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The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 43

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

Wednesday, September 24, 2025



PHOTO BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Left photo, Arapahoe County Sheriff's officers and a Town of Bennett community safety officer secure a perimeter around the Bennett High School parking lot during a reported campus breach Sept. 18. Right photo, Bennett Schools Superintendent Robin Purdy debriefs with sheriff's office officials after the threat was deemed unviable.

False alarm: Bennett HS intruder not found

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Despite an intense hour-plus interruption and uncertainty concerning student and staff safety in the secondary building, the school day at Bennett Schools concluded as it started Sept. 18 — “business as usual.”

That was the sentiment of Bennett Superintendent Robin Purdy after a high school student's original report of a suspicious person entering the building, possibly armed, turned into a case of mistaken identity with no one being hurt.

“A lot of vigilance and due diligence by both our students and staff,” Purdy said during the debriefing session with law enforcement officials afterwards. “Our [district] safety protocols kicked in and worked really well. Best result you could ask for, especially given recent events.”

The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office received the original 911 call at 12:01 p.m. Thursday that a possible

armed intruder entered the high school from an open door but, by 1:03 p.m., the “all clear” was declared and, at 1:15, the campus-wide lockdown was canceled.

“First unit on scene at 12:04 [and] we had deputies calling into the school at 12:03 trying to get better information, but were unable to get through,” said an Arapahoe County Sheriff Office spokesperson, adding that at least two dozen units were dispatched to the scene, including Colorado State Patrol and Adams County Sheriff's Office vehicles and personnel. Town of Bennett Community Safety officers also helped secure the perimeter.

Sheriff's office officials added that SWAT members cleared the high school room-by-room and that drones were used to make sure no one was on the roof or hiding outside the school.

In an e-mail recapping the incident to school district parents/guardians following the incident, Purdy said, “A student reported a suspicious person who looked like a threat. Administration and security staff took swift

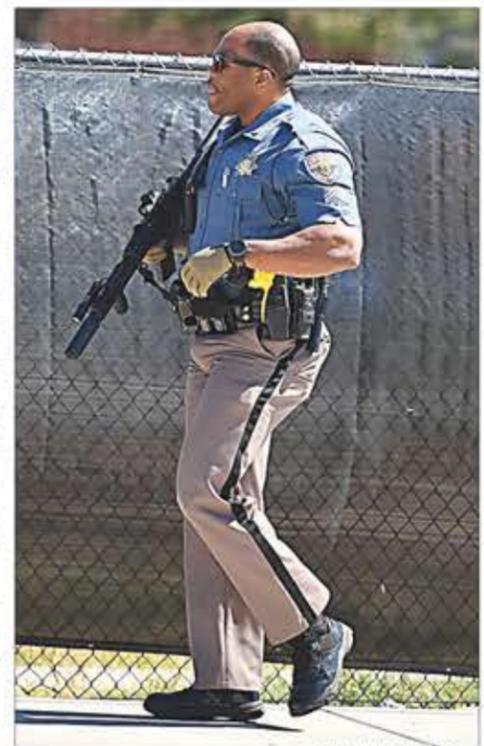
action and placed the district in lockdown to ensure safety of students and staff while they addressed the situation. Administration and security staff discovered the reported concern turned out to be a contractor carrying materials.”

Purdy added that the contractor had checked into the high school office and was properly logged into the district's security system but that the person in question also violated building access protocol by improperly propping a door open to allow free come-and-go access. The report that the contractor was carrying a firearm was also quickly addressed as deputies and investigators determined that the object was a caulking gun.

“We got a confirmation [of the potential suspect's ID] from the reporting party using a photograph of the contractor,” the sheriff's office said. “No charges. The report is listed as an ‘information report.’”

While the incident resulted in some

SEE SCHOOL SCORE PAGE 24



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

An armed Colorado State Patrol trooper paces around the Bennett School campus during a Sept. 18 false alarm.

Repairs on I-70 bridge near dog track started

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — Much anticipated highway repairs along I-70 between the old dog track interchange and Deer Trail commenced last week, starting with the bridge that has been the target of numerous commuter complaints.

The Colorado Department of Transportation announced Sept. 16 that refurbishing of multiple bridges over a two-mile stretch immediately east of the exit 322 Peoria interchange has started.

“Contractor Structures Inc. started work on the Interstate 70 bridge rehabilitation and deck repair project southeast

SEE I-70 BRIDGE REPAIRS PAGE 4

Bennett growth stresses fire district staff

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor



EMBER SEWARD SORESEN/The I-70 Scout

A state-purchased aircraft fire training prop sets outside Bennett-Watkins Fire Station 92 on the east edge of Watkins after its delivery to the area Sept. 9. The training apparatus is expected to be delivered to its final destination at Colorado Air & Space Port later this fall.

BENNETT — As development within the town of Bennett's boundaries continues to ratchet up at a rapid pace, at least one part of the Bennett-Watkins Fire Protection District is being stretched beyond its means.

During the Sept. 11 Bennett-Watkins fire board meeting, Fire Chief Earl Cumley requested that a current part-time employee be moved to full-time and that an addi-

SEE BENNETT FPD PAGE 8

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Donations sought for upkeep at Byers Community Cemetery

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

Contributions of any amount are appreciated.

Gifts can be sent to BCCA, P.O. Box 733, Byers, Colo. 80103.

Call (303)917-5413 for additional information.

Senior excursion planned to New Belgium Brewery

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Parks & Recreation District will host a senior excursion to a tour of the New Belgium Brewery in Fort Collins.

The bus will leave promptly at 10 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 25, from the Strasburg Recreation Center, 1932 Burton St.

Transportation is included, but advanced reservations are required due to limited seating. The fee is \$25; lunch is not included.

To RSVP, call (303)622-4260.

17 Mile House the location of free 4-H Expo scheduled

CENTENNIAL — Arapahoe County residents can learn about 4-H and experience all it offers from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 27, at the 17 Mile House Farm Park.

Projects, clubs and activities will be showcased by 4-H members and leaders.

Small group tours of the 17 Mile House, located at 8181 S. Parker Road, Centennial, will be offered throughout the event.

Conservation crews schedule cheatgrass management class

BENNETT — The Deer Trail, East Adams, and West Adams conservation districts will host a Cheatgrass Management Workshop starting at 6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Valhalla Hunt Club & Kennels, 450 County Road 133, Bennett.

Attendees will learn to identify cheatgrass and the importance of its management.

Derek Sebastian with Envu Vegetation Management will present research findings of Rejuvra herbicide treatments and trials.

Registration is free. To RSVP, contact Jennifer at westadamsconservation@gmail.com or Tiffany at Deertraileastadams@cocds.org.

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 an online Colorado State University Extension, cottage food safety training class, home cooks will earn food safety certification and gain the knowledge needed to successfully launch a home-based food business.

Cottage Food Safety Statewide Online Training courses will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3. The \$50 courses are three to four hours long and can be completed online.

The event is sponsored by CSU Extension offices in Arapahoe and Jefferson counties. For more information and to register, visit arapahoe.extension.colostate.edu or contact Sheila Gains at sheila.gains@colostate.edu.

Blessing of Animals planned at Strasburg Lutheran church

STRASBURG — Saron Lutheran Church will host an outdoor service with a special blessing for pets starting at 10 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 5, at the church, 1656 Main St, Strasburg.

A brief history of St. Francis, patronage saint of animals and the environment, will be shared.

Pets must be leashed or caged. Photos of pets can also be blessed.

Refreshments will follow.

Arapahoe County offers tours of election facility in October

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County Elections will host three public tours of its facility to give voters an inside look at every step of the mail ballot process.

Tours explain processes that maintain election integrity and security. Visitors can observe election judges processing ballots and elections staff will answer questions starting at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 28; 12 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 29, and 10 a.m., Friday, Oct. 31, at 5334 S. Prince St., Littleton.

Attendees will witness how ballots are received from drop boxes, mail centers, and voting centers; ballot opening and sorting; signature verification; ballot tabulation; and adjudication.

Tours are limited to 20 people. Security measures will be in place to safeguard attendees and staff.

To register, visit www.arapahoeco.gov.

Mid-Winter Conference slated by cattlemen's organization

LAKEWOOD — Registration has opened for the Colorado Cattlemen's Association's (CCA) Mid-Winter Conference Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 10-11, at the Denver Marriott West Hotel in Golden.

The event begins Monday with the meetings of the CCA Board of Directors and Colorado CattleWomen. The steering committees convene thereafter. The evening will conclude with the CCA President's Reception, where all attendees can mingle.

More steering committee meetings on all aspects of beef industry occur the next morning. At Tuesday's lunch, the business meeting and award presentations will occur.

That afternoon, members can en-

gage directly with elected officials to discuss industry priorities.

Participants are invited to the 1867 reception and banquet that evening.

To register, visit www.coloradocattle.org or call (303)431-6422.

Gummball 5K run remembers AdCo cop killed on job in '18

BRIGHTON — The eighth annual Gummball 5K Run/Walk takes place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Adams County Fairgrounds, 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton.

The Deputy Heath Gumm Foundation hosts the run. The event honors the life and service of Adams County Deputy Heath Gumm, who was killed in the line of duty in 2018.

A portion of the proceeds goes to the Blue Line Family Tree and Rocky Mountain Conservancy.

To register, visit RunSignUp.com. For general inquiries, contact Tracy Kilgore at tracykilgore71@gmail.com.

OPINION

Editor praised

Dear Editor:

I applaud you for your courageous stand against the Town of Bennett Board of Trustees and its behavior towards *The I-70 Scout*.

