



The I-70 Scout

Volume 32, Number 17

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

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Byers vandalism suspect faces 4 felonies

ArapCo deputy makes arrest following pickup-trailer theft and suspected livestock poisoning

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BYERS — A suspect is in custody and facing multiple felony charges in connection with an overnight string of crimes involving vandalism, auto theft and livestock cruelty a few miles south of Byers earlier this month.

Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the 65200 block of East Mexico Place on report of a stolen black Dodge Ram pickup and livestock trailer. Further investigation unveiled that an additional burglary had occurred and that attempted poisoning of livestock happened sometime after 12 a.m.

The pickup and trailer was report-

edly found about 5 a.m. near mile marker 112 of Highway 36 under suspicious circumstances.

"When we found it, the truck was still running," said Deer Trail Fire Chief Rich Loveless, who was dispatched to the area with another fire department member. "It looks like it was abandoned on the roadway and eventually went down into the ditch.

It was very odd."

The Colorado State Patrol was contacted to process the crash scene and, later in the morning, sheriff's deputies arrested a suspect.

"At approximately 6:40 a.m., I self-dispatched to a report of a suspect in an automobile theft located at

**SEE BYERS VANDALISM
PAGE 4**

Kansas trucker rolls rig north of DT

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — A Kansas semi driver escaped fatal injuries when the rig he was driving rolled over on Highway 36 northeast of Deer Trail March 19.

A little after 12:30 p.m., the Colorado State Patrol and Deer Trail Fire Department were dispatched near mile marker 115 of Highway 36 and, upon arrival, found a semi-trailer rig overturned with its contents strewn along the roadway.

"The vehicle, a 2023 Mack semi carrying grain, lost its load on the roadway and it was

completely blocked," a State Patrol spokesperson said. "The driver, a 46-year-old male out of Kansas, was transported to a hospital with serious injuries."

The semi was reportedly westbound when it went off the right shoulder of the roadway, over-corrected, tipped, skidded about 200 feet, and threw the grain another couple hundred feet.

A neighboring farmer's tractor and a Colorado Department of Transportation snowplow were used to scoop up the spilled grain. Clean up of the scene took about three hours with both directions of traffic reopened a little after 3:45 p.m.

ArapCo stretch of fuel pipeline expansion to DIA commences

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

Construction of the final 45 miles of a fuel pipeline expansion between Scott City, Kan., and Denver International Airport traversing Arapahoe and Adams counties has commenced.

Last week, a crew with energy infrastructure contractor Mears was busy excavating and installing pipe under Xmore Road near Arapahoe County Road 38 about 10 miles south of Byers with the route to move northwest 33 miles towards Watkins before entering Adams County for the final dozen miles, ending near Imboden Road and 104th Avenue.

The Arapahoe County portion of the pipeline starts at South Barnley and County Line roads in the southeastern part of the county and continues northwesterly to East Colfax and Hayesmount Road when it enters Adams County. The Colorado portion of the pipeline starts in Scott City, Kan., and enters Colorado in Cheyenne County. The



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The fuel pipeline expansion construction across eastern Colorado to Denver International Airport has reached Arapahoe County. The above photo was taken along Xmore Road near County Road 38 about 10 miles south of Byers March 20.

route includes Kit Carson, Lincoln and Elbert counties before crossing into Arapahoe County.

The project includes 10- to 16-inch diameter pipeline buried 4 feet deep and placed within a 30- to 50-foot-wide easement throughout the route. While all of the Arap-

ahoe County portion of the route is through unincorporated areas, about five miles of the Adams County portion run through unincorporated parcels. The route into Arapahoe County enters from the far northeast corner

**SEE PIPELINE EXPANSION
PAGE 24**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The Strasburg Sanitation & Water District is planning to take its elevated water tank next to Strasburg High School offline for interior and exterior refurbishing between mid-April and the end of May.

'Burg water tower renovation planned next month thru May

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — When Strasburg's longstanding elevated water tower is refurbished starting next month, community residents will be urged to limit their outdoor watering temporarily.

During the March 17 Strasburg Sanitation & Water District board meeting, administrator Tracy Griffin said that, while a concrete timeline is uncertain

for when the elevated tank will be drained and taken offline, the project is currently proposed to last from approximately April 12 through the end of May.

But before sandblasting and re-coating the tank's interior, repainting the exterior, making the catwalk OSHA compliant, and replacing the shroud protecting the piping into and out of the tank, the water well

**SEE WATER TOWER
PAGE 4**

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Holy Week plans announced for Byers Community Church

BYERS — Holy Week services will begin with worship at 9:30 a.m., Palm Sunday, March 29, at Byers Community Church.

At 7 p.m., Maundy Thursday, April 2, the congregation will gather to remember the Last Supper.

Easter Sunday, April 5, begins with a potluck breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by a traditional Easter worship celebration at 9:30 a.m.

Byers Community Church is located at 135 S. Sherman St. For more information, call (303)822-5717.

Ocean adventure scheduled with Princess Ariel April 18

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Parks & Recreation District will welcome preschoolers and up for an under the sea adventure with Princess Ariel at a Princess Party from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, April 18, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

Guests will enjoy light refreshments, a special keepsake craft, and individual and group photo opportunities. Participants should wear their favorite princess costume.

The cost is \$40 per child fee with limited spots available. The registration deadline is Thursday, April 9. To sign up, visit www.strasburgparks.org.

Egg-stravaganza Easter event planned by 'Burg Parks & Rec

STRASBURG — The annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Strasburg Parks & Recreation District is stats at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 28, at Community Park East, 1866 Wagner St.

The Egg-stravaganza will be divided into age groups and crafts, games, a petting zoo, a bounce house, and a special visit from the Easter Bunny are planned. The grand prize goes to the child who finds the golden egg.

The free event is geared for children ages 10 and under.

Presbyterians and Lutherans unite for Good Friday service

STRASBURG — A Good Friday

Residents can help plan ArapCo's transit future

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County has launched a new transit study, and community members are invited to upcoming occasions to learn more about the effort.

The ArapaGO: Transit Connections Plan is exploring future transportation options for the county, including micro-transit and micro-mobility services. The plan might include on-demand transit, bicycles, e-bikes and scooters.

Community members can share feedback with an online survey through March 31 or obtain more information and visit with project team members at these events:

ArapaGO presentation, 6:30-8 p.m.,

Thursday, March 26, Littleton Transportation & Mobility Board, location TBD.

ArapaGO pop-up event, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, March 28, Englewood Spring Festival, Bellevue Park, 5001 S. Inca Drive.

ArapaGO presentation, 1-3 p.m. Monday, April 6, Aurora Commission for Older Adults, 30 Del Mar Circle.

ArapaGO presentation, 1-3 p.m. Monday, April 27, Centennial Senior Commission, 6972 S. Vine Street Suite 366.

For more information, e-mail to info@arapago.com or call (720)372-2123, or visit www.arapahoeco.gov.

Tenebrae service begins at 7 p.m., Friday April 3, at Strasburg Presbyterian Church, 56635 E. Iowa Ave.

The service will feature special community choir music.

Saron Lutheran Church in Strasburg and Byers Community Church will also participate in the annual combined service.

Easter Sunday Bunny Delivery will benefit food pantry in DT

DEER TRAIL — The Deer Trail Food Bank believes it can make Easter morning magical for parents without moving a muscle.

Deer Trail Easter Bunny Delivery will occur from 4-6 a.m., Easter Sunday, April 5. The Easter Bunny will hop by and secretly hide 15 pre-filled plastic eggs in every customer's front yard. The cost for 15 eggs is \$20.

The event is for local residents only as spots are limited and payment is required to secure delivery.

All net proceeds benefit the Deer Trail Food Bank.

Parks & Rec outing destined for natural history museum

STRASBURG — The bus leaves at 10 a.m., Thursday, March 26, on an excursion to the Morrison Natural History Museum.

The trip, which costs \$25, is intended for adults only without age restric-

tions. A minimum of 10 passengers is required or the trip will be canceled.

Lunch is additional. Advanced reservations are required due to limited seating. To RSVP, visit www.strasburgparks.org or call the rec center at (303)622-4260.

The bus will leave from the Strasburg Rec Center, 1932 Burton St.

Community Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Antelope Hills

BENNETT — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Teens for Change Colorado are hosting a Easter event for all ages.

An Easter Egg hunt is slated from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, March 28, at Future Park, 640 Green Gables Way, Bennett.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

The event will include activities for kids, such as face painting and a service project. Refreshments provided.

Paper pop-up art creations focus of April 20 activities

STRASBURG — Kids in kindergarten through the eighth grade can dive into a variety of art mediums, from painting to clay at an upcoming creative arts class.

A paper pop-up art class will run from 10-10:45 a.m. for grades K-3 and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades 4-8, Monday, April 20, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

The registration deadline is Thursday, April 2. Cost is \$10 per child. Visit www.strasburgparks.org to sign up.

Calm doodling arts project slated for April 6 in 'Burg

STRASBURG — Kids in kindergarten through the eighth grade can dive into a variety of art mediums, from painting to clay at an upcoming creative arts class.

Calm doodling, a versatile and beginner-friendly activity, will occur from 10-10:45 a.m. for grades K-3 and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades 4-8, Monday, April 6, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

The registration deadline is Thursday, April 2. Cost is \$10 per child. Visit www.strasburgparks.org to sign up.

Deadlines approach quickly for 'Burg gymnastics classes

STRASBURG — The soft deadline to register for the second quarter of Twisters Gymnastics at the Strasburg Recreation Center is nearing quickly.

The soft deadline is Sunday, March 29; the hard deadline is Saturday, April 4. Programs run from April 6 through June 27.

Programs begin at age 1 and continue through high school. The aim of Twisters Gymnastics is to provide a safe, effective environment where members participate in gymnastics under the guidance of appropriately qualified coaches. Each class is carefully constructed to motivate children.

For times, fees and class descriptions, visit www.strasburgparks.org.

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Deer Trail School to host agri-science fair

DEER TRAIL — Deer Trail School will host an agri-science fair for students on Monday, March 30.

