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The I-70 Scout

Volume 32, Number 14

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

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

'23 Bennett woman's death called murder

Victim's estranged husband indicted by ArapCo grand jury, arrested in Morgan County

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

CENTENNIAL — More than two years after her passing was deemed a suicide, the death of a Bennett woman has been changed to homicide and her husband is the suspect.

The 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office announced Feb. 27 that Ronald Lowry, 52, was arrested and charged with a half-dozen felony counts, in-

cluding first-degree murder, in the Oct. 26, 2023, death of his estranged wife Richelle "Chelle" Lowry.

The charges were announced following a grand jury indictment in the case.

"The return of this indictment marks an important step in the pursuit of justice for Richelle Lowry," said 18th Judicial District Attorney Amy Padden. "My office remains committed to holding individuals ac-



Lowry

countable when that evidence supports criminal charges."

Ron Lowry, who operates an outside fishing guide operation at Wiggins, was taken into custody by Morgan County Sheriff's officers and booked into the Morgan County jail in Fort Morgan.

At press time, Lowry remained in custody.

According to an online docket search, an out of county advisement hearing for Lowry was set March 2 in Arapahoe County Courtroom 402. The hearing was expected to be conducted via video online.

In addition to first-degree murder, other preliminary charges against

SEE LOWRY INDICTED

PAGE 6

Former Colorado rep picked to fill Senate District 21 seat

by **Sara Wilson**
Colorado Newsline

Adrienne Benavidez, a former Colorado representative, will replace Dafna Michaelson Jenet in the Colorado Senate, a group of Democrats from Senate District 21 decided Feb. 26.

Benavidez won on the first round of voting with 52.6% of the vote, beating out six other candidates during the vacancy committee election. There were 39 of 48 vacancy committee members in attendance at the start of the meeting.

"I understand the budget. I understand bills. So I am able to step right in and do that next Tuesday," she said. "I'm able to step in, deliberate and decide bills that will be the most beneficial for our district."



FAITH MILLER/Colorado Newsline

Adrienne Benavidez, seen here when she was a state representative speaking in 2021, will now serve in the Colorado Senate.

The district includes Commerce City, parts of Adams County and extends east

SEE SENATE REPLACEMENT

PAGE 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local photographer Carl Steitz of Strasburg saw one of his photos hung on a wall of the Colorado State Capitol Feb. 23, where it will remain in place through the remainder of the current legislative session. Receiving the photo of Bennett bronc rider Tyler Ferguson during the Deer Trail Rodeo is House Dist. 16 Rep. Rebecca Keltie, R-Colorado Springs. Steitz submitted nine images as part of the Capitol Arts Project.

Bennett Town Center plans progress

Trustee questions fiscal responsibility of new town hall

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Bennett trustees approved a pair of ordinances last week allowing the town to move forward with its plans for the future Bennett Town Center, including a replacement building for its 8-year-old town hall.

In addition, it appears efforts to lure a third large travel center to the town might be in the works.

Trustees voted 5-1 in favor of Ordinance No. 812-26 approving creation of parcels for the Bennett Town Center, which exempts the development from the town's subdivision requirements, and 6-0 for Ordinance 813-26, allowing the town to dispense \$2 million to acquire an approximately nine-acre portion of the targeted properties. The total 10.6 acres has a purchase value of \$3.52 million with the remaining \$1.52 million coming from developer donations.

The town also received a \$2 million grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for utilities infrastructure but, to fulfill the grant, the town was required to show proof of purchasing the property.

The town staff report reiterated that the payment "does not create a multiple fiscal year debt or obligation."

The 10-acre-plus Town Center area, including multiple ingress and egress areas, is planned within the Muegge Farms development on the west side of Highway 79/First Street between Bennett Marketplace and Civic Center Park.

Among the stated plans for the Town Center is a new town hall, which trustee Larry Vittum took exception to and was among the reasons he voted against the first ordinance. The current Bennett Town Hall opened in spring 2018.

SEE BENNETT BOT

PAGE 22

Suspect, 34, charged with attempted murder

in shooting at Watkins

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

A former I-70 Corridor man is facing a felony attempted murder charge following a reported domestic violence incident involving a firearm north of Watkins in early February.

According to an online docket search, Nathan William Gordy, 34, was back in courtroom 8 of Adams County Court March 3 for a preliminary hearing concerning his alleged involvement in an early morning shooting of his longtime girlfriend Feb. 8 at a home in the 8300 block of Imboden Road.

Charges from the sheriff's office were first-degree attempted murder after deliberation, a second class felony; first-degree assault with a deadly weapon,

SEE GORDY ARRESTED

PAGE 6

COMMUNITY CORRAL

PT, wellness experts on tap for biz org's next gathering

BYERS — The I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly Lunch & Learn from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, at May Farms, Byers.

Representatives from Resilient Physical Therapy and Performance and Reflective Wellness will speak and sponsor lunch.

For more information and to RSVP for lunch, call (720)731-1954 or e-mail to officei70ccoc@gmail.com by Friday March 13. Space is limited.

Big D's Warriors schedules adaptive basketball events

STRASBURG — Big D's Warriors will host adaptive basketball from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, April 8 and 15, at Hemphill Middle School.

Adaptive basketball allows children in grades K-12 with physical and mental challenges the chance to play. Participants will learn to dribble, shoot, pass and play in game situations. Assistance will be provided as needed.

The registration deadline is Sunday, March 22.

To sign up for the free event, visit www.strasburgparks.org.

Disaster declaration issued on Weld Co. avian influenza

DENVER — Gov. Polis Feb. 26 signed an Executive Order to memorialize Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera's verbal disaster declaration for the highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak in Weld County.

The Executive Order memorializes Primavera's verbal disaster declaration from Jan. 29. The disaster declaration was made in coordination with Polis. The action enables state agencies to support the agriculture sector with mitigation of the spread of disease, response, consequence management and recovery efforts.

Potential measles exposures occur at Denver Int'l Airport

DENVER — The state, Denver and Arapahoe County health departments and Denver International Airport

have issued a notification of possible measles exposures Feb. 21-22.

A traveler with a confirmed case of measles passed through DIA and attended church while infectious. The individual arrived at 9:15 a.m. Feb. 21, attended church services at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 22 in Littleton, and departed at 11:29 p.m. Feb. 22. Passengers who might have been exposed have been notified by their state or local public health agency. Because the passenger is fully vaccinated, the risk of transmission is lower but still possible.

Additional exposures were reported Feb. 27 in Broomfield, Lafayette, Louisville and Westminster

New Colorado poet laureate appointed to two-year term

DENVER — An Indigenous poet of Mescalero Apache, Chiricahua Apache, and Diné lineage was recently named Colorado poet laureate by Gov. Jared Polis and Colorado Creative Industries



Apache

Crisosto Apache will serve as poet laureate for two years with a special emphasis on the year-long commemoration of the United States' 250th anniversary and Colorado's 150th anniversary of statehood.

Crisosto, an associate professor at Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, succeeds the late Andrea Gibson.

Air dry clay flowers project slated for March 23 in 'Burg

STRASBURG — Kids in kindergarten through the eighth grade can dive into a variety of art mediums, from painting to clay, while making air dry clay flowers.

The creative arts classes run from 10-10:45 a.m. for grades K-3 and 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for grades 4-8, Monday, March 23, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

The registration deadline is Thursday, March 19. The cost is \$10 per child. To sign up, visit www.strasburgparks.org.

Air dry clay flowers are a versatile and beginner-friendly craft.

'Burg Comanche VIP Seniors plan March monthly potluck

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Seniors Comanche VIP Association potluck begins at 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall, 56423 Westview Ave.

The board will provide corned beef and cabbage in honor of St Patrick's Day. The speaker will be Wendy Nielsen, Community Engagement & Presence Liaison Economic Mobility, for the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). The program offers assistance with heating bills (electric, gas and, in some cases, propane or wood) on a yearly basis. The application deadline is April 30.

The association, which provides a social outlet for area seniors, meets at 11:45 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, call Iris Salladay Sirois at (303)822-5262.

IT project manager internship available in Arapahoe County

LITTLETON — Arapahoe County's Information Technology department is offering a part-time internship in project management.

The internship will offer hands-on learning through structured assignments focused on project documentation, analysis and research. The intern will help document workflows and processes, update training materials using county-standard templates, and prepare project summaries that support reporting and transparency. They will also conduct guided research on best practices, assist with meeting preparation and note-taking, and help maintain organized project documentation.

The closing date for applications is Thursday, March 12. For more information and to apply, visit www.arapahoeco.gov.

Summer T-ball registration begins at 'Burg Rec District

STRASBURG — Deadlines to register children ages 4-6 for summer T-ball are fast approaching.

Practices begin the week of April 20 and league games will be played most Tuesdays and Thursdays for six

weeks from Tuesday, May 19, through Thursday, June 25.

Cost is \$85 with a soft deadline ending on Sunday, March 15, and the final deadline on Sunday, March 29. Registration includes a jersey, hat and end-of-season award. Age thresholds are based on April 30, 2026.

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

Animal shapes on the horizon for kids' watercolors session

STRASBURG — A creative art class for students in kindergarten through eighth grade is planned by the Strasburg Parks & Recreation District.

Participants will work on animal silhouette watercolors.

Grades K-3 will paint from 10-10:45 a.m. while fourth- through eighth-graders will follow from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday, March 9, at the Strasburg American Legion Hall.

The registration deadline is Thursday, March 5. The cost is \$10 per player.

St. Patrick's Day meal slated by 'Burg Presbyterian Church

STRASBURG — The annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner to benefit the Zimbabwe Mission Project is scheduled from 5:30-7 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at Strasburg Presbyterian Church, 56635 Iowa Ave.

The meal will consist of corned beef and cabbage, homemade soda bread, potatoes and dessert.

Cost is \$15 per adult or two adults for \$25 and \$8 per child.

For reservations and tickets, call (303)622-4325.

Strasburg Lutherans announce midweek Lenten soup suppers

STRASBURG — Lenten soup suppers are set for 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday through March 25 at Saron Lutheran Church.

Following food and fellowship, a Gospel lesson will be read and discussed on March 4, 11 and 18, and an Holden Evening Prayer will be shared March 25.

The church is located at 1656 Main St., Strasburg.

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Byers School District?