Their behavior smacks of what we've seen come out of Washington, D.C., for the last three or four months. This cannot be allowed to stand.

Once again, congratulations on your principles.

— Ken Hampshire, Watkins.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Construction standards adjustments: ArapCo seeks input on new proposals

LITTLETON — Proposals have been for changes to Arapahoe County's Infrastructure Design & Construction Standards (IDCS).

The changes incorporate previously made comments that were not included in the June update.

The public can comment on the newest round of proposed changes through Friday, Oct. 10, by filling out a form at www.arapahoeco.gov.

The comprehensive guide for roadway analysis and design applies to all subdivisions, re-subdivisions, planned unit developments, and any other proposed construction submitted for approval in unincorporated Arapahoe County. The IDCS was previously updated in 2007, 2019 and, following a Board of County Commissioners public hearing, on March 11.

A major component of the proposed changes is pavement restoration requirements for street cut permits. Any work that requires street pavement to be dug up will now require lane-to-lane restoration. This work would include water, sewer and utilities. The county hopes the new requirement will reduce potholes that develop from single-lane restoration.

The proposal also:

- adds abbreviations and acronyms, a statement regarding design professionals, licensed engineers and surveyors, and a signage example for private roads;
- defines the relationship and administration between the county and the Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority;
- modifies pavement design to composite sections;
- includes a pipe abandonment statement;
- reestablishes survey control requirements;
- updates collateral amounts establishment and as-built and digital file requirements;
- clarifies Subsurface Underground Engineering Requirements for Utility Construction Plans; and
- further defines clear sight distances for intersections and horizontal curves.

The proposed changes will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for adoption following a public hearing in the coming months. The draft and additional information are available at www.arapahoeco.gov.

CBI distributes mobile fingerprinting devices to law enforcement agencies across Colorado

LAKWOOD —The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is providing new mobile identification devices to agencies throughout the state.

Since July 2024, CBI has distributed 264 devices to 37 different agencies, helping officers quickly and accurately identify individuals in the field.

The Mobile Fingerprint Devices 2.0 utilize advanced technology to perform on-the-spot identification by accessing law enforcement databases from the field.

"This technology is a game-changer for officers on patrol," said CBI Director Armando Saldate. "It allows for rapid identification, which is crucial for ensuring officer safety and making informed decisions during encounters with the public."

Wheat Ridge Police received five of the newest devices from the CBI, which means it no longer has to rely on neighboring agencies to assist with a mobile fingerprint scanner when its officers encounter someone they suspect is giving them a false name.

"Having state-of-the-art fingerprint scanners helps us identify subjects faster, clear them for potential warrants and quickly move on to other calls in our community," said Wheat Ridge Police Chief Chris Murtha.

The CBI continues to work with agencies that could benefit most from



PHOTO COURTESY OF IDEMIA

A Mobile Identification Device 2.0.

the technology, aiming to equip as many criminal justice agencies as possible. Since the initial roll-out, CBI has provided ongoing software and hardware support, ensuring the devices remain effective for officers.

The initiative received a major boost when CBI was awarded the 2024 Adam Walsh Grant. The funding was used to purchase additional mobile identification devices specifically for patrol officers who interact with registered sex offenders. The new devices enable officers to quickly confirm registry information, improving the tracking of registered offenders.



See for yourself

Arapahoe County Elections is hosting public tours of the Election Facility:

- Tuesday, Oct. 28 @ 9 a.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 29 @ 12 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 31 @ 10 a.m.

Get details and register: arapahoeco.gov/facilitytours



You're in for a treat!

Come out to the Arapahoe County Scaregrounds **Oct. 18 & 19** for a weekend of trick-or-treating and spooktacular family fun. Enjoy costume contests, haunted maze, spooky sprints, food trucks, live entertainment, and more!

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PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

Repairs on the quickly deteriorating East Bijou Creek bridge immediately east of the Peoria exit on I-70 commenced last week. The first phase of construction is expected to last through Thanksgiving. Above, crews work on the center lanes as traffic motors by midafternoon Friday.

I-70 BRIDGE REPAIRS

FROM PAGE 1



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Colorado Department of Transportation announced last week that repairs on four I-70 bridge structures between the Peoria exit and Deer Trail started Sept. 16.



of Byers between Peoria and Deer Trail — mileposts 323.1 to 325.3,” CDOT said in last Tuesday’s announcement. “Single lane and shoulder closures will be in place 24/7 on I-70 in both directions between Deer Trail and Peoria beginning 7 a.m. Sept. 16 through Nov. 21.”

The approximately year-long project will include:

- bridge deck repairs at four structures;
- concrete pavement reconstruction at bridge approaches; and
- girder and column repairs.

The first phase of the construction, including repairs to the heavily dilapidated East Bijou Creek bridge surface, is expected to last through about Thanksgiving when work will be suspended until March 2026.

CDOT received a bevy of phone calls from Deer Trail residents and other commuters at the beginning this year complaining about serious breaches in the Bijou Creek crossing — a quickly increasing number of potholes and

other threats to the traveling potholes.

“It’s atrocious to see literal rebar peeking up through the concrete and asphalt,” said one of the complaints received by CDOT in February. “My main concern is about the families that rely on I-70, the out of town folks that don’t know about the bounce-around and the other highway games we have to use to avoid potholes, and the semi drivers that are unaware as well. [A] lady who lost her husband to the horrible quality of roads last year, that [itself] is a fact of how absolutely dangerous the situation is.”

At the time complaints started ratcheting up, CDOT stated that maintenance crews would make temporary bridge surface repairs until a more permanent solution occurred.

“We have a project in the plans to begin rehabilitating the bridge deck in the fall,” CDOT’s February statement.

The project cost is \$7.2 million and, after the winter hiatus, construction crews are expected to complete the work by September 2026.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Complaints to CDOT this past winter included exposed rebar on the East Bijou Creek Bridge on I-70 near the Peoria that contributed to significant tire and vehicle damage.

CLAUSSEN CHIROPRACTIC



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Something to think about. In 1950 about 3% of the American population had a chronic disease. Currently that number has risen to the 60-75% range. What has changed?



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STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Road repair crews were busy much of last week repairing about a quarter-mile of potholes and other damage on the northbound lane of Arapahoe County Road 181 (Exmoor Road) about two miles south of Byers. A majority of the repairs required cutting out long rectangular pieces of asphalt several inches deep and filling/repaving the holes. The above photo was taken midmorning Sept. 18.

Seat belt sting nets 1,593 citations

LAKESWOOD — Law enforcement agencies across Colorado wrote 1,593 citations for unbuckled seat belts during Click It or Ticket enforcement July 21 to Aug. 1.

In addition, 21 unbuckled fatalities occurred in July, the second-most in 2025. March has had the most so far, with 23 unbuckled fatalities.

During the 12-day period, increased patrols focused unbuckled drivers, following updates to seat belt and car seat laws, according to a release from the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Last year, 50.5% of crash fatalities in Colorado were unbuckled, a harsh reminder of the necessity of proper seat belt use, release continues. Since hitting a peak of 242 unbuckled fatalities in 2022, the numbers have steadily declined.

Through July 31, unbuckled fatalities in 2025 dropped from 120 to 103 (14.2%) compared to the same period in 2024.

"It's encouraging to see unbuckled fatalities decline this year," said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. "However, Colorado's seat belt usage rate is still below the national average of 91%, and far too many lives

are lost each year that could have been saved simply by buckling up. Taking just two seconds to put on a seat belt could save your life."

Updates to Colorado's child passenger safety law took effect Jan. 1. They raised the age requirement for seat belt use from under 16 years of age to under 18 years of age. They also required children to use a car seat or booster seat until age 9 when riding in a passenger vehicle, and children under 2 and below 40 pounds must sit in a rear-facing car seat.

"It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to ensure that any child in their vehicle is properly restrained," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, Colorado State Patrol chief. "Not only is it the law, but it could also be the difference between life, serious injury or death."

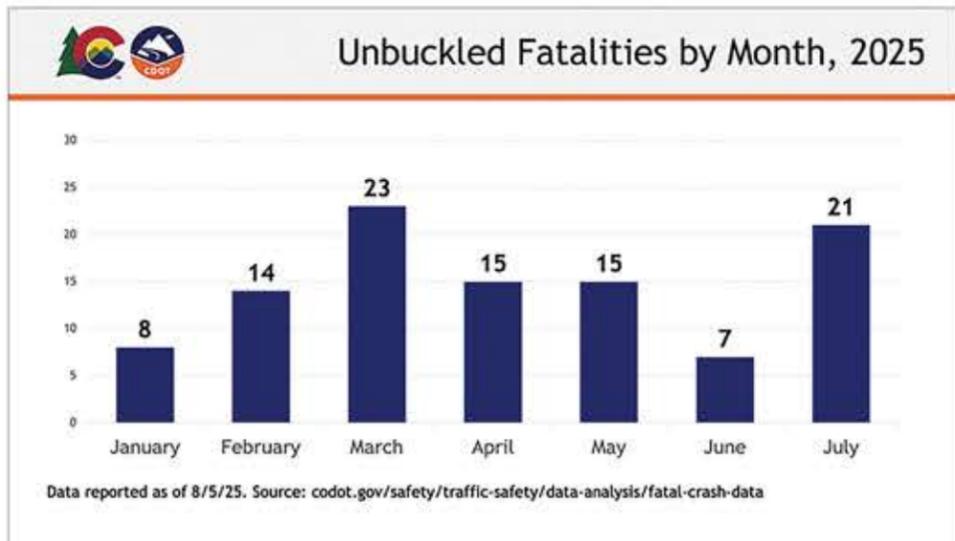
The Colorado Department of Transportation supported the Colorado State Patrol and 58 local law enforcement agencies for the July Wave seat belt enforcement period. The July Click It or Ticket enforcement period was the third this year.

