulled the female driver out of the driver's seat. The child was in the back seat of the vehicle and was not restrained, and no car seat was observed in the vehicle."

The child was reportedly uninjured but transported to Children's Hospital for evaluation.

The driver, later identified as 38-year-old Fawnda J. Nightwalker of Denver, was originally transported to

SEE I-70 PURSUIT
PAGE 8

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Chamber of Commerce plans luncheon at power company

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly Lunch & Learn from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the CORE meeting room, 1190 Cedar St., Bennett.

CORE will provide both the speaker and lunch.

For more information and to RSVP for lunch, call (720)731-1954 or e-mail to officei70ccoc@gmail.com by Friday, Aug. 15. Space is limited.

Senior excursion planned to Cherokee Ranch Castle

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Parks & Recreation District will host a senior excursion to Cherokee Ranch Castle near Sedalia.

The bus will leave promptly at 10 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 28, from the Strasburg Recreation Center, 1932 Burton St. Transportation is included, but advanced reservations are required due to limited seating. The fee is \$34; lunch is not included.

To RSVP, call (303)622-4260.

August: Service people get free state parks admission

DENVER — To thank service men and women for their dedicated service and sacrifices, Colorado Parks & Wildlife is again offering free admission to all state parks for active-duty military and National Guard personnel and veterans through August.

Qualifying members can pick up a free August Military Parks Pass at any state park or Parks & Wildlife office with proof of military service.

Passes are not available for spouses or dependents.

All other park fees remain in effect, including camping reservations, boat and off-highway vehicle registrations, and hunting and fishing licenses. The pass is not valid for accessing State Wildlife Areas.

'Burg Comanche VIP Seniors plan monthly potluck Aug. 19

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Seniors Comanche VIP Association pot-

luck begins at 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 19, at the Strasburg Community Center, 56423 Westview Ave.

Nichole Harrell with the Bennett Parks & Recreation District will discuss the services it provides to Bennett and the I-70 Corridor community as a whole.

The association, which provides a social outlet for area seniors, meets at 11:45 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

For more information, call Mary Humphrey at (303)622-4695.

Class about climbing plants set for Aurora Central Library

CENTENNIAL — A Colorado State University Master Gardeners in Arapahoe County will speak at Vines and Climbers from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 21, in the large central community room at Aurora Central Library.

In this class for adults, Master Gardener Donnetta Wilhelm will explain how vining and climbing plants grow, their maintenance, and their use in the landscape. Participants also will learn about different structures to train such plants on and how to use these plants for the best impact in your landscape.

For more information and to register, visit the County Line newsletter page at www.arapahoeco.gov.

Weed management concerns the focus of Byers workshop

BYERS — Managing pesky and sometimes noxious weeds is a big concern this time of year and local conservation districts are here to help.

The Deer Trail and East Adams conservation districts and Colorado State University Extension in Adams County are co-hosting a free weed identification and management workshop from 4:30-5:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 21, at Kelter Library in Byers.

Weeds commonly seen in the area and noxious weeds encroaching on the area will be covered, and participants will see actual samples of weeds or PowerPoint images when samples aren't available. Chemical recommendations as well as mechanical means for management will be discussed.

Kelter Library is located at 585 S.

Main St., Byers.

To RSVP, contact Conservation District Manager Tiffany McGhin at deertraileastadams@cocds.org.

Wednesday after-school hour set for local Lutheran church

BENNETT — Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bennett is inviting K-5 students to its free after-school program from 5-6 p.m., every Wednesday beginning Sept. 10.

C-WOW (Christ's Word on Wednesdays) will be an engaging hour of worship, music and Bible lessons in a fun, nurturing environment.

Space limited; registration required. Sign up at CORLCMS.org.

Worship in the Park planned by Byers Community Church

BYERS — Byers Community Church will host Worship in the Park at 10 a.m. every third Sunday from June through September at Byers Park.

Worshippers can bring a law chair or sit at the picnic tables under the pavilion as the congregation gathers to reflect on God's word and enjoy his amazing creation.

Future Worship in the Park dates, weather permitting, are Aug. 17 and Sept. 21.

Byers Community Church belongs to the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Cottage food safety focus of CSU Extension courses

LITTLETON — Starting a home-made food business can bring in extra income and inject one's favorite recipes into the world.

By finishing a Colorado State University Extension online cottage food safety training, home cooks will earn food safety certification and gain the knowledge needed to successfully launch a home-based food business. Participants will also learn about the most current Colorado Cottage Food Act guidelines and best practices.

A Cottage Food Safety Statewide Online Training course will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 22. The \$50 courses can be completed online.

The event is sponsored by CSU

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"So where did you see it last?"

Extension offices in Arapahoe and Jefferson counties. For more information or to register, contact Sheila Gains at sheila.gains@colostate.edu.

Bennett music, drama group sponsors donut fundraiser

BENNETT — The Bennett Performing Arts Booster Club is currently conducting a Krispy Kreme fundraiser to help purchase uniforms and props for the upcoming marching band season.

Through Aug. 26, a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts can be purchased online for \$15 each with 50% of sales donated back to the booster club.

After purchasing online, donors will receive a voucher via e-mail, which can be redeemed at a Krispy Kreme store. Orders can be made at <https://tinyurl.com/PABC-Fundraiser>.

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Special session declaration draws ire of rural representatives

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

DENVER — When Gov. Jared Polis announced Aug. 6 an order for Colorado legislators back to the Capitol for a special bill-making session later in the month, it was met with much chagrin and opposition by Republican representatives, many from rural areas of the state.

Within hours of Polis' mandate, a dozen state senators and representatives signed off on a letter condemning the order, particularly the timing of the special session, which is slated to start Thursday, Aug. 21, the same week the Colorado State Fair commences in Pueblo.

"This week is a time to honor the people who feed Colorado, power our economy, and represent the values that make our state strong. It is a proud and important moment for rural Colorado, marked not only by the State Fair, but also by longstanding traditions such as the Centennial Farms celebration and the legislative barbecue," said the letter, whose co-signers included Rep. Chris Richardson from House District 56, which includes the I-70 Corridor; Rep. Dusty Johnson from House District 63 in northeastern Colorado; and Sen. Rod Pelton from Senate District 35 in southeastern Colorado.

"We have heard talk of a special session for nearly six weeks, plenty of time to coordinate a schedule that would not trample on rural participation. But, alas, rural Coloradans and our Western way of life have once again been set aside and ignored."

The letter added that Polis' actions indicate the wide disconnect between him and state's rural and agricultural communities.

"Rural Colorado deserves respect not political theater that pulls us away from our communities during one of the most important weeks of the year."

Other signers of Wednesday afternoon's letter included Senate Minority Leader Cleave Simpson, House

Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, and Assistant House Minority Leader Ty Winter.

The Colorado State Fair runs Aug. 22 through Sept. 1.

The length of the special legislative session is uncertain with sources indicating it would be at least three days — the normal length of time it takes legislation to pass through both legislative houses — but, likely, a little longer. This is the third consecutive year that a special session has been called after the regular five-month session transpired. The state legislature typically meets in January through May.

SPECIAL SESSION BACKGROUND

When calling for the special session, Polis cited the primary reason is to address the nearly \$800 million gap in the current state budget, which he said was created by provisions in President Donald Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which was passed by both houses of Congress in early July.

Also on Wednesday, Polis instituted a hiring freeze in the state government until the end of the year.

"We have 11 months remaining in the budget year, and that's very important. That means that cuts, while difficult, can be spread over a longer period of time than the regular course of (a typical legislative session)," Polis said during his press conference announcing both moves.

A balanced state budget was approved earlier this year but, according to Polis and state Democratic leadership, tweaks to individual and corporate income tax obligations by the federal government will result in significant losses to expected state revenue, since Colorado tax code closely mirrors federal law.

