



ECRWSS  
Postal Customer

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
The I-70 Scout

# The I-70 Scout

Volume 32, Number 8

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

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

## Bennett Schools reiterate need for SRO

Campus has been without resource officer since town trustees changed law enforcement provider

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — More than a year-and-a-half after the Bennett Board of Trustees shifted law enforcement providers, Bennett School District remains without a school resource officer.

Whether the situation will be remedied by the end of the school year remains uncertain.

During the Jan. 14 Bennett School Board meeting, vice president Darvin Harrell asked the administration to invite Arapahoe County Sheriff Tyler Brown to attend the Feb. 11 school board meeting in an effort to resolve the situation.

Bennett School Superintendent Robin Purdy and Operations Manager Nick Ophaug indicated that Arapahoe County Public Safety Bureau Chief Ken McKlem and Patrol Special Operations Capt. Adam Burson would

most likely represent the sheriff's office next month.

When asked if an online Zoom conversation with the sheriff himself would suffice, Harrell adamantly replied, "No, I want him here."

Purdy said that recent violent crime along the I-70 Corridor made the absence of a readily available SRO more worrisome.

"On high alert as far as the campus is concerned since the shooting over at Strasburg (Jan. 11)," Purdy said. "We don't know who was there, who wasn't. Just want to make sure we are taking care of students — if they had a relative or any of them were there. Still really don't know much of what went on. Sure would have been nice to have a resource officer that could have kept us apprised of the situation."

Purdy added that Adams County sheriff's officials called her after the

**SEE BENNETT BOE  
PAGE 20**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

When the Bennett School District had about an hour-long lockdown to investigate an unfounded active shooter incident in mid-September, there was no campus SRO to immediately respond to the situation. The school district has been without a sheriff's resource officer since the Bennett Board of Trustees voted to change law enforcement providers from Adams County to Arapahoe County in mid-2024.



DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout

Sen. John Hickenlooper receives a quick lesson on a digital health diagnostic program from senior Sammy Shelley during a tour of Byers High School Career Technical Education classrooms Jan. 20.

## Hickenlooper provides Senate update at Byers School visit

by **Douglas Claussen**  
Publisher & Editor

**BYERS** — Sen. John Hickenlooper told *The I-70 Scout* Jan. 20 that up to 25 Republican members of the U.S. Senate are getting close to standing up to President Donald Trump.

"A lot of them are moderate Republicans. They're not into all this MAGA stuff, and they believe that we have a relationship with NATO that we want to preserve. It's kept the world safe for 70 years. They believe that Canada and

Mexico are close trading partners. We shouldn't be poking them in the eye," Hickenlooper said. "In many ways, the Republican senators, many of them, not all of them, but certainly 15, 20, 25 of them, are shocked by what's happening, and yet they're intimidated by the White House.

"The White House has said, 'We will tolerate no lack of allegiance, no disloyalty, and we will punish you severely if you vote against us.' And that level of intimidation, it's not

**SEE HICKENLOOPER  
PAGE 4**

## Bennett board accepts annexation petition

Town administrator extended for 2026, receives 3% salary bump

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

**BENNETT** — Bennett trustees recently determined that developers can come forward with a formal request to annex another proposed development into the town in the future.

During their Jan. 13 meeting, trustees voted 6-1 to accept the annexation petition for the proposed Sunset development, a 240-acre parcel located north of Colfax,

east of Penrith Road, south of 28th Avenue and west of Trupp Park.

During the public hearing, which was continued from Nov. 18, discussion between board members and town staff/legal counsel included trustee Larry Vittum stating his intent to vote against the request from Sunset developers, citing an extreme distaste for the growth trajectory the town appears to be following.

**SEE BENNETT BOT  
PAGE 6**



CARL STEITZ/The I-70 Scout

This photo of last summer's Byers Fourth of July parade, left, by Carl Steitz of Strasburg won third place in the 2026 Morgan Community College Calendar Photo Contest this fall. To see Steitz's entry that tied for sixth, see the Jan. 23 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.

## COMMUNITY CORRAL

### Studio environment offered thru I-70 arts organization

STRASBURG — The Corridor Creative Arts League will host an “Open Create” session from 12-3 p.m., every other Sunday starting Feb. 8, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

“Open Create” is a studio environment where artists can work with different mediums. Instructors will not lead the sessions. Each artist must create on their own.

A variety of supplies will be on hand. Participants can also bring their own projects.

Participation is free. Donations will be accepted. For more information, visit [corridorcreativeartsleague.org](http://corridorcreativeartsleague.org).

### Noted shutterbug featured at Town of Deer Trail class

DEER TRAIL — The Town of Deer Trail will host a free photography class with local photographer Carl Steitz.

A Nikon class runs from 9-11 a.m. and a Canon class from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, at Sunny Brew Cafe, 618 First Ave., Deer Trail.

Event is open to all ages but children 16 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Space is limited. To make a reservation, e-mail to [deertrailevents@gmail.com](mailto:deertrailevents@gmail.com) or call (303)518-0113.

### Specialty Crop Block Grant application deadline nears

BROOMFIELD — Producer organizations, as well as local governments, colleges and universities, nonprofits, and other specialty crop stakeholders can now apply for a Specialty Crop Block Grant through the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops, including floriculture. A list of plants commonly considered specialty crops, as well as ineligible commodities, can be found at [www.ams.usda.gov](http://www.ams.usda.gov).

The purpose of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is to enhance the competitiveness of Colorado specialty crops in areas such as marketing, promotion, education, research,

trade and nutrition.

The application deadline is Friday, Feb. 13.

### Art journaling, collage class planned by 'Burg Rec District

STRASBURG — Kids in grades K-8 can dive into a variety of mediums, from painting to clay, in a fun and inspiring environment hosted by the Strasburg Parks & Recreation District.

Students will learn about collage, composition and art journaling and will receive a list of prompts and ideas to go with their journals so they can continue to fill them at home.

The class takes place on Monday, Feb. 9, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall from 10-10:45 a.m. from grades K-3 and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades 4-8. The theme surrounds art journalism.

The registration deadline is Thursday, Feb. 5. A \$10 fee is required. To sign up, visit [strasburgparks.org](http://strasburgparks.org).

### Golden Plains Extension sets seminar on calving, calf care

BURLINGTON — Golden Plains Area Extension will host a calving and calf care clinic from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Kit Carson County Fairgrounds in Burlington.

Dr. Kathy Whitman, a Colorado State University Extension veterinarian, will lead the producer education program, which will cover dystocia management, neonatal calf health, epidurals, and colostrum and stressed calves. Participants will engage in hands-on activities using calving simulators.

To register, visit [goldenplains.extension.colostate.edu](http://goldenplains.extension.colostate.edu). For more information, call Extension Specialist Scott Stinnett at (719)346-5571.c

### Public invited to help make Valentines for military folk

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Parks & Recreation District and Hemphill Middle School are partnering to make valentines for military personnel past and present.

The Valentines for Veterans Soldiers' Angels mission ensures that no

### It's cold!



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

A light blanket of snow is cleared from the east parking lot of the Byers School campus early Jan. 24 as preparations are made for high school basketball games against Calhan.

one who serves the country feels unloved, especially on Valentine's Day.

Card-making supplies are available at the Strasburg Recreation Center, 1932 Burton St. Cards must be returned for distribution by Feb. 5.

To provide the name of a soldier who would like to receive a Valentine, send their mailing address to [jessica@strasburgparks.org](mailto:jessica@strasburgparks.org).

### Businesses urged to engage in Adams County assistance

BRIGHTON — The Adams County Business Registration Program helps local businesses stay informed about resources, programs and updates that might affect their operations.

The program, which is free and voluntary, provides a direct communication link between businesses and the county's economic development team. Registered businesses receive timely information about county programs, events, and business resources; grant and funding opportunities; and regulatory or policy updates relevant to business operations; and more.

The program is open to all businesses operating in Adams County,

including agricultural operations and businesses with multiple locations.

For more information and to register, visit [adamscountyco.gov](http://adamscountyco.gov) or e-mail to [economicdevelopment@adamscountyco.gov](mailto:economicdevelopment@adamscountyco.gov).

### Polis appoints new judge to Arapahoe County Court

DENVER — Gov. Jared Polis Jan. 22 appointed a new judge to the Arapahoe County Court in the 18th Judicial District.

The appointment of Kathleen M. Tierney is effective Feb. 16. It fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Michael J. Roche.

Tierney is a senior/assistant chief deputy district attorney in the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office, a position she has held since 2024. Her practice consists of criminal prosecution. She served as a deputy district attorney in the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office from 2021-24 and in the 2nd Judicial District Attorney's Office from 2019-21.

Tierney earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Scranton (Pa.) in 2015 and her law degree from Penn State in 2018.

## Eastern Colorado News Subscription Order Form

To receive *The I-70 Scout* outside our service area, you must subscribe to the *Eastern Colorado News*. Just write your name and mailing address on the easy-to-use form below, or any piece of paper for that matter, and send it with a check payable to:

**Eastern Colorado News**  
**P.O. Box 555**  
**Strasburg, CO 80136**

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
 Watkins, Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail and Agate addresses: **\$30/year**  
 Out-of-area within CO: **\$44/year\***  
 Outside Colorado: **\$48/year\***  
\*All subscribers outside the I-70 Corridor also receive *The I-70 Scout* at no extra charge.

**SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM**

## The I-70 Scout

Published weekly by the I-70 Publishing Company, Inc.

**P.O. Box 829 • 1522 Main St., Strasburg, Colo. 80136**  
**e-mail: [dclaussen@i-70scout.com](mailto:dclaussen@i-70scout.com) • [www.i-70scout.com](http://www.i-70scout.com)**  
**(303)622-9796**

**DEADLINE FOR NEWS, CLASSIFIEDS & DISPLAY ADVERTISING: 5 P.M. FRIDAY**



**Publisher & Editor**  
 Douglas Claussen • [dclaussen@i-70scout.com](mailto:dclaussen@i-70scout.com)

**Office Manager**  
 LuAnne Stegner • [lstegner@i-70scout.com](mailto:lstegner@i-70scout.com)

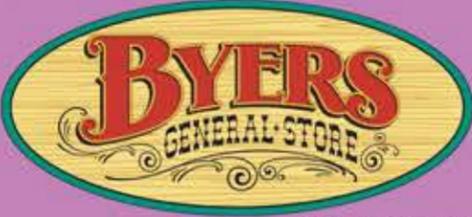
**Managing Editor**  
 Steven Vetter • [svetter@i-70scout.com](mailto:svetter@i-70scout.com)

**Editorial Assistant**  
 Isaac Manaugh • [editorialassistant@i-70scout.com](mailto:editorialassistant@i-70scout.com)

**Advertising**  
[advertising@i-70scout.com](mailto:advertising@i-70scout.com)

**Stuffing Crew**  
 Ember Seward-Sorensen, Linda Adair, Marilee Gillock, Baylee Sigg

 **February Coupon**



568 US Highway 36  
Byers, CO 80103  
303-822-5325  
www.byersgrocery.com

# \$5 OFF

Your Purchases of \$30 or more\*



0 00200 90601 0

Expires on 2/28/2026

\*One coupon per customer per day. Excludes all alcoholic beverages, tobacco, lottery items, money services, postage stamps, gift cards, and prescriptions. Customer is responsible for all applicable taxes. Reproductions of this coupon is prohibited. No Cash Value.



## ARAPAHOE COUNTY



**Sign up today!**

### Sign up for job alerts

Arapahoe County is always hiring and now we're doing it through a new system. Visit [jobs.arapahoeco.gov](http://jobs.arapahoeco.gov) to see current job postings or sign up to receive email alerts for new postings. Even if you signed up to receive Arapahoe County job alerts in the past, you need to re-sign up on the new site.




## Cornerstone

CAREGIVING

**Assisting with all activities of daily living:**

- Pet Care
- Bathing
- Housekeeping
- Transportation
- Dressing
- Laundry
- Total Care
- Toileting
- Companionship

**Call for a FREE assessment (719)662-8979**

# RADON

## Get the facts about radon




[cdc.gov/radon](http://cdc.gov/radon)

### January is National Radon Action Month

This important event sheds light on the dangers of radon, the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths in the United States after cigarette smoking.

Learn more at [arapahoeco.gov/radon](http://arapahoeco.gov/radon).

## GARAGE DOORS

### COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL




**New Door Sales and Installation**  
**Service to Existing Doors**  
**Spring Replacement**  
**Opener Installation and Service**

**\*\* FREE ESTIMATES \*\***

**AFTER-HOURS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AVAILABLE**

75 West Highway 40 Byers, CO 80103  
303-822-8949 (after hours 720-880-9784)



### Shovel snow for a neighbor in need

Help an older adult this winter by volunteering to shovel their walkways and driveway. When you sign up, you will be paired with someone within walking distance or a short drive from your home. Visit [arapahoeco.gov/volunteer](http://arapahoeco.gov/volunteer).

[arapahoeco.gov](http://arapahoeco.gov)

WEEK OF JAN. 28

Dennis Vetter



David Dennis Vetter, 87, passed away on Jan. 17, 2026, in Lusk, Wyo. Dennis was born April 24, 1938, in Denver, Colo., to David & Helen Vetter. Dennis, the oldest of four boys, and grew up north of Bennett, Colo., on the family's dryland wheat farm. He enjoyed cowboying on their ranch south of Bennett. Dennis loved to rodeo, riding bareback horses, calf roping and team roping.

Dennis served in the U.S. Army in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He married Joyce Becker on May 24, 1960, and they were together over 65 years. Together, Dennis and Joyce had four children: Melinda, Dan, Chrissy, and Penney. The family loved and enjoyed Penney for nine months.

Dennis and Joyce ranched and farmed in Colorado, but Dennis always wanted a ranch of his own, so in 1983 the family moved to the OW Ranch north of Lusk, Wyo. In 2001, Dennis, Joyce, and Dan moved to their ranch near Lance Creek. Dennis thoroughly enjoyed the Lance Creek community and his many friends near and far.

Dennis and Joyce loved watching their kids and grandkids in sports and 4-H activities.

Dennis enjoyed good cattle, good horses, and good dogs.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Joyce; son, Dan; daughters, Melinda Lambrecht and Chrissy (Blake) Ochsner; brother, Bruce (Sandi) Vetter; sisters-in-law, Sandy Vetter and Beverly Vetter; grandsons Josh (Krystal), J.D. (Sherry) and Jed Lambrecht, and B.W. (Terra) Ochsner; granddaughters Keli (Chris) Hoschouer, Ashley (Chris) Mason, and Katie (Devin) Martin; great-grandsons Dante and Gunnar Lambrecht, Nate Fabian, Cody Ochsner, and Memphis and Cash Mason; and great-granddaughters Annika and Olivia Ochsner and Winona Martin.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents; infant daughter, Penney Raylene; brothers, Gerald and Gary; and son-in-law, Terry Lambrecht.

A service was held Jan. 26, at the Niobrara County Fairgrounds in Lusk, Wyo., with interment at the Lusk cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be given to the Lusk EMS, Niobrara Senior Center or the Niobrara County Fairgrounds for a tree in honor of Dennis.

Pier Funeral Home of Lusk, Wyo., was in charge of arrangements.



DOUGLAS CLAUSSEN/The I-70 Scout

Sen. John Hickenlooper tours the human health care lab at Byers High School Jan. 20 as Alan Hoeffner of Strasburg stands next to a series of faux hands and forearms.

**HICKENLOOPER**

**FROM PAGE 1**

good for a democracy.”

Hickenlooper's comments followed a 45-minute tour of the Career Technical Education program at Byers High School, which helps equip students with transferable job skills for

today's work force. He heard directly from students about what they've gained from the CTE programs.

Hickenlooper provided several other insights during the short interview with *The I-70 Scout*. He said that tariffs and health care are the issues he hears most about in his travels.

“The notion that tariffs are somehow helping our manufacturing or helping our rural economy is a myth,” Hickenlooper said. “We see firsthand when I'm out here, every time I come out to the Eastern Plains, every time I'm on the West Slope, I hear people complaining bitterly about what the tariffs are doing to their business. And it's not just the costs. It's the lack of predictability.”

The health care classroom is the crown jewel of Byers' CTE program. Hickenlooper said cuts to health care that jeopardize rural health care will be phased in over two years and that the worst is yet to come.

“The cost to health care in this county will be in the tens of billions of dollars beyond what the state could ever imagine to repair,” Hickenlooper said. “The state of Colorado is already in a pothole of gigantic proportions in terms of their budget. It's about to get a lot worse.”

He added that some aspects of aspects of the health care system that have been eliminated might not have been working all that well in the first place.

“Our system, breaking it up a little bit, maybe we can rebuild better than it was, and get a health care system that really does work for everybody, both in urban areas and in rural areas,” he said.

Hickenlooper's day also involved stops at Hugo and Fort Morgan. In Hugo, Hickenlooper toured Lincoln Health Community Hospital, where he had helped secure \$3 million dollars in federal funding to purchase medical equipment for the hospital's clinics and information technology system.

Afterwards, he joined a roundtable discussion with rural health care leaders to discuss how MAGA Republicans' \$1 trillion cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act will decimate rural health centers and hospitals. Six rural hospitals in Colorado have already been deemed at high risk of closure.

In Fort Morgan, Colorado's junior senator met with local ranchers and farmers, who talked about the “double whammy” of tariffs driving up costs and undermining their ability to sell their products. They also detailed how the administration's reckless attacks have halted valuable agricultural research.

# CORRIDOR CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JAN. 29**

**Adams County Community Call-In** with the county commissioners, who will address funding, federal issues, social programs, and community concerns. 6-7:30 p.m. Registration closes at 3 p.m. day of event. To sign up, visit [tthm.com](http://tthm.com).

**MONDAY, FEB. 2**

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

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4**

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

**EVERY TUESDAY**

**Toddler Time:** Children ages 2-3 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that are just right for active toddlers.

9:30-10 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.

**Family story time.** 10:30-11 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

**Teen Hangout:** Teens ages 13-18 hang out, play games, and enjoy snacks with friends. 3:30-6 p.m., Anythink Bennett.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**Music & Movement:** Ages 2-6 can sing, dance and learn to play musical instruments. 9:30-10 a.m., Anythink Bennett.

**Young at Heart Seniors** in Bennett. 12-4 p.m., Bennett Community Center.

**Mid-Week Service & Study** with worship and Communion. All ages welcome. 6:30 p.m., Holy Spirit Livin,' call (303)622-4648 to RSVP.

**EVERY THURSDAY**

**Play & Learn** for ages 1-3 and their

families. 10-11 a.m., Kelter Library, Byers.

