



The I-70 Scout

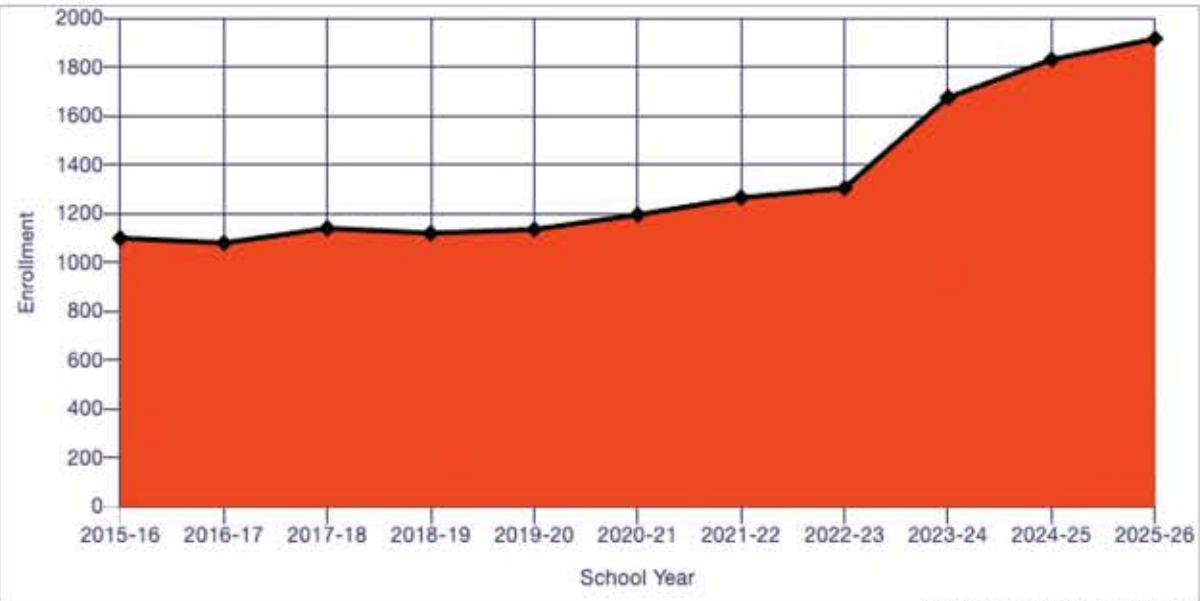
Volume 32, Number 40

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

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Bennett School bond ? on November ballot

Residents asked to fund \$125M in campus improvements/expansion in face of enrollment boom



After significant jumps in student counts, depicted above, over the past several years, Bennett School District seeking ways to improve facilities on campus and to expand. On the upcoming November ballot, the district will ask to approve a construction bond question. For information, visit bennettbond.org.

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BENNETT — After deciding not to go to voters the past two years, the Bennett School District will return to its residents this November to ask them to fund campus improvements and expansion to accommodate rapidly growing enrollment.

During their Aug. 19 business meeting, Bennett School Board directors voted 5-0 in favor of a resolution “referring to eligible electors a ballot measure for the issuance and payment of debt.”

“Enrollment was steady before the pandemic, then began rising quickly,” a district statement says. “In just a few years, enrollment has grown by more than 40%, with the sharpest acceleration between the 2022-23 and 2025-26 school years alone.”

“And it’s not slowing down. Within the next decade, enrollment numbers are expected to increase by an additional 400 students, stretching many buildings even further beyond capacity.”

According to the school district’s bennettbond.org webpage, the proposed bond is for \$125 million, which would include a new high school and particularly focus on additional areas for career and technical education; safety improvements and maintenance upgrades; and improvements for extracurricular and athletic facilities, particularly a new artificial turf field at the outdoor stadium.

The bond website also said that, if approved, homeowners in the district would pay \$6.25

SEE BENNETT BOE
PAGE 17

Land acquisition rift widening between Bennett Fire, town

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — As time goes by, Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue officials appear more uncertain about a proposed land transfer with town government.

During the Aug. 13 Bennett-Watkins Fire Protection District board meeting at the Strasburg Firehouse, Assistant Fire Chief Caleb Connor indicated that the amount of money that town staff is looking to get out of a town-owned parcel adjacent to fire district property near 38th Avenue and Highway 79 continues to increase.

“Last update was \$250,000. That’s 73% of the fair market value price,” he said. “That’s a lot of value for a property transfer. Probably beyond our means at the moment. We’re working up a request for them to reconsider.”

The approximately two acres of town property is valued at approximately \$341,000, or \$4 per square foot on 80,222 commercial square-feet.

When Connor formalized the land request during the April 14 town trustees meeting, it was framed as either a

SEE BENNETT FPD
PAGE 8



A 41-year-old Fort Morgan man miraculously evaded fatal injuries when the semi tractor-trailer rig he was driving crashed through a guardrail and came to rest on a bridge embankment on eastbound I-70 near mile marker 294 early afternoon Aug. 17. Above, the investigation of the wreckage continues after the driver was transported to a Denver hospital with serious injuries. **SEE PAGE 4.**



A small aircraft that took off from Colorado Air & Space Port mid-morning Aug. 19 reportedly had oil pressure issues forcing it to land in an open field a couple miles west of Bradbury-Krebs Road south of Highway 36 between Byers and Strasburg. A little after 10:30 a.m., Arapahoe County Sheriff’s deputies found the plane with the pilot and other occupant milling around outside uninjured. No plane damage was reported.

PHOTOS COURTESY ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

COMMUNITY CORRAL

Hotchkiss rancher new prez of Cattlemen's Association

LOVELAND — A fourth generation livestock producer from Hotchkiss was welcomed as the the 121st president of Colorado Cattlemen's Association at the organizations annual convention June 22-24 in Loveland.



LeValley men's Beef Association in Washington, D.C.

Mark LeValley joined the CCA Board of Directors in 2016, but has served CCA since 1987 as the Game & Fish Committee Chair, then Brand & Theft Committee lead. He has also represented CCA with the National Cattle-

men's Beef Association in Washington, D.C. LeValley looks forward to closing the Heading Home Campaign, encouraging members to engage in policy regarding wolf management and public lands, and continuing to provide a voice for Colorado's livestock producers.

LeValley Ranch in partnership with five other ranches owns and operates Homestead Meats in Delta, which offers custom USDA processing and sells its beef directly to consumers.

LeValley follows outgoing CCA President Curt Russell of Sugar City.

Application deadline nears for ag leadership program

CORTEZ — Applications for Class 18 of the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program for its competitive two-year

leadership fellowship are due Sept. 1.

The program develops the leadership capabilities of Coloradans who are directly involved in agriculture, agribusiness, rural industries, agricultural and rural policy-making, rural communities, or natural resource management.

Class 18 will participate for two years starting in February 2027. Fellows attend 11 seminars, listen to more than 135 speakers, and visit agricultural operations. Fellows travel across Colorado, to Washington, D.C., and internationally. Graduates join a network of more than 340 alumni.

Each participant must raise \$3,500 for tuition. CALP pays for all food, travel, speaker fees, and lodging.

For an application, visit ColoAgLeaders.org. For more information, contact Dani Traweck at (303)547-5963 or Dani@ColoAgLeaders.org.

AdCo strives to depict state thru new poetry anthology

BRIGHTON — Adams County is inviting the public to submit work for a chance to be included in a poetry anthology that reflects on the colors and chronicles of Colorado and the people who call it home — past, present, and future.

County Poet Laureate Aerik Francis is seeking work that explores hidden or intimate histories with writing from the current moment and snapshots of Colorado life. Winners will be published in "Chromatic Conversations: Colorado in Verse." Selected artists will receive a \$100 stipend and a copy of the finished anthology.

Colorado originally got its name from

the Spanish word colorado, meaning "red" or "colored red. Already in the history of the name there are deeper layers of conversation about languages, peoples and rich vibrant colors. Organizers hope to expand and archive those conversations through poetry.

The submission deadline is Sunday, Aug. 30. Selected artists will be notified by Dec. 4

For more information, contact Joe Murray at jmmurray@adamscountyco.gov.

Bees and native plants focus of ArapCo Extension seminar

AURORA — A Colorado State University Master Gardener will host a seminar on bees and native plants from 4-5 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 27, in the Central Large Community Room at Aurora Central Library, 14949 E. Alameda Parkway.

Colorado has over 1,000 species of bees and many have specialized relationships with native plants. Participants will join Arapahoe County Extension Master Gardener Jessie Asimus to learn about several bee species and how to attract them with native plants.

To register, visit www.auroragov.org.

Bennett DMV hours reduced because of staff shortages

BRIGHTON — The Bennett Motor Vehicle office is now operating on a reduced schedule.

The office began opening on Tuesdays and Thursdays only in July.

"At the time, we were also working

through our communication plan and determining the best way to share the change through our community partners and their channels," a county spokesperson said.

According to the spokesperson, the reduced schedule is necessitated by staffing shortages; however, many services can be accessed at adamscountyco.gov, and in-person assistance is available at the Aurora office, 3449 Chambers Road, Aurora.

Drought-related fish salvage ordered for CO wildlife area

KEENESBURG — Because of the imminent loss of the fishery to drought, Colorado Parks & Wildlife Aug. 18 issued an emergency public salvage order, effective immediately, for Banner Lakes State Wildlife Area eight miles west of Prospect Valley.

All bag and possession limits have been lifted. The order only applies to the ponds open to angling. Anglers may use all legal methods, as well as cast nets, dip nets, hand-catching and bow fishing.

Anglers must have a valid Colorado fishing license. Commercial fishing will not be allowed. Hand-launched vessels only are allowed as an aid for fishing. No motorized boating permitted.

Parks & Wildlife has stocked black crappie, largemouth bass and channel catfish at Banner Lakes.

An updated list of closures and fishing restrictions due to drought can be found at cpw.state.co.us. The Fishing Atlas also provides anglers with information on closures and new angling opportunities.

POLICE REPORTS

ADAMS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TUESDAY, MAY 26

- Second-degree burglary of dwelling and second-degree trespassing of a vehicle were reported in the 31800 block of East Second Court, **Watkins**.
- Illegal discharge of a firearm and criminal mischief with approximately \$450 in damages were reported in the 15600 block of Elk Circle, **Brighton**. According to the report, a window, blinds and drywall were damaged when a 9 mm bullet, which was recovered, struck the home.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

- Felix Barocio Guardado, 19, of Watkins, was arrested for DUI, second-degree assault, minor in possession of alcohol, reckless driving, speeding (83 in a 55-mph zone), obstruction, and insurance and registration offenses in the 1600 block of Watkins Road, **Watkins**.

FRIDAY, MAY 29

- An unidentified man died of a self-in-

flicted gunshot wound amid reports on third-degree assault and domestic violence on a 33-year-old Wheat Ridge woman in the 4100 block of Eclectic Street, **Watkins**.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

- An orange 2017 Ford Escape was reported stolen in the 3900 block of Burton Street, **Strasburg**. It was recovered later that day at Park Meadows Drive and South Quebec Street, **Highlands Ranch**. A suspect was known.
- Carrie Mae Dattilo, 19, of Byers, was arrested for DUI, reckless driving, and insurance and registration violations at East 24th Avenue and Trout Road, **Strasburg**.

SUNDAY, MAY 31

- Nathan William Gordy, 35, of Watkins, was arrested for felony contempt of court by failing to comply with supervised release in the 8300 block of Imboden Road, **Watkins**.
- Deputies responded to the scene of a roll-

over crash in the 3600 block of Headlight Road, **Strasburg**. Because the crash was alcohol-related, the scene and suspect — Tyler Orlando Lopez, 29, of **Strasburg** — were turned over to the Colorado State Patrol.

MONDAY, JUNE 1

- Justin Tafoya, 26, of **Strasburg**, surrendered himself in at the Adams County substation, 2550 **Strasburg Road, Strasburg**, where he was arrested on charges of harassment by text and domestic violence related to an incident on May 25.
- Deputies responded to an Arapahoe County call in the 2300 block of South Quail Hollow Road, **Byers**.

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FRIDAY, JULY 10

- A DUI arrest was made on Highway 36. No further information was provided.

SATURDAY, JULY 11

- Obstruction of a peace officer was reported in the 600 block of Yantley Street, **Sky Ranch, Aurora**.
- An assault was reported in the 200 block of Hancock Way, **Bennett**.

SUNDAY, JULY 12

- A warrant arrest was made on Monaghan Road, **Watkins**.

LUNCH MENUS

AGATE
Thursday, Aug. 27: Chicken nuggets.
Monday, Aug. 31: Hamburger.
Tuesday, Sept. 1: Chicken alfredo, rice.
Wednesday, Sept. 2: Cheesy ravioli.

BYERS
Thursday, Aug. 27: Ham hoagie, baby carrots, peaches.
Friday, Aug. 28: Cheese pizza, watermelon.
Tuesday, Sept. 1: Barbecue riblet sandwich, SunChips.
Wednesday, Sept. 2: Macaroni and cheese, dinner roll.

DEER TRAIL
Thursday, Aug. 27: Pizza, cookie.
Monday, Aug. 31: Orange chicken, rice.
Tuesday, Sept. 1: Chili, salad, apples.
Wednesday, Sept. 2: Corn dog, mixed vegetables.

STRASBURG
Thursday, Aug. 27: French toast, sausage links, hash browns, juice.
Friday, Aug. 28: Pizza, salad.

MONDAY, JULY 13

- An assault was reported in the 300 block of Walnut Street, **Bennett**.

TUESDAY, JULY 14

- A suicide attempt was reported in the **Bennett** area.

THURSDAY, JULY 16

- Fraud was reported in the 400 block of South Dutch Valley Road, **Bennett**; and the 39300 block of East Sixth Avenue, **Bennett**.

SATURDAY, JULY 18

- A burglary was reported in the 1300 block of Quail Run Road, **Watkins**.
- A missing person was reported in the 200 block of Front Street, **Byers**.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

- Child abuse was reported near Antelope Drive East and Valley Way, **Bennett**.

MONDAY, JULY 20

- Theft from a motor vehicle was reported in the 26900 block of East Colfax Avenue, **Aurora**.
- A fire was reported in the 101100 block of East U.S. Highway 36, **Deer Trail**.

TUESDAY, JULY 21

- An assault was reported in the 1200 block of South Indianfield Street, **Bennett**.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUG. 27
Bennett-Watkins Lions Club. Zoom meeting. 6:30 p.m. Call Diane, (303)644-3717, for ID.

MONDAY, AUG. 31
Agate School Board. 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2
Byers Park & Recreation District Board. 7 p.m., Quint Valley Fairgrounds.

EVERY FRIDAY
Little Makers Club: Children ages 0-5 can explore activities with a construction-theme that strengthen motor skills, literacy and counting. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Kelter Library.

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

EVERY MONDAY
Storytime: Children ages 2-5 listen to stories, sing songs and enjoy activities that promote early literacy. 10-10:30 a.m., Anythink Bennett library.

