

Brighton window



The First Presbyterian Church Carillon Choir performs Sunday during the 21st Annual Christmas Festival Concert in front of a capacity crowd. The concert also featured BrightonMusic Orchestra, String Colors and Bright'nJazz. *Daily Post photo*

County Board adopts \$450M budget

The Adams County Board of Commissioners adopted its \$450 million-plus 2017 budget at a public hearing on Tuesday, the county announced in a news release.

Top priorities in the budget, set at \$451,404,490, a 3.5 percent increase from 2016, are investments in core infrastructure to address the continued growth of Adams County, Colorado's fifth-largest county by population. Infrastructure projects include building a 45,000-square-foot county animal shelter with an adjacent community dog park; several road and bridge construction projects, including York Street and Colorado 24 to 78th Avenue; completing a new Community Corrections building; and purchasing new transportation equipment with an emphasis on eastern Adams County.

"By adopting this budget, we are

taking the next step in securing a successful future for Adams County," Board Chairman Steve O'Dorisio said. "We will continue to make great progress in our strategic plan and meeting our goals to provide a superior quality of life, outstanding educational and economic opportunities, and a safe and reliable infrastructure for our residents and businesses."

Other priorities outlined include:

Maintaining structural balance for all county funds; incorporating a multiyear capital improvement plan into the budget process; providing a competitive compensation and benefits plan for employee retention and attraction; aligning the 2017 projects with the Board of County Commissioners' strategic goals.

The county's Budget Office, headed by Budget Manager Nancy Duncan and supported by analysts Pernell Olson, Raylene Taylor, and Mark Kluth, has worked with County Manager Todd Leopold and his staff since April planning and preparing the proposed 2017 budget. The group sought input from all elected officials and department directors.

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Three Days

Today

12:15-12:50 p.m. – Yoga, Platte Valley Medical Center Conference Center; \$6 drop-in rate; certified instructor. Bring your mat, info 303-498-1840.

12:15 p.m. – Heritage Todd Creek Crooners, Eagle View Adult Center, entertainment follows the holiday lunch, but all are welcome to enjoy the Crooners.

Friday

10-11 a.m. – Little Explorers, Anythink Brighton; Explore early literacy at stations to interact with your little one; and gather at times for a group movement or story. Caregivers with children through age 4 are welcome. RSVP online.

3-4:30 p.m. – Open Studio, Anythink Brighton; Chain Mail – Learn to link metal rings in the same pattern used to make medieval armor. All ages.

7:30 p.m. – Irish Christmas in America – the Show, in the Armory; Irish music, vocals and dance; tickets \$30, all general admission; at www.brownpapertickets.com (small service fee) or at the Armory box office, 303-655-2026.

Saturday

1-3 p.m. – Mommy Mingle, Platte Valley Medical Center; Connect with other moms and newborns 2 to 12 weeks old; led by lactation specialists and other medical professionals; learn what's normal and expected when it comes to healing after delivery and raising a baby; free. Sign up at pvmc.org/events or 303-498-1481.

6-9 p.m. – Winter Wonders Holiday Trail, Barr Lake; celebrate the wonders of winter on the lighted bridge and Niedrach Trail; finish with kids crafts, face painter, visit from Santa Claus, hot cider and cookies. Sponsored by United Power.

7 p.m. – Duke Ellington's Nutcracker Suite and Christmas Classics, in the Armory; Don Elwood Big Band will perform, directed by Scott Unruh; all tickets sold at the door on the night of the performance; adults \$10, seniors and children \$5.

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• Deputies seek escapee

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Escapee sought by Sheriff's Office



The Adams County Sheriff's Office seeks the community's help in finding an escaped inmate who walked away from a work detail Tuesday afternoon at Elmwood Cemetery.

Joshua Dean Seme, 40, was working with a group of other inmates at the cemetery. It was discovered around 2 p.m. that Seme had disappeared.

He was serving a sentence at the Adams County Detention Facility on several cases, including a third-degree assault and domestic violence case. Anyone who sees Seme is asked to contact the Adams County Sheriff's Office.