**Family story time.** 10:30 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.

**Coffee, Cookies & Chat** for all I-70 Corridor seniors. 11 a.m., Bennett Rec 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 individ-

uals to learn about the nation's history, constitution and rights. 6 p.m., call (303)622-4648 to RSVP.

**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.

## Church Directory

**Strasburg Presbyterian Church**  
56635 Iowa Ave., Strasburg, CO  
[www.spcusa.us](http://www.spcusa.us)  
303-622-4325  
• Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

**Saron Lutheran Church**  
1656 Main St. | Strasburg, CO | [saronstrasburg.org](http://saronstrasburg.org)  
Worship 8:30 a.m. In-Person or on Facebook  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Missouri Synod  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.  
275 Ash Street, Bennett • 303-644-3044  
[www.corlcms.org](http://www.corlcms.org)

**CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP**  
Worship with us!  
Sundays at 10 a.m.  
In-person and online:  
[www.cornerstonebennett.com](http://www.cornerstonebennett.com)  
303-644-3450 | 460 3rd St., Bennett

**Mountain View Fellowship**  
Bible-Based • Nondenominational  
SUNDAY SERVICES  
8:30am & 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  
AA - Fridays @ 6pm  
Find us on Facebook/Instagram: Search "mvcolorado"  
[mvcolorado.com](http://mvcolorado.com)  
303.622.9600

**calvary bennett**  
Teaching God's Word  
verse-by-verse  
Sundays 10:45 AM  
Meeting @VFW in Bennett  
115 Palmer Ave  
Live-streamed @ [calvarybennett.org](https://calvarybennett.org)  
Offices located at 545 Palmer Ave  
303.261.8853  
[info@calvarybennett.org](mailto:info@calvarybennett.org)  
Download our app: 

**BYERS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
135 S. Sherman St., Byers, CO  
(303) 822-5717  
Like us on Facebook  
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m.  
Online Worship - email for link:  
[byerschurch@gmail.com](mailto:byerschurch@gmail.com)

**Mt. Tabor Baptist Church**  
278 S. Sherman St., Byers  
303-822-9366 • [mttaborbysers.org](http://mttaborbysers.org)  
Sat., 6:00 p.m. .... Saturday Service  
Sun., 9:00 a.m. .... Sunday School  
Sun., 10-10:30 a.m. .... Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. .... Church  
Awana — Meetings every Tuesday (5:15-7:15 p.m., Dinner served)  
**Colossians 2:6** As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.

**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](http://LivingSpringsCowboyChurchByers.org)  
719-659-8848

**Strasburg Orthodox Mission**  
WEEKLY Vespers  
Tuesday, 7 p.m. & Saturday, 7 p.m.  
Saron Lutheran Church (1656 Main St.)  
Info: [strasburgorthodox.org](http://strasburgorthodox.org)

**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.ourladyofthepains.org](http://www.ourladyofthepains.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

## Annual radon poster contest commences

DENVER — Students ages 9-18 can participate in the 2026 Colorado Radon Video & Poster contest hosted by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment.

Through the contest, participants can raise awareness about indoor radon risks, win cash prizes, and have their artwork and videos distributed nationally.

“Radon is invisible, but the risk isn’t — and that’s where Colorado students come in,” said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, executive director of the Health Department. “Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among people who don’t smoke, and this contest lets students use their creativity to help families understand their risk, test their homes, and take simple steps to stay safe.”

The winning poster and video from the Colorado contest will be entered into the national contest. State winners receive \$300 for first place, \$200 for second, and \$100 for third, and teachers of students with winning entries each receive \$100.

The winning poster and video will also be displayed on the department’s website and posted on its social media channels.

Students ages 9-14 are eligible to participate in the poster contest, and students ages 14-18 can enter a 30-second video contest. Only one entry per student is allowed.

Submissions are due April 30.

Long-term exposure to radon — a colorless and odorless radioactive gas — is the leading cause of lung cancer among people who don’t smoke. Exposure to radon is responsible for approximately 500 lung cancer deaths in Colorado each year but, with a simple test, families can learn if they have a radon problem. CDPHE is offering free radon test kits, while supplies last, to Coloradans at [www.coloradoradon.info](http://www.coloradoradon.info).

Submission forms, topics and rules are available at [cdphe.colorado.gov](http://cdphe.colorado.gov). For more information, contact contact Margaret Horton at [margaret.horton@state.co.us](mailto:margaret.horton@state.co.us).

**ARAPAHOE COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
CASE NO. SDP25-001, SKY RANCH A1-A9 C4 D1-D7 / SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN MAJOR AMENDMENT  
PROPOSAL: PCY Holdings LLC is requesting approval of a major amendment to the approved Specific Development Plan for the Sky Ranch development, case numbers SDP20-007, SDP22-002, AA21-010, and AA24-002. The property is located at the northeast corner of N. Carrie St. and E. 8th Pl., parcel ID 1977-00-0-00-553. This project includes approximately 25 acres. The amendment proposes changing the land use designation for planning area A4 from Single Family 2 (SF2) to Single Family 1 (SF1) per the approved General Development Plan (GDP18-007). This amendment would accommodate smaller lots for Sky Ranch Filing Number 9, while aligning with the SF1 development standards matrix for the Sky Ranch Community.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 17, 2026 the Arapahoe County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M., or as soon as possible thereafter at 6954 S Lima St., Arapahoe Room, Centennial CO 80112; at which, all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the above-described SDP25-001, Sky Ranch A1-A9 C4 D1-D7 / Specific Development Plan Major Amendment. The agenda will typically be posted by the Friday afternoon preceding the hearing and can be viewed on our website at <https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar>. You can also listen to, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1-855-436-3656. To join the speaking queue, press \*3 on the telephone keypad.  
More information about this proposal is available at the offices of the Arapahoe County Public Works and Development Department, Planning Division, 6924 S Lima St., Centennial CO 80112, by calling 720-874-6650 or by emailing [planning@arapahoegov.com](mailto:planning@arapahoegov.com) during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).  
Joan Lopez, Clerk to the Board  
Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2026, and *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, Jan. 30, 2026.



**ADAMS COUNTY**  
COLORADO

## Foster a Long-Term Shelter Dog!

Help make a life-changing difference for our Riverdale Animal Shelter pups by becoming a foster parent!

Email [fosterquestions@adamscountyco.gov](mailto:fosterquestions@adamscountyco.gov) or scan the QR code below to apply online.



*Riverdale*  
ANIMAL SHELTER

ADAMS COUNTY POET LAUREATE  
**OPEN MIC**  
HOSTED BY  
**AERIK FRANCIS**

Join Adams County Poet Laureate Aerik Francis for the first open mic of their residency at Manos Sagrados, 9975 E. Colfax Ave., Aurora! Scan the QR code to learn more.

**Thursday, Feb. 5 | 6-8 p.m.**



The Adams County Poet Laureate is brought to you by:  
ADAMS COUNTY COLORADO anythink

### STAY CONNECTED:

4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601

[/AdamsCountyGov](#) [@AdamsCountyGov](#)

[Public Agencies](#) [/AdamsCountyCo](#)

[adamscountyco.gov](http://adamscountyco.gov)

### BENNETT BOT

FROM PAGE 1

When told the petition by the developers met all local and state legal requirements and that any specific annexation request would be subject to a board vote in the future, Vittum responded, "This is a case of the camel's nose already coming into our tent. I'm starting this at the earliest possible moment — to speak in opposition."

"We have to legally determine whether [the petition] meets the criteria," Mayor Whitney Oakley repeated. "It's not determining whether it fits [into the town's plan]. That happens later."

Trustee Denice Smith, who sided with Vittum on the dissenting side of an annexation request in November, said she agrees with his concerns but that they will be heard if an actual annexation public hearing occurs.

"At this point, it's a matter of following the guidelines," she said. "On the actual annexation, we can deliberate."

Vittum noted that last year's approval of almost 2,200 homes between the Prairie Grass East and Prairie Grass West subdivisions and approximately 1,500 new Sunset homes, if OK'd later, would cripple Bennett.

"We could be looking at up to 10,000 new people to the town of Bennett. That is four times the number of people in Bennett right now," he said, questioning the town's ability to maintain or improve infrastructure and provide services at a similar rate.

"I strenuously object to the velocity that this town is growing, because you're going to ruin this town. Nine times out of 10, I lose the votes 6-1, but what I'm saying is not stupid. This is a lovely town, I love living in Bennett, but this many homes this fast is going to ruin it."

When an annexation hearing might be scheduled for the Sunset subdivision is unknown.

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT

After a 1½-hour executive session, the board approved a 12th amended contract for Town Administrator Trish Stiles, including a 3% base salary increase to \$242,050 and a one-time bonus of \$8,000. The bump in salary from 2025 to this year is \$7,050.

Stiles has been with Bennett since 2013.

#### NEW P&Z COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Barden and trustee Donna Sus recently conducted five interviews for four open spots on the Planning & Zoning Committee. They recommended the appointments of Hannah Watts, Wayne Clark, Anthony Gaul and Martin Metsker for three-year terms.

The board unanimously approved the recommendation and all four new members were expected to be sworn in during the Jan. 26 Planning Commission meeting.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CORE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NOTICE OF VACANCY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIRECTOR DISTRICT 6

CORE Electric Cooperative has a vacancy on its Board of Directors in District 6. In accordance with the cooperative's bylaws, the vacancy will be filled by a majority vote of the remaining board members.



Interested, eligible applicants should send a letter stating their interest to serve on the board, accompanied by their résumé, to Board President Tim White no later than Tuesday, March 17, 2026, in one of the following ways:

- Via the electronic form available at:  
[www.CORE.coop/board-of-directors-vacancy](http://www.CORE.coop/board-of-directors-vacancy)
- Via the printed form available at CORE's headquarters, 5496 N. U.S. Highway 85, Sedalia, CO 80135 — and Bennett district office — 1092 Cedar St., Bennett, CO 80102

According to the cooperative's bylaws, to be eligible to become a director, a member must:

- Be an individual 18 years of age or older;
- Be a member of the cooperative;
- Purchase electric energy within his or her director district; and
- Not be a current employee of the cooperative, or formerly employed by the cooperative within the past five years.

The remaining board members will review letters and résumés, conduct interviews and select a replacement to fill the vacancy for the remaining unexpired portion of the term until the next regularly scheduled election for that office, which is April 2027.

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2026, and the *Eastern Colorado News* on Friday, Jan. 30, 2026.

# Eastern Plains counties subject of renewable energy study

by **Allen Best**  
Big Pivots

The 18 Colorado counties lying east of the Front Range get few tourists and almost never make the calendars or books extolling Colorado's eye-candy scenery. Wind and now solar installations on these eastern plains, though, already provide the bulk of Colorado's renewable energy.

One example: Glenwood Springs-based Holy Cross Energy had close to 85% of its energy from renewable sources during 2025. In May, it hit 97%. Where was that renewable electricity generated?

Some of it came from a hydroelectric plant at Palisade, more from solar projects near Basalt and Battlement Mesa. But the 72 wind turbines in the Bronco Plains II wind project were a key source. Located about two hours east of Denver, the project can meet needs of 40,000 homes.

Far more wind, solar and perhaps other energy sources will be developed as Colorado works toward its 2050 de-carbonization goals.

A study that aims to assess both the opportunities and negative impacts of de-carbonization has been launched. Its target for completion is March 2027.

Energeia, a California-based company that recently added a Colorado office, was selected to oversee the study and has teamed with two other consultants. The request for proposal described a maximum budget of \$500,000.

The kick-off meeting, which was originally scheduled for Limon Jan. 9, was instead held virtually owing to the snowstorm of the previous night.

The trigger for the study was HB23-1247, a law passed in 2023. The law said the director of the Colorado Energy Office or a designee must conduct studies of electric transmission and advanced energy technologies in rural Colorado.

One study, said the law, must consider ways to assist northwestern Colorado and the west end of Montrose County in transitioning to produce advanced firm dispatchable energy resources. Those areas include one coal plant at Nucla that closed in 2019 as well as Craig Generating Station.

The second study must consider the potential for the development of new energy resources in southeastern Colorado. The law mentioned Xcel Energy's 550-mile Colorado Power Pathway, which gets within about a half-hour of both the Kansas border and Lamar, as well as another transmission line called the Longhorn Extension that Xcel has wanted to build south into Baca County. Still another line has been considered by an out-of-state organization to export renewable energy from

southeastern Colorado to Oklahoma and Arkansas. Transmission, existing and potential, is a big part of this story going forward.

Key sponsors of the law passed in 2023 were Sen. Rod Pelton, a Republican from Cheyenne Wells whose district includes about 25% of the state's land mass, including all of southeastern Colorado, along with Rep. Ty Winter, a Republican from the Trinidad area. Both have attended meetings sponsored by Action Colorado, the Pueblo-based organization that has been trying to prolong the coal era in Colorado. A third sponsor, Sen. Dylan Robers, a Democrat, represents northwestern Colorado.

For unknown reasons, the study ordered by state legislators has been expanded from southeastern Colorado to include all Eastern Colorado beyond the urban Front Range corridor.

When contacted, the Colorado Energy Office said the study was too early in development to speak to it. The Southeast Colorado Council of Governments, the lead agency in the contract, similarly was shy about talking.

The RFP issued in 2025 by the council of governments for Southeastern and South Central Colorado, spoke to one element of the discussion:

"These projects will entail substantial capital investments by utility companies, which, in turn, raises questions regarding energy cost increases for the state's ratepayers as existing carbon plants are retired before the completion of their original anticipated debt service."

In other words, will this shift to renewables cost consumers money? The answer is complicated.

At the Jan. 9 video gathering launching the study, Ezra Beeman, the managing director of Energeia, said the study will provide recommendations for best practices, including land use.

Beeman put the future development expected on the Eastern Plains into two contexts. One is Colorado's in-state decarbonization goals.

The second is the broader, more regional markets for renewable energy. Most of Colorado's electrical utilities, for example, have joined or soon will join the Southwest Power Pool's day-ahead market. All Colorado utilities must, by law, join a regional transmission organization no later than 2030.

Increasingly Colorado is part of a regional market, so in "trying to understand how Colorado is going to meet its state ambitions requires having a strong understanding of regional dynamics," Beeman said.

The legislation is relatively agnostic, as long as the technology does not result in greenhouse gas

emissions. That means that not only are renewables on the table, but also natural gas coupled with carbon capture, geothermal, clean hydrogen, and advanced nuclear.

Some technologies can be easily dismissed, but they do indicate the lay of the political landscape. For example, "advanced nuclear" has very strong support in urban and rural areas, but especially the latter.

Whether it will make financial sense any time soon is another story.

Ditto for natural gas generation coupled with carbon capture. The technology exists now but has not been cost-competitive.

Beeman said the study should provide a fact-based analysis for how Eastern Colorado will engage in the energy transition.

The study will delve into property values, taxes, workforce needs, and impacts to assets (presumably meaning fossil fuel plants). Four utilities serve the 18 counties under the study.

This story made available via the Colorado News Collaborative, <https://colab-news.co>.



GRAPHIC COURTESY BIG PIVOTS  
Eighteen Eastern Colorado counties, above, are the subject of a study on the positives and negatives of de-carbonization.

## Roggen Elevator

### LOOKING FOR PROPANE? NEED A TANK?

**BUY, LEASE & RENT PROGRAMS**

1000 Gal Tank, \$5,500.00

500 Gal Tank, \$3,400.00

20#, 30#, 40# & #100 Bottle Refills (Within expiration date)

**Propane Fill \$2.00 per gallon** (Prices subject to change)

Open: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
555 Colfax Ave., Bennett

## (303) 644-3251

Roggen Farmer's Elevator Association  
Roggen Office: (303) 849-5506

## Strasburg Vet Clinic

### Pet Dental Health Month starts early this year!

### Jan. 19 through Feb. 28

Receive 20% OFF all feline and canine dentals and in-house equine floats.

Call today to schedule your appointment!

Strasburg Veterinary Clinic • 303-622-4415  
56151 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg, CO 80136  
Monday - Friday 8:00-7:00, Sat 8:00-1:00

# Spring 2026



## Special Events

### Senior Excursions

Advanced reservations required. Ages: 18+. Sponsored by Mountain View Fellowship

- \* Feb. 19: Fort Collins Museum of Discovery
- \* Mar. 26: Morrison Natural History Museum
- \* Apr. 23: Downtown Aquarium
- \* May 21: Wild Animal Sanctuary
- \* Jun. 22: Denver Performing Arts (Behind the Scenes Tour)

### Valentines for Veterans

Return cards by Feb. 5. Sponsored by U.S. Mechanical

### Senior Bingo - March 10, 1-3pm

Ages: 18+. Sponsored by Real Estate Connection

### Egg-Stravaganza - March 28, 10am

Community Park East; Sponsored by U.S. Mechanical

### Princess Party - April 18, 1-3pm

Sponsored by SouthState Bank

## Youth Sports & Enrichment

Scan the QR code for more information on youth sports and enrichment programs, including Adaptive Basketball, Softball, Baseball, Track, Gymnastics, Dance, Cheer, and Art classes

## Fitness Classes

### Rise and Shine Workouts

Mon. & Wed., 5:30-6:15am at the Legion Hall

### Senior Stretch Class

Tues. & Thur., 6:45-8:15am at the Legion Hall

## Night at the Rockies

May 29, 6:40pm; Deadline: 5/10/26

Join us for a night at the Colorado Rockies Game! Everyone is welcome to attend. This is a fundraiser for the district, we appreciate your support! Players in their jersey can walk in the pre-game parade on the field.



See website for more information

1932 Burton Street • (303) 622-4260 • StrasburgParks.org

## 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 can advocate for youth services. 4:45-6 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 4.

**Sewing Drop-In:** All ages welcomed every first Thursday of the month for a drop-in sewing workshop! A sewing teacher is available if needed. Sewing machines and some supplies provided. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 5.

**Tech Takeaways:** Practical tips to spot and avoid online scams will be provided in a session geared toward adults. A question-and-answer session on scams and basic cybersecurity will follow the presentation. If possible, submit questions in advance. Space limited; registration required. To sign up, visit anythinklibraries.org. 6-7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 5.

### KELVER LIBRARY

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

**Little Makers Club:** Children ages 0-5 and their families will participate in Winter Wonderland activities. Free crafts, snacks, and goody bag provided. 10-11:30 a.m., Friday, Jan. 30.

**DIY Stamp Making:** Tweens can with make their own experimental stamp designs using acrylic blocks and adhesive craft foam, then stamp the image onto paper to create a greeting card, postcard or bookmark. All supplies provided. 4-5 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3.