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P.O. Box 829 • 1522 Main St., Strasburg, Colo. 80136
e-mail: dclaussen@i-70scout.com • www.i-70scout.com
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Publisher & Editor
Douglas Claussen • dclaussen@i-70scout.com

Office Manager
LuAnne Stegner • lstegner@i-70scout.com

Managing Editor
Steven Vetter • svetter@i-70scout.com

Editorial Assistant
Isaac Managh • editorialassistant@i-70scout.com

Advertising
advertising@i-70scout.com

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

State sues GEO Group for refusal to comply in Aurora TB probe

by Contributing Writers
The Sentinel

AURORA — Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser sued the GEO Group on Aug. 19, seeking to force the private GEO Group that operates the Aurora ICE detention center to comply with a state public health order requiring the jail to release details about a confirmed tuberculosis case at the facility.

The lawsuit, filed in Adams County District Court, comes after GEO failed to meet an Aug. 17 deadline set by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to provide medical information, potential contacts, and records of detainee discharges and transfers needed for the state's investigation.

The state health department issued the order Aug. 13 after repeated requests for information from GEO, according to Weiser's office. The lawsuit asks a judge to issue an injunction requiring the company to comply.

"The GEO Group is endangering Coloradans' public health by refusing to follow the state health department's order and by violating Colorado law," Weiser said in a statement. "We will continue to defend Colorado law and ensure that no company flouts our public health and safety laws."

Tuberculosis is an airborne bacterial disease that can be treated with antibiotics but can be fatal if left untreated. State law requires public health officials to investigate confirmed or suspected cases of active tuberculosis, identify people who may have been exposed, and offer treatment as appropriate.

The lawsuit is the latest escalation in a dispute that began after Adams County health officials confirmed a tuberculosis case involving a person at the 1,500-person facility in June. The Health Department issued a

public health order for information June 25, three days after the case was confirmed. After GEO failed to provide information, state health officials began their own investigation into the potential spread of tuberculosis, according to the attorney general's office and previous state announcements.

State officials say they have been unable to independently determine who may have been exposed or whether those people received appropriate testing, evaluation and follow-up care.

After the county and state health departments pressed GEO to comply with information requests, the prison sued the state in federal court, saying that the detention facility had been singled out by state lawmakers.

Suing over House Bill 26-1276 passed this year, the law requires more frequent health and safety inspections inside immigration detention centers and allows the state to impose civil penalties for noncompliance.

"This (case) isn't about the general background of public health laws. This isn't about creating a new inspection authority. This is about a state's attempt to directly and specifically regulate, through targeted legislation, a single facility in the state," Fred Yarger, a GEO lawyer, told U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Domenico during a hearing Aug. 2, as reported by *Colorado Newsline*.

On Aug. 17, Democrats U.S. Rep. Jason Crow and Sen. Michael Bennet joined fellow Democratic members of the state's congressional delegation in calling on GEO to comply with the state and county orders.

"Public health officials need full transparency — not summary statements — to investigate because this threatens the safety of detained individuals, facility staff, and our surrounding community," the lawmakers said in a letter to GEO Group Chairman George Zoley.

They said GEO's refusal to provide the requested in-

formation has stopped state and local officials from independently verifying that people potentially exposed to tuberculosis were identified and appropriately treated.

Crow's office said its staff conducted its latest oversight visit to the facility Aug. 14. During that visit, facility staff said there were no current active tuberculosis cases, according to Crow's office.

Congressional staff also observed eight people being monitored in the medical section but said ICE and GEO did not explain why they were being monitored.

The latest developments follow concerns raised publicly in July, when Crow and state and local health officials said GEO had not provided all the information needed to investigate the TB case.

At the time, an ICE spokesperson said the facility had no confirmed active tuberculosis cases as of July 15 and said ICE and GEO were complying with federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention guidelines as well as Colorado law and policies concerning communicable diseases. Colorado health officials also said then that GEO had told them there were no active cases but had not provided enough information to explain how it reached that conclusion.

The current dispute centers not on whether the facility has an active tuberculosis case but on whether GEO has provided the records and other information health officials say they need to complete their investigation as to who was exposed and where those people are now.

Weiser's office said GEO responded to the state order by directing state health officials to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The state said GEO did not claim it lacked the requested information or that a federal agency had barred the company from providing it.

This story was made available via the Colorado News Collaborative. Learn more at <https://colabnews.co>.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.

District Court, Arapahoe County Colorado
Court Address: 7325 S. Potomac St. #100, Centennial, CO

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Matter of the Estate of **Gwendolyn Kay Larson**, Deceased
Case Number: **2026PR030658**

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to

Arapahoe County District Court, Centennial, Colorado

on or before December 19, 2026, or the claims may be forever barred.

William Larson, 57172 East Colfax Ave., Strasburg, CO 80136

Attorney: Evans Legal Group P.C., John Evans
Address: 19641 E. Parker Square Drive, Suite J Parker, CO 80134 Telephone: (303) 840-2431
Email: Dianne@evanslegalgroup.com

#3216
Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesdays, Aug. 19 and 26, and Sept. 2, 2026.

TO ELECTORS OF THE BYERS PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
RE: RESOLUTION FOR INCREASING NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Directors of the Byers Park and Recreation District will conduct a public hearing during its regular meeting to be held Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at the District Office, located at: Quint Valley, 601 Highway 36 North, Byers, Colorado.

The purpose of the public hearing is:

1. To consider a Resolution increasing the number of Board members from five (5) members to seven (7) members to increase the number of Board member positions for the purpose of encouraging additional community direction and participation in District activities and programs.
2. The Resolution is set forth hereinbelow:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-
INCREASING NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS
BYERS PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Colorado Special District Act, codified at C.R.S. § 32-1-902.5, a special district has the authority to seek to increase the number of Board members from five (5) members to seven (7) members through adoption of a resolution, after public notice and hearing seeking input on such resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Byers Park and Recreation District (the "District") Board of Directors (the "Board") is considering increasing the number of Board member positions established by the District's approved Service Plan from five (5) Directors to seven (7) Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Board scheduled this Resolution increasing the number of Board members for Public Hearing on September 2, 2026 and published Notice of said Public Hearing in *The I-70 Scout* on August 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Board after review, input and discussion during the Public Hearing, has determined it is in the best interests of those served by the District and the community at large to increase the number of Board member positions for the purpose of encouraging additional community direction and participation in District activities and programs; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of such resolution, it shall be presented to the approving authority for the District in Arapahoe County and Adams County for consideration; Court approval and recordation, all in accordance with the provisions of said statute.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED: by the Board of Directors of the Byers Park and Recreation District:

1. The number of Board members of the Byers Park and Recreation District is hereby increased from the original Service Plan-established number of five (5) Board members to a new total of seven (7) Board members, each serving at large; for the express purpose of encouraging additional community direction and participation in District activities and programs.
2. The attorney for the District is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with Arapahoe County and Adams County, and if so allowed, file a copy of this Resolution with the District Court for an Order establishing the new number of Directors of the District at seven Directors, pursuant to the procedures established by C.R.S. § 32-1-902.5.
3. Following approval by the Counties, processing by the Court and recordation of a Court Order confirming the establishment of two new Director positions; the initial term of office for one position shall be for a period of two (2) years and a second position shall be for a period of four (4) years, each term to begin in accordance with the regular special district election schedule for 2027. After lapse of the initial two-year term of office, the new Director's position shall become a regular four-year term of office.
4. The provisions of this Resolution being necessary for the health, safety and welfare for the community and the citizens of the District shall be effective upon adoption hereof.

RESOLVED this _____ day of September, 2026.

BYERS PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT

By: /s/ JaLee Kitzman
President

This is one of several issues set forth on the Board's regular agenda for this meeting, which will also be posted at the District Office.

The meeting is open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

#3219
Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026.
(Replaces #3218 published in the Aug. 19, 2026, edition)



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Vehicles from the Colorado State Patrol, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, and area fire departments block the access road to Prosper Farms at the I-70 overpass near mile marker 294 for several hours following a semi crash through the guard rail and into the embankment below Aug. 17.

Driver alive after rig dives below bridge near Watkins

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

Last week saw an uptick in crash activity along I-70 east of the metro area, including a couple of miraculous outcomes when drivers escaped fatal injuries.

A little after 1 p.m. Aug. 17, state troopers, Arapahoe County Sheriff's deputies and first responders from the Bennett-Watkins and Sable Altura fire districts were dispatched to eastbound I-70 near mile marker 294 on reports of a semi crash.

Upon arrival, a severely damaged tractor cab was found smashed up against the embankment of the bridge over an access road crossing from Highway 36 to Prosper Farms on the south side of the roadway.

"The semi hit the guardrail and ran off the south side of I-70," a State Patrol accident report said. "The semi then rolled, coming to rest on its passenger side on the I-70 frontage road."

The 41-year-old male driver from Fort Morgan was transported to a Denver-area hospital with what were deemed "serious injuries." At press time the driver's condition had not been updated.

"Unbelievable what modern safety technology is and can do today," a responder on scene said. "Almost nothing from the cab left intact and the guy is still alive. Pretty remarkable."

The frontage road crossing was shut down several hours for the investigation and clean-up. Highway 36 was closed intermittently to accommodate emergency vehicles.

The roadway was reportedly reopened around 7 p.m.

SATURDAY NIGHT EXCITEMENT

A little before 9:30 p.m. Aug. 22, troopers and other neighboring first responders were dispatched to I-70 near Bennett on report of a semi rig on fire.

Upon arrival, the semi chassis was found detached from a trailer on fire. The trailer was loaded with hydrogen peroxide, leading to a hazmat response.

The amount of cargo and the amount spilled were unknown.

Both directions of the thoroughfare were closed down for about nine hours with re-routed traffic forced to take Highway 36 through Bennett. The Colorado State Patrol announced that the interstate was fully reopened around 8 a.m. Sunday.



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AdCo faces lawsuit over ban of in-person jail visitations

by Jillian Turanovic
Melinda Tasca
The Conversation

The Adams County Jail in Brighton does not allow in-person visits. Over the course of their incarceration, inmates will never share a visiting room with their families and children, or even sit across from them behind a plexiglass barrier.

As in nearly all county jails across Colorado's Front Range and a growing number of county jails across the United States, visits happen only over video — on a phone, tablet or computer — for a per-minute fee.

A group of families are now challenging the Adams County ban in court, arguing it violates their right to maintain family associations under the Colorado Constitution. The plaintiffs include children as young as 4 years old. Their lawsuit is part of a national effort targeting jails with similar policies.

Video visitation can be a lifeline for family members when distance, work schedules, or travel costs make in-person visits difficult. When video visitation is run well, visitors may appreciate avoiding security screenings, long waits, and the harsh correctional environment. But many still miss physical touch with their loved one.

Technological glitches, limited privacy and fees can also make video visitation less than ideal. For these reasons, best-practice guidance from criminal justice policy organizations recommends video as a supplement to in-person visitation, not a complete replacement.

As researchers who study visitation in correctional settings, our role is not to say how the courts should rule. But the Adams County case raises an important question we've spent much of our careers examining: What impacts do in-person visits have on incarcerated people and their families?

The answer is not as straightforward as it might seem. Many incarcerated people receive no visits at all. For those who do, visits can be enormously beneficial for them and their loved ones. But the benefits are not the same for everyone — they depend on the environments in which visits occur, the preexisting relationships between incarcerated people and their visitors, and what happens during the visits themselves.

TEMPORARY RELIEF FROM PAIN OF SEPARATION

For many incarcerated people, separation from family and friends is one of the most painful aspects of life behind bars. Visits can offer temporary relief from that separation and provide a unique chance for families to connect face-to-face.

For awhile, incarcerated people can get a break from their identity as a prisoner and act as a parent, son, daughter, partner, sibling or friend again. Visits also break up the monotony of confinement and give incarcerated people anticipate — so much so that correctional facilities commonly use visitation as an incentive for good behavior.

Support through visitation can help people cope better with incarceration. Inmates who are visited commit fewer serious rule violations and also report less psychological distress. Visitation is also associated with less re-offending after release, as the relationships people maintain during confinement are the ones they can rely on during reentry to help with housing, employment and good behavior.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY ROOMS RARE IN US JAILS

Correctional settings are not designed for comfort — they are designed for security. Razor wire, steel doors, surveillance cameras and uniformed officers typically surround daily life inside, and firm rules govern nearly all aspects of in-person visitation.

For visitors, it is not uncommon to pass through metal detectors, submit to intrusive physical searches, follow strict dress codes, and wait for hours within facilities. This process can be intimidat-



ing, and some visitors come away feeling disrespected or treated like prisoners themselves. These burdens can discourage families from returning and, in some cases, contribute to their decision not to visit at all.

What an in-person visit looks like varies widely from facility to facility. In some settings, families sit together in a room. In others, visits are "noncontact," meaning families are separated by a physical barrier and must communicate through a phone or speaker. Incarcerated people and their visitors have more positive experiences when they can sit side by side, embrace, and share food or games. They have more negative experiences when physical contact is not allowed.

Family-friendly visiting rooms — spaces with comfortable seating, toys or activities for children, and opportunities for families to interact more naturally — are rare in U.S. jails.

Unlike prisons, jails are designed for short-term detention rather than prolonged confinement. They mainly hold people who have not yet been convicted of a crime, such as those awaiting trial, along with those detained for low-level offenses or probation violations. Jail populations turn over rapidly as people are booked, released and transferred. Faced with this churn — as well as staffing, security and contraband-control concerns — many jails invest little in family visitation. When in-person visits are offered, they most commonly are non-contact, an arrangement that is easier for jails to manage.

Still, these conditions can take a toll on visitors. Partners may struggle to have meaningful conversations through glass. For children, restrictions on movement and touch can make visits difficult. Additionally, having little to keep them occupied can leave children restless and fussy.

VISITS CAN BRING RELIEF, PAIN

Visits are shaped by both the relationships families bring with them and what they do with their limited time together. In one of our studies, families described highs and lows with their loved ones long before incarceration. In another, visitors described relationships ranging from "close" and "loving" to "strained" and "terrible," with some carrying hurt, anger or mistrust into visits. Strong relationships may make it easier for visitors to offer reassurance, affection and practical support, whereas fraught relationships can make visits less comforting or reopen emotional wounds.

U.S. jails have become a front-line response for people with unmet mental health and substance-use needs. Such needs often weigh on family relationships and shape what happens during visits. Some visits consist mainly of "family time," catching up or sharing news, while others take on harder tasks. Families may voice long-held frustrations, challenge incarcerated people to "step up" to their responsibilities, talk about change, and set expectations for the future. These harder visits may be more likely to cause distress for all those involved, but they can also help families address unresolved issues.

In this way, visits can serve as a makeshift form of family therapy with families confronting problems of addiction, parenthood and mental health under conditions that are far from ideal. These conversations can be tense and emotional but, ultimately, they can help families repair bonds, settle the past, and prepare for a loved one's return.

