

Kiowa County *Press*

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Rack Price

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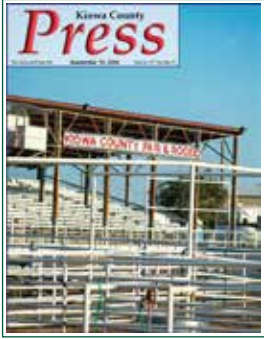


KIOWA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO



PERIODICAL

About the Front Page



Another year has passed, and the 2024 Kiowa County Fair week has arrived to mark the close of summer.

Photo by Chris Sorensen

KiowaCountyPress.net

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

REVEREND STEVEN ZANDSTRA



ISAIAH 35:4-7A

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like

a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert, ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water."

One of the first things we try to instruct our children is that there are natural consequences for certain actions we take. The Lord also warns us of the consequences of breaking His commandments. Due to their rebelliousness, the Israelites were threatened by enemy nations who were more powerful. The consequences of the people's rebelliousness are revealed in the 34th chapter likening the land of Israel to a desert wilderness, haunted by unclean creatures in that wilderness with the surrounding nations attack-

ing without mercy (cf. 11-16). Because of their sin, the Jews were exiled to Babylon and became slaves (cf. 2 Chronicles 36:21).

leaving a traveler thirsty, there is nothing we ourselves can do to obtain righteousness that will fulfill our desperate need for holiness.

Like the Israelites of old, when confronted with our own sin, we see how we have lived contrary to the Lord's will. We are also "haunted" by past sins which cause us to wake in the night and ponder them over and over. No matter how hard we try, the "unclean things" of our lives cannot be dismissed or eliminated. Our sins call out to us as a constant reminder of our lack of righteousness. The modern world is filled with violence, self-indulgence, power seeking, and pleasure-seeking rather than the peace and forgiveness of Christ Jesus, and no number of man-made remedies will permanently erase the sin that haunts us. Drugs, alcohol, and entertainment are simply a coverup, a false hope providing no relief from the terrors of our conscience. Just like a mirage in the desert

But there is hope for the hopeless. God says, "Be strong; fear not!" (4). He is not saying we should look to ourselves and our own abilities for our saving, rather He is calling us to Himself and to the rescue He brings with Him. God reaches out to rescue us out of the desert wilderness of sin through His Means of Grace. God does what His Word promises, and He rescues us from the sins that haunt us and makes us one with Him. Through ordinary earthly elements in Baptism and the Lord's Supper, along with His Word as it is written, preached, and shared, God delivers His gifts of forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation.

We began this message by talking about natural consequences. The natural consequences of your sin would land you smack dab in the middle of hell. But out of His great love for you, God intervened with divine vengeance on sin to change what was coming your way. Through His Son, Jesus, He has defeated your great enemy, Satan, and released you from the desert wilderness where the sins of body and soul continually haunt you. God Himself has made all who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ free to live with Him in joy and peace here in time and there in eternity!

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Cheyenne Wells, CO,
80810 - Divine Service,

Kiowa County Press

137 years and counting!

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Pages from the Past

15 Years Ago

Septmeber 11, 2009

A Kiowa County ballot

question to increase the mills from 3.82 to 42.733 for the continued operation of Prairie Pines Assisted Living

25 Years Ago

September 10, 1999

Kiowa County tax

anticipated revenue will decrease \$303,822 next year due to the lost of the railroad & decline of oil & gas prices.

40 Years Ago

September 14, 1984

The 1984 Kiowa County

Fair 4-H Stock sale total was \$45,160, up \$7,400 from last year record.

50 Years Ago

September 13, 1974

Rubie Weisdorfer was

selected as Kiowa County Farm-Ranch Wife

75 Years Ago

August 26, 1949

Julie Mae Owen was

selected Rodeo queen of the Kiowa County Free Fair. She is an

experienced rider & roper having broken & trained her own horse. She is a member of the Eads Roping Club.

Haswell was a silent

town Fri. Every business house was closed except the post office. Everyone had gone to the Kiowa County Fair in Eads.

100 Years Ago

August 1924

While exercising a

pony at the race-track, Clyde Wilcox, met with an accident that resulted in a broken arm

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988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

ABOUT TOWN

DORIS LESSENDEN



"TRUST IN HIM (GOD) AT ALL TIMES, YOU PEOPLE; POUR OUT YOUR HEARTS TO HIM, FOR GOD IS OUR REFUGE" PSALMS 62:8 (NRS VUE)

The thought in the verse above is that God will care for your concerns, even though you don't voice them. This is so true in the life. However, in my life, I do not hesitate to voice my concerns to the Lord. Years ago, it was common for me to misplace papers or something. Then I would remember to pray to God to find it and then, suddenly, there it was! More recently, last Sunday, I couldn't find my purse anywhere when I was in such a hurry to go to Kit Carson church, I prayed. When I arrived at church, someone noticed that there was an extra bag on the back of my power chair. We discovered a nurse must have hung it there. It was my purse! I was so thankful.

The Kiowa County Fair is September 11-14! There are six different posters of events and types of rodeos happening during the fair that I read about on Jennifer Rittgers' café bulletin board. At the Chamber of Commerce meeting, President Dennis Pearson related that he has ordered tableware and

supplies, and Treasurer Brandon Hoffman has ordered the eggs, which have gone up in cost three times (300 percent, I think he said) since last year, and bacon has gone down 40 percent compared to last year. Brandon is going to park the chamber trailer in a horizontal pattern this year for the popular community breakfasts. This is one of my favorite parts of the fair. We are hoping for more volunteer workers, and some donations.

This should be a great year for exhibits, livestock shows, and sale. We are looking forward to the parade, barbecues, and other festivities that go on during the yearly fair.

Marty Miller and Sylvia Weeks told me that four or five of the Lujan brothers are coming home for the fair, and I heard that young Bill Dawson will be here. I do hope I get to see them. What fun memories I have of them in their years in Eads High School.

There was quite a stir of sadness and fear up here in the Extended Care Unit where Terry Voss lives with us when

we found out that Terry's grandson, Milo Britten, was in the emergency room. Later that night, this little Eads fourth grade student was taken by helicopter to Colorado Springs for care. We heard that he was driving a four-wheeler and was hit by a lady in a pickup or truck. Fortunately, little Milo's injury was mostly in his legs and an ankle. He has to stay home for several weeks to heal more. His grandmother was sad for him that he cannot continue to play football and tag football in the youth league, but he said, "It is alright, Grandma. Next year."

Kit Carson Day was fun, and it was wonderful to see old and newer friends. We had a great turnout of baked goods for our bake sale. I bought some to serve at our "after game party." Our church family hosts some parties after home games. We have foods, devotions or short Bible studies, or games and other entertainment.

We are eager to see the 4-H exhibits that extension agent Tearle Lessenden brought home from the state fair this week. Tearle spent most of the two weeks at the state fair, where he worked in the CSU Extension buildings judging and supervising exhibits and horse show judging.

After he brought home the Kiowa County 4-H members' exhibits, he and his assistant, Krystal Eikenberg, set up the members' projects and prepared for the many details of our fair that his office is responsible for. I hope you all who go to the county fair will walk through the exhibits to see all the Open Class entries, too. We have quality foods and floral exhibits, as well as handiwork clothing and lovely quilts on display. Come see the livestock, field crops, cars, and machinery, as well as about five different types of rodeos or more!

Eads seniors citizens enjoyed a lovely brunch September 5 at the center. Our director, Gail Voss, said she would arrange to have some foods brought from the fair barbecue meal to the center at noon September 13 and 14 for those senior citizens who want to come to the center to eat and visit. Call Areta Laird if you would like to have three lunches delivered to your home two

days a week. Chuck Bowen and Mike Bowen were pleased to visit with people in Kit Carson after the parade last week about their new book on the Sand Creek Massacre

Lane and Deborah Gooden brightened the lives of residents of Weisbrod and Prairie Pines who attended the church hour at their homes September 1.

According to the Kiowa County Press, 25 years ago, Gail Crawford took his son, Monty, along with Justin McCloud and Brian Miller, to Colorado Springs where they saw Tiger Woods golfing. This must have inspired Justin because he has been the Eads High School golf coach for 17 years! Thank you, Mr. Crawford, one of the most esteemed coaches to have coached and taught at EHS and inspired many students.

Have fun at the fair and parade!



Pastor's Pearls

Pastor Rich Z

WORTH HEARING

Before each election we hear so much it is hard to know the truth or what to accept as truth. But "Here is a trustworthy saying and that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-of whom I am the worst."

1 Timothy 1:15

KIOWA COUNTY WEATHER

Sept 03 2024 - Sept 09 2024
8:00 a.m. reading for the previous 24 hours

Date	High	Low	Precip	Snow
03	88	51	0.00	0.00
04	90	52	0.00	0.00
05	93	60	0.04	0.00
06	77	51	0.00	0.00
07	83	56	0.00	0.00
08	89	56	0.00	0.00
09	91	56	0.00	0.00

4 DAY FORECAST for KIOWA COUNTY

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Sunny 91 54	Sunny 86 53	Sunny 87 52	Sunny 88 55

Last Year High/Low: 97/47 Snow ('23/'24)
 Sept Precip. ('23/'24).....0.82/0.04 Month:..... 0.00/0.00
 Year-to-Date ('23/'24)... 119.73/7.10 Year: 17.2/5.2

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Colorado Parks and Wildlife announces Copper Creek wolf pack capture operations are complete

On September 9, 2024, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, with technical support from federal partners, completed the process to capture all six animals from the Copper Creek wolf pack.

The adult female 2312-OR, adult male 2309-OR, as well as four pups from the Copper Creek pack were transported to a secure location for evaluation and monitoring. 2312-OR was captured first, found in good body condition and transported with no issues.

CPW biologists were on site to assess the health of the animals, and facilitate transportation to a large, secure enclosure with limited human interaction to balance the needs of the animals and Colorado communities.

After conducting additional survey work following the capture of the last pup and not finding anything additional, CPW staff is confident that all the members of the Copper Creek pack have been captured.

The Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan states that CPW will not relocate wolves with depredation histories into the wild within Colorado.

“The plan also calls for flexibility,” said CPW Director Jeff Davis, “and it may not at times account for every unique situation the agency and our experts encounter. This spring, after a pair of wolves established a den in Middle Park, the male adult wolf was involved in multiple depredations. Removing the male at that time, while he was the sole source of food and the female was denning, would likely have been fatal to the pups and counter to the restoration mandate.”

“Working closely with internal and external wildlife biologists, CPW’s wildlife veterinarians, federal partners, and ranchers, CPW created a plan to deal with this unique situation that’s in the best interest of the wolves and Grand County producers,” said Davis.

The agency is providing an update that the adult male wolf, 2309-OR who was captured next following the capture of 2312-OR, was found in poor condition, with several injuries to his right hind leg, unrelated to the capture. The wolf’s body weight was nearly 30% lower than it was when he was released in December. CPW staff administered



antibiotics in an effort to address infections from his injury. Four days after transport, CPW’s wolf team biologists received a mortality signal from 2309-OR’s collar and the animal was confirmed to be deceased. CPW staff believes that it was unlikely the wolf would have survived for very long in the wild. A full necropsy will be conducted. Pups 2401, 2403, 2405, and 2402 were captured over the course of three days, with capture operations concluding on September 8 and were underweight and otherwise healthy.

The pups are still primarily dependent on adults for food, have deciduous teeth and are not effective hunters of anything larger than a rabbit or squirrel. There is no evidence that the four pups were involved in any of the livestock depredation incidents in Grand County. CPW will continue to assess the female and pups’ health and advance plans to re-release them, as they will be adult-sized and able to hunt on their own or together in a pack. This approach gives CPW the opportunity to release them into the wild together so they can contribute to wolf resto-

ration in Colorado. CPW will have conversations with local elected officials and landowners in possible release areas before a release occurs.

The August and September months are the most difficult for wild wolves given natural prey fitness. Holding them will allow CPW to ensure that their caloric needs are being met and will allow the agency to evaluate their progress over the coming weeks and work to ensure that all animals are in good condition before being released.

“We are still in the early stages of the restoration plan. Our legal obligation to Colorado voters is to continue working towards a sustainable population. We also must continue our efforts to minimize losses to our producers and to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the wolves as we work towards a viable gray wolf population,” said Davis.

“We will take the lessons we’ve learned here and apply them as we continue to build out a strong program alongside our federal and state partners, and both the wolf restoration advocacy and ranching

communities. The more we’re able to listen to understand one another and increase cooperation, the better off we’ll all be in the long run. Our focus in this case now is on a healthy release of the remaining members of the Copper Creek pack,” said Davis.

Timeline of Copper Creek pack capture operation:

On Thursday, August 22, CPW began the operation to capture and relocate wolves from the depredating Copper Creek wolf pack, with technical support from federal partners.

- The adult female 2312-OR was captured on Saturday, August 24.
- The adult male 2309-OR was captured on Friday, August 30 and died on Tuesday, September 3.
- The male pup 2401 was captured on Tuesday, September 3.
- Male pups 2403 and 2405 were captured on Wednesday, September 4.
- The female pup 2402 was captured on Thursday, September 5.

After three more days of operations, CPW felt confident there were no additional pups on the landscape. For the safety of these animals and staff, CPW will not be sharing the location of the pack.

For additional information, please see CPW’s Copper Creek Pack Operations Frequently Asked Questions document

Hometown Gas & Grill

809 Wansted St Hot Dogs - Sandwiches - Pizza Oven - Ice Cream
 719-438-2206 Pop - Chips & Snacks - Candy - Dining Area
<https://www.facebook.com/Hometown-Gas-Grill-1827749380800315/>

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We have: Propane - Batteries (Marine/Car) - Oil -
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Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting Minutes August 29, 2024

The Regular meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order on August 29, 2024, at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Donald Oswald. Chairman Oswald opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

- Donald Oswald, Chairman
- Howard "Butch" Robertson Commissioner
- Mike Lening, Commissioner
- Delisa Weeks, County Clerk
- Tina Adamson, County Administrator
- Member of Audience: Lisa Schlotterhausen, Southeast Colorado Economic Development

Minutes: Robertson moved, and Lening seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Vouchers: Robertson moved, and Oswald seconded the motion to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Oswald moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended with the following additions: Two additions were added to New Business. Model Traffic update and the GIS System New Business: Wycoff Pit. Motion carried.

Grant Updates: Discussion over the sidewalk project ensued. Adamson reported that Barnett Construction will be raising the ground level about 4 inches to make this more level.

Barnett recommended the salt that has been used for icy sidewalks in the past should not be used for the new sidewalk. Barnett will provide product information that can be used for the sidewalk throughout the winter without causing erosion to the sidewalk.

The maintenance de-

partment will be installing the new ADA required railing for the new sidewalk.

Transit building: Adamson said she has not received anything from the State on the new transit building in regard to a time frame for construction to begin. She will contact the State and see what the status is.

Richard Chambers with SCEDD entered the meeting by ZOOM to discuss the broadband on the east end of the county. He provided information on federal grants that may be available, which would pay for the broadband infrastructure for eastern Kiowa County. He understands there are about 50 locations near Sheridan Lake that are affected with limited use of broadband. Chambers said SCEDD's goal is to reach 97% of the State with broadband coverage.

Lening questioned the monthly fee for internet once this project is completed. He also raised the concern that inevitably there will be folks who will not receive internet access. In response, Mr. Chambers mentioned the importance of people speaking out and communicating the need in Kiowa County. This action demonstrates value and positive pressure to the process of the Grant Application. SCEDD will present Kiowa County with a letter communicating support and assistance with the grant application for the County.

Schlotterhausen, local SCEDD Coordinator said the Grant Program would pay for 75% of the cost of the project, with a 25% match. SECOM is going to absorb the large bulk of that 25% match with their operating clock costs. There will be a gap and currently, it's unclear what that will look like.

The goal is to get the cost down as low as possible. SCEDD has conducted a series of Business Resource Fairs, which will be transitioned into a virtual/hybrid format. This consists of a 2-year program for new businesses. Virtual classes as well as hand-on training will be the mode of instruction. There will be two hubs, one in the southern district and one in the northern district. Applications for the program are available in late September for classes to begin in January 2025. Schlotterhausen gave several suggestions for grants/funding for needed Grandstand seating.

Discussion regarding the **courthouse elevator compliance** issue ensued. BOCC shared the difficulty thus far in securing a contractor to address the issue. Ms.

Schlotterhausen said she would contact the contractor doing the elevator work for the Cow Palace in Lamar. The timeline looked like spring of 2025, she will keep the BOCC posted.

The Housing Update: Stefanie Gonzales with the local SECED was scheduled for arrival at Cactus Corner today for a progress update.

Planning and Zoning: Adamson had information regarding a solar farm that's being constructed in Cheyenne County. She questioned the 1041 process for Kiowa County due to the fact the substation for the solar farm will be located in Kiowa County. Adamson said there will need to be modifications to the application. Discussion ensued.

Bob Ward, Inspector for building permits

submitted his resignation effective September 10, 2024. We want to thank Mr. Ward for his services.

Adamson will reach out to several surrounding counties to see if they have someone that is certified as an Inspector.

Repairs at fair grounds: The electrical issues were completed for the inflatable bouncy houses that are used at fair time and the fans were installed in the north end under the grandstands.

The bucking chutes that were built in the 1970's are no longer available. The new loading chutes were purchased last year. The BOCC will address again after fair.

Lening moved, and

continued on A7

LAND AUCTION – ONLINE ONLY
B.J. Murdock Revocable Trust
1280± Deeded Acres Farmland & CRP
 Kiowa County, Colorado, located south of Sheridan Lake
 Township 19 South, Range 44 West
 All subject to wind lease and easement

Tract #1 S2 Section 27; 320 auction acres, 163.6 cropland acres, *wheat base acres 35.67, *PLC Yield 26, 144.92 CRP acres \$3,333/2030

Tract #2 All Section 34; 640 auction acres, 610.5 cropland acres, *wheat base acres 133.43, *PLC Yield 26

Tract #3 S2 Section 35; 317 auction acres, 295.87 CRP acres \$8,737/2032

*FSA designation at time of listing – currently feed stubble

***All bidders must be approved by the auctioneer prior to the bidding**

Auction bidding opens online September 18, 2024 @ 8:00 AM MTN and closes September 25, 2024 @ 2:00 PM MTN with soft close

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States pledge to address school absenteeism

CARLEEN JOHNSON

(The Center Square)

Fourteen states, including Colorado, have joined an effort to cut chronic student absenteeism by 50 percent over the next five years.

According to [Attendance Works](#), a national and state initiative that pushes for better policy and practice to improve school attendance, chronic school absence rates almost doubled from one out six to al-

most one out of three students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

And post-pandemic absenteeism rates remain higher than before the pandemic.

Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10 percent of school for any reason, whether the absence is excused or unexcused, and is affecting students from every economic level and ethnicity.

Education advocates from Attendance Works, [The Education Trust](#) and

the [American Enterprise Institute](#) came together earlier this summer to challenge state and policy leaders to sign onto the pledge to cut the chronic absentee rates in half by 2029.

According to AEI, districts with lower achievement and higher poverty have the highest rates of chronic absenteeism.

The [14 states](#) that have signed the pledge as of last week represent all regions of the country where more than 9 mil-

lion students are enrolled in public schools.

Those states are Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

Some 29.7 percent of the nation's students – nearly 14.7 million – were chronically absent in the 2021-2022 school year, according to federal data. About 6.5 million more students fall into

this category than before the pandemic, according to Attendance Works.

Katy Payne, spokesperson for the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction said, "Mirroring the rest of the nation, student attendance rates decreased during the pandemic as students navigated illness and family needs, and attendance has been on the rise since that initial drop." "Now, while we have seen an increase in the percentage of students who are absent from school for 18 days per year or more (defined as 'chronically absent'), what we are seeing is more students staying home when sick."

A [worksheet](#) prepared by Attendance Works is offered for teachers to gauge why individual students are chronically absent.

Regardless of the reasons for being absent, missing school impacts academic progress, and impacts classmates and [educators who struggle](#) to play catch up for students missing class.

According to the 2022 National Assessment of Educational Progress, 22 percent of fourth-graders [reported they were absent](#) five or more days in the previous month. That is double the percentage who reported that in 2019. The results were similar for eighth-graders.

Attendance Works initially plans to develop resources to assist states that are participating, encouraging state leaders and policy makers to raise awareness of the dire nature of student attendance in schools across their state, mobilize resources to improve engagement and attendance and address barriers to getting to school.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8 ARTICLE 1 REGARDING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS AND ICE CREAM VENDORS

WHEREAS, Colorado Revised Statutes § 31-15-401 grants general police powers to the City Council to promulgate ordinances for the health, safety and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, the use of mobile food trucks and pushcarts have become increasingly popular with residents, businesses and visitors to the City of Lamar; and

WHEREAS, the use of mobile food trucks and pushcarts on public property have created an unfair advantage for other businesses and a safety risk to the vendors and citizens without regulation of the vendors location; and

WHEREAS, mobile ice cream vendors operate differently than mobile food vendors as they are in static locations throughout the City for less than fifteen minutes, and should be allowed to serve customers on City property with appropriate regulations of the vendors; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lamar has further determined that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the City to exercise its express authority to regulate the location of mobile food vendors and mobile ice cream vendors in the City of Lamar, consider the needs existing businesses, and adopt and establish reasonable regulations concerning their location and to amend the City of Lamar Municipal Code as set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAMAR, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:

Part 1: The Lamar Municipal Code, CHAPTER 8, Article 1, Sec. 8-16 is hereby amended with the addition of said section to read as follows:

Sec. 8-16 Mobile Food Trucks, Pushcarts and Ice Cream Vendors

(a) Definitions. For the purposes of this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings as indicated, un-

less the context otherwise requires:

1. Ice cream products means ice cream, frozen milk, or any other frozen dairy, or non-dairy products of similar nature that may include sorbet, shaved ice and popsicles or ice product or confection.

2. Mobile Food Truck means a retail food establishment that is not intended for a permanent location and is a motorized wheeled vehicle, or a trailer that is licensed for use on public roadways, designed and equipped to serve food and beverages operating in either a static or transitory location and customers.

3. Mobile Food Vendor means any person who sells food and/or beverages from a mobile food truck or pushcart, excepting mobile ice cream vendors.

4. Mobile Ice Cream Vendor means any vehicle, whether human-powered, or motor-powered, from which ice cream products, and no other food items, are sold or offered for sale to the general public, except for any vehicle operated from a stationary location and does not include mobile establishments that serve food items other than ice cream products.

5. Pushcart means a retail food establishment that is not a motorized vehicle, a lightweight cart that is designed to be pushed or pulled by hand and is used to serve food and beverages. Pushcart does not include carts serving only ice cream products.