**FIRE UP THEM ADS WITH COLOR!  
CALL US RIGHT NOW! (303)622-9796**

# FARM EQUIPMENT DISPERSAL AUCTION



**Saturday, January 31st, 2026 - 10:00 am MT**

**4661 CR 61, Keenesburg, CO**

**Sellers: Harry & Judy Ewing**

**PREVIEW & INSPECTION AVAILABLE FRI 1/30/26,  
10 AM TO 3 PM, OR BY CALLING AUCTIONEER/STEVE  
@ 303-548-4042; SELLER/HARRY @ 303-710-1214**

*Detailed listing & photos can be viewed at [www.linneburauctions.com](http://www.linneburauctions.com)*

*Internet bidding will be offered through Equipment Facts*

*All cataloged lots sold online will start at approx 11:30 MST.*

*Reg. terms & bidding info can be found at [equipmentfacts.com](http://equipmentfacts.com)*

TRACTORS: 2018 MF TLBGC 1720 w/CB65 Backhoe; 1972 Oliver 1955; 1950 Oliver 77 Row Crop; 1958 JD 620; 1954 JD 60. SKID STEER & ATTACH'S: 2000 Cat 236B Skid Steer; McMillen PHD; Bucket; Pallet Forks; Hay Basket. VEH'S: 1989 Jeep Wrangler; 1953 Dodge PK; 2005 Chrysler Pacifica; 2005 Ford F250 PK. TRL: Semi Van Box/Trlr (for storage only). HAY EQUIP: 1986-88 Hesston 6655 SP Windrower; NH 499 Hydro-Swing Swather; JD567 Mega Wide Round Baler; NH 570 Hay Baler; MF Hay Rake; MF 39 Whl Rake. FARM EQUIP: JD No. 9W Sickle Mower; JD F950 Mulcher; Tandem Disk; Eversman 329 Land Leveler; Field Sprayer; IHC 100 Drill; GH Chisel; Eversman Ditcher; Ditch Closer; Tool Bar; Field Cult; Tumble Bug Plow; FH Power Box Manure Spreader; Rhino RH6 Rotary Mower; F10 Box Scraper; 3-Sec Spike Tooth Harrow; Corrugator; FH Power Box F32A Manure Spreader Box. OTHER MISC: Util FB Trl Frame; Lift Boom; Livestock Squeeze Chute; Livestock Water Tank; Sheep/Goat Hay Manger; Wagon Parts/Pcs; (2) Vintage Walk-Behind Cult; Culvert; Pile of Livestock Panels; (19) Pcs of Plastic Sewer Pipe; (5) Tractor Whl Wts; Workmaster FE Loader; Misc shop tools, parts, etc.



**"We'll Do Our Best For You"**

2009 Colorado State Champion Auctioneer Steve Linnebur

Phone & Fax: 303-822-9298, Email: [linneburauctions@hotmail.com](mailto:linneburauctions@hotmail.com), [www.linneburauctions.com](http://www.linneburauctions.com)





# SPORTS



## Indian boys jump up to No. 1 in 3A rankings

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — The undefeated Strasburg Indians recorded what they hope is the first of several statement victories against Patriot League foes as they jumped out early en route to a 74-56 home win against Windsor Charter Academy Jan. 20.

The red-and-black also avenged last year's trio of losses — including in the state title game — to two-time defending state champion Resurrection Christian, 61-52 Jan. 23. Particulars from Friday's game were unavailable at press time. For full coverage, see the Jan. 30 Eastern Colorado News.

A combination of Strasburg's Windsor Charter victory and a 58-53 loss by Forge Christian (against 4A Peak to Peak) the same night catapulted the troops of Indian head coach Kyle Bollers to No. 1 in the Colorado High School Activities Association's Selection & Seeding Index for the 3A playoffs. After Strasburg, undefeated Banning Lewis Academy jumped to No. 2 with Forge's Fury a spot behind. Five other Patriot League teams are in the CHSAA top 10 — Yuma fourth, Windsor Charter No. 5, Resurrection Christian seventh, Wiggins No. 8, and Liberty Common at ninth. Peyton, who Strasburg defeated by 22 points coming back from break, is No. 6 in the CHSAA rankings.

"I'm really pleased where we're at when you look at the schedule we play, particularly our league that is tough every night and, then, you add what's been going on off the court, I can't be more pleased with how the boys have handled things," said Bollers,

**SEE BB STRASBURG PAGE 14**



PHOTOS BY SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg's Cam Manahan, left photo, challenges a Windsor Charter Academy shot Jan. 20, while teammate Brody Hopwood (2) scores 2 of his game-high 18 points against the Firebirds.

## Byers boys take battle of Bulldogs

by **Douglas Claussen**  
Publisher & Editor

BYERS — The Bulldog cagers won their second straight game against a top shelf opponent to maintain their No. 1 place on the state seeding index for Class 2A boys basketball and advance to 8-1 for the season.

Byers opened with a 10-0 run against the opponent's formidable 1-2-2 zone defense and eventually defeated Elbert, the No. 7 team in 1A, by 10 points, 71-61. Torrid outside shooting early forced Elbert out of its zone.

"If we can get them into man-to-man, it will be tougher for them to beat us," said Byers head coach Jeremy Kerns of his think-



CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Byers' Devin Mohatt challenges an Elbert shot attempt Jan. 21.

ing. "And so we started the night off scoring — four straight possessions against their zone — and called a bunch of set plays. But [the Byers boys] finished those set plays and that did take Elbert out of their zone."

Byers had comfortable leads of 23-9 and 37-21 after each of the first two quarters, but Elbert stiffened in the second half, at one point cutting the

**SEE BB BYERS PAGE 12**

## Lady Eagles in 1A playoff hunt after 4 straight 'W's

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

After a four-game losing skid sent them a game under .500, the Deer Trail Lady Eagles responded with four straight in the win column to give themselves a fighting chance for their first 1A postseason in about a decade.

The Eagles were outscored 56-25 and 61-10 at Flagler and Cheraw Jan. 13 and 15, respectively, before winning 31-20 at Elbert Jan. 17, 35-16 at home against Hanner Jan. 20, and 45-27 at Bethune Jan. 22. The red-and-white also had a home forfeit victory against Wiley, who couldn't field enough players Jan. 24.

At 7-4 overall as of last weekend, the troops of head coach Phil Donovan are No. 25 in the Colorado High School Activities Association's Selection & Seeding Index to determine the 32 postseason berths in 1A girls. Deer Trail last made the playoffs at the end of the 2016-17 season.

**@ ELBERT**

To start their most recent winning streak, the Eagles held their Elbert County hosts to single-digit points all four quarters with end-of-quarter leads of 5-4, 17-11 and 25-16.

"Our young ladies stepped

**SEE GB DEER TRAIL PAGE 10**

## CHSAA changes: Unrest with new classification splits growing

### Boys Basketball

| Class | Range         | Teams |
|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1A    | 1 - 84        | 59    |
| 2A    | 85 - 249      | 76    |
| 3A    | 250 - 499     | 56    |
| 4A    | 500 - 999     | 57    |
| 5A    | 1,000 - 1,499 | 56    |
| 6A    | 1,500 +       | 53    |

### Girls Basketball

| Class | Range         | Teams |
|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1A    | 1 - 84        | 58    |
| 2A    | 85 - 249      | 77    |
| 3A    | 250 - 499     | 56    |
| 4A    | 500 - 999     | 57    |
| 5A    | 1,000 - 1,499 | 55    |
| 6A    | 1,500 +       | 53    |

CHSAA.ORG

Proposed changes to CHSAA's basketball realignment proposal for 2026-28 has come under scrutiny for a significant imbalance in 2A schools. The middle column is the enrollment range for all six classes.

**Editor's note:** This is the second of a pair of stories leading up to the Colorado High School Activities Association's Legislative Council meeting when proposals for the upcoming 2026-28 cycle will be voted on.

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

AURORA — As the Feb. 3 meeting of the Colorado High School Activities Association's Legislative Council approaches, the amount of scrutiny leveled against the Classification & League Organization Committee

(CLOC) realignment proposal, particularly for basketball, appears to be growing.

According to multiple Eastern Colorado athletic directors and coaches, the groundswell of opposition against revamped enrollment breakdowns could result in the 75-member Legislative Council voting down CLOC's classification proposal entirely. Next week's agenda already includes an amendment from the Lower Platte Conference in the northeast corner of

**SEE CHSAA CHANGES PAGE 22**

**GB DEER TRAIL**

**FROM PAGE 9**

up the defense. We knew they had a couple of players that give us some issues, but controlled things pretty well," Donovan said. "We attacked offensively and picked up our efforts at the free-throw line."

The victors overcame significant shooting woes — 7-of-40 (18%) from the field — and went 12-of-18 from the charity stripe.

Six of seven Eagles scored with se-

nior Megan Donovan and junior Vailini Samate tying for the team-high in points with 8 each.

On the glass Donovan led with 10 rebounds while senior Jeanette Rodrigues added nine.

Defensively, Deer Trail had 13 steals with sophomore Fatuma Hussein recording a game-high seven thefts, and Donovan had three of the Eagles' four blocked shots.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|            | 1 | 2  | 3 | 4 | F  |
|------------|---|----|---|---|----|
| Deer Trail | 5 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 31 |
| Elbert     | 4 | 7  | 5 | 4 | 20 |

**Deer Trail @ Elbert**

**Points (31):** Vailini Samate 8; Fatuma Hussein 5; Kylene Kitzman 1; Jeanette Rodriguez 3; Megan Donovan 8; Kylie Bryant 6.  
**Rebounds (30):** Samate 3; Hussein 3; Rodriguez 9; Donovan 10; Ky Bryant 5.  
**Assists (5):** Samate 2; Hussein 2; Donovan 1.  
**Steals (13):** Samate 3; Hussein 7; Rodriguez 2; Donovan 1.

**HANOVER**

Against the visiting Hornets, Deer Trail again allowed four single-digit point quarters defensively while reaching 10 or more points to start both halves of play.

The Eagles were up 10-3 after the first eight minutes and went into the locker rooms up 15-5 at halftime. A 13-4 third quarter put the hosts up 28-9 before a 7-7 final period.

"A solid game. Offensively we executed pretty good, but had a little stall in the second quarter," coach Donovan said. "We were more aggressive on the boards but struggled from the free-throw line. Defensively we were able to apply some pressure, which helped us."

While a little bit better than the Elbert game, the Eagles again struggled to shoot — 16-of-67 (24%) from the field and 2-of-9 at the free-throw line.

On the boards, Deer Trail recorded 37 rebounds, including 19 on the offensive end of the court.

Megan Donovan paced the Eagles with a double-double of 13 points and 13 rebounds.

Defensively, Hanover committed 30-plus turnovers with Deer Trail recording 19 steals. Samate was the victors' top thief with five steals, followed by Hussein with four and Donovan and sophomore KyAnn Kitzman with three apiece. Donovan again had three of Deer Trail's four blocked shots.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|            | 1  | 2 | 3  | 4 | F  |
|------------|----|---|----|---|----|
| Hanover    | 3  | 2 | 4  | 7 | 16 |
| Deer Trail | 10 | 5 | 13 | 7 | 35 |

**Hanover @ Deer Trail**

**Points (35):** Samate 7; Hussein 3; Kitzman 2; Rodriguez 2; Donovan 13; Kendall Bryant 2; Ky Bryant 2.  
**Rebounds (37):** Samate 3; Hussein 2; Kitzman 4; Marquez 3; Rodriguez 7; Donovan 13; Ky Bryant 1; Ky Bryant 4.  
**Assists (9):** Samate 3; Hussein 1; Marquez 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 1; Ky Bryant 2.  
**Steals (19):** Samate 5; Hussein 4; Kitzman 3; Marquez 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 3; Ky Bryant 2.

**@ BETHUNE**

For the second time this season, the Eagles took out the Bobcats. After a 31-26 victory in the season-opener during Deer Trail's own Eagle Classic on Dec. 25, the red-and-white picked last week's rematch on the road to record their highest point production so far this season.

An 8-7 Eagle advantage after the first quarter was extended to 25-12 at halftime. In a more tightly contested second half, Deer Trail won the third quarter 9-8 and the final period 11-7.

"Another really good defensive effort," said Phil Donovan of his squad's third consecutive contest not allowing a double-digit quarter. "Finally, hit a few more shots than we did in previous games."

The Eagles went 19-of-55 (35%) from the field, while going only 7-of-14 (50%) from the free-throw line. Defensively, Deer Trail held the hosts to 7-of-52 (13%) from the field; Bethune outscored Deer Trail by 5 points at the free-throw line but still only went 12-of-24.

The trio of Donovan, Rodriguez and Samate accounted for all but 3 of Deer Trail's points with 15, 15 and 12, respectively. While Donovan again got her double-double with 12 rebounds, Rodriguez fell one board shy with nine.

Defensively, in addition to 13 steals, the Eagles recorded nine blocked shots, including Donovan with eight.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|            | 1 | 2  | 3 | 4  | F  |
|------------|---|----|---|----|----|
| Deer Trail | 8 | 17 | 9 | 11 | 45 |
| Bethune    | 7 | 5  | 8 | 7  | 27 |

**Deer Trail @ Bethune**

**Points (45):** Samate 12; Rodriguez 15; Donovan 15; Ky Bryant 3.  
**Rebounds (40):** Samate 6; Hussein 7; Kitzman 1; Rodriguez 9; Donovan 12; Ky Bryant 5.  
**Assists (6):** Samate 1; Hussein 1; Donovan 4.  
**Steals (13):** Samate 2; Hussein 2; Rodriguez 3; Donovan 3; Ky Bryant 3.

**@ FLAGLER & CHERAW**

In its eight quarters leading up to the current winning streak, Deer Trail's offense struggled with only one double-digit scoring period, but its 16-point fourth at Flagler followed a 16-0 shutout against in the opening stanza earlier in the evening. At Cheraw, the Eagles only mustered four made field goals and 2 points each in the first, third and fourth quarters.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Deer Trail | 0  | 5  | 4  | 16 | 25 |
| Flagler    | 16 | 25 | 10 | 5  | 56 |

**Deer Trail @ Flagler**

**Points (25):** Samate 1; Hussein 6; Marquez 1; Donovan 13; Ky Bryant 4.  
**Rebounds (25):** Hussein 2; Kitzman 3; Marquez 1; Rodriguez 2; Donovan 9; Ky Bryant 8.  
**Assists (2):** Hussein 1; Donovan 1.  
**Steals (9):** Hussein 4; Kitzman 2; Marquez 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 1.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|            | 1  | 2 | 3  | 4  | F  |
|------------|----|---|----|----|----|
| Deer Trail | 2  | 4 | 2  | 2  | 10 |
| Cheraw     | 18 | 8 | 24 | 11 | 61 |

**Deer Trail @ Cheraw**

**Points (10):** Rodriguez 2; Donovan 4; Ky Bryant 4.  
**Rebounds (16):** Hussein 3; Kitzman 1; Marquez 3; Rodriguez 4; Donovan 4; Ky Bryant 1.  
**Assists (2):** Samate 1; Rodriguez 1.  
**Steals (6):** Samate 1; Hussein 1; Marquez 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 2.

**COMING UP**

- Jan. 29: Weldon Valley.
- Jan. 31: Limon.
- Feb. 3: @ Stratton.
- Feb. 5: @ Cripple Creek-Victor.
- Feb. 10: @ Byers.
- Feb. 12: @ Hi-Plains.
- Feb. 13: Genoa-Hugo/Karval.
- Feb. 17: Pikes Peak Christian.
- Feb. 19: Burlington.
- Feb. 26: Manzanola.

**FILL-UP SPECIAL**

**GLOBAL PROPANE**

(303) 660-9290

FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS

VOLUME DISCOUNTS

**\$1.79<sup>9</sup>**

GALLON

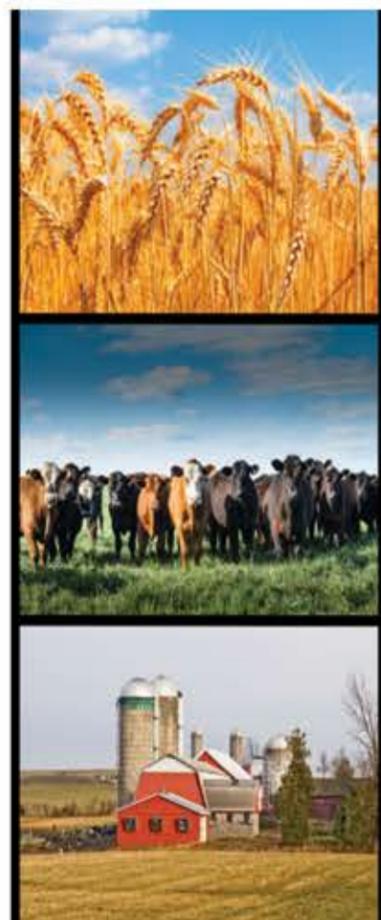
500+ Limited Offer

## 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

**Railings & So Much More!**

- Interior & Exterior;
- Residential & Commercial;
- Glass Rails;
- Loft & Stair Rails;
- Grab Bars;
- Fire Features, Storm Doors, & Window Well Covers;
- Products as varied as Your Imagination!



**"We Do Ag Loans the Best,  
but We Can Do All the Rest!"**



**FNB Bank**  
A State Chartered Bank — Member FDIC

1076 S 1st St, Bennett CO 80102  
(303) 644-5100  
www.fnb.com



# Tigers ram Sheridan for third straight win; reach .500-mark

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

SHERIDAN — The Bennett boys basketball team recorded their third consecutive victory and pulled their record to .500 after a 64-41 victory at 2A Frontier League foe Sheridan Jan. 20.

Contrary to earlier in the season, the orange-and-black started fast against the Rams, jumping up 22-9 after the first quarter and extending the advantage to 38-21 at halftime. The troops of head coach Andrew Thornton continued their momentum after intermission, winning the third quarter 15-7. The host Rams took the final eight minutes 13-11 but never did threaten the outcome.

“Did a pretty good job of flip-flopping how we started finally. Brought some energy early, especially defensively, and that was helpful,” Thornton said. “A lot of early steals, turnovers into some easy buckets. Trending things the right way.”

The Tigers had one of their better shooting nights of the season, making almost half of their field goals (25-of-51), despite going 1-of-10 from behind the three-point line. The Tigers also struggled at the free-throw line, 13-of-26. Bennett shared the ball well, recording 15 assists on 25 made buckets.

“A lot of different guys getting involved, a different one running up the court or staying active around the bucket and making things pay off,” Thornton said. “A lot of hustle, effort from everyone getting on the court. But still not real good from any sort of distance, so we need to get more of those shots to fall if we want to reach our goals.”

Junior Avant Dickens, who went 8-of-10 from the field and 2-2 from the free-throw line, and senior Austin Stiers led the Tiger offensive attack with 18 and 13 points, respectively. Stiers also had team highs with three assists and three of the Tigers’ nine steals on defense.