This story was made available via the Colorado News Collaborative. Learn more at <https://colabnews.co>.



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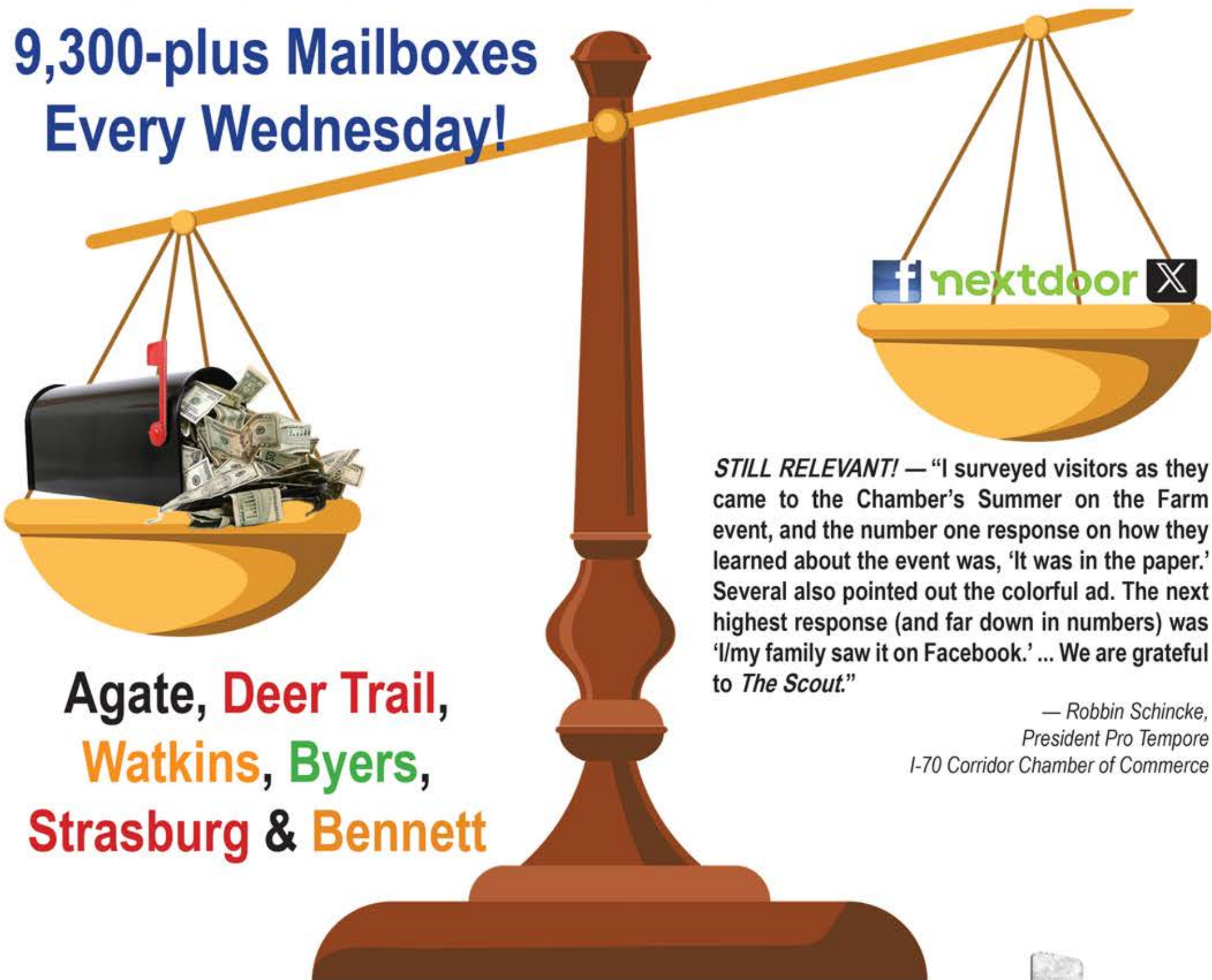
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SPORTS



Football
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PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

The I-70 Corridor football season kicked off at Deer Trail Aug. 22 but the homestanding Eagles fell 66-12 to visiting Bethune. The hosts trailed 8-6 after the first quarter but, by halftime, the deficit had ballooned to 52-12. Clockwise from top left, Eagle quarterback Chris Manriquez fires a second-quarter pass that is caught by Mike Tossou (3); running back Hunter Meredith is dragged down just before the goal line; Dmitri Gonzales, left, and Julian Recendez team up to tackle a Bobcat ball carrier; and this year's nine-girl cheerleading squad give fans something to cheer about at halftime. La Veta comes to Deer Trail for both volleyball and football on Thursday, Aug. 27. The Lady Eagles get started at 4 p.m. with a JV match and the varsity to follow. Football is scheduled to kick off at 7 p.m.



Inaugural Bulldog golfing squad improves each tournament

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

The youthful Byers boys golf team has been busy in the early season, playing three tournaments over a five-day stretch earlier this month. "It was a lot of golf over a short period of time, but I was really proud of how we competed and carried ourselves," said first-year head coach Nathan Phipps. "We had multiple guys shoot personal bests and put some great rounds together. These first few tournaments showed me that if we continue to improve, we'll have a chance to do something truly special this year."

@ STRATTON INVITATIONAL

The green-and-white finished 10th of 14 Eastern Colorado small schools with a three-man round of 293 (+83) at the Stratton Invitational Aug. 14. Sophomore Aden Davis finished 18th out of the 56-player field with a +21 round of 91, while freshman Liam Millican's +27 round of 97 put him 24th; senior Jon Brnak's round of 105 put him 40th and was the last qualifying score for the Bulldogs. Sophomore Peyton Riemenschneider and Junior Ayden Montes also played the Stratton Golf Course setup and shot rounds of 106 (41st) and 116 (50th), respectively.

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Wray 252 (+42)
2. Sedgwick County, Eads 263 (+53)
4. Stratton 268 (+58)
5. Fleming 272 (+62)
6. Liberty (Joel) 281 (+71)
7. Limon 284 (+74)
8. Flagler 287 (+77)
9. Burlington 292 (+82)
10. Byers 293 (+83)
11. Cheyenne Wells 299 (+89)
12. Akron 304 (+94)
13. Yuma 317 (+107)
14. Holyoke 356 (+146)

@ ELIZABETH INVITATIONAL

At the Elizabeth Cardinal Invitational at Murphy Creek in Aurora Aug. 17, the Bulldogs finished 13th of 14 qualified teams, but shot an improved three-man total of 285 (+69). Out of the 62-player field,

Millican had the top Bulldog round, placing 33rd with a +16 (88). Davis' round of +23 (96) put him 46th, while Brnak shot a +30 (102) and for 53rd, one stroke and one place better than Riemenschneider. Montes shot a +36 (108) for 57th.

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Rock Canyon 231 (+15)
2. The Classical Academy, Mountain Vista 236 (+20)
4. Sterling 243 (+27)
5. Evergreen 244 (+28)
6. Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado Academy 251 (+35)
8. Vanguard 252 (+36)
9. Liberty 261 (+45)
10. Palmer Ridge 262 (+46)
11. Air Academy 265 (+49)
12. Cheyenne Mountain #2 275 (+59)
13. Byers 285 (+69)
14. Colorado Academy #2 293 (+77)

@ HORIZON INVITATIONAL

On Aug. 19, Byers finished 17th of 21 teams in the Horizon Scramble Invitational. In the four-person, best-ball format, Davis, Brnak, Millican and Riemenschneider combined efforts to shoot 2-over round of 72 at the Riverdale Golf Course in Brighton. The green-and-white's 18 holes included a two-shot eagle on the par-4 14th, three birdies, and nine pars. The predominantly 4A/5A meet saw 15 of the teams involved go under par for the day, including two teams from Monarch, who placed first and second with combined
SEE G BYERS
PAGE 8

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1A Football Previews



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Byers Bulldogs

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

BYERS — The Byers Bulldogs will return to the ranks of 11-man football after playing at the 8-man level for the past eight seasons.

“It will be very interesting to see how we adjust to 11-man football,” said Byers head coach Casey Pelton. “We have a talented senior class, but we have some kids who have had some old injuries that needed to be tended to during the off-season. When, and how effective they are when we get them back, will determine a lot. We will need to stay healthy and have some young kids step up for us to make a run at the league title.”

Despite the major change, the Bulldogs, who finished 7-3 a year ago, are also striving to advance in the 1A playoffs and win a state championship.

Leadership shouldn't be an issue. The team has nine seniors and letter-winners 14 on the roster. Senior lettermen are James Maes (quarterback, defensive back); Gabe Price and Caleb Eastwood (both running back, linebacker); Ben McPherson (wide receiver, defensive back); and two-way linemen Bryce Brewer, Liam Hilbert, Beau Suppes, and Devin Mohatt. David Flores (kicker, wide receiver) rounds out the Class of 2027.

Additional returning lettermen on the 31-man roster are juniors Eli Cary, Keaton Hamacher and Nick Papaianopol and sophomores Millio Gurue, Jack Long and Ethan Temple.

“As far as strengths, we have a senior class who have been big contributors the last couple years. We are experienced, despite losing a great senior class last

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PAGE 10



ALYSSA STEM/For The Scout

Bennett Tigers

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BENNETT — A new head coach, a shift to a new division, and the influx of a large group of first- and second-year players look to give the Bennett Tigers a new lease on life on the gridiron this fall.

After a rough past three years that saw the orange-and-black go 2-25 overall, including a winless campaign last season, first-year head coach Eli Moody looks for a much better outcome in 2026. Moody, who was an assistant at Bennett last year, is a Wyoming native, including a college playing career on the offensive line at the University of Wyoming and numerous seasons coaching high school in the Cowboy State.

Competition is expected to be strong for both starting spots and depth at all positions as the Tigers, who lost dou-

ble-digit seniors from last year, still start this season with almost 50 on the roster. In addition to 14 freshmen and 15 sophomores, a handful of juniors and seniors are joining the team for the first time or returning after a year or two away from the sport. Three years ago, the roster totaled 25, so the level of participation is trending upward.

While the orange-and-black struggled on both sides of the ball in 2025, the offense was severely anemic, recording just over 800 yards in total offense over nine games and scoring only 28 points for the season; the Tigers were shut out in six contests last season.

Top offensive returnees from last year include seniors Kenneth Jordan, Inri Plata and Xander Driggs; junior Cainen Hall; and sophomore Gabe Nguyen.

SEE FB BENNETT
PAGE 10

2A Football Preview



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg Indians

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — The Strasburg Indians haven't missed the postseason in over a decade-and-a-half and a new head coach expects the program's excellence to continue this fall.

While entering his first year with the red-and-black, Zeric “Coach Z” Martinez is no stranger to Colorado High School football. The 28-year coaching veteran, who played on the gridiron at Ottawa University in Kansas, most recently served as an assistant coach at 5A Valor Christian. Martinez replaces Brian Brown, who had a 65-14 record and reached the playoffs in all seven seasons.

Last year, Strasburg went 10-1 and lost in the 2A quarterfinals. The Indians lost double-digit seniors from that squad.

“I'm new to the program but I know we

have great senior leadership, and that the boys have taken to the new way of doing everything really well,” Martinez said.

Helping with the transition to a new coach and his version of a run-pass-option (RPO) offensive system is a handful-plus of experienced seniors with at least a couple years of starting under their belts, led by quarterback Brody Hopwood (62% completion rate, 2,372 passing yards and 23 touchdowns in 2025) and wide receivers Jayden Miller (742 yards, nine TDs) and Ayden Dodge (704 yards, five touchdowns).

“Hopwood was one of the top QBs statistically in the state last year,” Martinez said. “Miller is one of the top wide receivers in the state and, as a sophomore, Dodge was an all-state running back and [last season] developed into a wide re-

SEE FB STRASBURG
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3A Softball Preview



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Strasburg Lady Indians

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

STRASBURG — Numbers are down but hopes are up for the 2026 edition of the Strasburg Lady Indians softball team, which reached the state tournament a year ago.

Head coach Wes Madrill believes that this year's team has the talent to win the Class 3A state crown.

“Do I think we got an opportunity, we got a chance?” Madrill asked. “Yeah, I do. I think we got a chance to win a state championship. We got as good a chance of winning the state as anybody.”

Not only do the Indians return seven starters and five seniors from last year's 17-9 unit, but defending state champion University lost several players, including all three pitchers, and perennial powerhouse Eaton, the 3A runner-up at state

last season, has moved to Class 4A.

“I think we're stronger this year than we were last year,” Madrill said. “I think we've got a lot better attitude. This crew, they're a different breed.”

Madrill believes his team has few weaknesses. The skill starts with his stellar senior infield consisting of Payton Weaver, first base; Addi Kent, second; Wynne Winter, third; and Madi Kent, shortstop. In the outfield, juniors Paisley Selle and Alexis Thurman will start in center and right fields, respectively, and junior Calley Hougland and freshman Taylor Bequette will platoon in left field.

“We have, I think, one of the top defenses in 3A,” Madrill said.

Hitting is also a strength. Kent, Olsen, Johnson, Weaver and Winter were at or near the top of all major batting statistics

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PAGE 26

Bennett Booster Club plans football tailgate party

BENNETT — The Bennett School Booster Club will host a tailgate party fundraiser before kickoff of the Tigers' season-opening football game against Aug. 28.

Festivities will start at 4:30 p.m. in the parking lot of Paul Read Field and will go up to kickoff at 7 p.m. when the orange-and-black will face Mitchell.

In addition to fans bringing their own

grills and grub, food trucks will also be on site. Tailgate spots can be purchased for \$20 apiece or two for \$30. All Bennett School District students and their families are invited.

All proceeds go towards the purchase of medical kits for middle school and high school teams.

To reserve a spot or for more information, e-mail bennettbooster@gmail.com

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— Douglas Claussen,
Publisher & Editor

FB BENNETT

FROM PAGE 9

Up front, the Tigers look to be stronger with about two handfuls of linemen 180 pounds or more.

Defensively, Moody hopes for improvement from last season when the Tigers allowed 40 points in eight of their nine games. The Jordan linebacker duo of Kenneth (30 tackles, 28 solos last season) and junior Mormon (29 tackles, 28 solo stops) is expected to lead the defense early on with assistance coming from Driggs, Plata, senior Mac Froman, junior Liam Sanchez, sophomore Victor Herrera, and a number of first-year players.

The Tigers hope to reap the benefits of playing down a classification but that is not a guarantee for a better future.

After Bennett played the past four seasons in 2A, the Colorado High School Activities Association decided to drop the Tigers down to 1A after their poor performance over the previous few years.