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HONOR ROLL 1st SEMESTER 25-26



Principals List (3.0-3.49)

Bedard, Kyla
Clark, Evangeline
Dillingham, Peyton
Fricke, Adam
Guerue, Millio
Hardee, Noah
Hess, Peysen
Maes, James
McQuate, Lilah
Mohatt, Devin
Murphy, Zoie
Ochoa Reyes, Evelyn
Palmer, Emma
Rehders, Judas
Rojas-Hernandez, Pachelle
Rojas-Hernandez, Mayte
Seibold, Meagan
Thomas, Grace
Troutman, Aryanna
Wardall, Torin

Alder, Abigail
Barber, Molly
Barbour, Story
Bennett, Kaden
Bequette, Jenah
Borders, Morgan
Bowling, Quincy
Brewer, Alan
Brockman, Seth
Butterfield, Wesley
Cary, Elijah
Clark, Daisy
Conley, Dylan
Cridlebaugh, Jordan
Curry, George
Davis, Aden
Eacret, Quincy
Earl, George
Eastwood, Olivia
Johnsrud, Gemini
Kerns, Cossette
Lancaster, Danica
Ebert, Parker
Ebert, Krayton
Egloff, Leigha
Egloff, Kiera
Eymann, Taiya

Superintendent List (3.5+)

Foose, Allison
Foose, Ian
Fricke, Shelby
Garcia Medina, Alondra
Gerhardt, Benjamin
Green, Lillian
Green, Abigale
Hamacher, Keaton
Harris, Kaci
Hilbert, Kiera
Hilbert, Liam
Linnebur, Karley
Linnebur, Zackery
Long, Jack
Lucero-Aragon, Vivian
MacLennan, Donald
Malcolm, Augustus
Matthews, Madison
McPherson, Troy
McPherson, Benjamin
McPherson, Savannah
Mora Hernandez, Quetzali
Nevarez Corral, Oscar
Olsen, Madilee
Papaianopol, Christopher
Papaianopol, Nicolas

Paredes Guzman, Joselyn
Pelton, Andie
Poll, Dylan
Poll, Hailey
Price, Gabriel
Rains, Isabella
Rector, Joclynn
Riemenschneider, Peyton
Riemenschneider, Hayden
Romero – Salazar, Henry
Sauer, Ainsley
Schnier, Reily
Seibold, Danielle
Shelley, Allaura
Shelley, Samuel
Smith, Sydney
Suppes, Beau
Temple, Ethan
Terry, Makenna
Weaver, Payton
West, Reese
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Wright, Ni'Trease
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Correction



STEVEN VETTER/I-70 Scout

The caption for the above photo on page 4 of the Feb. 25 edition of *The I-70 Scout* incorrectly identified the student reciting "Ode to a Hair Tie" during Hemphill Middle School's performance of "The Good, the Bad, and the Silly of LOVE" two days before Valentine's Day. The student on the microphone is actually Veda Barnes. The staff of *The I-70 Scout* apologizes for any inconvenience this error might have caused.

SENATE REPLACEMENT FROM PAGE 1

along Interstate 70 to include Strasburg, Byers and Deer Trail.

Benavidez, an attorney, previously served in the House of Representatives for six sessions. She stepped down shortly after her reelection in 2022, prompting a vacancy committee to pick her replacement in the House.

Rep. Lorena García, the Adams County Democrat who replaced her, nominated Benavidez for the vacant Senate seat. Rep. Manny Rutinel, a Commerce City Democrat, seconded the nomination.

García mentioned Benavidez's decision to retire after losing the Democratic caucus election for House speaker, which went to Julie McCluskie, a Dillon Democrat who is on her fourth year in that position.

"In order to make sure that we could move forward, putting the Democratic Party first and putting families first, she needed to step down and leave space for new energy in that chamber," García said.

Benavidez will begin the job about one-third of the way through this year's regular legislative session. She said the biggest issues in the district include affordability, agriculture, the environment and protection of immigrants. She also said she supports raising the revenue cap set by the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and further decoupling state tax code from federal law.

"It's not that we need to raise revenue. We get enough revenue in," she said.

Money the state collects above the TABOR cap is refunded to taxpayers.

Voters will decide in November who serves the remaining two years of Michaelson Jenet's term.

Michaelson Jenet resigned last month to take a job as the director of the David Merage Foundation for Confronting Antisemitism.

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Windbreak, habitat class set for Morgan County

FORT MORGAN — The Morgan Conservation District is hosting Windbreak & Wildlife Plantings 101 from 9-11 a.m., Tuesday, March 10, at the Morgan County CSU Extension Office.

Participants will learn more about designing, planting and maintaining seedling trees for windbreaks, shel-

terbelts and wildlife habitat/shelter. Instructors will be from the Colorado State Forest Service.

Interested participants are asked to RSVP by March 9 by calling (970)427-3358 or by e-mail at morganconservationdistrict@gmail.com.

The extension office is located at 914 E. Railroad Ave., Fort Morgan.

Church Directory

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www.spcusa.us
303-622-4325
• Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

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— Douglas Claussen,
Publisher & Editor

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Spring forward
Daylight saving time starts **Sunday, March 8**. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.


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WEEK OF MARCH 2



ADAMS COUNTY
COLORADO

ADAMS COUNTY

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LOWRY INDICTED

FROM PAGE 1

Lowry are two counts of stalking; tampering with physical evidence; crime of violence – causing serious bodily injury or death; and crime of violence – use of a deadly weapon.

The DA's office added that all counts are acts of domestic violence.

The body of Richelle Lowry, 42, was found in her Antelope Hills home.

"On Oct. 26, 2023, deputies with the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office responded to a welfare check at Richelle Lowry's home in Bennett after she failed to report to work and could not be reached. Deputies forced entry into the home and found her deceased with a single gunshot wound to the head," last week's DA's statement said. "Although the death initially raised questions over whether it was a suicide, it was later determined to be a homicide based on an extensive investigation involving forensic analysis and digital evidence review."

The investigation indicated her phone was submerged in water.

Lowry was said to be a jealous, angry estranged husband who reportedly stalked and recorded his wife's activities and left angry messages via phone. A man resembling Lowry was

also reported to be seen on surveillance footage near the home at the time of his wife's death.

The couple was in the midst of divorce proceedings when she died. According to an online court records search, the formal dissolution of marriage was filed Sept. 6, 2023, in Arapahoe County.

The indictment included that Ronald Lowry was in line to receive \$1.3 million if his wife's death was ruled as suicide.

Family members also told investigators they were confident that Richelle would have never killed herself and that she was afraid of her estranged husband.

"This case is the result of extraordinary dedication and perseverance by the investigators with the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office," said Assistant District Attorney Ryan Brackley. "They left no stone unturned in their pursuit of the truth, carefully examining every piece of forensic, digital and testimonial evidence over the course of this investigation. Their commitment to seeking answers and refusing to give up has been instrumental in bringing this case forward."

GORDY ARRESTED

FROM PAGE 1

a third-class felony; and a domestic violence sentence enhancer.

According to the Adams County Sheriff's arrest affidavit, deputies were first dispatched to the location between 3:30-3:45 a.m. on report of an adult female suffering from "a gunshot wound to the shoulder and face."

The victim – found holding a towel to the right side of her face with a bandage around her neck – was transported to University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora where it was later determined she was wounded twice – "one to the face and one to the shoulder, each with an entry and exit."

The sheriff's report indicates that both Gordy and the victim both gave conflicting accounts of the circumstances around the incident, including that the .40-caliber Glock found inside the residence accidentally discharged while falling to the ground.

According to the ADCOM 911 account, Gordy placed the emergency call reporting the shooting and that he gave conflicting statements while on

the phone and that "the call taker also reported hearing a female voice say, 'What do I tell them?' while collecting notes for responding deputies."

The ADCOM dispatch account added, "[Gordy] again changed his account of the incident saying he was not going to lie, and that there was a scuffle when the firearm discharged."

Among the evidence collected at the scene was Gordy's clothing and a gunshot residue kit used on his hands.

Gordy and the victim had reportedly been in a 17-year-long relationship, living the past 10 years in the house where the shooting occurred; however, Gordy said the pair was in the midst of "a big breakup" and the victim indicated Gordy had not stayed there the previous week.

"[The victim] initially stated she had been home sleeping when her long-time boyfriend [Gordy] arrived at the residence," the sheriff's affidavit said.

An online inmate search of the sheriff's office website indicated that Gordy was no longer in custody.

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Memorial sought for writer who helped fuel Revolutionary War

by Hillel Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Some 250 years after “Common Sense” helped inspire the 13 colonies to declare independence, Thomas Paine might receive a long-anticipated tribute from his adopted country.

A Paine memorial in Washington, D.C., authorized by a 2022 law, awaits approval from the U.S. Department of Interior. It would be the first landmark in the nation’s capital to be dedicated to one of the American Revolution’s most stirring, popular and quotable advocates — who also was one of the most intensely debated men of his time.

“He was a critical and singular voice,” said U.S. Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., a sponsor of the bill that backed the memorial. He said Paine has long been “under-recognized and overlooked.”

“Common Sense” was published 250 years ago on Jan. 10, 1776. Its publication was among the first major milestones of a yearlong commemoration of the country’s founding and the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Paine supporters have waited decades for a memorial in the District of Columbia, and success is still not ensured: Federal memorials are initiated by Congress but usually built through private donations. In 1992, President George H.W. Bush signed bipartisan legislation for such a memorial, but the project was delayed, failed to attract adequate funding, and was essentially forgotten by the mid-2000s.

The fate of the current legislation depends not just on financial support, but on President Donald Trump’s interior secretary, Doug Burgum.

In September 2024, the memorial was recommended by the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission for placement on the National Mall. Burgum needs to endorse the plan, which would be sent back to Congress for final enactment. If approved, the memorial would have a 2030 deadline for completion.

A spokesperson for the department declined comment when asked about the timing for a decision.

“We are staying optimistic because we feel that Thomas Paine is such an important figure in the founding of the United States of America,” said Margaret Downey, president of the Thomas Paine Memorial Association, which has a mission to establish a memorial in Washington.

CONTENTIOUS LEGACY

Scholars note that, well into the 20th century, federal honors for Paine would have been nearly impossible. While Paine first made his name through “Common Sense,” the latter part of his life was defined by another pamphlet, “The Age of Reason.”

Published in installments starting in 1794, it was a fierce attack against organized religion. Paine believed in God and a divinely created universe but accepted no single faith. He scorned what he described as the Bible’s “paltry stories” and said Christianity was “too absurd for belief, too impossible to convince, and too inconsistent for practice.”