"All Coloradans are now the collateral damage from the GOP's cruel bill, which will jeopardize services for hardworking families, children, veterans and older Coloradans. We'll work hard to minimize the fallout on our communities, but that requires us to act now to mitigate the harm this

bill has caused our state," said House Speaker Julie McCluskie, D-Dillon.

The Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting joined in on predictions of a \$1.2 billion hit to state tax revenue for the current fiscal year, which began July 1. Colorado is expected to collect revenue over the limit set by the state Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, which will soften the budget impact to somewhere between \$680 million, as legislative economists predict, and \$783 million, as the governor's office thinks.

Proponents of the special session hope to fill that hole in order to rebalance the budget. Polis' office is suggesting legislation to issue tax credits to large taxpayers like insurance companies, expand the list of foreign countries Colorado companies cannot send their income to in order to avoid taxes, and decouple Colorado from various federal tax deductions. He also wants spending cuts in existing programs and services.

The state can also tap into its budget reserves, which now stand at 15%, but lawmakers will need to repay that money. State law allows the governor

to restrict spending if the reserves are expected to fall below half of the required level — meaning the state would need to spend over \$1.2 billion before the governor can enact a spending cut plan — but Polis also wants state legislators to lower that threshold.

Other topics Polis reportedly wants addressed during the special session are:

- Universal school meals: A tweak in November ballot language for an initiative to retain more program revenue so that it will also allow the state to keep money for future new food assistance programs.
- More support for Planned Parenthood: The program was among the targeted cuts by federal legislation and is expected to be part of insurance premium increases next year.
- Revamp the state's AI anti-discrimination law: Polis said he wants significant changes or a delay in the start of the new law, which is slated to take effect in February.



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On a roadway where opposing lanes are not divided by a physical median or barrier, vehicles traveling in each direction are required to stop when the bus's red lights are flashing.

When the highway has a grass median or other physical barriers, only traffic moving in the same direction as the bus is required to stop when the bus's red lights are flashing. Oncoming traffic should proceed with caution.

A painted center median is not considered a divided highway for the purpose of this law. Both directions are required to stop when the bus's red lights are flashing.

En la Carretera, donde las vías no están divididas por una barrera física, los vehículos viajando en ambas direcciones deben parar cuando las luces rojas del bus están prendidas intermitentes.

Quando la Carretera tiene un área de pasto u otras barreras físicas, solo los vehículos en la misma dirección del bus deben parar cuando las luces rojas del bus están prendidas intermitentes.

Un área pintada en el centro de la carretera no es considerada una división para los efectos de esta ley. Los vehículos en ambas direcciones de la carretera deben parar cuando las luces rojas del bus están prendidas intermitentes.

SUBMITTED

A new school bus safety bill passed this past spring by Colorado lawmakers revised the rules for commuters traveling the opposite direction when meeting a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing.

Commuters urged to learn new road rule around school buses

LAKEWOOD — As Colorado students head back to the classroom, school buses will be sharing the roadway with motorists, and the Colorado State Patrol wants to ensure that drivers are aware of roadway rules surrounding school buses, including a new passing restriction.

Under Colorado Senate Bill 25-1230, which became effective May 24, drivers approaching a school bus from an oncoming lane must stop unless there is a physical barrier separating the opposing directions of traffic. Painted lines or a painted median will no longer be sufficient; there must be a median or a physical barrier.

Each year, near misses and crashes involving school buses occur. One of the most common risks associated with school bus transportation is when drivers illegally pass a stopped school bus displaying flashing red lights. This puts children at risk while crossing the street, boarding or disembarking.

“Knowing when you are required to stop needs to become second nature,” stated Col. Matthew C. Packard, chief of the Colorado State Patrol. “School buses create temporary traffic control zones; they are mobile safety zones for the bus and the vulnerable population they transport.”

According to State Patrol citation numbers, troopers issued 15 citations for failing to stop for a stopped school bus displaying flashing red lights in calendar year 2024. Between January

and May of this year troopers have issued nine citations.

In addition, between 2021-2025 there have been five crashes involving school buses that resulted from drivers failing to stop for a stopped school bus displaying flashing red lights. Four of the five crashes resulted in property damage only, and the fifth was an injury crash.

WHEN DRIVERS SHOULD STOP FOR A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS

Drivers must stop at least 20 feet before reaching a school bus that is stopped with its red lights flashing, whether it is on your side of the road, the opposite side of the road, or at an intersection.

Commuters are not required to stop if the school bus with its red lights flashing is on a roadway opposite you that is separated by a raised or depressed median or other physical barrier.

Drivers must remain stopped until the flashing red lights are no longer operating.

Use caution after the school bus begins to move, as there will be children crossing or near the roadway. Wait and watch before proceeding.

“Those flashing lights and stop signs aren’t just for show. They are there to keep kids safe,” Packard added. “It’s also a life lesson for these students. Demonstrate patience and respect for others; these kids are watching and learning from you.”



Strasburg School staff welcomes students back for the 2025-26 school year on the morning of the first day of classes Aug. 7.



PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN AND STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce's fourth annual Riders of the Plains Poker Run between Watkins and Deer Trail took place July 26. All proceeds benefit the Combat Hero Bike Build project which provides 1-2 combat veterans a year with a custom built ride. Clockwise from above left, Marla Fette of Munster, Texas, picks a six of hearts for her poker hand while at Shooters Bar & Grill in Byers; Anthony David receives the top prize for the high hand at May Farms; Russ Clarneau of Byers prepares for the rest of the ride following the initial stop at LuLu's Inn in Watkins; Battlin' Bettys members Cecilia Stiles, left, Dottie Von Velvet, Shelly Hobson, Amanda Bavender, Lori Prien and Vickie Rotkovich pose for a photo at May Farms; Scott & Karen Elliott of Aurora take a break out in front of the Deer Trail Elks Lodge; and volunteers Kevin and Connie Smith handed out cards during the stop at Rookies Restaurant in Strasburg. Chamber officials said the event will continue in future years on the last Saturday of July.



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DANIEL SLIM/Agence France Presse via Getty Images

A small drop-in child care center will open at Denver International Airport in 2026.

Drop-in child care center planned for DIA in 2026

by Ann Schimke
Chalkbeat Colorado

Denver airport officials plan to open a small drop-in child care center in 2026 and are studying the possibility of opening another child care center that would serve more employees in the future.

The drop-in center will have room for 20 children and be located on the fourth level of the airport's hotel and transit center, within a new training facility called the Center of Equity & Excellence in Aviation. The child care center is meant to provide occasional care and will primarily serve the children of airport employees or community members who are participating in training center activities.

While the planned center would serve only a tiny fraction of the airport's more than 40,000 employees, it represents a first step toward boosting the number of child care seats in an area with limited supply. Officials at the nation's third-busiest airport, began studying the possibility of a child care center at or near the airport's far northeast Denver campus earlier this year.

That area of the city is considered a child care desert because it has so few state-licensed child care slots.

The Denver airport will soon join a few other U.S. airports with on- or near-site child care facilities. They include Los Angeles International Airport, which operates a center for the children of employees a few blocks from the airport campus, and Pittsburgh International Airport, which runs a center in a converted terminal. Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is slated to open a center on its campus this year. All three centers are bigger than what's planned at Denver.

Denver's drop-in center will have two classrooms — one for babies and toddlers and one for preschoolers — and a separate play area. It will be open 10-12 hours a day Monday through Friday year-round, including on holidays, according to the airport's recent request for proposals, which seeks an operator to run the center.

Parents participating in activities at the airport training center will pay nothing for care. Some airport employees not participating in training activities also will be allowed to use the child care center for back-up care but will have to pay a fee.

Ashley Forest, an airport spokesperson, said by e-mail that she couldn't provide information on which employees will be eligible for back-up care at the center or whether they will pay a discounted fee. She also couldn't provide details on whether families will be limited to a certain number of weekly or monthly hours of care at the center.

Forest said plans for the drop-in center came out of the second phase of the airport's three-phase child care feasibility study. The third phase will look at the possibility of "an airport-wide child care solution," which could be a second child care center on or near the airport campus.