As a result, the Tigers will play in the South Central League with Byers, Burlington, Limon, Colorado Springs Christian, Ellicott, and 2A Salida. Limon, with

23 state titles total, is the defending 1A state champion and has won six gold balls since 2018. In multiple preseason polls, Limon remains the odds-on favorite in 1A but Burlington and Colorado Springs School have been touted as top-five and top-seven teams, respectively; in a couple of instances, Byers, in its first year 1A 11-man after playing 8-man since the 2018 season, has received votes and is as high as 10th in at least one set of rankings.

The assistant coaching staff for Moody consists of Thomas Casper, Dillon Copeland, Josh Loya, Landyn Stevens and Kyle Windover.

BENNETT SCHEDULE
Aug. 28: Mitchell
Sept. 4: Highland
Sept. 11: @ Evergreen
Sept. 18: @ Salida
Sept. 25: Limon
Oct. 2: Colorado Springs Christian
Oct. 9: Bye
Oct. 16: Burlington
Oct. 23: @ Ellicott
Oct. 30: @ Byers

FB BYERS

FROM PAGE 9

year," Pelton said. "As far as weaknesses, we need to continue to grow and develop mental toughness. We will also have a lot of learning to do to adjust from the 8-man game to the 11-man game.

Returning statistical leaders are Maes (99-of-156 passing for 1,444 yards, 25 touchdowns); Price (143 carries, 945 yards, 10 TDs, 44 tackles); Eastwood (28 carries for 255 yards, 49 receptions for 550 yards, nine TDs, 102 total tackles, three touchdowns on returns); McPherson (15 carries for 201 yards, 29 receptions for 554 yards, 14 TDs 52 total tackles, (18 returns for 436 yards, one TD kick return); and Mohatt (39 tackles, one sack).

"We have been really excited with the growth that our juniors and seniors have made from last year. They have made great strides physically and mentally."

The Bulldogs will rotate between 11-personnel (1 running back, one tight end) and 22-personnel (two running backs, two tight ends) on offense as they strive to move the chains, run the ball, and convert 60% of their third-down conversion while committing no turnovers.

The team will utilize physical 3-4 and 4-2-5 hybrid defenses with 11 bodies getting to the football on every play. Byers wants to stop the run, average three takeaways a game; and limit plays of 25 yards or more to three for opposing offensives.

"By midseason, I would like to see some of our younger players fully step in and replace some of the great seniors we lost last year," Pelton said. "We also have a lot of incoming freshmen. Would love to see them competing for playing time."

With the move to 1A 11-man comes a new league. Byers will play in the South Central Conference with Bennett, Burlington, Byers, Colorado Springs Christian, Ellicott, Limon and Salida (2A).

"There are a lot of unknowns as we move to a new classification and league. Traditionally, Limon would be the favorite followed by a really good Burlington team," Pelton said. "There are a lot of new coaches within the league as well, so someone else could get some momentum and make a play for the league title."

Pelton, who teachers elementary physical education at the school, has a bachelor's degree in Health/Physical Education from Bethany College in Kansas and a master's in Educational Leadership from the University of Northern Colorado. He is in his eighth year as head coach at Byers and 24th overall. He previously coached for Bethany College and high schools at Garden City (Kan.) and Brighton.

Assistant coaches are Kasey Ebert, Thomas Byrns, Ryan Long, Drew Mohatt, and Dave Byrns.

"A lot of "new" this year," Pelton concluded. "A lot of adjustments will need to be made. I am excited to see how we meet the challenge."

BYERS SCHEDULE
Aug. 28: @ Highland, Ault.
Sept. 4: @ Flatirons Academy.
Sept. 11: Holyoke.
Sept. 18: Limon.
Sept. 25: @ Colorado Springs Christian.
Oct. 3: bye.
Oct. 10: @ Burlington.
Oct. 16: Ellicott. (Homecoming)
Oct. 23: @ Salida.
Oct. 30: Bennett. (Parent/Senior Night)

East 64th Avenue Right-of-Way Vacation
Case Number: VAC2026-00001

Planning Commission Hearing Date: Sept. 10, 2026 at 6 p.m.
Board of County Commissioners Hearing Date: Sept. 29, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

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

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Parcel Number: 0181500000443

Case Manager: Connor Cottrell
Applicant: Douglas Erdahl, 44400 E 64th Ave
Property Owner: Douglas Erdahl

Published in *The I-70 Scout* on Wednesday, August 26, 2026.



3A Cross Country Previews



ALYSSA STEM/For The Scout

Strasburg Indians

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

STRASBURG — The cross country team at Strasburg faces a rebuilding year after losing eight athletes from last year’s teams. Most notably, the Indians lost four of their top five boys after last year’s state-qualifying unit, which placed first in the Patriot League; third in the 3A Region 5 meet; and 10th at the state championships; . On the bright side, the boys return one member of that 10th-place team, senior Noah Dobransky, who has been to the state championships the past three years and stands at No. 2 on the Strasburg all-time list with a personal record of 16:49. No Lady Indians made state in 2025, but one returning athlete, senior Maura Kramer, placed 18th at the regional meet,

just two spots out of qualification. Head coach Mike James said both Dobransky and Kramer are striving to reach the state championships with top-15 finishes at regionals. “Noah has accomplished this the past two seasons and looks solid as the season opens,” said Strasburg head coach Mike James. “Maura just missed it last year.” Kramer is sixth in the Strasburg all-time record book with a personal-best 21:08. In addition to Dobransky and Kramer, returning letter-winners include junior Sarah Larsen (personal best 25:23) and sophomores Lacey Dittenhauser (26:41) and Jacob Breiding (18:55). Breiding was also part of last year’s state team. Another key participant has been sophomore Nick Jimenez, who “has been our

SEE XC STRASBURG
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Bennett Tigers

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Bennett’s longtime running coach is hopeful for the high school’s strongest cross country season in recent memory, including high team placings on the boys side. “We are lucky to field a full boys team this year. Potentially have five boys that show promise of running in the fairly low 22 (minutes) and down to 20 minutes in 5Ks later in the season,” said veteran cross country and track coach Lance Mangham of his roster of six boys. “They potentially could place rather high as a team, but we’ll take one week at a time, assess and evaluate where we are, and soldier on.” The boys squad — seniors Connor Ralls and Larry Marr, junior Travis Spence, sophomores Benjamin Boice and Joseph

Harris, and freshman Jonah Wickline — start the season with more than the mandatory five runners to qualify a team. “A lot of really good interest and efforts coming out of the kids,” Mangham said. “Spence, our miler from track, and Randalls, our hurdler, are both playing football but expressed solid interest in running cross country. Football games are Fridays and cross country meets are typically Saturdays, so it’s going to be tough, but they are outstanding athletes and they’re young. I have no concerns they’ll pull it off and I’m extremely grateful to them.” On the girls side, only two runners are out — juniors Ashley Roman Silva and Clarisse Davis — but Mangham is optimistic to reach individual goals as the fall progresses.

SEE XC BENNETT
PAGE 12

2A Cross Country Preview



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Byers Bulldogs

by Steven Vetter
Managing Editor

BYERS — In a case of both programs having low numbers, Limon athletes are traveling to Byers to compete in cross country under the Bulldogs banner this fall. On the girls side, it’s a case of quality over quantity as Byers senior Reese West and junior Caroline Casey return from last year’s ninth-place team at the 2A state meet and will try their hand at improving their individual finishes. West was 14th at last year’s state competition at Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs, while Casey placed 83rd in the field of 132 2A runners. Both girls were also part of the 10th-place team from the 2024 state championships as well — West finishing 18th as a sophomore and Casey 59th in her rookie campaign.

While the Lady Bulldogs won’t be in contention for team accolades this season, head coach Kelci Crispe indicated both girls have their own individual goals, including a top 10 medal at state. “Both girls are driven to run their best,” Crispe said. On the boys side, Byers junior Matthew Wardall will be joined by a trio of Badgers — senior Skyler Walter and juniors Austin Thompson and Zach Harreld. None of the quartet have qualified for the state meet previously. But, unlike the girls, the boys squad can compete in the team standings throughout the season as 2A scores each school’s top four runners. “It’s a small group this year but one where we’ll push each other and

SEE XC BYERS
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3A Boys Soccer Preview



ALYSSA STEM/For The Scout

Bennett Tigers

by Douglas Claussen
Publisher & Editor

BENNETT — Success breeds success if you look at the 2026 version of the Bennett boys soccer team. Entering his second season at the helm, head coach Ashley Torgerson believes the Tigers can win the Pioneer League and build on last year’s appearance into the second round of the 2A state playoffs. Their 3-2 overtime win against Fountain Valley was the first playoff win in the program’s history. “We want to be a possession team and control the pace and tempo of the game,” Torgerson said. “I want relentless pursuit to the ball, quality shots, smart passing, but, most of all, I want us to compete to the best of our abilities every practice and game.” Although Bennett lost six seniors from

last year’s 10-5-2 team, most starters and six seniors are among this year’s 40-45 players. “We have a good mix of younger and experienced players,” Torgerson continued. “We still need to work on our technical skill, shooting, and movement on the field. We are already seeing a strong team bond and willingness to do what it takes to compete.” Team captains are seniors and all-conference honorees Hayden Kirby, center attacking midfielder, and Nathan Ramirez, center defensive midfielder. Senior outside midfielder Houston Broskie also received all-conference recognition, and classmates Izaac Hernandez (goalie); Eric Gomez (forward); Oscar Delin (forward and midfielder); and Ivan Herrera (defensive utility player)

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XC BENNETT

FROM PAGE 11

“Ashley is coming back from an injury she sustained this summer, but already she’s roaring back strong,” Mangham said. “Look out for her, she’s chasing the school’s 5K record.”

As is the case with most Bennett sports this upcoming two-year Colorado High School Activities Association cycle, the Tigers have been placed in the new Pioneer League, which includes most of the metro schools from the now-defunct Frontier Conference and additions of a couple of new start-up programs; however, for state qualification purposes, Bennett is part of 3A Region 5.

The Region 5 state qualifying meet is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 23, at Denver City Park, 2001 Colorado Blvd. Also vying for berths at this year’s state championships to be held the final day of October at Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs will be runners from Aurora Science & Technology, Banning Lewis Academy, Colorado Springs Christian, DSST: Cedar, Elizabeth, Englewood, Jefferson, KIPP Denver Collegiate, Manitou Springs, Manual, Mitchell, STEM School Highlands Ranch, and Strasburg.

Both the Bennett boys and girls will have a tough field to compete against when it comes to the regional meet.

On the boys side, Manitou returns a handful from last year’s third-place team, while more than half of Banning Lewis’ eighth-place squad is back. Strasburg,

DSST: Cedar and Englewood also qualified boys teams for state in 2025.

On the girls side, last year’s runner-up at state, Manitou Springs, returns five this season. Banning Laws was 10th on the girls side at state last year.

“Going to be tough competition, but the kids are working hard and we’ll see where we stand come the end of the season,” Mangham said.

SEASON OPENS

The orange-and-black got out of the blocks this fall at the University 2-Mile Break Your Pace Race in Greeley Aug. 22.

A quartet of Tigers ran the boys race. Spence led the orange-and-black, placing 34th out of 60 runners with a time of 14:38.66. Harris (15:35.30) and Ranalls (15:37.58) finished back-to-back in 46th and 47th, while Boice was 59th, running the high school route in 19:21.86. Northridge’s Levi Aldridge won the boys race in 10:57.32.

Roman Silva was the lone lady Tiger, finishing 35th with a time of 18:48.89. The winning time from Mountain View’s Olivia Gurrini was 12:08.38.

BENNETT 2026 SCHEDULE
Aug. 22: @ University 2 Mile “Break Your Pace,” Greeley
Aug. 29: @ Steve Lohman Invite, Cherry Creek HS
Sept. 5: @ Liberty Bell Invitational, Heritage HS
Sept. 11: @ Arapahoe Warrior Invitational, DeKoven Park, Centennial
Sept. 18: @ Windsor Wizard Invite, Boardwalk Community Park
Sept. 25: @ Longs Peak Invitational, Estes Park
Oct. 3: @ Pioneer League Meet, TBD

S BENNETT

FROM PAGE 11

round out the team’s 2027 graduating class.

Torgerson said freshman forward Eric Machado will be one player to watch.

“We have a lot of good incoming freshman that have some very good skills and will have an impact on the team,” he added. “There are also some sophomores that have really worked to improve in the off-season.”

In addition to Kirby, Nathan Ramirez, Hernandez, Broskie and Machado, the anticipated Tiger starting line-up also includes five sophomores — Max Maciel (forward); Mario Alonso Gutierrez (left back); Uvaldo Lopez and Ulises Ramirez (both center backs); and Brandon Torres (right back). Junior Ricardo Fierro (right midfielder) rounds out the starting 11.

Torgerson expects Pinnacle and Arrupe to provide the strongest competition in the Pioneer League.

“While I cannot guarantee wins or losses, I can commit that we will be competi-

tive, sportsmanlike, and will put our best effort on the field everyday,” he concluded.

This season is Torgerson’s third with the Bennett program and he has coached for 10 years overall. His assistant coaches are James Lind and Sean Kirby.

The Tigers kicked off the season Tuesday at Ellicott. Results were not available at press time.

BENNETT SCHEDULE
Aug. 25: @ Ellicott
Aug. 27: @ Frontier Academy
Sept. 2: Arrupe Jesuit
Sept. 8: @ Weld Central
Sept. 11: DSST: Elevate
Sept. 14: Sterling
Sept. 16: @ Arvada
Sept. 22: @ Jefferson
Sept. 24: Saint John Paul the Great
Sept. 29: @ Fort Lupton
Oct. 7: Englewood
Oct. 12: @ Pinnacle
Oct. 14: Alameda
Oct. 17: Lamar
Oct. 22: Elizabeth

XC STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 11

best recruiter and worked out consistently at our biweekly summer practices,” James said. “He has already beat his [personal record] from last year with some of our trial 5Ks.”

Numbers are down for the Indians with just six boys and four girls on the roster after a combined 19 in 2025.

“We had many seniors graduate and multiple athletes that moved out of state,” James added. “Unless we have some incredible surprises, we likely will not be in the top four teams at regionals and will not likely move as a team to state.”

“By mid-season I would like to see returning runners close to their personal bests from last season. We do track workouts that train at their goal paces. By mid-season, they should be successfully running 8x400s in practice at race pace.”

The Indians remain in the Patriot League and 3A Region 5 for 2026 but, “while a few tough teams were shifted from the region this year, we gained equally tough teams,” James said, citing Manitou Springs as an example.

“Our goal as a team is for everyone to set [personal bests] twice during the season,” James concluded. “We are returning to several known courses and have added in a few new ones that should be courses with fast times.”

James started coaching cross country in 2004 and has been with Strasburg since 2022, becoming head coach since 2023. His assistant coach for the fourth season is Marissa Hauser.

James has a bachelor’s degree in engineering from Harvey Mudd College and a master’s degree in global leadership from Fuller Seminary, both in the Los Angeles area. At Harvey Mudd, he competed in the 400 and 800 meter runs as well as the 400-meter hurdles.