By the time of his death, in New York in 1809, he was estranged from friends and many of the surviving founders; only a handful of mourners at-



ANDRES KUDACKI/AP Photo

A man orates selected readings from Thomas Paine’s Common Sense during an event commemorating the 250th anniversary of the pamphlet’s publication at the Fraunces Tavern Museum on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, in New York.

tended his funeral. He has since been championed by everyone from labor leaders and communists to Thomas Edison, but presidents before Franklin Roosevelt in the 1930s rarely quoted him. Theodore Roosevelt referred to him as a “filthy little atheist.”

There are Paine landmarks around the country, including a monument and museum in New Rochelle, N.Y., and statue in Morristown, N.J. But other communities have resisted. In 1955, Mayor Walter H. Reynolds of Providence, R.I., rejected a proposed Paine statue, saying “he was and remains so controversial a character.”

Harvey J. Kaye, author of “Thomas Paine and the Promise of America,” cites the election of Ronald Reagan as president in 1980 as a surprising turning point. Reagan’s victory was widely seen as a triumph for the modern conservative movement, but Reagan alarmed some Republicans and pleased Paine admirers during his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention when he quoted Paine’s famous call to action: “We have it in our power to begin the world over again.”

Reagan helped make Paine palatable to both parties, Kaye said. When Congress approved a memorial in 1992, supporters ranged from a liberal giant, Democratic Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts, to a right-wing hero, Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina.

“Reagan opened the door,” Kaye said.

IMMIGRANT STOKED FIRE OF REVOLUTION

Paine’s story is very much American. He was a self-educated immigrant from Britain who departed for the colonies with little money but with hopes for a better life.

He was born Thomas Pain in Thetford in 1737, some 90 miles outside of London (he added the “e” to his last name after arriving in America). Paine was on the move for much of his early life. He spent just a few years in school before leaving at age 13 to work as an apprentice for his father, a corset maker. He would change jobs often, from teaching at a

private academy to working as a government excise officer to running a tobacco shop.

By the time he sailed to the New World in 1774, he was struggling with debt, had been married twice, and had failed or made himself unwelcome in virtually every profession he entered. But Paine also had absorbed enough of London’s intellectual life to form radical ideas about government and religion and to meet Benjamin Franklin, who provided him a letter of introduction that helped him find work in Philadelphia as a contributor to The Pennsylvania Magazine.

The Revolutionary War began in April 1775 and pamphlets helped frame the arguments, much as social media posts do today. The Philadelphia-based statesman and physician Benjamin Rush was impressed enough with Paine to suggest that he put forth his own thoughts. Paine had wanted to call his pamphlet “Plain Truth” but agreed to Rush’s idea: “Common Sense.”

Paine’s brief tract was credited to “an Englishman” and released on Jan. 10, 1776. Later expanded to 47 pages, it was a popular sensation. Historians differ over how many copies were sold, but “Common Sense” was widely shared, talked about, and read aloud.

Paine’s urgent, accessible prose was credited for helping to shift public opinion from simply opposing British aggression to calling for a full break. His vision was radical, even compared to some of his fellow revolutionaries. In taking on the British and King George III, he did not just attack the actions of an individual king, but the very idea of hereditary rule and monarchy. He denounced both as “evil” and “exceedingly ridiculous.”

“Of more worth is one honest man to society and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived,” he stated.

MESSAGE CONTINUES TO RESONATE

Historian Eric Foner would write that Paine’s appeal lasted through “his impatience with the past, his critical stance toward existing institutions, his belief that men can shape their own destiny.” But “Common Sense” was despised by British loyalists and challenged by some American leaders.

John Adams would refer to Paine as a “star of disaster,” while Franklin worried about his “rude way of writing.” Meanwhile, George Washington valued “Common Sense” for its “sound doctrine” and “unanswerable reasoning,” and Thomas Jefferson, soon to be the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, befriended Paine and later invited him to the White House when he was president.


Paine’s message continues to be invoked by those on both sides of the political divide.

In his 2025 year-end report on the federal judiciary, Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts began by citing the anniversary of “Common Sense” and praising Paine for “shunning legalese” as he articulated that “government’s purpose is to serve the people.” Last year, passages from “Common Sense” appeared often during the nationwide “No Kings” rallies against Trump’s policies.

One demonstrator’s sign in Boston said, “No King! No Tyranny! It’s Common Sense.”

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Bob Wallace



Robert Herbert Wallace, a devoted and beloved husband and father, passed away on Feb. 18, 2026, at the age of 93. Born on Oct. 26, 1932, in Baltimore, Md., Robert was an adventurous and wise individual whose life was marked by his honesty, hard work, and loyalty.

Robert spent his early years in the Baltimore area. He graduated from Inglewood High School and joined the US Air Force in 1952, serving as an aviation mechanic for four years. He later received a bachelor’s degree in Electronic Engineering. His career was distinguished by his role as the director of the Gates Planetarium, where he became known as “Mr. Zap” for his Tesla Coil Show and other innovative shows, including Zap and Lazarium. Robert was a pioneer in his field, filing 20 different patent applications and holding four patents.

In February 1956, Robert married his celestial sweetheart, Genalyn Helen Parkos. Together, they raised two children, Robert and Kimberly, in a home filled with love and devotion. He was a thoughtful and generous husband and father who held integrity in the highest regard, instilling these values in his children.

Robert’s personal interests were as varied as they were impactful. He traveled the world, both for his work with planetariums and for personal exploration of the Middle East. In the 1980s, he developed and sold vintage analog dance club lights, and he had a passion for fast cars, owning a ’71 Pantera and a ’91 GT 3000 VR4. He also enjoyed u-control model airplanes and was known for spoiling his Persian cats: Precious, Smokey, Fluffy, and Sugar.

His community involvement was extensive; he served as a temple worker at the Denver Temple, volunteered as a dealer for charity poker nights, and was a Cub Scout leader for his son’s church group. Robert’s legacy is one of faithfulness and generosity, leaving a lasting impact on all who knew him.

He is survived by son Robert (Heidi) Wallace; daughter Kimberly Bailey; grandchildren Lisa Wallace, Sarah (Chel) Wallace, Stephanie Gagnon, Katie (Tim) Crosen, Chelsea Wallace, Rion Wallace, and Kiri Anna Willis; and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Genalyn.

Services to honor Robert’s life were held Feb. 28 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Strasburg, Colo., with a military graveside service afterward at Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary & Cemetery in Centennial, Colo.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Byers FFA hosted its annual Barnyard/Farm Safety Day Feb. 26 as part of National FFA Week last week. Clockwise from top left, elementary students see firsthand what can happen when not wearing a seatbelt with the assistance of the Colorado State Patrol's Rollover Simulator; Byers FFA senior Brodie Fisbeck holds a bunny for youngsters to pet; Emma Palmer explains the use of ear notching for identification purposes on her Hereford swine project; a young lady exits a tractor on display; and local veterinarian Cassie Durant talks about her miniature Highland heifer, Aspen.

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**Notice of a Change in the Rates of
 MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
 734 Barlow Road, Fort Morgan, CO 80701**

Date of Publication: *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, MARCH 4, 2026.

On February 23, 2026 the Morgan County Rural Electric Association, Inc. Board of Directors proposed changes to rates charged for electric service listed below to become effective on April 01, 2026. For more information, you can visit our website at www.mcrea.org or the Association office at 734 Barlow Road in Fort Morgan or call 800-867-5688.

Rate	Present Rate	New Rate	Rate	Present Rate	New Rate
Residential (Rate Codes 01, 03, and 60)			Irrigation (Rate Codes 130, 131, and 132)		
Facilities Charge	\$ 31.00	\$ 34.00	Facilities Charge (April-Sept)	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00
Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.1138	\$ 0.1225	Demand Charge per kW	\$ 19.38	\$ 21.00
Stock Well & HEA (Rate Codes 05 and 21)			Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.0678	\$ 0.0745
Facilities Charge	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	Annual Minimum	\$ 630.00	\$ 630.00
Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.1148	\$ 0.1314	Demand Cap	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.30
Annual Minimum	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00	Commercial & Industrial (Rate Codes 85, 86, and 87)		
ETS Time-Of-Use (Rate Code 07)			Facilities Charge		
Facilities Charge	\$ 31.00	\$ 34.00	1-10 MW	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Off-Peak Energy Charge per kWh (12pm - 5pm; 10pm - 7am)	\$ 0.0500	\$ 0.0548	10-30 MW	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
On-Peak Energy Charge per kWh (7am - 12pm; 5pm - 10pm)	\$ 0.2305	\$ 0.2490	Over 30 MW	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
Small Power (Rate Codes 40, 41, and 61)			Demand Charge per kW		
Three Phase Facilities Charge	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	1-10 MW	\$ 22.80	\$ 23.60
Single Phase Facilities Charge	\$ 50.25	\$ 50.25	10-30 MW	\$ 24.00	\$ 24.80
Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.0988	\$ 0.1078	Over 30 MW	\$ 25.45	\$ 25.45
Large Power (Rate Codes 50 and 56)			kWh Charge		
Facilities Charge	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	1-10 MW	\$ 0.0446	\$ 0.0446
Demand Charge per kW	\$ 14.35	\$ 14.79	10-30 MW	\$ 0.0426	\$ 0.0426
Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.0600	\$ 0.0665	Over 30 MW	\$ 0.0370	\$ 0.0370
Unmetered Lighting (Rate Code 70)			Green Power Surcharge (Voluntary Program - Not Automatically Charged)		
Each 100 W Lamp	\$ 11.43	\$ 11.69	Per 100 kWh block	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10
Each 150 W Lamp	\$ 12.29	\$ 12.57	Anyone desiring a more detailed description of these rates may review the complete tariffs and policies at the office and also may discuss these rates in more detail with the staff in person at the MCREA office or by telephone. In addition, anyone who desires to complain about the proposed changes shall file a written complaint with the Association at P.O. Box 738, Fort Morgan, CO 80701, at least ten (10) days before the proposed effective date. The Association may hold a hearing to determine what changes will be authorized. The final changes authorized may or may not be the same as those proposed and may include changes different than those tariffs currently in effect. Anyone who desires to receive notice of the hearing, if any, shall make a written request therefore to the Association at the above address, at least ten (10) days before the proposed effective date.		
Each 175 W Lamp	\$ 13.53	\$ 13.83	MORGAN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. David Frick, General Manager		
Each 400 W Lamp	\$ 25.07	\$ 25.63			
Each 1500 W Lamp	\$ 86.37	\$ 88.30			
Each LED Lamp	\$ 13.53	\$ 13.83			
Air Force (Rate Code 20)					
Facilities Charge	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00			
Demand Charge per kW	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.96			
Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.0718	\$ 0.0784			



KRISTA RECTOR/For The Scout

National FFA Week occurred Feb. 23-27, and the Deer Trail chapter conducted several educational events with elementary students throughout the week. Clockwise from left photo, Bud the Bull checks out elementary students, or vice versa, during Wednesday's outdoor barnyard and farm safety exhibition; FFA members Chauncy Gudenkauf, left, Ayden Martinez, Fatuma Hussein and Megan Donovan and kindergartners are all smiles as they display the final versions of their colored corn drawings during elementary agriculture lessons on Tuesday; and Crystal Sotelo holds a rabbit during for an elementary student to pet Wednesday afternoon.