On the glass, Bennett had nine players accumulate 31 rebounds, led by junior Elias Pulido with seven and

Dickens with six.

“A lot of guys contributing, which should bode well for us down the road,” Thornton said. “When teams scout us, they can’t just focus on one person. If someone has an off-night, we have other options that can step up.”

Bennett’s Jan. 22 contest at Arrupe Jesuit was postponed until Feb. 19 after a power outage hit the Generals’ gym.

“We got the C game in and started the fourth quarter in the JV game when the lights started to go out. We started the JV fourth quarter with partial lighting but, when warming up the varsity guys, they flickered like a disco ball and then everything went out,” Thornton said. “They tried about 15 minutes to get them back up and then decided it was a no-go. That’s a brand new gym, open three weeks, but there were other local outages reported too, so don’t know what the cause really was.”

The Tigers, 7-7 overall, 1-1 in 4A Frontier League play, are starting to climb the standings in the Colorado High School Activities Association’s playoff seeding index but, as of Jan. 24, Thornton’s troops were still out of the top 32 at No. 37.

“With the playoffs certainly our No. 1 goal, we can’t truly afford any missteps now,” he said. “We need to win the games we should win and avoid coming out flat and not getting the job done the rest of the way. Opportunities to help ourselves are starting to dwindle with less than 10 games left.”

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|          | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Bennett  | 22 | 16 | 15 | 11 | 64 |
| Sheridan | 9  | 12 | 7  | 13 | 41 |

**Bennett @ Sheridan**

**Points (61):** Austin Stiers 13; Carter Jarman 3; Avant Dickens 18; Ivan Santoyo 3; Owen Hawes 9; Mac Froman 2; Daniel Rodriguez 5; Alfredo Duran 2; Brayden Schmatz 2; Elias Pulido 7.  
**Rebounds (31):** Jarman 4; Dickens 6; Santoyo 3; Hawes 3; Evan Garner 1; Rodriguez 2; Duran 1; Schmatz 4; Pulido 7.  
**Assists (15):** Stiers 3; Jarman 2; Dickens 2; Santoyo 2; Hawes 1; Froman 2; Rodriguez 1; Schmatz 2.  
**Steals (22):** Stiers 3; Dickens 1; Santoyo 2; Hawes 1; Froman 1; Schmatz 1.

**COMING UP**

**Jan. 29:** @ Middle Park  
**Feb. 3:** Arvada  
**Feb. 5:** @ Platte Canyon

# Bennett girls rally to go to 10-3

by **Steven Vetter**  
Managing Editor

DENVER — Despite a sluggish start, the Bennett Lady Tigers recorded their 10th win, against three defeats, with a 50-29 victory at Frontier League rival Arrupe Jesuit Jan. 21.

After falling behind 9-0 out of the gate, the visiting orange-and-black pulled the deficit to 11-6 at the end of the first quarter and had jumped ahead 22-16 at halftime. A 16-0 third-quarter shutout put the troops of Bennett head coach Mike Rios up 38-16 entering the final quarter. The host Lady Generals took the fourth 13-12 but failed to significantly close the gap.

“We responded with composure and intensity,” Rios said, noting that the guard combo of junior Emilee Venneberg and sophomore Josie Ladd led the way. “The girls locked in defensively and controlled the tempo.”

As a team, Bennett shot 21-of-58 (36%) from the field, including 18-of-

43 (42%) from two-point range and was only 5-of-16 from the three-point line. The Tigers also struggled with ball control, committing 24 turnovers. Defensively, Bennett forced 30-plus Arrupe turnovers, including 22 via the steal.

While Venneberg paced the victors in points with 20, Ladd dominated with a triple-double — 10 rebounds and 11 steals to go with her 11 points.

In addition to their 10-3 overall record, Bennett is 3-0 in conference play and, as of Jan. 24, safely in the 4A playoff picture at No. 13 in the Colorado High School Activities Association’s Selection & Seeding Index to determine the 32-team field.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Bennett       | 6  | 16 | 16 | 12 | 50 |
| Arrupe Jesuit | 11 | 5  | 0  | 13 | 29 |

**Bennett @ Arrupe Jesuit**

**Points (50):** Aileen Duran 6; Mattie Robledo 5; Mya Robledo 4; Madelyn Barouset 4; Josie Ladd 11; Emilee Venneberg 20.  
**Rebounds (23):** Duran 1; Ma Robledo 1; My Robledo 1; Emma Jordan 2; Barouset 3; Ladd 10; Venneberg 5.  
**Assists (10):** Duran 1; Ma Robledo 1; Barouset 1; Ladd 5; Venneberg 2.  
**Steals (22):** Duran 1; Ma Robledo 4; My Robledo 1; Jordan 1; Barouset 1; Ladd 11; Venneberg 3.

## 20- & 30-YARD TRASH ROLL-OFFS

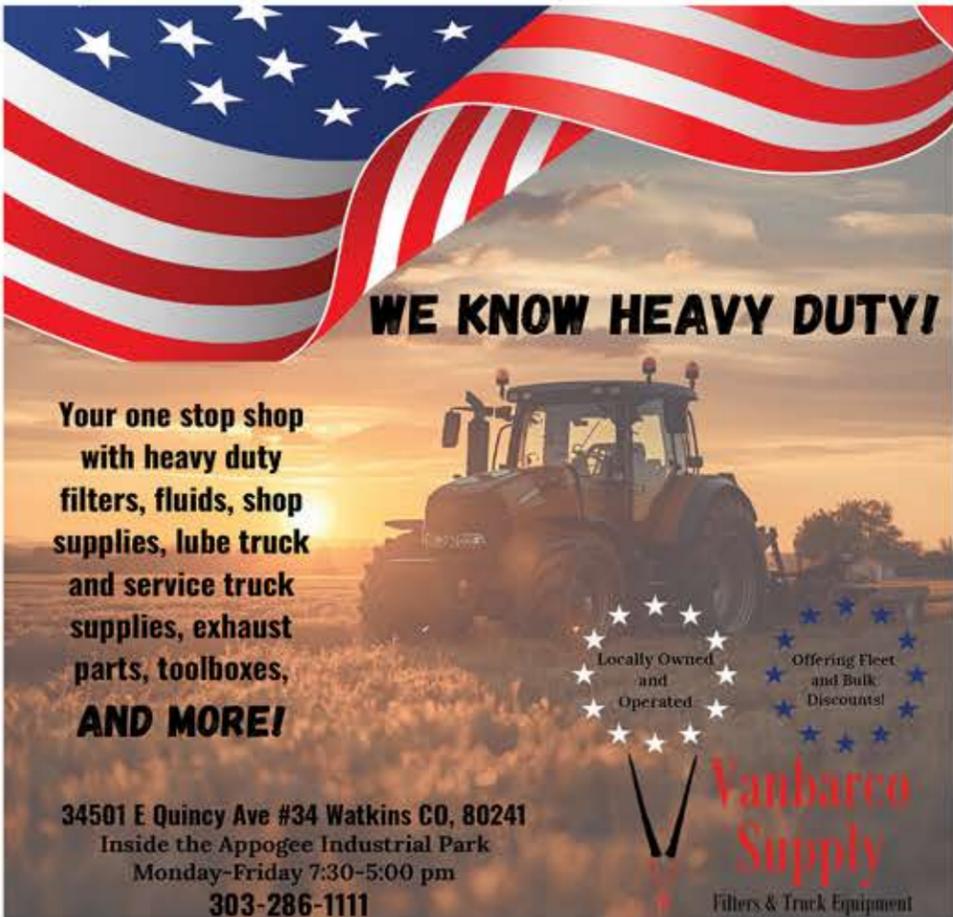
Residential & Commercial

Serving Strasburg  
and the I-70 Corridor

303-622-9499

**D&D WATER SERVICE**





## WE KNOW HEAVY DUTY!

**Your one stop shop with heavy duty filters, fluids, shop supplies, lube truck and service truck supplies, exhaust parts, toolboxes, AND MORE!**

Locally Owned and Operated

Offering Fleet and Bulk Discounts!

**Vanbarco Supply**  
Filters & Truck Equipment

34501 E Quincy Ave #34 Watkins CO, 80241  
Inside the Appogee Industrial Park  
Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00 pm  
303-286-1111



The American Legion Post 160 in Byers would like to THANK the BENNETT BRANCH of



**F&M Bank** in Colorado

for their generous choice to provide a silent auction to repair & refurbish our Legion Hall.

We also wish to thank each & every person who donated to the cause whether by providing a donated item, or by their bids.

We plan to repair a concrete wall, refurbish the main hall floor & several small improvements to provide visitors with a better place to meet & visit.

**WELLER**  
  
 INSURANCE

- Home • Auto •
- Farm • Crop •
- Life • Business •

303-622-4717 • Fax: 303-622-4716  
 www.wellerinsuranceagency.com  
 56770 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg, CO, 80136

**Swim's Disposal Service**  
 Locally owned trash company servicing the I-70 Corridor in residential & commercial garbage pickup.  
 Call today for your cheapest rates!

Byers CO.  
 303-822-9535  
 SWIMSDISPOSAL.COM

**DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**  
**IMPROVED PRICING ON ALL DENTAL PROCEDURES FOR DOGS & CATS DURING FEBRUARY!**  
 Call for an appointment! 303-644-3337

**EQUINE & CANINE CHIROPRACTIC AVAILABLE**  
 FULL GROOMING SERVICES @ PET SPA

Mobile, emergency & overnight triage services available

**LIVING SPRINGS VETERINARY CARE**  
 820 Sharis Ct. Bennett, CO • 303-644-3337  
 www.livingspringsvet.com  
 AS SEEN ON ANIMAL PLANET

**WELCOME Winter**  
 Maverick Mercantile

**SLEDS FROM \$12.99**

**STARTER STICKS BUNDLE \$9.99**

**.75CU FT WOOD BUNDLE \$8.00**

**LIGNETICS WOOD PELLET FUEL \$10.99**

45 N MAIN CIRCLE BYERS, CO 80103 303-822-5625



Quincy Eacret (15), drives to the bucket, left, and Conrad Cichos (12) goes up for 2 during Byers' victory over visiting Elbert Jan. 21.

**BB BYERS FROM PAGE 9**

deficit to 6 points. Kerns said the Bulldogs knew Elbert, which placed fifth at last year's 1A state tournament and returned all of its key players, would fight. He likened the scenario to a loss at Wiggins Jan. 6 after the Bulldogs blew a 16-point halftime lead.

Not this time. "We didn't get tentative. We didn't get passive when they made that fight," Kerns said. "We just got off the mat and kept punching back. Huge credit to [Elbert] having the heart of a team that is expecting to make a run at state."

Byers had three big offensive outputs with junior James Maes and sophomore Conrad Cichos tallying 20 points apiece and senior Quincy Eacret dropping 19. Cichos added seven rebounds, two steals and two blocks, Maes and Eacret each dished out three assists, and Maes and junior Devin Mohatt had two steals apiece.

But Kerns also gave credit to his role players. "There are other guys that do so many other good things for us."

Since the Christmas break, Byers has faced three highly regarded foes, falling 67-64 at Wiggins, the No. 8 team in 3A, Jan. 6 and defeating Denver Christian, the 3A No. 16, and Elbert. Kerns was happy with the performance of the Bulldogs.

"We came right out of break and

we've played three really quality teams and they've all been similar games," Kerns said.

Byers was scheduled to face Flagler on the road Jan. 23 but the game was postponed until Feb. 2. The delay was the fourth this season.

"We're going to end up with a million games in a row here," Kerns said of the rescheduling headache. "We shouldn't have to complain about conditioning at that point."

"I feel like a baseball coach, because now we've rescheduled four basketball games. I've never had that happen before," he concluded. "Knock on wood."

**ELBERT @ BYERS**

**Points** (71): C. Cichos 20; Maes 20; Eacret 19; Price 3; M. Cichos 3; Linnebur 3; Mohatt 2; Ebert 1.

**Rebounds** (29): C. Cichos 7; Ebert 6; M. Cichos 4; Maes 3; Eacret 3; Mohatt 3; Linnebur 2; Price 1.

**Assists** (13): Maes 3; Eacret 3; C. Cichos 2; M. Cichos 2; Ebert 2; Price 1.

**Steals** (10): Maes 2; C. Cichos 2; Mohatt 2; Eacret 1; Linnebur 1; M. Cichos 1; Price (1).

**Blocks** (3): C. Cichos 2; M. Cichos 1.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|        | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Byers  | 23 | 14 | 15 | 19 | 71 |
| Elbert | 9  | 12 | 19 | 21 | 61 |

**BYERS SCHEDULE**

- Jan. 29: @ Arickaree.
- Jan. 31: @ Burlington.
- Feb. 2: @ Flagler.
- Feb. 6: @ Akron.

**GENIE'S VETERAN AND SENIOR TRANSPORTATION LLC**  
 720-737-4176

Deer Trail, Byers, Strasburg & Surrounding Areas

# Lady Indians double win total with pair of road victories

by Douglas Claussen  
Publisher & Editor

The Strasburg girls basketball team put together a pair of road wins at Woodland Park Jan. 17 and Windsor Charter Academy Jan. 20.

"In both games, I thought we were able to make the other team turn the ball over pretty consistently, and that always gives us a little momentum," said Strasburg coach Merci Ames.

The Indians recorded 32 steals against Woodland Park and 18 versus WCA, led by junior Wynne Winter with 12 and 7 thefts, respectively.

Winter also anchored Strasburg's offense with a career-high 19 points in each game.

"She had two great games, both offensively and defensively," Ames said. "We finally got her to start shooting."

Ames still sees room for improvement in one key area: turnovers.

"We're still not taking as good a care of the ball as we should have," she said. "We had way too many unforced

errors."

The Indians fell 54-30 at Resurrection Christian Jan. 23. Watch the Jan. 23 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News* for complete coverage.

"We're improving a little," Ames said Saturday. "We just couldn't put the whole thing together last night."

The loss dropped Strasburg to 4-7 for the season.

## @ WOODLAND PARK

The Lady Indians whipped Woodland Park 62-33 despite a slow start. They led just 13-10 and 28-22 after each of the first two quarters, respectively, before blowing out the Panthers 34-11 in the second half.

"We were doing great defensively," Ames said. "It was just taking a little while to find the middle of that basket."

Senior Taryn LaForce had her sixth double-double of the season with 10 points, 13 rebounds, and two blocks while Winter and junior Addi Kent each dished out four assists against

the Lady Panthers.

The Indians hit just 11-of-28 field goal attempts.

## STRASBURG @ WOODLAND PARK

**Points** (62): Winter 19; LaForce 10; Kent 8; Rojahn 7; Tiffany 4; Friedrich 4; Rodriguez 4; Garcia 3; Fields 3; Cardenas 1.

**Rebounds** (45): LaForce 13; Tiffany 7; Rojahn 7; Kent 6; Friedrich 5; Fields 3; Winter 2; Garcia 1; Cardenas 1.

**Assists** (16): Kent 4; Winter 4; Tiffany 2; Garcia 2; Cardenas 1; Rojahn 1; Friedrich 1; LaForce 1.

**Steals** (32): Winter 12; Rodriguez 5; Garcia 4; Rojahn 4; Kent 2; Tiffany 2; Cardenas 2; Fields 1.

**Blocks** (3): LaForce 2; Kent 1.

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Strasburg     | 13 | 15 | 22 | 12 | 62 |
| Woodland Park | 10 | 12 | 6  | 5  | 33 |

## @ WINDSOR CHARTER

Strasburg built its advantage in each of the first three quarters, leading 11-7, 25-18 and 31-22, respectively, before winning 42-23 at WCA.

"It was one of those games that we had pretty good control pretty much all the way through," Ames said. "We just weren't necessarily getting all the makes that we should have."

LaForce recorded nine rebounds and one block but was held to just 8 points by the Lady Firebirds.

"She's getting a lot of attention, of course," Ames said. "She's getting doubled and doubled quite frequently."

Kent added six assists and five steals for the Indians.

## STRASBURG @ WINDSOR CHARTER ACADEMY

**Points** (42): Winter 19; LaForce 8; Garcia 5; Tiffany 4; Kent 2; Rojahn 2; Friedrich 2.

**Rebounds** (38): LaForce 9; Rojahn 6; Kent 5; Winter 5; Tiffany 4; Friedrich 4; Garcia 2; Fields 1; Cardenas 1; Rodriguez 1.

**Assists** (12): Kent 6; Winter 3; Garcia 2; Friedrich 1.

**Steals** (18): Winter 7; Kent 5; LaForce 2; Rojahn 2; Garcia 1; Fields 1.

**Blocks** (1): LaForce 1.

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

|                 | 1  | 2  | 3 | 4  | F  |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|
| Strasburg       | 11 | 14 | 6 | 11 | 42 |
| Windsor Charter | 7  | 11 | 4 | 12 | 34 |

## COMING UP

**Jan. 30:** @ Liberty Common.

**Jan. 31:** Skyview.

**Feb. 3:** Platte Valley.

**Feb. 6:** @ Highland.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Byers High School hosted its only home wrestling event of the season Jan. 22 with a Parents Appreciation and Senior Night triangular. The evening included one Bulldog match, a pinfall loss, against Peyton and three contests against Akron. The hosts went 1-2 against the Rams. Clockwise from above left, Jon Brnak has his hand raised after one of his two forfeit wins at 106 pounds; Beau Suppes looks for the right opportunity to engage Akron's Kaleb Grauer at 150 pounds. Grauer pinned Suppes at 2:24; the lone Bulldog senior Brodie Fisbeck (113) shares a moment with father, Kyle; and Wes Butterfield works a chicken-wing/half-nelson combination during his second-period pinfall win over Akron's RyLee Bacon at 175 pounds.



