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The I-70 Scout

Volume 31, Number 52

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

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

Angry parents urge firing of Agate supt.

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

AGATE — While demands for the immediate suspension, then firing, of the superintendent/principal weren't directly addressed, the Agate School Board announced last week that allegations of inappropriate interaction between secondary and elementary students have resulted in changes to campus security and student access to buildings.

During a bombastic public comment period at the Nov. 17 school board meeting, a mother and a handful of other elementary parents stated their extreme displeasure with Superintendent Melinda Walls for her handling, or lack thereof, of lingering com-

plaints surrounding student safety concerns. The worries predominantly circulating around one high school student's interactions with elementary students, particularly kindergartners.

Last week's school board meeting exploded when the mom of three elementary students and other parents alleged lack of appropriate oversight or action and breach of privacy protocol by Walls that caused them to pull their students from the school.

"[I'm a] mother whose family is truly hurting. My children trusted this school, I trusted this school, and I followed every rule I was told to follow when I reported a very serious concern," she said.

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Agate School Board members Mike Bate, left, Ray Martin, Doug Purdy and Chris Sonnleitner listen to public comment during a heated meeting Nov. 17.



The Spurs Academy at Big Iron Ranch held its Fall Fun Fundraiser Nov. 22. Guests enjoyed a petting zoo with horses, goats, etc as well as food and a silent raffle. Above, Delaya Diana can't help but laugh as one of the donkeys shows her that he has no food in his bowl.

Bennett trustees entertain another annexation request

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Two weeks after approving two new developments likely to bring between 2,100 and 2,200 homes to town, Bennett trustees appear to be moving forward with another annexation process.

During its Nov. 18 meeting, the Bennett Board of Trustees tabled the annexation eligibility hearing for the Sunset development following a discovery that proper posting and hearing notification on the property on the northwest corner of town had

not occurred.

The 240-acre-plus parcel located north of Colfax, east of Penrith, south of 28th and west of Trupp Park is currently zoned agriculture but the developer indicated hopes to change it to planned development (PD). While the number of homes at full buildout is unknown, when pressed by trustee Larry Vittum for a ballpark figure, the developer's representative said, "My understanding is about 1,500." Vittum was one of two dissenting votes when

SEE BENNETT BOT
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During the Nov. 18 Bennett Board of Trustees meeting, Arapahoe County District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker, left, presents trustee Larry Vittum with token of appreciation for serving on the Arapahoe County Open Space Advisory Board the past several years.

Byers kindergarten date, transfer window revisited

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BYERS — On the night that director vacancies were formally filled and new leadership determined, the Byers School Board again entertained questions about the district's June 1 cutoff date for kindergartners.

But, this time around, questions also circulated around how quickly students could be transferred into Byers from a neighboring district.

During the Nov. 20 school board meeting, the McCann family asked Superintendent Tom Turrell and board members to clarify the transfer time frame, particularly for kindergartners. Elementary Principal Machaela Eymann said that standard protocol has been to allow transfers after a semester.

The McCanns, who live in the district and have two children that attend Byers

SEE BYERS BOE
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COMMUNITY CORRAL

Toy collection commences for yearly Christmas Shop

BYERS — The annual Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church Christmas Toy Drive is underway through Sunday, Nov. 30.

The event benefits families in financial need with gifts for infants to children age 14. Donations of new or gently used toys can be delivered to the Bennett Recreation Center; Open and Affordable Dental in Bennett; Byers General Store; Maverick Mercantile in Byers; and SouthState Bank in Strasburg.

The drive will culminate with the annual Christmas Toy Shop from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6, at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church, 186 N. McDonnell St., Byers.

Families in the Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail and Agate areas should register their children at tinyurl.com/OLPtoystore.

For more information, call Jane Benz at (303)621-2981. Para español llamar a Karla, (720)226-8720.

Strasburg Christmas in Park festivities commence Dec. 6

STRASBURG — The annual Christmas in the Park celebration will kick off the "most wonderful time of the year" from 4-7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6, at Lyons Park, 1409 Railroad St., Strasburg.

The fun-filled event, hosted by the Strasburg Parks & Recreation District, will feature Santa Claus and his reindeer, local entertainment, roasted marshmallows, a self-guided walk through the illuminated park, a wreath contest, and the lighting of the community Christmas tree.

For more information, visit strasburgparks.org or call (303)622-4260.

ArapCo commissioner Baker plans conversation at Byers

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County Commissioner Jeff Baker will host "Conversation with the Commissioner" a community engagement event for District 3 constituents.

The conversation will run from 6:30-8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 2, at American Legion Post 160, 278 W.

Power line: Public input sought on ElCo path

KIOWA — The Colorado Public Utilities Commission will take public comment on Xcel Energy's siting permit appeals regarding the portion of its Colorado Power Pathway project that traverses Elbert County.

The hearing will run from 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the Agriculture Building at the Elbert County Fairgrounds, 95 Ute Ave., Kiowa.

The PUC will take public comment regarding Xcel's request to begin construction of Segment 5 of the project along the proposed route. The Elbert County commissioners denied the energy monopoly's permit request to construct the massive

Front St., Byers.

Guest speakers will include county Road & Bridge Division Manager Eric McKinnon, Capt. Kevin Heaton from the sheriff's office, and a representative from animal services.

Community Hymn Sing set for Strasburg Presbyterian

STRASBURG — A Community Hymn Sing will start at 6 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, at Strasburg Presbyterian Church, 56635 E. Iowa Ave.

Pianist Stacy May will accompany participants on many classic Christmas carols, such as "Silent Night," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," and "We Three Kings."

Pastor Walt Bedford will read from Luke 2, the Biblical story of the birth of Jesus Christ.

For more information, call Denise Brokaw at (720)519-7193.

Lincoln's assassination topic of Strasburg history lecture

STRASBURG — The Comanche Crossing Historical Society and Museum will host a presentation on Lincoln's Assassination and Impact of the War from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11, at the TBK Bank Community Room.

Museum curator Cliff Smith's discussion will feature facts, photos and artifacts of the Lincoln's assassination

power line through the county in June, and Xcel is suing the county on grounds that the county is acting contrary to the state's best interest.

Segment 5 of the proposed project starts in Aurora, runs east along Quincy Avenue in Arapahoe County, cuts south to Kiowa about two miles west of County Road 129, then goes southeast to Simla and south through eastern El Paso and Pueblo counties.

Arapahoe County has already approved the project.

Comments can also be submitted online at puc.colorado.gov; via e-mail to dora_puc_website@state.co.us; or by calling (303)869-3490.

as well as impact of the war for the nation then and today.

A light snack will be served from 6-6:30 p.m. A free will offering will be accepted to benefit the mission of the Comanche Crossing Historical Society & Museum in Strasburg.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for light snacks and conversations.

A free will offering will be accepted to benefit the mission of the historical society. For more information, call (303)622-4322.

TBK Bank is located at 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.

Bible study at Byers church concentrated on finding joy

BYERS — How a weary world rejoices is the theme for the Advent season at a local church.

The Bible study of this topic will follow worship, which begins at 9:30 a.m., every Sunday from Nov. 30 through Dec. 21, at Byers Community Church, 135 S. Sherman St.

Study books are not required but can be purchased for \$12.

Town of Bennett readies for Breakfast with Santa

BENNETT — The Town of Bennett Board of Trustees will host its annual Breakfast with Santa from 8-11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Bennett Community Center.

Along with breakfast will be music and photo opportunities with Santa Claus.

Tickets cost \$5 per adult; \$3 per child; and free for children 3 and under.

Proceeds support the Bennett Holiday Help Program, which will host its annual gift distribution from 8-11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 13, at town hall.

Christmas toy giveaway set by Cornerstone Fellowship

This holiday season Cornerstone Fellowship will be collecting new and gently used toys.

The toys will be offered at a "shopping experience" Saturday, Dec. 20, to provide for parents facing financial difficulties, allowing them to select gifts for their children.

New and gently used toys in good condition should be donated without wrapping.

Drop-off points are Cornerstone Fellowship and Les Schwab in Bennett; the Strasburg Recreation Center and Magnolia Salon in Strasburg; Los 3 Garcias in Byers; and Lulu's Inn and Sky Ranch Academy in Watkins.

For more information, call (303)644-3450 or e-mail to Info@cornerstonebennett.com.

The church is located at 460 Third St., Bennett.

Certified crops credits key to Extension clinic at Yuma

BURLINGTON — A two-day Colorado State University Crops Clinic will offer 12 Certified Crop Advisor credits and four Colorado Department of Agriculture credits.

Registration is underway for the clinic, which will take place both in-person and remotely Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 8-9, with the live meeting at the Cobblestone Inn in Yuma.

One nutrient management, four soil and water, five pest management, and two crop management will be offered under the Certified Crop Advisor program.

To register, visit www.eventbrite.com or call CSU Extension at (719)346-5571. Registration closes Dec. 4.

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Bennett School District 29J



JOIN US THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! FOR MORE INFO: BSD29J.COM

Bennett Elementary/Intermediate

Helping Hands

Food Drive

Let's Share & Care

Join us in spreading kindness this season! Our school is collecting nonperishable food items to support local families in need.