Earlier this spring, airport officials estimated that 19,000 of more than 40,000 airport employees fall into the 20- to 39-year-old age range, but said they still needed more information about how many of those employees have young children and need child care.

The airport is working with a business-oriented group, Executives Partnering to Invest in Children, on the child care feasibility study. Forest said she expects a recommendation out of phase three later this year.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUG. 14
Bennett Fire Protection District Board. 7 p.m., Administrative Office, 355 Fourth St., Bennett.

SATURDAY, AUG. 16
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 9-11 a.m., Deer Trail School bus barn, 370 Aspen St.

MONDAY, AUG. 18
East Adams Conservation District Board. 9 a.m., Farm Service Agency office, 133 W. Bijou, Byers.
Byers Fire Rescue. 6 p.m., Byers Firehouse.

Bennett Planning & Zoning Commission. 6 p.m., Town hall or virtually. Visit the Planning & Zoning meeting agendas page at bennettco.gov for information.

Byers Fire Protection District Board. 6:30 p.m., Byers Firehouse.

TUESDAY, AUG. 19
Comanche VIP Seniors luncheon. 11:45 a.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.

Bennett Arts Council. 4 p.m., Bennett Town Hall.

Eastern Colorado Beekeepers. 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. E-mail info@easterncoloradobees.com or visit easterncoloradobees.com for link and location.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20
I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Lunch & Learn. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May Farms.
Bennett School Board. 6 p.m., Bennett High School library. Visit bsd29j.com for a Zoom link.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

Anythink Bennett library hosted a puppet show Aug. 2 performed by Georgina Santich with Puppets On Stage. While watching the show, attendees learned about the overuse of phones, learned words in Spanish, and constructed their own puppet. Clockwise from top left, Sol Soliel provides live music during scene changes with his alto saxophone; Santich and her puppets educate youngsters about proper cell phone usage; Shoshana Oakley, left, Isabella Cichos, Gemma Cichos, and Audriana Olivas all smiling as they interact with some of the puppets used during the performance; and twins Itzayana (left) and Reyhann Chavez giggle as they make their own puppet.

LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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

Artist meet-up: The Corridor Creative Arts League will host a presentation on "Becoming Confident in Your Creative Expression," where they will gain practical tips on marketing and promoting artwork with art career coach Kathy Beekman. Participants are challenged to bring a piece created with graphite or the pointillism technique. 2-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 16.

Pop-Up Studio: Library lovers of all ages can experience an event that showcases The Studio, Anythink Libraries' makerspace, where ideas can

be brought to life. A mix of demonstrations and activities are planned. 2-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 14.

Megan Burtt Live + Workshop: The whole family will enjoy an afternoon of live music and creativity with a special performance by singer/songwriter Megan Burtt presented by Colorado nonprofit Athena Project. After the show, participants can join a hands-on songwriting workshop designed for ages 14 and older. Attendees can bring their instrument but should let library staff know what it is at sign-up. Space limited; registration required for the workshop only. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 4:30-6:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 28.

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Wil Chase

Wilson Albert Chase 01/19/1934 – 08/06/2025

Wilson (Wil) Albert Chase was born in Seminole, Oklahoma to Dorothy and Hampton Chase on January 19, 1934. After graduating high school in Ithaca, N.Y., he chose to serve his country by joining the Army during the Korean conflict and was part of the Army Security Agency stationed in Germany.

Wil attended Colorado University and, following in his father's footsteps, became a Registered Pharmacist in 1960. He practiced pharmacy for 56 years. Wil worked at L K Pharmacy, Aurora, CO; Fan-Fair, Aurora, CO; and Super Drug, Denver, CO, before he attained ownership of Chase-Altura Drug, Aurora, CO, in 1968. He, then, went on to become the owner of Chamber Heights Pharmacy, Aurora CO; Kipling Rexall Drug, Denver, CO; The Pharmacy Ltd, Aurora, CO; Bigg's Pharmacy, Northglenn, CO; and Chase Pharmacy, Byers, CO. Over the years, Wil showed a remarkable dedication to his community giving time, leadership, and encouragement to organizations, people and causes in which he believed.

He was a loving husband to his wife of 45 years, Fay Chase. Wil was the father of the late Steven Chase, Robert (Ramona) Chase, and Heidi (Chuck) Allbritton; grandfather of the late Nathaneal Chase, Ryan (Patience) Chase, Caitlin (Dylan) Swanson, Anna (Damian) Chavarria, Rebecca (Stephen) Hohnholt, Justin (Jennifer) Holwell, Tyler (Jennifer) Holwell, Haley Torres, Erica Allbritton; and great grandfather of 17. He was brother to Adrienne McNair, the late Fred McNair, Virginia McNair, the late Lynn Chase and the late Margaret Chase.

He will be dearly missed for his sense of humor, his sense of honor, his integrity, his sensitive heart and ethical way of living.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the American Legion Post 160, P.O. Box 143, Byers, CO 80103.

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Monday, Aug. 25 | 6-7:30 p.m.

Anythink Huron Street
9417 Huron St., Thornton



To RSVP, receive a calendar invite for a livestream of the meeting, or submit a question, please scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/419CvRG.

Learn more about Adams County's Town Halls at adco.gov.org/townhall.



STAY CONNECTED:

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[Adco.gov.org](https://www.adco.gov.org)

I-70 PURSUIT

FROM PAGE 1

University Hospital for observation and treatment but was later booked into the Arapahoe County Detention Center.

According to the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Nightwalker will have a preliminary hearing in Room 302 of Arapahoe County District Court on a half-dozen charges, including fifth-degree felony vehicular eluding as well as driving under the influence and a misdemeanor child abuse charge.

According to the arrest affidavit, troopers found multiple pieces of drug paraphernalia in the car.

"Looked at her hands and saw a phone, a piece of burnt foil, a blue straw, and a lighter," the arrest documentation said, adding that a handful of burnt foil pieces and a glass pipe were also recovered.

The Colorado State Patrol reiterated the effectiveness of its *277 hotline when it comes to expeditiously



Nightwalker

and safely reporting ongoing roadway incidents.

"Since the *CSP (*277) program was implemented in July 1998, Colorado motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians have reported thousands of "real-time" aggressive drivers and suspected DUI drivers," the agency said in a statement. "In 2024, dispatchers answered 54,956 total *CSP calls, with 56% (30,779) related to road rage or aggressive driving and 44% (24,177) regarding a suspected impaired driver."

When calling *277, people are urged to report vehicle description, license plate number, location and direction of travel, driver description, and the driving behavior being demonstrated.

Dialing 911 is also an effective reporting tool.

Nurse busted for taking drugs into AdCo jail

BRIGHTON — A nurse at the Adams County Detention Facility in Brighton was arrested in Texas for allegedly introducing the contraband into the facility.

According to a release, officers discovered April 22 that controlled substances had been brought into secure areas of the jail. An investigation determined that Ashley Ryan, 37, who was employed by a contracted medical provider, was suspected of the crime.

A few weeks into the investigation, the medical provider fired Ryan, and additional contraband was reportedly found on her person at that time, the

release continues.

Ryan is charged with introducing contraband in the second degree; conspiracy to introduce contraband in the second degree; distribution of more than 4 grams of a controlled substance; and conspiracy to distribute controlled substances.

Ryan is awaiting extradition to Colorado for court proceedings.

Shayleen Abeyta, 35, was also arrested for allegedly providing the narcotics to Ryan.



Ryan

Marine nabbed for child sex exploitation

CENTENNIAL — Arapahoe County sheriff's investigators are seeking assistance in locating more victims

of a U.S. Marine who was arrested June 16 at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in San Diego and extradited to Arapahoe County June 27.

