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The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 36

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

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

ArapCo OKs gas-based power near Bennett

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

LITTLETON — Even as the power grid throughout the state is quickly moving towards mandated domination by solar and wind-based generation processes, the I-70 Corridor's primary electricity provider is moving forward with a supplemental or backup plan to mitigate interruptions.

During their July 22 business meeting, the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a use by special review (USR) application for a natural gas combustible power generation facility at an

existing electrical substation southwest of Bennett.

Canyon Peak Power, a subsidiary of Kindle Energy LLC, applied for the exemption on an 11-acre parcel of the 20-acre Brick Center Substation, which is owned and operated by CORE Electric Cooperative. The power station is located near the area of Brick Center Road and Quincy Avenue.

In addition to the proposed natural gas powered generation units with a combined generating capacity of 156 megawatts (MW), the request includes just under four miles of a 10-inch natural gas supply line entering

the site. Other site improvements will be an administrative/maintenance office trailer with a potable water tank and on-site wastewater treatment system immediately east of the structure, a stormwater detention pond, drive aisles and employee parking, a fire water tank, and a fire suppression loop. The fire suppression system will be powered by a diesel pump system.

Once operational, two pairs of employees will alternate manning the facility on 12-hour shifts.

Construction of the facility is expected to employ around 110 people with a high-end of 140 people needed at peak times. A construction timeline

was not mentioned during the public hearing.

The gas-powered portion of the site is currently being set up on the premise that it will be operational less than 32% of the time and will serve as a backup when power loads hit their peak in the summer and winter and solar and wind generation can't meet all the local needs.

When asked by Commissioner Jessica Campbell why natural gas powered generation is preferred over battery storage, applicant representatives said the current proposal is

**SEE SUBSTATION BACKUP
PAGE 6**



LeeAnn Hasenbalg is all smiles coming out of the show ring after her dairy heifer took championship honors during the Arapahoe County Fair cattle show July 25. For additional fair coverage, **SEE PAGES 12-13.**

Gym, walkway upgrades to welcome Agate students

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

AGATE — Officials with the I-70 Corridor's smallest school district said upgrades to the campus have been completed before the upcoming 2025-26 school year commences.

During the July 28 school board meeting, Superintendent Melinda Walls said that a new floor was completed in the gym as was new concrete around the front perimeter of the main building. Prior to the new floor, the gym also had new insulation installed earlier this summer.

"Ready for the new year," Walls said. "Very excited."

During the short, to-the-point last board meeting before school starts Aug. 13, the board also approved student and staff books with no notable changes from the previous year.

Estimates of another school year with an enrollment hovering around 90 students remains intact.

**SEE AGATE SCHOOL
PAGE 6**

Strasburg to celebrate 'Hometown Icons'

Residents of 47 years named Grand Marshals

by Kathy Smiley
Staff Writer

STRASBURG — Two longtime Strasburg residents will head up the 2025 Hometown Days parade.

Marvin and Janice Burroughs moved to Strasburg with their children, Mike and Cindy, in 1978. For the ensuing 47 years they have served and contributed to the community. Marvin and his son, Mike, established Burroughs Service, a vehicle care and repair shop in Bennett in 1983 — a business which is still going strong.

The I-70 Scout had a conversation with the couple on

their comfortable front porch July 23.

Marvin and Janice met when they both worked in the Salina, Kan., police department. Marvin grew up in Tescott, Kan., a small town about 25 miles northwest of Salina. Janice grew up on a ranch near Arlington in Kiowa County, Colo.

"My sister lived in Salina, and she told me the police department was hiring," Janice said. "I was a shy person, but I got on the train and told my folks goodbye. Off to Kansas I went. I got down there at four o'clock in the morning, and

**SEE GRAND MARSHALS
PAGE 8**



Marvin and Janice Burroughs and their pup, Penny, pose on their porch July 23. The couple was named Grand Marshals of the Strasburg Hometown Days parade set for this Saturday, Aug. 9.

Longtime biz honored on '25 logo

by Kathy Smiley
Staff Writer

STRASBURG — An icon is defined as something that is widely recognized and greatly admired and that serves as a symbol for a particular place or time. Case in point: Western Hardware in Strasburg and its owner, Al Holcomb.

The store on Colfax was the focal point of the town's main drag for 53 years before closing in May. Return customers knew that they would be greeted by a familiar face (often Al himself), helped to find the item they needed for the task at hand, and leave with their questions answered. New customers, who might find themselves surprised at the service, would become return customers.

The I-70 Scout met Al at the store July 28 where he was busy consolidating inventory and taking down fixtures. He didn't seem to mind sitting down for a short chat.

Al and his wife Donna both grew up in Custer County

**HOMETOWN BIZ HONORED
PAGE 24**

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Showing of 'Minecraft' set for Strasburg baseball field

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Parks & Recreation District will host a free outdoor family movie night on a 24-foot screen.

Seating for "Minecraft" opens one hour before dusk, Saturday, Aug. 9, at the district's South Softball Field, 1932 Burton St. in Strasburg

Attendees should bring chairs and blankets. Concessions will be available for a charge.

Admission is free, but donations to help fund youth programs and scholarships will be accepted.

Live line dancing lessons set for MVF Hometown Days feast

STRASBURG — A Hometown Days family dinner with live line dance lessons will start with the meal at 5 p.m. followed by the lessons at 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 9, at Mountain View Fellowship.

The dinner will feature pulled pork. Two Live Boots will facilitate the line dancing. Admission is free.

Mountain View Fellowship is located at 1955 Headlight Road, Strasburg.

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.

Pair of bats test positive in Denver neighborhoods

DENVER — Denver Animal Protection is warning the public to be cautious after two bats tested positive for the rabies virus.

A bat found in the Sloan Lake neighborhood July 8 was the first rabies-positive bat of the year in Denver. A family in the Highlands neighborhood reported the second positive bat July 17.

The rabies virus is found in an animal's saliva and is usually transmitted to people and pets through a bite from a rabid animal. The viral disease affects the nervous system and is almost always fatal if symptoms develop. Bat bites can go unnoticed since they are small, making their bites difficult to detect.

Any skunk, raccoon, bat, coyote or fox handled by a person or in contact with a pet must be euthanized and tested for rabies. Do not approach or touch such animals, and keep a safe distance if they are encountered.

State Wildlife Action Plan: Last input period ends 8/8

DENVER — Colorado Parks & Wildlife is seeking public feedback on the conservation priorities for species in the 2025 State Wildlife Action Plan.

State Wildlife Action Plans guide the conservation of a state's most vulnerable species and their habitats. An updated SWAP is required every 10 years for federal funding eligibility. The plans have eight required elements that remain the same since the program's inception 25 years ago.

Parks & Wildlife is working closely with the Colorado Natural Heritage Program on the development of the SWAP, and the draft version is due to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in September.

Input will be taken at engagecpw.org through Aug. 8.

Bijou Basin Preferred Plan now available for comment

ENGLEWOOD — The Bijou Basin Open Space master-planning process is entering its third round of public engagement, and Arapahoe County is asking its residents to provide feedback.

After nearly a year of public input, the county has developed a draft preferred plan for Bijou Basin, which is now posted for public review.

General feedback throughout the engagement process prioritized trails for hiking and wildlife viewing while minimizing ecological impacts and supporting existing active grazing and

agricultural operations.

The public is asked to review the preferred plan and provide feedback through a comment card at www.arapahoeco.gov through Monday, Aug. 11.

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.

New Strasburg then-and-now discussion set for Legion Hall

STRASBURG — Photographs and stories about the history of Strasburg will be presented in a then-and-now format beginning at 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 7, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.

New items have been added as well as stories to accompany the photographs at the presentation hosted by the Comanche Crossing Historical Society.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided.

August: Service people get free state parks admission

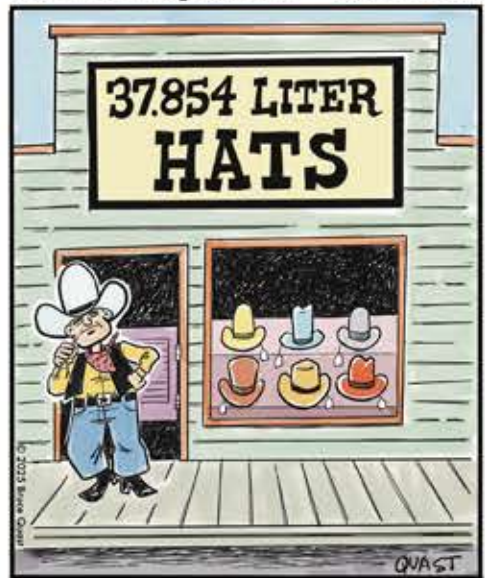
DENVER — To thank service men and women for their dedicated service and sacrifices, Colorado Parks & Wildlife is again offering free admission to all state parks for active-duty military and National Guard personnel and veterans through August.