November 10th - December 4th

Items needed:
Stuffed Mix, Canned Vegetables, Instant Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Cereal, and other pantry staples welcome!

Drop-off location:
Bennett Elementary or Bennett Intermediate Schools

The class with the most items brought will receive 15 minutes extra recess!

For more information:
Mrs. Epton
eptont@bsd29j.com
719-409-1121

Bennett Middle School Shoe Drive

Donate Gently Used Shoes to our Shoe Drive to help PTO pay for the BMS NEW Water Filters!

Our goal is to collect over 2,500 pairs of shoes by Dec. 31. All donations can be dropped off at Bennett Middle School. NO sports cleats, please.

Holiday Drive

Teens for Change, in partnership with Bennett Prom Committee and Bennett Student Council, is collecting gently used and new jackets, hats, and Gloves of all sizes

LOCATIONS FOR DROP OFF
Bennett High School
Bennett Middle School
Bennett Park and Rec.

Through Dec. 12th

FREE Shopping Dec 15th

Bennett Park and Recreation District
455 S 1st Street
Bennett, CO. 80102

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
NBARRELL@BENNETTREC.ORG

ACROSS CAMPUS IN DECEMBER!

DISTRICT CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10: School Board Mtg, 4:30 p.m., HS Library
DEC. 22 — JAN. 1: Winter Break, Classes Resume Jan. 5

BENNETT ELEMENTARY/INTERMEDIATE

TUESDAY, DEC. 2: Second Grade Music Concert, 6 p.m., HS Auditorium
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3: First Grade Concert, 6 p.m., HS Auditorium
THURSDAY, DEC. 4: Kindergarten & Tiger Tones Concert, 6 p.m., HS Auditorium

BENNETT MIDDLE SCHOOL

MONDAY, DEC. 1: Basketball @ Strasburg
TUESDAY, DEC. 3: Home basketball vs Deer Trail
THURSDAY, DEC. 4: Basketball @ Weld Central
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10: Fall Dance, 3-4 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17: Home Boys Basketball vs Limon

BENNETT HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY, NOV. 29: Boys & Girls Wrestling @ Cherokee Trail
TUESDAY, DEC. 2: Boys Wrestling @ Chaparral
DEC. 3 — DEC. 6: Best of West Honor Band, Grand Junction
THUR., DEC. 4 — SAT., DEC. 6: Basketball @ Lamar Tourney
DEC. 5 — DEC. 6: Girls Wrestling @ Pine Creek Duals
SATURDAY, DEC. 6: Boys Wrestling @ Buena Vista Duals
TUESDAY, DEC. 9: Home Girls & Boys Basketball vs Byers
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10: 6th thru 12th Grade Concert, 7 p.m.
DEC 11 — DEC. 13: Tiger Tip-Off Basketball Tournament (With Fort Morgan, Ellicott, Rocky Ford (V), Highland (JV)
DEC. 12 — DEC. 13: Girls & Boys Wrestling @ Delta/Montrose Invitational
TUESDAY, DEC. 16: Girls & Boys Basketball @ Strasburg
DEC. 19 — DEC. 20: Wrestling @ Northern Colorado Christmas Tournament, Island Grove Park, Greeley

SOME FALL SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS



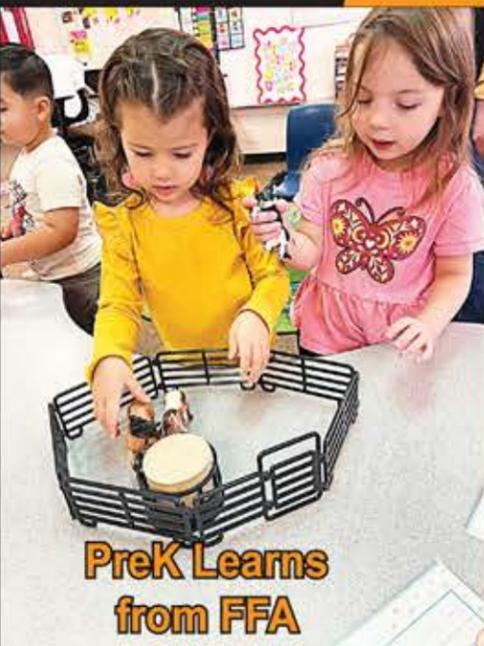
HS Geology Field Trip



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Homecoming '25



PreK Learns from FFA



Veterans Day, Nov. 11



Happy Thanksgiving!



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Happy Thanksgiving!

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Partner with F&M Bank in Colorado to help raise funds

WAYS TO HELP

- ◆ Donate an item or service to the silent auction (see list of ideas provided or scan Ideas QR code)
- ◆ Promote your business or service. All items are displayed Dec 2nd-11th
- ◆ Make a cash donation by scanning QR code or visiting F&M Bank - Bennett
- ◆ Bring family, friends and neighbors Dec. 2-11th to silent bid on all your favorites
- ◆ Bid on an item & enter to win additional prizes (One entry per day w/qualified bid)

RAISE A GLASS, RAISE A BID... Join us for a fun filled evening of BIDS & BUBBLES!

WHEN: THURSDAY, DEC 11TH 6:30-9:00 PM (All bids final at 8 pm)

WHERE: F&M Bank in Colorado 1077 Cedar St Bennett, CO

VENMO SCAN ME
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Silent Auction- December 2nd-11th

F&M Bank in Colorado
 1077 CEDAR ST. BENNETT, CO. (303) 644-3622(FMBC)

SILENT AUCTION DONATION IDEAS

Promote your business, craft or service throughout the entire Silent Auction starting Dec 2nd until final evening event on December 11th. Donate a fun themed basket that represents your business...or simply just gains attention as a must have gift for the upcoming holiday season.

Proudly package and present your donation with advertisement for your business. Include a gift card to bring business right back to your own...it's a WIN-WIN (Deliver all donations to F&M Bank in Bennett on or before 11/26/25)

F&M BANK IN COLORADO WILL GIVE AWAY \$50 GIFT CARD TO OWNER OF THE DONATION RECEIVING THE HIGHEST BID AT END OF THE EVENING ON DECEMBER 11TH, WINNERS CHOICE.

Stop by daily beginning December 2nd for hot drinks and sweet treats while touring all the donations and bidding on your favorites. Make a bid and get an entry ticket (one/day) for more giveaways! Do all your gift shopping here while supporting this great cause!

Then join us for our fun filled BIDS & BUBBLES evening cocktail social. Thursday, Dec. 11th 6:30-9 pm (All bids final at 8 pm)

F&M Bank in Colorado 1077 Cedar St. Bennett, CO

All proceeds will benefit the restoration of the Byers American Legion. F&M Bank in Colorado will provide a matching donation on funds raised, up to \$3,000. Help us reach the goal!

- ◆ Pet lover's basket
- ◆ Favorite margarita combo or bourbon w/ glassware to share
- ◆ Game night, BBQ lovers, auto care
- ◆ Tools and farm supplies
- ◆ Grill master or gourmet cooking kit
- ◆ Coffee, chocolate, or tea lovers
- ◆ Date night basket with restaurant gift card
- ◆ Fitness & wellness
- ◆ Picnic basket, yeti cooler, or other useful items
- ◆ Something handmade, or simply purchase an item to be auctioned

SCAN ME

For Auction Ideas

(Please have all donations to F&M Bank in Bennett on or before 11/26/25)





SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the congregation at Saron Lutheran Church in Strasburg, 1656 Main St., appear with the church's Little Free Pantry, which remains open for families in need of food and donors who wish to provide it. The pantry was built in December 2022 by the Lanning family. Jackie Lanning said that the pantry has usually been filled every three or four days but is now restocked daily. More cereal, shelf-stable milk, fruit cups, tuna, peanut butter and canned or packaged meals are needed.

Winter Fun Zones, bands, 5K run, shopping scheduled for big Arapahoe Christmas event

LITTLETON — Christmas fans can get into the holiday spirit at a magical winter wonderland celebration that will bring joy, wonder and festive cheer to families throughout the holiday season.

The Visit the Village Holiday Extravaganza features a merry marketplace of local artisans, festive live music, the spirited Yeti Set Go! 5K Fun Run, delicious seasonal treats from food trucks, and snow-filled activities to delight children of all ages.

The enchanting event runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds Event Center, 25690 E. Quincy Ave. Aurora.

Winter Fun Zones — an indoor snowball toss for frosty fun and thrilling inflatable tubing hill — are new this year, and the Yeti Set Go! 5K Fun Run starts at 11:30 a.m.

In addition, the Main Stage will feature the Denver Concert Band Show & Tell at 12 p.m. and the fabulous Denver Dolls at 2 p.m.; and little elves can build festive creations and decorate

delicious holiday cookies at Santa's Workshop. Attractions also include the Holiday Shopping Village; Rudolph's Reindeer Games; a Gingerbread House Competition; a Model Train Exhibit; a petting farm; food trucks; and photos with Santa.

Admission costs \$10 in advance or \$12 day of event (online or onsite), and children under 2 enter free. Tickets to Visit the Village are now on sale at www.arapahoecountyeventcenter.com.