Funeral notices

Michael D. Cuvelier, 62, Of Keenesburg, died Dec. 11. He graduated from Waverly-Shell Rock High School. Michael married his high school sweetheart, Patricia, in 1973. Michael worked in Brighton until his retirement in 2012. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sonya; grandparents; father Duane; step-mother Shirley; and stepfather Keith George. Survivors include his wife Patricia, sons Shane (Debbie) and Franklin (Robin), and two grandchildren. A viewing, 6 p.m. **today** at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. [Full obit Tabor-Rice](#)

Junior "Wayne" Watson, 86, of Brighton, died Dec. 11. Wayne was born to Daniel and Maud (Mefford) Watson in Haxtun. Wayne enlisted in the Army in 1946 and was assigned to the Air Corps as a parachute rigger. He was honorably discharged in 1949 and returned to Colorado. He married Anna (Dahl). Wayne was a plant engineer in the concrete-production business. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Terry. Survivors include his wife, Anna Watson; children Corylann (Jay) Penington, Cheryl Leonard, Cherry (Cliff) Kruse, LaVaughn Watson-Rustad, Eileen (Brad) Pickett and Roger (Tiffany) Watson; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Funeral services, 1 p.m., **today** at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Interment at Hillside Cemetery. [Full obit Tabor-Rice](#)

Howard M. Jones Sr., 85, of Brighton, died Dec. 9. He was born in Ames, Okla., to Casper and Lucille (Kelly) Jones. He graduated from Lamar High School in 1949 and joined the Army and served from 1951 to 1953 the 82nd U.S. Airborne. He has lived in Brighton since 1970 and worked for Rock Island Rail Yard in Denver from 1960 to 1980. Survivors include his son, Howard Jones Jr., of Brighton; daughter-in-law Tina Jones of Cave Junction, Ore.; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Kevin in 2012. Funeral service, 11 a.m. **Saturday** with visitation one hour prior at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Interment at Fairview Cemetery. [Full obit Tabor-Rice](#)

Lawrence (Larry) Edward Sloan, 85, of Brighton, died Dec. 8. He was born in Johnstown to John Henry and Olive Scott Sloan. Larry attended Colorado A&M (now Colorado State University), graduating with a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry. He married Caroline Kuntz, in 1959, and proceeded to raise their family on their small dairy farm north of Brighton. This remained his home until his death. He was preceded in death by wife, Caroline. Survivors include his sons John, of Denver/ Brighton, Mark (Brandy) of Brighton/

Pine; daughters Susan (Chris Deerheart) Sloan of Floyd, Va., Karen (Bob) Ray of Littleton, Sharon (Bill) Loaiza of Brighton, Christy (John) DeSiato of Wheat Ridge, Charlotte (Justin) Trail of Littleton; 16 grandkids and five great-grandchildren. Celebration of his life, 2 p.m. **Friday** at Brighton United Methodist Church.

Peter Carson Blake, 80, a newspaperman who covered the state of Colorado for nearly 40 years for the *Rocky Mountain News*, died Dec. 7. Survivors include his wife, the Rev. Sandy Blake, former pastor for St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church in Brighton; sons John (Shannon) in Houston, and Dana (Haven) in Dallas; and three grandchildren. Memorial service, 1 p.m. **Saturday** at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 1401 E. Dry Creek Road in Centennial. [Full obit Tabor-Rice](#)

Virginia Brauch, 99, of Fort Collins, died Dec. 5. She married Joseph Brauch in 1940. Virginia and Joe farmed in Arvada, Brighton, Broomfield and Watkins before moving to Waverly in 1952. Virginia and Joe had six children: Charles (Sharon), Richard (Carol), Pat (Ron), Joe (Reni), Larry, and Gary (Ann). Virginia has 17 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Memorial mass, 2 p.m. **Jan. 6**, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, reception follows. www.legacy.com/

Clayton E. Steiner, 53, of Brighton, died Nov. 20. Survivors include his father, Edward Steiner, of San Pedro, Calif.; mother Judith Bolin, of Fresno; children Page Steiner and Dylan Steiner of Brighton, and Jamie (Tye) Hubbard of Santa Rosa, Calif.; a granddaughter; and four siblings. Memorial services, 11 a.m. **Saturday**, Brighton United Methodist Church. Reception in the Fellowship Hall. [Full obit Tabor-Rice](#)

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