(b) Operational Standards. Mobile food vendors:

1. Shall not operate on publicly owned property and public right-of-way without prior approval for a special permit under Section 8-16(d).

2. Shall only sell food, nonalcoholic beverages, and branded merchandise specific to the vendor.

3. Shall be in compliance with all local ordinances.

4. Shall not obstruct pedestrian or bicycle passage and shall not impede traffic flow.

5. Shall keep the sidewalks, roadways, and other spaces adjacent to their temporary operating location clean and free of refuse of any kind

generated from the operation of their business.

(c) Operational Standards. Mobile Ice Cream Vendor:

1. May operate on publicly owned property or public right-of-way so long as the vehicle is not stationary for 15 minutes at one location without prior approval for a special permit under Section 8-16(d).

2. Shall lawfully and safely be stopped and not impede traffic.

3. Shall only sell ice cream products and branded merchandise specific to the vendor.

4. Shall only operate a vehicle that is clearly marked and identifiable as a mobile ice cream vendor.

5. Shall not operate or permit an employee or contractor to operate as a vendor that is a registered sex offender or has been convicted of any sex crimes involving children.

6. Shall not operate after sunset and before 10:00 a.m.

7. Shall abide by all state, local, federal laws and ordinances.

(d) Special Permit.

1. The City Council may authorize a mobile food vendor to operate on publicly owned property or public right-of-way, or may authorize a mobile ice cream vendor to remain stationary for more than 15 minutes, provided that the mobile food vendor or mobile ice cream vendor:

i. Completes an application for a special permit to the City Clerk.

ii. Describes the date, time and location of the use of publicly owned property or public right-of-way.

iii. Pays the application fee set by resolution of the City Council.

(e) Penalty.

1. Failure to comply with the terms of this chapter shall constitute a violation of this Code, as defined in chapter 1. Any person who is found guilty of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to the violation of this Code shall, for each offense, be subject to a penalty as set forth in section 1-21. Each day an offense continues shall constitute a sepa-

rate offense.

2. Repeated violation of this Section shall be considered a public nuisance and such conduct shall be sufficient grounds that may result in:

i. Suspension of mobile food vendors or mobile ice cream vendors business license subject to and in accordance with the process set forth in Section 8-10; or

ii. Revocation of the mobile food vendors or mobile ice cream vendors business license subject to and in accordance with the process set forth in Section 8-11.

CONFLICT

All Ordinances, Resolutions, By-laws, and Regulations of the City of Lamar in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY

If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, unenforceable or of no legal effect, by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, or clause shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication as provided by law.

READ IN FULL, PASSED, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED on first reading the 9th day of September, 2024 in accordance with the City Charter.

ATTEST:

KIRK CRESPIN, MAYOR
LINDA WILLIAMS, CITY CLERK

READ IN FULL AND ADOPTED on second reading this _____ day of _____, 2024 in accordance with the City Charter.

ATTEST:

KIRK CRESPIN, MAYOR
LINDA WILLIAMS, CITY CLERK

Published September 13, 2024
In the Kiowa County Press

PRAIRIE PINES ASSISTED LIVING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Kiowa County BOCC continued from A5

Oswald seconded the motion to recess the meeting for lunch at 12:05 P.M. Motion carried. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Fair Planning/Wristbands-CAF Sponsorship: The BOCC were all in consensus to pay for the county employees wristbands for Thursday and Friday of fair. Adamson said she was still seeking volunteers to help with the inflatable houses.

Maintenance: Lening moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to purchase a John Deere Zero-Turn mower to replace a 2012 Club Cadet that is used at the courthouse. Motion carried.

Legislation: SB 24-131- Gun Legislation/SB24-233-Property Tax-: Tabled.

Meeting and Reports were reviewed and signed.

Oswald moved to put a **15-year sunset on the county sales tax question at 1.5 % and a 1% Lodging tax.** Lening seconded. Motion carried.

NarCan: Sheriff Williams and Undersheriff Marlow entered the meeting to discuss the NarCan display that is in the hallway of the Courthouse. Sheriff Williams does not think the courthouse is an appropriate place for this. The BOCC will discuss further and see if there is a better location for it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Employees Resignation: Bob Ward and Joshua Robertson both submitted a Letter of Resignation to the Administrator. Lening moved and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the two resignations. Motion carried. The BOCC would like to thank the two employees for their services to Kiowa County.

Cheyenne County MOU: After review of the

Cheyenne County MOU, Oswald moved and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the MOU. The Veteran's Officer will be paid \$19.04 per hour by each county. Motion carried.

Library Board Letter of Interest: Lening moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to approve Beth Bell as an alternate member of the Library Board. Motion carried.

Administrator Adamson reported the concerns over a dirt road issue had been addressed.

PUC Meeting: Lening suggested the BOCC set a time to meet with some of the members of the east end of the County and the PUC. Lening said the members of the community need to hear what the PUC has in mind with the solar/wind projects. Adamson will contact the PUC Board to see if they would consider holding a public informational meeting.

Dallas Blaney, with federal funding explained that they can offer technical assist in grant writing support. If the county would be approved for a clean energy project and apply for funding the county could earn tax credits. Mr. Blane exited the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

IGA Approval: Robertson moved to approve a Kiowa Library question for the 2024 General Election. Oswald seconded; motion carried.

Robertson moved to approve a **County Tax Question for the 2024 General Election.** Lening seconded, motion carried.

New Hire Report: The new employees are working quite well.

Robertson moved, and Oswald seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried.

PRAIRIE PINES ASSISTED LIVING 1ST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Prairie Pines is an assisted living community that creates a residential home-like environment designed for anyone who may need assistance with daily activities.

The focus is on wellness and keeping the residents as independent as possible. We achieve this by providing a person-centered care plan of assistance for every individual resident. Prairie Pines is committed to the highest standards in providing our residents and their families with excellent care and committed to making a difference in people's lives. We've been a well established Assisted Living Facility since 2006 offering both short and long-term care.

To sign up to golf or to become a tournament sponsor, go to:

charitygolftoday.com/PrairiePines

We are excited to announce our 1st Annual Golf Tournament

Sunday, Sept 29, 2024
@ Eads Golf Club

Format: 2-Person
Best Ball Scramble (18 Holes)

Proceeds for new chairs in our dining room - new couches and chairs in the gathering areas.

FACT:
VAPE JUICE COMES IN FLAVORS YOU CRAVE.
OH WAIT, THAT'S THE NICOTINE.

GET THE FACTS

Are you ready to quit smoking, vaping or chewing tobacco? Prowers-Kiowa Public Health Department is offering **FREE** classes! Contact us today for more information.

Prowers County Public Health
1001 South Main Street
Lamar, CO 81052
719-336-8721



Governor Polis signs property tax bills, ballot initiatives withdrawn

SARA WILSON

(Colorado Newswire)

Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed a bipartisan package of property tax cuts into law on Wednesday, after supporters of a pair of ballot initiatives that proposed deeper cuts withdrew them earlier in the day.

House Bill 24B-1001 is the [result of a four-day special legislative session](#) that ended last week. In exchange for that bill's passage, two conservative groups agreed to remove initiatives 108 and 50 from the ballot. The measures would have slashed residential and commercial property assessment rates and limited future revenue increases with a 4 percent annual growth cap.

"This is really an example of bringing folks together, who may not see eye to eye on every issue, on a path forward



that's better for Colorado, taxpayers, schools, fire districts — and better for everyone than taking great risks," Polis said ahead of signing the bill.

Backers of the ballot initiatives withdrew them on Wednesday

morning, according to the secretary of state's office. The two conservative groups behind them, Advance Colorado and Colorado Concern, have committed to not running property tax initiatives for at least six years.

The special session bill was sponsored by House Speaker Julie McCluskie, a Dillon Democrat; Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, a Colorado Springs Republican; Senator Chris Hansen, a Denver Democrat; and Senator Barbara Kirkmeyer, a Weld County Republican. It passed both chambers with bipartisan support.

It will cut property taxes by about \$255 million in the 2026 tax year and save the average homeowner less than \$100 in the 2025 tax year by building upon a \$1.3 billion property tax cut that the [Legislature passed in May](#). It trims residential assessment rates, includes more business property types in the commercial rate cut from earlier this year and sets a 5.25 percent growth cap on the property tax revenue collected by local governments and school districts.

In comparison, the ballot initiatives would have resulted in a \$2.4 billion cut.

"It is unfortunate that we had to play defense, that we had to come forward and provide that additional relief because wealthy interests in this state continued to bring forward ballot measures that would ultimately undermine the stability of our communities," McCluskie said.

Some lawmakers pushed back on the reason for the special session, claiming that Polis and others bowed to the groups that placed the initiatives on the ballot and used them as a high-risk bargaining chip to get further property tax cuts. They also criticized the bill's process, which was negotiated behind closed doors and presented to lawmakers shortly before the special session started.

But Polis and sponsors defended the legislative process, saying the bill was properly developed with stakeholders and shared with the Legislature and the public on a typical timeline.

Polis and legislators hope this will button up years-long instability around the state's property taxes following the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment in 2020. That constitutional amendment set a ratio on how much property tax revenue could come from homes versus businesses.

"Since 2020 and the repeal of the Gallagher Amendment, unpredictability has burdened our state's property tax system," Kirkmeyer said. "It's created frustration for homeowners, small businesses and local governments alike. The people of Colorado deserve certainty."

Voting basics: How ballot signature verification works

LINDSEY TOOMER

(Colorado Newswire)

When a Colorado voter votes by mail, they need to sign their ballot envelope for verification by bipartisan teams of election judges.

Election judges compare a ballot signature to a signature the voter's county clerk has on file from official documents. If someone registered to vote through the Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles, for example, their ballot signature will be compared to their license signature.

A ballot will be rejected if a team of two election judges from different political parties agree that a voter's signature on their ballot doesn't match the one elections officials

have on file, or if the signature is missing altogether. The team of two reviews each signature after a single election judge conducts an initial review, and in some cases after a ballot processing machine conducts a review.

Election judges are trained to look for specific issues with a signature to determine its validity.

"An election judge may compare additional information written by the voter on the return envelope, such as the voter's address and date of signing," Colorado's [election rules](#) related to signature verification say. "Any similarities noted when comparing other information may be used as part of the signature verification de-

cision process."

Ballot processing machines that verify signatures must be regularly checked for accuracy. If an election judge finds that a machine accepts a signature an election judge would have denied, the county must stop using the machine and notify the secretary of state's office.

If a voter's ballot is flagged for a discrepancy, they can "cure" their ballot by verifying their signature through the state's [TXT2Cure system](#). Voters will receive a letter in the mail from their county clerk notifying them if their ballot is rejected and what they need to do to resolve the problem. Voters with signature discrepancies have until 11:59 p.m.

on the eighth day after Election Day to cure their ballots; in 2024, that deadline will fall on Nov. 13.

In the 2020 general election, [11,085 ballots](#) with signature verification issues were cured via the TXT2Cure program statewide. Another 21,838 signature issues were not cured, so those ballots were rejected and not counted in the election results.

[CPR News found](#) that over 25,000 ballots went uncured in the June 2020 primary election because of issues with a voter's signature verification, mostly from young and non-white voters.

All claim credit for passage of law to cut Colorado property taxes

JOE MUELLER

(The Center Square)

The ballot items are withdrawn, ink is dry on the bill and everyone is claiming victory as Coloradans will see a reduction in property taxes after years of spikes.

"Today, Colorado taxpayers are the winners," Michael Fields, president of Advance Colorado, said in a statement.

Advance Colorado and Colorado Concern worked to [gather thousands of signatures](#) to get two items on the November ballot to "cut and cap" property taxes. Many Democratic legislators joined local municipalities, fire districts and school districts in stating the passage of the initiatives would have significant negative impacts on those entities since operating revenue comes from property taxes.

Before announcing the

special legislative session, Democratic Governor Jared Polis [negotiated a deal](#) where a bill favorable to Advance Colorado's objectives would be passed in exchange for the ballot initiatives being withdrawn.

"Our goal over the past two years has been to solve the state's property tax crisis through a significant and permanent property tax cut and an enforceable cap to prevent future tax spikes," Fields said. "Coloradans across the political spectrum have made it clear that they need substantial and meaningful property tax relief. Today, that is what this new law delivers."

[House Bill 24B-1001](#) changes property value assessment rates beginning in the 2024 property tax year. The law modifies a property tax growth limit for some

local government entities and creates a property tax growth limit for school districts.

"I'm proud to sponsor this bill that will help Coloradans keep more of their hard-earned money while smoothing the fluctuations in property taxes in the future," House Minority Leader Rose Pugliese, R-Colorado Springs, said in a statement. "This collaborative effort is delivering much-needed relief for the people of our state."

The bill Polis signed Wednesday would only take effect if [Senate Bill 24-233](#) took effect. Signed into law by Polis on May 14, no part of it would have taken effect if voters approved the two November ballot measures. The law changes property valuation assessments beginning in the 2024 property tax year, sets a property tax limit, and

changes the property tax deferral program.

"Today we answered the calls of hardworking Coloradans who urged us to reduce the property tax rate," Polis said in a statement. "This tax cut builds on our efforts to lower the cost of housing in our state, ensuring life in Colorado is more livable and affordable for everyone."

Polis office provided estimated property tax savings for the following areas:

Denver: Median home price is \$709,920; average savings will be \$233.47 in tax year 2025 and \$259.91 in 2026.

Adams County: Me-

dian home price is \$556,660; average savings will be \$324.22 in 2025 and \$366.42 in 2026.

Garfield County: Median home price is \$540,700; average savings will be \$188.52 in 2025 and \$214.03 in 2026.

Pueblo County: Median home price is \$326,260; average savings will be \$173.26 in 2025 and \$196.36 in 2026.

El Paso County: Median home price is \$514,820; average savings in 2025 will be \$143.30 and \$160.82 in 2026.

Governor Polis signs special session bill to expand agricultural tax breaks

SARA WILSON

(Colorado Newswire)

Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed the second bill passed [during last week's special session](#) into law Friday morning, making certain property tax exemptions for agricultural equipment permanent.

It applies to equipment used in a controlled agricultural environment and extends it to equipment used in a commercial greenhouse that is solely used to grow crops for humans or livestock. The exemption, passed in 2022, is currently set to expire in 2027.

"Colorado is proud to put food on tables across the state and around the world, and the success of our agricultural businesses and entrepreneurs is a key part of that," Polis said in a statement. "Today we are breaking down barriers and cutting taxes for Colorado greenhouses, helping to keep more money in the pockets of the hardworking Coloradans who help strength-

en our economy."

[House Bill 24B-1003](#) was sponsored by Democratic Representative Junie Joseph of Boulder, Republican Representative Matt Soper of Delta, Democratic Senator Kevin Priola of Henderson and Republican Senator Mark Baisley of Sedalia.

"This ensures all equipment used to plant, grow and harvest crops — regardless of whether they are grown outside or under a roof — are treated the same for business personal property tax purposes," Priola said during the bill's August 28 committee hearing.

It is unclear how much the exemptions will affect local property tax revenue, according to the bill's fiscal note.

The bill was one of two passed during the recent special session on property taxes.

Colorado parents face September 30 deadline to help fund school meals

ERIC GALATAS

(Colorado News Connection)

Colorado students will not go hungry this school year, thanks to the [Healthy School Meals for All](#) initiative approved by voters in 2022.

Their parents will need to fill out some paperwork to tap critical federal dollars to help pay for the popular program.

Laura Segura, a community council member of Hunger Free Colorado and a parent, urged parents to complete their child's school benefits form no later than September 30.

"We need to fill out those forms, no matter what," Segura stressed. "If the parents don't do their job, which is to advocate for their kid's needs, who else is going to do that?"

The one-page application goes by many

names depending on the school district: school, meal, community or educational benefits. Segura emphasized if parents and caregivers have not already received the form by mail, they should contact their child's school.

Filling out the form helps bring federal taxes already paid by Coloradans back to the state to help pay for school meals. It also helps families and schools get Summer EBT benefits, get discounts on school fees and activities and other community benefits.

School districts have until September 16 to officially opt into the meal program and most of the state's largest districts are already on board. Segura noted investing in children's nutrition pays significant dividends in their health, academ-

ic success and lifetime earning potential. She added it is much harder to stay focused in the classroom on an empty stomach.

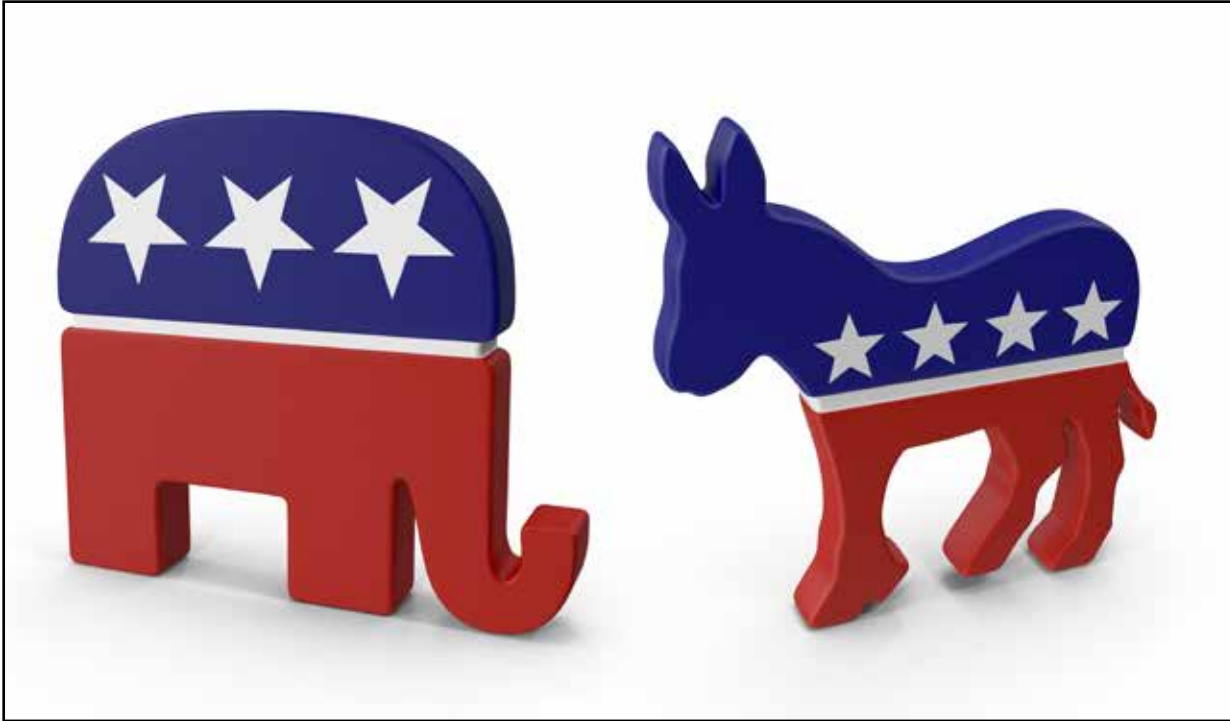
"If the kids don't have what they need, they are going to suffer mentally, emotionally and physically," Segura asserted. "Most importantly, they are not going to be focused on their academics."

A [recent poll](#) found 70 percent of Republicans, 79 percent of independents and 91 percent of Democrats support Healthy School Meals for All, which is paid for by Coloradans earning \$300,000 or more per year.

Since its launch, participation in school breakfasts has grown by 36 percent, and lunch participation is up by 31 percent.



Limited public access as Boebert, Calvarese talk economy in only scheduled debate



SARA WILSON

(Colorado Newswire)

Republican U.S. Representative Lauren Boebert and Democrat Trisha Calvarese sparred over economic issues in a debate on Tuesday afternoon, an untelevised event at a country club that was the only debate scheduled ahead of the election so far.

They are vying to represent the 4th Congressional District, which includes the state's Eastern Plains and juts into suburban Douglas County.

"I'm not running for a political agenda for myself. I'm running for the people. I'm hearing from them, and I want to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs," Calvarese said in front of a full banquet room at The Club at Ravenna in Littleton.

The debate was hosted by the Douglas County Economic Development Corporation and moderated by Ernest Luning of Colorado Politics.

It only included questions about industry, the workforce and the economy. The district includes much of Colorado's agricultural and energy industries on the Eastern Plains, as well as technology, health care and manufacturing interests.

Calvarese spoke about maintaining funding for recent economic legislation such as the CHIPS and Science Act and being a "conduit" to resources that exist within the government for business and industry, including in emerging fields like artificial intelligence and quantum computing. Boebert said that instead of increasing government spending, she would work to further shrink the federal government, regulations and regulators like the Environmental Protection Agency that limit industry.

"If we're going to talk about the red tape and the EPA, then the real issue to address is the EPA itself, and to minimize

that or defund it altogether," Boebert said in response to a comment from Calvarese about the detailed reporting farmers need to do to the agency. "That is the biggest hindrance that our farmers, ranchers, and oil and gas workers face on a regular basis."

Boebert also criticized provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act and other legislation that incentivize renewable energy.

"You have the federal government propping up one industry over the other and creating an imbalance in the market. We need to allow the market to decide what industry is going to be most beneficial, most reliable and most responsible," she said.

Meanwhile, Calvarese praised the investments within the Inflation Reduction Act.

"It actually has a ton of potential to bring excellent, high-paying, quality jobs to our district. And, in fact, you want to talk about gas — there's tons of pipeline that we need

to replace right now that is leaking left and right," she said.

She said she sees federal legislation, like the IRA and the CHIPS and Science Act, as important factors in shoring up American competitiveness and innovation.

"The pandemic made crystal clear the consequence of decades of offshoring and outsourcing our manufacturing and innovation base," she said. "We need to make it in America, invent it in America and discover it in America."

Boebert repeatedly defended her voting record in Congress, even when Calvarese pointed out votes she said were against district interests, such as Boebert's "no" on a spending package that [bolstered veterans' health care benefits](#). Boebert countered that the thousand-page, omnibus bills Congress passes are not the right way to legislate, even if they contain some good ideas.

Calvarese said she

would consider extending some [tax cuts](#) enacted by former President Donald Trump in 2017 that help businesses and have an offset in the budget. Boebert said she would vote to extend and expand all of those tax cuts, which largely [benefited corporations and the wealthy](#). Both are supportive of a child tax credit, though Boebert said only American citizens should be able to receive it.

Boebert said she would not vote for an increase in the federal minimum wage, which has been \$7.25 since 2009. Calvarese said she wants a \$15 minimum wage for all workers, including those who earn tips.