One free admission per household is available if a new, unwrapped gift is donated in support of Arapahoe County Human Services' Partnering for the Holidays program. Visit arapahoeco.gov/partnering for gift suggestions.

The gift admission offer does not apply to Yeti Set Go! 5K Fun Run tickets, which cost \$25 and include admission and a free T-shirt. The footrace starts at 11:30 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for the most festive costumes.

For more information, visit www.arapahoecountyeventcenter.com.



The Arapahoe County Elections Division sincerely thanks our partners who made the 2025 Coordinated Election successful. We especially wish to thank our dedicated election judges—everyday people who do extraordinary work to ensure your ballot is secure and your vote is counted.



Three Ways to Find Help Meeting Basic Needs

When challenges arise—whether it's putting food on the table, getting help with child care or health care, or meeting other basic needs—it can feel difficult to know where to start. But there are resources that can help you get back on your feet. Learn more at arapahoeco.gov/basicneeds



Jeff Baker
Commissioner District 3

Join District 3 Commissioner Jeff Baker and special guests from the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office and Public Works and Development Department for a community discussion about issues facing residents in Eastern Arapahoe County. Baker will also lead an informal conversation about County initiatives and answer questions from residents.

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025 | 6:30–8 p.m.
American Legion: 278 W. Front St, Byers, CO 80103

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BENNETT BOT

FROM PAGE 1

the board voted 5-2 on Nov. 4 in favor of the Prairie Grass West and Prairie Grass East subdivisions in and around the ongoing Muegge Farms project and the long-established Centennial community.

Vittum and Smith both stated concerns about the Prairie Grass communities contributing another approximately 7,600 residents and, with it, additional wear and tear on roads and utility infrastructure and negative impacts to the Bennett School and Bennett-Watkins Fire districts.

The developer representative also said that some commercial areas will likely be included in the Sunset community.

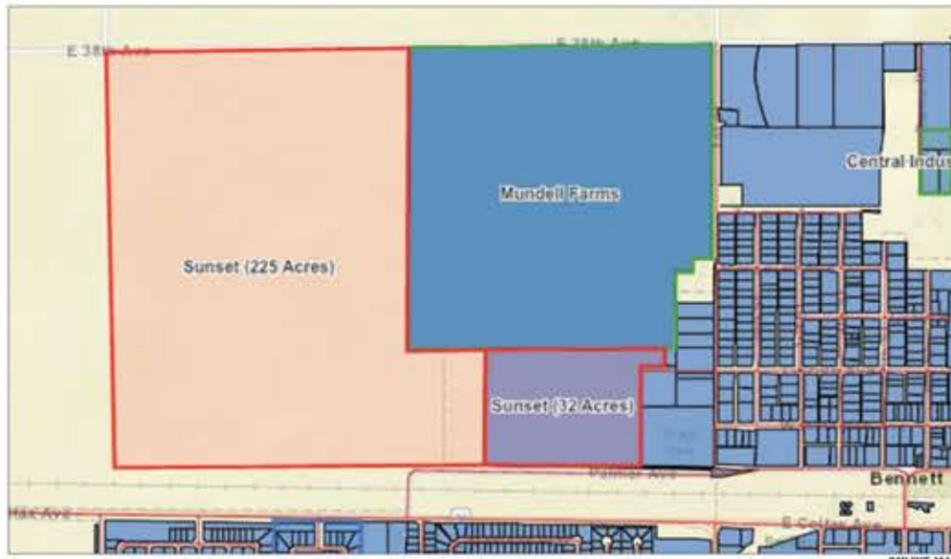
Last week's hearing was not for approval of the Sunset community to annex into Bennett but whether it meets the criteria to be annexed in the future. The eligibility hearing was continued to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 13.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board unanimously approved a conditional use permit for the Muegge Farms Borrow Area to support ongoing grading and construction needs within the development.

As part of the approval, 13 conditions of approval were passed forward from the town's planning commission the previous night, emphasizing dust control, noise mitigation, assurances that no materials will leave the site and that hauling routes only utilized previously approved routes and minimize damage to neighborhood roadways.

The borrow area itself is on the southwest corner of the Muegge



Last week's annexation eligibility hearing for the Sunset development (outlined in red) in the northwest corner of Bennett was continued to the Jan. 13 trustees meeting.

Farms development immediately north of I-70.

During adoption of 2024 International Building Codes other recently mandated state codes, local developer Tom Richardson's request to have new residential fire sprinkler regulations not apply to four-plex residential units was not acted upon.

One and two-family dwellings will be exempt from fire sprinkler requirements.

While the formal effective date for the new building codes is July 1 of next year, a two-year grandfather period for active projects with approved master plans was OK'd by the board.

In a situation of at least half the trustees having their minds changed, a request for a \$32,000 market and financial analysis conducted by consulting firm Sports Facilities Compa-

nies for future Civic Center Park development was OK'd unanimously.

Town staff argued that the study goes beyond determining how many fields the site can handle and will focus on economic impacts from a local and regional perspective.

"We're talking about determining how much of an economic driver might evolve," said Deputy Town Administrator Rachel Summers. "It's more than just what sports themselves."

During debate, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Barden and trustees Royce Pindell, Donna Sus and Vittum all indicated they would vote in favor after previously questioning whether there would be enough bang for the buck.

"To me the \$32,000 question is if there's enough value," said Barden to Summers and Town Administrator Trish Stiles. "But you've swayed me."

But Barden also said part of his hesitancy was that he didn't want to delay field scheduling, which is supposed to be done by the Bennett Park & Recreation District.

Trustee Steve Dambroski added that his experience working for Aurora in their various sports complexes has shown him there's a lot of upside to developing a regional gathering site for baseball, softball and soccer.

The board unanimously approved waiving normal purchasing procedures so Public Works can buy a new loader that can be put to immediate work in the case of a significant snow event.

According to Public Works Director Oscar Ruvalcaba, updated features on the 2025 John Deere 304 G loader from 21st Century Equipment include a hydraulic line system that is required for one of the town's plow attachments.

A \$40,000 trade-in credit on the town's current loader and other discounts brought the purchase price from \$160,336 to under \$85,000.

Even with the new purchase, the general fund contingency balance will remain over \$1 million.

Between Sept. 24 and Nov. 6, six residents submitted applications for four upcoming vacancies on the Planning & Zoning commission and Barden and Sus will conduct interviews to determine who will fill the spots.

Applicants for the committee are Wayne Clark, Christopher Clemens, Anthony Gaul, Grider Lee, Martin Metsker and Hannah Watts.

The new committee will be seated in January.

TRUSTEE CANDIDATES SOUGHT

An open house for potential candidates in the April 2026 board election is set for 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 9, at Town Hall, 207 Muegge Way.

Stiles and Mayor Whitney Oakley will introduce the responsibilities and time commitments of a town trustee and provide an overview of the board's work to shape Bennett's future.

They will also provide more information about the three vacancies, including eligibility, election timeline, and next steps for considering a run for office.

To register to vote, visit the motor vehicle office at 355 S. First St., Bennett, for Adams County or at 538 N. Highway 36, Byers, for Arapahoe County, or visit govotecolorado.com.

For more information, visit www.bennettco.gov.

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www.i70ccoc.com

LOCAL

I-70 Chamber of Commerce Members 2025

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 Adams County Health Dept. (720)532-7208
 AnT's Freeze Dried Treats (303)956-5959
 Anythink Library Bennett (303)405-3231
 Arapahoe County Government (303)795-4630
 Arapahoe Library District (303)542-7279
 Aurora Mental Health & Recovery (303)617-2300
 Barnyard Boutique (303)345-4460
 Beans Place (303)475-4086
 Bennett Parks & Recreation District (303)644-5040
 Bijou Telephone Co-op Assoc. (303)822-5400
 Blue Sky Party Rentals (303)622-6777
 Browning Blades (303)547-6790
 Claussen Chiropractic (303)622-4200
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'26 Adams County budget tops \$875M

BRIGHTON — The Adams County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted its 2026 budget at public hearing Nov. 18.

The budget is set at \$876,553,642, an increase of more than \$45 million from 2025.

“Adams County is in a period of remarkable growth, with leaps in both residential and business properties. Our annual budget reflects that growth, and it makes our job as stewards of taxpayer dollars even more important,” said District 5 Commissioner and board chair Lynn Baca. “Crafting a fiscally responsible budget is one of the board’s most important functions and, every year, we make sure to be thoughtful and deliberate to make sure we live up to the task to continue to earn the trust of our residents.”

The budget supports departments across the organization; aligns with

the board’s top priorities; ensures responsible, transparent resource stewardship; and focuses on strengthening quality of life with more programs, services, parks and opportunities for business growth.

“Budgets are more than numbers — they reflect our values and our vision for the future of Adams County,” said Adams County Manager Dionne Stroter. “The 2026 adopted budget is designed to strengthen our communities, invest in essential services, and ensure long-term fiscal sustainability.”

Based on the board’s priorities, the Budget & Finance Department worked with the County Manager’s Office to plan and prepare the budget with input from all elected officials and department directors.

The adopted budget for next year is available for review at adamscountyco.gov.