Since Click It or Ticket was introduced in 2002, statewide seatbelt use has increased from 72% to 88%.

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Case Name: Bennett D Pad at Manilla
Case Number: OGF2025-00001

Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 9:30 AM

Case Manager: Gregory Dean, gdean@adamcountycolorado.gov, 720.523.6891

Request: Oil and Gas Facility permit to allow up to twenty-six (26) horizontal wellbores and associated equipment on one (1) facility, on 23 acres in the Agricultural-3 zone district.

Location: 1631 Manilla Road

Parcel Number: 0181700000105

Applicant: John Piekara, for Civitas Resources/Crestone Peak Resources, 555 17th Street, Suite 3700, Denver, CO 80202

Public Hearings Location: 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601

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LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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Mini horses: Attendees of all ages can meet and learn all about mini horses. They will see up close how to take care of the adorable animals from Veronica Cobian and her family at Five Star Minis Farm. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 27.

After-School Drop-In Crafting: Children ages 7 and up can stop by after school to relax and craft. Supplies provided with a variety of projects like friendship bracelets, crochet, paint-on canvas, slime and more. Participants can come in anytime during program hours to find something fun to make and take home. 3:30-6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 24.

Adult book club: "The Grizzly in the Driveway: The Return of Bears to a Crowded American West" by Robert Chaney. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Sept. 26.

Polymer Clay: Participants ages 16 and older can get creative with the Corridor Creative Arts League in a hands-on polymer clay workshop led by artist and board member Tammi Williams. All supplies will be provided. 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 27.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

Aging Mastery Program: Arapahoe County CSU Extension and Arapahoe County Health will present the Aging Mastery series to older adults and care partners every Tuesday and Thursday to create a guidebook for aging well. The series will offer useful information on community, exercise, falls prevention, finance, healthy relationships, medication management and sleep. Participants are encouraged to attend at least seven sessions. Light refreshments provided. 1-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 25 and 30 and Oct. 2 and 7.

Books & Beyond: Kids ages 5-12

will celebrate their favorite book characters while discovering new reads through themed games and crafts. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Learning on the Go: Toddlers ages 18 months to 5 years old can enjoy storytime and songs, then take home free books and activities to continue learning at home. 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Tea at 2: Adults are invited to Tea at 2 for tea and activities, such as cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages. Patrons can also bring their own activities. 2-3 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Library for All Halloween Haunts: Adults are welcome for an afternoon of Halloween-themed stories, crafts and games with prizes. "Library for All" programs are developed with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in mind. The session is open to all adults. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Toddler 'Play & Learn': In this four-part program, parents and caregivers can chat with an early childhood professional (such as a child behavior specialist, music teacher, nutritionist or speech therapist) in a fun, informal setting. Meanwhile, toddlers ages 1-3 can play and explore. For a reservation, visit arapahoelibraries.org or call (303)769-4310. Drop-ins welcome on a space-available basis. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Fridays, Oct. 3, 10, 17 and 24.

DAVIES LIBRARY

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

Candlemaking: Just in time for spooky season, teens are invited to make candles in a variety of scents, shapes and colors. Free snacks. 4-5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 8.

Wacky Wednesday: Kids and tweens can drop in for snacks, games, cool technology and creative craft projects. There's a new activity each month. Ages 5-12. 4-5 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 1.

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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The Arapahoe Library District Board of Trustees hosted a regularly scheduled monthly meeting at Kelter Library in Byers Sept. 16. Among business items approved were spending increases for "refresh" projects district-wide, including improvements in the Kelter meeting rooms. From left, board president Katie Schroeder; trustees Steve Oliver, Sally Daigle and Sarah Grazier; and Director of People Services Caroline Heinselman intently debate the district's high staff retention rate while Executive Director Oli Sanidas looks on from behind from a remote location online.



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Strasburg School District 31J
Invites District Residents & Voters to Meet the School Board Candidates
6 - 7:15 p.m., Monday, Sept. 29
Hemphill Middle School Cafeteria

Come meet and ask questions of the three candidates running for two Strasburg School Board seats:

S

Courtney Vance
Gema Gomez
Venessia Jimenez

S

To submit questions prior to the meet-and-greet, scan the QR code for a link to the proper form.

Q&A session will be monitored by Steven Vetter, Managing Editor, *The I-70 Scout & Eastern Colorado News.*



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BENNETT FPD

FROM PAGE 1

tional employee with permit/plan review experience be added to assist Fire Marshal Victoria Flamini with those duties.

"Started receiving complaints from the town that Life Safety is not getting things done in a timely manner. We're behind and, if we do happen to catch up, I don't see the growth and the work associated with it slowing down anytime soon," said Cumley, adding that Flamini's duties cover much more than building plan reviews. "Truthfully, it's come down to hiring someone who has plan review experience, that can just sit down and pound out plan reviews because we are getting so many of them."

"Many of you have known me a very long and very painful to have people out there saying 'Victoria didn't get back to me.' That's not my MO and I absolutely hate it," Flamini added. "It does go back to there's so much to juggle on any single day. Just the last two weeks alone, I've hardly touched a plan because there's this meeting and that meeting, this and that, this inspection, and go to that inspection. Too much going on at the same time."

In addition to increasing one part-time employee to assist Flamini with everyday office operations, including answering phones and organizing the wide-range of daily requests and tasks, the board authorized Cumley to move forward with hiring an additional person to work exclusively through plan reviews. Cumley indicated he would offer an original salary of \$75,000 for the new position.

When asked by the board why the consulting firm that was recently contracted couldn't take over the existing reviews, Flamini said that fees for pending reviews have already been submitted to the district and that there would be additional headaches when handing over the information to them.

"Any of the new things that come in, we can filter directly to [the new firm]," she said. "But, for the existing ones, we can ask if people want to pay more to talk or deal with this firm, but certainly would be awkward and weird to do that."

In addition, Cumley indicated reservations about what the consulting firm might charge.

"In our first conversation with the new company, they basically did nothing and charged us \$700," Cumley said. "I'm concerned about costs moving forward. All we had previously was a conversation and that's what the bill was."

In addition to the new staffing arrangements, Cumley said he was going to contact town officials to see about the possibility of installing a modular trailer in the alley area around the administration building to serve as a temporary office for the additional employees.

"I don't know if they'll allow it, but I'm at least going to ask," he said.

Other options are moving staff to other parts of other buildings within the district or taking up part of the current board room for office space.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue continues to respond to more emergency calls than last year's record volume.

August's 149 calls put the department at 973 total responses through the first eight months of 2025. Through Sept. 11, the district's 1,030 calls are nine ahead of the same time last year.

"We're averaging 4.1 calls per day, slightly above average compared to 2024," the call volume report said.

August calls including 90 EMS responses, 21 fires, 10 miscellaneous service calls, eight false alarms and 17 others.

The board also OK'd a recommendation from Fleet Services Manager Gustavo Llanes to initiate the process for purchasing one ambulance each in 2026 and 2027.

According to Llanes, the orders need to be submitted early as turn-around time to manufacture and receive the apparatus is more than one year.

The recent resignation of Kevin Urbany from the board requires an appointment to fill the vacancy until the next regularly scheduled board election.

Interested parties are requested to contact the fire district administrative office to submit a letter of interest or attend a board meeting, which occurs the second Thursday of each month.

TRAINING PROP IN AREA

Two days prior to the fire board meeting, Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue took delivery on a key piece of aircraft fire training equipment that will eventually be housed at Colorado Air & Space Port.

On Sept. 9, a state-purchased Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting training prop was dropped off at Station 92 on the east edge of Watkins. According to Bennett-Watkins Assistant Fire Chief Caleb Connor, final delivery to the spaceport will occur once the final paperwork has its "I's dotted and "T's crossed."

The majority of the cost of the training unit was covered by an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency with both the DFPC and Colorado Department of Transportation's Aeronautical Division covering the remaining expense.

"We fought very hard to get that prop to stay out here, so a big win for Bennett-Watkins Fire and the airport," Connor said. "It's state of the art training for both sides and, while it will be checked out and utilized by departments throughout the state, it will pretty much live here. Super big win for us from the training side of things."

A ceremony celebrating the new training apparatus is expected later this fall.