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Among the National FFA Week activities at Bennett School District last week were educational activities between FFA members and students in the primary and intermediate schools, including crafting commemorative plates with the FFA logo on them.



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SPORTS



Six squads reach regional hoops; 2 to host



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

The Strasburg boys celebrate with the Patriot League Tournament title trophy after they defeated 4A Eaton 58-54 in the championship game at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley Feb. 28. The 21-2 red-and-black are seeded No. 1 for the 3A playoffs, which tip off this weekend with regional play at Strasburg. The Indians host 32nd-seeded Salida at 6 p.m. Friday and, with a win, will play either No. 16 Lotus School for Excellence or 17th-seeded and Patriot League rival Highland at 1 p.m. Saturday for the right to advance to the Great Eight March 12-14 at the University of Denver. Pictured, from left, are assistant coaches Dave Glatfelter and Jerry Ryan, Froy Morales, Trey Graf, Dalton Velasco, Levi Hart, Gideon Milner, Koby Muehlhausen, Cade Hemphill, Cam Manahan, Brody Hopwood, Nick Glatfelter, Jayden Miller, Ayden Dodge, Colton Holloway, Eli Carbajal, head coach Kyle Bollers, and assistant coach Josh Holloway.

Indian boys win Patriot tourney, take 3A top seed

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

In addition to taking the Patriot League Tournament title last weekend, the Strasburg Indians fortified their place as the top seed for the 3A state basketball playoffs, which start this weekend.

The red-and-black followed up its 59-49 semifinal win over Windsor Charter Academy Feb. 25 with a hard fought 58-54 victory over 4A Eaton in the Patriot League champi-

onship game on Saturday.

The 21-2 Indians are the overall No. 1 seed entering the regional level of play this weekend, including hosting Region 1. The red-and-black will play No. 32 Salida on Friday with the winner to play either No. 16 Lotus School of Excellence or 17th seeded Highland from the Patriot League.

Ten of the 11 3A Patriot League schools qualified for the postseason with Wray the only one on the outside look-

ing in at No. 33. In addition to Strasburg, other conference schools hosting regionals are Yuma (No. 4); Resurrection Christian (No. 6) and Windsor Charter (No. 7).

The winners of the eight regional tournaments will converge on Hamilton Gymnasium on the campus of the University of Denver for the three-day state tournament March 12-14.

For full conference tournament coverage, see the March 6 *Eastern Colorado News*.

Lady Eagles eke into 1A bracket; 11-season playoff drought ended

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

DEER TRAIL — For the first time since the 2013-14 season, the Deer Trail Lady Eagles will play in the 1A basketball playoffs, but ending the skid was a nerve-racking wait.

Following its 56-18 victory over Manzanola in the regular-season Feb. 26, the red-and-white had to wait two days to see how other teams fared over the final weekend and see if they could jump at least two squads to make the 32-team bracket.

The 10-12 Lady Eagles were No. 34 entering the Manzanola game but by Sunday morning, they had jumped both Elbert and Otis to secure the final 1A postseason spot.

"I don't know why we are in such a fight with a four-win team (Otis)," said Deer Trail head coach Phil Donovan after his squad's win over Manzanola. "We always hear about strength of schedule, but we've played more than a handful of top-ranked teams and that includes the three 2A

SEE GB DEER TRAIL
PAGE 14



STEVEN VETTER/For The I-70 Scout

Lady Eagle Megan Donovan scores 2 of her game-high 25 points against Manzanola in Deer Trail's regular-season finale Feb. 26.

No. 15 Lady Tigers end regular season with split

The Bennett Lady Tigers ended the regular season 18-5 and the 15th seed entering this weekend's 4A basketball playoffs.

After winning its home finale 49-40 over St. Mary's Academy Feb. 23, the orange-and-black struggled mightily in its last regular-season contest, a 63-18 setback at 2A No. 2 Simla Feb. 25.

The Lady Tigers will face off with 18th seeded Jefferson Academy in the first round of 4A Region 2 at Timnath

SEE GB BENNETT
PAGE 14



ALYSSA STEMOF/For The Scout

Bennett's Josie Ladd races down the court with the dribble ahead of a St. Mary's Academy defender Feb. 23.

Bulldogs to play 2A Region 6 on home court

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

BYERS — The Bulldogs took a game they should win by doubling up Burlington 74-37 Feb. 27 in the first round of the combined Union Pacific/Lower Platte league tournament.

"It was just nice to take care of business," said Byers head coach Jeremy Kerns. "It's one of those games where, if you lose it, it messes with your seeding for regionals really bad."

But Limon defeated Byers for the second time in as many weeks, this time by a score of 55-47 in the semifinals of the tourney on Feb. 27. On Feb. 28, the Bulldogs rebounded to whip Holyoke 78-42 to take third while Merino topped Limon 52-40 for the championship.

SEE BB BYERS
PAGE 14



Byers' Conrad Cichos scores a layup against Burlington in the first round of the crossover district tournament between the Union Pacific and Lower Platte leagues Feb. 24.

Girls in green draw regional at No. 1 Merino

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

AKRON — A 2-1 record and fifth-place finish in the second annual 2A Union Pacific/Lower Platte joint conference tournament last week wasn't enough to keep the Byers Lady Bulldogs out of the regional featuring the No. 1 seed.

After a heartbreaking 43-40 overtime loss to Akron in the first round of district tournament play Feb. 25, the Lady Bulldogs rebounded for a 53-30 consolation semifinal victory over Haxtun Feb. 27 and a 65-40 in the following day's fifth-place game against arch UP rival Limon. The

SEE GB BYERS
PAGE 14

Indian girls to make mountain road trip

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

The Lady Indians suffered an untimely home loss to Liberty Common Feb. 21 in Patriot League Tournament Pool B play but rebounded on the road with a last-second victory at Highland just three days later.

"That was a tale of two teams, so to speak, but what a good response," said Strasburg head coach Merci Ames of the 41-40 win over the Lady Huskies Feb. 24.

The Indians won the game on a buzzer-beater off of an offensive rebound by junior Addi Kent. The ball left Kent's hand with just 0.2 seconds on the clock.

"She got the backside rebound and scored," Ames said. "We got a win. We've had a lot of close games with them over the years."

The basket capped a fourth quarter comeback for Strasburg. The seesaw battle saw scores of 10-10, 21-20 Strasburg, and 36-30 Highland after each of the first three quarters, but the Indians won the final frame 11-4.

The Lady Huskies and Strasburg are evenly matched. Their overall and league records, respectively, were 12-11 and 6-6 for Highland and 11-12 and 6-7 for the Indians at press time Sunday.

SEE GB STRASBURG
PAGE 12

GB STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 11

“We’re both in the same boat,” Ames said. “We have a lot of young kids.”
As a result, she continued, both teams have had roller coaster seasons and both should have better records. She added that the teams have developed a healthy rivalry.

“It’s always a lot of fun playing Highland,” she said. “It’s always a scrappy game.”

Senior Taryn LaForce had a huge game on the boards with 24 rebounds — just two shy of the school record by Caylin Arnold in 2016 — and also paced the Indians with 12 points and five blocked shots.

“She had a monster game in terms of rebounding for sure,” Ames said. “And she had people hanging on her.”

Junior Wynne Winter added 11 points while Kent dished out four assists and recorded three steals.

Ames was also pleased to see her team’s response to heated moments.

“We didn’t lose our composure. We didn’t get angry ourselves,” she said. “And that was the big key.”

Ames went deep into her reserves during the game.

“We had some big, big contributions from our bench for sure,” she concluded.

STRASBURG @ HIGHLAND

Points (41): LaForce 12; Winter 11; Kent 8; Tiffany 5; Friedrich 2; Cardenas 2; Rodriguez 1.
Rebounds (51): LaForce 24; Winter 6; Kent 5; Rodriguez 4; Tiffany 3; Fields 3; Blaise 2; Rojahn 1; Friedrich 1; Garcia 1; Cardenas 1.
Assists (9): Kent 4; Winter 0; Garcia 0; Friedrich 0.
Steals (0): Winter 0; Kent 0; LaForce 0; Rojahn 1; Garcia 0; Fields 0.
Blocks (0): LaForce 0.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
Strasburg	10	11	9	11	41
Highland	10	10	16	4	40

LIBERTY COMMON

Strasburg’s flip side was on full display in the 37-29 loss to the Lady Eagles, who stood at 2-9 in league play 8-15 at press time.

Liberty Common “just flat out got after it and we got back on our heels,” Ames said.

A few bad bounces and cold shooting didn’t help. “I think that worked on our mentality a little bit,” Ames said.

The Indians made just 20% of their field goal attempts overall, going 9-of-26 from two-point range, 1-of-11 from downtown, and 8-of-22 at the charity stripe.

“We couldn’t throw it in the ocean from the shore,” Ames said. “It was pretty bad.”

LaForce had another big game with 15 points, 12 rebounds, four steals, and two blocks.

LIBERTY COMMON @ STRASBURG

Points (29): LaForce 15; Rodriguez 5; Winter 4; Kent 4; Tiffany 1.
Rebounds (29): LaForce 12; Rodriguez 5; Kent 4; Rojahn 3; Winter 2; Tiffany 1; Garcia 1; Fields 1.
Assists (4): Kent 1; Winter 1; Tiffany 1; Garcia 1.
Steals (16): LaForce 4; Winter 3; Kent 3; Tiffany 1; Rojahn 1; LaForce 1; Garcia 1; Rodriguez 1; Fields 1.
Blocks (5): LaForce 2; Winter 1; Kent 1; Garcia 1.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
Liberty Common	8	5	6	18	37
Strasburg	6	4	7	12	29

POSTSEASON UPDATE

After concluding Patriot League Tournament play with a 51-42 victory over Windsor Charter Academy Feb. 27 at the University of Colorado in Greeley, the red-and-black got word over the weekend that they will play in 3A Region 8 at Roaring Fork in Carbondale starting on Friday.