FILL-UP SPECIAL

**GLOBAL PROPANE**

(303) 660-9290

FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS

VOLUME DISCOUNTS

\$1.79<sup>9</sup>

GALLON

500+  
Limited Offer

## Shop

www.i70ccoc.com

70 Corridor Athletics (970)260-6041  
 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  
 Colorado Sod Company LLC (720)650-5137  
 Comfort Home Inspections (303)697-1616  
 Country Compass and Travel Services (720)320-0445  
 Claws and Paws Pet Sitting (303)644-3332  
 Coal Creek Heating, Air, Electric (970)786-6124  
 Color Street/Nails by Lisa (303)250-9916  
 Colorado Air and Space Port (720)523-7311  
 Colorado Martial Arts Academy (714)926-4159  
 Commercial Roofing Contractor (720)673-6563  
 CORE (303)622-9231  
 Corridor Comfort (720)680-9022  
 Dana M Arvin Esq (303)328-7565  
 ES Tech (ESRTA) (888)999-3778  
 F & M Bank Colorado (303)644-3266  
 FNB Bank (303)644-5100  
 Front Range RV Storage LLC (303)644-5800  
 Gateway Realty I-70 LLC (970)380-0078  
 Grothe Financial Services, PC (303)644-4600  
 Hagers Construction and Landscaping (303)503-9788  
 High Plains Bank (303)644-4900  
 High Plains Sanitation Services (303)622-4126  
 I-70 Corridor Communities that Care (303)644-5049  
 I-70 Publishing Company (303)622-9796

**Lunch and Learn/Member Meeting**  
Third Wednesday of the month

# LOCAL

## I-70 Chamber of Commerce Members 2026

I-70 REAP (720)587-7501  
 Infinity Roofing (303)946-6698  
 Integrity Insurance (303)644-4872  
 Jess Baked For You (303)518-0113  
 Kauffman Sales dba Clark's Equipment (303)622-4012  
 Launch Pad Brewery (303)644-4599  
 Law Office of Shelley Thompson, LLC (720)716-5677  
 LaZyB Acres Alpacos (303)644-4110  
 Lindy Cosgrove (303)257-5477  
 Linnebur Auctions, Inc. (303)822-9298  
 Luminous Imaging Solutions (303)503-3951  
 Magik Mirror Metaphysical (720)324-4002  
 Neal Mancuso (303)644-5191  
 Matt Brinkhoff-Coldwell Banker Realty (303)324-0241  
 May Farms LLC (303)822-5800  
 Morgan Community College (719)775-8873  
 Patricia Davis — Thirty-One Gifts (303)601-1321  
 PsychedIN (303)380-1858  
 Real Estate Connection, LLC (720)273-0783  
 Relax and Create with Me (720)486-6119  
 Resilient Physical Therapy & Performance (720)891-9728  
 Scott's Sweaters (303)923-4964  
 Smoke Show Meats (785)534-7412  
 South Havana Motor Company (303)644-4221  
 SouthState Bank (303)622-4201  
 Stayin' Alive AED & CPR Training (918)497-8384  
 Strasburg Parks & Recreation District (303)622-4260  
 Sum Financial Services Group (720)613-6160  
 Talex Solutions LLC (303)731-2089  
 Tallgrass (720)951-1216  
 The Ag & Food Lab (720)620-0337  
 Town of Bennett (303) 644-3249  
 Trinity Acres Pumpkin Patch (720)296-7896  
 U.S. Mechanical Company, Inc. (303)622-2447  
 The Viewfinders Galleries (720)384-6933

www.i70ccoc.com  
 Phone: 720.731.1954  
 Email: Officei70ccoc@gmail.com

**Got Junk? Let Pride RollOff LLC handle it.**

Fast, easy dumpster rentals.  
Any project — BIG or small!  
We deliver. You fill it. We haul it away.  
No stress. No Mess. JUST CALL:

**303-622-4133**  
**303-622-4260**



**William Winkinhofer, Inc.**

Landscape Material  
Decorative Rock  
Recycled Asphalt  
Road Base • Sand  
Top Soil • Dirt  
Equipment Hauling



www.wmwinkinhoferinc.com

Cell (303) 478-7872  
(303) 775-2035



**GFS**

Grothe Financial Services P.C.

690 E. Colfax Ave., Bennett • 303-644-4600

- Tax Preparation
- Accounting & Bookkeeping
- Advisory Services

*Kevin Hemphill*



Kevin Michael Hemphill, 57, passed away peacefully at his home in Strasburg, Colo., Jan. 15, 2026, due to complications from pancreatic cancer. Visitation and a Holy Rosary was in Mundell Gymnasium at Strasburg High School Jan. 19. A funeral Mass was held at Jan. 21 at Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church in Byers, Colo.

A graveside service and burial was held Jan. 22 at South Star Cemetery in Graham County, Kan., following a visitation at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Hill City, Kan.

Kevin was born Nov. 17, 1968, in Fort Morgan, Colo., to Delmer and Charlene (Desiato) Hemphill. In 1974, Kevin began his own long-standing association with Strasburg Schools, enrolling in kindergarten with the future Class of 1987, where many lifelong friendships began.

As part of Strasburg's student body, Kevin excelled in a variety of capacities, including academics, where he was named valedictorian of his senior class, as a musician — he played trombone in the band — and also in athletics, where he was a three-sport letterman.

Kevin was a starting running back and linebacker for the first Strasburg football team to reach the state quarterfinals in the school's 11-man era. In basketball, he played point guard on the first Indians team to reach the state tournament in 38 years. He was also a distance runner who qualified for state in 1986 and was part of the 1987 track team that won the state championship.

Kevin's academic success continued at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan., where he graduated summa cum laude in 1991. He also got involved with athletic external operations for the first time, serving as the PA announcer for the Bethany Swedes baseball team.

After graduating, Kevin accepted a job as a middle school math teacher in Hill City, Kan., where he also served as an assistant coach for the Ringneck's football and boys basketball teams. There, he met the love of his life, Karla Zohner. They married July 17, 1993, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Hill City. In 1994, Kevin and Karla left Hill City when they accepted positions in Belleville, Kan., where Kevin's coaching duties included serving as an assistant on the Buffaloes' 1995 state championship football team, as the head tennis coach and girls basketball assistant coach. In 1997, Kevin and Karla moved to Wichita, Kan., where Kevin earned a master's degree at Wichita State University. Kevin and Karla welcomed daughter Josie Ann Marie to the family Jan. 24, 1999.

Kevin returned home when he was hired in the fall of 2000 to teach math at Strasburg High School. For the next 25 years, he taught, coached and mentored hundreds of SHS students, always looking for that special connection that might help steer each student in the right direction.

Kevin and Karla's family also grew by two after moving to Strasburg. They welcomed Alexander Jerard "A.J." in 2002, and Cade Michael in 2007.

As a coach, Kevin preferred serving as an assistant coach, mostly for the boys basketball and track teams. But he also was in charge of the cross country program for several seasons.

During football season, Kevin worked as one of his dad's spotters in the booth on Friday nights. When Del passed away in 2004, the school district renamed the press box in his honor and Kevin succeeded his father as "The Voice of the Indians."

While his other school assignments outside of football changed on occasion, his job on Friday nights — keeping the home and visiting fans apprised of the game's progression — was never altered. In those 20 seasons, Strasburg won two state championships and reached the finals four other times. And just like his dad had the chance to call his son's name after a key tackle or the occasional big offensive play, Kevin got to do the same, first for A.J., and then for Cade.

When Covid-19 restrictions forced schools to restrict "nonessential" attendees to sporting events, Kevin made sure those stuck at home still had access to the Indians by establishing the school's YouTube channel and securing the necessary equipment to produce a live broadcast.

In the spring of 2020, he produced the first episodes of "The Coaching Story. With Kevin Hemphill," a podcast that began with him interviewing fellow Strasburg High coaches, but later evolved into more than 40 episodes that celebrated colleagues in Eastern Colorado and beyond. In his final years at Strasburg, Kevin took on some new roles, including serving as the district's athletic director for two years, bus driver, and teaching several non-math courses before retiring after the 2024-25 school year.

Kevin was a member of Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church. He was an inaugural member of Knights of Columbus Council 13221, where he served in a number of capacities, including Grand Knight.

Kevin is survived by his family: Karla, Josie, A.J. and wife, Grace, and Cade of Strasburg; brother Steven (Brenda) of Salem, Va., and sister Michelle Forbis (Barry) of Strasburg; father- and mother-in-law Joe and Ruth Zohner of Penokee, Kan.; brothers-in-law Justin (Courtney) of Hill City, Kan., and Adam (Emma) Zohner of Houston; sister-in-law Anne Maxwell and her husband — who Kevin quickly adopted as his second brother — Doug Maxwell of Andale, Kan.; and 9 nieces and 3 nephews.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents; maternal grandparents Charles and Sylvia (Fraterelli); and paternal grandparents Janice (Quillen) Patrick, John Patrick and Burton Hemphill.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Strasburg High School Athletic Department, to provide equipment to students who are financially challenged, or to the Strasburg Parks and Recreation Department for sports fee scholarships.



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

From left photo, Indian Nick Glatfelter saves the ball from going out of bounds against Windsor Charter Academy Jan. 20, and Colton Holloway attacks the bucket against a Firebird defender. Strasburg remained undefeated and jumped to No. 1 in the 3A rankings with its 18-point victory.

**BB STRASBURG FROM PAGE 9**

noting the recent death of longtime Strasburg assistant coach and teacher Kevin Hemphill, whose youngest son, Cade, is a senior starter for the Indians. "Been a very emotional couple of weeks but the boys have not used that as an excuse or a crutch to not stay focused on the task at hand and still fully supporting Cade and the entire family."

**WINDSOR CHARTER ACADEMY**

Against the Firebirds, who defeated Strasburg in the regular season last year before falling to the Indians in the semifinals, the home red-and-black cranked up the defense early to take a 20-8 lead after the first eight minutes.

"We knew going in, establishing the energy on our side early would be key and we got off to a really good start. When that happens, we're difficult to beat," Bollers said. "We got our transition game going early — good perimeter defense led to some easy baskets. Really executed well in the first quarter."

At halftime, the Strasburg lead was 43-29. The second half was more tightly contested — Strasburg won the third 19-16 and the fourth 12-11 — but the result was never in doubt.

"Extended the lead to 22 at one time and, then, pretty much played pretty steady the rest of the way," Bollers said.

Both teams had four players reach double-digit points — the Windsor Charter quartet accounted for 54 points while Indian juniors Brody Hopwood (18), Jayden Miller (16) and Colton Holloway (11) and senior Nick Glatfelter (12) combined for 57 — but the rest of the Strasburg roster outscored one other Firebird 17-2.

"Our bench is absolutely tremendous," Bollers said. "The opposition can't focus on just one person with our depth."

While Strasburg shot 54% from the field, including 20-of-30 (66%) from two-point range, and went 4-of-5 from the free-throw line, Bollers lauded his squad's defense, which held the visitors to 39% from the field, including the the Firebird backcourt duo of senior Andrew Schams and junior Dayton Long.

"Those are two of the best scorers in the state in my opinion and our matchups against them, the perimeter pressure we had, forced them to give the ball up to their other guards who aren't usually handling the ball much," Bollers said. "Those two came in about 45 points a game and we held them to 30. We were able to dictate who we wanted to try to hurt us and who wouldn't."

The Indians recorded 17 steals, led by Hopwood with six. Hopwood also led the squad in rebounds with nine.

This week's conference action consisted of Jan. 27 road game at Brush (6-7 overall, 2-2 in Patriot League play) and a home game against Liberty Common (9-2, 3-1) on Friday.

**SCORE BY QUARTERS**

|                 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | F  |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Windsor Charter | 8  | 21 | 16 | 11 | 56 |
| Strasburg       | 20 | 23 | 19 | 12 | 74 |

**Windsor Charter Academy @ Strasburg**  
Points (74): Ayden Dodge 3; Jayden Miller 16; Brody Hopwood 18; Nick Glatfelter 12; Cade Hemphill 5; Cam Manahan 6; Colton Holloway 11; Gibson Miller 3.  
Rebounds (32): Dodge 3; Miller 5; Hopwood 9; Glatfelter 2; Hemphill 2; Manahan 7; Holloway 2; Miller 2.  
Assists (19): Miller 2; Hopwood 1; Hemphill 3; Manahan 7; Holloway 4; Miller 2.  
Steals (17): Dodge 1; Miller 2; Hopwood 6; Glatfelter 2; Hemphill 3; Manahan 2; Holloway 1.

**COMING UP**  
Jan. 27: @Brush.  
Jan. 30: Liberty Common.

**The Gift Shop**

Downtown Strasburg, 56781 E. Colfax Ave.  
OPEN 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon. - Sat.  
303-622-4226





ALYSSA STEHO/For The Scout

Recorders were the instrument of choice during Bennett Intermediate School's third-grade winter concert Jan. 15. While elementary classes performed prior to the Christmas break, all three intermediate school grade levels — third, fourth and fifth — entertained family and friends the second and third weeks back from vacation. Both schools' music programs are under the direction of Lauren Paschoalini.

# CLAUSSEN CHIROPRACTIC



**Ben Claussen, D.C.**

1517 Main Street  
Strasburg, CO  
(303) 622-4200

Chiropractic is about more than just cracking your back — it's about unlocking your body's inner intelligence so you can adapt and thrive.



**HOURS**

Monday: By Appointment  
Tues./Wed./Fri.: 9:00am-5:30pm  
Thursday: 9:00am-1:30pm  
Open First Saturday of Each Month

## Town and Country Accounting and Income Tax Service

Robert K. Yaich - Owner



- Farm
- Trucking
- Small Business
- Personal

**35 Years of Reliable Service!**

**303-503-0637**

[townandcountryta@aol.com](mailto:townandcountryta@aol.com)

1676 Aspen Street - PO Box 375, Strasburg, CO 80136

*Michael Breffle*



Michael A. Breffle, born Nov. 23, 1957, in Littleton, Colo., passed away on Jan. 12, 2026, in Deer Trail, Colo.

He had a diverse career that began with working on a farm during his teenage years. Michael then dedicated 15 years of his life to the oil refinery before moving on to work for Truck Hugger.

A lover of the outdoors, Michael spent a lot of time fishing in the mountains. Another activity that he enjoyed was skeet shooting with friends. Throughout his life, he had many four-legged companions that he treasured.

Michael is survived by his wife, Linda Suter; his sister, Rancee (Richard) Sanderson; his mother, Betty Capps-Johnson; five cousins and their spouses; as well as several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandparents; his father, Jerry; and his brother, Dennis.

A visitation and funeral service was held Jan. 22 at Journey Church in Strasburg.

**BENNETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## KINDERGARTEN EXPERIENCE

For Incoming Kindergartners Only  
Discover. Play. Belong

### School Tour

Join us for a warm, hands-on tour of our kindergarten classrooms and school facilities--- a friendly chance to meet teachers, explore learning spaces, and see how your child will grow next year.

**FEB. 5, 2026**

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

462 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Bennett, CO 80102

**RSVP:**  
Scan the QR code or call 720-499-1078



**Come see where curiosity begins---pop in, play and picture your child's first day**

Visit our website:  
[www.bsd29j.com](http://www.bsd29j.com)



### Why Attend

- Ease worries--discover routines and supports
- Learn how we build literacy, social skills and confidence
- Meet staff and other families before registration

### Quick parent checklist

- Prepare questions about transportation, meals, schedules and registration requirements

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

### 20 YEARS AGO JAN. 31, 2006

The 10-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 36 between Watkins and Bennett will be closed, both ways, from Feb. 6 to early- or mid-June as the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) builds a new Box Elder Creek bridge about two miles east of Watkins.

"Both directions of the highway will be shut down to thru-traffic," said Bob Wilson, public information officer for CDOT regions 1 and 2. "Local residents will be allowed access to their properties and emergency vehicles will be allowed thru-access, if necessary. All other public transportation will have to use other routes, especially I-70."

Construction of the 466-foot long, 28-foot wide bridge is being called long overdue and will include some improvements to the shoulder of the highway on both ends of the project.

"The bridge was first built in 1930 and was widened sometime in the 1950s," Wilson said. "It's time to improve that bridge and bring it to code. Safety issues regarding the [highway's] shoulder areas will also be addressed."

Wilson added that the contractor expects to have the new construction done in early June; however, weather could delay the completion slightly.

"We don't think it will go much past mid-June, even if weather turns bad," Wilson said.

### 15 YEARS AGO FEB. 1, 2011

**CENTENNIAL** — A Byers woman pleaded guilty to stealing almost \$50,000 from a local first-responder agency and will avoid jail time if she follows through on plans to reimburse the agency for its losses.

On Jan. 24, Maureen Alexander, 61, avoided a second jury trial in Arapahoe County District Court when she pleaded guilty to third-degree felony theft of \$15,000 or more from the Byers Rescue Squad. As part of the plea, she agreed to pay \$48,527.11 in restitution. In the event restitution is not paid, Alexander will have to fulfill a four-year jail sentence.

An 18th Judicial District spokeswoman said a court review is

scheduled in six months to arrange a payment schedule. Alexander, former rescue squad treasurer, was accused of writing \$56,576.07 worth of checks to herself, "cash," and two companies that her husband, Gary Alexander, was involved with between mid-October 2002 and Jan. 1, 2006.

According to sheriff's reports, Alexander wrote 51 checks to herself for \$12,605.56; 44 checks to Tolerance Masters for \$12,888.26; 63 checks to Northshore Equipment Company for \$26,301.25; and 22 checks to "cash" for \$4,781.

### 10 YEARS AGO FEB. 2, 2016

**DENVER** — Proponents of state legislation regarding the relocation approval process for prairie dogs appear to be fighting an uphill battle as the bill faces a Feb. 8 hearing in front of the Colorado House "Kill" committee.

HB 16-1010, introduced by District 56 Rep. Kevin Priola, R-Brighton, in the House and sponsored by Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg, R-Sterling, in the Senate, would require local county or local conservation districts to be notified of any planned relocation or release of "destructive rodent pests" in their areas as well as mandate all relocations receive county commissioner approval before moving forward.

Under current state regulations, relocations within county borders only require Colorado

Parks & Wildlife approval, which is said to be based strictly on biological factors with no political or outside influences. Priola's bill would require more "local control" in decisions on relocation requests.

The proposed bill, which has received widespread support from ag areas across the state, appears to have hit some resistance in the Democrat-led Colorado House of Representatives as Speaker Dickey Lee Hullinghorst, D-Boulder, recently placed the bill in the State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee instead of the Agriculture, Livestock & Natural Resources Committee. Sources at the Capitol have indicated the state affairs committee has become known as a "kill committee" where many Republican-introduced bills die by usually a 5-4 vote.

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a  
**FREE SHOWER PACKAGE**  
PLUS \$1600 OFF

**SAFE STEP**  
WALK-IN TUB 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of any new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. COLE 1082145 NSCB 000399 008345

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

© StatePoint Media  
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.  
**SOLUTION ON PAGE 19**

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 28, the 28th day of 2026. There are 337 days left in the year.

### TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Jan. 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after liftoff from Cape Canaveral, Fla., killing all seven crew members including schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.

### ALSO ON THIS DATE:

In 1547, England's King Henry VIII died at age 55; he was succeeded by his 9-year-old son, Edward VI.

In 1813, the novel "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen was first published, anonymously, in London.

In 1922, 98 people were killed when the roof of the Knickerbocker Theatre in Washington, D.C., collapsed under the weight of nearly 2

feet of snow.

In 1956, Elvis Presley made his first national TV appearance on "Stage Show," a CBS program hosted by Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey.

In 1980, six U.S. diplomats who had avoided being taken hostage at their embassy in Tehran flew out of Iran with the help of Canadian diplomats; the events were later dramatized in the film "Argo."