Investigators with the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit say Justin Ryder Simmons, 19, was sexually exploiting children via the internet. Simmons used the Snapchat username of "simmonsj6842" and phone number (970)308-5998 to contact the victims. An arrest warrant

was issued, and Simmons was taken into custody by the San Diego County Sheriff's Office on:

- two counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Child – Induce/Entice;
- one count of Sexual Exploitation of a Child – Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material; and
- two counts of Internet Sexual Exploitation of a Child.

Simmons was booked into the Arapahoe County Detention Facility on a \$25,000 bond. He is no longer in custody.

Investigators believe there are additional victims. Anyone with information is asked to call the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Investigations Tip Line at (720)874-8477.



Simmons

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Cherry Creek Dam Road Closed Aug. 16



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will close the Cherry Creek Dam Road for maintenance and noxious weed control from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 16. Access to the Dam Road will be blocked during these hours at East Union Avenue and South Vaughn Way. Motorists can use I-225 or South Parker Road as alternate routes. Signs and barricades will be posted on both sides of the Dam Road. If inclement weather occurs on Aug. 16, the federal agency will close the road for maintenance from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 17.

First woman to head Colorado National Guard retiring Oct. 18

by Sara Wilson
Colorado Newsline

The head of Colorado's National Guard is retiring after five years in the post, Gov. Jared Polis announced Aug. 7.

Maj. Gen. Laura Clellan will end nearly four decades of military service with a retirement ceremony Oct. 18.

"Serving as the Adjutant General of Colorado has been the greatest honor of my career, a privilege beyond words, and the highlight of my time in uniform," Clellan said in a statement. "Leading the soldiers and airmen of the Colorado National Guard, the state employees of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, and volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol, has been nothing short of extraordinary. Over the past five years, I have witnessed extraordinary accomplishments made possible only by the unwavering commitment to service demonstrated by every member of this remarkable organization."

Clellan is the first woman and openly LGBTQ person to lead the Colorado National Guard.

The state listed the job posting for Clellan's replacement with an annual salary of about \$230,000. Polis is in charge of appointing the position.

"Through wildfires and floods, a pandemic and unprecedented times, General Clellan led the Colorado National Guard with dignity, supporting Coloradans and our communities through turbulent times," Polis said.

Clellan was commissioned as a military police officer into the U.S. Army in 1989 and, during more than three



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Maj. Gen. Laura Clellan announced last week she will retire as the Adjutant General of the Colorado National Guard Oct. 18.

decades of military service, was deployed to Honduras, Saudi Arabia, Panama, Hungary and Afghanistan and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

In November 1998, she joined the Colorado Army National Guard, where she has held key leadership positions at multiple levels of command and has deployed overseas multiple times as a Colorado National Guard service member. In 2023, the U.S. Senate promoted her to major general.

The Colorado National Guard comprises part-time citizen soldiers and airmen who mostly respond to natural disasters and other emergencies. Most recently, Polis mobilized the force to help respond to the Elk and Lee fires near Meeker.

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Call for Nominations for School Directors Deer Trail School District 26J Arapahoe County, Colorado

The Board of Education of Deer Trail School District in the County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

At this election three (3) directors will be elected representing Deer Trail School District for a term of office of four years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the Deer Trail School District which will be represented. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 25 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the District Secretary's Office of Deer Trail School District 26J. Office hours are 8:00 AM to 4:15 PM.

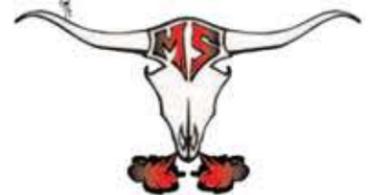
Completed petitions shall be submitted to Hayley Whitehead no later than 4:00 PM on August 29, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Education of Deer Trail School District, County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado has caused this call for nominations to be given this 11th day of August 2025.

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STILL RELEVANT! — “I surveyed visitors as they came to the Chamber’s Summer on the Farm event, and the number one response on how they learned about the event was, ‘It was in the paper.’ Several also pointed out the colorful ad. The next highest response (and far down in numbers) was ‘I/my family saw it on Facebook.’ ... We are grateful to *The Scout*.”

— Robbin Schincke,
President Pro Tempore
I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce

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SPORTS



Breaking down the NFL's most common injuries

by Dennis Waszak Jr.
AP Pro Football Writer

Some of the most important players on NFL teams are those that might not necessarily start the season on the field.

Depth is crucial during a rigorous 17-game regular-season schedule that's preceded by a month of training camp practices in hot conditions as players try to make team's 53-man active rosters.

Injuries can play as big a role in an NFL team's successes or failures as the best game plans. So being able to navigate injuries and ailments to key players could make all the difference between a team seeing its season sink or making the playoffs.

Here's a look at some of the most common injuries suffered by NFL players throughout the season:

ACHILLES TENDON TEARS

The Achilles is the longest and strongest tendon in the body and stretches from the heel to the calf. It's a springy band located behind the ankle and just above the heel that helps players push off their feet, jump and accelerate.

Due to overuse or excessive force placed on the tendon, it can tear or rupture. Surgery is typically necessary to reconnect the ends, sidelining a player for several months because of the extensive rehabilitation needed.

ACL/PCL/MCL/LCL TEARS

The anterior cruciate, posterior cruciate, medial collateral and lateral collateral ligaments are all located in the knee and serve different purposes.

The ACL connects the thigh bone to the shin bone in the front of the knee. While a sprain could sideline a player for a few weeks, a tear can end a season.

The PCL is located behind the ACL, crisscrossing it to form an "X" in the center of the knee. The MCL connects the thigh bone to the shin bone on the inner side of the knee, while the LCL



Miami Dolphins wide receiver Grant DuBose is carted off the field after an injury during an NFL football game against the Texans at Houston in December.

connects the thigh bone to the top of the lower leg, or fibula, and is located on the outer side of the knee.

CONCUSSIONS

A concussion is a brain injury caused by a hit to the head or a sudden movement that causes the head and brain to shake violently. Symptoms may include headaches, neck pain, nausea, dizziness and feeling sluggish.

The NFL has been regularly testing and upgrading helmets for players to help reduce the risk of concussions. Eight position-specific helmets for quarterbacks and linemen were approved by the NFL and the NFL Players Association last year. Several players also have worn Guardian Caps, soft, protective helmet covers that the NFL authorized players to use during games last season in an effort to reduce head injuries.

Chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE, is a degenerative brain disease that has been linked to concussions and can only be diagnosed posthumously. It can cause memory loss, depression and violent mood swings.

HAMSTRING INJURIES

The hamstring is a group of four

muscles that run along the back of the thigh, stretching from the hip to the knee, and they help a person bend their leg at the knee. These injuries vary in severity and, in turn, their timetable in sidelining a player.

A mild pull of one of the muscles, commonly referred to as a Grade I injury, can sideline a player for a few days to a couple of weeks and can be a lingering condition if not sufficiently rested and healed. A Grade II hamstring injury involves a partial tear, while a Grade III injury is a complete tear of the hamstring that

could require surgery and is likely season-ending.

HIGH ANKLE SPRAINS

When a player suffers a high ankle sprain, the ligaments above the ankle — which connect the tibia to the fibula — are affected rather than the ligaments outside the ankle in a low ankle sprain.

High ankle sprains take much longer to recover from — six to eight weeks and sometimes longer — than a classic ankle sprain, which might sideline a player for several days to a couple of weeks.

HIP POINTERS

The injury could sideline a player for a week or a couple of months, depending on the severity. A hip pointer is bruising in the pelvis and abdomen area, usually caused by blunt force, such as a hard tackle. The bleeding can affect several other muscles in the area, making it difficult to run or even walk.

LISFRANC INJURIES

This serious foot injury can be career-threatening because of its complexity. A Lisfranc sprain or fracture is an injury in the middle of the foot in which at least one (or sometimes, all) of the small bones (or metatarsals) is

SEE NFL INJURIES
PAGE 14

SPORTS BRIEFS

Benefit golf tourney slated for Family Resource Center

BYERS — Sponsorship opportunities are available for a golf tournament fundraiser on behalf of the Family Resource Center of the Eastern Plains in Byers.