The 4th Congressional District was represented by Republican Representative Ken Buck for nine years until he [stepped down in March](#) and was [replaced by Representative Greg Lopez](#), who is not running for a full term in the seat. The district is the most conservative in the state.

Boebert, who represents Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, handily won a crowded Republican primary in the 4th District after moving across the state in order to run for the seat.

Calvarese has challenged Boebert to two televised debates ahead of the election. Tuesday's event was not open to the public and cost \$35 for non-members of the Douglas County Economic Development Corporation. Boebert did not commit to any other debates when asked by reporters on Tuesday.

Voters will begin to receive ballots in the mail in mid-October. Election Day is November 5.

These are all the measures set to appear on Colorado's statewide ballot in 2024

CHASE WOODRUFF

(Colorado Newsline)

A total of 14 citizen initiatives and legislatively referred measures are set to appear on Coloradans' 2024 ballots, though at least two of them are expected to be withdrawn within the next few days.

The last of nine pending initiatives were formally certified for the ballot by the secretary of state's office last week after supporters submitted a sufficient number of valid petition signatures before the Aug. 5 deadline. They joined five measures placed on the ballot by Colorado lawmakers earlier this year.

The conservative groups sponsoring two of the measures, [Initiatives 50](#) and [108](#), have agreed to pull them off the ballot as part of a deal struck with Colorado Gov. Jared Polis and Democratic legislative leaders.

The 12 measures expected to remain on the ballot are slightly above the average total for an even-year election over the last 20 years, but shy of the record 14 statewide measures that appeared on Coloradans' ballots twice, in 2006 and 2008.

Ballot questions can either be statutory measures — which, if approved, become state laws that can be changed by the Legislature — or amendments to the state Constitution, which can only be changed by subsequent amendments passed at the ballot box. Constitutional amendments face a higher bar for approval, requiring 55% of the vote to pass, rather than the simple majority required for statutory measures.

To date, proposed

initiatives have been numbered sequentially according to when they were filed with the state's Initiative Title Setting Review Board, commonly known as the Title Board. More than 300 proposed initiatives were filed in the 2024 election cycle, the vast majority of which were denied a title by the board or withdrawn by proponents. Eight were approved for circulation but failed to submit the required signatures to the secretary of state's office last month.

Once the ballot is finalized on Sept. 6, qualified measures will be re-numbered in sequential order beginning with Amendment 79 for constitutional amendments, and Proposition 127 for statutory initiatives. In early September, detailed information about the measures prepared by nonpartisan state staff will be mailed to registered voters in the 2024 Blue Book, which will also be available online. Ballots will be mailed to voters beginning Oct. 11.

Referred measures

The Colorado General Assembly can refer to the ballot any statutory measure on a simple majority vote, and is required to do so for any bill that raises state tax revenue. Legislative referrals of constitutional amendments require a two-thirds vote.

[House Concurrent Resolution 24-1002](#) is a proposed constitutional amendment that would create an exception to the right to bail for criminal defendants accused of first-degree murder. The amendment would resolve what lawmakers

and prosecutors called an "unintended consequence" of the state's 2020 repeal of the death penalty, since courts are currently permitted only to deny bail for "capital offenses," and no such offense exists any longer under Colorado law.

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 24-002](#) proposes amending the Constitution to modify several election-related deadlines, including a requirement that initiative petitions be submitted one week earlier than

sales of guns, gun parts and ammunition. The revenue would be used to fund mental health services, gun safety programs and support services for victims of domestic violence.

[House Bill 24-1436](#) referred a statutory measure that seeks voter approval for the state to keep excess revenues collected from its sports betting tax, which have exceeded the projected \$29 million annual cap that voters approved in 2019. The additional revenue, estimated at between \$2.8 and \$7.2 million annually over the next three years, would fund water and conservation projects rather than being refunded to taxpayers.

Almost 3,000 protesters gathered at the Colorado Capitol in downtown Denver on June 24, 2022, in response to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned the *Roe v. Wade* decision, which had guaranteed abortion rights. (Andrew Fraieli for Colorado Newsline)

Initiated measures [Initiative 89](#) is a proposed constitutional amendment that would protect the right to abortion. It's backed by Coloradans for Protecting Reproductive Freedom, a coalition of abortion rights groups and other progressive organizations.

[Initiative 91](#) is a statutory measure that proposes a ban on trophy hunting of mountain lions, bobcats or lynx. It's supported by the group Cats Aren't Trophies, and opposed by hunting and trapping advocates including the Sportsmen's Alliance.

[Initiative 112](#) is a statutory "truth in sentencing" measure that would make people convicted of certain violent crimes ineligible for parole until they have served at least 85% of their sentences. It's sponsored by Advance Colorado, a conservative "dark money" nonprofit that has spent millions to influence state elections in recent years but which is not required to disclose its donors.

[Initiative 138](#), also backed by Advance Colorado, would enact a statutory "right to school choice," with language that aims to protect "neighborhood, charter, private and home schools, open enrollment options, and future innovations in education."

[Initiative 145](#) is a statutory measure that would allow certain veterinary services to be practiced by associates without a full state-issued veterinarian's license, to address what industry proponents call a severe veterinary workforce shortage.

[Initiative 157](#), another Advance Colorado measure, would make a one-time appropriation of \$350 million to a new police officer training fund under the Colorado Department of Public Safety.

[Initiative 310](#) is a sweeping election reform measure that would replace partisan primaries with a single "all-candidate" primary for each state and federal office, and enact a top-four, ranked choice voting system to decide general elections. It's backed by Kent Thiry, an influential Colorado megadonor, and Unite America, a nonprofit that touts its model as a cure for partisan polarization and political dysfunction.



under current law.

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 24-003](#) is a proposed constitutional amendment that would repeal a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. The ban was narrowly approved by Colorado voters in 2006, but has been inoperative since the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide. Supporters of this year's "Freedom to Marry" amendment say it's necessary to protect LGBTQ rights that have been put at risk by the court's current 6-3 conservative majority.

[House Bill 24-1349](#) referred a statutory measure to the ballot asking voters to approve a new 6.5% excise tax on

Kiowa County July 2024 Vouchers

The following vouchers were paid at the Regular Meetings held on July 12, 2024 and July 24, 2024 to be paid out of 2024 Budget to wit:

**SAND CREEK
MASSACRE
NATIONAL
HISTORIC SITE**

VISITOR CENTER

Located at 1301
Maine Street Eads,
CO Call 719 438-5916
for more information

Sunday Closed

Monday Closed

**Tuesday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**Wednesday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**Thursday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**Friday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

Saturday Closed

<https://www.nps.gov/sand/planyourvisit/ba-sicinfo.htm>

**SAND CREEK
MASSACRE
NATIONAL
HISTORIC SITE**

CONTACT STATION

The Contact Station is located 23 miles outside of Eads - eight miles north of the town of Chivington. More details contact park staff at (719) 729-3003

Monday 9 am to 4 pm

Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

Friday 9 am to 4 pm

Saturday 9 am to 4pm

<https://www.facebook.com/SandCreekMas-sacreNHS>

CONSERVATION TRUST	
Travis Bloomfield Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Dalton McDowell Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Robertson, Riley Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Town of Eads Horseshoe Park - Water	\$72.75
	\$522.75
FAIR BOARD	
Kiowa County Junior Livestock County Fair Buckles	\$1,101.10
Plains Printing, Inc Fair Book Printing	\$517.70
	\$1,618.80
SOCIAL SERVICES	
Crystal Arellano American Fidelity-insurance	\$47.48
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$385.80
Kiowa County Treasurer Fed & Fica Tax Withheld, State Withheld, Retirement Withheld, Offset for Direct Deposit	\$18,678.26
	\$19,111.54
PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY FUND	
Atmos Energy Gas Bill	\$32.95
CDPHE Vital Records	\$56.00
Colorado State Treasurer Unemployment Insurance	\$29.16
Town of Eads Water Bill	\$100.82
Unifirst Office Supplies	\$56.27
Eads Consumers Supply Travel/meals	\$9.90
Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Telephone & Internet-EPR1/3 Grant; Public Health Phones	\$161.10
Pit Stop CMG Fuel for Car	\$158.28
Southeast CO Power Electric	\$177.73
DeLoach's Water Conditioning Water	\$16.00
Teen Truth About Face Expenses	\$29,750.00
Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit/Withholding	\$9,530.10
GN BANK HSA Deposit	\$259.00
MASA MTS Elective Benefits	\$14.00
Viaero Wireless CMG Telephone	\$176.04
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$326.94
VISA Office Supplies; Misc; Travel Mtg	\$419.61
	\$41,273.90
COUNTY GENERAL	
719 Suply LLC Machine Repairs/Fairgrounds Repair	\$191.73
Donna Adame Reimburse transit Van First Aid Kits	\$66.30
Amazon Capital Services Sheriff-Office Supplies	\$22.71
American Biodentity Inc Transit Van-Finger Printing	\$55.00
American Environmental Cons Landfill-Professional Services	\$1,908.45
Atmos Energy Natural Gas	\$158.43
Barnett Construction Capital Outlay - Courthouse sidewalks	\$20,000.00
Bent County Sheriff Sheriff-Dispatch	\$5,000.00
Business Solutions Leasing Admin-Service Agreement	\$205.97
Colorado Natural Gas Recycling Utilitiies	\$31.66
Colorado Secretary of State Elections-Travel mtg	\$60.00
Colorado State Treasurer State Treasurer Unemployment Insurance, 2nd Quarter	\$362.64
Crow's Stop & Shop Eads SNRS-Group Meal, Bldg Maint-Supplies, Healthly Choices	\$3,273.57
CSU Extension CSU 2nd Qtr 2024	\$9,403.10
District Attorney Office Salary, Office Supplies	\$2,901.67
Eads Auto Supply Sheriff-Repairs, Recycling, Landfill, Bldg Supplies	\$1,931.97
Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Telephone Bills	\$1,351.69
Flory, Diana Treasurer: Travel	\$139.38
JR Audio Sheriff-Capital Outlay 2024 GMC	\$13,321.00
Kiowa County Independent Veteran-Advertising, Transit Van-Advertising	\$182.00
Kiowa County Hospital Case Prep/Control Program	\$30.90
Marshall & Swift/Boeckh, LLC Dues and Fees	\$681.20
Perkins Sheriff-Auto Repairs	\$127.98
Plains Network Clerk Supplies; Sheriff- Supplies	\$19.50
Precision Auto Glass LLC Sheriff-Auto Repairs	\$583.89
ProCom LLC Transit Van-Random Drug Test	\$45.00
Quill Corporation Admin Assist-Office Supplies, Transit Van-Supplies	\$182.54
Small Town Graphix Recycling- Signs	\$504.00
SECOM Sheriff-Internet	\$182.08
S.E.C.P.A. Electrical Utility	\$4,648.96
State of Colorado DPA Accounting Clerk Postage and Freight	\$143.91
Thunderbird Petroleum Products Sheriff-Fuel	\$51.19
Town of Eads Eads SNRS Water, Courthouse Water	\$984.69
Towner Recreation District Towner SRS Utilities	\$75.00
Towner Rec District Towner Utilities	\$150.00
Viaero Maint Phone, DEM-, Landfill	\$249.31
West End Golden Seniors Operating Supplies	\$86.82
West End Golden Seniors Haswell-Utilities	\$434.86
Wheatland Electric Towner: Siren	\$102.67
Amazon Capital Services Sheriff-Office Supplies	\$36.52
American Biodentity INC. Fingerprinting for Transit Van drivers	\$110.00
Avenu Treasurer/Assessor Maintenance Contract	\$2,803.56
Civil Air Patrol Sheriff- Printing and vertiising	\$100.00
CO Dept of Revenue Garnishment	\$813.76
Eads Consumer Supply Sheriff, Transit Van, Recycling, amd Build Maintenance	\$916.88
Family Support Registry Garnishment	\$585.00
Kiowa County Treasurer Fed/FICA/State W/held, Retirement W/held to Offset Direct Deposit	\$132,722.83
GN BANK HSA Deposit	\$833.00

GN BANK Lease payment on DSS Van	\$453.91
Gobin's Inc. Admin-Service Agreement	\$100.61
JR Audio 2nd 2023 GMC Sierra	\$13,381.00
Legal Shield Prepaid Legal	\$12.95
Kiowa County Library Attorney Fees	\$4,000.00
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$1,903.86
MASA MTS Elective Benefits	\$136.00
NKC Tire Sheriff; Auto Repairs	\$981.40
Donald Oswald Commissioner-Travel	\$294.38
Petty Cash Fund Dues/Fees, Admin-Postage, T-Van Driver's record	\$55.72
Plains Network Services Landfill Printing	\$87.50
Precision Home and Lawn Sheriff: Impound Lot Gate	\$2,456.00
Quill Corporation Admin, Transit Van-Supplies, Healthy Choices	\$193.50
Road & Bridge Fund Landfill-Fuel, Recycling -Fuel	\$820.73
Saffer Spray Service Bldg Maintenance-Supplies	\$732.80
Schneider Geospatial, LLC Assessor: GIS System	\$4,893.41
Skaggs Companies Inc Sheriff-Uniforms	\$174.22
State Industrial Products Building Supplies	\$845.13
Town of Eads Bulk Water-Impact Fees	\$15,000.00
Town & Country Tech Admin-Repairs	\$175.00
Triple A Exteriors Capital Outlay Removal of metal roof	\$7,000.00
Uhland, Traci Reimbursement: Election Judge Meals	\$37.86
Unifirst Corporation Bldg Supplies	\$366.25
USPS Postal Service Sheriff: Box Rent	\$120.00
Viaero Sheriff Telephone	\$313.46
VISA Treasurer, Clerk-Elections, Admin, Sheriff, DEM, Land Fill, Transit Van	\$2,590.80
Nancy Walker Elections: Training	\$328.06
Tim Weeks Transit Van- Travel Mtgs	\$44.68
WEX Bank Sheriff-Auto Fuel	\$2,827.18
	\$269,099.73

ROAD & BRIDGE

4 Rivers Equipment Repair; Freight	\$743.84
719 Supply LLC Supplies, Repairs, Filters, TV Towers	\$4,149.06
Atmos Energy Natural Gas: Eads Shop	\$30.20
Barnett, Bill Maintenance: Barnett Gravel Pit	\$56.00
Brunstage Land Surveying, INC Consulting: Wycoff Pit	\$3,850.00
Colorado Natural Gas Natural Gas: Sheridan Lake Shop	\$60.84
Colorado State Treasurer Unemployment Insurance: 2nd Qtr 2024	\$173.76
Consolidated Communications Telephone: Sheridan Lake Shop	\$59.67
Cordova, Billie Lease: August Rent	\$250.00
David Merrill Senor Maintenance: 2024 Gravel Prepay	\$2,000.00
Digitcom Electronics Supplies: Cables	\$50.78
Eads Auto Supply Supplies, Tools, Fuel, Repairs, Filters	\$1,235.61
Eads Consumer Supply Co Inc Fuel	\$7,994.53
Eastern Slope Telephone Telephone: Eads & Haswell Shops, Environmental Chemistry Srvs Professional Consulting: District Shops 1 & 2	\$3,804.00
Fremont Paving Maintenance: Asphalt \$33,190.50	
Geologic Services & Consultants Professional Consulting: District Shops 1 & 2	\$9,278.10
GNBank HSA Payable	\$1,202.00
John Deere Credit Debt Service: CDZR; Capital Outlay: Skidr Payout	\$211,257.53
John Deere Financial Equipment: Repairs	\$190.82
Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit/Withholding	\$45,122.02
Manhattan Life Cigna Elective Benefits	\$313.87
PB Hoidale Co., INC Capital Outlay: 12000 gallon tank	\$47,711.47
Petty Cash Fund Postage: Certified Mail; Fees: Vehicle Registrations	\$44.75
Quill Corp Admin: Office Supplies	\$108.99
Redlund Equipment Repairs	\$353.99
S&K Fuel and Repair Oil, Filters, Tires	\$390.01
S&K Fuel and Repair Fuel	\$20,708.28
Sheridan Lake Water Water Utility: SL Shop	\$75.00
Southeast Colorado Power Electricity: Fuel Pump; Haswell Shop; Sheridan Lake Shop; TV Tower; Hogue	\$771.88
Terry's Body Shop Repairs: Unit 53	\$348.00
Thunderbird Petroleum Products Repairs	\$242.35
Town of Eads Water Utility: Eads Shop	\$208.98
Town of Haswell Water Utility: Haswell Shop	\$40.00
Triple B Doors Haswell Shop Door	\$500.00
Unifirst Maintenance: Supplies, Uniforms	\$219.92
Wagner Equipment Equipment: Repairs, Outside Repairs	\$2,628.28
	\$399,489.22

ATTEST:
Delisa L. Weeks, County Clerk

SOCIAL SERVICES

During the regular meetings of the Kiowa County Board of Social Services held during July 2024, the following bills were approved for payment:

	TOTAL
General Operation	\$2,634.58
General Assistance	\$-
Personnel	\$3,758.55

Submitted by Dennis Pearson, Director, Kiowa County Department of Social Services.

ATTEST: APPROVED:
Delisa L. Weeks, County Clerk
Donald Oswald, Chairman

Published September 13, 2024
In the Kiowa County Press

Kiowa County August 2024 Vouchers

The following vouchers were paid at the Regular Meetings held on August 15, 2024 and August 29, 2024 to be paid out of 2024 Budget to wit:

COUNTY GENERAL

CONSERVATION TRUST

Kern, Robert Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
McDowell, Dalton Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Robertson, Riley Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Stoker, Paul Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Watts, Allen Lake Clean Up	\$150.00
Town of Eads Horseshoe Park Water	\$88.20
	\$838.20

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

American Legion Historical Grant	\$31,526.70
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FAIR BOARD

Adame, Donna Reimbursement: Postage	\$10.40
Airbound County Fair Fees: Final Payment	\$5,200.00
CPRA Rodeo Secretary County Fair: Added Money	\$11,000.00
Eads Community Church Advertising: Calendar Listing	\$6.00
Garcia, Tiana Judging: 4-H	\$173.75
H & H Rodeo Company County Fair: Rodeo	\$12,100.00
Kiowa County Independent County Fair: Advertising	\$141.00
Lucky Rooster Productions County Day: Ranch Rodeo/Bronc	\$700.00
Maxcy, Joel County Fair: Judge	\$77.50
McCustion, JW County Fair: Ranch Bronc/Pickup Men	\$3,500.00
McEndree, Randy County Fair: Judge	\$150.00
Olhauser, Les F County Fair: Rodeo Announcer	\$800.00
Plains Network Service, Inc County Fair: Posters/Printing	\$72.00
Plains Printing, INC County Fair: Fair Books	\$211.39
S&D Music & Sound Production County Fair: Rodeo Sound	\$1,400.00
Salt River Rodeo Company County Fair: R Bronc Riding	\$3,000.00
Small Town Graphix County Fair: Banners	\$542.00
Spady, Carole County Fair: Judge	\$77.50
VISA Banners for Fair	\$288.00
Williams, Cindy Mutton Bustin Shirts	\$280.00
	\$39,729.54

SOCIAL SERVICES

Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit; Elective Benefits	\$18,498.48
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$385.80
	\$18,884.28

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY FUND

Atmos Energy Gas Bill	\$32.95
CDPHE July Birth Certificates	\$9.00
CDPHE Vital Records	\$3.00
Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Telephone & Internet-EPR Phones;	
Public Health Phones	\$158.20
GNBank H.S.A. Payable	\$259.00
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$242.94
MASA Mts Elective Benefits	\$14.00
Mauch, Sharon CMG-Travel Mtg: IOG Stipend	\$690.00
Prower's County Public Health Grant Expense; Contract Labor;	
EPR Grant: COVID IMM	\$67,795.99
Quill Corp Office Supplies	\$39.27
S.E.C.P.A. Electric	\$207.91
Lisa Thomas Reimburse Office Supplies	\$148.89
Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit; Elective Benefits;	
Withholding	\$9,614.10
Town of Eads Public Health Water	\$100.82
Unifirst Public Health: Office Supplies	\$56.27
Viaero Wireless CMG Telephone	\$176.04
VISA Office Supplies; Misc; Training	\$544.86
	\$80,093.24

COUNTY GENERAL

719 Supply LLC Bldg. Maintenance/Fairgrounds	\$548.57
Amazon Capital Services Sheriff-Office Supplies	\$22.25
American Environmental Cons Landfill-Professional Services	\$4,813.20
Atmos Energy Natural Gas-Courthouse; Bransgrove; Comm Bldg;	
Fair BBQ	\$113.20
Avenu Assr & Treas Contracts, RTI & RTU	\$6,066.46
Barnett Construction Capital Outlay -Courthouse sidewalks	\$8,050.00
Bent County Sheriff Sheriff-Dispatch	\$5,000.00
Business Solutions Leasing Admin-Service Agreement	\$205.97
Colorado Natural Gas Recycling Utilities	\$31.66
Crow's Stop & Shop Bldg. Maint-Supplies; Healthy Choices;	
Eads Snrs	\$4,015.83
District Attorney Office Salary, Office Supplies	\$2,901.67
Eads Auto Supply Sheriff-Repairs; Fairgrounds; Landfill; Bldg	
Supplies; Comm Bldg; small tools; Bldg Repairs; Auto Repairs	\$1,694.54
Eads Consumer Supply Bldg Main-Propane; Fuel; Landfill-Tire	
repair; Transit Van; Sheriff-Unit 41 Fuel; Sheriff-Auto Repairs	\$1,253.65
East End Townner Senior Citizens Staff	\$75.00

Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Telephone Bills	\$1,364.21
Engelhardt, Shellie Fuel, Travel Mtgs	\$111.40
Family Support Registry Garnishments	\$585.00
GNBank H.S.A. Payable	\$833.00
GNBank Lease Pmt: DSS Van	\$453.91
Gobins INC Service Agreement	\$100.60
Investigations Law Group Professional Law Services	\$4,925.00
Kiowa County Independent Election; Admin; landfill; P&Z;	
HC ad; Treasurer; Transit	\$6,039.85
Kiowa County Hospital Physical	\$52.00
Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit/Elective	
Benefits/Withholding	\$139,152.94
Kiowa County Treasurer Reimbursement Check	\$500.00
Legal Shield Elective Benefits	\$12.95
Lamar Auto Parts Repairs	\$36.98
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$1,714.16
MASA MTS Elective Benefits	\$136.00
Michael Lening Mileage for April, May, June and July	\$548.88
Mid-American Research Chemical Maintenance: Courthouse,	
Comm Bldg Supplies	\$782.48
Muth Welding Service Repairs-Loader Mounts	\$2,600.00
Oswald, Donald Mileage for July	\$304.38
Peck, Dawna Reimburse Vending Machine/Supplies	\$263.07
Quill Corporation Admin: Office Supplies	\$164.08
Quill Corporation Admin: Office Supplies	\$43.75
Precision Home and Lawn Capital Outlay: Courthouse	
Rain Gutters	\$18,365.50
Road & Bridge Fund Landfill Fuel; Recycling-Fuel	\$1,611.93
Howard Robertson June Mileage	\$172.50
S & K Fuel and Repair Auto Repairs	\$1,294.49
Saffer Spray Service Maintenance: Chemicals	\$1,188.00
Schneider Geospatial, LLC Assessor- Capital Outlay	\$3,967.01
SECOM Sheriff: Internet- August	\$182.08
SECOM Sheriff: Internet- September	\$182.08
S.E.C.P.A. Maintenance-Bldg. Electricity	\$5,177.97
Small Town Graphix Recycling Signs	\$504.00
State of Colorado DPA Accounting Clerk-Postage mailer	\$265.11
Town of Eads Water	\$1,310.79
Towner Recreation District Utilities	\$150.00
Unifirst Corporation Bldg. Supplies	\$366.25
Viaero Sheriff Telephone	\$316.02
Viaero Maint Phone; DEM Phone; LF Phone	\$249.31
VISA Treasurer; Clerk-Elections Train; Admin-Supplies;	
Assr-Postage; Sheriff-Supplies; Postage; Dues/Fees; K-9;	
Travel: DEM-Supplies; Fuel; Landfill Training; Well Monitor;	
Transit Car Wash; Repairs; Travel Mtg	\$3,437.17
Weeks, Tim Transit Van- Travel	\$56.88
Weirich, Amy Assessor: Travel/Meeting	\$249.35
West End Golden Age Seniors Utilities	\$300.00
WEX Bank Sheriff-Auto Fuel	\$3,352.46
Western Cartographer Flat books/maps	\$720.00
Wheatland Electric Towner Streetlight; Siren	\$97.99
Wholehearted Connections LLC Jail: Medical for prisoner	\$122.40
Williams, Bryan Surcharge: Vehicle Equipment	\$2,149.97
	\$241,305.90

ROAD & BRIDGE

4 Rivers Equipment Outside Repairs	\$23,288.53
719 Metal Works, LLC General Supplies: Tubing	\$80.60
719 Supply LLC Supplies General: Equipment Repairs	\$309.63
ACE Tire Tires	\$1,168.20
Atmos Energy Gas Utility	\$30.20
Barnes, Floyd Maintenance: Barnes Gravel Pit	\$462.00
Brundage Land Surveying, INC Admin: Wyckoff Pit	
Replacement Ck	\$3,850.00
Colorado Division of Reclamation Gravel Permitting on Aldrich,	
Chivington, Gentz, Schmidt, ETF Fees	\$1,296.00
Colorado Natural Gas, INC Gas Utility: Sheridan Lake	\$56.47
Consolidated Communications Admin: Telephone	\$59.67
Cordova, Billie Leases: September 2024 Rent	\$250.00
Country Air LLC TV Tower Repair: DTR Site Repairs	\$1,376.30
Crow's Stop and Shop General Supplies	\$56.06
Digitcom Electronics Replace Power Supply on Haswell	
Repeater, Sheridan Lake Repeater	\$2,088.00
Eads Auto Supply & Hardware Supplies, Repairs, Filters	\$1,110.95
Eads Consumer Supply Fuel; Tires	\$11,119.87
Eastern Slope Telephone Telephone	\$124.41
GNBank H.S.A. Payable	\$1,202.00
John Deere Credit Debt Service: Equipment Pmt	\$3,383.45
John Deere Credit Outside Repairs	\$5,200.00
Kiowa County Hospital District Admin: Pre-Employment Physical	\$26.00
Kiowa County Independent Admin: Advertising	\$656.65
Kiowa County Treasurer Direct Deposit; Elective Benefits;	
Withholding	\$49,472.36

Continued on page A19

KIOWA COUNTY FAIR WRISTBAND ON SALE

- Fair Wristband pre-sales are on sale at the Kiowa County Courthouse in the Commissioners' Office. Wristbands will be sold at the booth just west of the grandstands during fair.
- Wristbands are only required for the barbecues and grandstand entry for the rodeos. They will not be required for general admission into the fairgrounds.
- There will be two Barbeques again this year, beef on Friday and Pork on Saturday.
- The cost is **\$8 for one day** or **\$15 for both Friday 13 & Saturday 14**

KIOWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE SIDEWALKS REPLACEMENT

The Kiowa County Courthouse Sidewalks are being replaced. This project is possible with the assistance of grant funding from SECOG Mini Grant (DOLA) & Underfunded Courthouse Grant.

The West Entrance will be CLOSED for the next two weeks.

Please use the north and east entrances during this time.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Kiowa County

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KIOWA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AUGUST REPORT

Kiowa County Sheriff's Office - August 2024 Report



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Classification	Totals
ACCIDENT -INJURY	1
Traffic Accident, Injury	1
AGENCY ASSIST	6
Ambulance	3
CSP	3
ANIMAL PROBLEM	4
Animal Attack	2
Animal Ordinance Violation	2
ASSAULT	1
Simple Assault	1
BURGLAR ALARM	1
Burglar Alarm	1
CIVIL PROBLEM	2
Civil Dispute	1
Civil Problem	1
CIVIL PROCESS	1
Paper Service	1
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	1
Synthetic Narcotic, Possession	1
DOMESTIC PROBLEM	2
Family Offense, Other	2
DUI	2
Alcohol	2

Totals	Classification	Totals
1	FRAUD	1
1	Fraud, Insufficient Funds Check	1
6	JUVENILE PROBLEM	1
3	Juvenile Problem	1
3	MISCELLANEOUS	1
4	Informational Only	1
2	PROCESS SERVICE	2
2	Civil Process Service	2
1	PUBLIC SERVICE	2
1	Other Public Service	2
1	RECKLESS/DANGEROUS DRIVER	1
1		1
1	SUSPICIOUS	1
2	Suspicious Vehicle	1
1	TRAFFIC (CRIMINAL VIOLATION)	5
1	Criminal Traffic Violation	5
1	TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	2
1	Traffic Accident, Injury	1
2	Traffic Accident, Vehicle Damage	1
2	TRAFFIC PROBLEM	1
2	Reckless Driver	1
2	TRESPASSING	1
2	Trespassing, Private Property	1
	U.A.	14
	URINALYSIS	14
	V.I.N.	4
	Standard	4
	WARRANT	1
	Out Of County-Misdemeanor	1
	Total Events	58
	Total Citation Violations:	31
	Total Citations:	30



Kiowa County Sheriff's Office
1305 Goff Street
P.O. Box 427
Eads, CO 81036
719-438-5411

<https://www.kiowasheriff.co/>

SCHOOL CALENDARS

EADS RE-1 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 11 - 12

- NO SCHOOL FAIR

THU SEPTEMBER 12

- 4:00 pm HS Softball @ Alamosa JV & V LVT 10:30 am
- Golf @ Rocky Ford

FRI SEPTEMBER 13

- 4:00 pm JH Volleyball @ Wiley LVT 2:45 pm
- 4:00 pm JH Football @ Wiley
- 5:00 pm HS Volleyball @ Wiley LVT 3:15 pm
- 7:00pm HS Football @ Wiley

SAT SEPTEMBER 14

- 11:00 am HS Softball @ Forge Christian V Only LVT 6:00 am

TUE SEPTEMBER 17

- 4:00 pm HS Softball W/Rocky Ford @ Wiley V & JV LVT 2:00 pm

THU SEPTEMBER 19

- 4:30 HS Softball @ Lamar V & JV LVT 2:30 pm

FRI SEPTEMBER 20

- 9:00 am HS Knowledge Bowl @ Holly LVT 6:50 am
- 3:00 pm JH Volleyball vs Granada
- 4:00 pm JH Football
- 5:00 pm HS Volleyball
- 7:00 pm HS Football

SAT SEPTEMBER 21

- 4:00 pm JH Volleyball @ South Baca LVT 1:00 pm
- 5:30 HS Volleyball @ South Baca LVT 1:00 pm

TUE SEPTEMBER 24

- 4:00 pm HS Softball @ Wiley W/ La Junta V/JV LVT 2:00 pm

WED SEPTEMBER 25

- 1:15-4:00 pm Homecoming Wall Décor

KIT CARSON SCHOOL CALENDAR SEPT 2024

SEPTEMBER 9-13

- Homecoming Week

WED SEPTEMBER 11

- 7:00 pm Games & Bonfire

THU SEPTEMBER 12

- 9:00 am Rocky Ford Golf
- 4:00 pm JH/HS Volleyball @ Springfield

Cheyenne Wells School Calendar Sept 2024

FRI SEPTEMBER 13

- 3:00 FBLA Spaghetti Dinner

SAT SEPTEMBER 14

- 10:00 am JH Volleyball vs Walsh Homecoming
- 11:00 am JH Football vs Walsh Homecoming
- 12:00 pm HS Volleyball vs Walsh Homecoming
- 2:00 pm HS Football vs Walsh Homecoming

FRI SEPTEMBER 13

- 8:00 am School in session
- 3:00 pm JH/HS Volleyball vs Hugo
- 7:00 pm HS Football vs Hugo

TUE SEPTEMBER 17

- 4:00 pm JH/HS Volleyball @ McClave

FRI SEPTEMBER 20

- 9:00 am Flag Football camp K-5
- 4:00 pm JH Football @ Walsh

- 4:00 pm HS Volleyball @ Walsh
- 7:00 pm HS Football @ Walsh

SAT SEPTEMBER 21

- 2:00 pm HS Volleyball @ Merino

TUE SEPTEMBER 24

- 7:00 pm Board of Education Meeting

FRI SEPTEMBER 27

- 9:00 am Flag Football camp K-5
- 3:00 pm HS Volleyball

MON SEPTEMBER 16

- 4:00 pm CWRA Volleyball & Basketball Girls

TUE SEPTEMBER 17

- 3:00 pm HS Volleyball vs Holyoke
- 3:00 pm HS Football vs Holyoke
- 5:30 pm CWRA Gymnastics

WED SEPTEMBER 18

- 3:00 Jostens Seniors & Sophomores order pickup
- 4:00 pm CWRA Volleyball & Basketball Girls

FRI SEPTEMBER 20

- 8:00 am Professional Day
- 3:00 pm JH Volleyball @ Cheraw lv 12:30 pm
- 4:00 pm JH Football @ Cheraw lv 12:30 pm
- 5:00 pm HS Volleyball @ Cheraw lv 2:30 pm
- 7:00 pm HS Football @ Cheraw lv 2:30 pm

MON SEPTEMBER 23

- 4:00 CWRA Volleyball & Basketball Girls
- 4:00 pm JH Volleyball vs Plainview
- 5:30 pm Tiger Tumbling

EADS SCHOOL MENU SEPT 23-30

BREAKFAST

MONDAY SEPT 23

- Pancake on a stick
- Fruit
- Milk

TUESDAY SEPT 24

- Scrambled Eggs
- Toast
- Fruit
- Milk

WEDNESDAY SEPT 25

- Sausage Biscuit Sandwich
- Fruit
- Milk

THURSDAY SEPT 26

- Yogurt Parfait
- Milk

MONDAY SEPT 30

- Muffins
- Fruit
- Milk

LUNCH

MONDAY SEPT 23

- Corn Dogs
- Wedge French Fries
- Strawberries

TUESDAY SEPT 24

- Super Nachos
- Lettuce/Tomatoes
- Pineapple

WEDNESDAY SEPT 25

- Chef Salad
- Crackers
- Banana

THURSDAY SEPT 26

- Chicken Alfredo
- Bread Sticks
- Green Beans
- Orange

MONDAY SEPT 30

- BBQ Rib Sandwich
- Chips
- Baked Beans
- Apple Sauce



Scan the QR Code for Plainview School News Letter

PLAINVIEW RE-2 SCHOOL CALENDAR SEPT-OCT

TUE SEPTEMBER 17

- 2:00 pm JH Volleyball @ Alta Vista

MON SEPTEMBER 23

- JH Volleyball @ Cheyenne Wells

TUE OCTOBER 1

- 2:00 pm JH Volleyball vs Alta Vista



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SOUTHEAST CO SPORTS SCORES & SCHEDULES

Southeast Colorado high school volleyball scores – September 3-7

CLASS 1A

TUESDAY SEPT 3

Walsh vs Wiley
 •Walsh 0
 •Wiley 3

South Baca vs Kim/Branson
 •South Baca 3
 •Kim/Branson 0

2A Burlington vs Hi-Plains
 •Burlington 3
 •Hi-Plains 0

Genoa-Hugo/Karval vs Kiowa
 •Genoa-Hugo/Karval 3
 •Kiowa 2

Deer Trail vs Stratton
 •Deer Trail 0
 •Stratton 3

THURSDAY SEPT 5

Genoa-Hugo/Karval vs Stratton
 •Genoa-Hugo/Karval 0
 •Stratton 3

South Baca vs Granada (Non-Conference)
 •South Baca 0
 •Granada 3

La Veta vs Cheraw (Non-Conference)
 •La Veta 0
 •Cheraw 3

St. Francis KS vs Cheyenne Wells
 •St. Francis 2
 •Cheyenne Wells 1

2A Crowley County vs Holly
 •Crowley County 0
 •Holly 3

Eads vs Hi-Plains (Non-Conference)
 •Eads 0
 •Hi-Plains 3

Cheyenne Wells vs Idalia (Non-Conference)
 •Cheyenne Wells 0
 •Idalia 2

Kit Carson vs 2A Limon
 •Kit Carson 1
 •Limon 3

FRIDAY SEPT 6

Hi-Plains vs Otis
 •Hi-Plains 3
 •Otis 0

Eads vs Miami-Yoder (Non-Conference)
 •Eads 3
 •Miami-Yoder 0

Holly vs Springfield
 •Holly 1
 •Springfield 3

Manzanola vs Primero
 •Manzanola 0
 •Primero 3

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Wiley vs Cheyenne Wells (Non-Conference)
 •Wiley 0
 •Cheyenne Wells 3

Kim/Branson vs Granada (Non-Conference)
 •Kim/Branson 0
 •Granada 3

CLASS 2A

TUESDAY SEPT 3

3A Strasburg vs Limon
 •Strasburg 3
 •Limon 0

Rye vs Las Animas
 •Rye 3
 •Las Animas 0

Crowley County vs Swink
 •Crowley County 0
 •Swink 3

THURSDAY SEPT 5

Rocky Ford vs Fowler
 •Rocky Ford 0
 •Fowler 3

Swallows Charter Academy vs Swink Charter
 •Swallows Academy 0
 •Swink 3

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Wray vs Burlington (Tournament)
 •Wray 0
 •Burlington 2

Burlington vs Arickaree/Woodlin (Tournament)
 •Burlington 2
 •Arickaree 1

CLASS 3 A

TUESDAY SEPT 3

2A Hoehne vs La Junta (Non-Conference)
 •Hoehne 3
 •La Junta 0

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Lamar vs 2A Rye (Non-Conference)
 •Lamar 3
 •Rye 0

Southeast High School Volleyball Schedule September 16-21

CLASS 1A

TUESDAY SEPT 17

• South Baca vs Wiley (Non-Conference)
 • 2A Wray vs Hi-Plains
 • Cheyenne Wells vs 2A Holyoke
 • Granada vs 2A Crowley County
 • 2A Las Animas vs Cheraw
 • Bethune vs Otis
 • McClave vs Kit Carson
 • Idalia vs Kit Carson (Non-Conference)

WEDNESDAY SEPT 18

• Kim/Branson vs 2A Trinidad

THURSDAY SEPT 19

• South Baca vs Holly (Non-Conference)
 • 2A Burlington vs Genoa-Hugo/Karval
 • 2A Limon vs Flagler
 • Walsh vs McClave (Non-Conference)

• Granada vs 2A Swink

FRIDAY SEPT 20

• Hi-Plains vs Idalia
 • Wiley vs Caliche (Non-Conference)
 • Genoa-Hugo/Karval vs Otis (Non-Conference)
 • Walsh vs Kit Carson (Non-Conference)
 • Eads vs Granada
 • Cheraw vs Cheyenne Wells

SATURDAY SEPT 21

• Arickaree vs Stratton (Non-Conference)
 • Hi-Plains vs Briggsdale (Non-Conference)
 • Manzanola vs Hanover (Non-Conference)
 • Kit Carson vs Merino (Non-Conference)
 • Cheraw vs Springfield (Non-Conference)
 • South Baca vs Eads (Non-Conference)
 • Kim/Branson vs Holly (Non-Conference)

CLASS 2A

TUESDAY SEPT 17

• Swallows Charter Academy vs Fowler
 • Swink vs Walsenburg
 • Rocky Ford vs 3A Mitchell

THURSDAY SEPT 19

• Hoehne vs Fowler
 • Las Animas vs Walsenburg
 • Rocky Ford vs Crowley County

FRIDAY SEPT 20

• Byers vs Burlington
 • Haxtun vs Crowley County (Non-Conference)
 • Bethune vs Kiowa (Non-Conference)

CLASS 3A

MONDAY SEPT 16

• 4A Pueblo County vs La Junta

TUESDAY SEPT 17

• Woodland Park vs La Junta
 • Florence vs Lamar

THURSDAY SEPT 19

• The Vanguard School vs Lamar

FRIDAY SEPT 21

• La Junta vs Salida

Southeast Colorado High School Softball Schedule September 16-21

CLASS 3A

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17

• Southeast CO vs Rocky Ford
 • Limon vs Lamar (Non-Conference)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19

• Florence vs Rocky Ford

• Southeast CO vs Lamar

• La Junta vs Alamosa

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

• Discovery Canyon vs La Junta (Non-Conference)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

• Burlington vs Limon (Double Header)
 • Alamosa vs Lamar

SOUTHEAST CO SPORTS SCORES & SCHEDULES

Southeast Colorado high school football scores – Sept 5-7

6 MAN

THURSDAY SEPT 5

Cotopaxi vs Walsh (Non-Conference)

- Cotopaxi 6
- Walsh 66

Stratton vs Genoa-Hugo

- Stratton 54
- Genoa-Hugo 0

Eads vs Miami-Yoder (Non-Conference)

- Eads 63
- Miami-Yoder 19

Primero vs Manzanola (Non-Conference)

- Primero 68
- Manzanola 7

Otis vs Hi-Plains

- Otis 72
- Hi-Plains 7

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Branson/Kim vs Granada (Non-Conference)

- Branson/Kim 0
- Granada 32

Flagler vs Cheraw (Non-Conference)

- Flagler 14
- Cheraw 55

Wiley vs Cheyenne Wells

- Wiley 6
- Cheyenne Wells 64

Antonito vs Bethune

- Antonito 7
- Bethune 35

8 MAN

FRIDAY SEPT 6

Rocky Ford vs Front Range Christian (Non-Conference)

- Rocky Ford 26
- Front Range 58

McClave vs Merino (Non-Conference)

- McClave 26
- Merino 0

Walsenburg vs Las Animas (Non-Conference)

- Walsenburg 14
- Las Animas 51

Simla vs Fowler

- Simla 38
- Fowler 7

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Swink vs Sanford (Non-Conference)

- Swink 6
- Sanford 52

Holly vs Dayspring Christian Academy (Non-Conference)

- Holly 20
- Dayspring Christian Academy 40

CLASS 1A

FRIDAY SEPT 6

Limon vs Flatirons Academy (Non-Conference)

- Limon 35
- Flatirons Academy 14

CLASS 2A

THURSDAY SEPT 5

Sterling vs Lamar (Non-Conference)

- Sterling 22
- Lamar 30

FRIDAY SEPT 6

La Junta vs Mitchell (Non-Conference)

- La Junta 74
- Mitchell 7

Southeast Colorado high school softball scores - September 3-7

CLASS 3A

TUESDAY SEPT 3

4A Widefield vs Rocky Ford (Non-Conference)

- Widefield 8
- Rocky Ford 5

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Wellington vs Burlington (Tournament)

- Wellington 15
- Burlington 0

Lamar vs 4A Mesa Ridge (Tournament)

- Lamar 7
- Mesa Ridge 9

Lamar vs Sand Creek (Tournament)

- Lamar 7
- Sand Creek 3

Limon vs Platte Valley (Tournament))

- Limon 17
- Platte Valley 11

Eaton vs Southeast CO (Tournament)

- Eaton 4
- Southeast CO 5

4A Coronado vs La Junta (Tournament)

- Coronado 7
- La Junta 8

Limon vs Burlington (Tournament)

- Limon 10
- Burlington 8

Brush vs Rocky Ford (Tournament)

- Brush 9
- Rocky Ford 8

Bayard NE vs Rocky Ford (Tournament)

- Bayard 0
- Rocky Ford 8

SATURDAY SEPT 7

Southeast CO vs University (Tournament)

- Southeast CO 2
- University 5

Southeast CO vs Strasburg (Tournament)

- Southeast CO 1
- Strasburg 8

Rocky Ford vs Sterling (Tournament)

- Rocky Ford 3
- Sterling 3

4A Pueblo East vs La Junta (Tournament)

- Pueblo East 10
- La Junta 5

Lamar vs 4A George Washington (Tournament)

- Lamar 6
- George Washington 4

Wellington vs Limon (Tournament)

- Wellington 17
- Limon 3

Burlington vs Platte Valley (Tournament)

- Burlington 21
- Platte Valley 2

Rocky Ford vs Platte Valley (Tournament)

- Rocky Ford 14
- Platte Valley 0

Florence vs Limon (Tournament)

- Florence 4
- Limon 3

Lamar vs 4A Pueblo East (Tournament)

- Lamar 13
- Pueblo East 9

Southeast Colorado High School Football Schedule September 16-24, 2024

6 MAN

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

- Walsh vs Kit Carson
- Idalia vs Hi-Plains
- Flagler vs Miami-Yoder (Non-Conference)
- Eads vs Granada
- Cheraw vs Cheyenne Wells
- Otis vs Genoa-Hugo
- Caliche vs Wiley (Non-Conference)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

- Hanover vs Manzanola
- Deer Trail vs Branson/Kim (Non-Conference)
- Arickaree vs Stratton
- Kiowa vs Bethune

8 MAN

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

- Holly vs Akron (Non-Conference)
- Elkhart KS vs Springfield
- Walsenburg vs Rocky Ford

- Sanford vs Fowler (Non-Conference)
- Calhan vs Swink (Non-Conference)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

- Haxtun vs Crowley County (Non-Conference)
- Las Animas vs Dayspring Christian Academy (Non-Conference)

CLASS 1A

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

- Burlington vs 2A Lamar
- 2A Bennett vs Limon

CLASS 2A

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

- The Classical Academy vs La Junta



The Dave Melton Family Singers to holding concert in Eads



The Dave Melton Family Singers will be appearing in concert at Praise Community Church, 310 W 7th Street in Eads September 22 at 6:00 p.m.