@ WASHINGTON PARK INVITATIONAL

DENVER — The Indians opened the season Aug. 22 at the Washington Park Invitational hosted by Denver South High School.

The Strasburg boys placed sixth with 176 team points while the girls had too few participants to qualify for the team standings.

Top individual place-winners winners were Kramer, who took ninth with a time of 21:41.73 and Dobransky, 19th at 19:03.36.

Other competitors for the boys were Breiding (28th, 20:01.67); junior Ammon Cannaday (29th, 20:04.25); Jimenez (55th, 22:42.47); and freshman Joey Taparo (63rd, 23:28.26).

Additional Lady Indians in attendance were Dittenhauser (44th, 27:26.52) and Larsen (50th, 28:37.97).

Strasburg travels to the Ponderosa Mustang Stampede in Parker Saturday, Aug. 29.

TEAM SCORES
1. Denver South 35
2. Columbine 64
3. Thomas Jefferson 103
4. St. John Paul the Great 143
5. George Washington 144
6. Strasburg 176
7. Kent Denver 177
8. Denver North 194
9. Yuma 236
10. Swallows Charter 243
11. Denver Academy 287
12. Manual 288
13. Aurora Science & Tech 334

STRASBURG SCHEDULE
Aug. 22: @ Denver South Washington Park Invitational
Aug. 29: @ Ponderosa Mustang Stampede
Sept. 5: @ Fort Morgan Mustang Invitational
Sept. 11: @ Sun Runner Invitational, Kent Denver
Sept. 19: @ St. Vrain Invitational, Lyons
Sept. 25: @ Long’s Peak Invitational, Estes Park
Oct. 2: @ Denver East Angle Invitational, Denver City Park
Oct. 9: @ Patriot League Championships, Platte Valley (Kersey)

XC BYERS

FROM PAGE 11

continue to improve throughout the season,” Crispe said.

Both the green-and-white girls and boys will compete in 2A Region 2 for state qualifying but, this year, that meet will take a place closer to home on Thursday, Oct. 22, at Aurora Sports Park, 19300 E. Colfax Ave. Previously, Byers has run at Lyons or in Colorado Springs for the right to qualify for the state championships.

Among the other 14 programs to compete at Region 2 are Addenbrooke Classical Academy, Arma Dei Academy, Ascent Classical Academy, Burlington, Chester-ton Academy of Our Lady of Victory, Denver Academy, Denver Academy of Torah, Denver Jewish Day, Denver Waldorf, Lotus School for Excellence, Peyton, Sky-view Academy, St. John Paul the Great, and Stratton.

Crispe is assisted by Carly Bowling.

On the girls side, West finished 18th of 177 runners in the small school varsity race, running a 21:58.0 about 2½ minutes behind Heritage Christian senior Kate Lukens, who won the event. Casey ran a 28:41.0 and finished 112th.

The small school varsity boys race saw 264 racers from 37 schools, including 28 that qualified for the team standings. Byers placed 25th, led by Thompson, who finished 168th with a time of 23:43.2. The other three in the green-and-white were closely grouped — Wardall, 24:26.7, 185th; Harreld, 24:27.1, 186th; and Walters, 24:38.1, 188th. The winning time of 16:32.6 was shared by Springfield senior Parker Arbuthnot and SkyView Academy senior Rylan Griffith.

The boys team title was won by Manitou Springs.

OPENING MEET

The green-and-white started its season at the Cheyenne Mountain Stampede Aug. 21 and got an early season look at what could be faced come the state meet at the Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs.

BYERS 2026 SCHEDULE
Aug. 21: @ Cheyenne Mountain Stampede, Colorado Springs
Aug. 28: @ Rocky Ford Invitational
Sept. 4: @ Fort Morgan Invitational
Sept. 11: @ Lamar Invitational
Sept. 14: @ Gold Digger Dash, Evergreen
Sept. 18: @ Arvada West Invitational, Stenger Soccer Complex
Sept. 22: @ Runners Roost Invitational, Adams County Fairgrounds
Sept. 26: @ Fusion Invitational, Parkfield Lake Park, Denver
Oct. 10: @ Wiggins Invitational

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RENEWAL BY ANDERSEN

Strasburg celebrates Hometown Days Aug. 6-9



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout
From left photo, Hometown Days activities get started Thursday night with the annual history lesson from Comanche Crossing Museum curator Cliff Smith, and the annual Saturday morning parade is paced by Grand Marshals Maurice and Millie Mertens in a vintage convertible.



ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout



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Religious
Journey Church



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Adam's County Sheriff Department



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Community
Byers Fire Protection District



Young Adult 15-20
Strasburg high school girls volleyball



From left photo, Smokeshow Meats owner Matt Summers participates on the cooking crew for Saturday's midday hamburger fry at the outdoor commons area of Strasburg High School. Approximately 1,500 patties were served to the hungry throng; Indian football player Ayden Dodge serves up burgers and baked beans during Saturday's lunch hour; while the annual Saturday afternoon watermelon feed moved from the high school to Community Park East this year, former Western Hardware owner and community volunteer Al Holcomb still slices up the tasty treat; and members of the Golden Eagle Concert Band entertain onlookers during Saturday's noon festivities.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

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COFFEETREE: Kentucky, 6-8' x 1" #5 cont.	COTTONWOOD: Lanceleaf, 8-10x 1" #7 cont.
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CRAB: Royal Raindrops, 6-8' #5 cont.	CRAB: Spring Snow, 6-8' #5 cont.
HONEYLOCUST: Imperial, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.	HONEYLOCUST: Skyline, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.
HONEYLOCUST: Sunburst, 8-10x 1" #5 cont.	LINDEN: Sentry, 6-8' x 1" #5 cont.
LINDEN: Greenspire, 8' x 1" #5 cont.	LOCUST: Purple Robe, 6' x 1" #5 cont.
MAPLE: Armstrong, 8' x 1" #5 cont.	MOUNTAIN ASH: European, 7-8' #5 cont.
OAK: Bur, 6-8' #5 cont.	OAK: White, 6-10' x 1" #5 cont.
REDWOOD: Eastern, 6' Tree #5 cont.	SUMAC: Striped, 7-8' x 1" #10 cont.
YELLOWWOOD TREE: American, #5 cont.	

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Spring Snow Fruitless Crabapple	Royal Raindrops	PrairieFire Crabapple	European Mountain Ash	Chanticleer Flowering Pear
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8-10' Tall x 1 1/2" #10 cont.
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sku# JUN-TAY5C
Reg. \$169.50

Now 2 For \$170
Height: 15-20 ft. Spread: 3-4 ft. (15 years)

Dwarf Globe Blue Spruce

5 Year Old Trees
5-6 ft. Tall #10 cont.
sku# SPR-GLOB5CMN
Reg. \$339.50

Now 2 For \$240
Height: 4-5 ft. Spread: 4-6 ft. (20 years)

Fall Fiesta Sugar Maple

4 Year Old Trees
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Reg. \$499.50

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Height: 30-40 ft. Spread: 25-30 ft. (30 years)

Spring Snow Fruitless Flowering Crabapple

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Austrian Pine

4 Year Old Trees
5-6 ft. Tall #10 cont.
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BRCH: Rocky Mountain, #5 cont. single stem	PLUM: Colera, 3' shrub #7 cont.
SPRUCE: Black Hills, #5 cont.	SUMAC: Smooth, 3-4' #7 cont.

1st Tree \$159.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$160

BUCKEYE: Ohio, 4-5' #5 cont.	JUNIPER: Squaron, #5 cont. 30-36"
DAK: Gambel, #5 cont.	PINE: Austrian, 3-4' #5 cont.
WILLOW: Globe Noddy, 6-8' #5 cont.	

1st Tree \$169.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$170

ADREN: Quaking, 5' clump #5 cont.	CHERRY: Canada Red Clump, 3-4' clump #5 cont.
COTTONWOOD: Plains Straggles, #5 cont.	JUNIPER: Blue Arrow, 3-1/2' #5 cont.
JUNIPER: Colorado Green, 30" #5 cont.	JUNIPER: Skyrocket, #5 cont. 3-4'
JUNIPER: Swanton, #5 cont. 42"	JUNIPER: Taylor, 4-5' #5 cont.
JUNIPER: Wichita Blue, #5 cont. 36-42"	PINE: Austrian, 30-36" #5 cont.
PLUM: Colera, 3-4' shrub #10 cont.	SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 3-4' Clump #5 cont.

1st Tree \$199.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$200

COFFEETREE: Kentucky, 6-8' x 1" #5 cont.	COTTONWOOD: Lanceleaf, 8-10x 1" #7 cont.
CRAB: Dolgo, 6-8' #5 cont.	CRAB: PrairieRed, 6-8' #5 cont.
CRAB: Royal Raindrops, 6-8' #5 cont.	CRAB: Spring Snow, 6-8' #5 cont.
HONEYLOCUST: Imperial, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.	HONEYLOCUST: Skyline, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.
HONEYLOCUST: Sunburst, 8-10x 1" #5 cont.	LINDEN: Sentry, 6-8' x 1" #5 cont.
LINDEN: Greenspire, 8' x 1" #5 cont.	LOCUST: Purple Robe, 6' x 1" #5 cont.
MAPLE: Armstrong, 8' x 1" #5 cont.	MOUNTAIN ASH: European, 7-8' x 1" #5 cont.
OAK: Bur, 6-8' #5 cont.	OAK: White, 6-10' x 1" #5 cont.
REDWOOD: Eastern, 6' Tree #5 cont.	SUMAC: Striped, 7-8' x 1" #10 cont.
YELLOWWOOD TREE: American, #5 cont.	

1st Tree \$249.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$250

COTTONWOOD: Narrowleaf, 8-10' x 1" #10 cont.	MAPLE: Sugar Fall Fester, 6-8' #5 cont.
MAPLE: Sugar Flasher, 6-8' #5 cont.	OAK: Red, 8-10' #7 cont.
SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' #5 cont. Tree	

1st Tree \$299.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$300

CRAB: Corsbark, 6-8' x 1" #7 cont.	HONEYLOCUST: Skyline, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.
HONEYLOCUST: Sunburst, 8-10' x 1" #5 cont.	LOCUST: Purple Robe, 6' x 1" #5 cont.
MAPLE: Armstrong, 8' x 1" #5 cont.	MAPLE: Crimson Sunset, 6-8' #7 cont.
OAK: Gambel, 4-5' #7 cont.	PINE: Ponderosa, 4' #7 cont.
REDWOOD: Eastern, 6' Tree #5 cont.	SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' clump #10 cont.
SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' clump #10 cont.	SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' clump #10 cont.
SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' clump #10 cont.	YEW: Hicks, 3-4' 10 gal. GrowBag

1st Tree \$349.50 2nd Tree 50¢ Both for \$350

ADREN: Quaking, 5' clump #5 cont.	CHERRY: Canada Red Clump, 3-4' clump #5 cont.
COTTONWOOD: Plains Straggles, #5 cont.	JUNIPER: Blue Arrow, 3-1/2' #5 cont.
JUNIPER: Colorado Green, 30" #5 cont.	JUNIPER: Skyrocket, #5 cont. 3-4'
JUNIPER: Swanton, #5 cont. 42"	JUNIPER: Taylor, 4-5' #5 cont.
JUNIPER: Wichita Blue, #5 cont. 36-42"	PINE: Austrian, 30-36" #5 cont.
PLUM: Colera, 3-4' shrub #10 cont.	SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 3-4' Clump #5 cont.

2 for \$350 Continued

DAK: Gambel, 4-5' #7 cont.	DAK: Heiliger, 4-5' #7 cont.
DAK: Scarlet Letter, 8-10' x 1 1/4" #7 cont.	PINE: Austrian, 4-5' 10 gal. grow bag
PINE: Pinon, 4-5' 7 Gal. Grow Bag	SERVICEBERRY: Autumn Brilliance, 6-8' 12" #10 cont.

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PHOTOS BY SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

Above photos, Sunday's activities concluded with the annual Big D's Warriors baseball game for developmentally and physically disabled youth. Amongst the guests at the softball field next to the Strasburg Rec Building was Colorado Rockies mascot Dinger. Below, Comanche Crossing Museum helpers serve up root beer floats Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Among the connoisseurs of the old-fashioned tasty treats is 10-month-old Mila Downey, right photo.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout

From left, Zach Marrero takes his shot at corn hole during Friday night Hometown Days activities at the original Community Park, and Strasburg-based cover band Halfway to Headlight provides entertainment from the new Community Park East outdoor amphitheater later in the evening. Below, Sunday's activities included the annual breakfast fundraiser for the Strasburg High School chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) in the Hemphill Middle School cafeteria. Hungry residents were treated to pancakes or biscuits and gravy along with sausage and a good ol' cup of coffee or orange juice.



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout



ISAAC MANAUGH/The I-70 Scout



SCOTT GERRARD/For The Scout

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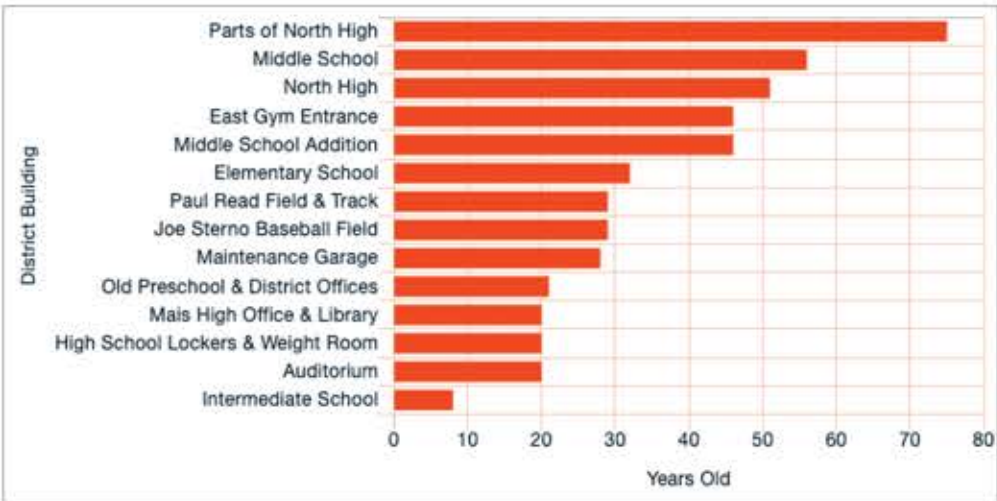
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Submitted photo. If approved by district voters in November, Bennett Schools will use construction bond proceeds to help upgrade aging facilities across campus.

BENNETT BOE **FROM PAGE 1**

per \$100,000 of home value per month. For example, the owner of a home valued at \$300,000 would pay just under \$19 per month until the bonds are paid off.

School officials reiterate that the ballot question is a bond measure and not a mill levy override. Bond measures support building and infrastructure while mill levy overrides can help fund staffing and programming.