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

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



Cowboys adopt the metric system

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 potluck 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.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO



DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout



DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout



DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout

The final stop of the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce's third annual Riders of the Plains Poker Run July 26 was May Farms. From left photo, Bobby Henline sits atop the new custom-built ride he was presented by non-profit Combat Hero Bike Build while members of the Battlin' Bettys celebrate from behind; Kathy Sharp from Florida, Jody Peterson of Frederick, and Kathy Scinto of Tipp City, Ohio, pose at a vendor table; Stacie May holds granddaughter, Harper; and chamber member Lindy Cosgrove of Byers enjoys the company of Wade Moore and Michelle Cook, both of Aurora.



PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout

From left photo, Dana Tafoya of Strasburg enjoys a respite in front of the Deer Trail Elks Lodge as do Dustin and Erin Smit of Bennett; I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce members Karen Fagan, left, Becky Zierer and Lindsay Wheaton welcome poker run participants at LuLu's, which was the opening stop; and Bennett's Chris Atkins prepares to go inside LuLu's to pick his first card.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Left photo, the Mertens trio of Claudette, Richard and Maurice Jr. are joined by Tiffany Bedsaul outside of Rookie's in Strasburg. Center, Everett Aurbach of Strasburg straightens out his beard in front of the bike stop at Shooters Bar & Grill in Byers. Right, Lorenzo Trotter from Colorado Springs reaches into a bra to pick out the fourth card of his poker hand while at Shooters.

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR SCHOOL DIRECTORS
BYERS SCHOOL DISTRICT 32J
ADAMS AND ARAPAHOE COUNTIES, COLORADO**

The Board of Education of Byers School District 32-J in the Counties 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 three (3) directors will be elected for a term of office of four (4) years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector for at least twelve consecutive months before the election and a resident of the Byers School District. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he/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 nomination petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election. The first day petitions can be circulated is August 6, 2025.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the District Office, located at 444 E. Front Street, Byers, Colorado 80103. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Completed petitions should be submitted to Stacy Sondburg, Designated Election Official, no later than 2:00 p.m. on August 29, 2025.

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WEEKLY ON AUGUST 23



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The L-70 Scoop

A photograph of two young boys in costumes dancing outdoors. The boy on the left wears a straw hat, a blue shirt, and jeans. The boy on the right wears a flat cap, overalls, and cowboy boots. They are holding hands and smiling.



ISAAC MANAUGH/The J-70 Series

Week three of the Pioneer school had a fun filled day Friday, July 25. Students were able to learn three different type of dances that the Pioneers used to do during their time period. Going left to right shows Torin Elliott (7) left and Evertt Kirby (8) are all smiles as they skip down the middle of the two lines. Evelyn Aguirre (7) left and Brylee Johnson (8) right cant help but laugh as they lock elbows and dance in a circle.

HOMETOWN DAYS FAMILY DINNER & LINE DANCE LESSONS

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Anythink Bennett library concluded its annual mySummer Reading program with an ice cream party and "Create a Magical Goodbye" magic show from metro-based magician and mentalist Erica Sodos July 30. Above, Sodos shakes a black scarf until it turns a rainbow of colors. Below, Cora Follum gets a coin shaken out of her ear into a little barrel with the assistance of Sodos.



Anythink Bennett library hosted a Cultivate Your Own Fungi program July 26. Above, five-day-old oyster mushrooms are on display at the library July 30.

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LIBRARY NEWS

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anythinklibraries.org

Rummikub, Refreshments and More: Adults are invited to drink coffee, eat snacks and play Rummikub. Other card and board games will also be available. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Aug. 8.

Yoga in the Stacks: Adults can practice poses that focus on alignment, stability and flexibility with Bennett yoga instructor Scott Noble. Mats provided. All skill levels welcome. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit Anythinklibraries.org. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 9.

Tarot club: Adults can learn about the tarot and do readings for other participants to practice their skills in a beginner-friendly workshop. 2-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 9.

Toddler Time: Children ages 2-5 join us for stories, songs and activities just right for active toddlers. 9:30-10 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 12.

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.

DAVIES LIBRARY
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www.arapahoelibraries.org

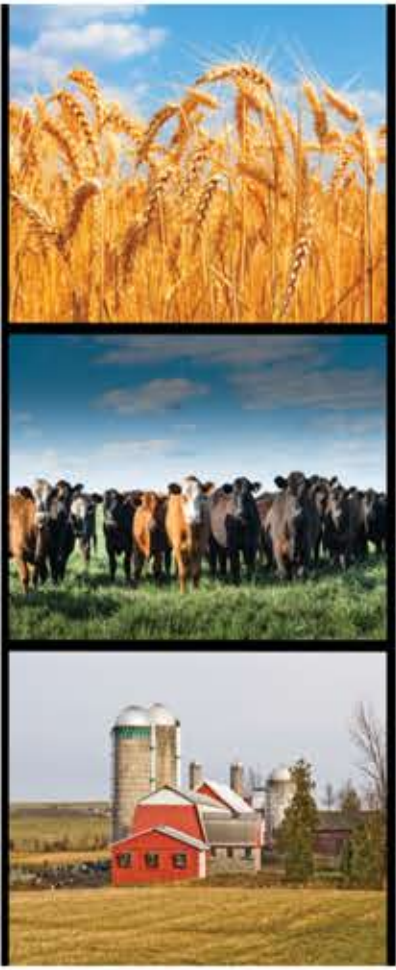
Friday matinee: All ages are invited to an afternoon showing of "Scoob" (2020, rated PG, 1 hour, 33 minutes). 1-3 p.m., Friday, Aug. 8.

Bob Hastings

Robert E "Bob" Hastings, 80, of Watkins, died on June 27, 2025, after a brief illness. His brother Tom and sister Margie were with him. Bob is also survived by his three nieces, five grand nieces and nephews, and many friends.

Bob grew up in a military family and lived in many places, but he had a strong love for Colorado and the surrounding states. He was active in water management and was the longest serving member of the Colorado Rural Water Association, serving from 1998 to 2025 including two terms as President. Bob also enjoyed local history and horticulture. He belonged to many organizations devoted to barbed wire, rocks and minerals, and more.

Bob will be greatly missed by family and friends and there will be a celebration of his life later in the fall. If you would like to be notified of the date when plans are finalized, please send a message or email to Jeanne Resch, 303-870-3314 or resch_pat@yahoo.com



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STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout
Among the summer improvements at Agate School was the installation of new insulation in the gym.

AGATE SCHOOL **FROM PAGE 1**

During the June board meeting, Walls said the 2024-25 school year concluded with 90 students and that the five seniors that left because of graduation were going to be more than replaced by seven kindergarteners enrolled for this coming year.

The board approved a preliminary 2025-26 budget based on a student count of 71, compared to 68 used for the previous year.

“We seem to be in a pretty sound place,” said Board Vice President Ray Martin during the June meeting.

The school downsized to K-5 in 2011 but, for 2018-19, it began to accept sixth- through 12th-grade students again. During the 2017-18 school year, Agate was the state’s smallest district with a K-5 enrollment under 10.

A music program has been reinstated within the district, particularly focusing on band.

“Even planning on a spring concert, so very excited,” Walls said.

Prior to the first day of classes, staff was scheduled to return to their classrooms for in-service training Aug. 4. A back-to-school night is set for Thursday, Aug. 7.

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CORRECTION

The headline of the story on the bottom of the front page of the July 30 edition of *The I-70 Scout* had the incorrect year of the Strasburg High School class that met for its 70-year reunion. The headline should have read “70 years later: 6 members of Strasburg Class of 1955 reunite.” We apologize for the error and any inconvenience it may have caused.



FILE PHOTO
Arapahoe County commissioners recently approved a gas-powered backup facility to ensure that CORE Electric Cooperative’s Brick Center Substation southwest of Bennett, pictured above, has fewer interruptions related to wind or solar generation interruptions.

SUBSTATION BACKUP **FROM PAGE 1**

more reliable.

“Winter situations have sometimes created five days of possible delays/interruptions,” an applicant spokesman said, noting that the window for battery backup is, maybe, up to 8 hours of available storage capacity. “This lasts a lot longer (than battery-based) solutions. It’s a combination of all the different technologies out there to give the most reliable and most cost effective [service].”