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Applications are open through Dec. 15, 2025, and interviews will begin in January.

adamscountyco.gov/joinaboard





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AS SEEN ON ANIMAL PLANET



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

During the Nov. 20 Byers School Board meeting, members of the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce presented Byers' Health Occupations Students of America chapter with a trophy and a \$1,000 check for the most donations for the organization's first 5K Run/Walk in and around the Byers School campus Sept. 28.

BYERS BOE

FROM PAGE 1

School, previously challenged the district's June 1 kindergarten cutoff date but the board of education recently upheld that deadline. The McCann's youngest child is in her second year of preschool out of district but, because of her pre-June birthdate, will be unable to attend Byers as a kindergartner to start the 2026-27 school year.

"It makes no sense — three years of preschool so she can go to Byers," the parents said. "We want her to go to the school in kindergarten in the district she lives."

The family also suggested that socio-emotional observations of prospective kindergartners with a birthdate in close proximity to the cutoff date be conducted.

Turrell said he and staff would further investigate the transfer window question.

OTHER ITEMS

According to Finance Director Stacy Sondburg, the district's October count figure, including online school enrollment, was up about 15% from last year.

"Total FTEs (full-time enrollment) of 7,331.5 students," she said. "The online count was 6,845. Last year, the online counts was closer to 6,000."

A planned visit earlier this month from Sen. John Hickenlooper to tour Byers' Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs, including the district's new greenhouse site, was postponed when a Washington D.C. vote on the recent government shutdown occurred.

"It would have been a groundbreaking instead of a ribbon-cutting," Turrell said of Hickenlooper's greenhouse visit. "We're working on getting it rescheduled, but kind of anyone's guess when."

Turrell added that ground has been broken at the greenhouse site but permits for actual construction continue to be waited on.

"We got down 5 or 6 feet and it's all sand, so have some work to do," he said.

Science teacher Tiffeny O'Dell ap-

plied for a three-year grant for greenhouse supplies and materials. The application, which was submitted Nov. 17, is for about \$70,000 total.

Byers' Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapter, overseen by O'Dell, received a trophy and a \$1,000 check from the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce for garnering the most donations for the group's inaugural 5K Run/Walk held Sept. 28. According to chamber officials, efforts to involve other Corridor school districts will occur in subsequent years but plans are to keep the race route in Byers for the foreseeable future.

This year's event saw about 50 runners or walkers and 5-10 vendors participate.

O'Dell also said that the HOSA chapter and fourth-grade classes are combining efforts for a holiday food drive with the winning team to receive the opportunity to pie Turrell in the face.

The Byers National Honor Society is also conducting a toy drive for the holidays.

Turrell reported that a state mandate disallowing school buses more than 25 years old from running routes will force the district to put two of its fleet up for auction.

"A little frustrating that you can have a very well-maintained bus that is still operating well but can't use it after all," Turrell said. "We'll be looking for at least one new bus to start."

Turrell added that the ongoing transition of transportation director from Janet Herman to Justina Herman is going smoothly.

In addition to incumbents Jennifer Borders and Kres Ebert and board newcomer Logan MacLennan taking the oath of school district director, Donna Sauer relinquished her spot on the board after eight years, including, most recently, as president.

Board elections resulted in Dennis Messer being named president; Matt Eymann, vice president; Allison Harris, secretary; and Borders, treasurer.

The next board meeting is at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Logan MacLennan, left, Jennifer Borders and Kres Ebert take the oath of Byers School director during the Nov. 20 school board meeting.



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Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers is sponsoring a toy shop for low-income families or those temporarily unemployed who could use a little help providing Christmas gifts for their children up to age 14.

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 6
(Snow Date: Tuesday, Dec. 9; 5-8 p.m.)
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STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Neal Schlein from the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys out of Lakewood showed the traditional Native American way to make corn husk dolls during a craft event at Kelter Library in Byers Nov. 20. From left, Gadreel Pratt, 10, realizes he has a little bit more work to do on his doll's head; samples of corn husk dolls from the museum provide inspiration to class attendees; and Noble Martin seems pleased with how his doll turned out.

Happy Thanksgiving!

CORE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WWW.CORE.COOP

LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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

Teen Advisory Board: Kids ages 12-17 can attend regular meetings to take an active leadership role in planning and implementing library programs and events. They can also use their voices to advocate for youth services

in Bennett. 4:45-6 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Frost Fest: Chill with family, friends, and neighbors for a fun night of winter-themed activities. Participants can sip hot drinks, take holiday photos with festive miniature horses from 5 Star Farms, and enjoy a live ice sculpture demonstration by Colorado Ice Works. Thursday, Dec. 4.

Let's Get Metaphysical: Adults can explore several transformative techniques for emotional healing and personal self-discovery with instructor Mauricio Ramirez. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6.

Sewing Drop-In: A sewing teacher will help out participants of all ages with everyday projects. Sewing machines and some supplies provided. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 4.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

Books & Beyond: Kids ages 5-12 can celebrate their favorite book characters through book-related games and crafts. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 25.

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, Dec. 3.

Holiday crafts: Adults will create festive, decorative crafts and connect with other members of the Byers community. All supplies provided. 1:30-3 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17.

DAVIES LIBRARY

128 Second Ave., Deer Trail
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www.arapahoelibraries.org

Wacky Wednesday: Kids and tweens can drop in for snacks, games, cool tech and creative crafts. New activity each month. Ages 5-12. 4-5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Scribble and Giddle: Parents and caregivers can bring little ones ages 2-5 for play-based activities to strengthen pre-writing skills. If the child is starting to scribble, they'll have lots of fun. Drop-ins welcome as space allows. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Monday, Dec. 15.

Winter Crafts: Kids and tweens ages 5-12 can make a variety of winter and snow-themed crafts to join the spirit of the season. All supplies provided. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17.

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., Friday, Dec. 5.

Christmas Night

IN STRASBURG




SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT 4PM

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Happy Thanksgiving from
The I-70 Scout & Eastern Colorado News



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg High School's fall semester play presentation was "Dracula," performed twice on Nov. 7 at the Bennett High School Auditorium. From top photo, Mina Harker (played by Kyla Bauer) falls asleep while traipsing through the woods; Arthur Holmwood (Joshua Handy), Lucy Wenstrom (Sidnee Bomnskie), and Mrs. Wenstrom (Kaleigh Wagner) protect each other's backs; and Johnathan Harker (Jayden Lind) falls to the floor after drinking the suspicious drink that a frustrated Dracula (Kaden Morris) provided.

Nominees wanted for conservation honor

LAKEWOOD — Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 Colorado Leopold Conservation Award.

The \$10,000 award honors ranchers, farmers and forestland owners who go above and beyond in the management of soil health, water quality and wildlife habitat on working land.

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the award recognizes landowners who inspire others to consider conservation opportunities on their land. In his influential 1949 book, "A Sand County Almanac," Leopold advocated for "a land ethic" — an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage.

Award applications may be submitted on behalf of a landowner, or landowners may nominate themselves. The application can be found at www.sandcountyfoundation.org.

The nomination deadline is Feb. 6. Applications must be e-mailed to ColoradoLCA@sandcountyfoundation.org.

"The Leopold Conservation Award not only showcases the heritage of natural resource stewardship on working landscapes, but also highlights the positive influences agriculture has on the environment, our communities, and our economy," said Curt Russell, Colorado Cattlemen's Association President.

The first Colorado Leopold Conservation Award recipient was selected in 2003. Wagon Wheel Ranch of Yuma received the award in 2025.

"These award recipients are examples of how Aldo Leopold's land ethic is alive and well today," said Kevin McAleese, Sand County Foundation president.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, NOV. 27

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

MONDAY, DEC. 1

"Catch a Snowflake" silly self-portraits. Kindergartners through second-graders, 10-10:45 a.m. third- through fifth-graders, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave. \$10, register by Thursday, Nov. 27.

Deer Trail School Board. 7 p.m., Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room at Davies Library.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3

Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

EVERY THURSDAY

Coffee, Cookies & Chat for all I-70 Corridor seniors. 11 a.m., Bennett Recreation Center.

Gaming Club: Patrons ages 10 and up play video games after school. 4-5:15 p.m., Bennett Anythink library.

Patriot meeting of like-minded individuals to learn about the nation's history,

constitution and rights. 6:30 p.m., 1506 Main St., Strasburg (303)622-4648.

EVERY FRIDAY

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

Preschool story time: Hear a story, sing a song, and spend time together to promote literacy for preschoolers. 10-10:15 a.m., arapahoelibraries.com. Click on "virtual events."

EVERY SUNDAY

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

EVERY MONDAY

Snackivities. 4:15-4:45 p.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

High Plains Music Ensemble rehearsal. 6:30 p.m., Bennett High School band room. For additional information, contact conductor Kurt Elliott at (303)895-7568 or hpmemusicdirector@gmail.com or visit www.highplainsmusicensemble.com.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

Monday, Dec. 1: Hot dog, chips.

Tuesday, Dec. 2: Chicken machos.

Wednesday, Dec. 3: Macaroni and cheese.

rolls, corn.

BYERS

Monday, Dec. 1: Walking taco, cornbread, green beans.

Tuesday, Dec. 2: Barbecue chicken sandwich, cucumber rings, peaches.