The event starts at 9 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 20, at the Quint Valley Golf Course just west of Byers. Participants can warm up starting at 8 a.m.

The tourney will be played scramble-style in teams of four. Space is limited.

For more information or to register a team, visit www.FamilyResourceCenter.com.

Byers football squad sets benefit cornhole tourney

BYERS — The fifth annual Byers High School Football Cornhole Tournament begins at 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 16 at the school football field.

The entry fee is \$40 per team with lunch included. A shorter throwing distance is planned for kids 12 and under and cash prizes will be awarded to the top three teams.

For more information, contact Michelle Long at (720) 519-7207 or longmom2020@gmail.com.

Bennett gridiron crew plans pancake breakfast fundraiser

BENNETT — The Bennett High School football team will serve up a preseason breakfast fundraiser from 8-10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 16, at the Bennett VFW Hall.

All Tiger fans and their family and friends are invited to "fuel up like a



SUBMITTED PHOTO

COACH OF THE YEAR — Strasburg gymnastics coach Tina Connely was named Coach of the Year by the Colorado Association of Recreational Athletics at its state gymnastics competition July 26. She started coaching 43 years ago and opened Twisters Athletics 2003. CARA promotes the development of athletics and encourages the standardization of rules and classifications in games and competition. CARA holds local, regional, and state competitions in youth athletics statewide.

lineman" during the all-you-can-eat event.

The meal costs \$20 per person and can be paid at the door.

The VFW is located at 115 Palmer Ave.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Four members of the Strasburg High School cheer team — Lily Aldana Hernandez, left, Jordan Garcia, Aislynn Safe, and Leah Sir-Vandewerken — were named Universal Cheerleading Association All Americans this year. Cheerleaders who attend a UCA camp can try out to become a UCA All-American, and all four Indians participated, showcasing jumps, a dance and a cheer. UCA All-Americans are invited to perform at special events, such as the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade or the London New Year's Day Parade. Safe earned UCA All-American honors for all four years of her high school career.



ARAPAHOE COUNTY



Free Class



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Vines and Climbers

August 21, 4–6 p.m. | Aurora Central Library

In this class, Master Gardener Donnetta Wilhelm will explain how vining and climbing plants grow. Register at <https://bit.ly/CSUVinesClimb>



Join our Cultural Council and make an impact!

The group solicits and screens applications from eligible nonprofit and/or governmental entities for the County's portion of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District sales tax, among other duties. The council is looking for one at-large member and one representative from Centennial.

Learn more and apply at arapahoeco.gov/getinvolved



Cottage Food Safety

Learn food safety guidelines and the specifics of operating a cottage food business from home. The next online class is **Aug. 22, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**

Register now at <https://bit.ly/CSUCottageFoods>

ARAPAHOE COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
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AUGUST is Child Support Awareness Month

Child support that supports families

Behind every child support case is a family working toward stability. Arapahoe County Child Support Services is here to help—with empathy, dignity, and real solutions. Learn more arapahoeco.gov/childsupport.



arapahoeco.gov

WEEK OF AUG. 11



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER AND CARL STEITZ/The I-70 Scout

Top photo, Peyson Hess puts the final touches on a tailhead during the Arapahoe County Fair beef show Friday. Second row from, Polynesian fire dancer Ikaika Hafoka performs Saturday night, and Arapahoe County District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker gets the crowd's attention with a cowbell during Thursday night's Boots Not Suits Dinner. Third row, Mace MacLennan, left, shows the reserve grand champion market hog, and Nebraska cowboy Teagan Gehring tries to stay aboard Iron Man during Friday night's bronc riding. Bottom photo, Lane Morrow, also from Nebraska, tries to wrap his arm around his draw in Friday night's steer wrestling.



PHOTOS BY TRISTA LEBSACK/For The Scout

The Price family from Byers had a successful week at the Adams County Fair, held July 30 through Aug. 3 at the fairgrounds at the Riverdale Regional Park in Henderson. The brother-sister duo of Gabe and Julee Price took turns taking grand champion honors in the market swine and market lamb shows, respectively. Older brother's top hog, left, sold for \$9,000 to Robert Bernstrom during Saturday's junior livestock auction, while Julee's grand champion lamb was bought by TransWest Trucks of Brighton for \$5,000. For additional fair and sale coverage, see the Aug. 15 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.



PHOTOS BY TRISTA LEBSACK/For The Scout

From left photo, 2025 Adams County Fair Queen Sidney Linn Romo Sonneman makes an arena run with Old Glory and a pair of youth ham it up for the camera from one the midway carnival rides.

Sky Ranch Academy (K-10)

849 N. Carrie St.
Watkins, CO 80137
skyranchacademy.com
720-574-9548

OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE

Open enrollment for the Sky Ranch academic school year ends on 2/27/2026 at 5 pm. Applications can be obtained at the school or by calling 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be held via live stream on 3/3/2026 at 3 pm. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

National Heritage Academies does not discriminate against or limit the admission of any student on any unlawful basis, including on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, color, need for special education services, sex, gender, disability, intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, race, creed, gender, national origin, religion or ancestry. A school may not require any action by a student or family (such as an admissions test, interview, essay, attendance at an information session, etc.) in order for an applicant to either receive or submit an application for admission to that school.

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2025, and the *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, Aug. 15, 2025.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Bennett School District 29J
Adams and Arapahoe County, Colorado

The Bennett School District 29J in the County of Adams and Arapahoe, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

At this election 2 directors will be elected representing Bennett School District 29J for a term of office of four years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the Bennett School District 29J. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election. For full booklet information visit www.bsd29j.com under Board News & Notices.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the School District Office, 805 Washington Way, Bennett, CO 80102. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Completed petitions shall be submitted to Tina Starman, Designated Elections Officer, no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 29, 2025.

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Church Directory

Strasburg Presbyterian Church
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www.spcusa.us
303-622-4325
• Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Saron Lutheran Church
1656 Main St. | Strasburg, CO | saronstrasburg.org
Worship 8:30 a.m. In-Person or on Facebook



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Christ Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod



Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

275 Ash Street, Bennett • 303-644-3044
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— Douglas Claussen, Publisher & Editor*

BYERS PRD

FROM PAGE 1

quirements are complete by the board's September meeting, they will be sworn in at that time.

No community members attended the meeting to speak or provided written comments.

AUDIT EXEMPTION

The board adopted a second resolution requesting the state auditor's office to exempt the district from an audit.

Tibbals said that, according to state statute, local governments whose revenues or expenditures do not exceed \$700,000 can claim such an exemption.

"I talked to the auditor's office and they said they are now requiring a resolution to be adopted, as well as the audit exemption request being signed by the full board," he said.

The resolution also notes that the application was "prepared by Lance Grothe, a person skilled in governmental accounting and in accordance with regulations."

FOURTH OF JULY

Discussion was held on the district's Fourth of July week events, which were deemed a success.

"We had more people involved, we had more vendors involved, and we had good crowds at every event," said board president JaLee Kitzman.

Board treasurer Wendy Hise said that final figures aren't in but expenses total approximately \$31,000 and, up to this point, donations and sponsorships total around \$23,000.

The Byers Fourth of July celebration is rarely profitable, especially when the event includes a fireworks display. The event has never been a fundraiser for the district but is organized for the benefit of the community.

Hise said the final numbers from

last year are similar to this year's preliminary accounting. In 2024, expenses totaled \$24,308 and income was \$16,622, leaving \$7,686 coming out of the district's coffers, which includes tax revenue and rental income.

"Most of the sponsorships we get are specific to the rodeo," she said. "This year we added some carnival stuff and a few different sponsors."

Kitzman said community input had emphasized the importance of the fireworks.

"Essentially, the money we get from taxes goes back to the community for the fireworks show," she said.