The Dave Melton Family Singers are a full-time family singing group based out of Columbus, Indiana. Dave and his wife, Krista, are joined by four of their children

Kyle, Kadee, Macy, and Gracie as they travel the nation singing. With close harmonies and a tight family blend, their music is sure to inspire and uplift your soul.

Through the years, they've been blessed to sing at events across the nation, and to see lives changed and hearts blessed by the Gospel message. Whether through word, song, or daily living out their faith, their aim is to always point others to their Savior.

Dave Melton is an ordained minister and singer who grew up

singing with his family in "The Melton Family Singers." Krista Melton is a singer/songwriter who began singing for the Lord at an early age. Dave and his family now continue the family tradition of singing Southern Gospel music.

So come on out and let

their music encourage your heart, strengthen your faith and remind you of God's great love for you!

You can learn more about their ministry at thedavemeltonfamily.com or on Facebook at The Dave Melton Family.



In Memory

**Roy
Russell
Hicks**

**June 19, 1937
August 31, 2024**

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, September 5, 2024, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Burlington. Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Brown Funeral Home Chapel in Burlington. Burial with full military honors will take place at the Fairview Cemetery in Burlington.

Memorial contributions can be made to the First Baptist Church in Burlington. Mr. Hicks passed away at the Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital in Burlington.

Roy Russell Hicks was born June 19, 1937, to Archie Lee Hicks and Clara Christine Hicks in Eckley, CO, and grew up in the country southwest of Burlington. Schooling: Smoky Hill south of Bur-

lington along the correction line and in Bethune. Roy worked for Burlington Builders and the City of Burlington. He enjoyed maintaining the Parks and running the street sweeper.

Roy met the love of his life Emma J. Petersheim from New Philadelphia, Ohio in Rocky Ford, CO in October of 1967 and were married May 4, 1968, in La Junta, CO in at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church. Then made their home of 57 years in Burlington on their 18th street address. Their first church home was the church of The Open Door on the corner of Oak and Donelan. Then in 1986 he and his family began attending First Baptist Church of Burlington where Ms. Willie Sharp welcomed us and got us involved in church work. Roy really

enjoyed greeting people as they entered the sanctuary and wherever else he was needed.

On November 27, 1970, their first son David was born, then on November 7, 1973, Kevin Matthew was born.

Preceding him in death were his parents Archie and Clara Hicks of Canon City and Parents-in-law Jonas and Mattie Petersheim, New Philadelphia, OH.

Surviving family members include Wife Emma of Burlington, CO. Son David (Marla) of Phoenix, AZ. Son Kevin (Dawn) of Lamar, CO. Grandchildren Nathan and Bethany Hicks of Phoenix, AZ. Denise Rose Hicks of Lamar, CO. Abby, Mason, and Caleb of Lamar, CO. Sister Hazel (Ernst) Adolf of Canon City, CO. Sisters-in-law Betty (Bill) Mast of Oklahoma City, OK. Sara Louise Stucin of New Philadelphia, OH. and Brother-In-Law William J. Petersheim of New Philadelphia, OH.

Brown Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements



In Memory
**William "Bill"
Robert
Skinner Jr**

**January 16, 1960
August 25, 2024**

William Robert Skinner Jr., better known as Billy, left this earth too soon on August 25, 2024.

Billy's love for music, which he'd share with anyone who'd listen, along with his gentle touch and love for all animals will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Billy is survived by his brothers, Wade Mitchel Skinner and daughter, Alexis; Charles Preston Skinner and sons, Christopher and Alexander; David Scott Skinner; Roger Robb; and James Stanley Skinner; and dog Panda.

He is preceded in death by his mother,

Carolyn Boggs; father, William Robert Skinner Sr.; and his grandmother, Hettie Mae Boggs.

All cards and contributions may be sent to P.O. Box 215 Wild Horse, CO 80862.

The family is inviting all who'd like to celebrate Billy's life to join them September 14, 2024, at noon at the Wild Horse Cemetery, followed by food at Billy's house. Bring any instrument you play to jam in love of Billy.

Arrangements are under the direction of Brown Funeral Home.

Death Notice

Dana Banes

January 22, 1958 - September 3, 2024

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. September 28, 2024, at the Brown Funeral Home Chapel in Cheyenne Wells. Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until service time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association

Arrangements are under the direction of Brown Funeral Home

FOR SALE

Black Four Door 2009 Toyota Yaris

- Automatic Transmission
- No Cruise Control
- Air Conditioning
- Manually Controlled Mirrors
- Donut Spare Tire
- Hand Crank Windows
- Full Size Spare Tire
- Manual Door Locks
- Never been Wrecked 137,720 miles, primarily highway miles

Richard Jones
 PO Box 183
 Cheyenne Wells 80810 richarddj56@gmail.com
 MPG in the thirties

Kiowa County August Vouchers Continued from A13

Lowe, Nathan Insurance Claim: Vehicle Damage	\$3,863.00
Manhattan Life Elective Benefits	\$179.92
PFM Consulting Company Wyckoff Pit Application and Mapping	\$4,000.00
PROCOM LLC Admin: Pre-Employment Testing	\$38.00
R & T Redi Mix Cement for Tanks	\$834.66
Redlund Equipment Equipment: Parts	\$16.67
Rockmount Research & Alloys, Inc. Maintenance: Supplies	\$735.47
RTH Farms LLC Gravel: Harris Pit	\$680.00
RTH Farms LLC Gravel: Harris Pit	49.00
Rustler Implement CO Equipment Repairs	\$601.89
S & K Repair Fuel and Repairs	\$1,076.74
Sheridan Lake Water Water Utility	\$75.00
Southeast CO Enterprise Development Admin: CDL Training	\$797.97
S.E.C.P.A. Electricity- Haswell Shop, TV Tower, Fuel Pump, Hwy 96/Hogue, Sh Lake Shop	\$814.06
S.E.C.P.A. Contract Labor: Pole Set-up for Fuel Tank	\$815.36
Stand-By-Power Service INC DTR TV: General Maintenance	\$1,820.00
Structures Unlimited Inc. Capital Outlay: Diesel Tank Set-up	\$1,700.00
Thunderbird Petroleum Products Supplies; Equipment Repairs	\$103.51
Town of Eads Water Utility	\$212.58
Town of Haswell Water Utility	\$40.00
UniFirst Supplies; Uniforms	\$240.11
VISA Small Tools; Training	\$2,723.75
	\$128,085.04

ATTEST:
 Delisa L. Weeks, County Clerk

SOCIAL SERVICES

During the regular meetings of the Kiowa County Board of Social Services held during August 2024, the following expenditures of funds that are provided by Kiowa County were approved:

	TOTAL
General Operation	\$1,392.78
General Assistance	\$-
Personnel	\$3,858.18

Submitted by Dennis Pearson, Director, Kiowa County Department of Social Services.
 /s/ Dennis Pearson

ATTEST: APPROVED:
 Delisa L. Weeks, County Clerk

Donald Oswald, Chairman

Published September 13, 2024
 In the Kiowa County Press

Kiowa County Public Library District Referred Ballot Question 6-A:

Shall the Kiowa County Public Library District, without creating any new tax or increasing any current taxes, be authorized to collect, retain and spend all tax revenues collected and other funds collected from any and all revenue sources, without limitation, in the current fiscal year 2024, and continuing thereafter, to be spent for general operations and any other lawful purposes, without further voter approval, as a voter approved revenue change and as an exception to the limits which would otherwise apply under Section 29-1-301, C.R.S. or any other revenue limitation or restriction set forth in any law of the state?

YES/FOR ___ NO/AGAINST ___

Signed this 29th day of August, 2024
 /s/ Lance P. Clark
 Lance P. Clark, DEO

First Published September 06, 2024
 Last Published September 13, 2024
 In the Kiowa County Press

PROWERS COMBINED COURT

301 South Main St., Suite 300
 Lamar, CO 81052

CASE NUMBER: 24C111 Division:
 A Courtroom: 100

In the Matter of the Petition of Adult:
 Sariya Marie Lujan For a Change of
 Name to: Sariya Marie Osborn

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION OF CHANGE OF NAME

Public notice is given on August 28, 2024 that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Adult has been filed with the Prowers County Court. The Petition requests that the name of: Sariya Marie Lujan Be changed to: Sariya Marie Osborn

/s/ Evelyn Presto Clerk of Court

First Published September 06, 2024
 Last Published September 13, 2024
 In the Kiowa County Press

KIOWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE SIDEWALKS REPLACEMENT

The Kiowa County Courthouse Sidewalks are being replaced. This project is possible with the assistance of grant funding from SECOG Mini Grant (DOLA) & Underfunded Court-house Grant.

The West Entrance will be CLOSED for the next two weeks.

Please use the north and east entrances during this time.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applications are currently being accepted by the City of Lamar for appointments to the following Boards:

PLANNING & ZONING
 (One unexpired 5-year term expiring February 1, 2027)

WATER ADVISORY BOARD
 (One unexpired 5-year term expiring February 1, 2026)

UTILITIES BOARD
 (One unexpired 5-year term expiring August 1, 2027)

VICTIMS & WITNESSES ASSISTANCE LAW ENFORCEMENT (VALE) BOARD
 (One expired 3-year term expiring August 1, 2027)

ARPA BOARD REPRESENTATIVES
 (One unexpired 4-year term expiring December 31, 2025)

Forms are available on our website: www.ci.lamar.co.us. Completed forms must be sent to City of Lamar, City Administrator's Office, 102 East Parmenter, Lamar CO 81052-3239. Applications will be accepted until position(s) filled.

First published September 06, 2024
 Last published September 20, 2024
 In the Kiowa County Press

ABOUT CLASSIFIEDS

The Press can be responsible for only one incorrect insertion. Rates: \$11.50 per week, flat fee, any number of words. Also published online at KiowaCountyPress.net at no extra charge. Add a picture \$5.00. Classifieds can be submitted to kiowacountypress@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Your ad could reach more than 31,000 readers each week for as little as \$11.50

EADS LANDFILL

Wednesday - Friday - Saturday

8:00 am to 3:30 pm

RATE CHANGE

Effective 05/01/2022

Accepting Residential organic yard waste (grass clippings, weeds, tree trimmings)

for **FREE** as long as the load is

YARD WASTE ONLY!

Disposal fees

General Waste **\$0.05 / pound**

E-Waste **\$0.40 / pound**

Tires **\$3 to \$25 ea** depending on size

Effective 06/25/2022

Residential General Waste will be discounted on the last Saturday of each month at \$0.03 per pound.

(No discount on commercial loads)

Payment Methods

Credit Card or Punch Card*

*purchased at the Commissioners Office

For Billing Info 719-438-5810

To receive text message when there are holiday or weather related closures can text **landfill closures** and **your name** from your cell phone to **719-691-5426**

For More Information

kiowaco100@gmail.com

We Now Rent Roll-Off Dumpsters!
 Call 719-438-5810 for information

**Supporting
 Local Businesses**

**Helps the
 Economy GROW!**

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS
Beginning Saturday June 1, 2024,
Plains Network Services, Inc. will
no longer accept any Credit/Debit
cards as a form of payment.



EASTERN COLORADO'S BEST INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER

EasernSlopeTech.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

EMAIL TO EDITOR@KIOWACOUNTYPRESS.NET

TO BE LISTED IN UPCOMING EVENTS, SEND INFORMATION TO EDITOR@KIOWACOUNTYPRESS.NET

FIRST WEDNESDAY

2:00 pm-5:00 pm First Wednesday every month Kit Carson County FREE LEGAL CLINIC for parties without an attorney in Burlington and all nearby areas. Space is limited. To sign up, send an email to: kitcarson-vpc@gmail.com with your first name & phone number. Volunteer attorney will call during regular clinic hours

KIOWA COUNTY FAIR WRISTBAND ON SALE

• **Fair Wristband pre-sales are on sale at the Kiowa County Courthouse in the Commissioners' Office.** Wristbands will be sold at the booth just west of the grandstands during fair.
 • **Wristbands are only required for the barbecues and grandstand entry for the rodeos.** They will not be required for general admission into the fairgrounds.
 • **There will be two Barbeques, beef on Friday and Pork on Saturday. The cost is \$8 for one day or \$15 for both Friday 13 & Saturday 14**

EADS POST OFFICE

Eads Post Office has a **NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER 719-399-3002**

EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY

• **12:00-1:00 pm USDA Online Informational Virtual Event Series** Every Third Wednesday of the month Contact your local USDA FSA office for more information

SAND CREEK MASSACRE VISITORS CENTER NEW HOURS

Beginning September 8, the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site administrative building and education center. Located at 1301 Maine Street in Eads, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Closed Saturday through Monday.

SEPTEMBER 11-14

KIOWA COUNTY FAIR

THUR SEPTEMBER 12

• **6:00 pm Prairie Pines Assisted Living** Auxiliary Meeting

TUE SEPTEMBER 17

• **6:00 pm Eads Seniors Citizen Cards**
 • **7:00 pm Kiowa County Fire Protection** District Board Meeting

WED SEPTEMBER 18

• **12:00 pm Eads Senior Citizens Dinner**
 • **5:30 pm Haswell Senior Citizens Dinner**

THURS SEPTEMBER 19

• **9:00 am Board of County Commissioners/ Board of Public Health/ Board of Human Services Meeting**

SUN SEPTEMBER 22

• **6:00 pm The Dave Melton Family Singers Concert @ Praise Community Church**
 • **6:30 pm Haswell Community Cards**

TUE SEPTEMBER 24

• **9:00 am Kiowa County BOCC Meeting**
 • **6:30 pm Kiowa County Hospital District Board Meeting**
Sunday September 29
 • **Prairie Pines Assisted Living Golf Tournament @ Eads Golf Course**
Monday September 30
 • **9:00 am Cheyenne County BOCC Meeting**

SUN SEPTEMBER 22

The Dave Melton Family Singers will be appearing in concert at the Praise Community Church, 310 W 7th St, Eads, CO



IN CONCERT

Praise Community Church

310 W 7th St Eads CO 6pm

Sunday September 22nd

Everyone Welcome

thedavemeltonfamilysingers.com

BIRTHDAYS

September 16

- Jimmy Brown
- Brad Howe
- Reid Jackson Kleisen
- Mia Crow
- Blaire Howe
- Cheyenne Brown
- Haniah Penner
- Kenan Gooden

September 17

- Christopher Owens

September 18

- C.H. Williams
- Brandon Lening
- Silas Webster
- Mark Imel
- Ryan Shoemaker
- Alexavier Zamarripa
- Teri Castle

September 19

- Sarah Hasko
- Bo Chandler Kent
- Robert Kern
- Cory Crow
- Jess Buller
- Scarlett Webster
- Charlotte Phillips* In Memory

September 20

- Bart Michael

- Keith Crow

September 21

- Jacob Weirich

September 22

- Weston Crow
- Tanner Ellicott
- Jason Briggs
- Lincoln Sierra
- Jarod Leoffler
- Nicole Smith-Keplar

ANNIVERSARIES

September 16

- Jonathan & Molly Rosler
- Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lening
- Mr. & Mrs. John Barton

September 17

- Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Shaw

September 18

- Lois & Danny Weisdorfer
- TJ & Dianae Cleveland

September 19

- Marie & Kyle Lyon
- Mr. & Mrs. Clint Robertson

September 20

- Jamie & Jeff Bayer

Kiowa County *Press*

KiowaCountyPress.net

September 13, 2024

Volume 137, Number 37



WELCOME
to the
2024 Kiowa County
Fair and Rodeo

2024 Kiowa County Fair



Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo
"Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Kiowa County Assessor's Office
Marci & Amy

"Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo
September 8-14

Kiowa County Clerk's Office
Delisa - Roland - Traci

"Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Welcome to the 2024 Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

Kiowa County Commissioners
Donald Oswald
"Butch" Robertson
Mike Lening

Administrator
Tina Adamson
Assistant
Donna Adame
Financial Officer
Dawna Peck

"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Caourage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

See you at the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo
Diana & Linda

Kiowa County Treasurer's Office

Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair
Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage
Parade Theme by Mary Marble
 from the Friendly Staff of

KIOWA DRUG
 1201 Maine - Eads
 (719) 438-5832

Kiowa County Sheriff's Office

"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

See you at the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

Kiowa County Hospital District
 dba Weisbrod Memorial County Hospital
 and the Eads Medical Clinic are a community driven health care entity.

We are continuously looking to enhance and expand health care services to the friends and families of Kiowa County

Kiowa County Ambulance Service
 Full Service Emergency Response and Medical Transport Services.

Have a great time at the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo!



Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Prairie Pines Assisted Living
<https://www.prairiepinesassistedlivingcommunity.com/>

Prairie Pines Serenity Garden
 101 E. Lowell Eads, CO 719-438-2141
 prairiepines@esrta.com

"MOVING ON WITH HOPE, FAITH, & COURAGE"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Salvation Army Thrift Shop & Volunteers

Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

Shop Hours Saturdays
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 306 W. 12 St
 PO Box 167
 Eads, CO 81036

KIOWA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO 2024
EADS, COLORADO
SEPTEMBER 12TH - 14TH, 2024

Mechanical Bull Riding



Rodeo Roper



**2024 KIOWA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO
RODEAR WORKING DOG & HORSE
COMPETITION**

1:00PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

KIOWA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, EADS COLORADO

HANDLER HORSEBACK

DOG WORKS CATTLE THROUGH OBSTACLES

TIMED EVENT WITH POINTS AWARDED

CALCUTTA

\$25 PER DOG ENTRY FEE

100% PAYOUT PLUS ADDED MONEY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

GARY WOLLERT (719) 688-1107

2024 KIOWA COUNTY FAIR



"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo



GNBank
 The Best Place to Bank and Borrow

1220 Maine St. ■ Eads, CO ■ (719) 438-5331
 gn-bank.com

"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Welcome Everyone to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

The Town of HASWELL

"MOVING ON WITH HOPE, FAITH & COURAGE"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble



Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair

The Town Of Eads

Kiowa County Abstract Company

"Moving on with Hope, Faith, & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble



See you at the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

1304 Goff St - Eads, CO (719) 438-5811



"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

KIOWA COUNTY FAIR Sept 8-14



Tire Sales **Window Chip Repair**
Tire Sales **Vehicle Maintenance**

"Fixin Everything from daybreak to heartache"
JD-Works

207 W. 15th Eads, CO 81036 719-438-5545

Buller Mobile Tire




Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo

<https://www.bullermobiletire.us/>

Experienced Tire Technicians
 Servicing Southeast Colorado (719) 691-5435
 Tire Dealer - Roadside Tire Repair



Stuff & Store LLC

PO Box 141 - Eads, CO 81036
 107 East 15th Street

"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble



SEE YOU AT THE FAIR

719-438-5700 or 719-688-9044
 Vinton & Mary Engelhardt



Welcome to the Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo



Eads Auto Supply & Hardware

404 E. 15 St Eads, CO 719-438-2227

2024 KIOWA COUNTY FAIR

**Welcome to the
Kiowa County Fair**
We Found the Lost Sand Creek Site

www.thelostsandcreek.com
www.facebook.com/BowenHistory
chuck@thelostsandcreek.com

Chuck Bowen **Mike Bowen**



719 METAL WORKS LLC



**Welcome to the
Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo**

*"Moving on with
Hope, Faith & Courage"*
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

307 E. 15th St
PO Box 826
Eads, CO 81036

Welding-Machine Shop-Metal Sales-Hydraulic Repair
Brandon Hoffman CELL: 719-688-6147 SHOP: 719-438-2019
719METALWORKS@GMAIL.COM



Golden Plains INSURANCE

Welcome to the
Kiowa County
Fair & Rodeo

Lamar - Springfield - Walsh - Rocky Ford
GoldenPlainsInsurance.com



"Moving on with Hope, Faith & Courage"
Parade Theme by Mary Marble

Howdy Y'all
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KIOWA COUNTY FAIR

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RODEO

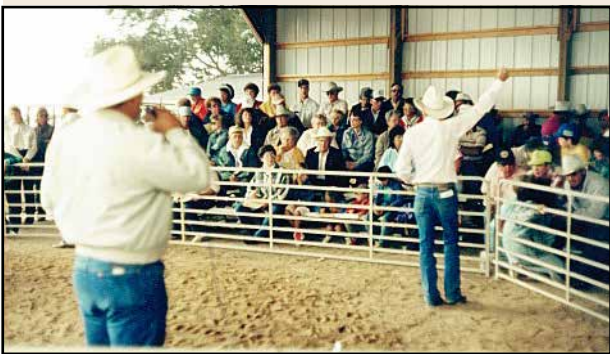


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FRIDAY, SEPT 13TH

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KIOWA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

RANCH BRONC RIDING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

KIOWA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | EADS, COLORADO

CALCUTTA 6:00 PM (CASH ONLY)

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FOR ENTRIES CONTACT: SALT RIVER RODEO

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KIOWA COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS | EADS, COLORADO

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14th, 2024

ENTRIES

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RACE ENTRIES OPEN AUGUST 29, 2024, 10:00am & CLOSE AUGUST 30, 2024, 4:00pm.
ENTRY FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 2, 2024, 3:00pm VIA BANK WIRE TRANSFER.
BANK DETAILS & WIRE TRANSFER INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED UPON ENTRY.