If the 24th-seeded Lady Indians beat No. 9 Thomas MacLaren School on Friday, they will meet either the host school or No. 25 Manual in the regional title game Saturday.

For coverage of the Windsor Charter contest, see the March 6 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.



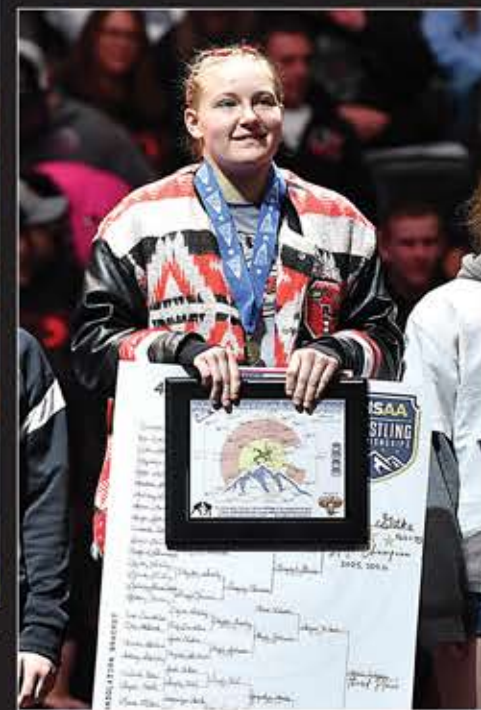
SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Strasburg’s Wynne Winter, left and McKenna Garcia trap a Liberty Common ball handler during Patriot League Tournament play Feb. 21.

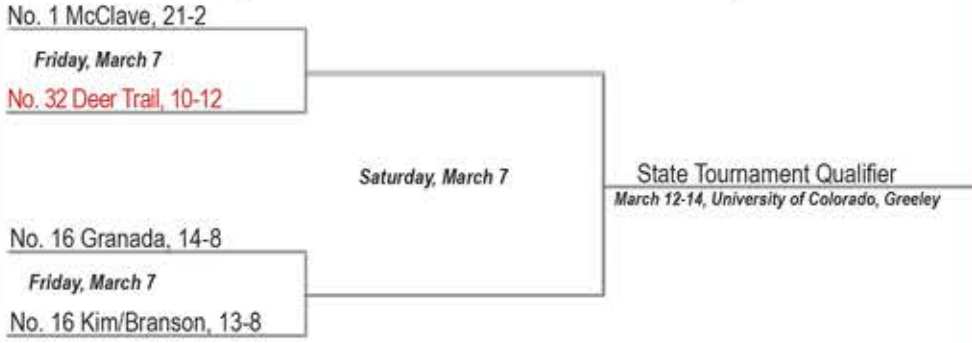
S Congratulations Indians on a Championship Weekend! S



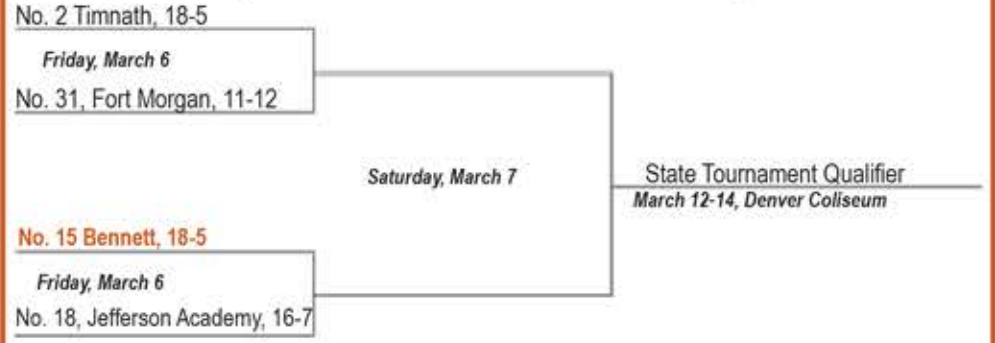
Sophomore Madilyn Gitke, left, 2-time 4A 155-pound champion; Senior Vivienne Gitke, above & right, 2-time 4A 145-pound champion; and Senior Juan Fernandez, below, 3A 215-pound 5th place.



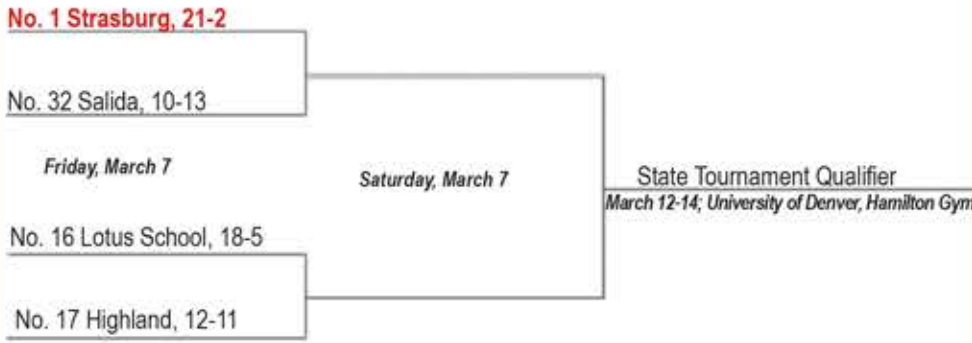
1A Girls Region 1 March 6-7 @ McClave (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



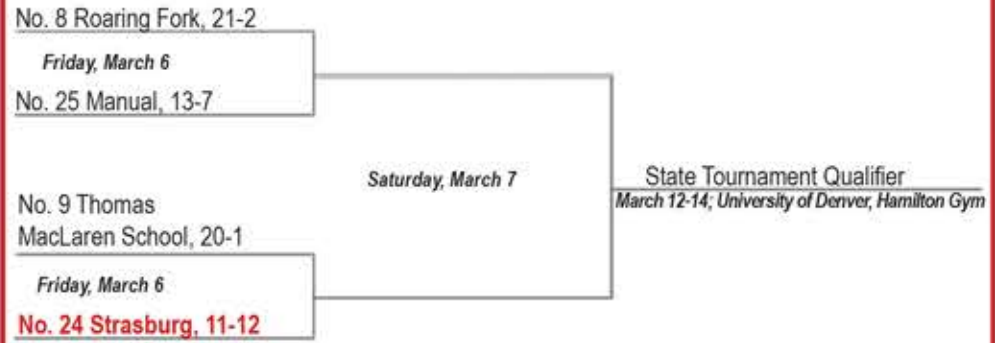
4A Girls Region 2 March 6-7 @ Timnath (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



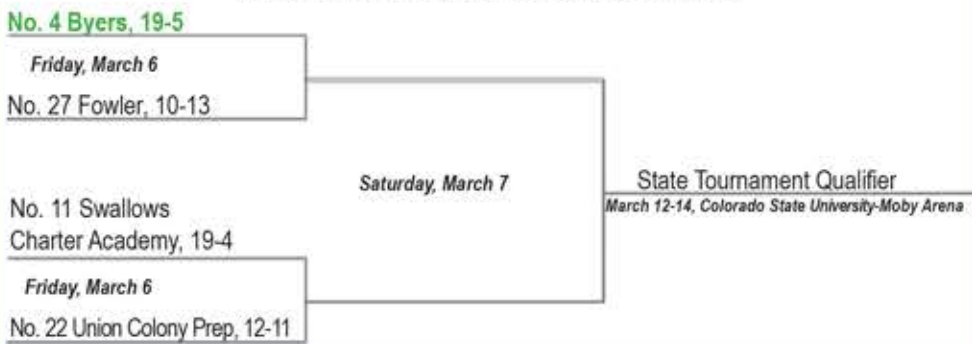
3A Boys Region 1 March 6-7 @ Strasburg (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



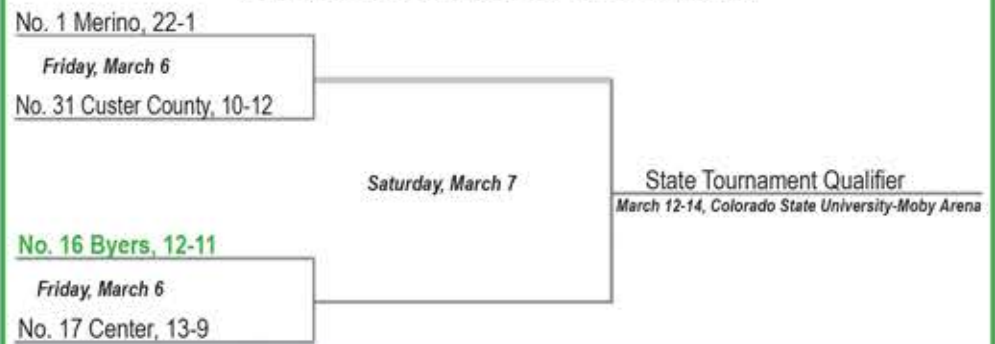
3A Girls Region 8 March 6-7 @ Roaring Fork (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



2A Boys Region 6 March 6-7 @ Byers (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



2A Girls Region 1 March 6-7 @ Merino (Game Times TBA; visit www.i-70scout.com)



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GB BYERS

FROM PAGE 1

last two games were also played in Akron.

The 12-11 green-and-white enter this weekend's regional level of play seeded 16th and will play No. 17 Center from the San Luis Valley on Friday in Merino. The likely reward for a victory is a regional title contest against the one-loss and top-seeded host school on Saturday. The 22-1 Rams, whose lone loss was 8 points to undefeated Simla at the end of January, will play 32nd-seeded Custer County (10-12 overall) Friday.

AKRON GAME

Whether a win in last Wednesday's first-round district game would have helped Byers avoid Merino or Simla was uncertain but the overtime loss didn't help.

The green-and-white had a 6-point lead with four minutes left in regula-

tion but the hosts tied the game at 35 with 1:30 on the clock. Neither team scored the rest of regulation.

In overtime, a traditional three-point play by sophomore Leyla Sayler put Byers up 40-37 with 2:22 left, but the Bulldogs were outscored 6-0 the rest of the way, including four straight missed free throws when up 40-39.

Byers went 12-of-29 (41%) from the field and was 13-of-21 from the charity stripe. While Akron's field goal percentage was only 26%, it was on 61 attempts thanks to 18 offensive rebounds and 19 Bulldog turnovers. The Rams were 10-of-11 on free-throws.

The green-and-white was led by the inside play of senior Abi Green and Sayler with 14 and 10 points, respectively.