OTHER NEWS

Renovations and clean up of the Quint Valley Quonset are ongoing and include board members JaLee and Kagen Kitzman, who put in work on weekends.

Caretaker Justina Herman's operations report included a discussion on mowing and the challenges of Byers Community Park upkeep. Vermeer is evaluating the maintenance needs at the park, including getting the sprinkler system working as it should.

The board approved an expenditure not to exceed \$2,000 to purchase additional trash cans for the park.

Tibbals advised that work on the 2026 budget should begin soon.

"We should have preliminary figures coming in from the office of assessor from Adams and Arapahoe counties, which is statutorily due here by the end of August," he said. "We'll see where they come in and that's when you start your serious budget work."

Discussion was held on the need for power tools on site for Herman to complete projects and maintenance tasks. A motion for an \$800 expenditure for tools passed unanimously.

NFL INJURIES

FROM PAGE 11

broken or the ligaments that support the foot in that area are torn. Even a minor sprain not requiring surgical repair could take 6-8 weeks to heal.

MENISCUS TEARS

The meniscus is a crescent-shaped rubbery disk of cartilage that serves as a shock absorber on the inside and outer edges of the knee. Both help a person balance weight across the knee. When a meniscus is torn, the knee can lock up and swell. A minor tear can be treated with rest, but a severe tear could require surgery that may sideline a player for several weeks or months.

OBLIQUE STRAINS

An oblique strain involves the muscles on the side of the body between the ribs and pelvis. This type of injury can occur when a player takes a hard hit to the waist area or from overuse or sudden use of the muscles — for instance, a quarterback throwing a pass or a defensive back turning to defend a receiver. Oblique strains are usually treated with rest and could take a few weeks to heal, or could become a lingering issue otherwise.

PATELLAR TENDON INJURIES

The patellar tendon allows a person to straighten a leg by acting with the quadriceps. Technically, it's a ligament because it connects the kneecap to the shin bone.

Complete tears or ruptures often need to be surgically sewn back together and recovery is typically at least four to six months.

PLANTAR FASCIITIS

This injury affects the bottom of the foot and can lead to intense heel pain. Plantar fasciitis occurs when the ligament supporting the arch of the foot — the plantar fascia — is strained and worsens when small tears develop in the ligament. The injury can sap players of speed. Rest, icing of the arch, and new footwear are among typical treatments. It can linger for months.

TURF TOE

An extremely painful injury that can sideline players for months. It occurs when the ligaments under the joint of the big toe are sprained or ruptured as a result of the toe's hyperextension. The injury makes it extremely difficult to push off and cut while running.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO AUG. 16, 2005

A brief but loud shouting match broke loose during the Aug. 9 meeting of the Bennett Board of Trustees as proponents of the new Bennett Recreation Center voiced their frustration over another delay in getting the project underway.

The situation boiled over after Bennett Town Planner Bruce Nickerson said several conditions still had not been met by the Bennett Parks & Recreation District in its inter-governmental agreement (IGA) with the town. Of the 53 original conditions, Nickerson said, approximately 49 had been met. He added that the implementation of the IGA could not move forward until all conditions were met satisfactorily.

Several Bennett citizens in favor of expediting the recreation center project were visibly upset and vociferously objected to Nickerson's account of the situation.

"You are out of line," one meeting attendee shouted at Nickerson. Bennett Mayor Karen Groissant countered with, "No you're out of line, and please leave now."

15 YEARS AGO AUG. 17, 2010

DENVER —The Colorado Department of Education released the 2009-2010 results of the Colorado Student Assessment Program and Growth Model Aug. 10.

"I just want to say thank you to all the teachers who made this once again, such a tremendously successful year," said CDE assistant commissioner Jo O'Brien in an Aug. 10 press conference: "[Students] worked very hard, our assessment staff does an extraordinarily [job]...and I tip my hat to all that were participating."

An estimated 1.6 million CSAP tests were administered to about 465,000 students in March and April. The test is given to students in third through tenth grades; CSAP topics include reading, writing, and mathematics. However, only students in fifth, eighth and tenth grades were tested in science.

It's a safe, solid and reliable assessment," O'Brien said of the test. "It tells Coloradans what students should know and what they are able to do at grade level...it's and extremely stable and valid assessment."

The percentage of students who performed at a proficient or advanced level in reading, writing, and math varies — 68 percent, 53 percent, and 52 percent, respectively..

10 YEARS AGO AUG. 18, 2015

BYERS - Byers Fire Rescue will become a hybrid department — part volunteer and part profession — as of Sept. 1 after hiring an interim, full-time fire chief.

The Byers Fire Protection District Board approved the temporary employment agreement of current chief Mike Disher Aug. 10. The agreement goes through Nov. 30 — by which time the district will have completed a hiring process opening the position to others applicants.

The addition of paid staff has been under discussion for many months and final details including a job description were hammered out recently and documented by attorney Brad Hill.

The job will pay \$3,333 monthly plus an additional \$700 compensation for health insurance. The agreement was approved with the contingency that work restrictions currently in place by the fishers physician will be lifted. The chief has been on disability for a shoulder injury and going through "work hardy" therapy specific for the job.

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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, Aug. 13, the 225th day of 2025. There are 140 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Aug. 13, 1961, on what would become known as Barbed Wire Sunday, East Germany sealed the border between Berlin's eastern and western sectors before building a wall that

would divide the city for the next 28 years.

ON THIS DATE

In 1521, Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez captured Tenochtitlan (teh-natch-teet-LAHN), present-day Mexico City, from the Aztecs.

In 1792, French revolutionaries arrested and imprisoned King Louis XVI; he would be executed by

guillotine the following January.

In 1889, William Gray of Hartford, Connecticut, received a patent for the first coin-operated telephone.

In 1918, Opha May Johnson became the first woman to join the U.S. Marine Corps.

In 1952, Big Mama Thornton first recorded the song "Hound Dog," four years before Elvis Presley's famous version was released.

In 1969, New York City held a

ticker-tape parade for Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins.

In 1995, Baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle died at a Dallas hospital of rapidly spreading liver cancer at age 63.

In 2011, seven people were killed when a stage collapsed at the Indiana State Fair during a powerful storm just before a concert was to begin.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is 92. Opera singer Kathleen Battle is 77. High wire aerialist Philippe Petit is 76. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Clarke is 76. Golf Hall of Famer Betsy King is 70. Movie director Paul Greengrass is 70. Actor Danny Bonaduce is 66. Actor Dawnn Lewis is 64. Actor John Slattery is 63.

—Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: BACK TO SCHOOL

- ACROSS
- *Report ____
 - One on the beat
 - Put on the payroll
 - Fan sound
 - Buckeye State
 - Indy entrant
 - Table mountain
 - 2021 movie "The Harder They ____"
 - Carry away, in a way
 - * ____ Readers
 - Weary walk
 - Basketry stick
 - * ____ time for preschoolers
 - Plums and cherries genus
 - Allegiance
 - Crew propeller
 - Rh in Rh disease
 - Your majesty
 - Miss of the Muppets
 - Band event
 - Asci, sing
 - Olympic castaway
 - *Didn't fail
 - Frozen H₂O
 - Took a penny-farthing, e.g.
 - *Punctuation marks for famous words
 - Maltese or Havanese, e.g.
 - *Use Play-Doh
 - Cheap trinket
 - *3+x=10, e.g.
 - Soviet place of exile
 - Curtis, to friends
 - Beehive state
 - *Olden-day notebook
 - Honey-producing facility
 - Sushi restaurant soup
 - Location of altar
 - Type of poem
 - Sing like Ella Fitzgerald
- DOWN
- Mountain basin
 - Attention grabber
 - Reduced Instruction Set Computer
 - Hiccup's Toothless, e.g.
 - Irritate by rubbing
 - Persian Gulf ship
 - Multi-
 - *"Get out of classroom" permit (2 words)
 - International Civil Aviation Organization
 - Retired, shortened
 - Bard's before
 - Lacking cordiality
 - Settle a debt
 - Unethical loaner's practice
 - Us, in Mexico
 - Temporary store
 - Reason to strike
 - Prodded
 - Totes or tugs
 - Permissible
 - Cease-fire
 - Many affirmatives
 - "Good grief!"
 - Bro's counterpart
 - *School alum
 - Next step for juvenile
 - Margaret, for short
 - Describe as similar
 - Elks' hangout
 - Poppy derivative, pl.
 - Marine cephalopod
 - *Grading arch
 - Big one at 7-Eleven
 - Regrettably, exclamation
 - Sound reflection
 - Auditory
 - U.S. space agency, acr.
 - Geological Society of America
 - *Van Halen's " ____ for Teacher"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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63			64					65		