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<u>GATE</u>	<u>ENTRY</u>
220 YD OPEN	\$3,000
220 YD OPEN	\$2,000
100 YD DASH	\$1,000
220 YD SADDLE (Lap & Tap)	\$200
120 YD PONY	\$100
1 MILE + 70 YD OPEN	\$500

LARRY & SUSAN LUSHER MEMORIAL	<u>ENTRY</u>
3/8 MILE OPEN (WINNER TAKE ALL)	\$500

ROB KELLEY MEMORIAL	<u>ENTRY</u>
1/2 MI + 70 YD OPEN (WINNER TAKE ALL)	\$500

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2024 Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo September 8 - 14



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8

10:00 am Kiowa County Riding Club
Open Gymkhana -
Contact Cody Fox 303-907-1002

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11

10:00 am 4-H & FFA Livestock in Place
1:00 pm 4-H & FFA Poultry & Rabbit Show
5:00-7:00 pm Exhibit Hall Opens
for Open Class Entries
6:00 pm 4-H & FFA Goat Show
6:00 pm SECCC Barrel Race -
Contact Tori Hawks 719-688-9024
7:00 pm Exhibit Hall Closes

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12

6:00 am Chuckwagon Breakfast
on Maine Street
7:00-9:00 am Exhibit Hall Opens to
Receive Open Class Entries
9:00 am 4-H and FFA Swine Show
10:00 am Exhibit Hall Closes - Judging Begins
11:00 am-5:00 pm Kid's Amusement Opens
12:00 pm 4-H FFA Beef Show
1:00 pm Dog Trials -
Contact Gary Wollert 719-688-1107
2:00 pm 4-H and FFA Sheep Show
3:00 pm 4-H and FFA
Round Robin Showmanship
6:00 pm Team Roping -
Contact JW McCuiston 719-469-1133
6:00 pm Exhibit Hall Closes

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13

6:00 am Chuckwagon Breakfast on Maine Street
8:00 am Exhibit Hall Opens
9:30 am 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale
11:00 am-5:00 pm Kid's Amusement Opens
12:00 pm Beef BBQ
1:00 pm CPRA Rodeo -
Contact Cody Fox 303-907-1002
3:00 pm 4-H & FFA Animals
released to be taken home
6:00 pm Mountain States Ranch Rodeo Calcutta
CASH ONLY
7:00 pm Ranch Rodeo -
Contact JW McCuiston 719-469-1133

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14

10:00 am Parade on Maine Street
11:00 am Exhibit Hall Opens
11:00 am-5 pm Kid's Amusement Opens
12:00 pm Pork BBQ
1:00 pm CPRA Rodeo -
Contact Cody Fox 303-907-1002
1:00 pm Horse Races -
Contact Donna Adame 719-688-8099
2:00 pm Premium List
Posted in Community Building
4:00 pm All Exhibits Released
After Checkout by Secretary
6:00 pm Ranch Bronc Riding Calcutta CASH ONLY
7:00 pm Ranch Bronc Riding -
Contact Salt River Rodeo 520-975-6788

"Moving on with
Hope, Faith and Courage"

Parade Theme - Mary Marble



**Kiowa County
Fair & Rodeo!**

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Kiowa County *Press*

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Report: CHIPS Act opportunity to set standard for good Colorado jobs



ERIC GALATAS

(Colorado News Connection)

As the Biden-Harris Administration prepares to invest up to \$175 billion in tax money into semiconductor manufacturing under the CHIPS Act, a new [Institute for Policy Studies report](#)

warns guardrails are necessary to ensure that workers in Colorado and across the U.S. - who make tiny chips critical for electronic devices - are getting good jobs.

Report author Chris Rodrigo, the managing editor at the institute's [Inequality.org](#) website,

said the U.S. Department of Commerce should add key worker protections - including good wages, safety from toxic chemicals, and the freedom to unionize - to all contracts before backing up the Brinks trucks.

"Commerce should require, or at least strongly

encourage, companies to not try to disrupt any organizing activity going on," said Rodrigo. "Having unions at these companies is a good back stop to make sure there aren't too many violations of people's labor rights."

The report also rec-

ommends banning stock buy-backs and other executive perks - to make sure that more taxpayer dollars are invested in workers in the form of improved wages, training, and safety measures.

Despite pledges from companies in the 1990s to phase out dangerous chemicals, miscarriage and cancer rates remain high among the global semiconductor workforce.

The industry and the administration cite rapid growth as a sign of a smart economic policy. And in fact the companies claim there aren't enough qualified Americans willing to take on jobs created by the CHIPS Act.

But researchers found there was no deficit of credentialed workers. Rodrigo cited a recent survey showing that many are turning to other industries because of bad work environments.

"And over half of the workers interviewed said they were likely to leave their jobs within the next three to six months," said Rodrigo. "Companies should look inward and try to improve the quality of jobs before blaming it on external factors like workers not being available or not being interested in working in their industry."

Rodrigo said he believes setting a good precedent now by demanding high quality jobs could be transformative for future public investments across the economy.

"This is an opportunity," said Rodrigo, "for the federal government to set strong standards for what jobs look like when public money is being given to any industry."

Colorado spends \$9M on electric vehicle rebates for gas, diesel vehicle trade-ins

JOE MUELLER

(The Center Square)

Colorado is devoting millions for rebates when trading in a gas- or diesel-powered vehicle and purchasing an electric one.

Vehicle Exchange Colorado will receive \$9 million from the state to continue the rebate program. However, to participate in the program the purchaser must have earned less than 80 percent of the [median income](#) in the county where they live. In Denver, the amount would be \$73,040 for an individual or \$104,320 for a family of four. In San Juan County, the amount would be \$52,800 for an individual or \$75,360 for

a family of four.

To qualify for the trade-in, the gas- or diesel-powered vehicle must be at least 12 years old or have failed a Colorado emissions test.

Those who qualify can receive a \$6,000 rebate when purchasing or leasing a new electric vehicle and a \$4,000 rebate when purchasing a used electric vehicle. The purchase must be made from an authorized automobile dealer. New and used battery electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles are eligible.

The new funding now brings the rebates to a total of \$14.7 million during the first two years of the program. The program made 1,301 rebates during its first year,

which concluded Aug. 31, according to a media release from Democratic Governor Jared Polis. The rebates were six times greater than projected by the Colorado Energy Office and the Community Access Enterprise, a state agency with a mission of expanding widespread adoption of electric vehicles.

"The way Coloradans have embraced this program shows the momentum the EV market is having in Colorado, and we're extremely excited to continue building on its success with additional funding," Will Toor, executive director of the Colorado Energy Office, said in a statement. "Transportation is a leading source of

pollution in the state, so making clean cars more affordable and accessible is critical to achieving our climate goals."

As of June 30, 68 percent of the 1,301 rebates issued were redeemed as 879 gas- and diesel-powered vehicles were replaced with electric vehicles in 39 counties. In addition to the rebate, purchasers can qualify for state and federal electric vehicle tax credits.

"Expanding the use of electric vehicles is an important part of our work to improve air quality and achieve our climate goals, and we look forward to seeing this funding support more Coloradans," Polis said in a statement.

Fraud case of 15K businesses at one Colorado address settled for \$75K

[JOE MUELLER](#)

(The Center Square)

One man's purchase of more than 15,000 business filings, all with one Colorado address, led to an investigation and lawsuit settled for \$75,000.

When Colorado Democratic Secretary of State Jena Griswold reduced filing fees from \$50 to \$1 for new businesses, it gave Marcio Garcia Andrade an idea.

Between February 2022 and August 2023, Andrade submitted and paid for 15,433 business filings. Each one used a Northglenn residential address as the principal office address.

The large number of businesses at one address was detected by the secretary of state and Democratic Attorney General Phil Weiser investigated. They discovered neither the property owner nor the resident gave Andrade permission to use the address for the business filings.

"The fraudulent filings were detected in May 2023 when the secretary of state noticed an unusual and suspicious pattern: hundreds of new businesses were flooding into their system, often mere minutes apart, all claiming registered agents reachable at the Northglenn Address, and originating from foreign IP addresses – despite the businesses claiming domestic status," according to Weiser's complaint.

The investigation found Andrade wasn't eligible to serve as a registered agent in the state because he didn't have a primary residence or a usual place of business in Colorado.

Weiser described Andrade as a "self-styled serial entrepreneur."



Weiser's complaint stated Andrade and several of his businesses, including Grand Teton Professionals, in 2019 were permanently banned in a \$9.6 million settlement with the Federal Trade Commission for fraudulent credit service businesses. "Wholesale Shelf Corporations LLC" was part of Grand Teton Professionals and used the Northglenn address

as its principal place of business, according to the complaint.

"Wholesale sells aged registered corporations, also known as shelf corporations," according to the complaint. "Shelf corporations allow buyers to assume the identity of an older registered corporation in order to improve their likelihood of obtaining credit. Wholesale advertises to

customers seeking eligibility for credit, the ability to bid on government contracts and credibility with customers through assuming the identity of aged shell corporations." Weiser claimed Andrade continued to sell the fraudulently created business licenses after taking action against him.

"Since the filing of the complaint in this case,

defendants have transferred ownership of several fraudulent businesses to third parties," according to the complaint. "Defendants have done so despite being on notice that the state considers these entities to be fraudulent, and despite knowing that the entities may be dissolved as a result of this litigation."

The actions violated the Colorado Consumer Protection Act. Nearly all of the entities formed and owned by Andrade will be dissolved.

Andrade agreed to pay \$75,000 to the attorney general, \$20,000 in attorney fees, \$20,000 as a penalty and \$35,000 as disgorgement.

"Fraudulent business filings are dangerous tools in the hands of bad actors," Weiser said in a statement. "Consumers might assume these companies are legitimate and get lured into making transactions – including extending credit to – with an illegitimate actor."

Polis taps nation's strongest water-quality protections for 15 Colorado rivers

[ERIC GALATAS](#)

(Colorado News Connection)

Nearly a year after the [U.S. Supreme Court](#) left key watersheds unprotected by the Clean Water Act, the Polis administration has designated new protections for some 385 miles across 15 rivers and streams in the Upper and Lower Colorado, Eagle, Yampa and Roaring Fork river basins.

Chad Rudow, water quality program manager with the Roaring Fork Conservancy, said the Outstanding Waters designation is an important tool for protecting drinking water.

"Which means it's protecting the actual quality of the water, and that's the highest level of protection that can be given to a stream within the state of Colorado," he said.

The designation aims to protect existing high-quality waterways from any future degradation, including pollution from development, mining, oil and gas extraction, and other uses. It does not affect any existing uses in the watershed, so long as they don't degrade current water quality.

The designation, which won unanimous approval by the Colora-

do Water Quality Control Commission in late August, comes after years of work done by conservation groups.

Carrie Sandstedt, senior officer with The Pew Charitable Trusts, said protections are still needed for many streams in the state, and added that protecting water quality is critical not only for drinking water but also healthy wildlife habitat and ecosystems.

"This designation not only protects rivers and streams, it also protects their associated wetlands. It helps preserve important plant life and other species critical for healthy freshwater hab-

itats," she said.

The designation also protects one of the state's biggest economic drivers. A [recent study](#) found that Colorado's river basins generated nearly \$11 billion in outdoor recreation spending in 2019. Rudow noted clean water is essential for swimming, rafting and other activities across the Roaring Fork Valley.

"We have the second longest contiguous reach of Gold Medal water in our watersheds, so that's high-quality fishing streams. People come from all over the world, literally, to go fly fishing," she explained.

Ranked choice voting movement has Grand Junction roots

CHASE WOODRUFF

(Colorado Newsline)

In two months, Colorado voters will decide whether to make some of the biggest changes to their election system in the Centennial State's 148-year history.

Initiative 310, backed by centrist megadonor Kent Thiry and the non-profit Unite America, would abolish party primaries in favor of a single "all-candidate" primary for each state and federal office. The top four candidates in each primary would advance to a general election decided by ranked choice voting.

Proponents of the system bankrolled a successful effort to establish it in Alaska in 2020, and want to spread it to a half dozen other states this year. They pitch their model as a cure for political division and dysfunction. Critics in both parties argue that it will diminish the value of grassroots organizing and primarily benefit wealthy candidates, and some local elections officials are [skeptical about its implementation](#).

Founded in 2014 and co-chaired by Thiry, the deep-pocketed former CEO of dialysis company DaVita, Denver-based Unite America — previously known as the Centrist Project — has backed reforms like vote by mail and independent redistricting commissions, including the anti-gerrymandering measures approved by Colorado voters in 2018. But with its big bet on its top-four model, it's aiming to achieve a history-making transformation of the U.S. election system.

If that comes to pass, it won't be the first time that Colorado has played

a pivotal role in experimenting with new ways for Americans to vote. More than a century ago, the nascent movement to adopt ranked choice voting in the U.S. was jumpstarted by voters in the city of Grand Junction and a political iconoclast named James W. Bucklin.

Amid a wave of progressive reform efforts against the corrupt city machine politics of the era, Bucklin, a former state legislator, wrote a new city charter for

votes would be counted, and then third-choice votes if necessary.

Some of Bucklin's rhetoric in espousing the virtues of his system might as well have been written by proponents of the Colorado Voters First initiative today.

"If... we are to establish good government, we must enact some electoral system that will destroy political machines, and prevent the election of officials by minorities," Bucklin [wrote](#) in 1911. "The preferential ballot

icehouse, coal mine and electric utility.

But the outrage over the new voting system, and its seemingly counterintuitive results, was instant. The headline of a Grand Junction Sentinel editorial [the following day](#) declared: "Preferential System Offspring of Bone Head."

"The Sentinel says that the system is all wrong. It is un-American," thundered editor Walter Walker. "The Sentinel appeals to every other community in the state to steer clear of this fool means of making selection of officers in a municipality."

But many other cities in Colorado and around the country, fed up with the preceding decades of machine politics, didn't listen, and chose to join the wave of cities experimenting with new voting methods. More than 60 U.S. municipalities, including Denver and San Francisco, went on to adopt the Bucklin system or something very similar to it.

Denver adopted ranked voting in 1913, and the system was in use throughout a turbulent period in the city's history. Mayor Ben Stapleton, a pro-business candidate backed by the then-influential Ku Klux Klan, needed third-choice votes to win his first election in 1923. Eight years later, he narrowly lost his bid for a third term, again thanks to the third-choice tally, but went on to return to power in 1935.

Criticisms of the Bucklin system mounted over the years, and election reformers and political scientists generally take a dim view of it today. By adding second- and third-choice votes to the first-round tally, rather than transferring each

ballot's vote, it arguably violated the one-person, one-vote principle, which several state courts cited as a reason to declare the method unconstitutional. At the same time, the system contained a glaring contradiction: It incentivized voters to "bullet vote" for a single candidate and decline to rank any others, since doing so would prevent their candidate's vote share from being diluted in subsequent rounds.

With the support of Stapleton, who no doubt blamed the system for his 1931 defeat, Denver voters approved an initiative ending preferential voting in 1935. For a variety of reasons, most other cities around the country followed suit by the mid-20th century. Grand Junction, which had pioneered the system, abandoned it in 1921, after using it for just three municipal election cycles.

The version of ranked choice voting endorsed by most reform advocates today, including Thiry and Unite America, is sometimes known as instant runoff voting. It aims to overcome the Bucklin system's shortcomings by transferring votes, rather than adding them. After each round without a majority winner, the last-place candidate is eliminated, and votes for that candidate are transferred to the next-ranked choice on each ballot.

The new system isn't without its critics, either. The choice between sticking with the status quo and experimenting with something new will fall to Colorado voters in November — but if nothing else, history shows that in a democracy, there's no guarantee that experiment will be permanent.



Grand Junction, and voters adopted it in a special election in 1909. Its ideas included a new commission form of municipal government, with the mayor, renamed the "commissioner of public affairs," elected alongside citywide commissioners for water, finance, highways and civic beauty.

But the most controversial change was the charter's enactment of "preferential voting": Grand Junction voters were given ballots asking for their first, second and third choice for each office. Though there are important differences between the Bucklin system and the ranked choice voting methods proposed today, the basic idea was the same: If no candidate received a majority of first-choice votes, second-choice

for cities is a plan to restore majority elections and true representative government."

But the very first election held under the new system in Grand Junction appalled its critics. Thomas M. Todd, the Socialist Party's pick for mayor, trailed two other candidates in the first round of voting. But with no one even close to winning a majority in the six-way race, the contest [proceeded to count](#) second- and then third-choice votes, putting Todd over the top. He would go on to serve a single four-year mayoral term, appoint the nation's first socialist police chief and set up a municipal lumber yard where the unemployed could chop wood in exchange for a hot meal, while leading [unsuccessful attempts](#) to establish a city-owned

Utah State University looks to improve early identification of autism in children



ALEX GONZALEZ
(Utah News Connection)

Utah lags behind the national average of identifying children for autism.

In an effort to improve the state's standing, the Institute for Disability, Research, Policy and

Practice at Utah State University will offer free, remote early [identification of autism](#) training for Utah service providers.

Janel Preston, special educator at the university, said when early identification is missed, children and families are not getting critical services

to increase overall quality of life.

"It is really important for providers, as well as just the general public, to have a better understanding of what autism is," Preston urged. "And how we can help support and increase that awareness, acceptance."

Data from 2020 show [10 Utah children](#) per 1,000 were identified to have autism by age 4. The national average is more than 20 per 1,000. Preston pointed out the [Autism ECHO](#) sessions will start on Sept. 25 and will aim to give educators, providers, case managers, administrators and families the tools they need to improve identification.

Preston acknowledged it is hard to pinpoint why Utah falls behind in the early identification of autism but suspects it could be due to lack of access. She added in comparison to other states, Utah

is pretty rural, which can pose unique challenges.

"If you live along the Wasatch Front you have access to a lot of things," Preston explained. "But coming maybe from San Juan County, that is a long drive into the Wasatch Front, which requires families to take time off from work, if you have a child that is not able to make transitions very easily that can then cause a ripple effect."

Preston added children who go years with-

out being diagnosed can struggle to navigate interactions with peers, manage school work and get a job later in life.

Preston hopes the program provides all kinds of Utahns the ability to foster connections and community.

"I could say, 'Hey, I have this kid or this family, this is what is going on, what are some things that I could do? What are some resources that I might not be aware of?'" Preston emphasized.

Could Utah be the next swing state? Polling shows it's unlikely

ALEX GONZALEZ
(Utah News Connection)

More than 200 staffers and aides from four previous Republican presidential nominees, including Senator Mitt Romney, R-Utah, have [endorsed](#) Vice President Kamala Harris for president.

Diane Lewis, chair of the Utah Democratic Party, said while polling shows Utah will likely stay a historically "red" state this election cycle, things are changing. She added having Minnesota Governor Tim Walz on the ticket with Harris could appeal to some voters.

"I truly believe that we are the next flip state, I really do," Lewis asserted. "I think we can do that. With the Harris and Walz team coming, Walz is a rural man. He is from the rural part of his state and so we have a lot of rural in our state. We have southern Utah, that is pretty rural, and even northern Utah is pretty rural."

Lewis pointed out contrary to popular belief, Utah is home to more Democrats than one might assume. Current

voter registration numbers showed Republicans are still the largest party, with unaffiliated voters in second.

Utah voters will also make their voices heard in November with the state's gubernatorial race between Republican incumbent Governor Spencer Cox and his opponent Representative Brian King, D-Salt Lake City. Recent polls show Cox is leading King [by 40 points](#) and a majority of voters in the Beehive State said they approve of Cox's decision to [endorse](#) former President Trump.

Lewis argued Cox is taking the state down the wrong path.

"He tends to flip-flop, he goes wherever the wind takes him," Lewis contended. "That is what is scary about Governor Cox and what is going on in Utah."

Lewis hopes regardless of the results in November, candidates can learn to disagree and compromise again moving forward.

Support for this reporting was provided by The Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Survey: Wyomingites support increased EMS funding

KATHLEEN SHANNON
(Wyoming News Service)

Some emergency medical services, or EMS, are consolidating or closing across Wyoming, while the need for services is increasing. In 2021, Wyoming EMS agencies received about 89,000 calls for service, that's a roughly 27 percent increase in five years. The law doesn't require EMS services be funded in a community, but a recent AARP [survey](#) shows many people think communities should chip in funding.

Tom Lacock, associate state director for communications and state advocacy with AARP Wyoming, said [16 EMS providers](#) have folded or consolidated over the last decade.

"And when you tell folks that you know, EMS is not an essential service, it's not required to be there, they kind of do a double take," he explained.

73 percent of Wyomingites think that communities should fund EMS in the same way as police and fire departments, according to the survey. A 2022 Wyoming Department of Health [report](#) shows roughly half of EMS nationwide are delivered through fire departments. Others come via a combination of municipal and county governments, private providers and hospital systems.

After listening sessions, the department's potential recommendations for supporting emergency medical ser-

vices include creating EMS districts, designating EMS as an essential service, regionalization, education and licensing requirements. Lacock says what he calls the "patchwork" of funding could be strengthened, too.

"The question becomes - what can we do to make perhaps a mix of funding? - Not only to pay for this, you know, as Wyomingites, but also to capture some revenue from folks who come through the state?" he said.

The state doesn't currently contribute to EMS funding. Recent attempts to get grant money and American Rescue Plan funding approved by state legislators and Governor Mark Gordon both failed.

Grant helps Legal Aid of Nebraska Housing Justice Project amidst rising evictions

DEBORAH VAN FLEET

(Nebraska News Connection)

From July 2023 to July 2024, Nebraska landlords filed more than 10,000 eviction cases. That's compared with an average of around 8,400 filings per year between 2012 and 2019. Legal Aid of Nebraska's Housing Justice Project represents hundreds of Nebraskans facing eviction each year, and a new \$50,000 grant from the United Way of the Midlands will help with this work.

Scott Mertz, Housing Justice Project Director, said the shortage of quality affordable hous-

ing makes it a bit of a "seller's market," contributing to the rise in evictions.

"People are not shy about just going right to eviction court when they have tenants that they want to just get rid of. It's relatively easy; it's relatively quick," he explained. "That's also something we'd like to push back against - make it a little more difficult, make it a little more time-consuming, so that people aren't just going right to the eviction."

Mertz pointed out that even when an eviction filing in Nebraska ends without a court judgment, it will show up on

a person's background check. This can impact their housing and even employment options for years to come. In 2023, [60 percent of eviction filings](#) nationwide were



against women, with Black women disproportionately represented.

A "clean-slate" bill which would have "sealed" eviction filings when cases were dismissed or vacated was unsuccessful in the recent Unicameral session. Mertz says the poten-

tial long-term harm an eviction filing can cause keeps a percentage of the people they see from pursuing their rights in court.

"They talk to us and

" he continued.

Mertz said the United Way grant will help toward their goal of doing more "affirmative litigation," that is, addressing issues before they reach a court filing.

"Quality of housing, conditions, safety concerns, discriminatory practices in renting or terminating housing. These are all things that happen all the time, and we can only do so much with the resources and the amount of attorney hours that we have," he explained.

He encourages anyone concerned they face a risk of losing their housing to call or go online to find out what their rights and options are. And he stresses that things move very fast from eviction notice to court date.

South Dakota police academy grads newly schooled on Indian Country

KATHLEEN SHANNON

(Greater Dakota News Service)

South Dakota's police training program included a new course this year, one specific to tribal communities.

A class of 20 graduated yesterday from the state's law enforcement academy in Pierre, including eight officers from three tribal nations.

Before now, tribal police officers typically traveled to New Mexico to receive both basic training and instruction specific to Native communities. For the first time, the state training this year included a course on criminal justice in Indian Country.

Marty Jackley, Attorney General, said law enforcement in the state has always "enjoyed strong relationships" across jurisdictions.

"The key part of this training, it builds those already existing relationships and makes them stronger. And it keeps our tribal officers closer to home."

In the past, traveling to New Mexico for the 13-week training has been a barrier for tribal officers. The localized class came about through partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and [funding approved](#) by Governor Kristi Noem, despite tensions this year between the governor and tribal leaders.