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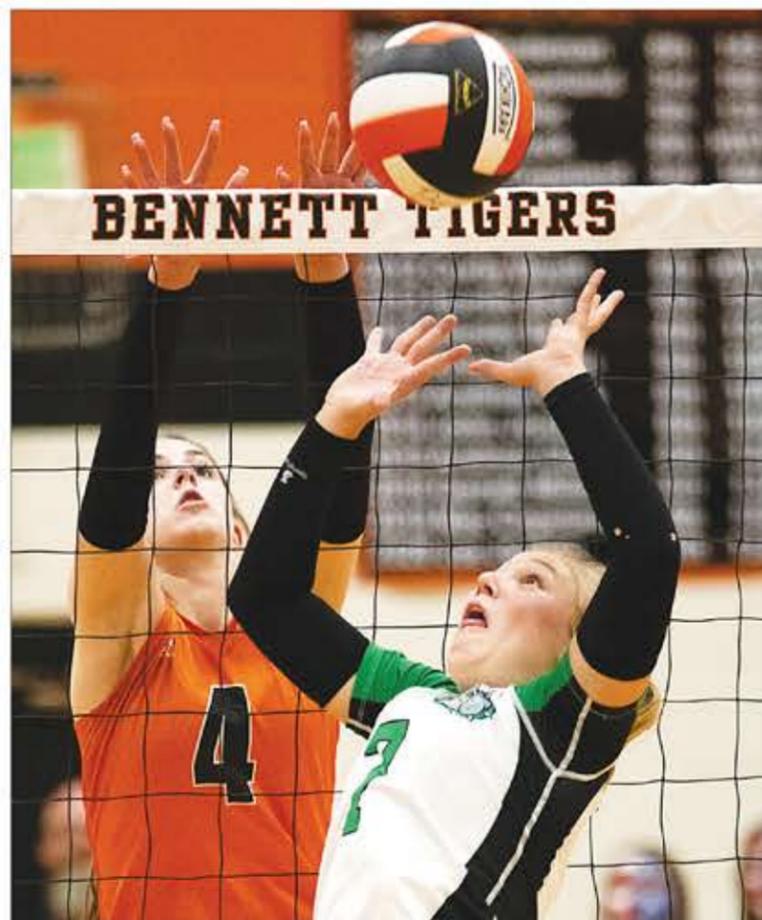
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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMBO/For The Scout

From left photo, Byers' hitter Karley Linnebur (33) fires a kill shot through the Bennett double-block of Abigail Thornton (18) and Kaurlie Voorhies (10) Sept. 18, and Lady Tiger Josie Ladd (4) makes sure Byers setter Leyla Sayler doesn't try to dink the ball over the net.

Lady Bulldogs victorious in 4 sets at Bennett

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — The Byers Lady Bulldogs won their second of a trio of I-70 Corridor matchups, dispatching of a feisty group of Bennett girls in four sets on the Lady Tigers' home court Sept. 18.

While the match occurred about six hours after heavy law enforcement activity was around the Bennett Schools campus, both teams appeared in a winning mindset but, in the end, Byers walked away with the 27-25, 18-25, 25-21, 25-18 victory.

"When we first got there, we talked to [the Bennett AD] and were told to everything turned out fine and everything was ready to go," said Byers head coach Jessica Fournier. "I thought their girls came out energetic, aggressive and wanting to win, plus it was still a very tough gym to play in and a tough crowd to play in front of. I was pleased with our girls resiliency and how they finished."

"Despite the events that happened that day at the

school, the Byers match was one of the best games my team has played this season so far," said Bennett head coach Corissa Thornton, herself a Byers alum. "We brought a lot of intensity and fought for every point. Byers is a strong team, and they pushed us to raise our level of play. Right now, our challenge is maintaining leads once we have them."

In the first game, Byers appeared to take firm command when it won 8 of 9 points to extend a 4-3 lead to a 12-4 advantage; however, the host orange-and-black methodically clawed back and, with the score 23-19, Bennett scored 6 of 7 points to take a 25-24 lead, but Byers won the last three points.

"Quite the fun first game and glad we were able to pull it out," Fournier said. "Starting to develop some resiliency when we get down, and that showed at the end of the first set."

In game two, Byers broke a 7-7 tie, winning 6 of the next 7 points, but the Lady Tigers responded with a 9-point run of their own to go up 17-13 and was to threatened the rest of the game.



ALYSSA STEMBO/For The Scout

Lady Bulldog Joclynn Rector steps up to receive a Bennett serve during the annual Corridor rivalry Sept. 18.

In game three, the teams swapped 2- to 3-point leads multiple times but, with the score 20-20,

SEE VB BYERS @ BENNETT
PAGE 10

Private school enrollment multiplier OK'd by CHSAA board

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

AURORA — Efforts from public high school officials to help even the playing field with private institutions came to fruition last week after an enrollment multiplier was approved from athletic directors and league officials statewide.

During a special Sept 16 online meeting, the Colorado High School Activities Association's Legislative Council (CLOC) approved proposal ADM-3, mandating private schools to multiply its student county by 1.5 to determine their classifications in sports and other extracurricular activities. The vote was 52-22 with one abstention.

CLOC was originally scheduled to hear the proposal April 22 during its regular spring meeting but CHSAA's Board of Directors voted to remove the policy change until it could be further reviewed. According to CHSAA Commissioner Mike Krueger, the

original ADM-3 "was rushed through the process" and "did not fully capture its intended purpose or potential impact."

Part of that delay included the original proposal being modified to remove charter schools from the 1.5 multiplier mandate.

The revised proposal says, "(4) A member school shall have its three-year enrollment average multiplied by a factor of 1.5 if it meets one or more of the following criteria: (a) The member school is designated as "non-public" by the Colorado Department of Education and (b) The school has a tuition-based enrollment model.

"(5) Programs in bracketed sports at schools that meet the above definition will be exempt from the 1.5 multiplier if they did not qualify for and win at least one postseason contest during the previous cycle."

According to Byers Athletic Director and head high school boys basketball coach Jeremy Kerns, who served

on the committee to revise the multiplier language, charter school officials were largely on board once their institutions were removed.

"A lot of the argument was that charter schools are under the same requirements as the public school districts they are a part of," Kerns said. "Once that happened, it made things a lot easier for it to pass."

Even with the the changes, the proposal is still expected to impart its original intention — address growing allegations from public school administrators that private schools benefit from the ability to "recruit" or be "intensely selective" when it comes to the students, particularly athletes, they allow to roam their hallways.

"The multiplier is intended to adjust for the competitive advantages that some member schools may have due to selective admissions, enrollment controls, or tuition-based enrollment when compared to schools which do not have these advantages," CHSAA's stated rationale said. "The multiplier

aims to standardize data and ensure a more equitable comparison of school enrollments despite differing admission practices."

In many cases, private schools within the 1A to 4A categories in most sports or activities will jump up at least one classification, meaning that similar sized public schools that don't have managed enrollments can be more competitive.

The vote occurred in time for the new rules to be put in place for the upcoming two school-year cycle entailing 2026-27 and 2027-28.

Among the high-profile schools expected to be impacted are Resurrection Christian, who play Strasburg in the Patriot League; Denver Christian, who has been a member of 2A and 3A classifications in baseball and basketball, respectively; and Kent Denver, who defeated Bennett last year in the 4A boys basketball playoffs.

On the only other agenda item **SEE CHSAA VOTE**
PAGE 11



PHOTOS BY ALYSSA STEMOFOR The Scout

From left photo, Lady Bulldog blockers Olivia Eastwood (23) and Abi Green battle with Bennett's Kaurlie Voorhies during the annual Corridor rivalry Sept. 18, and Bennett senior Rose Smith smacks the ball back to Arvada during a Sept. 15 Frontier League contest.

VB BYERS @ BENNETT

FROM PAGE 9

Byers won 5 of the final 6 points to take the 2-1 set lead.

The fourth set saw the hosts try to claw back from a 9-3 deficit, but couldn't get any closer than 18-15. The eventual victors finished off the match winning 7 of the final 10 rallies.

"I told Corissa after the game how impressed I was with the energy her team played with given they had their tournament the previous Saturday and matches on Monday and Tuesday," Fournier said. "They fought us hard and we were fortunate to get out with the win."

On the attack, sophomores Karley Linnebur and Jocelyn Rector had 15 and seven kills, respectively, followed by junior Taiya Eymann with six and sophomore Olivia Eastwood five. Sophomore setter Leyla Sayler facilitated the offense with 27 assists.

From the service line, Linnebur and Eymann recorded four and three aces, respectively.

Defensively, Linnebur hit the floor for a team-high 17 digs, followed by Rector with eight and Sayler's seven.

A half-dozen Tigers combined for 34 kills — senior Kaurlie Voorhies with eight, sophomore Meagan Green

with six and senior Jordan Ladd, juniors Emilee Venneberg and Abigail Thornton, and sophomore Josie Ladd five apiece. When not attacking the net, Venneberg led the hosts with 20 assists while junior Nancy Jordan added nine.

Bennett recorded a 90-plus service percentage but had only two aces — Josie Ladd and junior Kaylonnie Mclaury with one each.

On defense, the orange-and-black recorded four blocks, including a solo stuff by Green. Josie Ladd and Mclaury hit the floor for 16 and 15 digs, respectively, while Jordan added nine, Venneberg eight, Voorhies seven, junior Mady Bavouset with six, and Thornton five.

The win advanced Byers to .500 at 3-3, while Bennett dropped to 4-8.

ARVADA @ BENNETT

The orange-and-black's lone victory during last week's bevy of activity was a topsy-turvy four-set conference victory Sept. 15 over visiting Arvada, 25-13, 22-25, 29-27, 25-8.

With the score 9-8 in favor of Bennett, the hosts rattled off an 11-1 run to put the first game out of reach.

In game two, Bennett appeared to take control with a 4-point run to go up 9-5, but the visiting Bulldogs pulled even numerous times and, with the score tied at 21, Arvada won four of the next five rallies to pull out the victory.

Thornton's troops rallied from a 12-6 deficit in game three and after the score was tied at 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, a Bennett combo block and kill from Thornton ended the set in favor of the Tigers.

The third-set loss appeared to take the steam out of Arvada as Bennett scored 17 of the first 20 points of game four and was never threatened.

Statistically, Bennett dominated, winning the kill battle 34-14 and recording 19 service aces compared to the Bulldogs' 11.

Voorhies led the Tiger attackers with 10 kills, followed by Thornton with eight, Jordan Ladd seven and Josie Ladd five. Venneberg and Jordan accounted for all of the Tiger assists with 20 and nine, respectively.

From the service line, Jordan Ladd recorded a team-high six aces, while Jordan and Bavouset added four apiece and Venneberg had three.

Defensively, Jordan Ladd recorded Bennett's lone solo stuff. Thornton and Mclaury tied for the team-high in digs with 10 apiece.