When further pressed by Campbell concerning emissions from natural gas power generation versus batteries, company officials said that the facility will release at least 30% less pollutants than coal-powered sites. Representatives also reiterated that the gas-powered plant will be operating less than a third of the substation’s overall generating time.

The applicant also added that the substation’s current power-generation footprint is only expected to increase at the rate the I-70 Corridor grows and not based on neighboring power grids.

“The substation itself was built 15-20 years ago and, expectations wrecked to build an even larger substation to interconnect with Xcel,” an applicant representative said. “They went elsewhere, so it allowed us to reuse the property and combine what we believe are the power lines associated with more local power generation.”

The applicant assured commissioners that the new facility will not impact groundwater and that any concerns from Colorado Parks & Wildlife have been properly addressed.

Among the double-digit conditions of approval are:

- Proper dedication and vacation of involved drainage easements;
- development of an acceptable wildfire mitigation plan and water supply plan through the Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue before issuance of a building permit;
- an agreement to provide county road repairs from damage during construction;
- compliance of lighting standards under the county’s development code; and
- with the assistance of CPW, conduct population surveys of ground nesting birds and pronghorn on or near the site during grading or construction through the first eight months of the year.

The 5-0 vote by county commissioners last month followed a unanimous recommendation from the Arapahoe County Planning Commission on June 17. Previous public comment was sought in November of 2024 and county staff indicated that concerns and questions from two neighbors to the project had been properly addressed and responded to.

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Mustardseed Commercial Vehicle Storage

Case Number: RCU2023-00056

Planning Commission Hearing Date: August 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date: September 16, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Both hearings will be held at 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy, Brighton, CO 80601

Case Manager: David DeBoskey

Request: Conditional use permit to allow the accessory storage of vehicles exceeding 7,000 lbs. on a residentially used property in the Agricultural-3 zone district.

Parcel Numbers: 0156518100002

Legal Description: SECT, TWN, RNG 18-1-64 DESC: PARCEL 2 LOCATED IN THE NE4 OF SEC 18 DESC AS FOLS CONSIDERING TH N LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 TO BRS S 89D 58M 35S E AND WITH ALL BRNG CONT HEREIN RELATIVE THERETO COM AT THE SW COR OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 TH N 89D 59M 40S E A COINCIDENT WITH THE S LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 A DIST OF 599/99 FT TO THE POB TH N 01D 06M 03S W // WITH THE W LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 A DIST OF 2615/61 FT TO THE S ROW LN OF E 152ND AVE/BROMLEY LN TH S 89D 58M 35S E COINCIDENT WITH SD ROW LN A DIST OF 600 FT TH S 01D 06M 03S E // WITH THE W LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 A DIST OF 2615/31 FT TO THE S LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 TH S 89D 59M 40S W COINCIDENT WITH THE S LN OF THE NE4 OF SD SEC 18 A DIST OF 599/99 FT TO THE POB 36/02A

Applicant: Marisa Beaver, 33950 E. 152nd Ave., Hudson, CO 80642.

Property Owner: Marisa and Christopher Beaver, 33950 E. 152nd Ave., Hudson, CO 80642.

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, and *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, August 8, 2025.





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Worship 8:30 a.m. In-Person or on Facebook



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www.corlms.org

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303-822-9366 • mttaborbysers.org

Sat., 6:00 p.m. Saturday Service
Sun., 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
Sun., 10:10-30 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Church
Awana ... Meetings restart Aug. 26 (5:15-7:15 p.m., Dinner served)

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Midweek Elementary Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
Middle/High School Youth Group - Wednesdays @ 7pm
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mvfcOLORADO.com
303.622.9600

Strasburg Orthodox Mission

Tuesday, 7 p.m. & Saturday, 7 p.m.

• Vespers & Study •
Saron Lutheran Church
(1656 Main St.)


No Sunday Services Over Summer

Info: strasburgorthodox.org

calvary bennett

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Meeting @VFW in Bennett
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Parish: 303-822-5880, Hall: 303-822-5889
Sacramental Emergencies: 303-351-2551
www.ourladyoftheplains.org

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- Saturday 5:00 pm
- Sunday 9:00 am
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Saturday 4:15-4:45 pm
Sunday 8:15-8:45 am & 10:45-11:15 am
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— Douglas Claussen, Publisher & Editor



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COLORADO

STRASBURG

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Scan the QR code below to learn more.



DIABETES

New

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The Diabetes Team at the Adams County Health Department has a new round of classes starting in August!

Scan the QR code below to view offerings or sign up for a class.



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GRAND MARSHALS

FROM PAGE 1

I was to be at work at seven o'clock. Oh, my gosh, I didn't know up from down."

Her leap of faith turned out to be a good one; she landed a good secretarial job, worked up to being the assistant to the chief, and met her future husband.

Some time later, Marvin was presented with a job offer.

"Then I had an offer from the chief of police in Garden City (Kan.) to go out there, and they were paying about three times what they were in Salina, believe it or not," he said.

He took the job and Janice followed and found a job in a pharmacy in Garden City. They were married and Mike was born in 1964.

Marvin had been born with a cleft palate, and their son was born with the same condition, resulting in numerous trips to Kansas City for treatment.

"It was a monthly run," Marvin said. "That was hard to handle with my job. I'd try to work one midnight, make the 400-mile trip and try to work the next day afterwards."

The family eventually moved back to Tescott, cutting down the distance to Kansas City by half.

Cleft palate is a condition in which the two plates of the skull that form the roof of the mouth are not completely joined in utero. The condition is not always, but sometimes, hereditary, as it seems it was in the Burroughs' case. Marvin's father, Janice's brother, and their daughter Cindy all had the condition.

Marvin said that, while he only had two surgeries, their children had numerous operations.

"When I was born my mother didn't even see me," he said. "The nurse took me right to the train to Kansas City. One year later I went back and got my palate fixed. Those were the only times I had operations and, to me, the new-fangled way of trying to improve it didn't work. I think the kids have had 18 surgeries probably. It made it worse for the kids. They're the ones who suffered out of the deal."

None of Marvin and Janet's five grandchildren or seven great-grandchildren were born with the defect.

"We made it through," he said. "Everybody's happy, in good shape, and in good health."

Marvin worked for a farmers' elevator in Test and was offered a job at the Strasburg elevator. Janice was especially keen on the idea.

"Janice was excited because Strasburg's only 149 miles from her folks, and they were getting up in years, so it was nice to get back close to them," he said.

Mike was in eighth grade and Cindy was in fourth when they moved to Strasburg. Marvin ran the elevator for three years until a new company bought it that ran the business in what Marvin saw as an unethical way. He quit and took a job at a feed mill in Denver. By 1983, Mike had graduated from high school as well as a vocational technical course and was working at an auto body shop.

Marvin succinctly summed up the next 20 years in a few sentences.

"Mike was working at an auto body place in town, and he was just sick of it, and he called and said, 'Dad, let's do something together,' and I said, 'Well, whatever.'"

An older building in Bennett that had gas pumps in front of it had been empty for some time, and Mike inquired about renting it. The owner



agreed.

"So, Mike cleaned it out, I quit the feed mill job, and we both started there together," Marvin said. "And then, about 11 years ago, he said, 'Dad, it's time to retire.'"

When pressed for details on the business, Marvin elaborated.

"Mikey, he was bound and determined we were gonna do something together. What we did [turned out to be] really good, yeah, for both of us."

The business — at that time a mechanic shop and full-service gas station — was busy from the time Marvin and Mike opened the doors.

"It really just seemed like the right thing at the right time. Bennett didn't have anything like that up to then," Marvin said. "And so a lot of ladies would come in and get \$5 in gas, and we checked their tires and washed their windows — you know, full-service deal."

After eight or nine years in business, they were offered a good deal on the building on Colfax where the business is now located.

"So, we bought it and did away with the gas station," Marvin said. "We moved down and added on six bays."

Marvin said business took off after that.

"People would drop their car off and depended on us to fix them," he said, adding that they also provided car maintenance including oil changes. "We did all the [Colorado Interstate Gas] vehicles at one time. They would drive one out and leave it, bring another one out and bring them back and forth from town."

"It just kind of went haywire, you know, yeah, the business just went crazy. We met a lot of good people, and we were honest with everybody."

Meanwhile, Janice held down jobs on her own — working first at a local bank and then an insurance company in Bennett and Denver. She was the first to retire and Marvin followed several years later. Mike bought him out and now owns Burroughs Service.