During discussion prior to the vote, board president Alyssa Pae reiterated her desire for the district to continue with efforts to apply for and secure a state Building Excellent Schools Today grant, which would help fund construction projects and take some fiscal responsibility off of the district. If the ballot question passes in November, it would likely go a long way towards approval of a BEST grant because of the matching funds requirement in most situations.

"If we get the community to help invest in this school's future, it's important that we capitalize on that," she said. "If we don't put all the work in for the BEST grant, I just don't think that would be making a smart decision."

The school district lost consecutive bond questions during the 2022 and 2023 elections.

In November 2023, district residents voted 63% to 37% against an \$80 million construction bond request, which included plans for a new high school on the west side of town on 73 acres purchased by the district earlier that year.

In 2022, a \$50 million request was defeated by a margin of 56% to 44% across the district.

Bennett Superintendent Robin Purdy added that all pertinent processes leading up to the approval of the ballot question resolution have been completed, including contacting the Adams and Arapahoe clerk and recorder offices, which administer elections.

In 2004, voters approved a bond which went towards HVAC improvements, roofing upgrades, auditorium renovations, updated locker rooms, and a two-story high school addition. In 2014, a mill levy override was approved that went to a new transportation fleet.

While additional debate on the ballot question was mostly nonexistent, one resident spoke in favor of the bond proposal during public comment, noting that it is more than a school issue.

"I do not think we can separate the strength of our schools from the strength of our community," Michelle Nye said. "That is why I believe that this bond. It matters not only to those of us who have children in the district, but to everyone who calls Bennett home. As our community continues to grow, strong schools are essential."

She added that she is particularly interested in the efforts school officials are taking when it comes to more non-traditional avenues in the secondary school.

"We have an opportunity to help prepare young people with real skills, real careers," said Nye, noting what CTE programs bring to the table. "At the same time, they help develop the workforce that communities like ours depend on. They help develop skilled people in a growing community will need — people that can build our homes, repair things, take care of others, protect our community and, perhaps someday, own their own businesses and raise a family right here in

Bennett.

"To me that what makes this more than an investment in our schools. It's an investment in our community and future of Bennett as whole."

During last week's meeting, board members also unanimously approved \$298,000 to go towards the pre-election Design Advisory Group.

That money can be paid out of cash in lieu funds paid for by developers.

Another \$130,000 in pre-construction services, including geotech surveys and a traffic study, was also approved by the board.

Directors also voted 5-0 in favor of awarding JHL Constructors the contract for construction manager and general contractor services for the possible construction project.

SAFETY/SECURITY SURVEY

On the issue of improving campus security and student safety, members of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office presented their findings from walk-throughs and surveys that have been recently conducted.

According to Deputy Michael McKnight from the Crime Prevention/Community Resources Unit, many of the findings go along with the size of the campus and age of many of the buildings.

"Comparatively, you guys are only about 15 acres short of the campus at Cherry Creek, when you're looking size-wise to include the whole property up north. The school itself is very old; you have some history. History-wise, there's a lot out here," McKnight said. "We're

SEE BENNETT BOE
PAGE 18



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BENNETT BOE

FROM PAGE 17

looking how can you get around the campus and access the campus, no matter where you are and on what side. One of the biggest issues we had with that was coming in here and not being able to access east to west on an easy basis. If there's an emergency at a school, to be able to travel or traverse from one side of the campus to the other can take an extensive amount of time."

Among the issues the school should address sooner than later are fencing of lots and outdoor facilities; lighting upgrades across campus; and additional "way finding" assistance.

"Way finding, simply put, is signage on and around the property that direct an individual on where to go. One of the biggest issues we saw is, if you've never been here, finding your way around," McKnight said. "The first time I came out here, I won't lie, I was trying to get to the middle school and ended up coming in on Seventh Street and was completely lost."

McKnight added that signage both on campus and roadways on the perimeter would assist not only residents or visitors but would provide valuable assistance to law enforcement or first responders new to the area.

The sheriff's office's five-part safety and security report has been distributed to school district administrators, who indicated they will fully review the findings.

SOFTBALL SUSPENSION ADDRESSED

A week-and-a-half after the decision was made, at least one board member stated his extreme displeasure with how Athletic Director Travis Conroy came to the determination to cancel the 2026 high school softball season. Of particular annoyance to board member Darvin Harrell was Conroy's decision to cancel the season several hours ahead of the original deadline given to players, families and coaches, which was after the first practice Aug. 10.

"Maybe it's the military in me, but when you set a deadline, stick to that deadline. You say 4 o'clock, it's 4 o'clock, that's it," Harrell said. "I'm trying not to get emotional about this but I have huge emotion. And, I'll tell you right now, the public is really having a tough time with no softball — it started back in June and this isn't good."

According to assistant softball coach Alyssa Stemo, who spoke at the board meeting, a 12th athlete expressed interest in the softball team Aug. 8 and had scheduled a physical for that following Monday.

According to Stemo and other coaches, they were told 12 players were needed to continue with the season.

Conroy said that, as of late-morning Aug. 10, only 11 players had properly applied to the Colorado High School Activities Association's online player enrollment app, which led to his decision to cancel the season.

"Interest did slowly increase but I want to emphasize the word 'slowly,'" Conroy said about several days leading up to the deadline date. "In conversation with Mrs. Purdy [Monday morning], I determined there would likely be no change from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and made the decision. Based on that morning's projection, I didn't think there would be any more."

The 12th girl and her family were unable to access the CHSAA player clearinghouse Arbiter app on Monday morning because her physical had not yet been completed.

Arbiter reportedly requires downloading of not only student-athlete information but documentation of a physical as well.

One Lady Tiger player is currently on the softball roster at Strasburg but three others that were originally interested in playing at Vista Peak in east Aurora will not participate this season.

"Had one of those girls decide to play volleyball here and the other two were unable to get transportation," Conroy said.

In response to rumblings that Conroy indicated inexperience and safety concerns among the reasons behind the cancellation, Stemo and softball parent Julie Bavouset took exception.

"That is why you have coaches, whose responsibility is to evaluate athletes, prepare and develop them. Give them opportunities to gain experience through repetitions," Stemo said. "If safety was the concern, we could have canceled or rescheduled our first two games against Weld Central and Limon. Plus we didn't need those games to meet the CHSAA minimum [for games played to qualify for the postseason]."

Stemo also said that the level of teams in the Pioneer League made it a good conference for the Lady Tigers to gain experience and confidence.

"There were some girls, of course, that hadn't played softball before, but they're competitive athletes," Bavouset added. "They could have been great assets on the field but now we'll never know. I have full confidence in the coaching staff to evaluate talent and provide a safe environment."

"Was there pressure coming from somewhere else to make an earlier decision? Who did moving the deadline [up] benefit?"

Bennett's softball program was only two seasons old when this fall's schedule was canceled.

The next school board meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m., Sept. 16 at the high school library.

The meeting is also available online; the link is available at www.bsd29j.com and clicking on the "Board" tab at the top of the page.

Bennett DAYS

DATES Sept. 11 - 13, 2026

FREE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 - COPS & BOBBERS FISHING EVENT AND BULL RIDING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - PARADE, KIDS' ZONE, FACE PAINTING, VENDOR FAIR, CAR SHOW, FOOD TRUCKS, FREESTYLE BULL FIGHTING, BEER GARDEN, CONCERT AND MORE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH SERVICE IN TRUPP PARK

Ribbon cut on Sky Ranch secondary school



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout
The grand opening of Sky Ranch Prep Academy took place Aug. 6 including a ribbon-cutting in the new secondary school gym. The new addition to the campus on the east side of the Sky Ranch subdivision now allows the charter school to accommodate kindergartners through 10th-graders. The two Sky Ranch campuses make up a charter school that is under the umbrella of the Bennett School District. Above, Sky Ranch Prep teachers fire off streamers during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Below, Bennett Superintendent Robin Purdy speaks with Sky Ranch School Board President Mark Harding, who is also president of Pure Cycle, the developer of the Sky Ranch subdivision.



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WEEK OF AUG. 24

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Not-So Dusty Pages

20 YEARS AGO
AUGUST 29, 2006

After lengthy deliberation Aug. 24, the majority of the Byers Parks & Recreation District Board voted not to submit a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant application aimed at making improvements to two baseball fields located on Byers School District property. Rec board president Kraig Roesch prepared the extensive application and met with the school board earlier this month to discuss the grant, which requires a 30% match by the applicant.

An early estimate for the ball field improvements, which Roesch said could be pared down later, was \$90,000. A 30% match would require that the rec board provide \$27,000 in funding, but the Byers School board gave Roesch the nod that they would split the cost with the rec district at approximately \$13,500 each.

"The school is agreeing to help us on this and they're doing it for the community and for the youth sports programs that we have," Roesch said.

But some board members questioned the school's motives, referencing previous instances where the rec district wasn't able to use the fields.

"You get burned once, you don't want to get burned again," said board member Carrie Kalcevic.

Roesch said he didn't believe the school had ulterior motives and that the field improvements would contribute to the quality of the rec district baseball program.

15 YEARS AGO
AUGUST 30, 2011

BENNETT — Bennett School District will ask voters to approve a 7.5-mill override Nov. 1. The school board unanimously passed a resolution declaring the language of the question to voters at a special meeting Aug. 23. The 7.5 mills, if approved would generate an additional \$651,640, based on current assessed property values — \$588,340 for the district and \$63, 270 for Corridor Community Academy.

Bennett's current mill levy is 33.305, which below a number of area districts including Adams 12 Five Star, which collects 70.359 mills; Adams-Arapahoe, 53.919; Cherry Creek 50.497; Strasburg, 46.458; and Brighton, 45.703. Byers' mill levy is just below Bennett's, at 32.305. Byers is placing a mill override question on the November ballot asking for a three-year override at a rate sufficient to raise \$330,000 annually for those three years.

The board, along with superintendent Dennis Veal and finance director Keith Yaich, reviewed the district's financial position and future needs before reaching a decision. Like all Colorado school districts, Bennett has made deep budget cuts in the past three years after losing over \$1.1 million in state funding and property tax revenue. Increases in health insurance, PERA and utility costs have also adversely affected cash flow.

Veal said a district of Bennett's size usually carries a capital reserve fund of around \$400,000 and, in the past, Bennett's capital reserve was around that figure.

The fund is used for capital projects such as roofing and other necessary renovation. The district will require matching funds of \$313,321 for high school roof repairs partially funded by a Colorado Department of Education grant. Aging heating, ventilation and air conditioning controls need to be updated.

10 YEARS AGO
AUGUST 30, 2016

DEER TRAIL - Every student learns at a different pace, and lessons designed to meet the needs of the average student often leave students frustrated, with some left behind and others feeling unchallenged.

However, staff at Deer Trail School District is more equipped to address the needs of all students after attending the National Conference on Differentiated Learning July 18-22. Nine staff members attended the Las Vegas conference hosted by Staff Development for Educators, including superintendent Kevin Schott, principal Dave Casey, dean of students Karee Klassen, kindergarten teacher Susan Thain, fifth-grade teacher Sandra Humbert, reading interventionist Rhonda Fischer, secondary math teacher Joseph Meinhart, secondary science teacher Navea Johnson, and special education teacher Daniel Treister.

The conference hosted 6,000 teachers and hundreds of speakers, making the choice of sessions to attend difficult for the Deer Trail staff.

According to executive director of East Central BOCES Don Anderson, differentiated instruction is working to find a way to reach every child in a classroom, no matter what their learning capabilities are. In today's world, you are going to have kids that are on different levels, no matter what the curriculum or content is," Anderson said. "A really good teacher can differentiate that instruction with what Our Lady of the Plains the upper group needs as well as students who don't have that knowledge need as well."

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 22

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 26, the 238th day of 2026. There are 127 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Aug. 26, 1944, French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation.

ALSO ON THIS DATE

In 1939, the first televised Major

League Baseball games were broadcast on experimental station W2XBS: a doubleheader between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field. The Reds won the first game, 5-2, and the Dodgers the second, 6-1.

In 1958, Alaskans went to the polls to overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood.

In 1968, the Democratic National Convention opened in Chicago; the four-day event that resulted in the nomination of Hubert H. Humphrey for president was

marked by a bloody police crackdown on anti-war protesters in the streets.

In 1972, the Summer Olympics opened in Munich, West Germany.

In 1978, Cardinal Albino Luciani (al-BEE'-noh loo-CHYAH'-nee) of Venice was elected pope following the death of Paul VI. The new pontiff, who took the name Pope John Paul I, died just over a month later.

In 1980, the FBI inadvertently detonated a bomb planted at Harvey's Resort Hotel in Stateline, Nev., while

attempting to disarm it. (The hotel had been evacuated and no injuries were reported, but the blast caused significant damage.)

In 1985, 13-year-old AIDS patient Ryan White began attending classes at Western Middle School in Kokomo, Ind., via a telephone hook-up at his home; school officials had barred White from attending classes in person due to his illness.

In 2009, kidnapping victim Jaycee Dugard was discovered alive in California

after being missing for more than 18 years.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

R&B singer Valerie Simpson (Ashford & Simpson) is 80. Jazz musician Branford Marsalis is 66. Actor-singer Shirley Manson (Garbage) is 60. Actor Melissa McCarthy is 56. Latin pop singer Thalía is 55. Actor Macaulay Culkin is 46. Country musician Brian Kelley (Florida Georgia Line) is 41. Actor Keke Palmer is 33.