BENNETT @ FORT LUPTON

The second of back-to-back Frontier League tilts saw Thornton's troops fall 25-22, 25-21, 23-25, 25-14 at Fort Lupton Sept. 16.

After the first three sets were tightly contested, Bennett ran out of steam the second part of game four.

While both teams recorded 34 kills, the orange-and-black struggled on serve-receive, committing 15 errors and allowing 15 Bluedevil aces.

A quartet of Tigers tied for the team-high in kills with seven — Venneberg, Voorhies, Green and Thornton. Venneberg also led in assists with 17, while Jordan added eight.

Bennett had seven service aces with Jordan Ladd having a team-high two.

On defense, Jordan Ladd and Thornton recorded solo blocks, and Mclaury, Venneberg and Jordan all reached double-digit digs with 22, 20 and 11, respectively.

TIGER INVITATIONAL

During its own annual four-team round-robin tournament Sept. 13, the orange-and-black struggled, not winning a set over three matches.

The Tigers' first two matches of the day were both tightly contested, especially in the first sets, but the orange-and-black fell 26-24, 25-20 to Skyview and 27-25, 25-20 to Peak to Peak. The final match of the day saw Thornton's troops struggle mightily in a 25-5, 25-12 setback to Forge Christian.

Against Skyview, team highs included Thornton with five kills, Venneberg seven assists, Jordan Ladd two aces, Green with two blocks, and Jordan 10 digs.

The Peak to Peak match saw Thornton swing for a match-high seven kills, while Mclaury served three aces and had 11 digs. Venneberg recorded 10 assists.

Against Forge, the Tigers were out-hit 23 kills to seven and committed a dozen errors on serve-receive.

BENNETT SCHEDULE

Sept. 25: @ Arrupe Jesuit.
Sept. 30: @ Limon.
Oct. 3: @ Middle Park.
Oct. 7: Lake County.

BYERS SCHEDULE

Sept. 27: Byers Bulldog Tournament.
Sept. 30: @ Genoa-Hugo.
Oct. 2: Deer Trail.
Oct. 7: Elbert.

Fall
2025



Special Events

Senior Excursions

Advanced reservations required. Ages: 18+. Sponsored by: Real Estate Connections & Mountain View Fellowship

- * Oct. 16: Candle Making at Monolith Brewing
- * Nov. 9: Adams Mystery Playhouse
- * Dec. 11: Denver Zoo Lights
- * Jan. 22: United States Mint
- * Feb. 19: Fort Collins Museum of Discovery



Salute To Our Veteran's Spaghetti Dinner
Date: November 8, 4-7pm; Location: Legion Hall;
Call 303-622-4260 to reserve your spot! Sponsored by U.S. Mechanical and Jess-Yaich Post 183

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Nov. 20, 6am—Nov. 23 10pm

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Christmas Events

Decorate-A-Wreath Contest - Nov. 3-Dec. 3

Letters to Santa - After Thanksgiving-Dec. 18

Christmas in the Park - Dec. 6, 4-7:30pm

Youth Sports

Big D's Warriors Adaptive Kickball

Date: Oct. 1, 5:30-6:30pm; Location: T-ball Field

Peewee & Youth Recreational Basketball

Dates: Nov. 2, 9, 16, & 23; Deadline: 10/5/25

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SUBMITTED GRAPHIC

I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Fun Run/Walk will start and end at Byers High School Sept. 28.

5K Fun Run for health sciences club planned

BYERS — Runners should lace up now for the inaugural I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Fun Run/Walk to benefit the Byers High School Health Science Club.

The event will occur from 8 to 12 p.m., with the 5K from 9-11 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 28, at Byers High School, 444 E. Front St.

The community with the highest number of registered participants will win the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Fun Run/Walk Traveling Trophy.

“It’s a chance for towns along the I-70 Corridor to show their spirit,” one chamber organizer said.

Participants will pay a \$15 fee if they register prior to the event. The fee is \$20 on the day of the Fun Run. Bottled water will be handed out during the event along with prizes.

Vendor fees are \$35 for members or \$55 for non-members. Vendors should bring a table, chairs and giveaways.

Proceeds will go directly to the science club to help local students pur-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A traveling trophy will be awarded to the community with the most registered participants.

sue health care careers. The Byers High School First Aid for Severe Trauma (FAST) team will be on hand.

For more information and to register, visit i70ccoc.com.

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CHSAA VOTE FROM P9

discussed last week, CLOC members voted 62-13 to allow CHSAA to retain membership refunds of over \$175,000 to use on renovations and repairs at its headquarters in Aurora.

According to CHSAA, the building has not been renovated since originally constructed in the late 1980s and is in need of “significant repairs to keep the building safe, functional, and accessible for all.”

CHSAA also indicated that no one member school is significantly harmed financially by not receiving their refund.

“If returned, refunds would range from approximately \$175 to \$600 per school,” the CHSAA proposal said. “While small individually, collectively this [refund] makes a meaningful difference in reducing the renovation cost.”

The building’s renovation has been in the works the past 2½ years.

The 2024-25 membership refund has been calculated at \$175,687.

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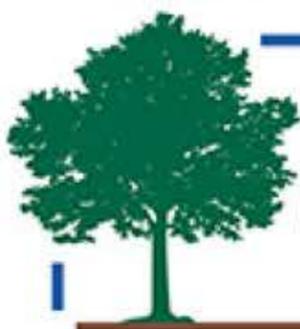
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'Burg XC team excels at Liberty Bell

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

LITTLETON — The Strasburg Indian boys placed sixth out of 20 teams with their top runner taking fifth overall at the Liberty Bell Invitational Cross Country Meet at Heritage High School in Littleton Sept. 13.

“Excellent effort by our team on a fast course,” James said, who noted that the Indians had an especially tough week of training leading up to the Liberty Bell.

The Indians were paced by senior Dawit James, who ran a personal best 16:25 for the Heritage course. He has made the podium at the Liberty Bell every year of his high school career.

Other scoring runners were senior Jeremiah Redd (27th, 17:41, personal record); junior Noah Dobransky (29th, 17:42, season best); and seniors Israel James (38th, 17:57); and Will Hauser (99th, 20:09).

Strasburg head coach Mike Coach James said Hauser had been fighting illness and drifted back in the pace, which impacted Strasburg’s team finish.

“I’m confident that he will bounce back soon,” he added.

For the Lady Indians, junior Maura Kramer placed 56th with a personal course record of 23:24, an improvement of 34 seconds.

“She didn’t feel like it was her best race,” James said. “She was tired from our hard training week.”

Junior Naomi Redd (76th, 24:30, season best) and senior Megan Lay (77th, 24:45) both continue to gain fitness and strength as the season progresses, James said. “I’m expecting these two to only get faster as they work hard before regionals.”

Sophomore Sarah Larsen (90th, 25:23, personal record) and freshman Lacey Dittenhauser (115th, 28:26, personal record) round out Strasburg’s scoring runners.

Personal records were also established by freshman Jacob Breiding, sophomore Miles Nelson, senior Leila Christopherson, and sophomore exchange student Jaime Sacristo, who ran his first 5,000-meter race ever.

For returning runners, personal course records were also established by Naomi and Jeremiah Redd, Christopherson, Dawit James, and Dobransky.

The Lady Indians finished 13th out of a 16-team field.

“Our focus is on our regional meet late in the season, and each week is focused on gaining strength and speed for that meet,” coach James concluded.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The Lady Indians, led by seniors Mikayla Friedrich and Kasianna Christiansan, gave a card and flowers to the Evergreen High School cross country team in remembrance of the shooting that occurred there.

“The [Sept. 10] events ... hit our team as we had competed against them just two days before,” James said.

COMING UP

The Indians competed at the St. Vrain Invitational in Lyons Sept. 20. Watch the *Eastern Colorado News* for complete coverage.

They travel to the Legacy Lightning Invitational in Broomfield Friday.

LIBERTY BELL TEAM SCORING

BOYS

1. Thomas Maclaren 86

Lady Bulldogs take 3 of four top spots at Lamar Invitational

LAMAR — The Lady Bulldogs placed three runners in the top four at the Lamar Thunder Invitational Cross Country Meet Sept. 12.

Bennett junior Reese West took first place with a time of 19:58 in her first real competition since recovering from an injury suffered late last track season.

“It really speaks to her work ethic and dedication that she was able to come back with a sub 20-minute race, which is a personal record for her,” said Byers coach Kelci Crispe.

Senior Quincy Bowling took third with an effort of 21:33.

“Like Reese, she has been fighting an injury and it seems like both girls are on the road to recovery,” Crispe added.

Senior Michaela Casey was fourth at 22:29, beating her personal record by about 10 seconds.

“Lamar was a great meet for us,” Crispe continued.

Senior Ben Gerhardt topped the Byers boys with a time of 19:03 for 10th place.

“The boys also ran a great race,” Crispe added.

Gerhardt was followed by classmate Torin Wardall (15th, 20:50); junior Skyler Walters (21st, 22:17); and sophomore Matthew Wardall (30th, 23:58).

The Bulldogs competed in the Arvada West Invitational Sept. 19 and the Runners Roost Invitational at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton Sept. 23. Watch the *Eastern Colorado News* for complete coverage.

COMING UP

Oct. 1: @ Fusion Invitational, Denver.