The couple was involved in the community as well. Marvin served in several organizations and was on an improvement committee at Strasburg School. He was a volunteer firefighter for several years.

Marvin and Janice now live a quiet life with their "problem child," Penny, a 2-year-old Berna doodle who sat on Janice's lap during the interview, tail thumping and eyes alert with anticipation.

"She's our company, and the best dog we've ever had," Janice said.

The Burroughs agree that landing in Strasburg 47 years ago was a good thing.

"I'm glad we live in Strasburg; I like this town, and it has been good to us," Marvin concluded.

With reciprocal admiration, the town of Strasburg named "Hometown Icons" Marvin and Janice Burroughs Grand Marshals of the Hometown Days parade Aug. 9. Give them a wave as they pass by.

Colo. residents hold more degrees with value than most other states

by Jason Gonzales
Chalkbeat

Not every college education holds the same value. But a new report released earlier this year shows that college degrees hold more value than just a high school diploma for Colorado's residents.

The newly revamped Stronger Nation report ranks Colorado's workforce among the top five with a high share of college-educated individuals who earn a typical wage 15% higher than those who hold just a high school diploma.

In the past, the Lumina Foundation report published tracked whether Americans have a college education but not how a degree affected their earnings. The foundation focuses on opportunities for all Americans to get an education beyond high school.

Now, the nonprofit foundation has new goals to understand whether a college degree, credential or certificate delivers value to residents. The foundation aims to equip 75% of adults in the U.S. labor force with a college education that leads to economic prosperity.

"It is really important to attain a credential, but we want to make sure that it's a credential of value," said Courtney Brown, Lumina Foundation, vice president of impact and planning. "We want to make sure nobody's wasting their time or their resources to get a credential that doesn't provide labor market value."

The new report uses U.S. Census Bureau data to tally how many residents have a degree and their reported earnings.

While Lumina has ranked Colorado the most-educated state, evaluation of the credential value has dropped the state behind Massachusetts, the District of Columbia and Minnesota.

The report shows about 51% of the 2.7 million Coloradans actively participating in the labor force make at least \$140 more per week than their peers with just a high school diploma. On average, the typical high school graduate nationally makes \$930 a week, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



The report confirms holding a higher-level degree, including short-term credentials and associate degrees, increases the likelihood residents will increase their earnings. About three-quarters of all residents who hold a bachelor's degree earned 15% more than their peers with only a high school degree.

While the report doesn't detail the other benefits of a college education, studies have shown college graduates also have better access to health care and are more likely to be civically engaged.

The Stronger Nation report also doesn't detail which certificates, degrees or credentials nationally hold the most value. Instead, Brown said the foundation hopes the report brings awareness about gaps specific to each state. The foundation wants officials to use local data to determine whether programs meet the needs of their communities and provide economic value to residents.

Colorado higher education officials have already started to take on this work. In 2023, the state reworked its higher education goals to focus on advancing the economic mobility of residents. The state has outlined strategies to achieve this goal, such as subsidizing the cost of higher education or detailing how certain education paths can lead to higher pay.

Brown said Colorado and other states' leadership in showing how college can benefit residents has demonstrated to the foundation the importance of measuring a degree's value, not just educational attainment.

"I would encourage Colorado to continue to be a leader and make sure that the state is providing these credentials of value," Brown said.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUG. 7
Bennett Parks & Recreation District Board. 5:30 p.m., Bennett Recreation Center, 455 S. First St.

SATURDAY, AUG. 9
Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. 9 a.m. via Zoom. Call Diane at (303)644-3717 for log-on information.

MONDAY, AUG. 11
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 9-11 a.m., Kelter Library parking lot, 585 S. Main St., Byers. Optional pre-registration at newclient.link2feed.com.

Strasburg School Board. 6 p.m., Strasburg High School Central Services building board room. Zoom participation available. Visit strasburg31j.com for link.

Deer Trail School Board. 6:30 p.m., Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room at Davies Library.

Comanche Crossing Historical Society. 6:30 p.m., museum office, 56060 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Legion Hall.

Byers Water & Sanitation District Board. 7 p.m., District Office, 421 S. Sherman St.

Deer Trail Fire Protection District Board. 7

p.m., Deer Trail Firehouse.

TUESDAY, AUG. 12
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 4-8 p.m. or while supplies last, Hinkley High School, 1250 Chambers Road, Aurora.

Bennett Board of Trustees. Work-study 5:45 p.m. Regular meeting 7 p.m. For a Zoom link, visit bennettco.gov.

Deer Trail Town Board. Work session 6:30 p.m., regular meeting 7 p.m., Town Hall, 555 Second Ave.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 13
Deer Trail Conservation District Board. 1 p.m., Farm Service Agency office, 133 W. Bijou, Byers.

Strasburg Sanitation & Water Board. 7 p.m., TBK Bank conference room, 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

LUNCH MENUS

STRASBURG
Thursday, Aug. 7: Chicken sandwich.
Friday, Aug. 8: All-beef hot dogs.
Tuesday, Aug. 12: Lasagna roll-up, garlic bread.
Wednesday, Aug. 13: Chicken fajitas.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHILD FIND

East Central BOCES and/or its member districts would like to locate all 3 through 21 year olds, who may have a disability.

The Colorado Department of Education maintains a comprehensive child identification system consistent with Part B of IDEA and ensures that each Local Education Agency (LEA), in collaboration with a variety of community resources, assumes the leadership role in establishing and maintaining a process in their community for the purpose of locating, identifying and evaluating all children, 3 through 21 years, who may have a disability and may be eligible for special education services under Part B of IDEA.

If you have any concerns about your child's growth in -

- Speech/Language Development
- Learning
- Vision and/or Hearing
- Social and/or Emotional Development
- Physical Motor Development

Ages 3 through 5 year-old concerns should be directed to the following:

- Cheyenne County (Cheyenne Wells and Kit Carson Schools)
- Lincoln County (Genoa-Hugo, Karval & Limon Schools)
- Yuma County (Idalia & Liberty Schools)
- Kit Carson County (Arriba-Flagler, Bethune, Burlington, Stratton, & Hi-Plains Schools)
- Arapahoe County (Byers, Deer Trail, Strasburg & Bennett Schools)
- Washington County (Arickee & Woodlin Schools)
- Adams County (Bennett, Strasburg, Byers and Deer Trail Schools)
- Elbert County (Agate & Kiowa Schools)

Please contact: Stacey Brown, Child Find Coordinator - (719) 775-2342, ext. 133.

All 5 through 21 year-old concerns should be directed to the local school district administrator, special education teacher, East Central BOCES (719) 775-2342, ext. 101.

The East Central BOCES member schools are: Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail, Agate, Woodlin, Arickaree, Limon, Genoa-Hugo, Karval, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Cheyenne Wells, Arriba-Flagler, Hi-Plains, Stratton, Bethune, Burlington, Liberty, and Idalia.

References: IDEA, Part B, Section 300.125
ECEA CCR 301-8 2220-R-4.01-4.04(4)
East Central BOCES Comprehensive Plan Section III Process of Identifying

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesdays, July 30, and Aug. 6, 2025.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rural Caucus addresses new land board leadership

Dear Editor:

The members of the Colorado General Assembly's Rural Caucus recognize the immense economic and environmental value our state lands provide. We write today to echo concerns raised by our constituents regarding the appointment of Dr. Nicole Rosmarino as director of the Colorado State Land Board.

Her long-standing advocacy for "rewilding" the West and her affiliations with the Southern Plains Land Trust and The Rewilding Institute, both of which have opposed traditional agricultural land uses, raises significant concerns for rural Coloradoans.

For generations, livestock producers have partnered with the land board to fulfill its constitutional mandate, as outlined in Article IX, Sections 9 and 10, of the Colorado Constitution: to generate critical revenue for public education while preserving the productivity and health of our trust lands.

Ranchers have consistently contributed to soil health, fire mitigation, wildlife habitat, and the resilience of rural economies. These outcomes aren't theoretical — they are proven results of long-standing stewardship.

Caucus members have spoken directly with Rosmarino and conveyed our concerns about the apparent disconnect between the goals of SPLT and TRI and the foundational mission of the SLB.

Rosmarino has assured us that she values the work of Colorado's agricultural producers and recognizes the essential role that livestock grazing plays in sustainable land management. She expressed a commitment to uphold the mission of the land board and pledged transparency, open dialogue, and collaboration with all stakeholders.

We appreciate her willingness to provide these assurances — and we intend to hold her to them. We expect Colorado's agricultural producers to remain central to the use and stewardship of our state trust lands. Any shift toward ideological land management at the expense of proven partnerships would be a disservice to the land, our rural communities, and the school trust itself.