Wednesday, Dec. 3: Chili, cinnamon

DEER TRAIL

Monday, Dec. 1: Chicken drumstick, potatoes, grapes.

Tuesday, Dec. 2: Beef tacos, beans and corn, mango.

Wednesday, Dec. 3: Corn dogs, peas.

STRASBURG

Tuesday, Dec. 2: Popcorn chicken.

Wednesday, Dec. 3: Pasta bake.

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ALYSSA STEMOR For The Scout

The annual Eastern Colorado Honor Choir gathering for middle and high schools within the East Central BOCES area was hosted by Bennett School District Nov. 6. In addition to Bennett and Strasburg's Hemphill Middle School, students from Burlington, Calhan, Ellicott, Genoa-Hugo, Limon, Miami-Yoder, Peyton and Simla converged on the Tiger auditorium for a day's worth of clinics and an evening performance in front of family and friends. The middle school guest clinician/director was New Mexico State University music and theatre professor Christa "Freddy" Fredrickson with piano accompaniment provided by Kelli Horton of Denver. The high school activities occurred under the direction of Adam Torres from Colorado State University's School of Music, Theatre, and Dance; piano was played by the I-70 Corridor's own Kurt Elliott, retired longtime Strasburg music director. Hemphill Middle School attendees were Sadie Hart, Maggie Dobransky, Priscila Gomez, Abigail Nuno, Aspen Glover, Avery Keyworth, Kyla Harty and director Tami Hart. Hemphill has 27 students in choir and the hope is they will help re-establish the high school program when they are freshmen. For Bennett vocal music instructor Allyse Brennan, 19 high-schoolers and 31 middle-schoolers participated. Bennett High School is represented by Alexzandra Arnold, Andrea Brambila Hernandez, Kaleb Chavez, Allianna Hensley, Joselyne Hermosillo Lujan, Michael Hogan, Kaylonnie McLaury, Raelynn Moore, Trenton Neade, Caden Reams, Cannon Reams, Alexia Sandoval-Marquez, Jasmine Soriano Wilson, Sophia Soriano Wilson, Damien Wise, Lily Youngs, Mya Corbin, Alliyah Valentine-Womack, and Jayzlynn Vargas. Bennett Middle School representatives are Olivia Stevenson, Sophia Arnold, Tania Moreno, Lei Aloha Grace, Camille Garret, Mariam Diop, Mia Harrison, McClain Burke, Delilah Kuhn-Richardson, Lily Williams, Mia Santillano, Leanny Reyes Ortiz, Crystalena Pontious, Violet Teachout, Shyden Oliver, Jaydnn Harring, Isabella Frankl, Gabriella Torres, Aspen Canaan, Kairi Fatuch, Josie Good, Harley Rummel, Lillyan Stough, Scarlet Tellez, Alyzae Romero, Bethany Barela, Tiana Cearns, Penelope Boice, Jeremy Neslon, Coleman Lewis, Aldo Sanchez and Jet Gatewood. Byers and Deer Trail didn't have a representative this year. Above, the middle school and high school groups join together for the final song of the evening concert.

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JEFF BAKER, COMMISSIONER, ARAPAHOE COUNTY DISTRICT 3

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Marching Tigers end season with home field exhibition



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The 46-member Bennett Marching Tigers concluded their fall season with one last rendition of its state competition routine in front of schoolmates, family and friends Nov. 13 at Paul Read Field. The band placed fifth in Class 1A at the state marching band competition in Grand Junction Oct. 27. The Marching Tigers also celebrated the start of the holiday season as part of the Holiday Hometown Parade hosted at Southlands in east Aurora Nov. 22, including a parade down Main Street of the shopping development. Above, the orange-and-black are led by a pair of drum majors — junior Ayden Reynolds, left, and senior Joselyne Hermsillo.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Senior Karla Jasso-Toledo swings flags on the bar above eighth-graders Kaydince Bernstein, Sophia Arnold and Luis Mata, and freshman Kara Ryder.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

From left photo, Junior trumpeter DJ. Wisner marches, and senior Monica Madera dances on a bar.

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AGATE BOE

FROM PAGE 1

“But the protocols that were supposed to protect my children, they were not followed. And, because of that, my daughter and son are too scared to come back to the school they love.

“I need you to understand, my family did not cause this. We did everything right — we reported, we followed protocol, we trusted the adults in charge. The failure happened after that and my children are the ones paying the price.”

The mother was following up on a Colorado Open Records Act request for all documentation “from Aug. 1, 2022, through the present regarding:

- student safety concerns;
- mandatory reports of suspected abuse or neglect;
- interactions with or concerning the student previously accused of inappropriate behavior; and
- policies, actions or communications regarding student supervision and safety.

At the end of her comments, the emotional mother asked the four school board members to place Walls on “leave pending investigation” but, following extended banter between parents and Walls, the primary complaining party left the meeting shouting “liar” and asking for her termination. The mother also threatened a recall to remove the directors if action wasn’t taken.

“This is not going away,” the mother said. “I will recall every single one of you on the board if you refuse to remove her right now.”

The most serious allegations against Walls is that she did not honor families’ wishes that the alleged perpetrator not be directly contacted about the complaints or notified about who lodged them and that a Title IX investigation, child protective services review, or some other legal reporting occur. Other parents indicated that the older student in question has previously been accused of similar activities with no action taken.

“Confidentiality was broken and a situation that could have been handled professionally was not,” the mother said. “My family lost their school because of that choice.”

A father added that Walls “just didn’t hurt our kids, she hurt that kid. We didn’t ask for that kid to be outcast. [But] now this kid has every reason to feel outcast.”

Walls indicated she was blindsided by the com-

plaints, noting she had received an e-mail from the primary complainant at one time acknowledging that the situation was being addressed; however, the parent retorted that Walls refused to answer questions concerning whether mandatory reporting policies, including reaching out to the other students parents, or other investigations had occurred.

Walls added that the student in question deserved to know the allegations against them and that the boy is innocent until proven guilty following the appropriate reviews. She also said that video surveillance indicated to no wrongdoing by the student.

Board members, led by vice president Ray Martin, stated that an e-mail reiterating the concerns was received the day or two prior to the meeting and that immediate actions were being taken to make sure issues between elementary and secondary students are minimized.

Martin said the double doors between the cafeteria and gym and the elementary hallways will remain locked all day and inaccessible to junior high and high school students, who will also be restricted from entering the front doorway of the elementary and district offices. Secondary students will only be allowed to enter the cafeteria and gym from doors on the east side.

Other elementary safety concerns included a lack of monitoring for trips to restrooms and the security of the kindergarten-exclusive bathrooms.

While many of the parents acknowledged those safety improvements are a start, several indicated it wasn’t enough and that their students would still not attend classes at Agate. Other concerns evolved around busing, mitigating interaction of wide-ranging ages of kids outside of the buildings, and the difference in handling situations between teachers and Walls.

“The teachers have helped, went out of their way to make sure that kid was not near or around our kids,” said the father of three affected kids.

Audience members also noted the resignations of 24 staff members since Walls became superintendent/principal for the 2021-22 school year and, prior to her employment, Agate had six people in her position from 2017-21. The 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years all saw the Agate superintendent leave mid-year.

The board concluded last week’s meeting with an executive session, but no further action was taken.

Board president Doug Purdy assured members of the public that concerns are taken seriously, thus the immediate modifications on campus.

“You have some legitimate concerns and we’re going to work on progressing with things starting with the doors; it sounds like we have the bathrooms under control; sounds like we possibly can get the gym under control if we can spend a little money — and money is not the object here, safety for the kids here is the objective.”

FINANCIAL STANDING

To start the meeting, the board was presented the financial audit for 2024-25, which included good news about the district’s fiscal health.

According to auditor Scott Szabo, Agate’s general fund balance grew more than \$500,000 following last year, increasing it to approximately \$1,870,000.

“That’s a reserve of about 11 months,” Szabo said, noting that a healthy reserve is usually operating expenses for three to six months. “A very healthy reserve for a district this size.”

“Really good news to hear,” added Agate Finance Director Keith Yaich. “Really proud of where we’re at with things right now.”

Szabo said the Agate general fund balance is reminiscent of when COVID first occurred but that the most recent bulking up of finances is happening for a much different reason.

“During COVID back then, there were a lot of federal monies being thrown towards schools, but that’s no longer the case,” Szabo said.

Currently, Agate’s enrollment is in the 80-90 student range, compared to barely reaching double-digits eight years ago.

When Agate reopened its doors to all grades on Aug. 15, 2018, 45 students came through the doors, a far cry from the single-handful of K-5 students the previous few years.

Agate dissolved the junior high and high schools beginning the 2011-12 school year after a nine-year enrollment spiral. The district peaked at 132 students in 2001-02 but, by 2010-11, that number dropped to 33.

During its October meeting, the board approved a 5% mid-year pay raise to staff.



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Liberal orgs seek more school \$\$\$ via new tax proposal

by Jason Gonzales
Chalkbeat Colorado

An affiliation of liberal groups hopes to put a tax reform measure on the November 2026 ballot that could result in significant additional funding for K-12 schools and higher education.

The Protect Colorado's Future coalition wants to amend a portion of the state's constitution that mandates a flat income tax rate, currently set at 4.4%.