2. Golden View Classical Academy 106
3. Prospect Ridge 152
4. Peak To Peak 168
5. Banning Lewis Prep 182
6. Strasburg 187
7. University 197
8. DSST: Cedar 205
9. Heritage Christian 268
10. Englewood 289
11. Wellington 318
12. STEM Highlands Ranch 326
13. Wiggins 331
14. Colorado Academy 335
15. Skyview Academy 360
16. Clear Creek 362
17. Peyton 363
18. Ascent Classical Academy 372
19. Kent Denver 475
20. Pueblo Centennial 629

GIRLS

1. St. Mary’s Academy 87
2. Banning Lewis Prep 93
3. Peak To Peak 113
4. Thomas Maclaren 127
5. Kent Denver 133
6. Classical Academy 141
7. Prospect Ridge 155
8. University 156
9. Colorado Academy 236
10. Ascent Classical Academy 267
11. Wellington 290
12. Wray 301
13. Strasburg 353
14. DSST: Cedar 386
15. Clear Creek 417
16. Wiggins 438

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Lady Indian 9 takes care of pair of Patriot League foes

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

Strasburg thumped Weld Central by the mercy rule at home Tuesday and took its sweet time in vanquishing Sterling on the road Thursday in last week's softball action.

The Lady Indians also lost to the Forge Christian Fury Saturday for a record of 12-5 to end last week. For complete coverage of the Fury game, watch for the *Eastern Colorado News*.

@ STERLING

The final score, 13-5, against the Lady Tigers appears to be an easy win — but Strasburg didn't score until the fourth inning and it took seven innings to complete a game that was on the precipice of a 10-run mercy rule victory multiple times.

With Sterling leading 1-0, the Indians finally got untracked at the plate with 6 runs in the fourth and 4 more in the fifth for a 10-1 advantage.

Strasburg head coach Wes Madrill was not impressed by Sterling pitching.

"Against that pitching, we couldn't

score until the fourth inning? Out of our first nine hitters, that's what we do against that pitching?" he said. "No."

Madrill noted the role of junior Addi Kent for the offense. After the Tigers surrendered four straight walks in the top of the fourth inning, Kent tripled.

"When she starts something, then everybody else comes alive, but she didn't start anything until the fourth inning," Madrill said.

With the score 10-2 entering the top of the seventh, Strasburg tacked on three runs, then lolly-gagged to the end, allowing 3 more Tiger runs.

Kent ended the game with two triples and 3 RBIs.

"She should have probably had home runs, but the fence was really deep," Madrill said.

Kent leads the Indians with six triples, six home runs, and in many other offensive categories.

Juniors Madi Olsen and Phebe Johnson had two hits each with a triple for Olsen and a double for Johnson. Kent and Johnson drove in 3 runs apiece, and junior Payton Weaver doubled.

Sophomore Alexis Thurmond made the defensive play of the day with a spectacular catch in left field.

"That ball was a rocket, and it was in the gap. Line drive," Madrill said. "She made one hell of a catch out there. That saved some runs."

Johnson went the distance for the Indians, giving up 4 earned runs on two hits and eight walks while striking out a career-high 10

WELD CENTRAL

The Lady Rebels scored first, but Strasburg made them pay with 2, 6 and 5 runs over the first three innings to win by the 12-run mercy rule after Weld Central batted in the fourth.

Madrill said that the Rebel pitching was also mediocre, but the Indians jumped on it for 11 hits.

"We just hit the ball hard," he noted. Olsen, Weaver, Kent, Johnson and junior Wynne Winter had two hits apiece with a homer and double for Johnson, a homer by Olsen, a triple by Weaver, and doubles by Kent and Winter.

Olsen, Weaver and Johnson added 3 RBIs apiece and Winter had 2.



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Addi Kent has provided a spark all season long for the Lady Indians thanks to both her bat and her legs.

"When our top five hit the ball, we score runs," Madrill said.

COMING UP
Sept. 25: Valley.
Sept. 30: @ Brush.

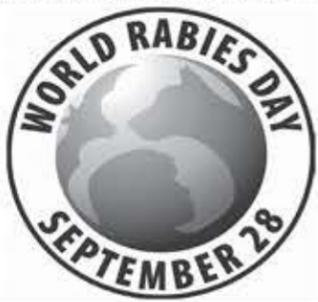


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— Douglas Claussen, Publisher & Editor



Tiger Jesus Santoyo goes upside down as he attempts a bicycle kick on goal against visiting Jefferson Sept. 19.

Tigers get road win, tie at home

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

Bennett lifted its record to 5-3-1 with an exciting victory over Fort Lupton on the road Sept. 17 and a tie with Jefferson Sept. 19.

The 4-3 victory over the Bluedevils was a physical game throughout, said Tiger coach Ashley Torgerson.

"There were fouls flying back and forth between both teams," he said. "It was another character-building game, really, for the boys. They buckled down. They dug deep."

The game was tied 1-1 at halftime with Bennett scoring first. The Tigers built a seemingly comfortable 4-1 lead in the second half, but Fort Lupton rallied with two goals, the first on a penalty kick, the second with approximately five minutes remaining.

"We just toughed it out and were able to hang on and win," Torgerson said.

Senior Jesus Santoyo was back after missing four games. He scored two goals and added an assist and four steals.

Senior Blake Gonzalez and junior Houston Broskie each had one goal with eight and two steals, respectively. Junior Hayden Kirby delivered one assist and had three steals.

Senior Juan Montoya stepped up off the bench with good defense. He had two steals.

Junior Isaac Hernandez again

played well in goal with 12 saves. "This team is showing a lot of heart grit and determination. All of the coaches are proud of what we're putting on the field," Torgerson said. "We're still heading towards our goals."

That goal, set by the boys themselves, is to make the playoffs.

JEFFERSON
Bennett pulled ahead twice and Jefferson caught up twice.

The Tigers scored first and the game was knotted at 1-1 at halftime. That scenario repeated itself in the second half.

"At that point we were just hanging on," Torgerson said. "Honestly we were lucky to come out of it with a tie."

Bennett was down a couple of defensesmen with injuries sustained against Fort Lupton.

Hernandez saved 24 of 26 shots in goal. "Without his play we lose that game," Torgerson added.

Gonzalez scored a goal with an assist from Jesus Santoyo and assisted on a goal by freshman Eric Machado.

Kirby led the Tigers with seven steals and Gonzalez had six.

COMING UP
Sept. 24: @ Sheridan.
Oct. 1: @ Middle Park.
Oct. 8: Englewood (Homecoming).



Tiger Oscar Delfin keeps possession of the ball while hopping over a Saints defender during Bennett's 2-2 tie at Paul Read Field Sept. 19.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO SEPT. 27, 2005

A developer has settled with the U.S. Department of Defense to collect the company's cleanup cost of 1,000 acres on the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range.

The settlement brought much discussion during a short Sept. 21 Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range Restoration Advisory Board meeting.

Lennar Colorado will receive \$4.55 million for cleanup costs of its two parcels on the range. Cleanup included finding and removing munitions and scrap metal. The company will get back \$0.60-\$0.70 per \$1 spent.

The company plans to put homes on the property.

"If you ask Lennar, they would be pleased, and if you asked the (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a defendant), I think they would say they got a fair settlement also," said Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment representative Jeff Swanson.

"Is the door open now? Can anybody pop out and (clear their property) and get 60 cents on the dollar?" an audience member asked.

Swanson said he isn't sure. A December 2004 settlement over a similar cleanup in San Francisco gave developers all cleanup costs, totaling \$50 million, but a later U.S. Supreme Court ruling invalidated some of that developer's — and some of Lennar's — arguments, Swanson said.

15 YEARS AGO SEPT. 28, 2010

BENNETT - The Bennett Parks & Recreation District board has approved lease-purchase financing for recent construction.

A resolution for a site lease agreement and lease-purchase was approved at the Sept. 20 board meeting.

The lease-purchase transaction will generate \$250,000 to cover the district's portion of the swimming pool addition.

"The site lease agreement and the lease-purchase are documents that we're entering into for the purpose of acquiring additional money to finance the completion of the rec center," said the district's attorney Tim Flynn.

"What this entails, through the site lease agreement... via a financial institution, we will lease some space in the [recreation] center to the financial institution for a lump-sum payment. And they will lease it back to us. The rental payments we pay on the lease-purchase [are] what pays off... the loan."

10 YEARS AGO SEPT. 29, 2015

AGATE - The sticking point of transporting Agate School District students to one of the neighboring schools will hopefully loosen up if a recent proposal is agreed to.

Deer Trail Superintendent Kevin Schott, along with principal Dave Casey and school board members Mike Geesen and Luisa Lumbano, asked the Agate School Board Sept. 24 to consider allowing pickup and drop off of Deer Trail students within the Agate district.

Currently, Deer Trail students that live within the Agate School District must be driven to and from school by their families or friends or be picked up and dropped off at a point within the Deer Trail School District.

"It's a matter of student safety," Schott said. "A school bus is a much safer ride than a car for these students."

Deer Trail educates approximately a dozen students from Agate. The migration of students from Agate to neighboring districts started several years ago after Agate downsized from a pre-K through 12th-grade school to a K-5 institution.

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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, Sept. 24, the 267th day of 2025. There are 98 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Sept. 24, 2017, more than 200 NFL players knelt or sat during the national anthem after President Donald Trump criticized the players' protests in

a speech and a series of tweets.

ON THIS DATE

In 1789, President George Washington signed a Judiciary Act establishing America's federal court system and creating the post of attorney general.

In 1869, thousands of businessmen were ruined in a Wall

Street panic known as "Black Friday" after financiers Jay Gould and James Fisk attempted to corner the gold market.

In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt established Devil's Tower in Wyoming as the first U.S. national monument.

In 1957, the Los Angeles-bound Brooklyn Dodgers

played their last game at Ebbets Field, defeating the Pittsburgh Pirates 2-0.