We urge Gov. Jared Polis, the members of the State Land Board, and the director of the Department of Natural Resources to ensure that land board leadership remains firmly grounded in its constitutional responsibilities and continues to serve Colorado by managing trust lands as working lands — supported, not sidelined, by those who depend on them.

— Rural Caucus of the Colorado General Assembly:
Reps. Dusty Johnson (House District 63); Speaker of the House Julie McCluskie (13); Matthew Martinez (62); Assistant Minority Leader Ty Winter (47); Chris Richardson (56); Tisha Mauro (46); Matt Soper (54); Larry Don Suckla (58); Katie Stewart (59); Lori Garcia-Sander (65); Meghan Lukens (26); and Stephanie Luck (60); and Sens. Byron Pelton; Dylan Roberts (Senate District 1); Assistant Minority Leader Cleave Simpson (6); Marc Catlin (8); and Rod Pelton (35).

State livestock assn names new CEO

AURORA — The Colorado Livestock Association has named its new Chief Executive Officer, effective Aug. 4.

Travis Grant will succeed Zach Riley, who stepped down in April.

"CLA has a legacy of leadership, a legacy that I look forward to being a part of," Grant said. "The association is well-positioned for growth and impact."

As a Colorado native, Grant brings a deep passion for both the state and its vital \$48-billion livestock industry, which serves as the cornerstone of rural communities. His extensive experience advocating for agriculture and rural issues positions him well to lead the CLA into its next chapter.

CLA President Kory Kessinger expressed his enthusiasm for Grant's appointment.

"Travis's experience with agriculture producers and his expertise in both regulatory and legislative matters make him an invaluable asset to the organization," Kessinger said.

"He has a keen understanding of the challenges our members face daily and will be a strong advocate for our industry."

Grant previously served as the associate director of outreach and advocacy for the Colorado Farm Bureau.


His leadership in the Farm Bureau's sponsorship and partnership programs significantly boosted revenue development, while his close collaboration with members and staff advanced key policy priorities at both the state and federal levels.

His prior experience also includes serving as staff for state Rep. Rod Pelton, R-Cheyenne, and U.S. Rep Ken Buck, R-Colo., where he worked closely with constituents on Colorado's Eastern Plains to address rural community challenges and bring their concerns to elected officials.



Grant


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SPORTS



Local fall sports seasons quickly approaching

As local 2025-26 school years start up this week or next, the start of the fall high school sports season is right around the corner as well.

The first sports allowed to start practice this week are boys golf and football; however, football teams are only allowed to participate in heat-acclimation drills with helmets only until Aug. 11.

In the case of boys golf, the Strasburg boys tee off their season Aug. 11 at the Roosevelt Invitational at Fox Hill Golf Club in Longmont.

The Indians, which lost last year's 3A state champion Kam Gilbert to graduation this past May, are expected to field a roster of multiple underclassmen, including several freshman.

The Indians will once again be guided by Eric Gilbert.

On the local gridiron Byers and Strasburg will be led by veteran coaches Casey Felton and Brian Brown, respectively.

spectively.

Pelton's troops will compete in the 8-man Black Forest League with Calhan, Elbert, Simla, South Park and St. Mary's. The Bulldogs, who reached the state quarterfinals last season, must replace seven key cogs lost to graduation.

Brown's Indians will look to build off of last year's 9-2 season that ended with a loss in the state quarterfinals to eventual state runner-up Wellington. The red-and-black will take part in the five-team 2A East Conference with Englewood, Elizabeth, Kent Denver and Corridor neighbor Bennett.

Speaking of the Tigers, they will be under the tutelage of Chris Dupree, who took over the program a couple weeks into last year's schedule. Bennett finished last year 1-8 overall and will look to replace a handful of key cogs, particularly skill positions, that were lost to graduation.

The 6-man Deer Trail Eagles will look to rebound from last year's 3-7 campaign with a new head coach. Sebastian Minor will lead the red-and-white after serving as an assistant coach last season. Deer Trail plays in the Central Conference with Bethune, Hanover, Kiowa, Manzanola, and Miami-Yoder.

Other sports start practice Aug. 11.

While the cross country season for Byers, Bennett and Strasburg doesn't include a local meet, all three squads will get together for a preseason scrimmage at Mountain View Fellowship on Saturday, Aug. 18. This fall's cross country season has no Corridor coaching changes — Kelci Crispe at Byers, Mike James at Strasburg and Lance Mangham at Bennett.

Similar to football, three of the four Corridor programs return their coaches — Jessica Fournier at Byers, Larry Deffenbaugh at Strasburg, and Coris-

sa Thornton at Bennett. At Deer Trail, Amy Cox returns to lead the Lady Eagles after a few years away from head coaching duties. Deffenbaugh's troops will look for their third consecutive trip to the state tournament at the Denver Coliseum. Bennett and Strasburg remain in 3A this fall, while Byers is 2A and Deer Trail 1A.

Softball will again feature two local schools — in addition to Strasburg's longstanding program with a long streak of consecutive state tournament appearances, Bennett is in its second year of existence. Wes Madrill and Joe Ortiz will again lead the Indians and Tigers, respectively.

The Corridor's co-op soccer team in Bennett will look to improve on last year's 5-7-2 campaign. Mike Rinner again leads the orange-and-black.

For fall sports previews, including full schedules, see upcoming edition's of Friday's *Eastern Colorado News*.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Among the locals to compete in the two-day rodeo at the Arapahoe County Fair July 26-27 were last year's Colorado Pro Rodeo Association's breakaway roping champion Katie Jolly of Deer Trail, left photo, and Agate teenager Dot Veatch. Jolly appeared on her way to a time of 2 seconds flat Sunday afternoon but a broken barrier added 10 seconds to her time and Veatch received a no-time after her calf slipped through her loop. For rodeo results, **SEE 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 youth volleyball league registration concludes Aug. 8

BYERS — Sign-ups for the fall Byers Youth Volleyball League for grades 3-6 are underway.

Practice begins the week of Aug. 18 with games on Sundays beginning Sept. 7.

The cost is \$75 per player, which includes a jersey. The registration deadline is Friday, Aug. 8.

For a registration form, or if interested in coaching a team, send an

e-mail to coach Jessica Fournier at fournier.jessica@byers.k12.co.us.

Benefit cornhole tournaments planned by area sports teams

Sports teams at Byers and Strasburg will host cornhole tournaments to raise money for the new school year.

STRASBURG

A Strasburg High School wrestling team will host a benefit cornhole tournament during Hometown Days weekend starting at 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 8, on the softball field.

The top three place-winners will receive gift cards. Sign-ups begin at 4 p.m.

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.

Kent Vashus



Kent Amos Vashus, a cherished member of the Deer Trail and Byers communities, was born on Oct. 16, 1971, in Denver, Colo., to Larry Vashus and Cheryl VanMetre. He left us unexpectedly on July 17, 2025, in Maui, Hawaii, leaving behind a legacy of love, dedication, and commitment to family and community.

Kent was a proud graduate of Deer Trail High School, after which he embarked on a successful career as a self-employed business owner of various business from arcade games, to painting houses, to the ownership of the Corner Store in Deer Trail and the Byers Sinclair. His entrepreneurial spirit shone brightly until his retirement in January 2025. Seeking a new chapter in life post-retirement, he re-joined the Deer Trail School District, where he continued to serve his community with passion and dedication.

Kent's heart was full of love for his family. He married his beloved wife, Dee, on Oct. 17, 2009, in Hot Sulfur Springs, Colo. Kent is survived by his devoted wife, Dee Vashus, of Byers; his daughters, Kendra (Drew) Dahley of Minnesota and Kelsie Vashus of Florida; and his son, Kyle Vashus. The joy of his life was further multiplied with the presence of his two grandchildren, Chase Kent Dahley and Cash Wayne Dahley, who brought immense happiness into his world.

Kent leaves behind three brothers: Kurt (Cindy) Vashus of La Junta, Colorado, Larry (Julie) Holcomb of Connecticut, and Kres (Julie) Ebert of Byers, along with his parents, Larry (Sue) Vashus of Lamar and Cheryl (Rod) Ross of Byers.

In addition to his professional achievements, Kent had a zest for life marked by his love for travel, exploring the world and creating memories that would last a lifetime.

A funeral service to honor Kent's life was held at the Deer Trail School July 28.

Kent Amos Vashus will be remembered for his unwavering love for his family, his dedication to his work, and the countless memories he created throughout his life. He touched the lives of many and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.