In 1985, to raise funds for famine relief in Ethiopia, USA For Africa recorded the song "We Are the World."

In 2011, protesters opposed to Hosni Mubarak's nearly 30-year rule of Egypt seized the streets of Cairo, battling police, burning down ruling party headquarters and defying a military curfew. Hundreds of protesters would be killed in ensuing days in attempts to crush the

uprising before Mubarak stepped down as president that February.

### TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Alan Alda is 90. Singer Sarah McLachlan is 58. Singer Joey Fatone Jr. (N Sync) is 49. Singer Nick Carter (Backstreet Boys) is 46. Actor Elijah Wood is 45. Actor Ariel Winter is 28.

— Associated Press

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: LOVE'S IN THE AIR

- ACROSS**
- Biology lab supply
  - Aldous Huxley's drug of choice
  - "Certain Courtney"
  - Tear violently
  - Color of a bruise
  - Al Roker's show
  - Pupil control
  - Any minute, to Shakespeare
  - Sheep-like
  - "H. P. of science fiction fame"
  - Hibernation stations
  - Boat station
  - Tennis shot
  - Packed in container
  - User-friendly interface, acr.
  - Genetic info carrier, acr.
  - \*Love unquestioningly
  - Equal to 1.3 ounces in Asia
  - Not a minor
  - Poem addressed to certain subject
  - Hundred, in Italian
  - Nothing
  - Relating to clone
  - Division, abbr.
  - Sloughed off skin
  - Fluffy dessert
  - All good things come to this?
  - Between Oets and Novs
  - \_\_\_ Verde National Park
  - "B-52s' "little old place" (2 words)
  - Singing femme fatale
  - Deed hearing
  - Reverberated sound
  - Blue-Green scum, pl.
  - Misery cause
  - Actress Perlman
  - Scheme
  - Right coast time
  - Made by tailor
- DOWN**
- Seed cover
  - Biking helmet manufacturer
  - Tel \_\_\_, Israel
  - #64 Across, redone
  - Like 1969 landing
  - Laugh with contempt
  - Fender-bender damage
  - \*a.k.a. hickey (2 words)
  - Norse deity
  - "Off The Wall" shoe
  - Needle hole
  - Macy's Thanksgiving offering
  - Commotions

CROSSWORD

SWITCH & GET

\$25

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

Off First Month of New Service!

USE PROMO CODE: a2590

Consumer Cellular

© 2025 Consumer Cellular Inc. All promotional offers call 888-804-0913

- © StatePoint Media
- Silica variety
  - NaOH
  - Solder together
  - Dewey Decimal Classification, a.k.a. Relative
  - Pleasant Island
  - Small songbird
  - Harry's and Hermione's magic tools
  - Bigfoot's cousins
  - \*Hand cover, with love
  - \*Lemming relative, or anagram of love
  - Tokyo, formerly
  - \*Couch for two
  - Lumps in liquid
  - Knave
  - Unit of electric current flow
  - Absurd
  - Theater guides
  - Nutritious beans
  - Black tie one
  - Grain grinder
  - \*"Cogito, \_\_\_ sum"
  - Stud site
  - Occasional heart condition
  - Prepare to swallow
  - Riddle without solution
  - Tree juice

ANSWERS ON PAGE 19

## HOROSCOPE

### Triple Trines

The triple trines to Aquarius luminaries keep the felicity moving. If this existence were a city, it would be aptly named "Temporary" and given an erratically changing zip code. The impermanence isn't a flaw but a feature helping us inhabit the moments fully, aware that our experiences are fleeting, unique and will never come in quite the same way twice.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** It clicks in. The plan comes together. You love the feeling of finally understanding a complex situation or making sense of the unknown. Your whole being lights up and you feel swept into the wholeness of life itself.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** The contrast between curiosity and conviction is sharp today. Self-righteousness signals psychological danger. Certainty can harden positions. The most reasonable and accurate arguments are aware of their own ignorance. Stay open.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You've been around hard people and known the cold pain of emotional indifference. Your capacity for kindness has been earned with firsthand experience of emotionally barren situations. Now your warmth changes everything for someone.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Questions arise. What's the cost of attention, approval and affection? It's different in different relationships. Sometimes it seems much more expensive than it's worth. Often the currencies are subtle. Does the trade itself negate the presence of real love?

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Don't waste time where red flags are flying. There are so many people of stellar character you haven't met yet. Keep moving. You deserve to be around people who support, uplift and inspire your trust on every front.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** There's a common belief that focusing on personal goals leads to happiness, yet shared effort and contribution often produce deeper, longer-lasting joy. Helping or collaborating with others will uplift you in the moment, and the good feelings linger.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You like some-

one. Your goal isn't just to understand the piece of them you interact with. You already know their work role or public persona. You're more interested in what motivates them. One thoughtful question can start that deeper connection.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You're doing well, but it's OK to want to be doing even better. People who have your best interest at heart are fine with this. A transformation is happening now, albeit slowly. Keep focusing on what you want.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The vague restlessness of the day has you up and out, looking for somewhere to apply your energy that will keep you engaged, responsible and involved. Meaningful tasks will quiet an uneasy feeling and put you back on course.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Power and efficiency go hand-in-hand. Today sees you doing less but doing it well and creating a greater effect than overcomplicating or overextending yourself. Minimalism makes your world simply beautiful and keeps you from getting bogged down.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Your internal weather produces states that come and go on their own. To argue with a feeling or force a mood only drains energy without changing much. You conserve energy just watching emotions drift like clouds across your sky inside.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You don't always stop when you feel tired, because you know you have reserves that will kick in after you've spent everything in the tank. When it's important enough, you can push through, and you'll be met on the other side.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 28).** Welcome to your Year of Lasting Support. You assemble a network that strengthens every part of your life, giving you more practical help, emotional understanding and an enduring source of mutual encouragement. More highlights: thriving projects, special connections with people of different generations and lifestyle upgrades that favorably affect your day-to-day. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 21, 32, 6 and 41.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

## ATTORNEY

### Need a Will?

Bennett Attorney, Lic. 24 yrs.  
**(720)275-0054**

## AUTOMOTIVE

### NAPA Strasburg Auto Parts

Family owned and operated for 50 years.

Mon - Fri 7:30am - 6pm  
Sat 8am-5pm / Sun 8am-1pm

**303-622-4211**

1313 Monroe St. Strasburg, CO  
Thank you for your business! Ed & Cheryl

### CORRIDOR COLLISION AUTO BODY & PAINT

Serving The I-70 Corridor and Surrounding Areas  
All Insurance Welcome

303 644-3755

830 SHARIS CT BENNETT, CO. 80102



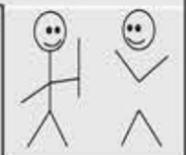
### C&T AUTO

We Got Your Back!

ASE Certified Technician

OIL CHANGE (CONV)  
ALIGNMENTS

Tu-Fri 8am to 5:30pm  
Sat. 9am to 3pm



Nationwide Warranty!

56773 E. I-70 Frontage Rd.  
Strasburg, CO.

**303-622-4100**



• Used & new tire sales  
• Tire repairs • Oil changes  
• Windshield Chip Repair • Car Wash

Monday-Friday:  
8:00-5:00  
Saturday &  
Sunday: Closed

97 N Main St.  
Byers, CO  
303-822-8333



Purchase 4 new tires and receive free rotations & flat repairs for life of tire!

## CARPENTRY

### LEWIS FINISH CARPENTRY

Serving Eastern Corridor since '96

All Aspects of Interior Trim.  
Cabinets, Handrails, and  
Interior/Exterior Doors

Mike Lewis, (303)618-4353

## CHIROPRACTOR

### CLAUSSEN CHIROPRACTIC

1517 Main Street  
Strasburg, CO  
(303) 622-4200

## COMPUTER/INTERNET

### SERVING BENNETT & STRASBURG

### Fiber to the Home

available in most areas

ESTech: Where Connections Begin  
SYMMETRICAL SPEED PACKAGES  
SPEEDS UP TO A GIG  
SERVICE YOU CAN COUNT ON

www.easternslopetech.com

888-999-3778



## COMPUTER/INTERNET

### FOR SALE SUPER-FAST HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

GUARANTEED TO BLOW YOUR CURRENT INTERNET PROVIDER AWAY!

Price: Starting at just \$29.95/mo

Seller: Bijou Telephone Co-op

Call 303-822-5400

if you're ready for something better!

## COMPUTER TECH

• In-Home • Technical Support

**Carl the Computer Guy**

720-281-4990  
carl@carlthecomputerguy.com

## CONCRETE

### Wally's Concrete

Licensed & Insured  
Residential & Commercial  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

**ALL FLAT WORK STAMPED CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS**

No Job Is Too Small or Too Big  
References Available  
Call or Text Walter

**720-998-5731**

Locally Owned  
wallysconcrete@gmail.com

GAGNE'S CONCRETE FORMING, INC. Licensed & Insured Free Estimates



36 Years Experience  
Commercial & Residential  
Foundation Walls,  
Excavation,  
Flatwork,  
Stamped Concrete,  
Concrete Demo,  
Hauling,  
Recycled Asphalt Drives.

Bert Gagne  
303-941-3991  
gagnesconcrete@netecin.net

## CONSTRUCTION

**Sunset REMODELING LLC**

BATHROOMS • KITCHENS • BASEMENTS • AND MUCH MORE!

720.341.7105 • SUNSET-REMODELING.COM

Let us make your space amazing

New Construction, Remodeling, Home Repairs, & More!

**HOME CONSTRUCTION & REPAIR SERVICES, LLC**

(303)877-2788  
homeconstructionandrepair.com

## CONSTRUCTION

**CRUSH EXCAVATION**  
Landscaping & Excavating Pros

- Excavating
- Utilities
- Septic
- Hydrants
- Landscape
- Hardscape

720-507-4076  
info@crushexcavation.com

**Outback Construction**  
720-202-1490  
constructionoutback@gmail.com

**Locally Owned & Operated**

- Pole Barns • Metal Buildings
- Metal Roofs • Gutters
- Snow Removal • Driveways • Concrete • Excavation

We Supply All Buildings & Materials.

## DENTAL

**Open and Affordable Dental**

- Fillings • Cleanings • Crowns
- Extractions • Emergency Services
- Root Canals • Whitening
- Open Evenings and Weekends
- In-Network for Almost All Insurances

**303-644-5058**  
www.openandaffordable.com  
250 E. Colfax Ave., Bennett, CO 80102

## DUMPSTER RENTAL

**DUMPSTER RENTAL  
JUNK REMOVAL  
SNOW REMOVAL**

**DC HAULERS**

720-606-3582  
DCHAULERS.COM  
Fast. Friendly. Fair.

## ELECTRICIANS

**GUFFEY ELECTRIC**

COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, SERVICE  
LICENSED AND INSURED

(303)834-0431  
Sam@guffeylelectricllc.com  
55955 E Kentucky Ave  
Strasburg, CO 80136  
www.guffeylelectric.com

**Galaxie Electric LLC**

Call US for a FREE Estimate!  
Expertise in:  
Panels • Breakers  
Barns • Buildings  
Trenching • Wiring  
Service Upgrades  
Trouble Shooting

Master Electrician, 25 Yrs.  
Insured - LIC# 5497

**303.434.4560**

## ELECTRICIANS

**A1/Blood Hound Electric**  
Residential • Commercial  
No Job Too Small!  
Loyd, Master Electrician  
(720)404-3521

## ENGINEERING

**W.W. ENTERPRISES**  
Commercial • Residential  
Soils • Percolation • Concrete • Compaction Tests  
Foundation • Structural • Septic Designs  
(719)775-9314 • Est. 1980

## EXCAVATION

**JD'S EXCAVATION**

(303) 518-5161

**Reliable Excavation Services**

- Site Prep • Demolition & Debris Removal •
- Trenching & Backfilling • Snow Removal •
- Hydrant & Line Install & Repairs •
- Drainage Control/Driveways •
- Septic Systems & Repairs •

Jacob D. Hill Byers, CO | 303-518-5161

# PHOTOS

from  
The I-70 Scout  
&  
Eastern  
Colorado News  
available  
for purchase.

4x6 \$6  
5x7 \$8  
8 1/2x11 \$12

Call (303)622-9796  
or stop by our office at  
**1522 Main St.,  
Strasburg**

## FENCING

**Colorado Elite Outdoor Contractors**

Remember us for all your outdoor needs:

- Livestock Fencing • Pole Barns • Loafing Sheds
- Deck & Patio Covers • Cattle Guard Fabrication & Install • Excavation

**(720)712-8828**  
www.coloradoeliteoutdoor.com  
Where exquisite quality meets affordable pricing!

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

## FENCING



**ESTWARD FENCE LLC**  
BUILDING QUALITY FENCES SINCE 2003  
CALL/TEXT (303) 359-6792 FOR A QUOTE  
INSTALLED BY OUR LOCAL BYERS TEAM

## FINANCIAL ADVISOR

**Levi K Kautz**  
Financial Advisor  
1120 N Lincoln St Suite 1303  
Denver, CO 80203  
303-777-0283  
levi.kautz@edwardjones.com



**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
edwardjones.com

## FLOORING



**DCH**  
Full-Service Flooring Company

- No-cost, no-obligation in-home estimates;
- Samples brought to home at time of estimate.

**Sales, Installation & Repairs:**  
Carpet • Hardwood  
Laminate • Luxury Vinyl & Waterproof Floors

Sanding/finishing of existing hardwood, prefinished hardwood & hardwood stairs.

**(303)667-0085**

## FUNERAL HOMES



**Love**  
FUNERAL HOMES & MONUMENTS  
Locally Owned and Operated  
56131 E. Colfax Ave. Strasburg, CO 80136  
**303-710-4221**  
www.lovefuneralhomes.com

**This Color Space ONLY \$39 Per Week (303)622-9796**

## GARAGE DOORS

**CORRIDOR GARAGE DOORS**  
REASONABLE PRICING!  
LOCAL BUSINESS!  
**303-990-3715**

## HEATING & AC

**U.S. MECHANICAL COMPANY**  
Heating & Air Conditioning  
Residential & Commercial  
24 Hour Service • Straightforward Pricing  
Daikin 12 years parts & labor warranties\*  
Financing Options Available  
Indoor Air Quality & Water Filtration  
Free Estimates on Replacements / Installs  
100% Satisfaction Guarantee



**303.622.24HR(2447)**  
USMechanicalCompany.com



**Plains HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING**  
Serving Eastern Colorado for Over 30 Years  
Sales/Service • Installation • Furnaces  
Air Conditioning • Geo-Thermal • Fireplaces  
**303-622-2914**  
FREE ESTIMATES on new or replacement systems  
plainsheating.com

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT

**Kauffman Sales & Rentals DBA**  
**CLARK'S**  
Equipment Sales & Rentals  
Tractor and Equipment Repairs.  
Backhoes • Loaders • Trenchers  
Pick up and delivery available!  
**303-622-4012**



## HORSE BOARDING

**M&J Ranch LLC, Strasburg**  
Drinking Post • Loaf Shed • Stall w/run • Call for Pricing  
Justine, 303/944-7894 or Matt, 719/271-0767  
MandJRandcolorado@gmail.com

## HOUSECLEANING

**TIDY HOMES** *By Tina*

- Maintenance Cleans
- Construction Cleans
- Move In / Move Out Cleaning
- Locally Staffed, Owned and Operated

**303-803-5495**

## HYDRANTS



**HYDRANTS**  
installed or replaced  
**303-865-4830**

## INSULATION

**Affordable Insulation Inc.**  
For all Your Commercial & Residential Insulation Needs:

- ATTIC Blow Insulation;
- Net Blow Walls;
- Wall Batts;
- Vinyl Insulation;
- Spray Foam; and
- Foam Fire Stop.

• New & Remodel Homes  
**We Give You an Affordable Price!**

Affordable Insulation LLC  
47327 Clover Ave.  
Bennett, CO 80102  
For English, (303)949-9751  
Para Español, (303)437-0566  
www.insulationindenverco.com

facebook.com/affordable.insulation.73

## INSURANCE

**SONNENBERG AGENCY, LLC**  
INSURANCE  
Home — Farm & Ranch — Commercial  
Strasburg Office — 970-522-1681  
Renee Little  
Renee@SonnenbergAgency.com

**INTEGRITY INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
BUSINESS • HOME • AUTO • LIFE • HEALTH • FARM  
WILLS • RENTERS & CONDO • RENTAL PROPERTY  
**(303) 644-4872**  
www.integrityinsagency.com  
Contact Julie Lewis, integrityins@gmail.com

## JUNK VEHICLES

**Go Green!**  
We recycle & pay for your junk car, truck or SUV  
**CALL US FIRST 720-560-6763**

## LANDSCAPING



**Canyon Creek Landscape, LLC**  
Family owned and operated with over 38 years of industry experience.

Landscape Installs • Gravel Driveways  
Irrigation Systems • Retaining Walls • Walk Ways & Patios • Trenching & Excavation • Land Clearing • Drainage Solutions • Freeze Hydrants  
Call us today for a free estimate.  
720-427-8430  
www.canyoncreeklandscape.com

**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER AFTER READING**

## LANDSCAPING MATERIAL

**Strasburg Rock Co.**  
Sales & Delivery  
Recycled Asphalt  
Road Base • Arena Sand  
Fill Dirt • Top Soil • Mulch  
Decorative Rock • Compost  
Family Owned Since 2004  
8255 Strasburg Road  
**Call for a FREE estimate 720-557-6529**

**This Color Space Just \$19.50 Per Week (303)622-9796**

## LAWN & ACREAGE

**SOUTHSIDE TOTAL MAINTENANCE**  
SINCE 1990

- Lawn Mowing
- Sprinkler Repair
- Bush Trimming
- Aerate
- Small Acreage
- Field Mowing

Look us up on   
**303-644-5587**

## MACHINE SHOP

Need custom parts made, repaired, or fabricated? We do custom work and sand blasting for a low hourly rate.  
**Ubrich Locomotive Works**  
56769 Railroad Street, Strasburg  
Monday - Friday 9-5  
Office Phone: (303) 622 4431

**This Color Space ONLY \$39 Per Week (303)622-9796**

## PEST CONTROL

**PURE PEST CO**  
We get rid of pests fast, safely, and affordably.  
Guaranteed results!  
**720-325-4500**  
purepestco.com  
Mice & General Pests

## PET BOARDING



**The Four Legged Inn**  
Pet Boarding  
**303-644-4322**  
www.TheFourLeggedInn.com  
Bennett, CO

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

## PET CARE

Your friendly neighborhood  
*pet groomers*



LIVING SPRINGS  
PET SPA  
820 Sharis Ct. Bennett, CO

- Grooming available, Mon. – Sat.
- Clean Facility • All Breeds
- Cat Grooming Available

**303-644-3337**  
www.livingspringsvet.com

As Seen On Animal Planet

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | G | A | R | L | S | D | L | O | V | E |   |   |
| R | I | V | E | P | U | C | E | T | O | D | A | Y |
| I | R | I | S | A | N | O | N | O | V | I | N | E |
| L | O | V | E | C | R | A | F | T | D | E | N | S |
|   | W | H | A | R | F | L | O | B |   |   |   |   |
| B | I | N | N | E | D | W | Y | S | I | W | Y | G |
| R | N | A | R | E | V | E | R | E | T | A | E | L |
| A | D | U | L | T | O | D | E | C | E | N | T | O |
| Z | E | R | O | C | L | O | N | A | L | D | I | V |
| E | X | U | V | I | A | E | M | O | U | S | S | E |
|   | E | N | D | S | E | P | T | S |   |   |   |   |
| M | E | S | A | L | O | V | E | S | H | A | C | K |
| S | I | R | E | N | O | Y | E | R | E | C | H | O |
| A | L | G | A | E | B | A | N | E | R | H | E | A |
| P | L | O | T | E | S | T | S | E | W | N |   |   |

## PLUMBING



**KENNEDY**  
PLUMBING & HEATING

New Construction • Water Heaters  
• Boilers • A/C • Drain Cleaning •  
Pumps • Gas Lines • Furnaces •

Septic Tank License  
State License: MP188016  
Bennett License: CL-066

**303-710-1417**  
gtykennedy@aol.com

kennedyplumbingdenver.com

**Doherty's**  
Plumbing and Drain, LLC

Plumbing, Drain Cleaning, Water  
Heater Replacement, Video Sewer  
Inspection, Sewer & Drain Locating.