In 1960, the USS Enterprise, the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, was launched at Newport News, Va.

In 1963, the U.S. Senate ratified a treaty with Britain and the Soviet Union limiting nuclear

testing.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Football Hall of Famer Joe Greene is 79. Actor Gordon Clapp is 77. Actor Harriet Walter is 75. Filmmaker Brad Bird is 68. Actor Kevin Sorbo is 67. Celebrity chef Robert Irvine is 60.

—Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: PERIODIC TABLE ELEMENTS

- ACROSS**
- "___ of New York," 2002 movie
 - That guy
 - Extinguish birthday candles
 - Impolite dinner sound
 - Division of time
 - Forgo
 - On the move
 - Lake, in France
 - Alaska native
 - *The heaviest metal
 - *Inert gas of balloon fame
 - *"Jersey Shore" network, acr.
 - Move like parasailor
 - Pick up, as in a criminal
 - Z, NATO phonetic alphabet
 - "A ship without ___," or one without purpose
 - Paella pot
 - Nessie's turf
 - Sweating room
 - Cyberspace soliloquy
 - *Gold
 - Foul substance
 - Ruled
 - Dish out
 - Belgium's currency
 - Lands (2 words)
 - Indira Gandhi's dress
 - ___ Without Hats, band
 - Sheltered nook
 - Gross National Product
 - *Majority of elements on periodic table
 - *Iron
 - Fortune teller's card
 - Anger
 - Saharan rest stop, e.g.
 - Venerated paintings
 - Acquired
 - Beside, archaic
 - Curious
 - Professional basketball league, acr.
 - Paterfamilias, tenderly
- DOWN**
- General Services Administration
 - Additionally
 - Common allergens
 - Tale-spinning brother
 - Prosecco cocktail
 - Position of leadership
 - George Gershwin's brother
 - Village People's "___ Man"
 - Island near Java
 - Stead
 - Reproductive cell
 - Kind of nurse
 - The Beatles' "I Am the ___"

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- Glucose+fructose
- *Like Ar, Xe and Ne
- Completely dedicated (2 words)
- Hair color
- High in decibels
- Small European freshwater fish
- Pasta wheat
- Accustom
- *Rn, known for seeping into homes
- Forever and a day
- Dance with leis
- Join companies
- Old European coins
- D.C. mover and shaker, for short
- Encroachment
- Victory hand gesture
- Life force, in Sanskrit
- Type of shark
- Aphrodite's son
- Broadway recognition
- Greek salad ingredient
- Not mint
- This over matter?
- *Sn, element in bronze
- "To ___ Peter to pay Paul"
- Pig pen

ANSWERS ON PAGE 2

HOROSCOPE

The Elephant Effect

Suppression often makes things more noticeable, like the "elephant in the room" effect: The more it goes unmentioned, the stranger and more noticeable it becomes. At this early juncture of Libra season, we are choosing how deeply to look into things — whether to accept interactions at face value, or to read into the hidden emotions and dynamics underneath.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Every interaction leaves an impression. The way you listen gives others a feeling. Your laugh gives them something to work for. The most casual comment sticks. After you leave the room, your influence will linger in fondness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The wish for time off is really your soul asking for space. You can't pause the world, but you can claim little islands of rest. Today, even five quiet minutes will restore more than you think.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Anything that's been hard for you, you've done more than survive. You've turned it into your story, your style and the legacy you pay forward. You'll work through tasks and problems of the day, integrating all into your being.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Since people around you are distracted or not watching closely, you have some freedom to try things out without scrutiny. You can test new approaches, adjust your style or play with strategy — a low-risk way to improve how you handle the situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You can feel the energetic essence of ideas. The good ones leap off for you. Your creativity will keep leveling up because you're willing to discard what doesn't have that "zing-zap." Morning brings momentum; evening brings brilliance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Gratitude doesn't erase sadness, but it gives it company. You can cry and still feel thankful. You can ache and still feel blessed. You'll recognize how all your emotions of the day seem to belong there — proof of a life fully lived.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Yes, you have lugged a responsibility about as far as you

want to, but there's so much more trail ahead. You deserve a rest, some ease, a little luck. So when it comes, don't hesitate, defer or pretend you don't need this. Just take it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your body will give clear signals: tension, excitement, ease, discomfort. You don't need to make a story around this or create reasons for these responses. Let instinctive wisdom cut through the mind's noise. Obey the body.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Even when you think the right thing is implied, the rules are obvious and the logic is prevalent, you'll still see a more successful outcome if you make your boundaries clear and your expectations known.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The future scares you, but you're more equipped than you know. The proof is in your past victories. Give yourself the pep talk you need. Cultivate the ability to speak yourself into courage. Such an ability will continue to serve you well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've given so much, and though the world still asks for more, you are not depleted. Every ask makes you more resourceful, imaginative and resilient. You're headed toward an opportunity. It will show you there are easier ways forward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Juggler's secret: Let the air do the work while the hands handle exactly what they can, which is always one thing at a time. No matter what's thrown into your rotation today, you have rhythm and grace on your side.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 24). Welcome to your Year of The Builder. The resources are out there, and the more you believe you can do this, the more capable you become. Brick by brick, you raise an empire — professional, domestic and social. The structure you design becomes the life you always wanted to live inside. More highlights: A gorgeous home improvement, a new stream of income, and a partnership worth its weight in gold. Capricorn and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 21, 17, 36 and 2.

—Horoscopes by Holiday

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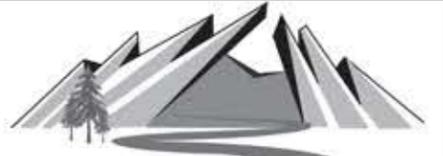
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ArapCo regs for wireless communications facilities updated

LITTLETON — Companies applying for wireless communications facilities in unincorporated Arapahoe County must meet new requirements after changes to the County's Land Development Code (LDC) were approved.
 The amendments retitle Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) regulations to Wireless Communication Facilities (WCF) and establish specific regulations for such facilities. The approved changes, which are

designed to comply with Federal Communications Commission regulations, include:

- incorporating potential technological advances across all types of wireless communications, including Commercial Mobile Radio Service.
- delineating the criteria for "eligible facilities;" and
- promoting the collaborative use of both new and existing WCF Locations.

The regulations outline a structured administrative process and establish standards for the location, design, maintenance and removal of wireless communication facilities. It emphasizes that the applicant must demonstrate that other sites are not feasible.
 The Board of County Commissioners approved the changes after a public comment period and Sept. 9 public hearing.
 To review the regulations, visit www.arapahoeco.gov.

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- THURSDAY, SEPT. 25**
Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Call Diane, (303)644-3717, for meeting ID.
- MONDAY, SEPT. 29**
Agate School Board. 6 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1**
Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.
- EVERY MONDAY**
AA open meeting. 7 p.m., historic Victorian schoolhouse, Ace Hardware, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Limon. For information, call Sara at (828)243-7681.
- EVERY TUESDAY**
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TOWN OF DEER TRAIL
is seeking nominations to fill
TRUSTEE VACANCY



Accepting letters of interest until position is filled.

Contact Town Clerk at Town Hall, 555 Second Ave., for more information. A letter of intent may be dropped off at Town Hall or e-mailed to clerk@townofdeertrail.org. The Deer Trail Board of Trustees meets the second Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m., at Town Hall.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HOMES & LAND

Client Review

I recently lost my best friend and I promised her I would sell her home. I hired a realtor that I thought was up for the challenge but six months into it the house still wasn't sold. A friend recommended Mary and WOW I sure was glad she did! Mary hit the floor running, she helped us every step of the way. She knew exactly what needed to be done and who to call including a probate attorney. With in a week she had the house ready to list. The next week the house went under contract and was sold. I have earned great respect for her and what she does. If you need to sell your house she is the Lady for you. Very knowledgeable, and knows what she is doing. If I ever need another house sold she will be the one. I owe her a great deal of gratitude for everything she has done for me and the family. Thank you Mary.

-Becky L.



Gateway Realty
I-70

MARY ZIMMERMAN

(970) 380-0078 | FARMHAND118@AOL.COM

MLS gatewayrealtiy70 gatewayrealtiy70,llc gatewayrealtiy-70.com

LAND AUCTIONS

3,813± Total Acres | Kiowa & Cheyenne Counties, CO

JR & LAVERLE KELLEY LAND AUCTION (AKA BOX E, LLC)

LIVE Auction

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

1:30pm MT | Kiowa County Fairgrounds, Eads, CO

Located 13± miles southwest of Kit Carson, CO or 10± miles northwest of Eads, CO along the Kiowa/Cheyenne County line

- 3,271± acres grass/pasture; 506± acres dryland farm ground
 - 401± ac corn; 105± ac planted wheat
- Offered in 6 Parcels / 3 Combos / Pasture Unit / Single Unit
- Grass acres enrolled in CRP Grasslands program (Buyer(s) to receive 2026 payment(s)—\$49,061)
- Enrolled in CPW Walk-In Access Hunting program (Buyer(s) to receive 2026 payment(s)—\$7,576)
- Perimeter fenced & cross-fenced into 11 pastures
- Excellent grass in rotational grazing
- Well-watered w/ 7 tanks via 2 wells / 2 windmills
- Possession of pasture & cornstalks upon closing; Planted wheat subject to farm lease
- Buyer to receive cash lease payment for 2026 wheat
- Total R/E Taxes: \$2,696 (2025 est.)

Scan with camera



Find us on social media!