The draft measure, which the group unveiled in September, would ask voters to approve a new graduated income tax. Taxes would remain at the same rate for earners making under \$500,000 a year and progressively increase for earners who make above that threshold, up to 9.2% for earners who make \$10 million or more. The group projects that lower earners would save several hundred dollars a year.

Protect Colorado's Future estimates these changes would generate between \$2 billion and \$3 billion in



new annual revenue for the state. The money would pay for K-12 education, higher education, child care, and health care. State lawmakers would

decide how much to invest in each area.

Members of the coalition say the measure is necessary because the

state is facing another projected revenue shortfall, exacerbated by cuts in the federal budget. State lawmakers already held an August special session to address a shortfall this year caused by federal tax policy changes. Colorado's revenue challenges are expected to continue into the 2026-27 budget year.

"It is going to take steps toward our North Star of every student having the resources they need," said Lisa Weil, executive director of Great Education Colorado, a member of the coalition. "It's not going to complete the journey, but it is an absolutely critical first step."

The coalition includes 13 advocacy groups, including the Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition, Colorado Children's Campaign, and New Era Colorado.

Chris deGruy Kennedy, who is president of The Bell Policy Center, an organization that advocates for progressive policies and tax reforms, said a flat tax benefits wealthier residents.

SEE SCHOOL 5
PAGE 18

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RACHEL WOOLF/Dailystar

A Colorado coalition wants to ask voters to change the state's tax structure to fund education and other priorities.

SCHOOL \$ FROM P17

The coalition has crafted multiple versions of the ballot measure to help gauge what voters want from the initiative. For instance, one version includes more funding for public safety, while another says the money should go toward workforce development.

DeGruy Kennedy said these versions might not end up as the final version that Coloradans vote on. However, the coalition's ask to change income tax rates will remain the same in the final measure.

The next step is for the coalition to receive a ballot title and then begin to collect signatures to place one of the versions on the 2026 ballot. If it gets on the ballot and is approved by voters, the new tax structure would go into effect in 2027. The money raised would not be subject to a state cap on revenue collections within the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, or TABOR.

DeGruy Kennedy said he wants the measure to act as the beginning of a public conversation about the benefits that he sees as underfunded in the state. Asking voters to invest in education is within each of the proposals.

Weil pointed out that Colorado lawmakers have struggled to greatly increase funding for K-12 and higher education.

During economic downturns, lawmakers have cut state spending on college and university budgets, which has shifted tuition costs onto families.

Lawmakers also spent less than constitutionally required on K-12 schools for 14 years through a mechanism known as the budget stabilization factor, which pulled school funding for other budget priorities. Schools lost out on over \$10 billion from 2009-23.

Although lawmakers ended that practice, their promises to increase K-12 funding have hit snags.

Last year, state lawmakers created a new K-12 funding formula that calls for Colorado to invest \$500 million more a year in its schools. But the timeline to phase in the money has already been extended by legislators due to budget challenges.

Even that investment isn't enough, according to studies commissioned by state lawmakers. The studies found that Colorado should invest another \$3.5 billion to \$4 billion a year on top of the formula changes to adequately meet students' learning needs.

The ballot measure is sure to receive conservative opposition. Conservative groups are proposing ballot measures that would cut income tax rates, similar to those approved in 2020 and 2022.

Weil said she hopes the coalition can make the case for its measure. Without the money, she said, the state's education system will be threatened.

"Colorado is at a moment where we have to decide who we are, who we want to be, and how to meet a very challenging moment," she said. "And I believe that Colorado values public education."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO NOV. 29, 2005

Guaranty Bank answered the Amended complaint filed by 45 plaintiffs with a request to dismiss the case, which is being reviewed by Denver district court judge Martin Egglehoff.

The amended complaint, filed Aug. 2 of this year, alleged that the bank and its former chairman Martin L. Moore aided financial advisor Will Hoover's ponzi and racketeering schemes. Hoover convinced the plaintiffs to "invest" in a fictitious cause and used the money from investors to repay previous investors, and Guaranty Bank allowed Hoover to write checks against a negative balance, the document alleges. When all was said and done, Hoover had accumulated over \$4 million. He was convicted and sentenced to 100 years in prison, though he is appealing the sentence, claiming it is "too harsh."

The plaintiffs are seeking reimbursement from the bank, based on Moore and Guaranty's "knowing, substantial assistance to a long course of wrongdoing," which the plaintiffs outlined in the amended complaint.

15 YEARS AGO NOV. 30, 2010

BENNETT —The Adams County Board of Commissioners and the Tri-County Health Department recently awarded the town of Bennett grants of \$65,545 and \$69,500, respectively, to improve the Bennett Community Center.

"This is a very big project for Bennett," said town treasurer Trish Stiles in a Nov. 24 interview. "I'm really excited about it — it's a great project." The plan, also known as the outdoor recreation enhancement project, will provide residents with a variety of outdoor activities at the community center.

Funds will be used to create a walking path around the perimeter of the facility, reconstruct the basketball court and reseal

the parking lot, build a barbecue pit and a helicopter pad in the parking lot, and provide play equipment and adult exercise equipment stations. New signage will also be added with health department funds. "The idea behind this is we have a lot of activities that happen on a daily basis inside," Stiles said. "We'd like to take that (and provide) activities outside as well. I know there's a great need for this."

The town had originally submitted a \$112,000 grant request to the health department assuming it would cover the cost to build a pavilion; however, the town only received part of that fund. In order to add a pavilion, the town plans to re-submit another grant request early next year.

10 YEARS AGO DEC. 1, 2015

Long-standing complaints of the poor condition of dirt and gravel roads in eastern unincorporated Adams County appear to no longer be falling on deaf ears, but improvement to all those roadways will still take time.

Adams County Transportation Operations Manager Jeremy Reichert, who has been on the job about a year-and-a-half, said that he and a relatively new team of road and bridge officials, including a new operations foreman at the Strasburg, yard, are steadily working to make improvements to the eastern two-thirds of the county.

"We are actively strategizing for road improvements in eastern Adams County," Reichert said during a Nov. 25 interview with The I-70 Scout. "We are taking advantage of reaching out to citizens, school districts, fire districts and things of that nature. We are in the process of addressing school routes; we need to get them mapped to determine the amount of work necessary."

Reichert said that 2015 marked the first year of the county's formal gravel road improvement program and that 2016 will include a more aggressive amount of road renewal in eastern Adams County.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 26, the 330th day of 2025. There are 35 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Nov. 26, 2008, teams of heavily armed militants from the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba stormed luxury hotels, a popular restaurant and crowded train station in Mumbai, India, leaving at least 175 people

dead (including nine of the attackers) in a four-day rampage.

ALSO ON THIS DATE:

In 1791, President George Washington held his first full cabinet meeting; in attendance were Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of War Henry Knox and Attorney General

Edmund Randolph.

In 1864, English mathematician Charles Dodgson presented the illustrated manuscript "Alice's Adventures Under Ground" to his friend Alice Pleasance Liddell, 12, a book later published under the pen name Lewis Carroll as "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

In 1941, U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull delivered a note to

Japan's ambassador to the United States, Kichisaburo Nomura, setting forth U.S. demands for "lasting and extensive peace throughout the Pacific area." The same day, a Japanese naval task force of six aircraft carriers left the Kuril Islands, bound for Hawaii, days before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

In 1942, the film "Casablanca," starring Humphrey Bogart and In-

grid Bergman, premiered at Hollywood Theater in New York City.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Author Marilynne Robinson is 82. Bass guitarist John McVie (Fleetwood Mac) is 80. Country singer Linda Davis is 63. DJ-music producer DJ Khaled is 50. Country musician Joe Nichols is 49.

—Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: HAPPY HOLIDAYS

- ACROSS**
- Shapeless form
 - Hot springs resort
 - Not square
 - Private theater box
 - Relating to ear
 - Rome's Colosseum, e.g.
 - I ___ you so!
 - "The opposite of a store the day before Christmas?"
 - "Auld Lang Syne" poet
 - "Partridge's perch (2 words)"
 - Vegas numbers
 - New Zealand's indigenous people
 - Fuss
 - Tabby's favorite herb
 - More so than swell
 - Big-headedness
 - Resembling an ape
 - John Wayne Gacy's ___ the Clown
 - Photographer Dorothea of "Migrant Mother" fame
 - Type or kind
 - Like a sheep after a haircut
 - D'Artagnan's weapon of choice
 - Superlative of #33 Down
 - U.S. central bank
 - Wilma and Fred's hometown
 - "Latke's main ingredient"
 - Word of possibility
 - Turning token taker
 - Exclamation of sorrow
 - "___ Odbody of 'It's a Wonderful Life'"
 - Raspberry drupelets
 - Saintly glow
 - Letter opener
 - Hunts for food
 - Banana leftover
 - Guesstimate phrase
 - "Color on a Kwanzaa flag"
 - Not divisible by two
 - Scholarship criterion
- DOWN**
- Deli acronym
 - Chicago's central district, with The
 - Gawk at
 - Wish harm upon, arch.
 - One of The Beatles
 - Pileus, pl.
 - "The Road Runner" corporation
 - Group of cows
 - Bed-and-breakfast alternative, pl.
 - "The Nutcracker" step
 - Certain cephalopod, pl.
 - It's sometimes humble