— Associated Press

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: EMMYS

ACROSS

1. Cut off
6. "Be quiet!"
9. Yellowjacket
13. Brunch offering
14. Lawyers' org.
15. Capital of Vietnam
16. Without illumination
17. Harland David Sanders' title, abbr.
18. Abhorrence
19. * ___ Theater, Emmys venue
21. *2026 Emmy Awards host
23. Fah follower
24. Like a certain eagle
25. Grill master's acronym
28. Aussie's neighbor
30. Kick the bucket
35. Look angry
37. Opposite of riches
39. Holiday spirit spreader
40. Soprano's song
41. Introduction
43. Flocculant, for short
44. Queen Elizabeth's favorite dog breed
46. Dog command
47. * ___ show, like nominated "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"
48. Works dough
50. Highest volcano in Europe
52. "I agree"
53. Winter woe
55. Publisher's revenue source, pl.
57. "Euphoria" Lead Actress nominee
61. *Most nominated series for 2026 Emmys (2 words)
65. Love, in Paris
66. Don't waste
68. Ottoman Empire VIP
69. Carried a torch
70. Biochemistry acr.
71. Scrabble pieces
72. Editor's "let it stand"
73. "___ or nothing"
74. Kind of peak

DOWN

1. Fish a.k.a. porgy
2. European sea eagle
3. Velum, pl.
4. "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey," e.g.
5. Did the test again
6. Quarterback's downfall
7. *Network/streamer with most nominations for 2026 Emmys
8. Chinese Checkers predecessor
9. Dry riverbed
10. Type of cuckoos
11. Middle Eastern market
12. Type of cotton fiber
15. Vast multitudes

CROSSWORD

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Sweet Anticipation

In this moment before tomorrow's full moon and lunar eclipse in Aquarius, there's a feeling of anticipation in the air that some may find more fun than the actual event. That's the thing about getting ready. It's all hopes and dreams — no realities to accept, just wonder, curiosity and, for better or worse, imagination. Keep it bright. Only good thoughts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). With an imagination so creative, optimistic and willfully oblivious to limits, you have no problem building things up in your head to improbable proportions. But improbable things happen every day. You've been lucky before, and it's coming back around.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Make space. Get rid of things before you have a replacement. Maybe you'll never need one. Emptiness is not nothingness — it's space. Space is something, even if you don't know what it is. Maybe it's just beautiful potential.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Maybe you're being underestimated, but as long as you don't let that hurt your feelings, this can be a very good thing. Surprising someone who thought they had already measured your limits is so fun. It's also quite the power move.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The answers don't always have to come from you. In fact, if they did, it would mean you weren't growing. You have a knack for duplicating success formulas. Try a proven strategy from a friend, mentor, book or program.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your feelings will clue you into things you can't rationally explain. But since feelings can also lie with abandon, it's important to question and test them before you act on them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You aim to delight someone you love, and this is one of the best prompts to invigorate your creative spirit. Start the idea machine up and you'll soon be brimming with good options.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You can get out from under an obligation in one honest conversation. Good friends and respectful employers don't really want you to feel trapped by what you agreed to before you knew better.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you don't get the response you wanted or expected, try the same thing a few times more. Sometimes you have to jiggle the key, swipe the card reader a little faster or ask the question a little louder.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Human behavior can look irrational until you know what's driving a person to do mysterious things. But unless it pertains directly to you, it may not be worth the effort to find out. It's enough to believe they have their reasons.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't need everyone to communicate the way you do. But it would be nice if a certain person's level of engagement would match yours, even if they showed it differently. Reciprocity feels so cozy.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sometimes people look like they are having so much fun that you feel pangs of envy just observing their joy. You may even forget that what they are doing might not be your idea of fun at all. Nonetheless, it will inspire you to get to planning what fits you perfectly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Take a chance and reach out to someone who makes you nervous. Even your awkward moves will charm. Better to connect imperfectly with someone you're interested in than to perfectly connect with someone you're not.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 26). Welcome to your Year of the Hot Breeze, when you somehow manage to be seen as cool and warm at the same time. You're incredibly attractive, magnetizing who you want to bring into your world. More highlights: A re-imaging of your style with fun changes to dress, transportation and domestic life. Friends connect you to lucrative business. A new skill favorably affects every aspect of life. Cancer and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 15, 3, 37, 22 and 12.

— Horoscopes by Holiday

ANSWERS ON PAGE 22

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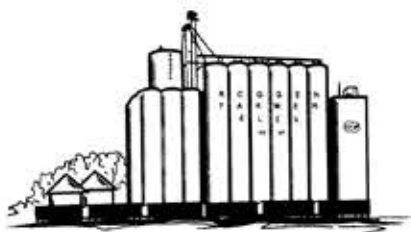
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SB STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 9

for Strasburg. Madrill also noted meaningful improvement in Hougland, Thurman, Selle, Bequette and junior Tenley Bollers.

The battery consists of senior Phebe Johnson on the mound and sophomore Morgan Scharff behind the plate.

"Morgan is a good catcher," Madrill said. "She listens well."

While Johnson struggled with control issues on last year's 17-9 club, "She's grown a bunch mentally," Madrill said. "We threw her live [Aug. 13], and I sat there and watched her and she looked a lot better. She was more under control."

"I don't think that our pitching is a weakness."

Moreover, the Indians have something the 2025 team did not — pitching depth in the form of Bequette and sophomores Avery Bongard and Macy Meyer, a transfer from Bennett. If they just throw strikes, Madrill hopes to relieve Johnson against weaker competition.

Team captains are Kent, Olsen and Johnson.

"There's a different kind of attitude out of Phebe because we've taken some pressure off of her," Madrill added.

On the down side, only 16-18 girls have signed up to play, creating difficulties in fielding a junior varsity team, after losing just two seniors from last year's squad.

"We're talking to teams that are set up for JV and telling them we'll play them, but we got to put a few of our weaker starters in the lineup because I don't want the five girls to not play all season," Madrill said. "They won't play any varsity unless we're up like 20-0 and they're going to get in for half an inning or swing a bat and that's about it."

Madrill had hoped to pick up four girls from the Bennett program, which was recently canceled for lack of participation, but only one, sophomore Macy Meyer, made the decision to wear red at Strasburg.

The schedule will have a new look this season. The Colorado High School Activities Association divided the Patriot League into two conferences — the Plains and the Peaks. Strasburg will play Brush, Sterling, Weld Central, Platte Valley and Valley twice each in the Plains Conference, while University, Berthoud, Lyons, Resurrection Christian, Wellington and Eaton form the Peaks Conference. The winner of each conference gets a free pass

in the first round of the regional tournament.

Madrill sees Brush and Sterling as the teams to beat in the Plains Conference.

Strasburg will open the schedule with 11 non-league games, then close it with 10 league match-ups in its final 12 contests. The Indians are also seeking another game to replace the date vacated by Bennett.

Madrill's assistant coaches are Arch Archuleta, Aubrie Archuleta, Jeremy Bongard, Brandon Archuleta, Katelyn Swallow and Amanda Finch.

Madrill has coached softball and baseball for 47 years without a losing season, he said. His career record through Aug. 21 was 787-148.

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While the future looks bright, the Lady Indians opened the season Aug. 18 with a 12-0 loss to perennial powerhouse Eaton.

The Lady Reds scored four runs each in the second, third and fourth innings to win by the 12-run mercy rule.

Eaton pitcher Johanna Galvan threw a no-hitter while striking out five and walking none. The Reds allowed just two base-runners, both on fielding errors.

Johnson threw for the Indians, allowing 10 earned runs on eight hits with two strikeouts and six base on balls.

On a more optimistic note, Strasburg swept its four foes at the Eaton Tournament Aug. 21-22. The Indians defeated Peak To Peak 12-5; Delta 22-7; Lamar 17-9; and La Junta 11-3. Watch next week's I-70 Scout and www.i-70scout.com for complete coverage.

The team faced Wellington at home on Tuesday. Further information was not available at press time. It travels to The Academy Thursday.

STRASBURG SCHEDULE

- Aug. 27: @ The Academy
Sept. 1: Bennett
Sept. 4-5: @ University Tournament
Friday: Severance & University
Saturday: Pueblo South
Sept. 8: Weld Central
Sept. 10: @ Sterling
Sept. 15: @ Valley
Sept. 17: Brush
Sept. 22: @ Platte Valley
Sept. 24: @ Weld Central
Sept. 29: Sterling
Oct. 1: Valley
Oct. 3: Forge Christian
Oct. 6: @ Brush
Oct. 8: Platte Valley

FB STRASBURG

FROM PAGE 9

ceiver threat."

In the offensive backfield, senior Reagan Rosier is expected to be among the players expected to help replace almost 1,400 yards that was lost from last year because of graduation. Sophomore Nic Gutierrez has been seeing practice reps in the backfield as well.

"Offensive strengths are our skill positions — we have dynamic playmakers at all positions that will make it difficult on teams to pick their poison [defensively]. Our mission is to be top-five in the state in total offense," Martinez said. "Our weakness is we are young on the line, [but] we have great potential and are growing each day."

The offensive line is replacing four from last year — three to graduation and another unexpected absence.

Among the individuals being looked at to step up on the offensive line are seniors Zyien Robles and Adan Fernandez.

On defense, Rosier (69 tackles, nine for loss, and 2.5 sacks) is the top returning tackler from last year at linebacker, while Dodge (six interceptions, 16 tackles) and Miller (four interceptions, 39 tackles) will anchor the Indians' re-tooled defense.

"Overall, a team goal is to be relentless in pursuit — 9-5-90, [which is] 9 guys 5 yards within the play 90% of the time," Martinez said. "Want to average two takeaways a game."

Competition for both starting positions and who will provide support off the bench is expected to be strong amongst the 49 boys out for the team, including an athletic group of freshmen.

Strasburg remains in 2A for the third consecutive year but move from the East Conference to the Metro League. The In-

dians and last year's 2A runner-up Elizabeth both move from the East to Metro conferences; other league opposition will be Denver West, D'Evelyn, The Classical Academy and Forge Christian. But before hitting league play, Martinez said his team should be well-prepared because of a strong nonconference schedule, which includes the defending 2A state champions from Wellington. The Classical Academy was the 2A state champs in 2024 and lost in the semifinals to Wellington last year. Forge Christian was last year's 2025 runner-up in 1A.

"We have a fantastic opportunity to see where we stack up," Martinez said. "We will definitely know where we stand and how we need to progress and what level we need to attain. The mission is always to win a state championship [and] to do that we need to take it one game at a time — never get too high and never get too low."

"I never talk about wins and losses — it's about the team playing fundamental football, sacrificing self for betterment of the team and executing what they are coached to do — trust the process and enjoy the journey."

Martinez's assistant coaches include fellow Valor transfer Tavares Bowens along with Thom Winter, Jordan Ross, Mitch Martin, Darrel Dodge, Doug Burchfield, Matt Vance, James Patterson and Brian Nichols.

COMING UP

- Aug. 28: Higgins.
Sept. 4: @ Weld Central.
Sept. 11: Dayspring Christian Academy (Homecoming).
Sept. 18: @ Wellington.
Sept. 25: Denver West (Youth Night).
Oct. 2: @ Elizabeth.
Oct. 9: D'Evelyn (Dad in the Locker Room).
Oct. 16: @ The Classical Academy.
Oct. 23: Forge Christian (Senior Night).

CHUCK WAGON

Chili Colorado

by Ron Shepherd
Allrecipes

This chili is a rich and mild pork stew. The recipe is one of my favorites, which I like to eat from a bowl with plenty of saltine crackers and a salad on the side.

CHILI COLORADO

INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1½ pounds boneless pork, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 tablespoon bacon drippings, or vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- 1 (4-ounce) can tomato sauce
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- salt and black pepper to taste
- 3 cups water

DIRECTIONS

Place 3 tablespoons flour in a plastic



bag. Add pork and shake to lightly coat with flour; set aside. Heat bacon drippings and vegetable oil in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add pork and cook until meat is evenly browned, about 5-8 minutes. Stir in 1 tablespoon flour; cook and stir for 3 minutes. Stir in onion, tomato sauce, chili powder, cumin, garlic powder, salt, pepper, water. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to medium-low and simmer until pork is just falling apart, 1½ to 2 hours.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

After multiple delays, Panda Express opened its new Bennett store with a formal ribbon-cutting and grand opening July 28. From top photo, Strasburg's Ivory Simpson, 11, and mother Tiffany, left, are recognized as the store's first customers. Mom said Ivory was up early Tuesday morning to be the first one in line at 6:30 a.m.; I-70 Street Reach Food Bank Director David Thomas, second from left, receives a \$1,000 donation check from restaurant staff. The food bank is based out of the Cornerstone Fellowship church in old town Bennett and also supplies the Deer Trail food pantry; and restaurant staff, town of Bennett officials, and I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce members and other I-70 Corridor neighbors cut the ribbon on the new building.

Paula Mejia
Barber & Cosmetologist

720.829.5939
1506 Main St.
Strasburg, CO 80136

est 2026

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Family Entertainment Center

2026-27 League Schedule

TUESDAY NIGHT MEN: Starts 7 p.m., Sept. 1	THURSDAY NIGHT MIXED: Starts 7 p.m., Sept. 3
WEDNESDAY NIGHT MIXED: Starts 7 p.m., Sept. 2	SUNDAY NIGHT MIXED: Starts 6 p.m., Sept. 13
THURSDAY AFTERNOON LADIES Starts 12:15 p.m., Sept. 3	Open Bowling Starts Sept. 12

For Questions, Call (303)622-4265

Shop LOCAL

www.i70ccoc.com

I-70 Chamber of Commerce Members 2026

70 Corridor Athletics (970)260-6041
Adams County Health Dept. (720)346-8089
Anytime Fitness-Bennett (720)608-7337
Arapahoe County Government (303)795-4630
Aurora Mental Health & Recovery (303)617-2300
Barnyard Boutique (303)345-4460
Beans Place (303)475-4086
Bennett Park & Rec (303)644-5040
Bijou Telephone Co-op Assoc. (303)822-5400
Blue Sky Party Rentals (303)622-6777
Browning Blades (303)547-6790
Claussen Chiropractic (303)622-4200
Colorado Sod Company LLC (720)650-5137
Comfort Home Inspections (303)697-1616
Claws and Paws Pet Sitting (303)644-3332
Colorado Air and Space Port (720)523-7311
Colorado Martial Arts Academy (714)926-4159
CORE (303)622-9231
Corridor Comfort (720)680-9022
Edward Jones/Levi Kautz (303)777-0283
ES Tech (ESRTA) (888)999-3778
F & M Bank Colorado (303)644-3266
FNB Bank (303)644-5100
Franchise Management Systems (303)807-0681
Front Range RV Storage LLC (303)644-5800
Gateway Realty I-70 LLC (970)380-0078
Grothe Financial Services, PC (303)644-4600
High Plains Sanitation Services (303)622-4126
Hometown Plumbing & Heating (720)336-1783
I-70 REAP (720)587-7501
Infinity Roofing (303)946-6698
Integrity Insurance (303)644-4872
Jess Baked For You (303)518-0113
Kauffman Sales dba Clark's Equipment (303)622-4012

Kelver Library (303)391-3167
Launch Pad Brewery (303)644-4599
Law Office of Shelley Thompson, LLC (720)716-5677
LaZyB Acres Alpacas (303)644-4110
Les Schwab Tire Center (720)420-6302
Lindy Cosgrove (303)257-5477
Linnebur Auctions, Inc. (303)822-9298
Magik Mirror Metaphysical (720)324-4002
Neal Mancuso (303)644-5191
Matt Brinkhoff-Coldwell Banker Realty (303)324-0241
May Farms LLC (303)822-5800
Morgan Community College (719)775-8873
Panda Express (983)203-2988
Patricia Davis — Thirty-One Gifts (303)601-1321
PsychedIN (303)380-1858
Real Estate Connection, LLC (720)273-0783
Relax and Create with Me (720)486-6119
Road Home Exteriors (720)592-5341
Rocky Mountain Roofing & Exteriors (720)783-3257
Scott's Sweaters (303)923-4964
Smoke Show Meats (785)534-7412
South Havana Motor Company (303)644-4221
SouthState Bank (303)622-4201
Stayin' Alive AED & CPR Training (918)497-8384
Strasburg Parks & Recreation District (303)622-4260
Strasburg School District (303)622-9211
Sum Financial Services Group (720)613-6160
Tallgrass (720)951-1216
The Ag & Food Lab (720)620-0337
Town of Bennett (303)644-3249
Trinity Acres Pumpkin Patch (720)296-7896
U.S. Mechanical Company, Inc. (303)622-2447
Vanbarco (303)286-1111
The Viewfinders Galleries (720)384-6933

Lunch and Learn/Member Meeting
Third Wednesday of the month

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



What's UP @ BYERS SCHOOL DISTRICT



WEAR IT. LIVE IT. BE A BULLDOG!