Projects are due at the school the morning of the event for judging.

After judging, community members are invited for a public viewing/open house of all projects from 4-7:30 p.m. that Monday.

Viewing for students will be held throughout the school day on Tuesday, March 31, with project pick-up scheduled for after school the same day.

For additional information and a list of other events for the duration of the 2025-26 school year, visit www.dt26j.com.

Church Directory

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

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

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

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.
275 Ash Street, Bennett • 303-644-3044
www.corlems.org

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
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www.cornerstonebennett.com
303-644-3450 | 460 3rd St., Bennett

Mountain View Fellowship
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1955 Headlight Road in Strasburg
303.622.9600

❖ Easter Weekend Services ❖
Good Friday, April 3: 7pm
Easter Sunday, April 5: 8, 9:30, and 11am
Servicios en español a las 13:30

Regular Sunday Services through Easter
8:30 & 10:15am
Servicio dominical regular a las 10:15 am

❖ Sunday Service Livestream ❖
mvcolorado.online.church

Following Easter, regular Sunday services will continue at 8, 9:30, and 11am.
Después de Semana Santa, los servicios en español continúan a las 13:30.

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303.261.8853
info@calvarybennett.org

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Presbyterian Church (USA)
135 S. Sherman St., Byers, CO
(303) 822-5717
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SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m.
Online Worship — email for link:
byerschurch@gmail.com

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church
278 S. Sherman St., Byers
303-822-9366 • mttaborbayers.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)

Philippians 4:5 Let your moderation be known unto all men.

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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

Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church

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

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— Douglas Claussen,
Publisher & Editor

 **ARAPAHOE COUNTY**



Resources for veteran in Eastern Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County is proud to expand resources for the veterans in the Eastern Plains for both Adams and Arapahoe County residents. Meet with a Veteran Services Officer at the Byers American Legion.

April 21, 2026

Appointments available from 8 a.m.—4 p.m.

Walk-ins welcome

American Legion Post 160 | 278 W. Front St., Byers

Unable to attend? Call **303-738-8045** for other appointments.



Fill out a confidential survey to share your opinion on the community assistance and support services offered throughout Arapahoe County. Surveys need to be completed by **March 31, 2026**. Visit bit.ly/CSBG_Survey to participate.



Cottage Food Safety

Learn food safety guidelines and specifics of operating a cottage food business from a home kitchen. The next online class is **April 10, 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.** Register now at bit.ly/CSUCottageFoods.

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BYERS VANDALISM **FROM PAGE 1**

the Longhorn Motel,” said the sheriff’s deputy’s arrest affidavit, adding the reporting party’s credit card was used to rent a room at the motel. “[The reporting party], along with management, made contact with the sole subject in the room ... [the reporting party] observed multiple items belonging to him in the hotel room.”

Julian Garcia Medina, 24, was arrested and, at press time, remained detained in the Arapahoe County Detention Center without bond.

Garcia Medina was preliminarily charged with eight counts, including four felonies:

- second-degree burglary of a dwelling;
- second-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft;
- felony criminal mischief;
- felony theft;
- identity theft;
- criminal possession of a financial device;
- attempted animal cruelty; and
- criminal tampering.

“During the course of my investigation, I learned the [reporting party’s] gate to his property was damaged in order to gain entry; his Dodge RAM and trailer were both stolen; [Garcia Medina] is seen on surveillance camera ... entering a secondary residence on the property and pouring insecticide into the water supply of [the reporting party’s] livestock and is also seen tampering with numerous items in a barn and residence on [the] property,” the deputy’s arrest affidavit said. “[Garcia Medina] is seen on hotel surveillance footage moving [the reporting party’s] stolen items from a small sedan into the hotel room where he is the sole occupant.”

The sheriff’s report added that the investigation continues and that “there may be additional suspects.”

Garcia Medina is scheduled to appear in Arapahoe County District Court for a preliminary hearing Friday, April 10.



Some preliminary staging has occurred for the upcoming Strasburg water tower refurbishment project at the Strasburg Sanitation & Water District office yard next to the high school.

WATER TOWER **FROM PAGE 1**

at the office, which has been offline since December, needs repair and the Verizon cell tower on top of the tank temporarily relocated elsewhere at the water office yard.

“We still need to get the office well up and running before Hydro Resources does its thing,” Griffin said. “We need the redundancy, hopefully by the end of the week. Hopefully, Verizon can get things moved in a couple of weeks.”

The final agreement between Verizon and the district regarding the temporary move of the cell tower is being finalized.

Previous plans to construct a new catwalk have been modified to upgrade the current one because it is integral to the tower’s structural integrity.

“Instead of \$40,000 for removal and construction of a new catwalk, expanding/upgrading the existing one is about half the price,” Griffin said.

When the elevated tank is taken offline, the underground tank at the water office site will work in a similar fashion; however, residents are asked to be mindful of their water usage during the project, particularly outdoors. The underground tank has twice the capacity of the elevated tank.

“We’re anticipating things being OK for all inside stuff,” Griffin said. “But are asking to hold off watering outside.”

The project is being partially funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Colorado Department of Local Government Affairs.



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First Bennett election in 10 years: 5 vie for 3 trustee vacancies

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — The April 7 Bennett Municipal Election will mark the first time in a decade that residents will have the opportunity to vote for representatives on the board of trustees.

The previous five municipal election cycles did not have more candidates for vacancies, so appointments to the board were made.

This year, five candidates are vying for the three spots being vacated by Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Barden and trustees Steve Dambroski and Larry Vittum.

Joshua Arbogast, James “Grider” Lee, Christopher Clemens, Bonnie Teachout and Kat Crow are the five running for the trio of trustee vacancies.

All five candidates were e-mailed the same questionnaire from *The I-70 Scout* early last week.

In addition to asking for a brief biography, the same three questions were asked:

- Question 1: “Concerning the rate of growth in town, what are your three most pressing priorities you would like to see addressed over the next four years?”
- Question 2: “What are the two most OTHER pressing issues you see needing addressed in the near future?” and
- Question 3: “How do you assess the town board’s and staff’s communication/interaction with the residents? What would you like to see changed, if anything?”

At press time, Arbogast, Lee, Clemens and Teachout had replied and their answers are provided here. Efforts to receive replies from Crow are ongoing and, if she replies this week, her thoughts will follow in the April

1 edition of *The I-70 Scout*. The candidates’ replies are in order they are listed on the ballot.

JOSHUA ARBOGAST

A six-year resident of Bennett, including a current Antelope Hills HOA Board member, Arbogast has called Bennett home for about six years.



Arbogast

“I was drawn by the open space, strong sense of community, and the opportunity to raise a family away from the congestion of larger cities,” Arbogast said. “Before settling in Bennett, I served as a sergeant in the 101st Airborne Division and now bring over 18 years of federal service experience. That background has shaped my commitment to leadership, accountability, and service to others.”

Question 1: “Bennett is at a critical point in its growth, and how we manage that growth will define our community for decades. My first priority is ensuring that infrastructure keeps pace with development—without overburdening current residents. I strongly support meaningful upgrades to our roads, bridges, and intersections. Growth should help pay for itself, this is vital. ...

“My second priority is responsible water management. As our population increases, so does demand on our water resources. We must ensure that any new residential development is aligned with long-term water availability and sustainability. Growth is inevitable, but it must be handled in a way that safeguards Bennett’s long-term viability”

Question 2: “One of the most immediate concerns I hear from residents

is safety, especially when it comes to our children. I strongly support implementing common-sense sheriff protection for Bennett and Bennett’s school areas. Ensuring that our kids are safe during school hours and community activities should be a top priority, and it’s something we can act on quickly and effectively.

“Another key issue is maintaining the rural character and quality of life that drew many of us to Bennett in the first place. We need to strike a balance that allows for economic development while preserving open space and the small-town feel that defines our community. This requires thoughtful zoning, community input, and a commitment to long-term planning rather than short-term gains.”

Question 3: “Many residents feel they are not fully informed or that their voices are not always heard in a timely or meaningful way. I would like to see more proactive and transparent communication, including clearer updates on development projects, infrastructure plans, and water issues. This could include more frequent town hall meetings, improved use of online platforms, and better outreach to ensure all residents, new and long-time, are informed and engaged. Additionally, I believe the board should actively seek out resident feedback before major decisions are made, not just after.”

JAMES ‘GRIDER’ LEE

Lee is the only candidate with prior Bennett trustee experience, with his previous term concluding in 2016 and has also been on other committee and boards. Professionally, Lee is the owner of a private photo studio in the area.

“Running a business has given me a practical understanding of budget-

ing, customer service, and long-term planning—skills directly applicable to town governance,” he said. “My past service on the town board, combined with my ongoing involvement in the community, allows me to bring both experience and a fresh, forward-looking perspective. I care deeply about maintaining Bennett’s small-town character while ensuring we make thoughtful, responsible decisions as we continue to grow.”



Lee

Question 1: “Bennett has taken important steps to address infrastructure, including proposed investments in improving existing streets and continued upgrades to our water system. Those are positive moves. As we continue to grow, my priority is making sure infrastructure planning stays ahead of development. Across Colorado, towns our size are learning that if growth isn’t structured carefully, long-term maintenance costs can outpace the revenue generated. Other communities are already dealing with the consequences of growing too fast without addressing these issues early. Bennett has the opportunity now to get ahead of those issues. We need to ensure that new development contributes fairly to roads, water systems, and services—so we don’t create situations where future residents or existing neighborhoods are left carrying an uneven financial burden.

“Going forward, we must continue strengthening long-term water reliability—especially as growth increases demand and water costs continue to rise across Colorado. Water availability ultimately determines how we

SEE TRUSTEE CANDIDATES PAGE 6

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Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday, May 9 | 7 a.m.–noon



**Adams County Strasburg
Neighborhood Cleanup**

Adams County residents are encouraged to bring yard waste and other debris to a free neighborhood cleanup in Strasburg on Saturday, May 9 from 7 a.m. to noon at the District 3 Yard, 2550 Strasburg Rd.



Scan the QR code for more info.