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ANSWERS ON PAGE 17

HOROSCOPE

Collective Power

The Aries moon says much can happen on the strength of a solo effort — impressive, impactful, important. But not immense. Not like communal power. Mars in Libra suggests going it alone will be harder, slower and more draining. Support from those who care, who get it, who share the vision will amplify and accelerate the mission.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have an aptitude for observation, a high quotient of curiosity and a drive to gather as much sensory information as possible. It's a skill, really — one you've cultivated over years of being you. You'll be rewarded for all you notice.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Not every thread becomes part of the tapestry. Some just teach you about texture. You're engaging with what's available, what's strange, what's stirring, and you're doing it with detached curiosity. That's what makes it art.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will stop yourself mid-action. It's a power move. Not because you withhold your effort, but because you ask yourself why you're doing it in the first place. You listen to your own emotional system and your own wisdom.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will perform alchemy — turning powerlessness into clarity; gratitude, into grounded truth. You will step into your own authority and say: No. I will not be ruled by fear. First I will see what really is there instead of worrying about what might be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Presence isn't meditating with perfect posture or fixating attention on an object like a monk with a raisin. Letting your actual thoughts, feelings, body and actions match — or at least be known to you, is enough. In fact, it's remarkable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Does this really help me thrive, or is it just armor? Am I hiding behind this, or am I expressing myself with it? When you know what you're doing and why, you can choose from confidence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're surrounded by smart people, and smart people opinions. Give each an amount of time and attention but don't let the decision-making process drag on and on. The fair thing is also the timely thing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you contribute, it's not to get social points or clout, it's because you love the experience of contribution. You love being in it. Today you give in a way that highlights the artist and leader in you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). By chasing one very specific prize you might accidentally ignore other potential sources of happiness, or reject alternative paths that could bring even more satisfaction. Don't fixate. Stay flexible, open and sensitive to joy, which can call from anywhere.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Mastery isn't always achieved through hard work. Sometimes it's sweat, sometimes it's long hours, but it can also be playful discovery, enlightening conversations and, in today's case, a fun breakthrough.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Friendly is still your default, but today you're streamlining access to you. These boundaries aren't made in an effort to keep people away from you. Rather, they're about keeping your peace protected.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Productivity can feel good, can be essential to the thriving of the group, and can reward you in a multitude of ways — but productivity is not self-worth. The business is optional today. You don't have to be busy to prove your value.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 13). A year when you'll hold power without having to maneuver for the position. Finally, the respect you deserve. Career momentum translates to real money. More highlights: You master three new habits, repeating what matters until it's part of you. Younger people and/or family expansion brings joy. You'll host like a legend, and more hospitality is heaped on you. Taurus and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 9, 20, 15 and 38.

—Horoscopes by Holiday

We like to watch busy ants scurry...

...back to their colonies with crumbs.



Newspaper Fun!

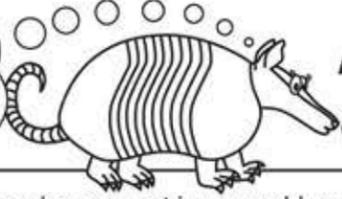
www.readingclubfun.com

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Kids: color stuff in!



I'm a sucker for ants!



Ants, Ants, Ants

Ants are world-famous insects. There are over 8,000 kinds of ants. They seem to be everywhere except in very cold areas of the world. They have been found in the ground, in rotting wood, under sidewalks, in buildings and even on ships at sea! Ants can be helpful to us because they control pests. However, sometimes ants sting or bite us, or get into our food supplies. Then we think **they** are the pests!

How much do you know about ants? Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

- called this because they live and work together and help each other
- will share food stored in this part of his body with other ants
- these sense flavors, sounds, odors; also used to "talk" to other ants
- these ants "march," keeping on the move, carrying everything
- ants that build and defend the nest, care for the young, gather food and do all of the other work
- a group of ants
- ants help us by getting rid of these
- young queens and males have these to fly
- largest ant, lays all the eggs
- often built in the earth or in wood
- most ants have 2 compound _____, each made up of tinier ones
- used to travel from room to room in nest

1 Heigh- Ho
Heigh- Ho

2

3

4

5 queen nests

6

7

8 antennae

9

10 wings

11

12

workers colony

army crop

Kinds of Ants

1 Leafcutter

2 Weaver

3 Red Harvester

4 Silver

5 Fire

6 Carpenter

7

8 Bulldog

9

10

Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

- found in the hot Saharan Desert (Africa)
- main food is seeds, which they gather and store
- build nests in dead wood; often leave a trail of sawdust
- have large jaws; can sting prey; (mostly in Australia)
- march to raid others' nests and take what they can
- raid other ant colonies; steal the pupae (ants in the stage before they become adults) and raise them to work
- will sting, leaving you with a red bump; burning feeling in skin
- use silk to hold their nests together
- don't eat the leaves they cut up, use them as compost to feed fungus which they do eat
- they overeat, bloat, then feed other ants

Free Stuff It's our 20th Anniversary, but you get the presents! Visit readingclubfun.com to print out this week's free puzzle set **All Set To Go Back To School**.

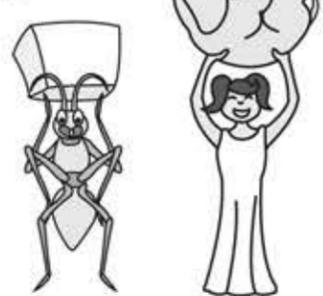
There are more **clichés** on this page than you can shake a stick at.

Marching to a Picnic!

Can you help the ant find his way to the food in the picnic basket?

Start

Weigh In!

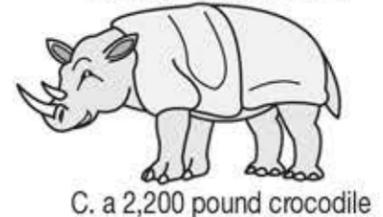


Scientists have learned that ants lift 10-50 times their own weight. If a 56 pound 8-year-old girl could do this, she could easily lift a one-year-old elephant that weighs about 660 pounds, or even 2 polar bears that weigh a ton (2,000 pounds)!

Read each math problem and match it to the answer:

- if a man who weighs 220 pounds could lift 10 times his own weight, he could lift:
- if a 140 pound woman could lift 50 times her weight, she could pick up:
- if a 12-year-old girl weighs 93 pounds and she can lift 30 times her weight, then she can lift:

- a 7,000 pound white rhinoceros
- a 2,790 pound American bison – the largest land animal in the Americas
- a 2,200 pound crocodile



All Worn Out?

Sometimes people keep saying phrases that we get tired of hearing. The phrases are no longer funny or interesting to hear. These worn-out sayings are called **clichés**. Can you read the next passage and find the 7 clichés that are used in it? Underline the ones you find.

Do you think many people use **clichés** that are as old as the hills because time flies by and they are as busy as bees?

Now, I don't mean to cry wolf or make a mountain out of a molehill, but wouldn't a new, exciting expression be something to write home about? You said it!

When you are stuck inside on a cold, rainy day do you feel as if you have



9 • 10

8 • 7

1 •

4 •

?