For Byers' other conference tournament games, see the March 6 edition of the *Eastern Colorado News*.

BB BYERS

FROM PAGE 11

Byers is seeded sixth for the 2A state playoffs and will host a 2A regional game on Friday, March 6, against No. 27 Fowler. If the Bulldogs prevail, they will face either Swallows Charter Academy, the 11th seed, or Union Colony Prep, No. 21, on Saturday.

BURLINGTON

The Byers victory over Burlington was remarkably similar to the teams' first meeting Jan. 31. The Cougars came out with energy and, coupled with adjustments since the first meeting, were able to hang with the Bulldogs. The score was 17-12 Byers after one quarter.

The Bulldogs started to get into Burlington in the second, winning the quarter 23-8 for a 40-20 halftime advantage. The momentum continued into the third, which Byers won 26-6, and the bench played the rest of the way once the Bulldogs forced a running clock late in the third.

To combat a triangle-and-two defense employed by the Cougars, Byers went small, inserting junior sharpshooters Samuel Linnebur and Dane Curry, both of whom converted three-point shots to end Burlington's play.

Linnebur ended up with a career-high 15 points to tie classmate James Maes for top scoring honors.

During that short span, Byers lead grew from roughly 8 points to 15.

"Then we just really didn't look back from there," Kerns said.

Linnebur also tied freshman Matt Cichos for the team lead with three steals, and Cichos blocked two shots.

Senior Quincy Eacret tacked on 11 points and sophomore Conrad Cichos grabbed 10 boards and matched junior Gabe Price with three assists apiece.

Byers went 9-of-27 from three-point range and 9-of-12 on free throws.

BURLINGTON @ BYERS

Points (74): Maes 15; Linnebur 15; Eacret 11; C. Cichos 8; M. Cichos 6; Mohatt 5; Curry 5; Price 4; Long 3; P. Riemenschneider 2.
Rebounds (35): C. Cichos 10; Mohatt 7; M. Cichos 5; Maes 2; Eacret 2; Price 2; Linnebur 2; Ebert 1; P. Riemenschneider 1; Gerhardt 1; H. Riemenschneider 1; Cary 1.
Assists (19): C. Cichos 3; Price 3; Eacret 2; Linnebur 2; Maes 2; Curry 2; Long 2; Mohatt 1; M. Cichos 1; Gerhardt 1.
Steals (15): Linnebur 3; M. Cichos 3; C. Cichos 2; Maes 2; Ebert 2; Mohatt 2; Eacret 1.
Blocks (5): M. Cichos 2; Maes 1; Eacret 1; P. Riemenschneider 1.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
Byers	17	23	26	8	74
Burlington	12	8	6	11	37

GB DEER TRAIL

FROM PAGE 11

schools in our league and we won one of those."

The Lady Eagles will travel to the Arkansas Valley in southeastern Colorado on Friday to face off with top-seeded McClave, who enter the weekend 21-2 with losses to 1A No. 5 Fleming and 2A No. 2 Simla. The other two Region 1 teams are Granada and Kim/Branson.

MANZANOLA

In their regular-season finale, the red-and-white held the visiting Bobcats to four single-digit quarters.

The hosts had end-of-quarter leads of 23-7, 36-9 and 47-16. The mercy rule running clock took effect about halfway through the fourth period.

While Donovan's troops shot 31% from the field it was on 72 attempts,

which was thanks to 26 offensive rebounds.

Senior Megan Donovan and junior Kylie Bryant both concluded the evening with double-doubles — Donovan with 25 points and 11 rebounds and Bryant with 12 points and 18 boards.

Manzanola @ Deer Trail

Points (56): Vailini Samate 6; Fatuma Hussein 9; Jeanette Rodriguez 4; Megan Donovan 25; Kylie Bryant 12.
Rebounds (58): Samate 9; Hussein 8; KyAnn Kitzman 2; Rodriguez 8; Donovan 11; Bryant 18; Ana Cecilia 2.
Assists (8): Samate 4; Hussein 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 1; Bryant 1.
Steals (16): Samate 3; Hussein 5; Rodriguez 3; Donovan 3; Bryant 2.
Blocks (7): Samate 2; Hussein 1; Kitzman 1; Rodriguez 1; Donovan 2.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
Manzanola	7	2	7	2	18
Deer Trail	23	13	11	9	56

GB BENNETT

FROM PAGE 11

on Friday, with the winner to face off with either the host Cubs or 31st-seeded Fort Morgan on Saturday. The regional champion advances to the Great Eight state tournament March 12-14 at the Denver Coliseum.

St. Mary's Academy @ Bennett

Points (49): Aileen Duran 14; Mya Robledo 2; Emma Jordan 2; Madelyn Bavouset 4; Josie Ladd 16; Emilee Venneberg 11.
Rebounds (33): Duran 3; Mattie Robledo 4; My. Robledo 4; Jordan 2; Bavouset 3; Ladd 8; Venneberg 9.
Assists (10): Duran 1; Ma. Robledo 2; My. Robledo 1; Bavouset 1; Ladd 3; Venneberg 2.
Steals (14): Duran 3; Jordan 1; Bavouset 2; Ladd 5; Venneberg 3.
Blocks (4): Jordan 1; Ladd 1; Venneberg 2.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
St. Mary's Academy	14	7	9	10	40
Bennett	14	10	15	10	49

Bennett @ Simla

Points (18): Duran 3; Ladd 6; Venneberg 9.
Rebounds (10): Duran 1; My. Robledo 1; Bavouset 1; Ladd 5; Venneberg 2.
Assists (3): Ma. Robledo 1; My. Robledo 1; Venneberg 1.
Steals (4): Ma. Robledo 1; My. Robledo 1; Ladd 1; Venneberg 1.
Blocks (2): Bavouset 2.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	F
Bennett	8	5	0	5	18
Simla	19	27	10	7	63

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LIBRARY NEWS

ANYTHINK BENNETT LIBRARY

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Artificial Intelligence: Adults will receive practical tips on identifying Artificial Intelligence and using AI to make everyday tasks easier. Participants should submit their questions about scams or basic cybersecurity in advance. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 6-7 p.m., Thursday, March 5.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training: The Adams County Health Department will present Youth Mental Health First Aid (MFHA), a blended learning course that teaches adults to recognize, understand and respond to signs of mental health challenges in youth. The training starts with 1-2 hours of self-paced online learning through the MHFA Connect platform, then join an engaging eight-hour, in-person session of discussions, videos and hands-on group activities. After completing all components and the online post-test, participants will earn certification as Youth Mental Health First Aiders. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 10.

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. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, March 5.

Spa Day at the Library: Visitors can enjoy a little Saturday staycation, sip on refreshing cucumber water, and relax in a mediation room. Make-and-take self-care projects for all ages, such as DIY clay face masks and sugar scrubs, are planned. All ages welcome. 12-3 p.m., Saturday, March 14.

Pyrography Decorative Signs: Adults will design decorative wooden signs using wood-burning techniques. All skill levels welcome. Space limited; registration required. Visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 19.

Growing Local Business With Community Resources: This kickoff 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 provided. 6-8 p.m., Thursday, March 26.

KELVER LIBRARY

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

Journaling Workshop: Adults manifest their greatest desires at this journaling workshop by Rachel Freed, founder of the Denver-based INLUMA journaling collective. Attendees will learn prompts for inward reflection, trauma release and self-discovery. Journals provided. Space limited; registration required. Call (303)822-9392 or visit anythinklibraries.org to sign up. 2-3 p.m., Wednesday, March 11.

Adult book club: "A Flicker in the Dark" by Stacy Willingham. 6-7 p.m., Tuesday, March 10.

DAVIES LIBRARY

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

Puzzles & Pie: Tweens and teens can relax with hands-on fun and treats. This month, attendees can assemble 3D wooden puzzles — then reward their hard work by making their own mini pies. The low-key event offers a variety of activities and treats. 12-3 p.m., Wednesday, March 11.

Tea at 2: Adults are invited to Tea at 2 for tea and activities, such as cards, puzzles and adult coloring pages. Patrons can also bring their own activities. 2-3 p.m., Friday, March 6.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE NOT-SO DUSTY PAGES

20 YEARS AGO MARCH 7, 2006

A standing-room only crowd of Watkins residents filled the Golden Gun Club Feb. 28 as the town's board of trustees voted 3-2 to both change de-annexation procedures and to disconnect the Prairie View subdivision from the town.

But implementation of both ordinances was delayed when trustee Bob Hastings, also a Prairie View resident, filed a form for referendum with the town's attorney asking for a town-wide vote on the issue of de-annexation procedures. Both ordinances would have gone into effect 30 days after posting, which occurred March 1.

Voting in favor of both ordinances were trustees Rick Grimm, Ted Schmidt, and Sam Cavender. Hastings and Phyllis Webb voted against Ordinances 2006-01 and 2006-02. Mayor Russ Corona does not vote unless a board member is absent and a tie-breaker is necessary.

If Tuesday night's vote stands, Hastings and Webb will be replaced on the board. Webb is also a resident of Prairie View. Watkins will hold a municipal election April 4. Deadline for handing in petitions was Friday, March 3.

When asked about Hastings' notification of referendum, town attorney Kendra Carberry said that what was handed to her Tuesday night was a form that must be approved first, and that a petition needs to be circulated, signatures verified, and public notification conducted before a vote can be set.

"That will probably be a special election — held before the November election — if the referendum petition process goes through," Carberry said. "The timing isn't right for the issue to be voted on during the town's April 4 election."

15 YEARS AGO MARCH 8, 2011

LIMON — The first deadline in the governor's effort to implement a statewide economic development plan is quickly approaching.

During a March 2 meeting with Elbert, Lincoln, Cheyenne and Kit Carson county residents and officials at Limon High School, members of Gov.

John Hickenlooper's Bottom-Up Economic Development Team said the first step is to accumulate local and county plans and share

that information with the entire state.

"It's a matter of seeing what's been working and, probably more importantly, what's not been working for individual areas and then sharing that information across borders," said Dwayne Romero, Executive Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade. "Oh, and did I mention, those county plans need to be done by April 15."

In county breakout sessions, state and local officials brainstormed on positive and negative economic stimulus programs, obstacles and draws to prospective businesses and employers in each county. Each individual county plan will also include demographic, labor force and population figures, trends and comparisons.

10 YEARS AGO MARCH 8, 2016

BENNETT — When the town of Bennett commences its road replacement/repair project later this year, the amount of total street reconstruction throughout town will be less than originally anticipated.