Join us for the Adams County Foster Care 5K in support of the Adams County Foster Care Program. Run, walk, or roll with us on Saturday, May 2.

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FROM PAGE 5

grow and how fast we can grow.”

Question 2: “Public safety remains a top priority, including consistent law enforcement coverage and visibility throughout the community—especially in and around our schools. As Bennett expands, we also need to think more broadly about community protection. That includes emergency response readiness and learning from events that have affected other Colorado communities. Situations like the Marshall Fire serve as reminders of how quickly conditions can change.”

“Bennett has made progress attracting retail development, and that is an important part of our tax base; however, long-term success means creating opportunities for residents to work closer to home. Encouraging a broader mix of businesses—including professional services and higher-paying jobs—will help reduce commuting, strengthen families, and create a more self-sustaining local economy. Efforts like the Town Center concept are a step in the right direction, and I would support continuing to build on that vision in a way that fits Bennett’s character and long-term goals.”

Question 3: “The town has made efforts to communicate with residents, and that is appreciated; however, there is room for improvement in consistency, clarity, and timing. Too often, residents feel they are hearing about decisions late in the process rather than having the opportunity to understand and provide input early. I would like to see more regular updates, clearer explanations of major decisions, and additional opportunities for residents to engage before key decisions are finalized. As Bennett continues to grow, we have an opportunity to make decisions today that will serve our community well for decades to come, and I would be honored to be part of that effort.”

CHRISTOPHER CLEMENS

A U.S. Navy Veteran, Paralympian, local business owner, Clemens has lived in Bennett for five years and has been a member of the Penrith Park Metro District Board of Directors and active in the Bennett School District, particularly PTA meetings.

“I am running for town trustee to ensure our growth is managed with common sense and a ‘neighbors-first’ mentality. This race is personal to me. As a proud grandfather of two; I am dedicated to ensuring that the Bennett my grandkids grow up in is still a safe, sustainable, and thriving community for years to come,” he said. “I believe that new projects must be carefully balanced with the capacity of our roads, water, and schools. I am ready to apply my unique blend of military discipline and local experience to put the families of Bennett first.”

Question 1: “My first priority is ensuring that infrastructure precedes rooftops. As a member of the Penrith Park Metro District Board for six years, I’ve seen how rapid expansion puts a strain on our water, sewer, and roads.”

“Over the next four years, I will advocate for a ‘smart-growth’ policy where developers must prove that current systems can handle the load before a single foundation is poured. We must protect our current residents from facing increased

utility rates or traffic congestion caused by unmanaged expansion. For instance, I worked with fellow board members to require water capacity studies before approving subdivision permits, an approach that prevented costly shortages for our neighborhoods.”

Question 2: “I will work to ensure the town board and the school board are in lockstep so that Bennett is still a safe, high-quality environment for our grandkids to grow up in. In past years, I’ve supported joint workshops between the town board and school board to proactively plan for future student populations and emergency needs.”

Question 3: “I believe communication is the foundation of trust. While the town board and staff work hard, there is often a ‘communication gap’ where residents feel they only hear about major changes — like new developments or utility rate hikes— after the decisions have already been made.”

“If elected, I would like to see three specific shifts in how we interact with Bennett residents: 1. Accessibility Beyond Town Hall; 2. Digital Transparency; and the ‘Why’ Behind the ‘What.’”

BONNIE TEACHOUT

A Colorado native, Teachout has lived in Bennett since 2012, including owning a small business in the town since 2020.

“I spent time in both middle and high school on student government because I always wanted to make a difference. I’m also in a unique position to hear unbiased concerns from a variety of members of the town. My husband and I enjoy the small town community of Bennett that we are raising our five school-age children in and hope to be here for a long time to come.”



Teachout

Question 1: “When it comes to addressing concerns regarding the rate in which the town is growing, especially with the number of homes being built, my number one priority is finding a solution to expanding our school system in a way that is not going to be a major financial burden on the towns current residents.”

“Another concern is helping to create an appropriate infrastructure that helps to meet the needs of the community while trying to maintain the small town feel and atmosphere.”

Question 2: “Beyond concerns of managing the rapid growth in the town the condition of the roads in Bennett are something that need a better solution. Quick fixes of the various potholes only last as long as good weather sticks around.”

“Beyond the condition of the roads themselves the flow of traffic needs a better solution. During certain hours of the day it is almost impossible to take a left turn in several places.”

Question 3: “Regarding the town board members and staff, I personally know a couple of them and they have always been informative and very friendly with any questions. The staff at town hall has always been very helpful when I’ve had to go in for any reason. I feel that it’s important for board members to get involved with town events to meet the members of our community to really understand the needs of Bennett.”

Bennett voters to answer street bonds, Stemo diamond questions

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — In addition to choosing from five candidates to fill three trustee vacancies, Bennett voters will have two ballot questions to answer during the April 7 mail-ballot municipal election.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION BONDS

Bennett voters are being asked whether to approve up to a \$20 million increase in debt to be earmarked for “the purpose of financing the construction, maintenance, repair, replacement, expansion, acquisition, rehabilitation and renovation of existing and planned streets and other street related capital improvements within the town as determined by the board of trustees. ...”

Town officials have reiterated that the ballot question will not raise taxes for its residents.

“The town’s existing 1% sales tax already generates significant and consistent revenue that could be used to repay bonds if the measure is approved by voters,” a town statement said. “In recent years, the sales tax has generated between \$1 million and

\$1.6 million per year.”

According to Bennett’s financial department, issuance of approximately \$14 million in bonds would result in an estimated annual payment of approximately \$830,000 with the full \$20 million resulting in a likely yearly payback of \$1.185 million.

While a project schedule is not part of the ballot language, town officials have indicated that full reconstruction of the town’s portion of Kiowa-Bennett Road and improvements to Marketplace Drive are likely to be among the top priorities if the bond question is passed.

There is also a likelihood that efforts to shore up the I-70 Exit 304 bridge will require the town to cover part of project costs, which bond money could help meet.

BALLFIELD BALLOT QUESTION

Voters are also being asked whether to convey the Joe Stemo Ball Field, 1050 Washington Way, from the town to the Bennett School District for \$1,500.

The agreed upon price was part of the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the two entities back in 2011.

While the baseball diamond has been owned by the town, many of the activities on it are school-related.

Bennett Mayor Whitney Oakley has previously indicated it’s her understanding that the school district is planning repairs and improvements to the ball field and that “it makes more sense if they’re doing that as the owner and not the lessee.”

The ballot language also allows for other activities beyond school district games, practices and events.

ELECTION TIME FRAME

Ballots were expected to be mailed to all registered town of Bennett voters starting March 23. Ballots must be returned by mail or placed in the official ballot drop box by 7 p.m. Election Day. A secure ballot box will be available at Town Hall for voters who wish to drop off their completed ballots in person.

Eligible residents may register to vote or update their registration online at www.govotecolorado.com.

For additional information, visit www.bennettco.gov.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bennett resident seeks answers to road bond questions

Dear Editor:

Citizens of Bennett will soon have an opportunity to vote for purchasing bonds to improve our roads.

I attended a public meeting on the topic in January and also spoke at a board meeting. At both meetings, I asked questions to which I have received no answers. The list includes Kiowa-Bennett Road as well as the bridge over I-70. Both projects have been discussed for years and these improvements are needed.

One of my questions was about Marketplace Drive. What was going to be done at that intersection? The answer I received was sidewalks and re-striping. This intersection has been worked on two times in the five years since the light was installed. Do sidewalks and striping cost \$1.2 million or what else is to be done? Palmer Street west of the park is to be redone. Last year the town spent money to repair it. Are we improving this portion of Palmer because the town is considering annexation of that land? Shouldn’t this be the responsibility of the developer to improve that street and not the citizens of Bennett?

The information I have lists “lower priority road improvements” — future projects with a price tag of \$4.1 million. Who will determine what these projects are? There used to be a 1% sales tax road committee, which was suspended in 2024. A new resolution was passed in October 2024, but this committee has not been activated yet. I applied to be on it again.

Last August I was interviewed for the committee but it was later put on hold. Using this committee would give the citizens of Bennett a voice on how that \$4.1 million could be spent. Finally, the update of the 2016 Road Bond Financing to Benefit the Community carries a \$4.37 million price tag.

I asked if this was the interest we are paying or is this what some company is getting paid to sell these bonds? If the town has collected between \$1 million and \$1.6 million per year, we could have around \$13 million in this account. Where is this money? That much money would be enough to do the first two projects without bonding.

If you know the answers to my questions, let me know. If you have questions, ask for answers. If my questions are not answered, I will vote ‘No’ on this issue.

— Diane Moler, Bennett

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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The Bennett-Watkins Lions Club kicked off its inaugural I-70 Corridor-wide Flags for First-Graders campaign at Byers Elementary March 5. The volunteer organization recently acquired enough miniature American flags to hand out to first-graders from Bennett to Deer Trail. In addition, the presentation included the history of the flag and military from area veteran Kurt "Sarge" Russell. Above, Russell hands flags to Mia Davidson and Logan Winkinhofer. Below, Lion Lindy Cosgrove presents Corbin Johnson and Yosselyn Mora-Hernandez with their individual flags.

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CO constitutional convention adjourned 150 years ago this month

by Chase Woodruff
Colorado Newsline

Temperatures in Denver hit 61 degrees on March 13, 1876, and that night the first rain of the year fell, though it soon turned back to snow. The *Rocky Mountain News* reported the first “centennial rain” on what was otherwise a slow news day in the territorial capital.

“News gatherers picked up but few items yesterday,” the paper wrote. “There was no stir at all in the sheriff’s office, at police headquarters, or about the courts.”

As the weather warmed, Colorado newspapers filled up with notices from tailors and milliners, advertising the arrival from the East of the “spring trade” in men’s and women’s fashion, with ecru neckwear singled out as particularly in vogue.

“Chas. Ballen & Co have just received a large invoice of spring goods, comprising all the novelties of the season,” read one ad. “In the fashionable cream color we have a full line of cashmere laces, ties, tie ends, hortense and chenille dot nets, illusions, laces for scarfs ... We have also received an elegant line of silk ties in all the new shades.”