Jackley noted he has included next year's class in his budget for the 2025 legislative session.

"The governor has been very supportive of this class and so the hope is we're able to recreate this and build upon it, one class every year," Jackley asserted.

The training was rolled out this spring following moves by all nine tribes across the state to ban the governor from their lands. The bans were largely in response to inflammatory statements Noem made, including her allegation tribal leaders are "personally benefiting" from area drug cartels.

Group proposes changes, encourages use of Indigenous South Dakota education standards

KATHLEEN SHANNON

(Greater Dakota News Service)

A team of educators and supporters recently [proposed changes](#) to South Dakota's framework for Indigenous education, making the lessons more accessible for teachers across the state.

The Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards, in the works since 2008, were approved by the state in 2018 for education about the region's Indigenous cultures and ways of knowing. Some of the core understandings are built on themes including environment, identity, kinship, traditions and sovereignty.

According to the document, the framework offers not just an opportunity to learn about Indigenous people but also from them.

Roberta Bizardie, Siscangu Lakota, superintendent of the Todd County School District, sits on the 2024 Revisioning and Reaffirming Team and said it is meant to be imbued throughout an entire school day, rather than restricted to just social studies or history class.

"We want kids to understand when you walk in the door, we're incorporating them throughout your whole day," Bizardie explained. "And just to really help build up that identity side of who our kids are."

According to a 2023 [state survey](#), 62 percent of South Dakota educators reported using the standards, a 17 percent increase from 2021, though the response rate dropped. There are no state requirements to implement the standards, though Bizardie

pointed out Todd County has a policy to ensure they are used.

Bizardie noted while the current accepted standards focus on younger kids, her goal is to create grade-level expectations for K-12 students in Todd County. The 2024 proposal does not change the core understandings themselves but includes a deeper integration of Native language and will make lessons more accessible to both students and teachers.

"It was just kind of cleaning things up," Bizardie added. "When a teacher, whether you are Indigenous, non-Indigenous, you could look at this document and say, 'Oh, I can do this.'"

The 2024 proposal is open to [public comment](#) through Sept. 16.

Debating North Dakota government's connection to crisis pregnancy centers

MIKE MOEN

(Prairie News Service)

Legal disputes still surround North Dakota's [abortion ban](#).

Underneath the court activity is the influence of "crisis pregnancy centers" and debate over the state's role in supporting them. The facilities have become controversial in recent years. Opponents said they pose as a non-biased resource with services such as peer counseling and infant supplies but instead have a mission to steer women toward keeping their pregnancy. North Dakota is one of several states with abortion restrictions to set aside funding for these centers.

Kali Bauer, executive coordinator of the Minot Women's Network, said it is troubling.

"This state funding is allowing them to continue a lot of these practices that are not evidence based and do not adhere to the same medical standards that traditional clinics have to abide by," Bauer pointed out.

Bauer added the centers are often staffed by untrained and unlicensed individuals. North Dakota is currently providing \$1 million to fund its ["Alternative to Abortions"](#) program. Opponents want lawmakers to revisit the issue next session and establish [accountability measures](#). A Republican sponsor has vowed to block such efforts, arguing the initiative is not harmful to clients.

After the U.S. Supreme Court overturned federal abortion protections, North Dakota joined the wave of conservative-led states to enact bans. In response, other states, such as neighboring Minnesota, have expanded access to assist



patients living under restrictions elsewhere.

Senator Janne Myrdal, R-Edinburg, contended North Dakota's program is trying to help women with an unwanted pregnancy succeed.

"Women that find themselves in crisis pregnancy need the support from volunteerism, from

the local communities," Myrdal contended. "But also we stepped in as a state and said, 'We're going to fund these places because they affirm life, like our law said.'"

Because of other budget priorities, Myrdal does not anticipate pushing for increased funding for the centers,

but she feels they are transparent and no additional oversight is needed.

Bauer suggested the descriptions of crisis centers she feels are dangerous.

"Even providing medically inaccurate information, such as informa-

tion on how to reverse a medical abortion," Bauer noted.

Meanwhile, a judge recently announced he would decide whether to dismiss a legal challenge to North Dakota's abortion ban. The request blocked a trial in the case from getting underway last month.

From college students to the unhoused, understanding North Dakota voting rules

MIKE MOEN

(Prairie News Service)

North Dakota's election laws are coming back into focus ahead of the 2024 vote and state officials have guidance for certain populations who might struggle to get information about ballot access.

North Dakota does not have voter registration but it requires individuals to show a [valid state ID](#) when requesting a ballot. Political analysts expect a strong showing of college-age voters this November. Under state law, a student can vote in their college town by updating an ID to reflect where they live while

attending school. They must reside at the address for at least 30 days before voting.

Erika White, state election director for the Office of the North Dakota Secretary of State, said there is a relatively new twist for the student demographic.

"The North Dakota Legislature expanded the use of supplemental documentation to include student voting certificates," White explained. "If there is a North Dakota student away from home, they can bring in that student voting document."

The change, approved in 2021, applies to students whose hometown

is within North Dakota. They can access the voting certificate through their "Campus Connection" portal. If a student chooses to vote in their home district or home state, and they won't travel to the precinct on Election Day, they can request an absentee ballot. Details are posted at [Vote.ND.org](#).

Community service groups said North Dakota has increasingly been dealing with housing affordability issues. For those experiencing homelessness or housing instability, White reminded them they can still cast a ballot.

"All voters should be encouraged to vote,"

White urged. "We want to make sure that our qualified electors that have that valid identification are able to cast ballots and have access to the ballot box."

For voting situations involving the unhoused, the state transportation department provides a free nondriver ID. In a rural state like North Dakota, some local election administrators said there can be barriers to accessing ID cards. However, White said transportation officials try to make the process as easy as possible.

Support for this reporting was provided by The Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Labor union objects to North Dakota wind project staffed by out-of-state workers

MICHAEL ACHTERLING

(North Dakota Monitor)

A company building a wind farm in central North Dakota told state regulators it would hire “as much local labor as possible,” but the project appears to be primarily staffed by out-of-state workers, leaders of a labor union say.

The Laborers’ International Union of America supported the Oliver IV wind project that’s under construction in Oliver and Mercer counties. Union leaders received assurances from developer NextEra Energy Resources that the company would work with the union to staff the project with North Dakota workers, said Kevin Pranis, marketing manager for LIUNA.

Labor union member Jessie Smith was among those who testified in support of the project during a January North Dakota Public Service Commission hearing.

Smith, who lives in Hensler in Oliver County, said in an interview she



has experience working for nearby coal-fired power plants and she wants to gain experience in the wind industry.

“It sounds like the coal-fired power plants are being replaced,” Smith told the North Dakota Monitor. “Wind power is the future and we’d like to hop on that bandwagon.”

Clay Cameron, director of development for NextEra Energy, said during

the hearing that its engineering, procurement and construction hiring contractor is responsible for hiring, but “we commit that our EPCs will hire as much local labor as possible.”

“We agree with LIUNA that using local labor is good for the community,” Cameron told commissioners. “It’s also good for the project because it reduces travel and expenses.”

The labor union did an informal survey of vehicle license plates at the job site, finding that nearly 40 percent of the vehicles had Texas plates and about 5 percent had North Dakota plates, Pranis said.

He said that figure likely undercounts the number of Texas-based workers since they tend to carpool from their housing units while North Dakotans likely drive themselves.

“It’s a bait and switch with more Texans than North Dakotans on the project,” Pranis said.

In total, the union estimates that more than 90 percent of the workforce is from out of state based on its informal survey.

A NextEra representative declined to answer questions about how many local workers it hired for the project.

“NextEra Energy Resources respects the role labor unions have in the construction industry and recognizes the value of prioritizing local hiring, to the extent possible in the states where

our projects are located,” Sarah Borchardt, marketing and communications leader, said in a statement.

Julie Fedorchak, a member of the Public Service Commission, said business hiring practices are beyond the scope of the commission’s permitting process, and applicants pledge to hire local talent when it’s available.

“We don’t get involved in the company hiring decisions at all,” Fedorchak said.

The new wind farm will feature 71 wind turbines and employ up to 200 during construction, according to [the company’s website](#). It is expected to generate more than 200 megawatts of electricity once construction is completed by the end of 2024. The project was estimated to cost \$390 million for construction of the wind farm, corresponding substation and transmission lines, Cameron said during the hearing.

In June, LIUNA organized a protest outside of a Bismarck Verizon store to raise awareness about the hiring practices on the project. Verizon has an agreement to purchase the power produced by the wind project.

Smith, a 25-year union laborer who was between coal jobs this summer, said she thinks she has experience that would be comparable to some positions on the wind farm project. Instead, she has watched from her home as equipment is transported to and from the job site.

“Multiple times a day I see parts for the wind farm going out,” she said. “I wish I could’ve been working this summer on that project.”

Confronting Bozeman Montana’s affordable housing shortage

MARK MORAN

(Big Sky Connection)

An advocacy group in Bozeman, Montana, is calling on young people and low-income renters to take on the city’s notorious housing crunch.

More than half of the people who live in Bozeman are renters. The latest [Community Housing Needs Assessment](#) showed Bozeman needs up to 6,300 housing units in the next 5 years just to keep up with job growth.

Jacqueline Aaron, voter engagement and housing organizer for the advocacy group [Forward Montana](#), said people

who can least afford it are paying more than 50 percent of their income on rent and even then, not living where they want to.

“The units are being built out on the edges of town, sprawling into our agricultural land, getting pushed outside of the community,” Aaron pointed out. “I think a lot of people who really thrive in our urban center and want to be participating in the parts of community life that they value here.”

Aaron argued Bozeman’s development codes should reflect the desire for people to be able to live closer to

town and said it was a common theme at a [recent hearing](#). Officials will hold a work session Sept. 17 to discuss ways to address the housing shortage within the bounds of Bozeman’s existing and future ordinances.

Forward Montana said 60 percent of the housing units in Bozeman should be priced below market value to meet the full range of community housing needs. Aaron emphasized Bozeman’s more established residents have had a large hand in shaping the town’s housing ordinances, and she is encouraging young peo-

ple to make their voices heard as the Bozeman City Commission considers what is next for the Affordable Housing Ordinance.

“We’re missing out on this over 55 percent of people who are renting, and a good chunk of those are these young people that are affected,” Aaron stressed.

Bozeman officials voiced support during a recent hearing for adding more than 1,600 affordable housing units in town, and there are more on the horizon. Communities [now use incentives](#) to encourage developers to build affordable housing.



Idaho program aims to grow teacher numbers across the state

ERIC TEGETHOFF

(Northern Rockies News Service)

A program in Idaho is aiming to close the teacher shortage gap by training people where they live.

Idaho State University's [Paraprofessional to Certified Teacher Program](#) trains assistants, or paraprofessionals, who are already in the classroom to earn bachelor's degrees and become teachers. The course takes place online, so students can be anywhere in the state.

Cory Bennett, chair of teaching and educational studies at Idaho State, said the program's flexibility is part of its appeal.

"A lot of these people are in districts or in schools and they have no intention of leaving," Bennett pointed out. "This is where home is. This is where their families are. And so, we're helping them find ways to grow within that community and continue to serve and support their communities by becoming a teacher."

The program has ex-

panded since its first cohort three years ago, when it was in one school district. Its third cohort is located in 15 school districts and Bennett noted there is a growing waitlist of districts wanting to be included. They are exploring how to further grow the program.

Emma Wood, assistant dean of educator preparation at the university, said another important

part of the program is it is designed to ensure paraprofessionals earn a degree without getting into debt. She emphasized the teacher shortage is because not enough educators are in the classroom five years after graduating, not because the state is not graduating enough teachers.

"Our anticipation is that their retention rate

is going to go up," Wood explained. "Because what we have been finding is that teacher preparation programs are graduating enough teachers but we cannot keep up with the number of teachers that are leaving the profession."

Bennett added the program is rewarding because many of the people in the program never planned to get a

college degree or even thought it was possible.

"The personal effect of this and how it touches people in very meaningful ways is profound and you can't really put words on it, you can't put a dollar amount on that," Bennett stressed. "It is quite literally changing lives."

Support for this reporting was provided by Lumina Foundation.

Idaho project aims to heal democracy through conversation

ERIC TEGETHOFF

(Northern Rockies News Service)

An Idaho project is working to bridge the political divide harming the country's democracy. The United Vision Project facilitates meaningful conversations between people with differing views. It started in 2020 and has since reached a half million people in 12 states.

Nancy Pelegano, a volunteer with [The United Vision Project](#), said volunteers are trained in the "authentic relational conversations" technique.

"I do not argue with people," she said. "I don't tell people they are wrong. I don't judge. I have a conversation, I listen."

Pelegano joined the project four years ago because of the divisive rhetoric she'd been hearing since Barack Obama's presidency. She wanted to learn what was dividing people and find a way to connect with them on a deeper level to help heal the country.

The program has volunteers, but it also finds people who may be se-

cluded, such as those in rural areas. Pelegano added that many people simply don't feel heard.

"We are reaching folks that people don't talk to, that I think sometimes feel like they are forgotten, and so those conversations can be really powerful and really important," she stressed.

Pelegano said it can be difficult talking to someone with different beliefs than her. People can get angry and she understands there's hurt behind that anger. But she finds these conversations are worth it.

Pelegano added that the program has helped her grow as a person and hopes it can also help heal the country's wounded democracy.

"Making a difference by bridging the divide, by talking to people that think differently is very powerful and it's very meaningful work. It makes us understand the work is hard and it is going to continue and we cannot stop doing this. We have to keep talking to each other," she continued.

Nevada secures \$10 million grant to enhance outcomes for students with disabilities



ALEX GONZALEZ

(Nevada News Service)

A Nevada program is aiming to centralize transition services and improve outcomes for children with disabilities.

It will help create a centralized hub for children and young adults to

explore career and post-secondary opportunities. The initiative will also offer professional development to service providers in an effort to enhance and increase the availability of resources.

Jennifer Kane is the project director of The [Nevada Transitions](#)

[Roadmap through Innovative Partnerships](#). She explained last year the state's Department of Education secured a \$10 million grant from the federal government, which will be used over the next five years.

"There isn't really a system that takes us

from age 10 to age 24 by itself," Kane pointed out. "If they're trying to get us to a truly seamless transition, they gave us an age range which we have to work together to get there."

Kane noted the program will be approaching the end of its first

year later this month. She added just last week, it had its first Nevada TRIP Advisory Work Group meeting to bring together stakeholders, including significant participation from children and youths with disabilities and members of their support systems.

Ashley Price, co-project director for the Nevada Department of Education, said one of the main goals of Nevada TRIP is to cultivate strong partnerships with agencies and break down the state's current siloed systems presenting significant challenges to families.

"One very unique thing about Nevada is how rural Nevada is," Price emphasized. "So of course we get a lot of concentration in Washoe County and Clark County, and the rest of the state struggles. They might not have certain age ranges of students and young adults who have needs and then all of a sudden they do."

Price added many people across Nevada simply do not know what resources and support are available.

"Even as we are diving through this, trying to map out different agencies and different resources we're learning new things that we had no idea and that we are going to go ahead and include," Price explained. "That's probably the biggest misconception, is that people don't know that there is help or don't think there is help where they are."

On the flip side, Price stressed many agencies are ready to help but cannot find the necessary recipients, which is precisely one of the areas Nevada TRIP aims to help bridge.

New Mexico's Braver Angels offers political junkies an alternative to divisiveness

ROZ BROWN

(New Mexico News Connection)

There's evidence that respectful conversations about politics - while not changing hearts or minds - can lead to greater understanding on both sides. That's the goal of [New Mexico's Braver Angels Alliance](#).

The local group is part of the larger national organization dedicated to political depolarization.

Albuquerque volunteer Pat Hirschl said often meetings cannot be held unless there's both a red co-chair and a blue co-chair, to guarantee equal engagement about difficult topics.

"Locally we've had workshops, we've had skills training for bridging the divide in which you try to help people see how they can talk to their neighbors or their families," said Hirschl. "There are families that are split apart by this division in the politics."

Braver Angels takes its name from a speech by President Abraham Lincoln during the American Civil War, when he encouraged both sides of the conflict to call on the "better angels" of their nature, rather than see each other as enemies.

Albuquerque's group will host a meetup at the Cherry Hills library this

Thursday at 4 p.m. for a structured conversation on the topic of politics.

Hirschl said the meetings are not designed to get either side to agree with the other, but to recognize why people think the way they do based on their life experiences.

Across the country and in crucial swing states, Hirschl noted that independent voters are expected to play an outsize role in this year, and said leaders of the major parties would be smart to take notice.

"If they have any sense at all, both parties will reach out to those people who are not mem-

bers of their party," said Hirschl. "So, we'll see - a ver que pasa - we'll see what happens."

The program for this year's Braver Angels national convention focused on four issues: abortion, economic inequality and growth, free speech versus hate speech, and immigration.

The nonprofit launched in 2016 and now has 120 chapters and some 12,000 members nationwide.

Support for this reporting was provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Arizona judge blocks polling place rules

ALEX GONZALEZ

(Arizona News Connection)

As worries of election interference and intimidation grow in Arizona, Secretary of State Adrian Fontes says election officials have been preparing to ensure they're ready in November.

But just last week, an Arizona judge rejected Fontes' request to delay a court order which blocks certain rules from the state's [Elections Procedures Manual](#) - outlining what people can do in and around polling places.

[Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Jennifer Ryan-Touhill says](#) some of the provisions, which limit things like what people can wear and do, infringe on First Amendment rights.

Fontes said the manual creates a standard for all 15 counties, but the recent ruling could present challenges for voters.

"And losing that standard is really the problem because we could end up with chaos, we could end up with folks screaming and yelling at voters in line," said Fontes. "And some people, in some county, might say, they have 'a First Amendment right.' Well what about the voter standing in line?"

The recent ruling received [praise from the Arizona Free Enterprise Club](#) - which challenged the provisions, and claimed the 2023 Elections Procedures Manual "improperly placed protected political speech at risk of criminal prosecution."

But Fontes said voters should have the right to peacefully assemble in line under the First Amendment as well.

To those concerned, Fontes said folks can re-



quest an early ballot and drop it in the mail by October 24.

Many Arizona voters are also concerned about how election denialism will impact the election. Some candidates have already pledged that if they lose, it must mean

the election was rigged. But Fontes said he feels election denialism is waning.

"I think one of the main reasons it is going away is because the business community is telling these folks, 'You're making Arizona look bad,'"

said Fontes. "When you deny the elections, what you're saying is, 'This isn't a good place to do business; this isn't a good place to rely on your government.'"

Fontes said he and others will continue to condemn election deni-

alism because it not only hurts democracy, but because it's also bad for business and will hinder economic growth in the Grand Canyon State.

Support for this reporting was provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

New program to help tribal governments develop digital sovereignty

MARK RICHARDSON

(Arizona News Connection)

Historic inequities have left many tribal nations behind the rest of the country but a new Arizona State University program is designed to launch them into the digital future.

The university's [Center for Tribal Digital Sovereignty](#) is designed to help Native Americans plan and develop their digital footprint. The project is a joint effort between the American Indian Policy Institute and the school's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Tracy Morris, executive director of the institute, said it is all about pro-

viding full access to the digital universe.

"Tribal digital sovereignty is the exercise of self-determination of all digital aspects in a tribe, that the tribe itself controls," Morris outlined. "That could be the infrastructure, it could be the data, it could be the physical networks, it could be their cloud or whatever."

Morris argued developing a platform for digital information is critical to tribal autonomy. The program will support tribes in Arizona and across the U.S. in achieving equal access to the governance, social and economic advantages of broadband and other

technologies.

Morris pointed out digital sovereignty encompasses all aspects of a tribal nation's digital plan and footprint, such as tribal codes, managing data protection, digital equity, network infrastructure, development of funding sources and capacity building.

"The point is for tribes to be able to implement the best thing that they can and exercise their digital sovereignty so that they can serve their members," Morris explained. "For the end user, they should be able to have the same access as, theoretically, you or I have in a city."

Morris added broad-

band and other communications technologies are a necessary 21st-century platform for tribal independence. She believes establishment of the Center is a significant turning point for Native Americans.

"If you look at Indian law and Indian history, it's usually something imposed on us in the past or it's taken away from us," Morris observed. "We have a level playing field here. We're all competing. We're all competing. We're all the same resources, the same capacity, the same people to do the work. And it's exciting."

Climate solutions for the future of coffee

ANNE CONNOR, [CIVIL EATS](#)

(California News Service)

There's not enough coffee in the world. In 2023, the world produced [3 percent less](#) than it consumed. Growing consumer demand in Asia exacerbates the deficit, while climate change affects supply. Coffee is susceptible to heat and drought. It needs predictable conditions to thrive, and conditions now are anything but predictable.

Heat and novel rain patterns harm plants and encourage [coffee rust](#), a devastating fungal disease. Rains may come too early or too late. There may be too much rain or too little. Or all of the above.

Climate change causes labor problems and hurts farm owners, too. Lower yields mean less cash flow, contributing to wage stagnation. Underpaid pickers don't show up, and coffee cherries rot on the ground, wasting the harvest. Heat can also cause coffee to ripen before pickers are available; again, the cherries fall and are wasted. Some harvests last for six months instead of the standard two, and some are shockingly short.

Climate also intersects with infrastructure. Sometimes, the coffee is picked, but heavy rains wash out the roads, and farmers can't get their product to market. Or harvests are compressed into a two-week period, and the coffee mills can't handle the tsunami of cherries waiting to be processed.

With increasingly tight margins, farm owners can't afford the upgrades needed to make their coffee production more water-efficient, and they can't buy new cultivars that resist coffee rust and heat.

If smallholder farmers

are "deciding between 'feed my family,' or 'renovate the farm,' they're going to feed their family," says Maria Cleaveland, a coffee industry expert and board member of the U.S. chapter of the [International Women's Coffee Alliance](#) (IWCA). Without hope, people leave—and many of them head for the U.S.

A Shift in Coffee Growing Regions

About [70 percent](#) of global coffee is arabica, favored in the U.S. But climate models show what farmers are already experiencing on the ground: Climate change and arabica are incompatible, at least where coffee is currently grown.

Some [50 percent](#) of current coffee-growing land will likely be unsuitable for arabica by 2050. Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, and Indonesia, [four of the biggest](#) coffee nations, are on that list. Growers there are looking for ways to delay the tipping point.

On the plus side, locations further from the equator—the U.S. Gulf Coast, China's Yunnan province, and [parts](#) of Uruguay and Argentina—will likely be coffee-friendly by 2050. Enabled by increasingly favorable weather in Yunnan, [coffee production there](#) has soared by nearly [500 percent](#) since 2006.