PHOTOS BY CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

The junior market livestock portion of the Arapahoe County Fair, held July 24-27, concluded with the annual Youth Livestock Auction Saturday night. Exhibitors sold 93 lots across six different species. The sale, which was cried by local father-son auctioneer duo of Steve and Steven Linnebur, featured 27 market pigs, 24 market beef, 13 goats, 12 lambs, nine rabbit entries and eight poultry exhibits coming through the ring. The auction itself raised almost \$370,000 and auction officials said that, through the morning of Aug. 1, another \$70,000 in add-ons had come in. The add-on process will remain open through Aug. 18 and anyone wanting to still participate and donate is urged to visit www.ArapahoeCountyYouthLivestockAuction.com. Grand champion exhibitors and their buyers are, clockwise from above left: Gage Avery sold the top steer for \$14,000 to Bally's Arapahoe Park race track; Anna Vetter's chicken trio was purchased by CRI Roloff of Aurora for \$1,100; Maylie MacLennan's market barrow was purchased by Cummings Roofing of Bennett for \$7,400; longtime auction supporter Karber Mechanical Insulation of Phoenix bought Rylee Hale's champion rabbit for \$900; and the combination of Skip's Maintenance of Bennett and Kauffman Sales and Rentals of Strasburg purchased Vetter's champion market lamb and goat for \$6,000 and \$6,100, respectively. For coverage of the reserve grand champions and their buyers, see the Aug. 8 *Eastern Colorado News*.



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The Arapahoe County Fair hosted the annual rodeo July 26-27. From left photo, 2026 Arapahoe County Rodeo Queen Aspen Schultz presents Old Glory during Sunday afternoon's rodeo grand entry; members of the Colorado Stars & Stripes female equestrian troupe present all the military service flags Sunday afternoon; and 2025 Rodeo Queen Madison Befus waves to the crowd from a horse-drawn wagon.



From left photo, Dua Lipa celebrates a successful high jump by leaping into her trainers arm during a session of The Canine Stars stunt dog show Sunday afternoon at the Arapahoe County Fair; The OC Band provides Saturday night entertainment; and carnival-goers ride the Tilt-A-Whirl and the Pirate ship on Sunday afternoon.



From left photo, representatives from Les Schwab tires receive a thank you gift from a young man after selling his market animal during the Arapahoe County Junior Livestock Auction July 26; goat judge Taylor Frank, center, talks with market goat exhibitors Decker Hahn and Olympia Maniatis after placing a class July 23; and Kelby Hess is all smiles discussing her goat project with Frank, who coaches the livestock judging team at Butler Community College in El Dorado, Kan.

BYERS

Elementary & Jr/Sr High School

Important Dates:

BACK

TO

SCHOOL

Back to School Night:

5-6:30 p.m., Monday, August 11

First Day of School:

Wednesday, August 13

Elementary Registration:

- New elementary students can register in the elementary office with Nichole Mohatt beginning Monday, Aug. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. weekdays.
- Immunization records, a copy of your child's birth certificate, and proof of residency are necessary to register.
- School supply lists will be available in the elementary office.

Junior/Senior High Registration:

- New Junior/Senior High students can register with Michelle Forbis beginning Wednesday, July 30, in the high school office from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays.
- Immunization records, a copy of your child's birth certificate, and proof residency are necessary to register.

*Please remember to update any immunizations that your child may need prior to school starting!

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Back To School Night

4-6 p.m.; Thurs., Aug. 7

First Day of School, Wed., Aug. 13

For registration:

(719)764-2741, ext. 1202 or
melindaw@agateschools.net

ARAPAHOE COUNTY RODEO RESULTS

- BAREBACK RIDING**
1. Spencer De Nayer 78
 2. Tyler Ferguson 73
 3. Tanner Olson 69
 4. Teagan Gehring 68
 5. W.J. Ellerman 66.5
- STEER WRESTLING**
1. Tait Kvistad 5.2
 2. Zach Hamar 5.7
 3. Cody Mumma 6.1
 4. Cody Pratt 6.4
 5. Lane Morrow 12.0
 6. Coy Zang 14.5
 7. Walker Polhamus 14.5

- TIE DOWN ROPING**
1. Ricky Lambert 8.1
 2. Chance Wall 8.9
 3. Boedy Lambert 9.1
 4. Kyle Dickens 9.5
 5. Brandon Kammerzell 9.6
 6. Luke Meier 9.9

- BREAKAWAY ROPING**
1. Shai Schaefer 2.5
 2. Katherine Walker 2.5
 3. Jessie Miller 2.6
 4. Linsay Sumpter 2.7
 4. Gracyn Kummer 2.7
 6. Tessa Menegatti 3.0
 6. Teresa Stevens 3.0

- SADDLE BRONC**
1. Quirt Carroll 78
 1. Colby Smith 78
 3. Jack Kissel 73
 4. Brayden Betsworth 69

- MIXED TEAM ROPING**
1. Macklyn Greenhalgh 6.3
 2. Linsay Sumpter 6.8
 3. Taya McAdow 7.0
 4. Sabrina Kreutzer 8.5
 5. Tess Younger 8.6
 6. Katie Jolly 9.5

- TEAM ROPING HEADER**
1. Wade Kreutzer 5.7
 2. Cameron Capshaw 5.8
 3. Dylan White 7.0



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Miller Rodeo's bull Draft Day tosses Cooper McClain during the July 27 rodeo performance at the Arapahoe County Fair. There were no qualified rides.

4. Garrett Tonozzi 10.7
5. Willow Wilson 11.5

TEAM ROPING HEELER

1. Jesse Jolly 5.7
2. Lance Allen 5.8
3. Dave Tripp 7.0
4. J.W. Borrego 10.7
5. Todd Wilson 11.5

BARREL RACING

1. Loralee Ward 17.65
2. Kailee Murdock 17.75
3. Sydni Blanchard 17.78
4. Rachel Huerkamp 17.79
5. Bonnie Wheatley 17.81
6. Laura Lambert 17.94
7. Dianne Bath 17.95
8. Kacie Arnold-Hruska 17.99



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THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO
AUG. 9, 2005
Racketeering, security fraud, check kiting, a Ponzi scheme... it was all in a days work for Will Hoover, as an executive for Guaranty Bank & Trust in Denver.

As an investment consultant, Hoover stole millions of dollars from his clients in a span of five years, and now, after being convicted of 44 counts of racketeering and securities fraud, Hoover will spend the next 100 years in prison in Sterling. Justice is served _ somewhat.

But what about the 43 clients who lost all or part of their life savings in Hoover's Ponzi schemes? And how does a bank executive fly under the radar as he cheats, steals, and lies on his way to becoming a multi-millionaire?

These questions and many more are being posed to Guaranty Bank & Trust, which has branches in Bennett and Byers and a subsidiary branch in Strasburg, and to the bank's former chairman, Martin Moore, son of bank founder Ronald Moor.

All 43 victims have forward and are seeking reimbursement for their losses in an \$11.9 million suit filed in Denver County.

15 YEARS AGO
AUG. 10, 2010
ELBERT COUNTY — The Elbert County Sheriff's Department released a 911 recording Aug. 6 regarding the death of 52-year-old Randy Wilson of Kiowa.

The caller was identified as Greg Boechler of Parker. "I was in the passenger seat," Boechler recalled during an Aug. 6 interview. "I kind of looked over and just saw a leg in the air with the foot on the ground. Tim [Fry of Parker, a friend of Boechler's] was driving and noticed the car. There was a guy lying there - he looked dead."

Boechler and Fry were headed to Kiowa for lunch at Kiowa

Pizza Place when they discovered Wilson's body near county roads 194 and 53 at 12:50 p.m. June 14.

He was found lying in a field, on his back, fully clothed, with a white plastic bag wrapped around his head, and his hands bound behind his back.

Three new details in the investigation were revealed from the tape

a belt was wrapped around Wilson's neck, a single glove was found, and a car jack with a missing handle were located at the scene.

10 YEARS AGO
AUG. 11, 2015

DEER TRAIL — State transportation and construction project officials told Deer Trail and Agate residents Aug. 3 that anticipated impacts of I-70 bridge rehabilitation between the towns should be minimal with the exception of slower traffic for less than 10 miles.

"It will be two-lane, head-to-head traffic at a speed limit of 55 miles per hour, but we are only talking an eight-mile stretch, so it should still only take about 10-12 minutes," said Colorado Department of Transportation spokesman Roger Lou during an Aug. 3 public meeting at Deer Trail town Hall to discuss the work to be done on eight bridges between mileposts 329 and 337. Rehabilitation of the Agate overpass is also scheduled to occur over the 11-month project time frame.