“The conundrum on the social mind at present is whether society will get the spring styles from the April fashion journals or send last year’s clothes to the scourers,” the *News* reported.

Gallup’s Bazar, 855 Larimer St., advertised its spring stock of “base balls and bats.” In Golden, practice games had been played since mid-February, and the weekly *Globe* predicted its local nine would “clean out any club in the territory in the coming season.”

“The base-ball mania has again made its appearance in our midst,” the *Golden Transcript* reported. “A majority of last year’s first nine are not within reach at present, but the four that are left over are the slick ones.”

THE CONVENTION ADJOURNS

After nearly three months of deliberations — longer than most of the territorial papers had expected — the 39 delegates to Colorado’s constitutional convention in Denver finally concluded their work in mid-



The third floor of the First National Bank building on 15th Street in Denver served as the chambers of Colorado’s 1876 constitutional convention.

March. Near midnight on March 14, the entirety of the 21,000-word constitution was read aloud, and “several errors (were) discovered and corrected,” reported the *News*. Thirty-one delegates signed the constitution that night, and the remaining eight signed the following morning, some by proxy.

Among the body’s last actions was to settle its accounts. Total expenses for the 65 days it had spent formally in session ran to \$29,945 — more than two-thirds of which went to delegates themselves in the form of \$6 per diem payments and mileage reimbursements. The *News*, *Denver Daily Times*, and *Denver Tribune* each received a share of the convention’s \$2,330 printing budget. The cost of coal and firewood to heat the chambers ran to \$45.

After a final round of pleasantries, including the gift of a Webster’s dictionary to Joseph Wilson, the El Paso County Republican who’d served as the convention’s president, the body adjourned sine die around 4 p.m. March 15.

A copy of the completed Colorado Constitution was promptly delivered to the offices of the *News*, which devoted three-quarters of the next day’s edition to printing the document in full.

Colorado voters would get the final

say in a constitutional referendum scheduled for July 1. The *News*, which had championed repeated attempts at statehood over the preceding 17 years, didn’t hesitate to lavish praise on the constitution’s “many excellent provisions,” declaring that it had “been pronounced by competent authority the most perfect of its kind to be found in the union.”

The convention’s proceedings had featured heated debates over women’s suffrage, school funding, taxation of church property, corporate regulation, the structure of the state’s judiciary, the size and apportionment of its legislature, and other issues. But in a special address to Coloradans, published alongside the drafted constitution, convention delegates from both parties urged citizens of the territory to set aside their disagreements and work together toward the shared goal of statehood.

Delegates had “labored assiduously,” they wrote, “to frame a fundamental law, wise and wholesome in itself, and which would be adapted to the general wants of the people.”

Reviewing each of the major issues raised during the convention in turn,

delegates defended the document’s many compromises, including its approach to the “troublesome and vexed questions pertaining to corporations,” which it said had caused “more anxiety and concern” than any other topic. Within the convention, a handful of progressive populists sympathetic to the Granger movement had attempted to enshrine strict limits on the power of railroad corporations, but most of their proposals had been defeated.

“We are aware that these provisions do not cover the whole ground, but it must be remembered that, while some of our sister states have not gone far enough in placing restrictions on the legislative power, others have gone too far, and have had to recede,” explained the delegates. “We have endeavored to take a middle ground, believing it to be more safe, and in the end that it will give more general satisfaction.”

In concluding their address, delegates anticipated that some within the territory would oppose statehood on the grounds of a “supposed increase of expenses and consequent taxation.” Such concerns had helped motivate territorial voters to overwhelmingly reject a state constitution proposed in 1864.

But at a moment when many Americans had become disillusioned by reports of political scandal and corruption in Washington, the constitution’s defenders struck a stridently populist tone, framing statehood as the superior choice to remaining “a sort of penal colony” of the federal government.

“Who is there among us that would not rather be a citizen of an independent sovereign state, than a mere settler upon the public lands of the territory, governed by satraps appointed and removed at pleasure, as best serves the whims and purposes of political rings and cliques?” delegates asked. “Now that the golden opportunity is afforded, shall this state of things longer exist? We confidently believe it will not.”

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Wesley Dilley

Wesley "Wes" Dilley passed on March 5, 2026, with his wife of 46 years, Marilouise, by his side. He was born March 22, 1961, in Texas and made his home in Colorado since 1977. A memorial service is scheduled at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 28, at 2070 Burton Dr., Strasburg.

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Bill Van Derveer Jr.

Joseph William "Bill" Van Derveer, Jr. passed away on March 12, 2026, in his 79th year. He attended the University of Alabama and Vanderbilt University School of Law. Bill is pre-deceased by his parents, Jo and Joe Van Derveer, and is survived by his sister, Debra Van Derveer of Franklin, Tenn.; his daughter, Carrie (Shad) Herbert of Burns, Tenn.; his son, Will (Krista) Van Derveer of Boulder, Colo.; his granddaughter, Sophia, and his first wife, Carolyn Russell. Bill was a man of great sensitivity and a singular presence — truly a "horse of a different color." He carried a deep care for others, expressed in part through his dedication to pro bono legal work, following in the footsteps of his own father. His path was not without hardship. There were chapters of distance, unpredictability, and difficulty within his family life that left lasting impressions. Yet there were also meaningful moments of connection and joy that endure in memory, especially his enduring love for Alabama football. Later in life, he found a renewed chapter in Byers, Colo., where he built a wide circle of friendships and enjoyed the gift of a second marriage with Merry Jolene Aharonian, who predeceased Bill in 2016 and who is survived by her sons Cody Aharonian and Michael Aharonian. Those who knew him remember his vibrant personality and capacity for connection. He will be remembered for his complexity, his sensitivity, and the indelible impact he had on those who knew him. His family takes comfort in knowing that his long and difficult journey has come to rest. May he be at peace. Celebration of life is scheduled from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, May 3, at his favorite restaurant, Lulu's in Watkins.

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Tax season is here. What to know for stress-free filing

by **Adriana Morga**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Tax season is underway and you have until April 15 to file your return with the IRS. If you want to avoid the stress of the looming deadline, start getting organized as soon as possible.

“Don’t wait until the last minute but also don’t rush,” said Tom O’Saben, director of tax content and government relations at the National Association of Tax Professionals,

Gathering all your documents, signing up for direct deposit and keeping copies of your tax returns are some of the best practices when it comes to preparing to fill out your taxes.

This year, the Republican tax and spending bill that President Donald Trump signed over the summer contains new deductions taxpayers should know about.

Among them are no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, deductions for car loan interest, and deductions for people who were 65 or older by Dec. 31, said Miguel Burgos, a certified public accountant and an expert for TurboTax.

The average refund last year was \$3,167. This year, analysts have projected it could be \$1,000 higher, thanks to changes in tax law. More than 165 million individual income tax returns were processed last year, with 94% submitted electronically.



If you find the process too confusing, plenty of free resources are available to help you get through it.

Here are things you need to know:

GATHER YOUR DOCUMENTS

While the required documents might depend on your individual case, here is a general list of what everyone needs:

- Social Security number
- W-2 forms, if employed
- 1099-G, if unemployed
- 1099 forms, if self-employed
- Savings and investment records

- Eligible deductions, such as educational expenses, medical bills, charitable donations, etc.
- Tax credits, such as the child tax credit, retirement savings contributions credit, etc.

To find a more detailed document list, visit www.irs.gov.

O’Saben recommends gathering all documents in one place before starting your tax return and also having documents from last year. Taxpayers can also create an identity protection PIN number with the IRS to guard against identity theft. Once a number is created, the IRS will require it to file your tax return.

CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR

CHANGE TO STANDARD DEDUCTION

The standard deduction for single taxpayers is \$15,750 for this year. For married couples filing jointly, it has increased to \$31,500. For heads of households, the standard deduction is \$23,625.

CHANGE TO STATE AND LOCAL TAXES DEDUCTION

The deduction cap on state and local taxes has increased from \$10,000 to \$40,000. The change is also known as the Working Families Tax Cut and was enacted in July 2025.

“This is a big benefit, especially for states like California, New York and New Jersey, that have

**SEE TAX SEASON
PAGE 12**



Agate School District Kindergarten & Preschool Roundup 9 - 11 a.m.; Thursday, April 16

Screenings will occur at Agate School, 41032 Second St., Agate, CO 80101. For more information, parents or guardians can call the main office at (719)764-2741.

For your child to be registered for the 2026-27 school year, bring a birth certificate and updated immunization record. **OUR PRESCHOOL IS FREE!**

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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
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TAX SEASON

FROM PAGE 11

a higher state income tax," said Keith Hall, president and CEO of the National Association for the Self-Employed and a certified CPA.

The SALT deduction is a federal tax deduction for some state and local taxes paid during the year. The total deduction had been capped at \$10,000 since it started in 2018.

People who have not previously itemized their SALT deduction might want to consider it this year. To determine whether to itemize, O'Saben recommends that you ask yourself the following questions: Did you pay state taxes? Did you pay property taxes? Do you have mortgage interest? Do you have charitable contributions?

DEDUCTIONS FOR TIPS

What is known as "no tax on tips" is not quite accurate. This new deduction is only for qualified tips and is subject to income limitations.

"It can be cash, it can be electronic as well. But the main thing is, hey, it has to be voluntary (tips)," Burgos said.

The maximum annual deduction is capped at \$2,500. The deduction

phases out for taxpayers with modified adjusted gross income over \$150,000, or \$300,000 for joint filers. The tax deduction is also limited to specific industries where tipping is common practice. The industries include bartenders, food servers, musicians and housekeeping cleaners.

To claim the new tax break, you will need to fill out a new tax form called Schedule 1-A.

ADDITIONAL SCHEDULE 1-A DEDUCTIONS

Schedule 1-A is an IRS form used to claim and calculate four tax deductions originating from the tax and spending bill. They are the change in state and local tax deduction, deduction on qualified tips, and car loan and senior deductions.