Coffee plants usually take three to four years to produce their first yield, making the crop a gamble at startup, but rising global demand may provide the incentive. In fact, [coffee is increasingly grown in California](#), says Cleaveland.

Coffee roasters and retailers strategically adjust their sourcing to regional conditions. "We definitely think a lot about that," says Andi Trindle Mersch, vice president of coffee oper-

ations and sustainability at [Philz Coffee](#). "I consider this to be our job as coffee buyers now." Trindle Mersch says that Philz plans 10 to 15 years ahead in sourcing and is strongly invested in Brazil. Beyond 15 years? "We're going to keep tasting and trying."

Could the Answer Come From Trees?

Working in the field at very high temperatures has been exhausting," says Miriam Monteiro de Aguiar of Brazil's [Cachoeira Farm](#), which has produced certified organic coffee since 1994. The blazing heat also harms the fragile coffee plants, driving Monteiro de Aguiar back to coffee's [agroforestry](#) roots.

Even considering agroforestry, growing coffee in the shade, is unusual in Brazil. [Most farms](#) there still use open-field agriculture—but this approach may not work for much longer in the new climate reality.

"We have been experimenting with shade-grown coffees," Monteiro de Aguiar says. "More recently, we've been fascinated by and experimenting with syntropic agriculture."

[Syntropic agroforestry](#) involves carefully trimming the tree canopy, balancing sun and shade to prevent fungal diseases. As they prune, workers pile leaves and branches on the ground. The biomass retains water and decomposes, enriching the soil. Using fruit trees for shade improves food security for the producers, too.

Although these regenerative models are "vigorous," as Monteiro de Aguiar says, they are still rare. "Many producers, scientists, and researchers believe and invest more in the scientific development of drought-resistant variet-

ies," she notes.

Globally, many coffee farmers are moving uphill into forested areas to escape the heat. Coffee was once grown exclusively in the forest, shaded by native trees. Agroforestry reduces the ambient temperature, enriches the soil, and controls evaporation so the plants don't dry out. It also protects coffee blossoms against frost.

But shade-grown coffee has its own problems. Perhaps most damningly, it increases the incidence and severity of coffee rust by [22 percent](#), although new techniques like syntropic agroforestry could help. Harvesting shade-grown coffee can be costly and difficult, as workers must contend with roots, branches, machetes, ants, and snakes while reaching for coffee cherries.

Attracted by the higher yields of sun-grown coffee, some conventional farmers clear-cut the hills, a practice that robs the coffee of shade and the land of biodiversity. One study found that arabica's move into forested areas could result in the loss of [35 percent of threatened vertebrate species](#), including mammals, birds, and amphibians, due to clear-cutting.

Policy changes could offer new hope for agroforestry. Starting in late 2024, the E.U. [will prohibit](#) coffee imports from countries with new deforestation. "It's in the air; everybody wants to know how this will affect their relationship with their buyers," says Blanca Castro of Guatemala, executive director of the IWCA.

Some national governments have set policies to encourage shade-grown coffee. This includes Mexico, says Santiago José Arguello Campos, Coordinador General de Agricultura of Mexico.

Agroforestry is "very important to preserve biodiversity," he says. The agriculture department backs up this recommendation with technical assistance. That help is working: [96 percent](#) of the coffee grown in Mexico is now shade-grown. Mexico has nearly 1.5 million acres of shade-grown coffee, much of it bordering [protected natural](#) areas.

Coffee worldwide is increasingly grown alongside other crops, such as avocados, plantains, cacao, sugarcane, nuts, citrus, and spices. Castro says this intercropping offers shade for coffee plants and financial stability for farmers.

Some Mexican producers grow coffee under banana trees, for example. The fruit is for farmers to consume themselves, says Arguello Campos, and farmers sell the large banana leaves to the U.S. food market for tamale wraps. This practice can generate up to 30 percent of their total income.

In places that are increasingly too hot or dry to grow coffee, such crops may someday support former coffee producers, but for now, they supplement coffee revenues.

Buying Time

Daniele Giovannucci, a former coffee consultant for the World Bank and founder of the [Committee on Sustainability Assessment](#), sees coffee's climate adaptation as splitting into two paths. One is specialty coffees, such as shade-grown gourmet varieties. The other, which is easier to scale, is varieties suited to new climate conditions.

Hardier coffee plants could buy time in the coming decades. One

continued on C13

Fertilizers continued from C12

possibility is robusta, popular in Europe for espresso and more heat-resistant than arabica. A 2022 study [pre-dicted](#) that about 83 percent of the world's future coffee-growing areas would support robusta, but only 17 percent would support arabica.

Arabica's [ideal temperature](#) range is 64-73 degrees Fahrenheit, with 47 inches of rainfall annually. By contrast, robusta thrives (in some places) at 72-86 degrees Fahrenheit. Notably, a [study](#) of robusta's ideal temperature in Southeast Asia found it to be less heat-tolerant there. Robusta also requires more rainfall, at least 69 inches annually.

David Pohl, founder of Pohl Coffee Consulting and a certified coffee quality rater, says robusta is starting to be recognized as a specialty coffee. To bring out its best flavors, robusta must be processed, roasted, and brewed differently from arabica. Robusta prepared like arabica would not be considered a fine coffee.

Despite robusta's potential climate advantages, Big Coffee has yet to embrace it fully. Robusta didn't get its own quality standards until 2010. Pohl was one of the first "R-raters," experts trained by the Coffee Quality Institute in robusta standards. Before 2010, robusta was judged by the same standards as arabica, which is rated on its "bright notes" and is rewarded for acidity. Robusta is less acidic; a fine robusta is balanced between sweet and salty, for example.

Robusta has vastly greater genetic diversity than arabica; most of its thousands of varieties have yet to be explored. The best robustas Pohl has tasted are from Af-

rica. "They just have more to work with. And so, their coffees tend to be really, really good, whether or not they're known to the world," says Pohl.

Hybrid coffee plants are another possible climate solution—for farms that can get them. One hybrid, Centroatricano, introduced in 2010, scores well in "cupping" or taste ratings. It is high-yielding and rust-resistant and thrives in the shade at high altitudes. However, "only a handful" of hybrids "have become commercially available to farmers in the last 15 years, and only in select countries," according to the non-profit [World Coffee Research](#).

World Coffee Research has operated a non-GMO breeding program to develop more climate-resistant coffee varieties for the past two years. They use a vast dataset to determine future conditions by country and aim for plants that will thrive in specific regions.

Trindle Mersch says Philz Coffee would be open to robustas or hybrids if the right flavor profiles came along. So far, however, they haven't tasted one that works for their blends. She notes that Philz supports World Coffee Research. "We're definitely believers in using science to create quality hybrids and breeds we can work with," she says.

In 2012, coffee rust hit Mexico and Central America hard, depressing yields through 2015. Mexico's agriculture department distributed rust-resistant cultivars such as Oro Azteca, Marsellesa, and Costa Rica 95, along with technical assistance on Fair Trade and organic certification. The project also encouraged shade-planting.

Arguello Campos says the three-year project put 200 million plants

a year directly into the hands of farmers. The organizers released them in waves, allowing the original plants to yield what they could while the new ones matured.

"The goal was to increase density and resilience," says Arguello Campos. The Mexican government invested the equivalent of \$70 million per year in the project, supplemented by corporate investments and farm labor, in what Arguello Campos describes as a public-private-social venture.

Beanless Coffee

What if these options can't hold back the impact of climate change? Scientists are exploring sustainable coffee alternatives in laboratories around the world.

A Seattle startup, [Atomo Coffee](#), says it has cracked coffee's flavor code—without coffee beans. Atomo extracts compounds from ingredients such as [ramón seeds](#), which the [ancient Mayans used](#) to make a hot beverage with notes of chocolate and dark-roasted coffee. Atomo also uses date pits that might otherwise end up in landfills; for millennia, date pits have been used to make [a coffee-like beverage](#) in the Middle East. The company uses a mass spectrometer to compare its product to coffee at the molecular level.

Atomo founder Andy Kleitsch says the company started its global hunt by analyzing these traditional ingredients and wartime substitutes like chicory and acorns.

"What we found is that these substitutes don't taste like coffee. And we don't think consumers are ready to give up conventional coffee to drink a substitute. For us to be successful, we had to create a product that is an exact replica of coffee," says Kleitsch.

Large coffee compa-

nies are concerned about the looming crisis, he says. "They're all looking to address supply chain problems and quality issues." Atomo, whose factory starts production in spring 2024, plans to introduce its product as a sideline in existing coffee shops.

In San Francisco, [Minus Coffee](#) uses an up-cycled approach similar to Atomo's but with different ingredients, like chicory, millet, and carob. Founder Maricel Saenz, who grew up in Costa Rica, says Minus distributes canned cold brews to large food-service companies. The company donates 1 percent of its profits to a group called [Doselva](#), which equips coffee farmers for intercropping.

And yes, both companies add caffeine—it's extracted from tea.

Will consumers accept beanless coffee? Kleitsch and Saenz say their products fare well in blind taste tests. Atomo's backers think there's a market; they include Horizons Ventures, an early funder of Impossible Foods, and S2G Ventures, an early funder of Beyond Meat.

Trindle Mersch says these alternatives are "just a different product," like carob versus chocolate. And, she says, "I never moved away from chocolate."

Beanless coffee can also come from coffee plants.

A research team in Finland released a [proof-of-concept study](#) on lab-cultured coffee in late 2023 in hopes that food scientists would find it useful. They used a bioreactor—a container of liquid growth medium—to grow coffee from plant cells, like brewing beer, but without the fermentation.

"The benefit of this technology is that it's not location-specific; you can run it wherever

you want," says Heiko Rischer, principal scientist and head of plant biotechnology at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. He notes that the closed system gives growers control over water purity and nutrients.

Cultured coffee grows fast, in about 10 days, and inexpensively in the lab, and it's real coffee. It doesn't look like a coffee bean but is easy to harvest because it's essentially pre-ground. When the floating mat of coffee cells is drained and dried, it yields a fine powder, ready to roast. Of course, roasting powdered coffee requires a different approach than roasting whole beans, a challenge for this emerging product.

But is lab-cultured coffee good coffee? The research group readily admits that the flavor profile needs some tweaking. Its primary flavor is a smoky burned-sugar aroma with "appropriate bitterness." Cultured coffee's flavor can be refined with experimentation, says Sarah O'Connor, a molecular biologist at the Max Planck Institute in Germany. For example, changing the media in which cells are grown can have a dramatic effect.

David Pohl thinks it's too soon to take coffee production into the lab. In a doomsday scenario, with farmed coffee no longer viable, he'd be happy to have alternatives. But for right now, "it's not necessary," he says. "You have millions of coffee farmers around the world looking for viable ways to produce coffee, and you've got a lot of scientists trying to do the right thing." He adds, "We do have hope for the future."

Anne Connor wrote this article for [Civil Eats](#).

Former croplands could be 'sweet spot' for renewable-energy production

KATHLEEN SHANNON

(Greater Dakota News Service)

Researchers mapped American croplands that have fallen out of production in hopes of inspiring new uses for them, such as renewable energy.

Roughly [30 million acres of croplands](#) in the United States have been abandoned since the 1980s, including 1.5 million in South Dakota, according to a recent paper.

Tyler Lark, research scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and one of the report's co-authors, said some lands have been restored to natural eco-

systems. Others, those perhaps currently populated by invasive species, could be the answer to big questions the country is facing about where to house increasing renewable-energy development.

"We ideally want to avoid our best and most productive ag lands but we also don't want to encroach on pristine or native ecosystems," Lark explained. "Formerly cropped lands might hit that sweet spot in the middle."

Lark pointed out those



majority of those on what's considered "prime" agricultural lands. Lark hopes research can help avoid conflicts over land use.

"At the local land-use planning level, where you have potential competition between different land uses, this data could potentially help facilitate that conversation and guide some of those investments," Lark contended.

Some renewable energy projects can coexist with agriculture. Ac-

Incentives for farmers work to restore Iowa habitat, protect soil

MARK MORAN

(Iowa News Service)

Practical Farmers of Iowa is looking for landowners who want to help restore natural habitat on their property, and get help doing it.

It's part of a larger effort to help farmers become more environmentally friendly.

[PFI's Habitat Incentive program](#) offers farmers a financial incentive to plant prairie strips on their land, for example.

PFI's Senior Habitat Viability Coordinator Grace Yi said those strips restore habitat for native species while at the same time reducing soil erosion.

"All of these practices are going to have multiple benefits," said Yi. "So they are going to be good for soil health, good for water-quality improvement, and also provide habitat for wildlife."

In addition to the prairie strip portion of the

Habitat Incentive Program, PFI is also making incentives available to do [precision conservation analysis](#) on their land - which helps farmers make use of unproductive acres.

Yi said the end goal of the program is different for most of the farmers who apply.

For some it might be reducing soil erosion and runoff into nearby waterways. For others it might be finding a productive way to use other acres.

"For some farmers it might be that corner of the farm is low yielding," said Yi, "it's difficult to farm with because it's steep in slope or it has weird turnarounds, so they can't easily round out the field."

In order [to be eligible for the program](#), at least 50 percent of the area the farmer plans to change has to be unprofitable. The incentive, funded by federal and state sources, is capped at \$10,000.

acres could be used for biofuel, wind or solar production. Legislators have written bills to promote renewable-energy development without threatening the country's richest soils. One example is the [Protecting Future Farmland Act](#), introduced last September

by Senator Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., and Senator Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, which would facilitate what advocates call a ["smarter solar buildout."](#)

The American Farmland Trust estimated about 83 percent of new solar projects are built on farmlands and a ma-

according to research from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, farmlands where wind turbines were installed between 2009 and 2020 typically stayed in farm production, while about 15 percent of farmlands where solar power was added [shifted out of agriculture.](#)

Climate activists along Texas coast want LNG ban

FREDA ROSS

(Texas News Service)

Climate and environmental activists along the Texas Coast are celebrating after receiving favorable news from an insurance company covering liquefied natural gas terminals.

Melanie Oldham, director of the group [Better Brazoria Clean Air and Water](#), said after a meeting with members of their front line community, [Chubb Insurance](#) denied coverage for the expansion of one project and they are hopeful the same will be true for a planned plant expansion in Freeport.

"They said keep track of all the operational problems of Freeport LNG and we will keep

looking at them," Oldham explained. "And we're hoping Chubb takes the lead and stops insuring these LNG's."

The plant in Freeport is the second-largest in the United States. It was [shut down](#) for several months in 2022 following an explosion, which federal investigators said was caused by inadequate operating and testing procedures, human error and fatigue.

Oldham lives about four miles from the Freeport plant and multiple petrochemical companies. Two oil export projects are also proposed for the area. She pointed out to the community of around 13,000 people suffers from many illnesses due to the hazardous chemicals released from the

plants.

"We have 65 percent Hispanic, Black, White, Asian; very low-income community," Oldham noted. "I'm a health care professional, I helped Texas Department of State Health do a cancer cluster study here in 2018. We have eight types of cancers higher than to be expected. COPD, it just goes on and on."

Oldham and others said further permitting of oil and gas infrastructure on the Gulf Coast would quadruple gas exports and likely cause hurricanes to hit the region even harder and they are calling on the Biden administration to permanently ban such facilities.



EarthTalk

RODDY SCHEER & DOUG MOSS

Dear EarthTalk:
Is global warming making parts of the world uninhabitable?
L.G., via email

Global warming refers to the long-term rise in the Earth's average temperature, due primarily to human activities like burning fossil fuels, deforestation and industrial processes. Understanding its impact on the habitability of specific regions is crucial as the climate crisis intensifies, as is assessing the risks to human health, economic stability and social structures.

Current climate conditions show a worrying trend of ever-increasing temperatures, more fre-

quent and severe heat waves and unpredictable weather patterns. Projections indicate that if these trends continue, many regions, particularly tropical and subtropical ones, could become uninhabitable. Indeed, parts of South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa are at risk of extreme heat levels beyond human survivability. In areas where heat and humidity combine, it could surpass the threshold for human survival, making outdoor activities and even basic survival impossible without significant adaptation.

The health risks associated with global warming are particularly acute in these vulnerable regions. Extreme heatwaves, like

those already occurring in parts of India and the Persian Gulf, can lead to widespread illness and death. Higher temperatures also exacerbate air pollution, increasing respiratory and cardiovascular problems. Climate change also facilitates the spread of diseases by altering the habitats of carriers like mosquitoes, heightening the risk of diseases like malaria and dengue fever. Vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those with preexisting conditions, are particularly at risk.

Economic losses due to climate change may also disproportionately concentrate in specific areas. Low-lying coastal regions, as in Bangladesh, the Pacific Islands and parts of the Southeastern U.S., are facing rising sea levels that could displace millions of

people. The resulting loss of infrastructure, agricultural land and freshwater resources could lead to severe economic downturns and increased social instability. Climate-induced displacement is already forcing populations to migrate, leading to conflicts over resources in both the affected areas and the regions they move to.

Reducing carbon emissions is critical to mitigate these impacts. Transitioning to renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency and protecting forests are especially needed. Adaptation measures, like building resilient infrastructure and developing early warning systems for extreme weather events, will also be necessary. International cooperation and policy changes are essential to effectively address the

global nature of climate change and protect the most at-risk regions.

CONTACTS

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Movie Review - Reagan

BOB GARVER

Nobody is going to mistake cut-rate biopic "Reagan" for a great movie. At best, it's a pretty standard greatest-hits collection of important moments in the former President's life. At worst, it's a laughably underfunded production made by people who, for whatever reason, want to sell America on Ronald Reagan in 2024. But the movie is not always at its worst. It's a subpar movie that I think some critics are mistaking for a terrible movie.

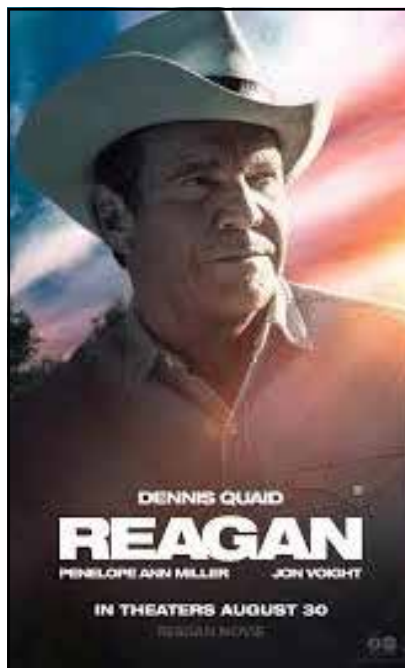
Reagan's life story is told by former KGB agent Viktor Petrovich (Jon Voight) as he teaches a young Russian politician about the mistakes the Soviet Union made in underestimating Reagan in the 1980s. Petrovich understands his enemy so well that he can have flashbacks to Reagan's childhood, where the take-away is that his faith got him

through family drama. Then he became a lifeguard, where he mostly "saved" women who weren't really drowning, and really saved others before they knew they were drowning. Petrovich observes that Reagan forever remained a lifeguard.

It's not long before we get to Reagan as an adult, played by Dennis Quaid. Sadly we don't see much of his acting career (this movie could have really used a monkey), but we do see him as an increasingly-frustrated commercial pitchman as his career fizzles out. We also see his marriage to Jane Wyman (Mena Suvari) fall apart. But things perk up when he becomes vice-president of the Screen Actors Guild. Not only does he meet his wife Nancy (Penelope Ann Miller) through the position, but he learns that po-

litical-type leadership might be his strong suit. After that, it's the California governorship, a failed run at the Republican Presidential nomination in 1976, and then of course, the Presidency in 1980.

As President, Reagan bravely gets the economy back on track, survives an assassination attempt, and negotiates a near-end to the Cold War. And he does it with all the charisma that a talented actor like Dennis Quaid can bring to the role. There is barely any mention of scandals like Iron-Contra or the controversial War on Drugs or Reagan's reluctance to address AIDS. Yes, this movie is a pro-Reagan puff piece, one whose goal is almost certainly to get Americans excited about a Republican President just a few months before an election. It's a pretty transparent po-



litical tactic, but I'd rather get positive productions like this instead of the ugly documentaries that accompanied the 2012 and 2016 elections. The movie doesn't creep into "memorably, hilariously

credits) go by too quickly for them to register. In fact, the same can be said for many historical figures in this movie, they're in and out before their role in the Reagan's life or administration is clear.

This brings me to the thing I liked most about "Reagan" - the pacing. It's not "good" pacing in that I won't argue with critics who say the movie is too rushed and choppy. But at the same time, I'm grateful for the way that the movie skips briskly along, whether it's appropriate or not. Reagan led an action-packed life, and an aggrandizing biopic like this could have gone three, maybe four hours. I know this is a cold compliment, but the movie will have to settle for it since I don't have many other nice things say: I left the theater feeling like I'd gotten off easy.

Home Country - Thinking snow

SLIM RANGLES



"Mavis, dear, is that coffee HOT this morning?"

"Sure is, Windy."

"Well then, slaver a bunch of it in a cup and flop it down here in front of a freezin' guy, would you? Thanks, Hon."

"Freezing, Windy?"

"Ain't the first time, Doc, but they never seem any easier as I get older."

"You want to come in for a checkup later?"

"Naw, just need to get warm, you know. Used to it at my age."

Steve set his cup down and looked at his old pard, Windy Wilson, camp cook and mule packer extraordinaire. "Don't know how you can get cold on a summer morning like this."

"It's the air tempa-choor, Steve. You recomlect that

time you 'n me was up in the high country and got caught in a snowstorm ..."

"And our slickers and jackets were back in camp? Sure I remember that. I thought about how to get that horse into my bedroll that night, 'cuz he was cold, too."

"And you 'member how good that Dutch oven cobbler tasted once we got the circle-lationaries goin' again?"

"You betcha, Windy."

"Okay ... okay ... I'll do it," mumbled Doc. "Somebody has to. Windy, we've known each other a long time, right?"

"Sure have."

"And do you really think a temperature of 90 degrees outside will make a guy cold? Cause it's going to be 90 later on. Even the fish in Lewis Creek are sweating."

"No Doc. I don't look at it that way. Sure, it's already hot and it's a-gonna get hotter, you bet. But that's where friends come in."

We all turned to stare at Windy.

"See, a friend is a guy who tells you it's the opporsit so's you can start your day cooled off a bit. You know ... think SNOW!"

Sponsored by the new family-friendly novel, Whimsy Castle. Available everywhere including Barnes and Noble.

Grade: C

"Reagan" is rated PG-13 for violent content and smoking. Its running time is 135 minutes.

Contact Bob Garver at rbg251@nyu.edu.