2 • 3 • 5 • 6 •

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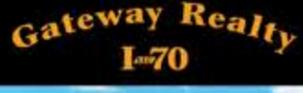
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Felony animal fighting charge still up in the air but jury ruled not guilty on misdemeanor count

By Steven Welter
Hartsville, Mo. — A mistrial was declared in the case of a man charged with felony animal fighting after a jury returned a verdict on a misdemeanor charge. The case involves a cockfighting ring in Hartsville, Mo., where a man was charged with felony animal fighting and misdemeanor animal fighting. The jury returned a verdict on the misdemeanor charge but a mistrial was declared on the felony charge. The case is set for a new trial on the felony charge.

USDA office relocations expected to benefit CO

By Debrah Brewer
Colorado Springs — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is planning to relocate several offices to Colorado Springs, which is expected to benefit the local economy. The relocations include the USDA's Western Region Office, the USDA's National Center for Environmental and Plant Health Inspection, and the USDA's National Center for Food Safety and Inspection Service. The relocations are expected to create jobs and increase economic activity in the area.

Eastern Colorado drought-free but heat, wind concerns arise

By Steven Welter
Hartsville, Mo. — Eastern Colorado is drought-free, but concerns are rising over heat and wind. The region has received significant rainfall, which has helped to replenish soil moisture and improve crop conditions. However, high temperatures and strong winds are causing concern among farmers and ranchers. The heat and wind are increasing the risk of crop damage and soil erosion. Farmers are advised to monitor weather conditions and take appropriate precautions.



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If you didn't see it in The I-70 Scout on Wednesday, it's probably in Friday's ECN!

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CHUCK WAGON



Classic Beef Kabobs

CLASSIC BEEF KABOBS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound beef top sirloin steak cut 1-inch thick
- 8 ounces mushrooms
- 1 medium red, yellow, or green bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch pieces
- salt
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano or 1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS

Cut beef top sirloin boneless steak into 1-inch pieces. Combine seasoning ingredients in large bowl. Add beef, mushrooms, bell pepper pieces and onion pieces; toss to coat.

Cook's Tip: One pound tenderloin

steak cut 1-inch thick may be used.

Alternately thread beef and vegetable pieces evenly onto eight 12-inch metal skewers, leaving small spaces between pieces.

Cook's Tip: Eight 12-inch bamboo skewers may be substituted for metal skewers. Soak bamboo skewers in water 10 minutes before using; drain.

Place kabobs on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill kabobs, covered, 8 to 10 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, 9 to 11 minutes) for medium rare (145°F) to medium (160°F) doneness, turning once. Season kabobs with salt, as desired.

Cook's Tip: To broil, place kabobs on rack in broiler pan so surface of beef is 3 to 4 inches from heat. Broil 9 to 12 minutes for medium rare to medium doneness, turning once.

Courtesy the Colorado Beef Council. For more info, visit cobeef.com.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

- Wednesday, Aug. 13: Hot dog, chips.
- Thursday, Aug. 14: Chicken nuggets, carrots.
- Monday, Aug. 18: Hamburger, fries.
- Tuesday, Aug. 19: Alfredo chicken fillet, brown rice.
- Wednesday, Aug. 20: Ravioli in red sauce, dinner roll.

BYERS

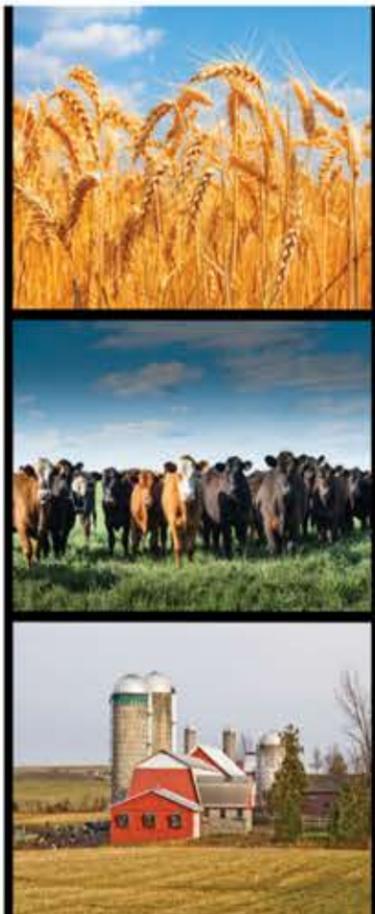
- Wednesday, Aug. 13: Chicken nuggets, roll, mixed veggies, applesauce.
- Thursday, Aug. 14: Hamburgers, fries, pineapple.
- Friday, Aug. 15: Spaghetti, meat sauce, steamed carrots.
- Monday, Aug. 18: Sloppy joes, Tater Tots, tropical fruit.
- Tuesday, Aug. 19: Cheesy hot dogs, broccoli, carrots.
- Wednesday, Aug. 20: Hot ham and cheese, celery sticks, pears.

STRASBURG

- Wednesday, Aug. 13: Chicken fajitas.
- Thursday, Aug. 14: Meatball sub sandwich.
- Friday, Aug. 15: Hot ham and cheese sandwich.
- Tuesday, Aug. 19: Hamburgers.
- Wednesday, Aug. 20: Pizza.

DEER TRAIL

- Wednesday, Aug. 13: Breakfast for lunch.
- Thursday, Aug. 14: Sloppy Joes



- Monday, Aug. 18: Corn Dog.
- Tuesday, Aug. 19: Taco Tuesday
- Wednesday, Aug. 20: Teriyaki Chicken.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left photo, a field fire on the northwest corner of the intersection of Arapahoe County Roads 193 and 38 about 10 miles southeast of Byers claimed about 42 acres Aug. 7, and, the previous afternoon about five miles directly north, Byers and Strasburg firefighters combined forces to keep a 100' by 100' grass fire from claiming any structures on a property in the 2300 block of County Road 193.

FIRES

FROM PAGE 1

the two neighboring fire districts responded to the scene.

FOLLOWING DAY

At about 3:15 Aug. 7, firefighters from all nearby jurisdictions were dispatched to the northwest corner of the intersection of Arapahoe County Roads 38 and 193 on a report heavy smoke from a field on fire.

About three hours later, all 30-plus pieces of apparatus and approximately 60 emergency personnel were leaving the scene after only about 42 acres were charred with no structures threatened.

In addition to Byers and Strasburg fire departments both being toned as mutual aid partners, assistance was provided by Agate, Deer Trail, North Central, Rattlesnake, Bennett and Sable Altura fire departments.

According to the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, the property owner said mechanical malfunction while

spraying weeds is what sparked the blaze.

While Wednesday's fire was located on property along the far eastern boundary of last year's Quail Hollow Fire that burned about 1,150 acres and claimed one home and a dozen outbuildings, Thursday's blaze was on property reportedly just outside of the far southeastern corner of its footprint.

The Quail Hollow Fire started July 13, 2024, when a bird flew into a pole-based transformer, caught fire and fell to the ground, igniting the foliage below. Its burn range was from roughly County Roads 24 to 34 north to south and from approximately County Road 185 to 193 west to east.

OTHER FIRES LAST WEEK

At least three small fires were reported north of Strasburg Aug. 7, including a vehicle fire on 88th Avenue east of Strasburg Road, but no mea-



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Arapahoe County Road 193 provided a firebreak that likely kept an Aug. 7 field fire at the northwest corner of the intersection with County Road 38 from spreading to the east.

asurable damage was reported.

"The car fire was simply that — a basic vehicle fire," said Strasburg Assistant Fire Chief Pat Conroy. "No extension into the [surrounding] vegetation."

At approximately 1:45 p.m. Aug. 9, the North Central Fire Protection District was notified of a small brush fire near County Roads 150 and 85 in Elbert County.

With the assistance of Elbert and Kiowa fire departments, the blaze was limited to about three acres and took about 45 minutes to contain and extinguish. Agate was also originally dispatched, but was canceled en route.

County Road 150 reportedly acted as a firebreak, containing the head of the fire from advancing. No structures were threatened.

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