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- "Chuck Berry's 'Run, ____, Run'"
 - Reason to strike
 - Grass bristle
 - Famous one, slangily
 - Open-mouthed
 - Like a well-defined muscle
 - Hot alcoholic beverage
 - Washing sponge
 - Type of heron
 - Rondeau, alt. sp.
 - "Santa's beverage of choice"
 - Not well
 - "Original home of Christmas tannenbaum"
 - Fur shawl
 - Extremely unfriendly
 - Plane trick
 - Reprieve in a desert
 - Muscle to bone connector
 - Skidded
 - Weighed
 - 4,840 square yards
 - Told an untruth
 - Head of family
 - Wrap in waxy cloth
 - Comfort
 - Financing acronym
 - Stewart of "Maggie May" fame

ANSWERS ON PAGE 21

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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 22

HOROSCOPE

On the Last Day of a Retrograde

Gratitude isn't always about joy or gain. Sometimes it's the awareness that a burden has lifted. The return to normalcy is a gift in itself. The day before American Thanksgiving is the last day of Saturn's retrograde, a change of direction that will for many be experienced as relief. A water sign trine will be like a spiritual bath — perfect for a relaxing reset.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Charisma is easy for you, but it's not always about giving a performance. Sometimes it's as simple as not staring at a screen, so the others in the room feel you're in the same setting as them and you want to be there.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your mood: feisty. It feels like the entire system is wonky. You may find yourself buzzing through every experience with a kind of low-grade, rebellious energy. The rebel in you doesn't need a justification -- just a stage.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have a plan, and it's a good one, but when the moment arises, we are only as effective as our adaptive instincts. Keep your intentions at the forefront and you will succeed in conveying them.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those who can't appreciate their own experiences usually have trouble appreciating anyone else's. Keep that in mind when choosing an audience. The receptivity of others will affect your mood, so choose people who listen well and laugh easily.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you could just do all the right steps in the right order, the task would get good results in a predictable amount of time. But perfect instructions are a rare thing in this world. So watch a pro and have a little fun while you give it your best shot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Vivid fantasies and dreams are available to you the moment you make a relaxed space for them. Like children who go wild when adults leave the room, your thoughts will be feral fun once the uptight prefrontal cortex gets out

of the way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't need rescuing, but some will rush in wanting to help. Let them show their care. Just don't hand over your power. Accept the kind of assistance that lightens your load without taking over your path.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Being struck with the best idea in a powerful, potent and fully realized form is a rarity. The first idea needs only to be good enough to keep you revisiting. Solutions will be the result of a thought process, not a thought.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be once more made aware of how every object, obligation or identity we carry requires energy to maintain. To live with less is, in a sense, to be less tired. Fewer possessions, fewer commitments, fewer mental attachments -- this does bring freedom.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The unconscious mind processes information faster than conscious reasoning. It picks up subtle cues and patterns, then delivers them as an "aha" or gut feeling. You feel as you do. Don't worry too much about your reasons -- trust that you have them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you want is in line with what is possible, good and right for you to have. Streamline your efforts. A lean and mean approach will concentrate your power so you can use it precisely, making a difference when it matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're open and curious right now, ready to explore. Lead with appetite and you'll have more fun because you're so hungry for life and ideas. Intuition will guide your curiosity, and you can trust it to know what's next for you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 26). Welcome to your Year of Living Deliciously. Pleasure is the compass that leads to prosperity. Your appetites and curiosities lead you to situations that make life interesting while making you smarter about curating the lifestyle that fits you best. More highlights: Recognition for creative courage, an unexpected financial upswing, and love that thrives on curiosity and humor. Virgo and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 8, 33, 45 and 21.

—Horoscopes by Holiday

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For additional information, contact Tom Turrell at
(303) 822-5292 x1111.

Foreman/Heavy Equip. Operator Needed

- Competitive wages.
- Company vehicle.

Contact Bill, Kuhn Construction
(303)570-6104

Come Join Our Team!



Byers School District 32-J
is now accepting applications for the
2025-26 2nd Semester:

- Elementary SPED Teacher •

Certified application is available on the Human Resources page of website, www.byers32j.k12.co.us, under the District tab.

Inquiries should be directed to Machaela Eymann at (303) 822-5292 x1113 or eymann.machaela@byers.k12.co.us.

Applications can be sent to:
Byers School District 32J
444 E. Front Street
Byers CO, 80103
(303) 822-9592 fax

Currently Seeking Welder

- 40 Hours/week
- 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Weld Test Required

Walk-ins welcome:
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 12:30 - 2 p.m.
For more information, stop by or call our office.



Denver Railings & METAL ART
3803 Headlight Road
Strasburg, CO 80136
(720) 277-3534 | Office
Showroom Hours 8 AM-3:30 PM MT-F

PRAIRIE CREEKS LIVING CENTER

Assisted Living

Accepting applications for

FT Resident Assistant

- 11 p.m. - 7:15 a.m. •

PT Resident Assistant

- 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. •

PT Activities

- 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. •

All positions require weekends & holidays.

*Apply in-person at
56175 Sunset Ave., Strasburg.
Background check required.*



- Weekly pay
- Flexible hours
- Health benefits
- Performance bonuses
- Starting pay at \$19/hr
- Full-Part time positions

Cornerstone
CAREGIVING

APPLY TO BE A CAREGIVER TODAY (719)662-8578

KOA Campground in Limon seeking to hire maintenance/groundskeeper. Full-time position. Interested individuals should contact Dave at (720)338-5123 or apply in person at 575 Colorado Ave., Limon.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HOMES & LAND

Gateway Realty I-70

YULLE ROAD, BENNETT

LOT 4 *Sold!*

CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION!

AVAILABLE UNDER CONTRACT AVAILABLE **SOLD!**

Lot 1 Lot 2 Lot 3 Lot 4

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

MLS gatewayrealtyi70 gatewayrealtyi70,llc gatewayrealtyi-70.com

Tania Stephens, Broker/Owner (303)726-7779
Adrian Castillo Monge, Agent (720)717-3217 (Se Habla Español)
Quinton Kopang, Agent (303)720-4601

Look East Realty 303-644-4444
 LookEast-Realty.com
 310 Colfax Ave. Bennett, CO

Don't LEAF your friends and family in the dark about real estate.

We have the inside info to light up their next real estate deal!

Welcome Quinton Kopang to our team!
 Raised in Bennett and a Tiger alum, Quinton returned in 2022 to High Plains Bank. He recently received his real estate license and has joined US and is enthusiastic about leveraging his banking knowledge and past professional experiences to effectively serve our community.

"The Sewill Team"
Sean and Kim Darling-Sewill
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#1 Team on the Eastern Plains!

Happy Holidays!
 From our house to yours. We wish you love, happiness and a successful New Year!

Colorado Land Realty

SOLD • 394 Acres grass 5 miles SE of Deer Trail \$1,100/Ac

- 230 Acres farm land on Hwy 217 — 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**
- UNDER CONTRACT • 7.25 acre investment 1 mi E of Watkins \$450,000**
- 470.05 Acres farm land 21 miles E of Byers 1 mi S Hwy 36 **\$423,000**

View all listings at: ColoradoLandRealty.com
Frank Linnebur, Broker • 303-748-7028 • 800 US Hwy. 36, Byers

FOR RENT

OFFICE FOR RENT
 Approximately 400 sq. ft. Office with reception/2nd office in front. Approximately 1850 sq. ft. warehouse with overhead door. 1 Bathroom. Yard space available. Nice! Located in commercial office/warehouse building in Strasburg.
303-361-9100 x 21

Roommate Wanted
 Available Immediately
 Bedroom in House
 12 miles south of Byers
\$800/month
Call/text, (303)916-0332

Strasburg. 3-bedroom, 2-bath mobile home in nice, quiet park. New carpet and paint. No pets or smoking. Credit and criminal background checks required (\$35/adult). \$1,550/month, \$1,550 deposit. Contact Tammy, (303)622-6363, may leave message. 12/3c

SERVICES

Chunky's Towing
We buy junk cars and trucks!
720-560-6763
Se Habla Español

WANTED

Hobbyist looking to buy older Toyota Tacoma, Tundras or RAV4s in good condition. (303)204-8067. 12/10

NOTICES

Holiday market (craft and vendor fairs) slated for the holiday season. November 29 and December 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Byers American Legion Hall, 278 W. Front St., Byers. Call Darcee Barber at (303)478-6087 for more information.