Speed monitoring and stepped up traffic compliance detail is expected to occur during the head-to-head traffic time frames, which will be 24 hours, seven days a week.

Bridge work along the westbound lane is estimated to take place from approximately Aug. 14 through Oct. 15 forcing two-way, head-to-head traffic in the eastbound lanes between mileposts 329 and 337.

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7			4					
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		4	2	9				
		7	6			5		
9	1						6	3
		5			4	7		
				7	2	9		
3					1	2	5	
					8			1

© StatePoint Media
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.
SOLUTION ON PAGE 2

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 6, the 218th day of 2025. There are 147 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT
On August 6, 1945, during World War II, the U.S. B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, resulting in an estimated 140,000 deaths.

ON THIS DATE
In 1806, Emperor Francis II abdicated, marking the end of the Holy Roman Empire after nearly a thousand years.
In 1825, Upper Peru became the autonomous republic of Bolivia.
In 1890, at Auburn Prison in Auburn, New York, William Kemmler became the first person to be executed via the electric chair.
In 1926, Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim across the

English Channel.
In 1942, Queen Wilhemina of the Netherlands became the first reigning queen to address a joint session of Congress, telling lawmakers that despite Nazi occupation, her people's motto remained, "No surrender."
In 1962, Jamaica gained independence from the United Kingdom after 300 years of British rule.
In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights

Act, prohibiting racial discrimination in voting.
In 1991, the World Wide Web made its public debut as a means of accessing webpages over the Internet.
In 2011, insurgents shot down a U.S. military helicopter during fighting in eastern Afghanistan, killing 30 Americans, most of them belonging to the same elite Navy commando unit that had killed

Osama bin Laden; seven Afghan commandos also died.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS
Actor-director Peter Bonerz is 87. Actor Dorian Harewood is 75. Actor Leland Orser is 65. Actor Michelle Yeoh is 63. Movie writer-director M. Night Shyamalan (SHAH'-mah-lahn) is 55. Singer Geri Halliwell Horner is 53.
— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: WORKING OUT

ACROSS

1. Oven emanation
6. Beast of burden
9. Slat
13. Chocolate substitute
14. ____ carte
15. San Diego baseballer
16. Actress Linda of "Dynasty" fame
17. Grave acronym
18. Dartmouth and such
19. "Largest shoulder muscle"
21. "Mind-body exercise with "apparatus"
23. To do this is human
24. Hold back or restrain
25. "Biathlon gear, sing.
28. Rum follower
30. Illuminated by a certain star
35. Windshield option
37. Gang's domain
39. Symbolized by white dove
40. Wander
41. "Sesame Street" regular
43. a.k.a. amir
44. Nobel Prize, e.g.
46. Most luminous star
47. 0.001 inches, pl.
48. "Workout prep
50. Used to be
52. Sailor's assent
53. Agitate
55. Carry a load
57. "Series of exercises with little or no rest
61. "Peloton sport
65. "Bite the bullet," e.g.
66. E in BCE
68. Term of endearment
69. "He ____ it like it is"
70. Actress Ryan
71. "M*A*S*H" character
72. One of #18 Across
73. 007
74. What actors do

DOWN

1. Passed with flying colors
2. Five-star review
3. Not written
4. ____ Carlo
5. Soak up
6. 36 inches
7. Fraternite K
8. Fraternity K
9. Surface magma
10. Passage into a mine
11. "Arboreal" yoga pose
12. Hitler's sidekick Rudolf ____

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13					14			15			
16					17			18			
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62					63		64		65		
67					68		69		70		
71					72		73		74		

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HOROSCOPE

A Cosmic Ceasefire
There are timeless questions at the root of Mars in Libra — a pairing built on contradiction. Mars fights. Libra reconciles. The tension is real. Is war a failure of imagination, or is it inevitable, cyclical, human? This Mars transit asks if peace requires force behind it to hold. Mars in Libra represents that force.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's an upgrade on the edge of your imagination — something that would ease the friction and sweeten your days. You haven't summoned it yet, but you're circling closer. Daydream, ask, listen. It wants to meet you halfway.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Keeping up appearances is positive when the way you want people to see you also happens to be who you want to be. Today, you're doing what you'd do if there was no one around to impress, but it still gets attention.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You thrive when you're being of service. You want to know that what you do or give genuinely helps someone. New opportunities or connections — outside your current circle — will be the fit that affirms the value of what you give.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The way you'd like people to treat you? It's not a universally known standard. But communicating your needs and modeling this behavior consistently will make a difference. Soon your preferences will be well known to those — you.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're attractive, and extra energy is directed your way. The decision to ignore someone or engage with them can alter destiny. Use your truly prescient imagination to envision the future of your decisions.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The truth may not be tidy. People can be contradictory, confusing, unclear, and still love deeply. Instead of jumping to conclusions, soften. Allow nuance. Leave room for poetry.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Do not be swayed by those incapable of putting themselves in the shoes of others. Their limited

perspective has them assuming their inner world experience is universal. They speak of subjective experience as though stating fact.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your mind is open, but not wide open — and that's a good thing. There's too much noise and information out there, so you don't have the luxury of giving equal weight to everything. Let only the most useful information in.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). You feel it — the invisible tether, the pulse of someone in your orbit. Whether they're far away or right next to you, the connection is active. There's no need to analyze it. Just receive it.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You thrive within your own rhythms today. While others train in groups, you'll get sharper in solitude. You're competing only with past versions of you — and you'll surprise yourself with how far you've come and glimpse where you're going next.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're highly adaptable — so much so that you can adjust to almost anything without noticing it's not ideal. Something that once felt fine now feels dull or heavy. Don't normalize the discomfort. Let it point to change. Let it tell you your next move.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). The rhythm of a relationship shifts — suddenly, you're not the one doing all the chasing. Something about the dynamic flips, and it feels good. Balanced. Right. Let the game be playful again.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 6). Confidence is the norm in this year of powerful decisiveness. You'll know what to do and have the supporters to help you execute the plan. A creative risk pays off. Formerly slow projects suddenly speed up and become viable entities. More highlights: What you once called a flaw becomes your key to connection, and your charm takes over rooms. A close relationship transforms for the better. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 21, 4, 19 and 7.
— Horoscopes by Holiday

Going back to school is a new start.

...make new friends and try new things.

Kids: color stuff in!

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Back to School!

People of all ages are going back to school! Yes, all ages! Some are getting a basic education, some are preparing for kindergarten or college, and others are interested in learning skills and trades to help them land a better job or build a career. It doesn't matter how old we are – we all can learn something new to help ourselves.

Some of the words on this page are hard! Don't let it bug you.

zoom!

Take good notes!

Free Stuff

Print out this week's free puzzle set **Get Hooked on a Good Book** @ www.readingclubfun.com Reading, library visits and **A Perfect Summer Day** maze!

It's our 20th Anniversary, but you get the presents!

20th

Yeah, yeah.

People have different needs, dreams and goals. There are many kinds of schools and programs to help people achieve what they want to do.

Can you match each school in the apple above to its purpose below? Write the number (1, 2, 3,...) of each purpose in the correct box.

racing school

music school

vocational school

enrichment classes

online courses

military academy

night school

nursery school

1. teaches a skill or trade to help you on a job or career path

2. teaches how to get along with others and other pre-kindergarten skills

3. for people who work or take care of children during the day

4. prepares people for service and leadership in the armed forces

5. lets people keep on learning and trying new things

6. lessons taught and completed on a computer

7. business, recording arts, how to set up live events

8. safety, vehicle care, skid control, driving awareness

1. _____ about feelings

2. _____ on field trips

3. _____ ideas through art and music

4. _____ books

5. _____ games

6. _____ to teachers and classmates

7. _____ rules

8. _____ experiments

9. _____ films

10. _____ stories

11. _____ questions

12. _____ software and computers

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

reading

talking

doing

using

watching

traveling

playing

asking

expressing

listening

writing

School Days Around the World

Students in countries all over the world are excited to be starting a new school year. Read the fun clues, then match each one to the country it describes.

1. strict dress code that even limits hair styles; sometimes pack lunches in 'bento' boxes; rice, meat, soup and vegetables

2. boys and girls in separate classrooms; enjoy spiced meat and noodles for lunch; some live far away so a bus with books is used to reach them

3. students have the same classmates from grades 1-10; no uniforms, students told to dress warmly; schools serve beet soup, bread, meat and a grain

4. students enjoy a long 2 hour lunch break often with bread, cheese and a salad; school year is in 4 sessions

5. in southern hemisphere so summer vacation is December and January; lunch: meat pies, egg and lettuce sandwich

6. school year is January to December, with a month break each semester; classes are in one of three languages: Hausa, Yoruba or Ibo; bread, vegetables and fruit for lunches

A. France

B. Australia

C. Japan

D. Iran

E. Nigeria

F. Russia

Get off to a running start!