When the town first proposed a 1 percent sales tax increase last year, the revenue was to fund road replacement town-wide, but as the question was further bandied, residents in old Bennett north of the railroad tracks were adamant that they did not want their concrete streets replaced because they remained in good condition.

As a result, the town contracted out for core sampling of the streets to determine their condition and prepare a more comprehensive repair plan and list of priorities.

According to the core testing, the concrete streets north of the railroad tracks and from Seventh Street to the east and First Street to the west are in "fair to good condition" and require "spot repair of poor areas with concrete." The far north block of First Street should have existing gravel reconstructed with concrete and Lincoln Avenue west of First Street will require complete reconstruction, most likely asphalt.

"The good condition of the streets was quite surprising, even to our structural engineers who were doing the coring work," said Public Works Director Daymon Johnson.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, March 4, the 63rd day of 2026. There are 302 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On March 4, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated for a second term. With the end of the Civil War in sight, and just six weeks before his assassination, Lincoln declared:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the fight as God gives us to see the right,

let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

ALSO ON THIS DATE:

In 1789, the Constitution of the United States took effect as the first Federal Congress met in New York.

In 1801, Thomas Jefferson became the first president to be inaugurated in Washington, D.C.

In 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated for his first term as president; he was the last U.S. president to be inaugurated on this date (subsequent inaugurations have been held on Jan. 20). In his inaugural speech, Roosevelt stated, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

In 1966, John Lennon of The Beatles was quoted in the London Eve-

ning Standard as saying, "We're more popular than Jesus now," a comment that caused an angry backlash in the United States.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan addressed the nation on the Iran-Contra affair, acknowledging that his overtures to Iran had "deteriorated" into an arms-for-hostages deal.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that workplace sexual harassment laws are applicable when the offender and victim are of the same sex.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Film director Adrian Lyne is 85. Author James Ellroy is 78. Musician-producer Emilio Estefan is 73. Actor Mykelti (MY'-kul-tee) Williamson is 69. Actor Patricia Heaton is 68. Actor Steven Weber is 65. Rock musician Jason Newsted is 63. Author Dav Pilkey is 60. NBA forward Draymond Green is 36. NFL wide receiver George Pickens is 25. Singer Cameron Winter is 24.

— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: SINGERS & SONGWRITERS

- ACROSS
1. Comprehend
 6. It has no staying power?
 9. Auditioner's hope
 13. Prevention measure?
 14. Ill temper
 15. Poetic although
 16. Brooke or John Jacob, of New York
 17. Downhill equipment
 18. Beau
 19. "What Was I Made For?" singer
 21. "Fast Car" singer
 23. Part of URL
 24. Peephole glance
 25. Morning drops
 28. 1920s art style
 30. Reduce, as in standing
 35. Big Bang's original matter
 37. Lad's counterpart
 39. Connection
 40. Milton Bradley's game
 41. Tea from certain region of India
 43. Some bent pipes
 44. Rose oil
 46. Zeus' wife
 47. Remove from a manuscript
 48. What bird did, homewise
 50. Hyperbolic sine
 52. "___ and the City"
 53. Prejudice
 55. "Wow!"
 57. "Song Sung Blue" singer
 61. "I Just Called to Say I Love You" singer
 64. Barrel racing meet
 65. ___ Maria
 67. Shockingly graphic
 69. Not upright
 70. Bathtub libation
 71. Food contaminant
 72. W on a light bulb
 73. Consume
 74. Ayes
- DOWN
1. Former Portuguese colony in India
 2. Deceptive maneuver
 3. Naysayer's favorite prefix
 4. Upbraid
 5. 1/3rd of a hockey game
 6. Phish homophone
 7. One of Indiana's quests
 8. Prepare for winter takeoff
 9. Alka-Seltzer sound
 10. Nucleus plus electrons
 11. Actress Perlman
 12. Tattered's partner
 15. Rouse
 20. Inscribed pillar
 22. He had
 24. Own
 25. "Hurricane" singer
 26. Like March Madness' eight
 27. Hair extensions
 29. "Folsom Prison Blues" singer
 31. "Walk on the Wild Side" singer
 32. Wheel shafts
 33. Tutu fabric
 34. English county
 36. Source of protein
 38. Delhi wrap
 42. Popular lassi fruit
 45. Restart computer
 49. Clamor
 51. "The Boys of Summer" singer
 54. "Bad news travels fast", e.g.
 56. Draw a conclusion
 57. Pull out a pistol
 58. Letter before kappa
 59. Type of mine passage
 60. Cheesy sandwich
 61. Hit the road
 62. Cupid's counterpart
 63. Rub the wrong way
 66. Road, in Rome
 68. Bad-mouth, slangily



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- ANSWERS ON PAGE 17

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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 19

HOROSCOPE

Island Trine

The earthy lunar trine to Uranus, the planet of surprises, is a specific kind of omen. From the abundant water-sign energy, an island rises, inviting us sailors on life's endless sea to take a rest from the rocking waves to do the kind of work that can only be accomplished on land. It's the work of repair that can't be adjusted mid-voyage. We'll return to the water better equipped for the voyage ahead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's something so beautiful about a relationship in which you can respectfully disagree without too much friction or a negative outcome. It signals great maturity for all involved as well as deep respect and the potential to learn from one another.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't accurately map your options from inside your head. Your sense of what's possible can be distorted by incomplete information or assumptions based in fear. Say what you want. Give the world a chance to show you what's feasible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). We live in a rapidly changing world. To keep up, we have to update. Staying engaged means staying flexible. You're willing to revisit ideas and adjust your thinking when new information or contexts ask for it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Finally, you're in a group of diverse strengths. It feels good to show up, do your part and trust that others will handle their share. Things move forward as a wheel does, not as a pogo stick does.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Could everything be happening for the highest good? You're not always sure what to believe. You'll be moved today to ask fewer questions as you get down to the work. Sometimes it's OK to accept what is before you completely understand it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Would you rather have teasing or fawning? A challenge or a massage? Truth or flattery? There are no universally wrong answers, only answers that bring you closer or further away from a goal.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be reminded how important daily rituals really

are to your well-being. Emotional balance depends at least partly on what we automatically repeat. A new influence will inspire you to elevate your habits.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Something as grand as a career doesn't happen overnight. It's a culmination of thousands of small steps, tasks, moves, commitments, decisions — and, wow, are you making them with style and speed today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your inner critic has been speaking too loudly and too often. If only you could be the network executive who cancels its show or at least interrupts it for more relevant programming. You deserve your own support. More cheerleading, less analyzing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are bright, free and possessing of an endless curiosity that keeps leading you from interest to interest, and only you can say what deserves a longer stay. You decide for yourself what's acceptable instead of adopting anyone else's rules.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Noticing talent is a talent in and of itself. You'll not only see what's special and strong in others, but you'll also have a sense of who should work together and how it might fit. You'll bring people together.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Media can set up unrealistic expectations of love and relationships. This will be especially true of social media today, but you're savvy to the many ways people tell visual lies and will neither believe nor perpetuate the problem.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March. 4). It's your Year of Fearless Championing, and you'll use this gift in many directions. You'll give astounding performances and coax others toward their best performances, too. More highlights: You'll take a serendipitous journey with the spirit of exploration and curiosity opening doors of all kinds — professional, personal and social. One special relationship takes a surprising and auspicious new turn. You'll score three bonus checks. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 19, 36, 7 and 28.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

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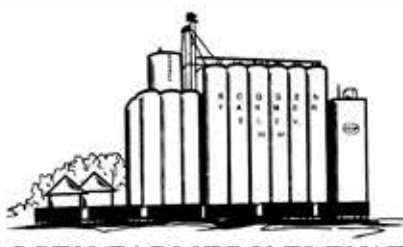


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CORRIDOR CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 6
Fish fry hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 13221. Cod, coleslaw, fruit cocktail, Tater Tots, coffee, lemonade. \$7 for one piece of cod; \$10 for two pieces; \$25 per family. Our Lady of the Plains Catholic Church, Byers.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
Open Create session, a studio environment where artists work with different mediums and without instructors. 12-3 p.m., Strasburg American Legion Hall.

MONDAY, MARCH 9
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 9-11 a.m., Kelter Library parking lot, 585 S. Main St., Byers. Optional pre-registration at newclient.link2feed.com.
Strasburg School Board. 6 p.m., Strasburg High School Central Services building board room. Zoom participation available. Visit strasburg31J.com for link.
Bingo. 7 p.m., Byers American Legion Hall.
Byers Water & Sanitation District Board. 7 p.m., District Office, 421 S. Sherman St.
Deer Trail Fire Protection District Board. 7 p.m., Deer Trail Firehouse.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry. 4-8 p.m. or while supplies last, Hinkley High School, 1250 Chambers Road, Aurora.

Daughters of the American Revolution Silver Spike Chapter. 6:30 p.m., TBK Bank Committee Room, Strasburg.

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

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
Deer Trail Conservation District Board. 1 p.m., Farm Service Agency office, 133 W. Bijou, Byers.
Strasburg Sanitation & Water Board. 7 p.m., TBK Bank conference room, 56641 E. Colfax Ave., Strasburg.
Bennett School Board. 6 p.m., Bennett High School library. Visit bsd29j.com for a Zoom link.

EVERY TUESDAY
Toddler Time: Children ages 2-3 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that are just right for active toddlers. 10-10:30 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.
Family story time. 10:30-11 a.m., Davies Library, Deer Trail.
Teen Hangout: Teens ages 13-18 hang out, play games, and enjoy snacks with friends. Gaming consoles, board games, crafts, other activities available. 3:30-6 p.m., Anythink Bennett library.

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

BENNETT BOT

FROM PAGE 1

“There was discussion of an add-on to this building, adding 10,000 to 20,000 [square-feet],” Vittum said. “This project here clearly delineates the site of a new town hall. This is like the camel’s nose coming under your tent — step one of building a new town hall at great expense to the taxpayers. Am I to assume that the idea of expanding this building has been taken out back and shot in the parking lot?”

Mayor Whitney Oakley countered that the idea of a new town hall has been part of the Town Center master plan since March 2024 and that she doesn’t recall previous objections to that part of the project.

“It’s something we’ve seen several times,” said Oakley, noting the master plan time frame. “I don’t remember that large of an objection when we began this project. While I understand the town hall concern, I cannot support derailing the whole project off of that concern. This is going to be a huge value-add for our residents and it’s the first I’ve heard about this concern.”

Oakley and other trustees in favor of the plan said the overall project provides a downtown-like area for small business activity and other municipal recreation.