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X1166



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1 SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRT 4 DESIGN OPTIONS!



YS-YL	\$15
S-XL	\$15
2XL	\$20
3XL	\$20

2 HOODIE 4 DESIGN OPTIONS!



YS-YL	\$35
S-XL	\$35
2XL	\$40
3XL	\$40

3 CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT 4 DESIGN OPTIONS!



ADULT SIZES ONLY

S-XL	\$30
2XL	\$35
3XL	\$35



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
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FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS
OF AMERICA



THANK YOU!
FOR SUPPORTING
BYERS HIGH SCHOOL & FBLA!



PROUD. STRONG. BULLDOGS.

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Elementary:

7th - NO SCHOOL-LABOR DAY
10th - Individual Picture Day
11th - NO SCHOOL-TEACHER INSERVICE DAY
14-18th - Bus Safety Week

Secondary:

1st - HS Volleyball at Skyview Academy 4:30
2nd - JH Football at Strasburg 4:30
3rd - HS Volleyball at Flatirons 4:00
4th - HS Football at Flatirons 6:30
4th - HS Cross Country at Fort Morgan 5:00
4th - HS Boys Golf at Burlington/Stratton 9:30am
5th - JV Volleyball Tournament at Strasburg 9:00 am
8th - HS Volleyball at Strasburg 4:30
10th - JH Football vs. Flatirons 4:00
11th - HS Cross Country at Lamar 8:30 am
11th - HS Volleyball & Football vs. Holyoke 3:00 & 7:00
11th - HS Boys Golf at Akron 9:00 am
12th - HS Volleyball at Denver Christian Tournament 9:00 am
12th - JH Volleyball at Limon Tournament 9:00 am
14th - JV Football at Holyoke 4:00
14th - HS Cross Country at Evergreen 4:10
14th - HS Boys Golf at Wray 9:00 am
16th - Hispanic Heritage Club Celebration 5:30-7:30 pm
16th - JH Volleyball at Bennett 4:30
17th - HS Volleyball vs. Bennett 4:00
17th - JH Football vs. Limon 4:00
18th - HS Football vs. Limon 7:00
18th - HS Volleyball at Burlington 3:00
18th - HS Cross Country at Arvada West 12:30
18th - Boys JV Golf at Akron 9:00 am
21st - JV Football at Limon 4:30
22nd -HS and JH Volleyball vs. Flagler 4:00
22nd -HS Cross Country at Brighton 2:50
24th - JH Football at Calhan 4:00
24th - HS Boys Golf at Eads 9:00 am
25th - HS Football at Colorado Springs Christian 7:00
26th - HS Cross Country at Parklake 9:00 am
28th - JV Football vs. Colorado Springs Christian 4:00
29th - HS and JH Volleyball vs. Genoa-Hugo 4:00

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REMINDERS



Be Extra Cautious

Children may:

- Cross the road unexpectedly.
- Be difficult to see around the bus.
- Drop backpacks or other belongings and return to pick them up.
- Believe traffic has stopped when it hasn't.

Always expect the unexpected around a school bus.

Remember

- Slow down in school zones.
- Never pass a stopped school bus displaying red flashing lights and its stop arm.
- Stay alert and eliminate distractions such as texting or using your phone.

Allow extra time during your commute so you never feel rushed around buses.

Together We Can Keep Our Students Safe

Every driver plays an important role in protecting our children. Your patience and attention help ensure every student arrives home safely each day.

Thank you for helping keep Byers students safe!

School Bus Safety: Help Us Keep Our Students Safe

Every Stop Matters. Every Child Matters.

Each day, Byers School District buses transport our students safely to and from school. One of the greatest dangers students face is not while riding the bus—but while getting on or off of it.

When you see a school bus, please slow down, stay alert, and know what the flashing lights mean.



Flashing Yellow Lights

Yellow flashing lights mean the bus is preparing to stop.

- Slow down immediately.
- Watch for children near the roadway.
- Be prepared to stop.



Flashing Red Lights & Stop Arm Extended

Red flashing lights and the extended stop arm mean students are entering or exiting the bus. You MUST STOP.

- Remain stopped until:
- The red lights stop flashing,
- The stop arm is retracted, and
- The bus begins moving again.
- Passing a stopped school bus puts children at serious risk and is against the law.

Free Breakfast & Lunch for All Students!

Good News for Our Families!

We are proud to announce that our school is a **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school!**

This means that **ALL students can enjoy a FREE breakfast and FREE lunch every school day.** Every child in our school is welcome to participate. We are committed to making sure our students have access to nutritious meals that help them learn, grow, and succeed.

Please Note: While breakfast and lunch are free for all students, students will need money in their meal accounts for any additional items purchased from our à la carte offerings. **Help Support Our District!**

Even though school meals are free for every student, we strongly encourage all families to complete the Economic Data Survey that was mailed to all households. The information collected through this survey helps our district qualify for At-Risk funding and other important educational resources that directly benefit our students and schools.

Your participation matters! Please take a few minutes to complete the Economic Data Survey and help ensure our district receives the funding our students deserve.

Breakfast & Lunch = FREE for EVERY student, EVERY school day!

We look forward to serving our students throughout the school year!

THESE DUSTY PAGES

STRANGE DISEASE KILLS
MANY HORSES IN STATE

SYMPTOMS SILILAR TO THOSE
OF SLEEPING SICKNESS IN
HUMANS, SAYS VET.

FT. COLLINS—A strange disease somewhat akin to sleeping sickness which attacks human beings has become dangerously prevalent among horses in northern Colorado, according to Dr. I. E. Newsom, head of the veterinary department, Colorado State college.

The disease which is known to veterinarians as encephalomyelitis provokes much the same symptoms as those shown by human beings when suffering from sleeping sickness but the two diseases are not the same and there is no danger of infection from diseased horses by humans, Dr. Newsom said.

Thosuands of dollars worth of horses have died in northern Colorado in the past two weeks with the disease and the co-operation of horse owners was asked by Dr. Newsom in combating the disease.

Cases have been reported in the Longmont and Loveland district with several hundred horses infected. The mortality rate is about 10 percent Dr. Newsom said.

"A new tissure vaccine for prevention of the disease is holding out as near perfect as any preventitive we know, Dr. Newsom said, "good nursing of the sick animal is necessary and above all a trained veterinarian should be called."

The disease is carried by mosquitoes and is most prevalent during the summer months reaching its peak in September and disappearing in September at the first frost.

It was epidemic in Colorado in 1932 for the first time in almost twenty years. It was again prevalent in 1933, but was completely absent in 1934 to the mystification of veterinarians. It appeared again in 1935 and is unusually virulent this year.

The disease does not attack cattle or sheep, Dr. Newsom said.

Eastern Colorado News
August 27, 1936

Where Axis Went Too Far With Brazil



New York—Julio Berata, head of the Brizilian Section Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, is shown in his New York office pointing out to colleague Dr. Ramundo Magalheas where Axis submarines sank Brazilian ships, precipitating the crisis that last Saturday caused Brazil to declare war on Germany and Italy. President Rosevent sent a message to President Gautlio Vergas of Brazil assuring him of his confidence in "The success of our common cause.

Eastern Colorado News
August 27, 1942



The Strasburg News
August 27, 1900



Eastern Colorado News
August 25, 1955

HOT AFTER POULTRY THIEVES
MANY ROOSTS ROBBED

The following item has been sent in and it indicates the seriousness of the chicken thief menace. Most farmers who would catch these marauders on their premises at night would mete out summary justice with a shot gun.

"In several states vigorous campaigns are in progress looking to the elimination of poultry thieves, and high rewards are causing the sheriffs to become zealous in the performance of duty for which they already are paid. In addition to eliminating the thieves the farmers should eliminate such officers as require a bonus for doing the work they are elected and paid to do.

Illinois and Indiana farmers have been most vigorous in this clean-up work the past year, sending many of these petty thieves to jail for long terms. Last year 18,830 chickens were stolen in Fayette county, Illinois, alone, while in Montgomery county, Indiana, 14,658 chickens were stolen the same year. It will be seen that in two counties the loss from this cause exceeded \$20,000.

This kind of thievery costs the farmers of the United States millions of dollars every year, yet there are farmers who do not report such thefts, with some sheriffs holding the opinion, "Just a few hens—what's the use to kick?"—Agricultural Review

The Strasburg News
August 26, 1926

CHEMICALS SAVE BIG
LOSS IN STRASBURG
BLAZE WEDNESDAY

Timely use of chemical extinguishers probably was responsible for the saving of thousands of dollars from fire in Strasburg Wednesday morning.

A chicken house caught fire from a trash burner at the F. G. Merrick home and was completely destroyed. Other out buildings were also damaged. The wind was in a direction to cause a post pile in lumber yard to be in jeopardy and the chemical extinguishers protected this as well as other buildings from catching fire..

The loss is estimated at approximately \$300.

A. O. Calhoon suffered burns from the intense heat while working with the hose from the chemical truck.

The Strasburg News
August 27, 1931

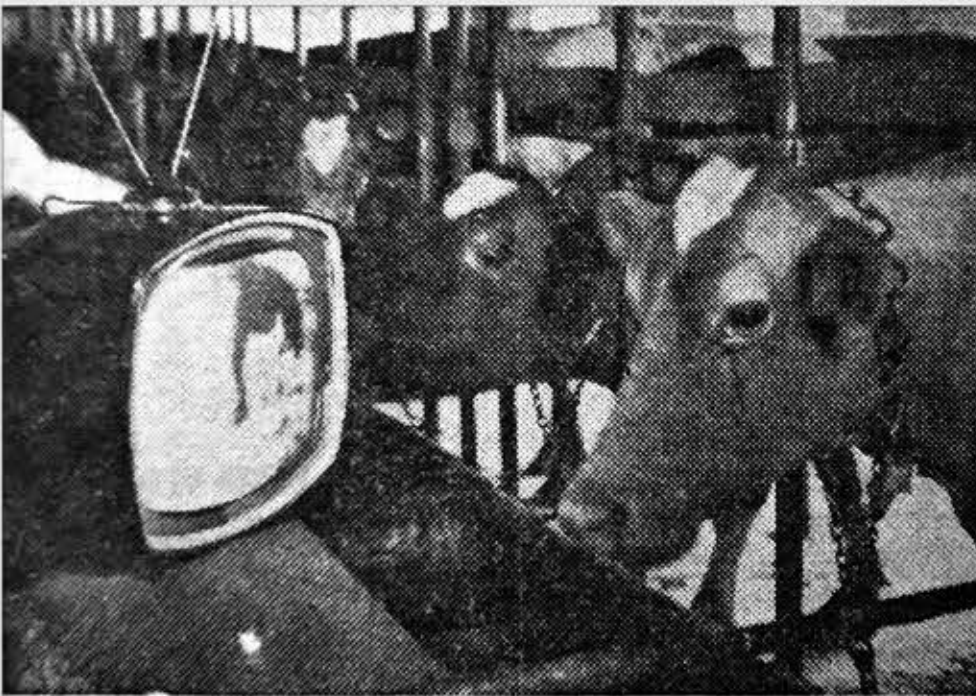
Flashing Red Signal on
School Bus Means 'Stop'

Hundreds of school buses will be re-appearing on Colardo roads now that school is starting. Motorists are reminded that flashing red lights on these buses mean STOP. This means stop from either direction unless you are on the opposite side of a physically divided highway.

About 150,000 pupils ride these buses daily. Last year there were no reported fatalities and only 34 minor injuries for nearly 22,000,000 miles of school bus travel.

The school bus ride is probably one of the safest rides a child will ever take; state and local officials are working to make it even safer.

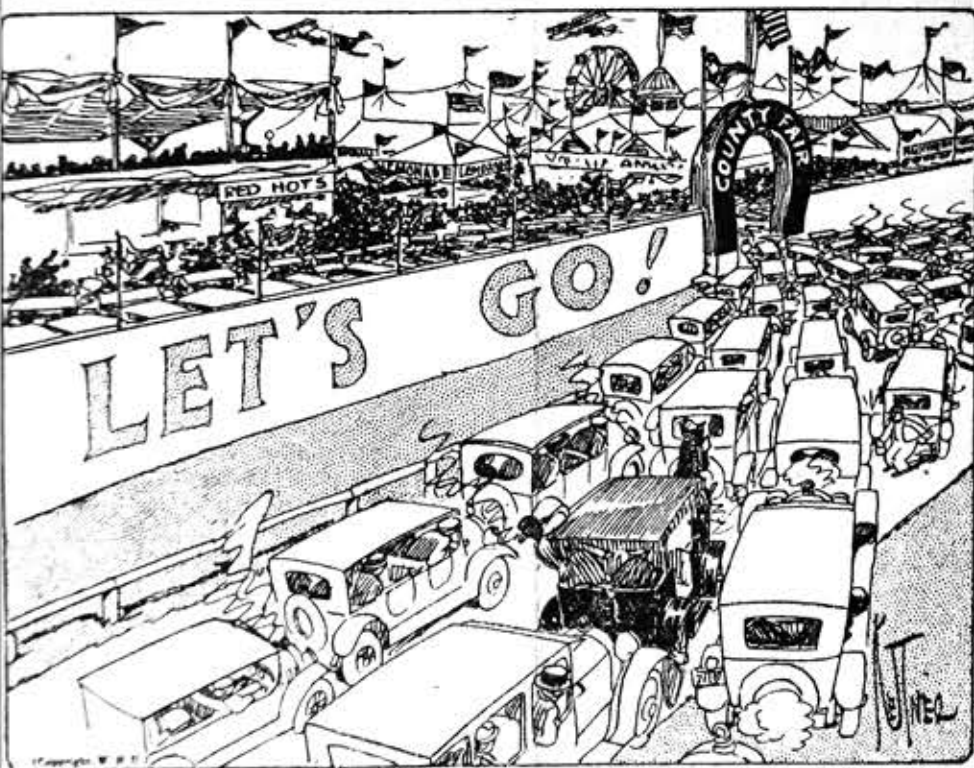
Eastern Colorado News
August 25, 1966



LATE MOOVIES . . . Television comes to the cowshed at the Pidgeon farm in Seaton, Devon, England. Farmer Pidgeon claims the portable tv set keeps his cows contented.

Eastern Colorado News
August 24, 1961

The Magnet



The Strasburg News
August 26, 1926