What Makes a School Run?

It takes many people to make a school run smoothly. Do you know who they are? Twelve staff members and class helpers are hidden in the puzzle. Can you find and circle them?

teacher

cooks

librarian

custodian

student

nurse

secretary

superintendent

aides

parents

principal

counselor

SUPERINTENDENTKPNMCIT

VREXMTLVCAVZYQWSRFSOYS

ACSWYLOPIUBMLDKTIFEUCQ

ODYJKCTRYNSEQOGUNQCNHA

NSOSHWAEMDSTOZUDCGRSWI

DVELWRWVARHCOWTEIHEEPD

NDYJBCCAUCMADDWNPRTLQE

TIWQINUUHJUQITATAOSS

LJWJRPQENEPJBALMRKKA

PARENTSALNRRTGNDYIQF

Set a Goal and Go For It

Help little mouse find his way into and out of the doors of each classroom. Visit them in the order listed on his schedule. Then, help little mouse find his way out of the maze to graduate.

You don't have to be a bookworm to hunger for books.

Set your goal and go for it!

Schedule Room

Science 136

English 211

Math 390

History 478

Learn to Draw

Auto Mechanics

World History

I'm ready to study.

94

136

211

390


478

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Executive Director – East Central BOCES

East Central BOCES is seeking qualified applicants for the position of **Executive Director**, beginning July 1, 2026 on a 231-day contract.
Application Deadline: September 5, 2025
Preferred Qualifications:

- Successful educational administrative experience
- Valid Colorado Administrator License
- Knowledge and/or experience with BOCES operations
- Understanding of Special Education and Administrative Units
- Familiarity with Federal Programs (Titles I-IV, Perkins)
- Demonstrated ability to build and sustain cooperative relationships

Key Skills:

- BOCES operations and rural education policy knowledge
- Strong written and verbal communication
- Team-building and staff development
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Do not contact BOCES district administrators or board members directly.
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4. Three Letters of Recommendation
5. Unofficial College Transcript
6. Copy of Current Administrator License

For more information:
Jason Westfall, Executive Director, ECBoces
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Through the assistance program, administered by the Federal government, eligible individuals who are currently receiving benefits via one of the following programs, may also be eligible for a discount on their basic telephone service:

- Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- National School Lunch Program’s free lunch program (NSLP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid

To determine if you are eligible please call Bijou Telephone Co-Op Association at 303-822-5400.

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Residential federal subscriber line charge (exchange access)	\$6.50/mo
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Discounts are available to low-income customers who qualify for participation in Lifeline telephone assistance programs. For information concerning these programs, please call your county social services office or the Department of Human Services at 1/800-782-0721



PUBLIC NOTICE

Byers School District will provide breakfast and lunch at no cost for all students.

The district is pleased to announce its participation in the Community Eligibility Provision. Byers School will offer no-cost breakfast and lunch to all students during the 2025-26 school year. Research shows students who are not hungry perform better in school. By providing breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost, we better support their learning.

These breakfasts and lunches follow U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines for healthy school meals. Families can feel secure knowing the meals they eat at school meet rigorous federal and state nutrition standards. School cafeterias always offer fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein and low-fat or fat free milk. School meals also meet limits on calories, sodium and unhealthy fats.

We encourage all families to choose school meals. This increases funding for our schools and creates a strong school community around meal-times. It also saves time and money, which families can use for what’s most important to them.

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CHUCK WAGON

Peach & Plum Yogurt Smoothie

by Katie Workman
Associated Press

We are in the thick of summer. If we're lucky, we might get a break from the routine and head for the beach, the mountains or a new city. For many, that means renting a vacation home — with an unfamiliar kitchen.

At home, you probably have a variety of utensils, a meaningful collection of herbs and spices, and the ability to select just the right pan. But, as you step into your Airbnb or Vrbo, you're suddenly left wondering where to even put your groceries.

There's a weird pleasure (at least for nerds) in pulling together a meal in a sparse, funky rental-house kitchen. It's like a reality cooking show challenge. Can you make an omelet in a saucepan? Perhaps you don't have fresh oregano? Maybe those parsley stems will work? Can you stretch that small bottle of olive oil through the last two days of the trip? I'll call that conundrum, and I'll raise you a half a jar of gherkins.

During rental home vacations, it's fun to be untethered from the normal cooking routine. Believe you me, I'm racing out for fried clams at the local seafood joint as many nights as my budget and waistband allow. But for the meals I cook, I relinquish notions of perfection in favor of scrappiness.

Picked up a whole lot of cherry tomatoes at a farmstand? You're making cherry tomato antipasti salad with canned artichoke hearts, olives, onions and a quick vinaigrette. Maybe throw in some cubed provolone or diced salami. Peaches getting a bit too soft? Time for a smoothie.

There's something liberating — and a little bit ridiculous — about cooking in a vacation rental kitchen.

BRING ESSENTIALS OF YOUR OWN

Before leaving, consider taking a minimalist "kitchen survival kit." It doesn't have to be much: A sharp knife, a cutting board, salt and pepper, and whatever pantry staples you'll need.

I might pack olive oil, vinegar, lemons, Dijon mustard and a couple of my favorite herbs and spices. I always bring resealable bags and small containers for leftovers.

USE RENTAL'S FEATURES TO YOUR BENEFIT

Think about dishes that can stretch ingredients, and about welcome substitutions. A big grain salad — made with rice, quinoa or couscous — is endlessly customizable and can be served cold or at room temperature (think lakeside lunch or a backyard meal).

I would also start with dishes that don't require an oven, which, in a rental, might heat unevenly, or not at all, (it might be a glorified bread box). A stovetop pasta tossed with sauteed garlic and olive oil is always a win. Add red pepper flakes and grated Parmesan if possible.

Grills are often available and can be a vacation cook's best friend — as long as you've got an ample supply of the right fuel. Grill up simply seasoned chicken breasts or New York Strips for dinner and very intentionally make extra — those leftovers can be used for sandwiches, quesadillas, salads or wraps. Extra grilled corn might become a corn soup or chowder, a corn salad, or something to add



to a stir-fry.

Think about brushing slices of country bread with olive oil, sprinkling with flaky salt and toasting them lightly on the grill. Top with fresh sliced or chopped tomatoes with basil, or turn them into whatever type of bruschetta you can whip up from your farmstand haul. Think caponata, sauteed chard, or maybe a heap of sliced grilled peppers with fresh goat cheese.

Salads are always on the docket. Again, easy to improvise with farmers market ingredients. But this is your vacation, and you should play. Try a melon and cucumber salad with a bit of feta and a squeeze of lime juice, or a chopped vegetable salad bolstered with protein-packed chickpeas.

THINK CREATIVELY, ACCEPT IMPERFECTION

As you come to the end of your trip and you need to use up leftovers, get creative. That half jar of pickles will add a briny punch to a potato salad. That nub of cheese and last bunch of spinach will be great chopped up and added to scrambled eggs or a frittata.

Cook what feels manageable, what makes use of local ingredients and gives you more time outside with your people. Yes, you might be chopping vegetables with a serrated steak knife. Yes, there might be a little sand in the pasta salad as you serve it up on the beach. That's OK.

The best vacation meals come from embracing the fact that you're cooking without your usual tools and supplies. That's half the fun. I once made a great dinner from fresh scallops, a box of pasta, olive oil, and a jug of margarita mix. That was 20 years ago, and we all still remember it.

PEACH & PLUM YOGURT SMOOTHIE

For their versatility and simplicity, smoothies can become a vacation staple.

This recipe is a smoothie template. Swap around fruits, yogurt flavors, and sweeteners and see if you can find a NutriBullet in the back of the cabinet. If you plan ahead, you might freeze your fruit for a thicker smoothie, or just add ice. If you've got fresh mint, toss that in, too.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (8 ounces) vanilla Greek yogurt
- 1 cup (8 ounces) peach yogurt
- 1 tablespoon honey or agave, or to taste
- 2 cups cubed peeled peaches
- 2 cups cubed peeled plums

DIRECTIONS

Place the vanilla yogurt, peach yogurt, honey, peaches and plums in a blender. Blend well. serve in glasses.

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