

## New Church!

### Ridgeview Baptist Church

Sun. 10:30 am—All are welcome!  
Temporarily meeting at  
9130 Explorer Dr., C.S. 80920  
(Homewood Suites)  
**719-357-6515**  
[ridgeviewcolorado.org](http://ridgeviewcolorado.org)



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Participants who register for the race bundle will receive a commemorative gift!

Register here for one or all three!  
[ppymca.org/raceseries](http://ppymca.org/raceseries)



**EARLY BIRD PRICING**  
Ends September 15

All proceeds will benefit the YMCA and support individuals and families within our community.

the commissioners and the track record shows that what Matthew Dunston wants from the commissioners, he gets from the commissioners.”

He spoke again at the Sept. 28 BOCC land use meeting to suggest that Dunston had in some way influenced the decision, stating, “Why does he so dearly want 325 vehicles on the Colorado Pumpkin Patch property? Well, you don’t have to look any further than the fact that two years ago, he bought 40 acres 2,000 feet away from Colorado Pumpkin Patch on the east side of our Canterbury Estates neighborhood.” Elson ran out of time before he could explain further and said he would send that information to the commissioners via email.

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY (USAFA) Proposed USAFA Cemetery Expansion

The U.S Air Force Academy (USAFA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the USAFA Cemetery Expansion. USAFA proposes to expand the existing USAFA cemetery that is located near the North Gate, along Parade Loop. The Proposed Action would involve two phases of cemetery expansion. During the first phase, the following would be constructed: two sections supporting 640 burial sites per section for a total of 1,280 burial plots, streets between and along the sections, parking, a combined restroom/pavilion building with a parking area, and up to two stormwater detention ponds (one detention pond would be installed in Phase 1). During the second phase, an additional two sections, also supporting 640 burial sites per section for a total of 1,280 burial plots with associated streets and infrastructure would be constructed to the east of phase one.

The Draft EA is available for review at the Penrose Library (located at 20 N Cascade Avenue Colorado Springs, CO 80903), Monument Library (located at 1706 Lake Woodmoor Drive Monument, CO 80132), Base Library (located at 5136 Redtail Drive USAFA, CO 80840), and via the USAFA website: <https://www.usafa.af.mil/Units/10th-Air-Base-Wing/Mission-Support-Group/Civil-Engineer-Squadron/Installation-Management/Environmental-Management/>. Comments on the Draft EA may be mailed to Barry Schatz, Environmental Element Chief, 8120 Edgerton Drive, USAFA, CO 80840; or emailed to 10CES.CENPP.Planning\_Programming@us.af.mil no later than October 19, 2023.

USAFA will prepare and publish a Final EA following the 30-day comment period. The Final EA will summarize, and address comments received on the Draft EA. The USAF will only respond to public comments during specified, formal public comment and review periods.

### Stepler Road rezone

Also at the Sept. 28 meeting, the commissioners voted to approve an application by Charlie Stewart to rezone his 36-acre property at 16850 Stepler Road, half a mile from the intersection of Settlers Ranch Road and Stepler Road, from RR-5 (residential rural) to RR 2.5 (residential rural).

The application was treated as a consent item, meaning there was no discussion. It came from the Sept. 7 Planning Commission meeting with a 6-1 vote recommending approval. Commissioner Brandy Merriam was the no vote due to concerns about losing land for livestock in the eastern part of the county.

The property currently consists of a single-family home and cattle/ranching infrastructure. The applicant’s intention is to plat 2.5-acre residential lots in the future.

### Tri-Lakes Cares update

The commissioners approved the submission of a Community Services Block Grant application at the Sept. 26 meeting. Haley Chapin, executive director, Tri-Lakes Cares, which receives part of its funding through the grant, spoke in the public comment portion of the meeting to thank them, telling the commissioners that requests for support have not gone back to pre-pandemic levels but continue to increase. At the same time, available funding has been reduced as COVID-associated funding has been taken away. She said increasing inflation is also affecting many.

Commissioner Holly Williams said, “The money has now been cut back to what would now be a post-COVID level, which is what we expected, but there’s just a lot of struggles for many people in the community to feed their families.”

Chapin said the mix of clients seeking assistance had diversified a little more on the income continuum, “We are seeing people who make more and are now in need. It’s starting to creep into the middle-class space.”

- ### Other decisions
- Aug. 29—the commissioners approved the appointment of James Byers as a regular member of the Planning Commission. His term runs until Aug. 29, 2026.
  - Aug. 29—approved a special warranty deed and a temporary construction easement associated with the Beacon Lite Road/County Line Road improvements project. They are associated with property owned by David K. Chin and come at a cost of \$19,000.

Helen Walklett can be reached at  
[helenwalklett@ocn.me](mailto:helenwalklett@ocn.me).

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## DON'T BE MISLED BY BALLOT LANGUAGE!!

# VOTE YES ON 6A 6B

***If Ballot Initiatives 6A and 6B Pass, Approximately 98% of Residents Will See a Property Tax Reduction.***

Due to Colorado law and technicalities, the ballot language of **Initiatives 6A and 6B** must read as a tax increase, **HOWEVER...**

If you live north of Northgate Blvd or along Highway 83 (**98% of the fire district**), you will see a **property tax reduction over the next few years of 3.5 mills**, from 21.9 to 18.4 mills.

If you live south of Old Ranch Road (**2% of the district**), you will see a property tax increase to match the northern area.


**These ballot initiatives will finalize the merger of Wescott Fire and Tri-Lakes Monument Fire, ensuring the continuation of**

- **Three district ambulances** • **More firefighters and paramedics**
- **Better and specialized apparatus** • **Greater resources and equipment**
- **Numerous chipping and fire mitigation projects**

**The departments cannot officially merge without passage of 6A and 6B. If the departments do not merge you will likely see**

- **Loss of dedicated ambulance service** • **Fire station closures**
- **Reductions in services and capabilities** • **Slower response times**
- **Termination of firefighters and paramedics ALL WHILE PAYING MORE TAXES!!**

**Vote YES on 6A and 6B. It's a WIN/WIN for residents and firefighters.**



**LEARN MORE** [GleneagleSafetyCommittee.com](http://GleneagleSafetyCommittee.com)

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