**303-859-9126**

**JCL**  
PRESTIGE  
PLUMBING  
720-284-9167

Family-owned  
& operated  
in Strasburg!

We do everything plumbing!  
MP 03001904

## PLUMBING



**Schat Plumbing**  
New construction • Remodels  
Water heaters • Gas lines  
Small drain cleaning • Hose repair  
Boiler repair • Well tank valves  
(ELECTRONIC AND METAL RECYCLING)

Call Adam: (720) 327-9363  
schat.adam1@gmail.com

COURTEOUS AND PROMPT SERVICE!

True Perfection Solutions  
Plumbing and Heating  
Ray Wamsley, Master Plumber  
Office: (720)581-1329  
Cell: (720)581-1278

trueperfectionsolutionsplumbin@gmail.com

Located in Strasburg!

## REAL ESTATE

**MATT BRINKHOFF**  
303-324-0241  
www.mattscoloradohomes.com

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
REALTY

Country  
Rose  
Realty LLC

**Sharlyn Rose**  
303-916-8512

countryroserealty@gmail.com • www.countryroserealty.com

## RECREATION



**Strasburg Parks & Rec**  
Community Serving District Since 1974

(303) 622-4260  
StrasburgParks.org  
Parks • Sports • Events

## ROOFING

**RAAZ Roofing & Construction, LLC**  
Roofing & Gutters  
Residential • Commercial

Asphalt Roofing • Metal Roofing • Flat Roofing  
TPO • EPDM • A+ Rating w/BBB  
719.775.8687 • raazroofing.com



**ARROWHEAD**  
ROOFING, LLC.

Farm • Residential • Commercial

FREE ESTIMATES  
www.arrowheadroofingllc.com

(303)849-6202  
(303)994-5525

New Roofs • Re-Roofs  
Repairs • Coatings

3 Generations  
of Quality Roofing

**CUMMINGS ROOFING CO.**  
31 Years Serving The Corridor!  
Licensed and Insured  
Steve Cummings  
303-644-5500 • Cell: 303-594-8608

## ROOFING

SPECIALIZING IN INSURANCE CLAIMS  
HOME IMPROVEMENTS  
RESTORATION PROJECTS



**SIMPLIFIED**  
RESTORATION

General Contracting Made Simple!

### WE HANDLE

- Roofing Replacement and/or Repair
- Siding Repair and Paint
- Gutters
- Windows and Screens
- Deck Repair
- Concrete Replacement and/or Repair

Any of your insurance  
restoration needs  
inside or out

Simplified Restoration is a family owned and operated Colorado business built on the foundation of integrity in all that we do.

We thrive on establishing a long-lasting relationship with our customers with the goal of simplifying the restoration process.

No job is too big or small

FREE ESTIMATE  
FREE INSPECTION:

info@SimplifiedRestoration.com

**303.872.3327**

PREFERRED CONTRACTOR Mastic BBB

SimplifiedRestoration.com

## SEPTIC

**HIGH PLAINS**  
SANITATION SERVICE

Septic Tank Cleaning  
Locating and Inspections  
Pump Replacement and  
Electrical Services

(303)622-4126  
Family Owned & Operated

**PREMIER**  
PORTABLES  
SERVICE AND RENTALS AVAILABLE

Shannon Roth  
PO Box 9  
Byers, CO

(303)822-6644  
(303)883-9339

**PRINTING**  
Design!

Call us now  
The I-70 Scout • 303-622-9796

## SMALL ENGINE REPAIR

**DIRTMONSTER**  
ATV, CYCLE & EQUIPMENT REPAIR LLC

MOTORCYCLE ATV SXS UTV SNOWMOBILES  
TRAILERS GOLF CARTS LAWN/GARDEN EQUIP  
LIGHTS & WIRING ROLL CAGES WELDING/FABRICATION

PICK-UP & DELIVERY AVAILABLE

1422 MONROE ST., UNIT G  
STRASBURG, CO 80136  
720 365 7794

AVAILABLE 10 AM - 7 PM TUESDAY - SATURDAY

Kauffman Sales & Rentals DBA  
**CLARK'S**  
Equipment  
Sales & Rentals

Lawn mower and equipment  
small engine repair.  
Parts and Service!  
**303-622-4012**

## STORAGE



**Front Range RV Storage**  
www.FronrangeRVStorage.com

303-644-5800 2121 N MANILLA RD  
Bennett, Colorado

Just A Click Away  
i-70scout.com

## VETERINARY

**The Musketeers**  
Veterinary Practice  
Dr. Cassandra Durant, DVM  
Massage, acupuncture, and  
chiropractic treatment as well!

Caring and compassionate vet  
care for your livestock, horse and  
furry four legged companions.

Mon, Tu, Th, Fri - 8 am to 6 pm  
Sat 8 am to 2 pm; Closed Wed & Sun

550 E Colfax Ave unit A in Bennett  
**303-644-4MVP**

**LIVING SPRINGS**  
VETERINARY CARE

Integrative, Affordable Health  
Care & Chiropractic Care.

Full service medical &  
surgical practice  
specializing in family pets,  
fine horses, livestock,  
and exotics.

Mobile, emergency &  
overnight triage  
services available.

Offering grooming.  
As seen on Animal Planet.

**303-644-3337**  
www.livingspringsvet.com  
820 Sharis Ct., Bennett, CO  
Monday - Friday:  
7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun.: Closed

**SERVICES**

**VETERINARY**

**STRASBURG VETERINARY CLINIC**

56151 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg  
 (303) 622-4415  
 Reed Hanks, DV  
 Mikayla Bonnett, DVM MC Worthington, DVM  
 Savannah Kennedy, DVM Anna Brown, DVM  
 Samantha Drop, DVM



Monday — Friday, 8am-7pm;  
 Saturday, 8am-1pm  
**Mobile & Emergency Service**

"Caring for all of your pet, horse and livestock needs along the I-70 Corridor since 1947."

**WINDOWS**

**Windows & Siding**  
 Any & All Types  
 Licensed & Insured  
 Free Estimates  
 303-907-4185 • 303-822-5252

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**R & M Tree Service**  
 Tree & Shrub Trimming & Removal  
 • Insured • 16 years experience  
**(720) 601-2030**

**PRINTING**  
*Design!*  
 Call us now  
 The I-70 Scout • 303-622-9796

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**HOMES & LAND**

**Gateway Realty I-70** **5549 YULLE ROAD BENNETT, CO | \$1,125,000**  
*Under Contract!*  
  
**MARY ZIMMERMAN**  
 (970) 380-0078 | FARMHAND118@AOL.COM  
 MLS gatewayrealtyi70 gatewayrealtyi70,llc gatewayrealtyi-70.com

**BENNETT BOE**

**FROM PAGE 1**

situation north of Strasburg and that when an Adams County deputy was on campus, her and staff were better informed.

Bennett Schools also had a midday false alarm active shooter incident that occurred Sept. 18, which locked the campus down for about an hour.

Ophaug said recent discussion with McKlem indicated uncertainty when an SRO might be available.

"January through June," Ophaug said. "Been told they are trying to fill all the spots they have open at the moment. They are trying to get more officers in general for the rural areas. It's probably one of those positions that would fill this."

The school has been without an SRO since mid-2024 after the town trustees changed its law enforcement provider from the Adams County Sheriff's Office to Arapahoe County.

"We had an SRO with no cost to the district from 2016 until the town parted ways with Adams County," Purdy said. "We did not pay AdCo until the very end when the town moved forward [with ArapCo] and [then] we paid for two months."

One of the main questions is whether the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office will charge for an SRO.

"When we spoke with them when they started with [the town], the initial cost was anywhere from \$200,000 to \$240,000, if I remember correctly," said Purdy about discussions with Arapahoe County. "We are hoping that it won't cost anything and have heard rumors to that effect. We are hoping to get more clarification from Chief McKlem when he attends the February board meeting."

Arapahoe County currently provides SRO services to both Byers and Deer Trail, while Adams County has a deputy on campus at Strasburg.

**POST-BREAK ENROLLMENT**

Purdy noted that 2026 commenced with 1,293 students walking the hall of all five campus buildings.

In the high school, the 408 students consist of 102 freshman, 93 sophomores, 104 juniors and 109 members of the Class of 2026 to graduate in May.

The middle school has 273 kids — 87 sixth-graders, 89 in seventh grade and 97 eighth-graders.

In the intermediate school, serving third through fifth grades, student counts are 94, 80 and 100, respectively, for a total of 274.

"That's the most fifth-graders ever in those classrooms," Purdy said.

In the primary school, there are 91 kindergartners, 75 in first grade and second-graders total 89.

The preschool has 83 youngsters — 17 3-year-olds and 66 4-year-olds.

Since Dec. 1, the district had 20 students withdraw from classes. Sixteen new enrollees were noted over that same time frame with five prospective students in the enrollment queue.

"Those numbers are constantly changing," said Purdy, noting that the evolving housing situation in Bennett keeps enrollment projections fluid.

Purdy added that the Sky Ranch Charter School currently has 533 students in kindergarten through ninth grade. The charter school will grow to K-10 in 2026-27.

Overall, the total 1,826 students is down from the October count figure of 1,845.

Purdy also reminded board members that while the district holds Sky Ranch's charter, it has no role when it comes to day-to-day operations of the school located south of I-70 at the Airpark Road interchange. When the school district receives the total per-pupil operating revenue, it forwards Sky Ranch's share, minus 5% kept by the district.

New Bennett School Board member Hazel Statkiewicz indicated there is some public perception that the district pays Sky Ranch teachers and staff salaries that appear higher at face value. Purdy reiterated that Sky Ranch is managed and administered through the National Heritage Academies network based out of Michigan.

Purdy and board member Nancy Barden said that while charter school salaries appear higher, school district teachers get additional benefits that charter schools don't provide. In particular, charter schools don't pay into the Colorado Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA). The school district contributes a little over 21% of employee salaries to the pre-paid pension fund. For example, for an employee receiving a \$50,000 annual salary, the district contributes about \$10,500.

**Tania Stephens, Owner (303) 726-7779**  
**Adrian Castillo Monge Agent, (720) 717-3217**  
*Se Habla Español*  
**Quinton Kopang, Agent (303) 720-4601**  
  
**310 Colfax Ave., Bennett, CO (303) 644-4444**  
**COMING SOON ALONG THE I-70 CORRIDOR**  
 35- to 40-acre parcels at the corner of Kiowa Bennett Rd and Quincy  
 Priced between \$285,000.00 - \$395,000  
 43201 E. 88th, Bennett, CO 80102, \$900,000  
 2BR, 2BA home on 36+ acres • outbuilding with 1BR & 1BA living quarters.  
 2891 Rose Hill St., Strasburg, CO 80136, \$395,000  
 3BR, 2BA ranch model home • corner lot with a 3-car detached garage.  
**Service Beyond The Expected! • www.LookEastRealty.com**

**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

**402 S. CR 129, Bennett**  
**Valhalla Ranch Estates**  
  

- Private 35+ Acres & Private Entrance
- 5 BR & 5 BA Home
- Additional Dwelling Unit attached to Primary Residence
- 300+ Acres Community Open Space
- 6,000+ sq ft Riding Arena

**Janine Ruscetta, (720)670-9428**  
 jruscetta@gmail.com  
 Transforming your real estate experience!  
 THE ALCHEMY GROUP COMPASS

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## HOMES & LAND



**"The Sewill Team"**  
**Sean and Kim Darling-Sewill**  
 HomeSmart Realty  
**303-859-3502**  
 4HomesinColorado.com

**#1 Team on the Eastern Plains!**

**Thinking of Buying or Selling?**  
**Top Dollar. Low Fees. Free Market Summary.**

## HELP WANTED



Now hiring **General Laborers**  
**\$20 per hour to start.**

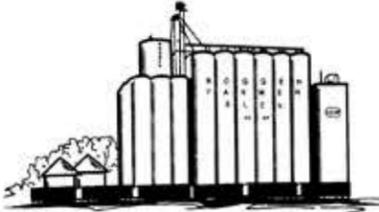
No Experience required, just have a valid CO Driver's license  
 We Pay for you to get your Class A CDL if you want to move into a different position.

Paid Weekly with PTO accruing from Day 1.

Please call Josh at (720)690-3817

Apply in person at: 2300 Cavanaugh Rd., Watkins, CO 80137  
[www.diversifiedunderground.com](http://www.diversifiedunderground.com)

## HELP WANTED



**ROGGEN FARMERS' ELEVATOR**

(303) 644-3251 Fax (303) 644-3009 555 E. Colfax Bennett, Colorado 80102

**PROPANE SERVICE TECHNICIAN/DRIVER**

We are seeking a qualified, self-motivated, career-oriented person with a strong work ethic to help us provide exceptional propane service. Join our team and receive competitive pay and benefits.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Class A CDL license with air brake, hazmat, and tanker endorsements
- Must possess a clean driving record
- Must pass a background check and drug screen
- Must be able to lift up to 75 lbs and work in all weather conditions
- Meet all DOT requirements

**Seeking Yard Help- including Full, Part-time and Seasonal Positions**

For Bennett and Watkins locations

**Competitive Wages and Benefits**

We are needing dedicated people looking for long term employment. Must be reliable and punctual and no prior experience is necessary for these positions. These positions are best suited for someone who is motivated to learn, enjoys working outside, and is able to lift 50+ pounds. The primary responsibilities for these positions will be loading and unloading grain trucks, general yard maintenance and filling propane cylinders. The day-to-day duties will vary according to weather conditions and the needs of the elevator.

Apply on our website, [www.roggenfarmerselev.com](http://www.roggenfarmerselev.com), or visit our office at 555 Colfax Ave., Bennett, CO 80102.

## Come Join Our Team!



**Byers School District 32-J**

is now accepting applications for

**2026-27 School Year:**

- **JH/HS Principal** •

Administrative application can be downloaded from the Human Resources section of district website at [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us).

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest, application, resume and letters of recommendation. Application deadline is Feb. 20.

Submit applications to:  
 Byers School District 32J  
 444 E. Front Street  
 Byers CO, 80103  
 (303) 822-9592 fax

## THE DEER TRAIL SCHOOL



IS LOOKING TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

- **Bus Drivers**
- **Substitute Teachers**
- **Cafeteria Substitutes**

PLEASE FILL OUT AN ONLINE APPLICATION AT WEBSITE [WWW.DT26J.COM](http://WWW.DT26J.COM).

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL HAYLEY WHITEHEAD 303-769-4421.

## Come Join Our Team!



**Byers School District 32-J**

is now accepting applications for

**2026-27 School Year:**

- **Title I Teacher/ Interventionist** •

Certified application is available on the Human Resources page of website, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://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](mailto: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



**Byers School District 32-J**

is now accepting applications for:

**Substitute Teachers**

**\$150/day**

Classified applications can be found at [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://www.byers32j.k12.co.us) under the Human Resources tab on the District page.

Applications can be sent to:

Byers School District 32J  
 444 E. Front Street  
 Byers CO, 80103  
 (303) 822-5292 x1139  
 (303) 822-9592 fax  
[sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us](mailto:sondburg.stacy@byers.k12.co.us)



**WE ARE HIRING!**

- **VETERINARIAN** •
- **LICENSED VET TECHS (2)** •

Caring and compassionate veterinary care for your livestock, horse and furry four-legged companions. Massage, acupuncture, and chiropractic treatment as well!

SEND YOUR RESUME TO:  
[TheMusketeersVetPractice@gmail.com](mailto:TheMusketeersVetPractice@gmail.com)  
 550 E. Colfax Ave., Unit A  
 Bennett, CO 80102

For more information:  
**(303)644-4MVP**

### Foreman/Heavy Equip. Operator Needed

- Competitive wages.
- Company vehicle.

Contact **Bill, Kuhn Construction**  
**(303)570-6104**

## 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 8AM-3:30PM M-F

## Strasburg Conoco

Seeking to fill Cashier position  
 Apply in person or call  
**303-622-4395**

## Prairie Creeks Living Center

Assisted Living

Accepting applications for

**FT Resident Assistant**

- 11 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. •

**PT Resident Assistant**

- 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. •

All positions require weekends & holidays.

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

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**HELP WANTED**

**Come Join Our Team!**



Byers School District 32-J has an immediate opening for  
**• Elementary SPED Teacher •**

Certified application is available on the Human Resources page of website, [www.byers32j.k12.co.us](http://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](mailto: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

**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**

**MOBILE HOME IN BENNETT**

2 large bedrooms, 2 baths, laundry, off-street parking, centrally located. Background & credit check required. \$1,550 **303-854-8829 (No Texts)**

**SERVICES**

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

**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. 12/24c

**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. **(303) 263-4328**  
 DAN & LORETTA BOSWELL BYERS, CO

| Class | Enrollment Range | Boys Number | Girls Number |
|-------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1A    | 1 - 85           | 56          | 56           |
| 2A    | 86-200           | 63          | 64           |
| 3A    | 201-450          | 60          | 59           |
| 4A    | 451-950          | 64          | 65           |
| 5A    | 951-1600         | 60          | 59           |
| 6A    | 1,601 and above  | 50          | 50           |

CHSAA.ORG

The small school Lower Platte League from the northeast corner of the state has submitted an amendment to proposed CHSAA basketball classifications, which could be voted on by the group's Legislative Council Feb. 3. Scrutiny against the Classification & League Organization Committee's (CLOC's) final proposal has grown with opponents citing a significant imbalance between 2A and the other five classifications. The Lower Platte's proposal more closely follows the enrollment breaks of the current 2024-26 cycle. The above proposal would not shift where I-70 Corridor schools would land. Deer Trail would stay in 1A, Byers in 2A, and Strasburg and Bennett would both be back in 3A. Bennett played 4A basketball the previous two season.