LOOK FOR RESOURCES

IRS Direct File, the electronic system for filing tax returns for free, will not be offered this year. For those who make \$89,000 or less per year, IRS Free File offers free guided tax preparation; you can choose from eight IRS partners, such as TaxAct and FreeTaxUSA.

Beyond companies such as TurboTax and H&R Block, taxpayers can also hire licensed professionals, such as certified public accountants. The IRS offers a directory of tax preparers across the United States.

The IRS also funds two programs that offer free tax help: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE). People who earn \$69,000 or less a year, have disabilities, or are limited English speakers, qualify for the VITA program. Those who are 60 or older qualify for the TCE program.

The IRS has a site for locating organizations hosting VITA and TCE clinics.

AVOID COMMON MISTAKES

Many people fear getting in trouble with the IRS if they make a mistake. Here's how to avoid some of the most common ones:

DOUBLE-CHECK NAME ON SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

When working with clients, O'Saben asks them to double-check their number and their legal name, which can change when people get married.

"If you got married last year and you now want to use your married name, that married name doesn't exist if you haven't filed it with Social Security," O'Saben said.

SEARCH FOR ONLINE TAX STATEMENTS

Many people opt out of physical mail but, when you do, it can also include your tax documents.

"These documents may actually be available online because you may have chosen to have paperless contact. And, because of that, you may need to go get those documents yourself," O'Saben said.

MAKE SURE YOU REPORT ALL OF YOUR INCOME

If you had a second job in 2025, you need the W-2 or 1099 form for each job.

In general, if you make a mistake or you're missing something in your tax records, the IRS will audit you. An audit means that the IRS will ask you

for more documentation.

KNOW ABOUT THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

Currently, the tax credit is \$2,200 per child but only \$1,700 is refundable. This refund is called the Additional Child Tax Credit. To claim the Additional Child Tax Credit, you must have at least \$2,500 of income for the tax year.

You qualify for the full amount of the Child Tax Credit for each qualifying child if you meet all eligibility factors and your annual income is not more than \$200,000 (\$400,000 if filing a joint return). Parents and guardians with higher incomes may be eligible to claim a partial credit.

You can find more details about the child tax credit here.

AVOID PAPER CHECKS FOR TAX REFUND

Last September, the IRS began phasing out paper tax refund checks. If you're expecting a tax refund, the IRS recommends you sign up for direct deposit.

AVOID TAX SCAMS

Tax season is prime time for tax scams, O'Saben said. These scams can come via phone, text, e-mail and social media. The IRS uses none of those means to contact taxpayers.

Sometimes scams are even operated by tax preparers, so it's important to ask lots of questions.

If a tax preparer says you will get a refund that is larger than what you've received in previous years, for example, that may be a red flag, O'Saben said.

If you can't see what your tax preparer is working on, get a copy of the tax return and ask questions about each entry.

KEEP COPIES OF YOUR TAX RETURNS

It's always good practice to keep a record of your tax returns, just in case the IRS audits you for an item you reported years ago. O'Saben recommends keeping copies of your tax return documents for five to seven years.



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**ARAPAHOE COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE NO. SDPZ23-001, DAYTON POINT/AMENDMENT
TO THE APPROVAL OF A SPECIFIC
DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITH ZONING**

PROPOSAL: The applicant is requesting the amendment of a condition of approval. The subject development is located at 9500 E. Mississippi Avenue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 14, 2026, at 9:30 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the calendar of the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners permits, a public hearing will be held, at which all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the above-described Case No. SDPZ23-001, Dayton Point/Amendment to the Approval of a Specific Development Plan With Zoning. The public hearing will be held at 5334 S Prince St., East Hearing Room, Littleton, CO 80120, with the option to participate remotely. 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 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, March 25, 2026, and Eastern Colorado News on Friday, March 27, 2026.

**COMMUNITY
Easter Egg Hunt!**

MARCH 28TH • 2-4 PM

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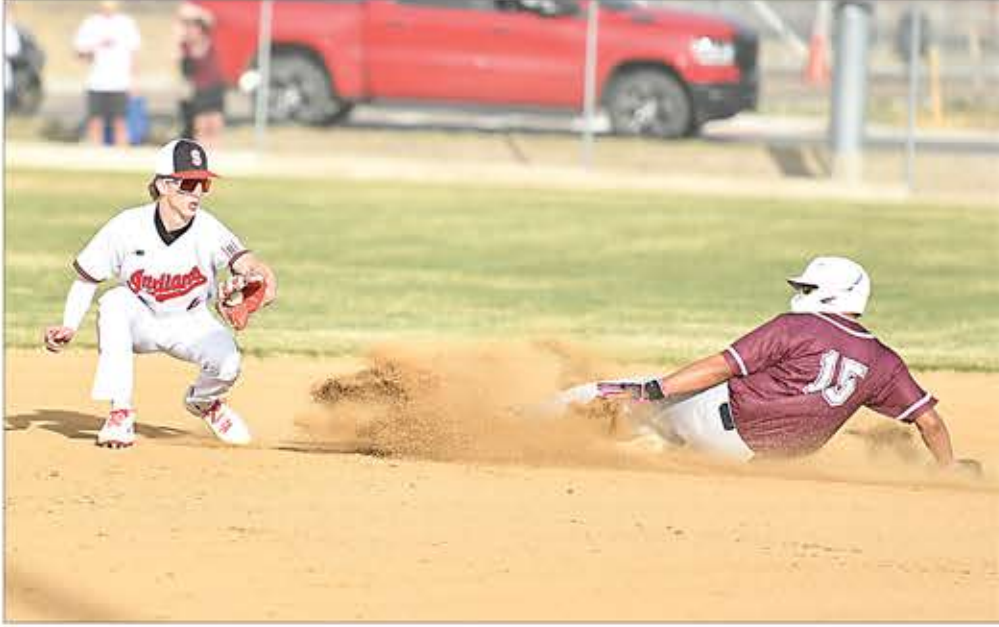
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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



SPORTS



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Left photo, Indian second baseman Houston Broskie keeps a throw from sailing into center field as a Bruce Randolph base runner kicks up the infield during Strasburg's season-opener March 17. Right, Gabe Smith scores the second run of an 11-run first inning.

Strasburg baseball opens with 10-run win

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — Only three days after celebrating their first-ever boys basketball title, the Strasburg Indians were on the right side of a 15-5 season-opening victory over Bruce Randolph on the baseball diamond March 17.

While the number of players transitioning from hoops to baseball is small, half the coaching staff only had one practice day with the roster before Tuesday's season-opener. Baseball head coach Josh Holloway and assistant coach Dave Glatfelter were both part of the boys basketball championship victory March 14.

After the visitors went three up, three down, Strasburg seemingly put the game out of reach in the bottom of the opening frame, scoring 11 runs. The starting Grizzly pitcher struggled, walking four of the first six Indian hitters, including junior leadoff man



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg freshman Coltrane Smith fires a pitch against Bruce Randolph March 17.

Houston Broskie, who stole second and third and scored Strasburg's first run of the season on a catcher's error. With one out, Strasburg scored nine more runs before the second out was recorded. In addition to six first-inning walks and one hit batsman, three Indians rapped run-scoring doubles — senior Erik Alamillo, junior Reagan Rosier and Broskie.

Both teams scored a single tally in

the second inning to make the score 12-1.

The visitors made the game interesting in the top of the third when a three-run home run off of freshman hurler Coltrane Smith pulled the score to 12-4. With two runners on with two outs, Smith got a ground out to thwart any further threat.

Bruce tightened the deficit by a run, 12-5 in the top of the fourth.

An RBI triple by Rosier drove in senior R.J. Weaver, who doubled, to make the score 13-5 after five innings.

In the bottom of the sixth, the combination of single by senior Gabe Smith, walks to Broskie and senior Aiden Bongard and a single by junior Daniel Ontiveros led to two runs and the game ending an inning early.

Of Strasburg's eight hits, five were for extra bases — four doubles and a triple. The Indians were also helped by a handful of Bruce Randolph errors and 14 free passes — 11 walks and three hit batsmen.

Gabe Smith got the start on the mound, allowing an earned run on one hit with two walks and four strikeouts. In his one inning, Coltrane Smith yielded three earned runs on two hits while walking two and striking out two. Bongard got the save, throwing the final three innings and allowing an unearned run on one hit while walking one and striking out five Grizzlies.



Small business owners: Find big support at Anythink Bennett

Discover how Anythink Bennett Library can help your business thrive—from powerful resources and research tools to partnership opportunities and new ways to reach customers using the library as a community hub—at the kickoff event for I-70 Corridor Business Connect series. Snacks, networking, conversations, door prizes—and big ideas for your business. Just drop in!

When: 6-8 p.m. March 26
Where: Anythink Bennett Library,
495 7th St. in Bennett
Questions? Call 303-405-3231

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WAY TO GO

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Cade & the Indians

on your
State Championship Win!

— Uncle Steve & Sylv



Congratulations Indians!

Congrats **Strasburg** Boys
Great Job on the
State Championship

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Strasburg did it!
So proud of Cade and the boys!

Congratulations on the State Championship!
With love, Karla, Josie, A.J. & Grace



Congratulations to TREY GRAF and the Strasburg Indians -

Hard work and dedication have truly paid off. What a joy it's been to watch all the "baby brothers" grow up and become champions. Keep giving Him the glory!



Congratulations Cameron, all the hard work paid off!

Love you Dad, Mom, Courtney and Morgan



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our State Champs!

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Congratulations Indians!

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Congrats to the 3A State Champs!

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Adrian Castillo Monge, Agent (720)717-3217 (Se Habla Español)
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Looks like those driveway practices & games paid off!

CONGRATULATIONS ON BECOMING STATE CHAMPIONS, STRASBURG BASKETBALL BOYS AND COACHES! WE ARE UNBELIEVABLY PROUD OF ALL OF YOU. LOVE, THE MILLERS



CONGRATS, CHAMPS!

So proud of Strasburg basketball!

— The Holloways



Strasburg grads Cheryl (1980) & Ed (1976) and the Strasburg Auto Parts crew congratulates the Indians on their first state basketball title. We are proud of you!