FARM & RANCH

Bar Double J
Hay For Sale
 • Alfalfa • Alfalfa/Grass • Cow Hay
Michelle Keenan (970)270-2035

Circle DL Ranch LLC
 Top quality hay. Variety of types, sizes, prices. Barn stored. Delivery available.
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Millet hay, 4x5 round bales, 857 lbs. No nitrates, pesticides or herbicides. Good protein. \$65/bale. (303)915-7570. 11/26

Selling purebred lowline Angus bulls, pairs, yearlings. (720)727-4410. 12/3

FOR SALE

Shopsmith Machines. Mark V, \$900; 4-inch Jointer, \$400; 20-inch Scroll Saw, \$350; Dust Collector, \$300. Call Rusty, (720)201-7737. 11/26

Photos from The I-70 Scout & Eastern Colorado News available for purchase. 4x6 \$6; 5x7 \$8; 8 1/2x11 \$12. (303)622-9796. 8/8c

FREE

Free, free, free. Pick up of autos, farm equipment, batteries, all nonferrous metal types. Also available for a minimal fee, pick up of appliances, TVs, piles, etc. Call Blaine today at (303)819-7659. 11/29c

THANKSGIVING DINNER PRICES		
	COLORADO	NAT'L AVERAGE
Frozen turkey 16 pounds	\$27.45	\$21.50
Pumpkin pie mix 30 ounces	\$4.11	\$4.16
Whole milk 1 gallon	\$3.50	\$3.73
Veggie tray	\$1.39	\$1.36
Dinner rolls	\$4.95	\$3.56
Frozen pie shells 2-pack	\$3.21	\$3.37
Frozen peas 1 pound	\$1.99	\$2.03
Fresh cranberries 12 ounces	\$2.62	\$2.28
Whipping cream 1/2 pint	\$2.11	\$1.87
Sweet potatoes 3 pounds	\$5.62	\$4.00
Cubed stuffing 14 ounces	\$4.68	\$3.71

Avg T-Day dinner expense ebbs for 3rd straight year

CENTENNIAL — A Thanksgiving Day meal will cost Americans, on average, \$55.18 for 10 guests this year, based on the 2025 American Farm Bureau Federation's annual market basket survey.

The national average cost of this year's classic Thanksgiving feast for 10 is \$55.18, down \$2.90 or 5% compared to last year's average of \$58.08.

In Colorado, the average cost for a classic Thanksgiving feast for 10 is \$61.63, which is \$6.45 more than the national average, but is \$13.12 less than 2024. To compare, last year's Thanksgiving feast cost Coloradans \$74.75, which was \$16.67 higher than the national average.

In the Northeast, Midwest and South, the average ranges from \$50.01 to \$60.82 for 10 guests but, in the West, the average is \$61.75, down from the 2024 average of \$84.97.

According to AFBF economist Dr. Faith Parum, farmers are still working to rebuild turkey flocks that were devastated by avian influenza, but the demand for turkey has also declined over the years. Because of the factors of supply and demand, "turkey will remain an affordable option for families celebrating Thanksgiving," she said.

The Farm Bureau market basket series also includes the annual July 4th Cookout survey. Volunteer shoppers across the country, including Farm Bureau members and others, collect data from stores in every state and Puerto Rico during the same week.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



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Church Directory

Strasburg Presbyterian Church
 56635 Iowa Ave., Strasburg, CO
 www.spcusa.us
 303-622-4325
 • Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

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

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
 Missouri Synod
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

275 Ash Street, Bennett • 303-644-3044
 www.corlems.org

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church
 278 S. Sherman St., Byers
 303-822-9366 • mttaborbypers.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 every Tuesday (5:15-7:15 pm, Dinner served)

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP

Worship with us!
 Sundays at 10 a.m.
 In-person and online:
 www.cornerstonebennett.com

303-644-3450 | 460 3rd St., Bennett

Proverbs 28:1 The righteous are bold as a lion.

LIVING SPRINGS COWBOY CHURCH
 BYERS, CO

Sundays at 10:00 AM
 2722 S. County Rd 173; Byers, CO

In-person services every Sunday, but be sure to visit our website and Facebook page for up to date information.
 LivingSpringsCowboyChurchByers.org
 719-659-8848



COME CHECK OUT SHOOTER'S NEW PIZZA FOOD TRUCK!!!!

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 Bible-Based • Nondenominational

Sunday Services
 8:30am & 10:15am
 Servicio en Español a las 10:15am
 1955 Headlight Road in Strasburg

Sunday Service Livestream at
 https://www.mvcolorado.online.church

Midweek Elementary Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
 Middle/High School Youth Group - Wednesdays @ 7pm
 Find us on Facebook/Instagram: Search "mvcolorado"

mvcolorado.com
 303.622.9600

Strasburg Orthodox Mission

WEEKLY Vespers
 Tuesday, 7 p.m. & Saturday, 7 p.m.
 Saron Lutheran Church (1656 Main St.)
 Info: strasburgorthodox.org

calvary bennett
 Teaching God's Word verse-by-verse

Sundays 10:45 AM
 Meeting @VFW in Bennett
 115 Palmer Ave

Live-streamed @ calvarybennett.org

Offices located at 545 Palmer Ave
 303.261.8853
 info@calvarybennett.org

Download our app: 

Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Jeff Wilborn
 186 N. McDonnell St., Byers CO 80103
 Parish: 303-822-5880, Hall: 303-822-5889
 Sacramental Emergencies: 303-351-2551
 www.ourladyoftheplains.org

MASS TIMES
 • Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri & every 1st Saturday 8:30 am
 • Saturday 5:00 pm
 • Sunday 9:00 am
 11:30 am en español

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
 Saturday 4:15-4:45 pm
 Sunday 8:15-8:45 am & 10:45-11:15 am
 Or by Appointment
 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAYS

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

What's UP @ Byers School District?

For more info, <https://www.byers32j.k12.co.us>



Let's Get Healthy Together!

Help start a school wellness committee.

We're looking for parents, teachers, students, and community members who care about healthy minds, active bodies, and happy hearts.

Help us promote healthy habits, and make our school an even better place to learn and grow!

For more information, contact: Steffiney Quick @ 303-822-5292 or quick.steffiney@byers.k12.co.us.

SCHOOL WELLNESS



THANK YOU DONNA! — During the Nov. 20 School Board meeting, Donna Sauer was honored for her 8 years since elected in 2017.

Local Holiday Season Resources:

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OF THE EASTERN PLAINS:

Holiday Open Boutique, Saturday, December 13th by appointment only – call 303-822-9368

MOUNTAIN VIEW FELLOWSHIP CORRIDOR CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE & SHOP:

Donate new & gently used toys for kids of all ages. No cloth toys or stuffies.

Shop: December 13 @ 10 am at MVF.

Upcoming Events:

@ Byers Elementary & District-Wide

Dec. 1-5 — Mid-Year Benchmark Assessments

Wed., Dec. 17 — 1st - 6th Grade Winter Concert, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 19 — Kindergarten Winter Concert, 10:10 a.m.

Fri., Dec. 19 — End of 2nd Quarter. Student release @ 11 a.m.

Dec. 22 Through Jan. 2 — WINTER BREAK, NO SCHOOL.

Mon., Jan. 5 — TEACHER IN-SERVICE, NO SCHOOL.

Tue., Jan. 6 — Beginning of 3rd Quarter. Classes Resume.

Secondary Athletics

Tue., Dec. 2 — HS Girls Basketball @ Strasburg, 5:30 p.m.
(Foundation Game to Support Coach Hemphill)

Wed., Dec. 3 — JH Boys & Girls Basketball vs Hugo, 4:00 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 5 — HS Basketball at Cheraw Tournament, 3:00 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 6 — HS Basketball at Cheraw Tournament, TBD
HS Wrestling at Akron, 9:00 a.m.

Mon., Dec. 8 — JH Boys Basketball vs Limon, 4:00 p.m.

Tue., Dec. 9 — HS Basketball vs Bennett 4:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 10 — JH Boys & Girls Basketball vs. Kiowa, 4:00 p.m.

Thur., Dec. 11 — HS State Cheer at Denver Coliseum

Fri., Dec. 12 — HS Wrestling at Limon, 1:00 p.m.

HS Basketball at Lyons, 4:00 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 13 — HS Basketball vs Dayspring Christian, 2:00 p.m.
JH Basketball Byers Tournament, 9:00 a.m.
HS Wrestling at Limon, 9:00 a.m.

Tue., Dec. 16 — HS Basketball vs Elbert, 4:00 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 19 — HS Basketball vs Kiowa, 2:00 p.m.

HS Wrestling at Weld Central, 1:00 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 20 — HS Wrestling at Weld Central, 9:00 a.m.

BLUE & GOLD BULLDOGS



- Our members are committed to lending a hand wherever help is needed and showing what it means to live out the FFA motto: "Living to Serve." This fall, 12 Byers FFA members put that goal into action by completing 48 hours of community service covering a silage pile for a local community member.

- This year, Byers FFA is excited to once again welcome students from Strasburg High School, who are joining us to participate in agricultural education classes and FFA activities. These students bring great energy and new perspectives to our chapter, helping strengthen the connection between our two communities.

Gun Violence Prevention for Parents & Guardians of K-12 Students

Data Highlights

49% of firearm deaths in youth ages 10-18 in Colorado are by suicide.*

one in three Colorado middle and high school students report they can get a firearm, with many of them able to do so in under

10 min.

The 988 Colorado Mental Health Line Know someone struggling with an emotional, mental health, or substance use concern, call or text 988 or chat with 988 at 988colorado.com.

OTHER RESOURCES

- projectchildsafe.org
- safe2tell.org/parents/
- cde.state.co.us/safeschools
- cdphe.colorado.gov/office-of-gun-violence-prevention
- LetsTalkGunsColorado.com