“The town hall is only one piece of this project,” the mayor added.

Oakley also alleged that the current town hall is no longer a safe space for officials, staff or residents.

“One thing I want to highlight about this current building, it is not conducive any longer for what we are trying to do and for safety,” she said. “We need a town hall that represents those needs and while we are going to try and make adjustments with this current building to make it as safe as possible, there is only so much we can do with the way it is.”

When asked about what specific threats have occurred at town hall, an Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office spokesman said there have been none but that efforts are ongoing to prevent incidents in the future.

“There have been no specific threats, incidents of significant violence, or criminal activity at town hall that prompted the recent discussion. The comments made at the board of trustees meeting were about



The future Bennett Town Center, including a new town hall building, will be located along the west side of Highway 79 immediately south of the current town hall.

proactive safety planning, not about a new or emerging threat,” said Arapahoe County Deputy John Bartmann, crime prevention specialist for the I-70 Corridor. “The review of the town’s community room, which is used for board meetings and court, was discussed several months ago. The goal is to improve safety and security in a thoughtful way — not in response to any specific threat. This is the same approach we have used in Arapahoe County facilities, Centennial, and many other public buildings and businesses. It is a proactive service we offer to help harden facilities and reduce risk across our service

area.” A sheriff’s deputy is already stationed at town hall when municipal court is in session.

Trustee Donna Sus and town staff both reiterated that the current town hall building would be repurposed.

Bennett Deputy Town Administrator Rachel Summers added that current Bennett residents shouldn’t expect to pay much for a new town hall.

“The assessment of a new town hall is based on impact fees from development,” she said. “It’s not necessarily the taxpayers here today paying for the project, [but] the future taxpayers

coming in with that development.” Trustee Royce Pindell indicated that when the current town hall was constructed, it was done so with a finite life span in mind but what that expiration date might be was not mentioned. He also said that the Town Center plan takes into account providing municipal services for at least 20 years down the road.

Summers also said that preliminary plans for Adams County to possibly purchase some of the Town Center property won’t happen and that county officials indicated they will likely lease from the town once the location is in operation.

BUC-EE’S ?

On the issue of future development, the board and town staff went into executive session where the discussion appeared to revolve around a possible Buc-ee’s travel center.

The Feb. 24 executive session agenda item said, “For the purpose of determining the town’s position, developing strategy for negotiations; and to direct negotiators, all in connection with annexation agreements to be entered into by the town, pursuant to C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e). Buc-ee’s Holdings, Inc.”

After the approximately 1½-hour closed-door session, no other comments were made about the subject and the meeting was adjourned.

Under Colorado Sunshine Law, closed-door executive sessions are allowed but are strictly regulated for specific, confidential matters.

No formal action is required afterward.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board unanimously denied a resident’s overweight parking permit request on Sunset Avenue in the development behind Bennett Marketplace (King Soopers) even though the issue was recommended for approval by town staff with numerous conditions.

It was announced during the meeting that the new Jiffy Lube location in Bennett Crossing recently received its certificate of occupancy.

The board unanimously approved waivers of the Request for Proposal process for both the second phase of the north maintenance building renovation and the project design/survey services for Kiowa-Bennett Road renovations.

In both cases Public Works Director Oscar Ruvalcaba said the town has had extensive experience with the preferred contractors for both jobs and that their familiarity with the projects should trump the traditional bid process for both.

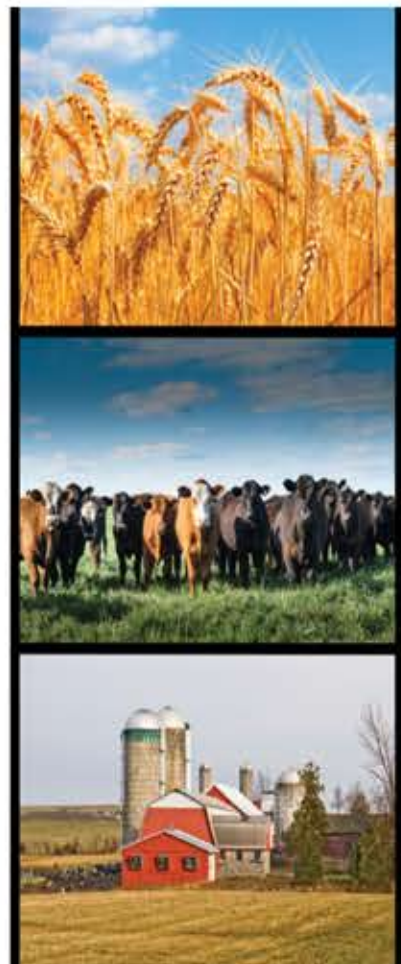
The Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office will host an Alive at 25 class at 9 a.m., Friday, March 13, at Bennett Town Hall.

Alive at 25 is a National Safety Council course designed for young drivers ages 15–24. The program focuses on defensive driving, decision-making, and taking responsibility behind the wheel.

To register for the class, e-mail to JMason@arapahoegov.com.

Additional information about the course, including Colorado dates and locations, is available online at aliveat25.us.

The board is next scheduled to meet on Tuesday, March 10, with a 5:45 p.m. study session to be followed by a 7 p.m. business meeting at Town Hall.



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Pork Satay Skewers

PORK SATAY SKEWERS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pork tenderloin (cut into 1- by 5-inch strips)
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup soy sauce, low sodium
- 1/4 cup rice vinegar
- 2 teaspoons garlic, (minced)
- 2 teaspoons ginger (minced)
- 1 teaspoon Chinese or Dijon mustard
- 16 bamboo skewers (soaked)

DIRECTIONS

In a bowl, whisk together peanut

butter, soy sauce, vinegar, garlic, ginger and mustard. Reserve 1/2 cup sauce.

Add pork to the remaining sauce and mix until evenly distributed. Cover and allow to marinate for 1-2 hours in the refrigerator.

Remove excess marinade from pork, and string on soaked skewers.

Preheat grill.

Grill on high until cooked to 145° F, followed by a three-minute rest. Serve alongside reserved sauce.

Recipe courtesy

Colorado Pork Producers

Sauerkraut fermentation key to live CSU Extension class

CENTENNIAL — Colorado State University Extension will host a workshop on sauerkraut fermentation from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, March 12, at the Arapahoe County Extension Office, 6934 S. Lima St., Centennial. Natural fermentation is one of the

oldest means of food preservation. Sauerkraut is a good source of dietary fiber and probiotics believed to improve digestion and gut health.

The hands-on workshop costs \$20 per person, and participants will take a jar of kraut to ferment at home.

LUNCH MENUS

BYERS

Thursday, March 5: Hamburgers, French fries, grapes.

Friday, March 6: Smothered bean and cheese burritos, green beans, mixed fruit.

Monday, March 9: Beef tacos, beans, rice, applesauce.

Tuesday, March 10: Italian dunkers, garden salad, peaches.

Wednesday, March 11: Macho Nacho, corn, pears.

DEER TRAIL

Thursday, March 5: Beef nachos, corn.

Monday, March 9: Corn dogs, peas.

Tuesday, March 10: Beef tacos with salsa, beans and rice, mango.

Wednesday, March 11: Chicken drumstick, potatoes with gravy, grapes.

STRASBURG

Thursday, March 5: Egg rolls, rice, steamed veggies.

Friday, March 6: Hot dogs, potato salad.

Tuesday, March 10: Omelets, sausage, hash browns.

Wednesday, March 11: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll.

AGATE

Thursday, March 5: Boneless chicken chompers, fries.

Monday, March 9: Pancakes, sausage patty.

Tuesday, March 10: Hot dog, potato wedges.

Wednesday, March 11: Sesame chicken with rice.



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The Colorado State Patrol was dispatched to the area of Highway 36 and Imboden Road on the east side of Watkins about 2:30 p.m. Feb. 26 on report of a two-vehicle crash. According to a State Patrol spokeswoman, a GMC Terrain and a Dodge Rambler were involved with one of the vehicles going down an embankment and tipping onto its roof. No injuries were reported, but both drivers were cited for careless driving. Above, a tow truck driver works to upright the tipped SUV in an effort to clear the scene as quickly as possible.

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Kindergarten Roundup

Who: Screenings will be completed on children registering for kindergarten that will be 5 years old on or before August 1st, 2026, and must reside in Strasburg School District. If your child has attended Strasburg Preschool, they do not need to attend.

When: April 6th, 2026 at 8am-3pm

Where: Strasburg Elementary School

Schedule your child's appointment by calling the school directly at 303-622-9211 ext. 604

More information will be emailed upon appointment sign up



**STRASBURG
ELEMENTARY**

PRESCHOOL ROUNDUP

Friday, March 20, 2026

Preschool Registration
and Developmental Screenings

Children new to Strasburg Preschool who will be at least 3 years old on or before August 1, 2026, are eligible. Developmental screenings will also be offered for any child under 5 who may have developmental concerns.

*Children turning 5 on or before August 1, 2026 are eligible to enroll in kindergarten.

Schedule your child's appointment by
calling (303) 622-9215, ext. 628.

Specific registration details will be emailed upon sign-up.

SPACE IS LIMITED – SECURE YOUR CHILD'S SPOT TODAY!

MARCH Calendar *Event*

- **2nd-6th** - National School Social Work Week
- **5th** - District Accountability Committee (DAC) Meeting @ 4:45pm
- **6th** - Track @ Berthoud
- **7th** - Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day
- **7th** - HMS Science Olympiad Regional Competition
- **9th** - Girls Golf @ Meadmont Scramble
- **9th** - Board of Education (BOE) Mtg @ 6pm
- **10th** - UNC College Tour
- **11th** - Girls Golf @ Cattail Scramble
- **12th** - Elementary Corridor Spelling Bee
- **13th** - 5th Grade @ Young Ameritowne
- **13th** - Baseball Scrimmage @ Wiggins
- **12th -14th** - State Basketball Tournament
- **14th** - Track @ Frederick
- **16th** - Parent Teacher Conferences
- **16th -17th** - State Knowledge Bowl Competition
- **17th** - Baseball Wood Bat Classic @ Strasburg
- **18th** - JV Track @ Platte Valley
- **21st** - Track @ Broomfield
- **23rd - 28th** - SPRING BREAK!
- **25th** - Girls Golf @ LCHS Eagle Invite
- **25th** - JV Track @ University
- **26th** - JV/C Baseball vs. Weld Central @ Home
- **28th** - Track @ University
- **30th** - Battle of the Books Competition
- **31th** - V/JV Baseball vs. Ellicott @ Home

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