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1313 Monroe St. Strasburg, CO
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8:00am - 5:00pm Sat.
8:00am - 1:00pm Sun.

Congratulations Strasburg Indians!

History was made! For the first time ever, the Strasburg Indians are **State Boys Basketball Champions!** Your hard work, determination, and resilience—even in the face of grief and adversity—have created memories that will last a lifetime. You have made our entire community proud and have represented our district with heart, grit, and pride.

One Town. One Team. One Tribe.

With SO much Strasburg Pride,
Mrs. Bongard, Superintendent

From Strasburg School District 31j & Athletic Department

Info sought in 1970 ArapCo cold case

CENTENNIAL — The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is renewing its call for information in the 1970 homicide of 15-year-old Marilee Ruth Burt.



Burt

On the evening of Feb. 26, 1970, Marilee had been cheerleading at a basketball game at Goddard Middle School. When her ride home did not arrive, she began walking toward her residence in Columbine Valley.

Witnesses reported seeing her along Berry Drive, Bowles Avenue and South Middlefield Road. She was last observed speaking with someone inside a vehicle stopped along South Middlefield Road. Marilee never made it home.

She was reported missing later that

evening, and deputies immediately began searching the area. The following day, her body was discovered in Deer Creek Canyon by a Jefferson County road crew. Investigators determined she had been sexually assaulted and strangled.

Despite extensive investigative efforts over the years, no suspect has been identified. In 1998, the case was formally reviewed and evidence collected in 1970 was submitted for DNA testing. While investigators pursued multiple leads, subsequent analysis eliminated those individuals as suspects.

Detectives continue to actively review this case and seeking help from the public. Anyone who remembers a detail, witnessed suspicious behavior, or noticed a vehicle in the area that evening are asked to call (303)795-4711 or e-mail to Coldcase@arapahoegov.com.

AdCo sheriff forms Human Trafficking Unit

BRIGHTON — A new Human Trafficking Unit was formed within the Adams County Sheriff's Office Detective Division earlier this year.

The HTU is staffed by two detectives dedicated to investigating human trafficking cases and enforcing regulations governing massage facilities in unincorporated Adams County. In addition, the unit will investigate other vice crimes like prostitution and exploitation.

In 2024, state House Bill 1371 was passed, requiring local governments to establish background check requirements for massage facility operators. It also allowed local governments to adopt ordinances establishing licensing requirements for massage facilities.

In 2025, the Adams County Board of Commissioners adopted Ordinance 18, commonly known as the Adams County Massage Facility Licensing Ordinance.

It established licensing requirements for massage facilities, including background checks and operational standards, and outlines prohibited acts within such businesses.

To support enforcement, the commissioners approved funding for the



creation of the Human Trafficking Unit.

The HTU will also work closely with the 17th Judicial District Attorney's Office to investigate and prosecute vice-type crimes. The unit will also proactively monitor online platforms and social media, as well as hotels, short-term rentals, and massage facilities, for indications of prostitution, exploitation and human trafficking.

According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, 318 trafficking victims were identified in Colorado out of 21,865 victims nationally.

Victims of human trafficking in Adams County are encouraged to contact the Human Trafficking Tipline at (303)655-3611 or stophumantrafficking@adamssheriffco.gov. The National Human Trafficking Hotline is 1-888-373-7888.

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Tailgating = aggressive driving

LAKESWOOD — Drivers who follow other vehicles too closely can be unnerving. When a driver fails to maintain a safe gap, it becomes difficult to stop safely if the vehicle ahead comes to a sudden stop.

Professional drivers have appropriately nicknamed these drivers "bumper stickers" because motorists who tailgate increase their risk of causing a rear-end collision.

Last year, Colorado State Troopers investigated 2,795 crashes, which were caused by following too closely. Over 90% of those were property damage crashes; however, 217 people were injured or killed.

"In most cases, tailgating won't make traffic move faster," said Col. Matthew C. Packard, Colorado State Patrol chief. "All it really does is raise the risk of a crash. Take a minute to come back to your senses by backing off and slowing down."

While crashes are the biggest tailgating concern, troopers are sharing strategies for drivers to consider when this aggressive maneuver appears in their rearview mirror:

- Keep calm and continue at the

speed limit.

- Consider switching lanes when safe to do so.
- Resist the urge to drive aggressively by speeding ahead or swerving.
- Gently apply the brakes if you must slow down or stop (do not hard-brake).
- Give the aggressive motorist as much space as possible.

Although tailgating can be aggravating and intimidating, keep your cool and your distance when possible. The worst choice is to respond aggressively.

If the license plate or related information is obtained, call *CSP (*277) to report the unsafe driver.

"Drivers can experience road rage for seemingly insignificant reasons, so training yourself to think about safety over making an equal aggressive response is key," Packard cautioned. "Take hand gestures as a compliment that you are likely driving the speed limit, and the driver's actions likely have nothing to do with you. Instead, keep your eyes focused on the road ahead of you. Your life is always more important."

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- Ensure protection for school children now

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For Town Trustee**

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LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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

Growing Local Business: This kick-off event launches the I-70 Corridor Business Connect series. Adults can share formats, topics and event styles to best support their businesses. They can also explore library resources available for local businesses and find new ways to connect with customers by using the library as a community hub. Light refreshments, door prizes. 6-8 p.m., Thursday, March 26.

Adult book club: "Rendezvous with Rama" by Arthur C. Clarke. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, March 27.

Teen Advisory Board: Kids ages 12-17 can attend regular meetings to take an active leadership role in planning and implementing library activities. They can also use their voices to advocate for youth services in Bennett. 4:45-6 p.m., Wednesday, April 1.

Sewing Drop-In: All ages welcomed every first Thursday of the month for a fun, casual drop-in sewing workshop. A sewing teacher will help out with special and everyday projects. Sewing machines provided. Sewing machines and some supplies will be provided. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, April 2.

Tech Takeaways: Adults can learn about "Using Pay Apps Securely." Facilitators will cover how and when to safely and effectively use online payment apps like Venmo, Cash App and Apple Pay. Participants are welcome to submit questions in advance and invited to learn a new tech skill and build confidence online each month. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 6-7 p.m., Thursday, April 2.

Intro to Veggie Gardening: Adults can join for a hands-on session with Colorado State University Extension to learn the basics of vegetable gardening. Participants will receive materials to help jump-start a garden at home. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, April 4.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

'Kawaii' Cutie Crafts: Kids ages 5-12 are invited to a super-cute "Kawaii" craft party. Participants can make adorable creations inspired by the Japanese "cuteness" aesthetic. All materials provided. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26.

Learning on the Go: Toddlers ages 18 months to 5 years old can enjoy storytime and songs, then take home free books and activities to continue learning at home. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 1.

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

DAVIES LIBRARY

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

Wacky Wednesday: Kids and tweens can drop in for snacks, games, cool tech and creative crafts. New activity each month. Ages 5-12. 4-5 p.m., Wednesday, April 1.

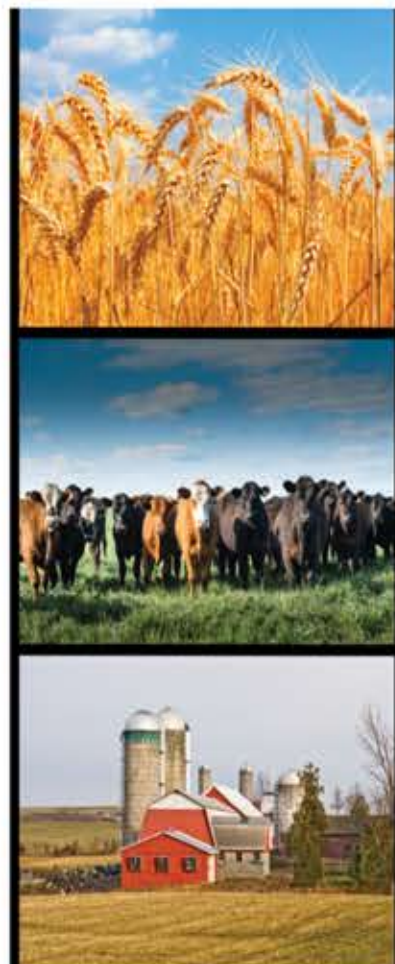
Tea at 2: Adults are invited for tea and activities, such as cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages. Patrons can also bring their own activities. 2-3 p.m., Friday, April 3.



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LUNCH MENUS

AGATE

March 23-26: Spring break
 Monday, March 30: Pizza.
 Tuesday, March 31: Grilled cheese, soup.
 Wednesday, April 1: Sloppy Joe macaroni, dinner roll.

STRASBURG

March 23-27: Spring break.
 Wednesday, April 1: Grilled cheese with tomato soup.

BYERS

Thursday, March 26: Cheeseburgers, Tater Tots, pineapple.
 Friday, March 27: Cheese pizza, garden salad, orange wedges.
 Monday, March 30: Walking taco, corn bread, green beans, mixed fruit.
 Tuesday, March 31: Chicken Caesar

wrap, steamed carrots, pears.
 Wednesday, April 1: Chili, cinnamon roll, corn.

DEER TRAIL

Thursday, March 26: Cheese pizza, mixed vegetables, frozen fruit.
 Monday, March 30: Teriyaki chicken, rice, green beans.
 Tuesday, March 31: Spaghetti with meat sauce, California blend vegetables, bread sticks.

BENNETT

Thursday, March 26: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes.
 Monday, March 30: Chili, cinnamon rolls.
 Tuesday, March 31: Chicken bowls, hominy rice.
 Wednesday, April 1: Chicken tenders, fries.

CORRIDOR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Soup supper hosted by Altar & Rosary. Meatless soups, dessert, grilled cheese sandwiches, coffee, juice. Free will offerings accepted. Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church, Byers.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Agate School Board. 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

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

EVERY MONDAY

Snackivities. 4:15-4:45 p.m., Davies Li-

brary, Deer Trail.