640± Total Acres | Lincoln County, CO

MARK A. SCHNEIDER TRUST DRYLAND AUCTION

ONLINE ONLY Auction

Thursday, October 9, 2025

BIDDING OPENS: 8am CLOSSES: 12pm (noon) MT

Parcel located 6.5± miles southwest of Hugo, CO

- 622.7± dryland acres; 17.3± acres roads
 - 203.8± acres summer fallow to be planted to wheat
 - 209.9± acres corn stalks
 - 209.0± acres wheat stubble
- Subject to existing lease—'25 wheat crop to be harvested in '26
- Buyer(s) to receive landlord share of 2026 wheat crop
- Possession of cornstalks & wheat stubble upon closing
- FSA Base: 208.75 ac wheat @ 28 PLC; 207.25 ac corn @ 57 PLC
- R/E Taxes: \$1,206.92
- LEGAL: All of 20-T11S-R55W

Scan with camera



For Further Information:
Marc Reck, Broker
Ben Gardiner, Broker Assoc.

970-522-7770 or 1-800-748-2589 | reckagri.com

Tania Stephens
Broker/Owner
(303) 726-7779



310 Colfax Ave., Bennett
(303) 644-4444
LookEastRealty.net

Adrian Castillo Monge
Agent
(720) 717-3217
Se Habla Español

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION ~ 450 N County Road 133, Bennett, \$285,000: 35 acres with a livestock well, creek access, close to I-70, limited dirt road. Call Adrian to tour the property.

4055 S County Road 193, Byers, \$285,000: 39+ acres with a well, septic system, and power in place. Call Tania for a tour.

502 Antelope Dr. E., Bennett, \$240,000: 2+ acres corner lot located in Antelope Hills, power on site, soil reports completed, building plans (available at additional cost). Give Tania a call to tour the property.



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- 230 Acres farm land on Hwy 271 — 3 miles N of Deer Trail \$1,850/Ac
- 19 Acre Home Site 6 miles S of Strasburg \$195,000
- 13.92 Acres 2 irrig wells, adjacent to Strasburg Schools \$700k
- 7.25 acre investment 1 mi E of Watkins (Colfax & Imboden) \$450,000
- 47 Acres with Older Home, outbuildings, corrals, I-70 frontage. 1 mile S of Agate \$399,000

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GARAGE SALES

Garage/Craft Sale

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 26-27

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

56850 E. 30th Ave., Strasburg

1597 Monroe St., Strasburg. Saturday, September 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Many new items. Fabric, crafts, Avon collectible cars. 9/24

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CHUCK WAGON



Spicy Mexican Beef Bake

INGREDIENTS

- 1½ pounds Ground Beef (95% lean)
- 3 cans (10 ounces each) mild enchilada sauce, about 3¾ cups, divided
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
- 1 (15-ounce) can black beans, rinsed, drained
- ¾ cup chopped red bell pepper
- ⅓ cup diced celery
- ⅓ cup diced onion
- 1½ teaspoons ground cumin
- 15 corn tortillas (6- to 7-inch diameter)
- 1 cup shredded reduced-fat Mexican cheese blend
- Reduced-fat dairy sour cream (optional)

DIRECTIONS

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Combine enchilada sauce and brown sugar in large bowl, stirring until sugar dissolves. Set aside.

Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add ground beef; cook 8-10 minutes, breaking into ½-inch crumbles and stirring occa-

sionally. Pour off drippings, if necessary.

Stir in 2½ cups sauce mixture, beans, bell pepper, celery, onion, cumin; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer five minutes, stirring occasionally.

Spray 9- by 13-inch glass baking dish with cooking spray. Spread half of remaining sauce mixture over bottom of baking dish.

Arrange five tortillas over sauce in dish, overlapping slightly; top with ½ of beef mixture and ¼ cup cheese. Repeat layers once, using all remaining beef mixture, 5 tortillas and ¼ cup cheese. Top with remaining 5 tortillas and sauce mixture, spreading sauce evenly to moisten tortillas. Reserve remaining ½ cup cheese.

Cover dish with foil. Bake in 400 degrees oven 30-35 minutes or until heated through and bubbly. Remove foil; sprinkle with reserved cheese. Bake, uncovered, 2-3 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Let stand, uncovered, 10 minutes. Cut into eight servings. Serve with sour cream, if desired.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

Thursday, Sept. 25: Meatballs with gravy, potato.
Monday, Sept. 29: Chicken tenders.
Tuesday, Sept. 30: Tacos, refried beans.

BENNETT

Thursday, Sept. 25: Mini corn dogs, fries, carrots, celery, cucumber, corn, canned pineapples, apple crisp.

Monday, Sept. 29: Baked ziti, garlic knots, green beans, celery, carrots, cucumber, cauliflower.

Tuesday, Sept. 30: French bread pizza, cheese, pepperoni, marinara sauce cups, cucumber, broccoli, carrots, oranges, apple crisp.

BYERS

Thursday, Sept. 25: Bean and cheese burrito with green chili, Spanish rice.

Friday, Sept. 26: Cheese pizza, pears.
Monday, Sept. 29: Boneless buffalo wings, biscuit, grapes.

Tuesday, Sept. 30: Hamburger, french fries.

Wednesday, Oct. 1: Hawaiian chicken with rice, potato salad.

DEER TRAIL

Thursday, Sept. 25: Beefy nachos.
Monday, Sept. 29: Corn dog.
Tuesday, Sept. 30: Beef and potato tacos.

STRASBURG

Thursday, Sept. 25: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes.

Friday, Sept. 26: Hot dogs.
Tuesday, Sept. 30: Chicken Parmesan.

Wednesday, Oct. 1: Taquitos, refried beans.

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NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT
CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CREW QUARTERS

Notice is hereby given that Final Payment for the work contracted by: Stone Construction for the construction of crew quarters for the Strasburg Fire Protection District No. 8. will be made on or after October 14, 2025. Any person, association, company, or corporation who has unpaid claims against the above contractor for or on account of the furnishing of labor, supplies used or consumed by such contractor or any of its subcontractors, in or about the performance of said work, may file a claim against said contractor at any time up to and including said time of such final settlement on said date stated above. A verified statement of amount due and unpaid on account of such claim must be filed with the Strasburg Fire Protection District No. 8 located at 56281 E Colfax Ave, Strasburg, Colorado 80136.

BY: /s/ HEIDI PRICE

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesdays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1, and the *Eastern Colorado News* on Fridays, Sept. 26 and Oct. 3.

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1 injured in Bennett Days fight

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — A fight during Saturday night festivities at Bennett Days earlier this month resulted in one adult male hospitalized and the suspect still on the loose.

According to the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, deputies were dispatched the area of First Street and Palmer Avenue on report of a disturbance.

"When deputies arrived at Trupp Park near the [Bennett Days] beer garden, they found a man lying on the ground, bleeding in the face

from being punched," a sheriff's office spokesperson said. "Bennett Fire Rescue was already there tending to him."

The man that reportedly punched the victim got into another altercation with a third adult male.

"The guy who was punched was transported to a local hospital," the sheriff's statement said. "The guy who hit him ran off and was not found."

As of Sept. 20, the assault suspect remains not found.

Specifics of what led to the physical altercation were unknown at press time.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

As school district staff drives by, a Bennett School parent returns to her car after talking to a deputy about the status of the campus lockdown midday Sept. 18.

5K Byers Fun Run/Walk



- Sept. 28, 2025
- 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Proceeds go to
Byers HS Health Science Club

Sponsored by the
I-70 Corridor Chamber
of Commerce

Phone
720.731.1954

Website



Location
Byers High School
444 E. Front St. Byers, CO 80103

SCHOOL SCARE

FROM PAGE 1

intense moments, a broad-scale police presence in town and the temporary interruption of classes, both sheriff's office and school district officials said the incident was properly reported and handled.

"We encourage people to call if they see something suspicious," the sheriff's office statement reiterated. "If You See Something Say Something."

"The district commends the quick actions of the student for their report," Purdy added, "and our staff for their response."

In addition to the school campus being locked down for about 75 minutes, doors were locked at the neighboring Anythink Bennett library and students and staff returning from lunch were also housed temporarily at Bennett-Watkins Fire Station 91, a few blocks away.

"In the process of clearing the incident, a student evacuated to the Anythink library reported the perceived threat to Anythink staff. A 911 call was made by an Anythink staff member, which instigated additional response from law enforcement on campus," the school district announcement said. "Anytime there is a lockdown, all service agencies in the area respond with urgency, and they will clear each and every building and room, regardless of findings. This is to ensure safety and uphold protocol. We appreciate all of our supportive



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Law enforcement officers debrief after the Sept. 18 scare on the Bennett Schools campus.

staff, amazing students, and our first responders for their quick response."

The sheriff's office said they did not order any lockdowns to neighboring areas of town.

The district's all-call emergency communications system contacted parents and guardians three times — the first one to announce the lockdown, a second to say no viable threat was found, and the third to announce the campus was reopened.

"We wanted to get back to as normal of schedule as possible," Purdy said, noting that afternoon classes resumed and the evening volleyball match with Byers would proceed as scheduled.

If parents wanted to pick up their students midday, they were able to, but buses that were originally dispatched to take home kids early were turned around and returned to school until normal dismissal times.

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Local seniors group provides \$ assistance with grant from ArapCo

BYERS — The Tri-Valley Senior Citizens Association donated \$1,500 to area adults in need the previous two months.

In July, the group approved and presented a \$500 donation to Eric Josephson for food during a series of back operations, cancer treatment and an auto breakdown.

In August, \$1,000 was presented to Donna and Julia Dixon after they lost their home in August 2024 to a fire.

The donations are made possible because of a \$10,000 grant the local seniors group received from Arapahoe County Community Resources.