**CHSAA CHANGES**

**FROM PAGE 9**

the state asking for CLOC's six-classification basketball proposal to be changed.

"The 2A classification currently contains a disproportionate number of teams compared to all other classifications," the proposed amendment language says. "2A exceeds the next-largest classification by 17 boys teams and 19 girls teams."

CLOC's current proposal has 2A boys and girls with 76 and 77 teams, respectively, compared to 53 to 58 schools in the other basketball classifications.

The Lower Platte request, which more closely follows enrollment breakdowns from the 2024-26 cycle, would result in the largest classifications being 65 in the 4A girls and 64 in the 4A boys.

Proponents of the newest amendment proposal say it takes into better account the new 1.5 multiplier for private schools and tightens up the enrollment variation in the three smallest classifications.

"This proposal maintains consistency with the equity-based approach adopted in the last cycle regarding both total number of schools and classification multipliers," the Lower Platte's amendment says. "Schools that were reclassified in the previous cycle would be less likely to experience repeated movement, preserving schedules and league affiliations."

Several Legislative Council representatives, from mid- and low enrollment rural districts, indicated they are leaning towards voting down CLOC's entire proposal and not adopting the Lower Platte's amendment.

"I think there is more than just basketball that people think need to be looked at — been hearing some concerns with girls softball and soccer as well as baseball," a voting member said. "I think they want CLOC to take accountability for some of the inequities that have popped up across the board."

A second rural school AD added, "There's still some questions whether the [private school] multiplier is having the impact a lot of people thought, or hoped, it would. Still seems to be a lot of those schools in 2A and 3A and not just in basketball."

If the entire CLOC proposal is voted down and sent back for revamp, whether next fall's sports seasons could look significantly different than originally planned is uncertain.

"I think football is pretty safe," a

couple of athletic directors said. "The impact on other fall sports would hopefully be minimum. A lot of the issues with basketball is that, with the 1A through 6A system, it shouldn't be too hard to get 58-60 schools, maybe 2-4 one way or the other, in each class. Other sports, aside from football, don't have that many classifications, so there has to be a little more give and take."

There are 356 schools with girls basketball and 357 with boys.

Next Tuesday's Legislative Council meeting starts at 9 a.m. at Douglas County School District's Legacy Campus in Lone Tree.

Currently proposed league realignments and how they could affect I-70 Corridor schools follow. Track & field changes were not yet available.

**WINTER SPORTS**

**BASKETBALL**

Under both proposals, Bennett boys and girls would both go back down to 3A basketball after being in the 4A ranks for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons. In both cases, they would be part of the newly formed Pioneer League, which consists mostly of the disbanded Frontier Conference — Alameda, Arrupe Jesuit, Arvada, Englewood, Fort Lupton, Jefferson and The Pinnacle — and new schools DSST: Elevate and St. John Paul the Great.

Strasburg would remain in 3A as well but in a reformed Patriot Plains Conference with Brush, Frontier Academy, Highland, Platte Valley, Sterling, Valley, Weld Central (4A) and Wiggins. The longstanding Patriot League was split in two with the Patriot Peaks to consist of 4A Berthoud, Eaton, Fort Morgan, University and Wellington and 3A Liberty Common, Resurrection Christian and Windsor Charter Academy. Under the CLOC proposal, Resurrection Christian would remain in 3A despite wide-ranging speculation that the new 1.5 enrollment multiplier would have bumped it up to 4A.

The 1A/2A Union Pacific League remains as is with Deer Trail remaining in 1A and Byers still 2A.

High school enrollment figures used by CHSAA for the upcoming 2026-28 cycle include 71 for Deer Trail, 166 for Byers, 362 for Strasburg and Bennett at 433. For the current activities cycle, CHSAA's enrollment numbers for Deer Trail was 82, 174 for Byers, 393 for Strasburg, and Bennett 431. CHSAA enrollment calculation has

changed to a three-year average.

**WRESTLING**

In girls grappling, there will still be two classifications — 4A and 5A — and both Bennett and Strasburg will remain in the smaller enrollment category. The enrollment break is at 999 students — 4A under that threshold and 5A with 1,000 students or more.

On the boys side, the four-classification system remains in place with Byers to stay in 2A and Strasburg and Bennett both remaining in 3A. Enrollment breakdown for boys wrestling is 1-299 for 2A, 300-899 for 3A, 900-1,499 in 4A and 5A with 1,500 or more students.

**SPRING SPORTS**

**BASEBALL**

Similar to volleyball and basketball, the diamond version of the new Pioneer League basically resumes the disbanded Frontier League — Alameda, Arrupe Jesuit, Arvada, Bennett, Englewood, Fort Lupton and Jefferson — with the addition of new private school member St. John Paul the Great (2A).

The Patriot League is also being split in baseball with the Strasburg in the Patriot Plains with Brush, Highland, Platte Valley, Sterling, Valley, Weld Central and Wiggins. Previous Indian league rivals Berthoud, Eaton, Liberty Common, Resurrection Christian, University and Wellington are all in the 3A Patriot Peaks Conference.

The historical Union Pacific League consists of four schools — 2A Byers, Limon and Burlington and 1A Stratton.

**GIRLS SOCCER**

The Bennett Lady Tigers are one of nine 3A teams in the new 10-team Pioneer League. Past Frontier League foes Alameda, Arrupe Jesuit, Arvada, Englewood, Fort Lupton, Jefferson and The Pinnacle will be joined by DSST: Elevate and St. John Paul the Great (2A).

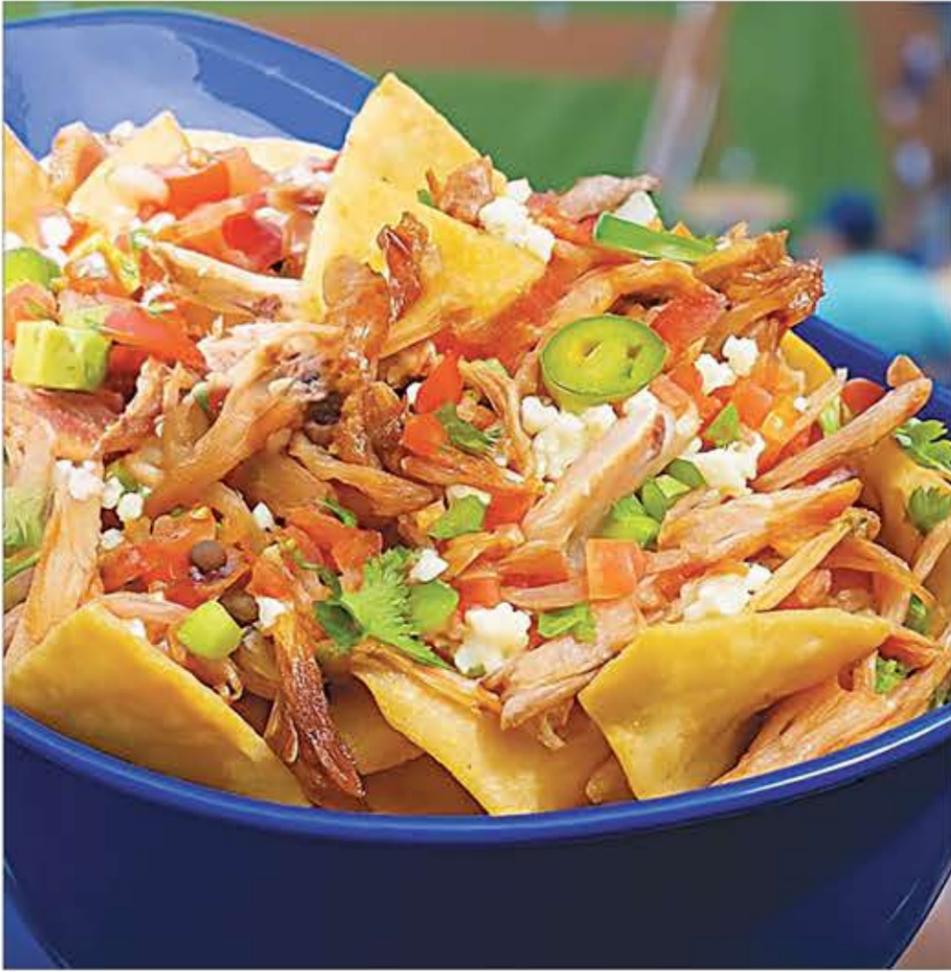
**GIRLS GOLF**

Byers is currently one of 41 schools slated to participate in 2A girls golf the next two springs, while Strasburg is among 38 teams in 3A.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Strasburg is acknowledged by CHSAA as one of 76 4A schools in Esports and has also declared to take part in Speech & Debate in 3A.

# CHUCK WAGON



## Carnitas Nachos Topped with Bacon

**INGREDIENTS**

- 8 6-inch triangle cut, fried and seasoned with salt and table grind black pepper flour tortillas
- 8 12 fl oz prepared, hot (see recipe below) black refried beans
- 1 pound prepared, hot pulled pork
- 1/2 cup fresh (see recipe below) avocado pico de gallo
- As needed, a dollop lime crema Mexicana
- As needed, a pinch micro cilantro
- 1/4 pound diced bacon or back fat
- 1 large yellow onion, diced
- 1 large carrot, diced
- 1 pound black beans
- 4 cloves minced garlic
- 1 rough chopped chipotle chile in adobo sauce
- 1 tablespoon epazote
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 2 fl oz fresh squeezed lime juice
- To taste, salt and black pepper
- 1 1/2 quarts water
- 2 cups pork or chicken broth
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- 1/4 cup 1/8 inch diced red onion
- 1 fresh squeezed lime
- 1 medium or small Serrano, finely chopped jalapeno chile
- 2 or 3 medium seeded, 1/8 inch diced tomatoes
- 2 green onions cut very fine
- 1 teaspoon fine chopped cilantro
- 1 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 ripe 1/8 inch diced avocados

**DIRECTIONS**

**CARNITAS NACHOS PROCEDURE:**

On top center of chips evenly spread queso Chihuahua. Evenly spread refried black beans. Evenly place pulled pork. Place nachos in 400 degree oven until cheese melts.

On top center of pork, evenly sprinkle avocado pico de gallo (optional fresh shaved jalapeno slice).

On top center of avocado pico de gallo, place dollop of lime crema.

On top center of lime crema, garnish with cilantro microgreens.

**BLACK REFRIED BEANS PROCEDURE:**

In stock pot, on medium heat sauté bacon or back fat until crisp tender. Add onions and carrots, sauté until brown. Add black beans, garlic, chipotle, epazote, cumin, tomato paste, lime juice, salt and pepper. Cook for 1 minute and stir as needed. Add water and broth and mix well to combine. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low. Cook for approximately 1 1/2 - 2 hours or until beans are tender. Add cilantro, mix well to combine. Adjust seasoning as needed.

Smash beans, but don't puree.

**AVOCADO PICO DE GALLO:**

In mixing bowl, combine all ingredients except avocado. Add avocado, gently mix well to combine.

— Recipe courtesy Colorado Pork Producers

## LUNCH MENUS

**BYERS**

Thursday, Jan. 29: Chicken Caesar salad, steamed carrots.  
 Friday, Jan. 30: Turkey and cheese bagel, Tater Tots.  
 Monday, Feb. 2: Chicken salad sandwich, celery sticks, peaches.  
 Tuesday, Feb 3: Meatball sub, Goldfish, baby carrots.  
 Wednesday, Feb 4: Scalloped potatoes and ham, dinner roll, apple.

**STRASBURG**

Thursday, Jan. 29: Pancakes, sausage links.  
 Friday, Jan. 30: Corn dogs.  
 Tuesday, Feb 3: Hot ham and cheese

sandwich, green beans.  
 Wednesday, Feb 4: Chicken noodle soup, corn bread, corn on the cob.

**DEER TRAIL**

Thursday, Jan 29: Barbecue pork sandwich, french fries.

**AGATE**

Thursday, Jan 29: Buffalo chicken sandwich.  
 Monday, Feb. 2: Macaroni and cheese, dinner roll.  
 Tuesday, Feb 3: Chicken patty with bun, corn.  
 Wednesday, Feb 4: Pork taco, black beans.

### SMOKE SHOW MEATS

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

### February Farm-to-Table Bundle:

5 lbs. Ground Beef • 1 lb. Bacon  
 1 lb. Stew Meat • 3-4 lb. Round Roast  
 3-4 lb. Chuck Roast • 2 lb. Ground Sausage  
 1-1.5 lb. Pork Country Ribs  
 2 lb. Cube Steak  
 1 pkg. Brats • 1 Fudge of Choice

**\$199**  
(\$220 Value)

Check US out for other Weekly Specials!

Locally Sourced Meat

**888-670-2459**

**BOGO 40% OFF** Minimum purchase of 4

**+ \$200 Off Your Entire Purchase**  
Minimum purchase of 4

**ENDS 3/31**

## SHOOTER'S PIZZA FOOD TRUCK

.....ALSO SERVING CALZONES!!

**CALL AHEAD, ORDER ONLINE OR SCAN QR CODE**

303-241-1125

[www.shootersbargrill.com](http://www.shootersbargrill.com)

**NEW !!**

**FAMILY MEAL DEAL**

2 - 16" 2-Topping Pizzas  
 1 - 12" Cheese Bread  
 4 Sodas  
**\$45.00**

**NEW WINTER HOURS**

Monday: Closed  
 Tuesday-Sunday: 11am-8pm

**Located In Shooters North Parking Lot**

# What's UP @

## Byers School District?

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



### Byers FFA VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

## BLUE & GOLD BULLDOGS



#### Giving Thanks by Giving Back

This Thanksgiving season, our FFA chapter had the opportunity to give back to our school district in a meaningful way. Through a chapter service project, FFA members worked together to purchase and provide full Thanksgiving dinners for three families within our community.

Using chapter funds and the help of our advisors, members helped plan the meals, shop for ingredients, and ensure each family received everything needed to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. This project was a great example of the FFA mission in action—developing leadership, personal growth, and career success through service to others.

We are proud of our members for stepping up to support families in need and showing what it truly means to live out the FFA motto, "Living to Serve." Projects like this remind us that agriculture is not just about food and production, but also about community, compassion, and taking care of one another.

Our chapter is thankful for the opportunity to make a difference this holiday season and looks forward to continuing service projects that positively impact our school and community.



FFA Members Attend District Leadership Conference

Several members of our FFA chapter recently attended the District Leadership Conference held at Brighton High School and hosted by the State FFA Officer Team. This event provided members with the opportunity to grow as leaders and connect with other FFA members from schools across the district.

Throughout the evening, members participated in several engaging workshops focused on leadership development, communication skills, teamwork, and personal growth. The interactive sessions encouraged students to step outside their comfort zones, work collaboratively, and reflect on how they can apply what they learned within our chapter and school. Attending the conference allowed our members to gain new ideas, build confidence, and bring fresh perspectives back to our chapter.

### Byers FFA VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

## BLUE & GOLD BULLDOGS



#### FFA Chapter Spreads Holiday Cheer Through Christmas Caroling

This holiday season, members of our FFA chapter spread Christmas cheer throughout our community by going Christmas caroling. FFA members visited neighborhoods and local community members, sharing holiday songs and helping bring joy and positivity to those they visited.

This service activity was a fun and meaningful way for members to connect with the community while celebrating the spirit of the season. It also gave members the opportunity to work together outside of the classroom and represent FFA in a positive way. Our chapter enjoyed giving back through music and smiles, reminding everyone that the holidays are about kindness, connection, and community. We are proud of our members for participating in this activity and living out the FFA motto, "Living to Serve."

#### SAE Spotlight

This month's SAE Spotlight features Wesley Butterfield, our chapter president. Wesley's Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project focuses on raising and showing pigs. Through this project, he has developed valuable skills in animal care, responsibility, time management, and showmanship. By managing daily care, feeding, and preparation for livestock shows, Wesley gains hands-on experience that connects classroom learning to real-world agriculture. His dedication to his SAE reflects his leadership within the chapter and his commitment to agricultural education. We are proud to highlight Wesley's hard work and the example he sets for other FFA members through his swine SAE project.

#### In The Classroom

Before the holiday break, students in the Intro to AFNR classes had the opportunity to learn about welding, including Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) and Flux-Cored welding. Students were introduced to the basics of each process, proper safety procedures, and how these skills are used in agricultural and industrial settings.

This hands-on learning experience gave students exposure to important technical skills and helped connect classroom instruction to real-world applications in agriculture. The Intro to AFNR classes enjoyed the opportunity to explore welding before the break and gain insight into career pathways within the agriculture industry.

**Winterfest dance is Saturday, January 30th from 8-11 in the new gym**

## February Events

### District-Wide of Note

**February 2** - Spelling Bee for 4th-6th grade students

**February 9** - District Accountability Meeting @ 3:45 pm

**February 12** - Classroom Valentine's Day Parties

**February 12** - 4th Grade Night at the Museum from 6-7 pm

**February 13** - NO SCHOOL—Inservice Day

**February 16** - NO SCHOOL—Presidents' Day

### February Athletics Schedule:

**February 4** - JH Girls Basketball at Bennett at 4:00

**February 5** - JH Girls Basketball vs. Strasburg 4:00

**February 6** - HS Basketball at Akron 4:00

**February 7** - JH and HS Basketball vs. Stratton 2:00

**February 7** - HS Wrestling at Crowley County 9:00 am

**February 9** - JH Wrestling at Akron 2:00

**February 10** - HS Basketball vs. Deer Trail 4:00

**February 13** - HS Basketball at Limon 4:00

**February 13-14** - HS Wrestling Regional Tournament at Akron

**February 16** - JH Wrestling at Limon 10:00 am

**February 19-21** - HS State Wrestling at Ball Arena

**February 21** - HS Basketball vs. Heritage Christian 1:00

**February 24** - HS Boys Basketball UPL/LPAA Tournament 5:30

**February 24** - JH Wrestling at Eads 10:00 am

**February 25** - HS Girls Basketball UPL/LPAA Tournament 5:30

**February 27-28** - HS Basketball UPL/LPAA Tournament at Akron