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

AA open meeting. 7 p.m., white historic Victorian schoolhouse at Ace Hardware parking lot, 21761 U.S. Highway 40, Limon. For more information, call Sara at (828)243-7681.

EVERY TUESDAY

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. Gaming consoles, board games, crafts, other activities available. 3:30-6 p.m., Anythink Bennett library.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

Bennett Middle School hosted a four performances of "Disney The Little Mermaid JR." March 12-13 at the high school auditorium. Twenty-seven sixth- through eighth graders showed off their acting skills during one Thursday night performance and three more on Friday afternoon and evening. Above, Scuttle (Cambria Sinka) flies around while singing. Below, seawitch Ursula (Delilah Kuhn-Richardson), center, and her minions Flotsam (Janelle Nervais), left, and Jetsam (Violet Teachout) plan their next move.



HE IS RISEN

Join us for Easter celebrations at

LIVING SPRINGS COWBOY CHURCH

<p>APRIL 3RD - GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p>Movie night!</p> <p>The Passion of the Christ 6:00 PM</p> <p>Refreshments & separate kid's movie provided</p>	<p>APRIL 5TH - EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>6:30 AM: Sunrise service</p> <p>8:00 AM: Potluck breakfast</p> <p>9:00 AM: Easter egg hunt.</p> <p>10:00 AM: Normal service</p>
--	--

2722 S. CR 173, BYERS, CO 80103

Happy Spring

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO

MARCH 28, 2006

Managers within the Arapahoe County Road & Bridge Department are being asked to take diversity and sensitivity training after an investigation showed racial tensions have ratcheted up within the department.

According to Mountain States Employers Council, who was hired by the county to conduct two investigations, Road & Bridge has had several incidents of concern the past few months. Among the findings were reports that several employees overheard racial comments made on CB radios and in an office atmosphere by other employees, and that intimidation has been reported in the lounge area of the Road & Bridge shop.

The investigation was also brought about after a heavy equipment operator, Mike Gray, complained to the county about a Nov. 10, 2005, memo from his supervisor asking him to, among other things, stop wearing his "border patrol" hat to work.

The county commissioners were concerned that the memo could be considered an infringement on Gray's right to free speech; however, after reading the memo the board said it appeared the supervisor was trying to prevent racial tensions from escalating further.

"Arapahoe County strongly supports our employees' freedom of speech and to express their patriotism, including displaying the American flag," said commissioner Rod Bockenfeld, who is also the chairman of the board. "But, as an employer we are committed to maintaining a positive work environment that is free of harassment and is sensitive to the diversity of our employees. County employees should be able to express their opinions, and they also should be able to work in an environment that is free from harassing, intimidating, hostile, or offensive behavior."

15 YEARS AGO

MARCH 29, 2011

BYERS — The Byers School District will likely face a \$300,000 shortfall in the 2011-12 budget, but decisions on cuts are being delayed until more information is available. Superintendent Tom Turrell told the school board March 17 that he realizes his staff is anxious to know what will be cut, but immediate decisions would be premature.

"Don't get me wrong, they're not coming up asking me what we're

deciding, but I know they've got to be nervous and they want to know what type of cuts we'll be considering. However, I don't have the hard numbers from the state," Turrell said.

Much of the current year's budget-cutting came from attrition — retirement incentives were offered to some tenured staff. But next year will be different.

"We've missed [those retirees] this year, but they helped us balance our budget by (the district) not rehiring those positions and restructuring what we currently have. But we don't have those possibilities across the board. ... We want to look at how we can make this happen ultimately without cutting a person's positions."

Turrell said the state March revenue forecast and future decisions by Gov. John Hickenlooper on education funding will greatly affect local budgets. He added that the district's insurance renewal, which comes at the end of March, will also weigh in when building the budget.

10 YEARS AGO

MARCH 29, 2016

While the March 23 blizzard made for many nightmarish moments both on the roads and at home for I-70 Corridor residents, its positive impacts from a moisture perspective should be felt for at least the rest of spring — perhaps into summer.

While the storm dropped between 10-12 inches of snow across most of the region, the amount of moisture was said to be double, if not more, of normal circumstances. In most cases, 10-12 inches of snow produces an inch of water; however, Wednesday's storm resulted in approximately 2 inches or more of precipitation.

"We're talking about 5 or 6 inches of the white stuff to get an inch of moisture," said a Corridor weather reporter with the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network. "This is about as wet of a snow as you can probably see."

Among the more notable local moisture totals reported were 2.14 inches of precipitation about five miles west/northwest of Bennett; 2.35 inches of moisture from 12 inches of snow about a half-mile south of Deer Trail; and 2.25 inches from 10 inches of snow about eight miles south of Byers.

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

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, March 25, the 84th day of 2026. There are 281 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On March 25, 1911, 146 people, mostly young female immigrants, were killed when a fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. garment factory in New York; the tragedy led to legal reforms for workers' rights and workplace safety.

ALSO ON THIS DATE:

In 1894, Jacob S. Coxey began a march from Massillon (MA'-sih-luhn), Ohio, to Washington, leading an "army" of as many as 500 unemployed workers to demand help from the federal government following the Panic of 1893 and ensuing depression.

In 1931, in the so-called Scottsboro Boys case, nine young Black men were taken off a train in Ala-

bama and accused of raping two white women; after years of convictions, death sentences and imprisonment, they were eventually vindicated.

In 1947, a coal dust explosion inside the Centralia Coal Co. Mine No. 5 in Washington County, Illinois, killed 111 miners; 31 survived.

In 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 people to the Alabama state Capitol in

Montgomery, completing a five-day march from Selma to protest the denial of voting rights to Black Americans.

In 1990, 87 people were killed when fire raced through the Happy Land social club in New York City. (The fire was set by patron Julio Gonzalez, who had been thrown out of the club following an argument with his girlfriend; Gonzalez died in prison in 2016.)

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Film critic Gene Shalit is 100. Musician Elton John is 79. Actor Bonnie Bedelia is 78. Actor Marcia Cross is 64. Author Kate DiCamillo is 62. Actor Sarah Jessica Parker is 61. Comedian-actor Alex Moffat (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 44. Actor-singer Katharine McPhee is 42. Comedian-actor Chris Redd (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 41. Rapper Big Sean is 38. Actor Mikey Madison is 27.

— Associated Press

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6. Marketing pop-ups
9. Kindred
13. Jeopardy
14. Dog foot
15. Threefold
16. Throat dangler
17. Mogul rider
18. Right-hand page
19. "Lady Gaga: 'You and me could write a bad ____'"
21. "Missy Elliott: 'Get Ur ____'"
23. Exclamation of disgust
24. At the apex
25. PErignon of champagne fame
28. Two-masted vessel
30. Cast out
35. Larger-than-life
37. Electrical resistance units
39. Star bursts
40. Silicate mineral
41. Alexander, for short
43. ____ of the valley
44. Sushi option
46. Alpine lift
47. Impose a tax
48. Forward and email, e.g.
50. Made in Vegas
52. Siren's domain
53. Cajole
55. "Drake: 'I need a ____ dance'"
57. "Adele: 'We could've had it all ____ in the deep'"
61. "Olivia Rodrigo: 'I got my ____'"
65. Earliest stage of sickness
66. Ribonucleic acid, acr.
68. Tipi, alt. sp.
69. Drugstore shampoo brand
70. Many, many moons
71. Witchy woman
72. ____ Spumante
73. Ovine mom
74. Chinese green tea

DOWN

1. Horse prod
2. Left, Latin prefix
3. ____ lily
4. Pilaff or plov
5. Colloquially
6. Location of altar
7. ____ Prescott of Dallas Cowboys
8. Swiftie's idol
9. Geometric calculation
10. ____ the Can
11. "Ariana Grande: 'Cause I'm so ____ you'"
12. Glowing gas
15. Trephination tool

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20. "Maroon 5: 'The ____ that controlled my mind'"
22. Actor Lowe
24. Sheriff of Nottingham's collection container
25. Raise doubts
26. Suppose
27. #40 Across, pl.
29. "Pink: 'So ____? I'm still a rock star'"
31. Long-lasting Steelers coach
32. Brown and such
33. Topical remedy
34. "OutKast: '____'"
36. "The Killers: 'Comin' out of my ____'"
38. Food fish
42. Eagerness
45. Stir up violence
49. Knotts or McLean
51. Mole
54. Come to terms
56. Each and all
57. Parks of Civil Rights fame
58. Blame
59. Law school prerequisite, acr.
60. Denim innovator
61. Copenhagen native
62. "Iliad," e.g.
63. Nevada city
64. "As ____ on TV"
67. "Gotye: '____ you're just somebody that I used to know'"

ANSWERS ON PAGE 22

HOROSCOPE

Solar Conjunction to Saturn

There's wildness in the way our minds work, and that can be beautiful. But when it isn't, remember that the uncomfortable thoughts are common, especially on a day of a solar conjunction with Saturn and three lunar squares. Treat the negative thoughts like mental static. Don't build an identity around them. You don't need a pure mind to live well. You need a flexible one.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Once again, you'll put yourself in another person's shoes. Every time you do this, you get a little better at it. The exercise doubles as an act of respect that simultaneously builds your emotional intelligence and relationships.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have a better time when you're around generous spirits — people who treat others well, love many things and people, and show that big heart in all that they do to make the world a better place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Being extremely talented at something is a function of knowing what you love about it and drilling down on that area. You love to do the thing you are wired to do. When you answer to your own preferences, you get better and better at it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You sometimes don't recognize the rhythm you're locked in until you fall out of it, feel the tension of being outside the beat and make the choice to get back in step. The metaphor can be aptly applied to your personal life today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When tasks are uncontained, they float like ghosts. They feel infinite. Make one running list, not five mental ones. When everything is written down in one place, the nervous system relaxes a bit. Getting things scheduled will relieve anxiety.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The thing to do with your feelings is not to assess them, not to judge whether they are good or bad, correlate them with events or compare them to other emotions you had a year ago. The thing to do with your feelings is just to feel them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Speed and decisiveness will work for you. You will lay down

a boundary, and it's best done quickly, right from the start. One form this might take: redirecting a conversation that's headed in a direction you simply don't want to go.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Right now, a job seems hard, but don't let that stop you from rolling up your sleeves and getting into it. With repetition, the task will get easier and take up less energy. You're just getting used to the motion of it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You pride yourself on independence, but today it benefits you to collaborate even if you don't really need to. Don't worry, it won't dilute your originality. The right alliance will actually sharpen your thinking and stretch your vision.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There is no relationship decision that is worth agonizing over right now. Consider not making a decision at all. Being able to live in the tension of an in-between state can be a kind of art form, and you're uniquely poised to benefit from hovering in today's state of possibility.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Oddly enough, sometimes you'd rather work than think about fun because conjuring fun can be more complicated than it seems. It's just one of those days when the pressure of trying new things is less appealing than the certainties of working toward an expected outcome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There will always be annoyances, limitations and things about yourself or your situation that you wish were different. Today, you'll notice what isn't ideal, accept that it's part of the package and refuse to let it dominate your focus.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March. 25). It's the year of Passion Flashes, when excitement and a deep sense of inner knowing stir new scenes, relationships and endeavors. More highlights: You will go on a quest that embodies your devotion to an ideal, and kindred spirits will join you. Your ideas pop inside a group, taking business in a new direction, earning everyone money and giving you a big bonus to invest where it suits you. Sagittarius and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 16, 2, 28, 30 and 17.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

We're going to help hide eggs...

...for our cousins to hunt when they visit!



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Kids: color stuff in!



Yay! Easter is almost here! There's so much to do that my cousin Harry the Hare is here to help me get ready.

What do you know about the Easter holiday? Easter is an important Christian holiday. Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Easter is the celebration of his "new life after death." It is a time of great joy.

Families spend a lot of time getting ready: cleaning, decorating, planning meals, and getting their best clothes ready for church.

My crossword puzzle is about Easter and what families are doing. **Can you read the clues to fill it in?**

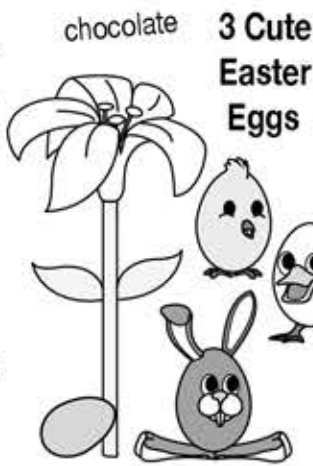
Happy Easter!

Clues for the crossword puzzle:

- 1. chicks
- 2. cards
- 3. lily
- 4. Lent
- 5. buns
- 6. cards
- 7. dinners
- 8. lamb
- 9. Keeping the eggs safe, of course.
- 10. Easter
- 11. parade
- 12. candles
- 13. sunrise
- 14. What are you doing in the nest? Huh? Huh?
- 15. buns
- 16. enjoying delicious ham
- 17. friends
- 18. sending _____ and buying flowers
- 19. churches
- 20. marching in an Easter _____

Easter Time:

- the 40 days before Easter; for some people a time for prayer and fasting; many people "give up something," like desserts
- many Easter services are held at this beginning of a new day
- ring with joy
- burn with bright light
- Easter Bunny brings these, with treats in them...
- with this kind of rabbit often in the middle
- beautiful, white flower that stands for "new life after death"
- soft, yellow baby animals also used as a symbol of new life
- gentle animal sometimes used as a symbol of Jesus
- dawning of a new day; can be a time for this



Families Are:

- cleaning _____ and decorating
- dyeing and decorating _____
- baking hot cross _____
- dressing in their best _____
- going to _____ services
- visiting _____ and relatives
- hunting for _____ eggs
- enjoying delicious ham _____
- sending _____ and buying flowers
- marching in an Easter _____



"Double Take" of Easter Fun

Study the items below in the boxes.

- In the first box, find 2 chicks that are exactly alike and positioned the same way.
- In the second box, find 2 baskets that are the same.
- In the third box, find 2 bonnets and then 2 eggs that are exactly the same in the pile.

Jelly Bean Fun Count

Can you make your way through the maze to pick up the 12 jelly beans that add up to the number in the jar? You can use a calculator to help. You can pass through jelly beans, but you cannot go backwards or cross your own path.

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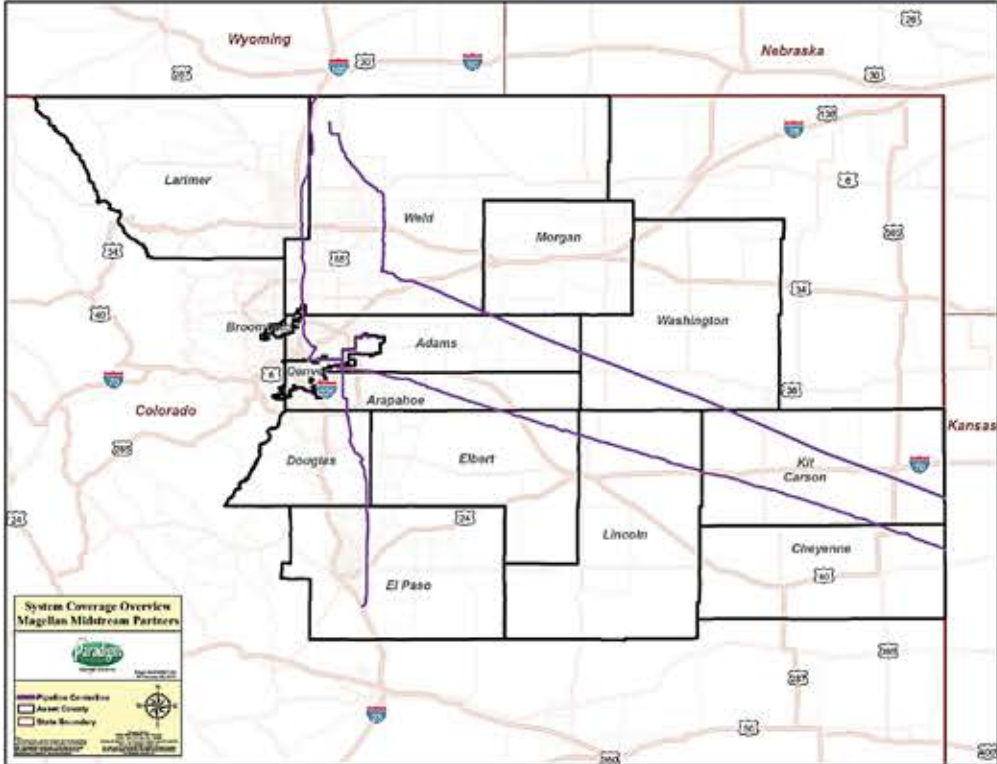
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Construction on the Magellan Pipeline expansion from Scott City, Kan., to Denver International Airport (middle purple line) reached Arapahoe County and was at Xmore Road near County Road 38 south of Byers last week.

PIPELINE EXPANSION FROM PAGE 1

of Elbert County. The Adams County Board of County Commissioners approved their part of the route in early December with Arapahoe County following suit in mid-January.

In both cases, continuances of the respective permitting processes occurred but, once environmental and reclamation concerns were addressed, the projects were approved.

“The incredible importance of this pipeline has been well demonstrated and the economic impact of to the Denver airport and all of that, but the environment and protecting the environment is of primary concern,” said Arapahoe County District 2 Commissioner Jessica Campbell upon her yes vote in January. “What’s important here is you are able to move along a line that already exists — I think that demonstrates safety and incredible measures to go towards protecting public and environmental health.”

“This route limits the number of properties affected while also avoiding the Active Eagle Nest Avoidance Buffer areas. The preferred route remains unchanged within unincorporated Adams County, but will be making a slight adjustment within the City of Aurora to accommodate current property owners and the potential for future development,” the Adams County staff report said. “This updated route also avoids the potential impact within the floodplain along Box Elder Creek and avoids additional wildlife habitat areas.”

The entire project entails 230 miles and is expected to increase capacity by 35,000 barrels per day with additional expansion capabilities anticipated. The \$480 million project is expected to be completed the middle of this year.

The project is a joint operation between Magellan Midstream Partners and ONEOK.



The Magellan Pipeline expansion for petroleum product distribution to Denver International Airport, including jet fuel, is being placed within 30- to 50-foot-wide right-of-way easements.

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is accepting applications for **Secondary Language Arts for the 2026-27 school year.**

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Inquiries should be directed to

Tom Turrell

at (303) 822-5292 x1111 or turrell.tom@byers.k12.co.us.

Applications can be sent to:

Byers School District 32J
 444 E. Front Street
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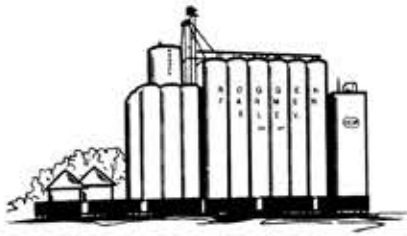
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Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.



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CHUCK WAGON



Dumpling Pork Lasagna

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound 96% ground pork (or leanest available)
- 3 leaves napa cabbage (finely shredded)
- 1/2 cup shiitake minced mushrooms
- 1/2 cup slivered scallions
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 2 teaspoons minced ginger
- 1 tablespoon low sodium soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper (optional)
- 32 dumpling wrappers
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 2 cups water

- 1/4 cup rice vinegar
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 tablespoon slivered scallions

DIRECTIONS

In bowl, combine pork, cabbage, shiitake mushrooms, scallions, garlic, ginger, soy sauce, sesame oil, salt, crushed red pepper. Mix well.
 In heat-safe bowl, spread some of the mixture ensuring an even covering. Moisten a dumpling wrapper with water and top. Repeat the process to create as many layers as desired.
 Place the bowl into a large pot with steam rack, and steam for 10-15 minutes, until ground pork reaches 160°F.
 Serve hot with dipping sauce to drizzle.

DIPPING SAUCE

- 1/4 cup low sodium soy sauce

— Recipe courtesy Colorado Pork Producers

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