



Rachel Miller, owner and head chef of High Country Catering, holds the oversized check she received Thursday as first-place winner in the StartUp North business pitch competition. Learn more and about other winners in story. *Daily Post photo*

Catering business pitch is a home run

High Country Catering, a Brighton business, on Thursday won the \$15,000 Grand Prize in StartUp North, the first-ever Adams County business pitch competition. The event was held in the Armory Performing Arts Center in Brighton.

The business was one of three that competed for the top prize. All three companies pitched their business plans before a panel of expert judges and a live audience.

The runners-up were:

[M] otherboard Birth: A Northglenn startup company that provides evidence-based education,

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collaboration through HIPAA-compliant messaging system, and integration within hospitals to help busy nurses and care providers listen to families efficiently, which won \$4,840; and,

Garrett Brown Designs: A Westminster company that specializes in creating unique interiors and hand-crafted furniture to complement the clients' design aesthetic. It won \$2,000.

High Country Catering offers catering and a variety of meal prep, as well as other services, catering for parties, outdoor events, weddings, holiday parties, birthday parties, corporate events, picnics, anniversaries

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Five Days

Today

8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. – Bonfils Blood Drive, Platte Valley Medical Center, 1600 Prairie Center Parkway,

10-11 a.m. – Littles, Anythink Brighton; Explore early literacy through experiential stations; and gather throughout the hour for a group movement or story activity. Caregivers with children through age 4 are welcome.

7:30 p.m. – You Can't Take it With You, Platte Valley Players presents, in the Armory, 300 Strong St.; a heartwarming, screwball comedy. When Alice brings her boyfriend's traditional, strait-laced family to dine with her household of free-thinking eccentrics, fights break out and fireworks erupt. Kaufman and Hart's 1930s classic, more relevant today than ever, pays homage to those who march to the beat of their own drum and reminds us all to choose dreams over drudgery. Tickets online at plattevalleyplayers.org, or at the door. Adults: \$15 online/\$17 at door; senior citizens/child under 12: \$13 / \$15.

Saturday

9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Country Christmas Bazaar, Adams County Museum benefit at the County Fairgrounds; 400 booths in four buildings, admission \$5, a benefit for Adams County Museum.

10-11:30 a.m. – Fiber Arts Club; Anythink Brighton; a relaxing morning filled with tea, crafting and community; bring a current project or start one. Some supplies provided. All skill levels welcome.

11 a.m.-noon – Cancer Support Group, Platte Valley Medical Center, Medical Imaging waiting room; for cancer patients and their families, refreshments, RSVP to Oncology Clinic 303-498-2200.

2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. – You Can't Take it With You, Platte Valley Players presents, in the Armory, 300 Strong St.; a heartwarming, screwball comedy. When Alice brings her boyfriend's traditional, strait-laced family to dine with her household of free-thinking eccentrics, fights break out and fireworks erupt. Kaufman and Hart's 1930s classic, more relevant today than ever. Tickets at plattevalleyplayers.org, or at the door. Adults: \$15 online/\$17 at door; senior citizens/child under 12: \$13 online/\$15 at door.

Sunday – Veterans Day

9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Country Christmas Bazaar, Adams County Museum benefit at the County Fairgrounds; 400 booths in four buildings, admission \$5, a benefit for Adams County Museum.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Veterans Day at Barr Lake; the park salutes veterans with free park admission and eagle Express Rides for them and their families, RSVP seats on the Express at 303-659-6005; enjoy a bowl of warm chili in the Nature Center after the tour.

Monday

Veterans Day observed

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Gas gauge

\$2.42⁹ Lowest unleaded price at 6 p.m. Thursday:

Murphy Express and Agfinity/Cenex stations on Bromley Lane

Funeral notices

Calendar continued from page 1

Mary Jane Gilmour, 76, of Brighton, died Nov. 2 in Denver. She was born in Brighton to Edward and Loretta (Doyle) Schoen. Visitation, 5 p.m. **today** at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. [Tabor-Rice Funeral Home](#).

John J. Coffey, 81, of Brighton, died Nov. 2. He was born in Brighton to Alfred Leo and Alice (Morse) Coffey. John attended schools in Brighton, graduating in 1955 from Brighton High School. He married Iva Jean Mitchell in 1957 in Henderson. John was an employee of Interstate Vending Co., where he filled vending machines, retiring in 1991 after 30 years with the company. For 10 years John helped operate the Barr Lake Tavern. He loved the outdoors, camping, hunting and fishing. He enjoyed his back yard, where he worked in his garden. John was a teacher and storyteller for the enjoyment of others. Working with his hands, he liked canning, baking, cooking and building. In his younger years, John enjoyed riding his Harley and flying. Survivors include his son Leo J. Coffey of Brighton; sister Frances Steggs of New Mexico; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Iva, in 1993; son David in 2010; and daughter Shirley Steggs. Memorial service, 10 a.m. **Nov. 16** at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Full obit at [Tabor-Rice Funeral Home](#).

Harold "Jerry" Montano, 78, died Nov. 2. He was born in Brighton to Louis and Lucy (Roybal) Montano and was a graduate of Brighton High School. Harold married Hope (Jaramillo) Montano in 1984 at St. Augustine Catholic Church and worked as a maintenance worker for both JC Penney and Pepsi until he retired. Harold enjoyed fishing, camping outdoors, making bird houses for fellow nursing home residents, and spending time with his wife. Survivors include his sisters Irene Romero and Adeline Mirelez; and his brother George Montano. He was preceded in death by his brother, Gene Montano. Rosary, 10:30 a.m., **today** at St. Augustine Catholic Church followed by funeral service at 11 a.m. [Tabor-Rice Funeral Home](#).

Michael R. Contreras, 69, of Arvada, died Oct. 21. He was born in San Francisco to Raul and Janet (Fears) Contreras. Michael attended schools in San Francisco. He married Louise (Post) Contreras in 1984 in Brighton. After high school in 1967 Mike joined the Navy and served on the USS Oriskany CVA-34 and served during the Vietnam War till 1971. He attended South Western College and San Diego State in California. Mike worked for National Steel as safety/security director. In 1979, he moved to Colorado, where he worked

as safety /security director at Master Craft/Whirlpool Kitchens, Longmont Foods, and Schaffer Commercial. Mike retired from the safety field in 2005. He went to work for Costco in Arvada until he retired again in 2014. Mike loved to camp, fish, cook, grow vegetables and take photos. He and Louise spent free time in North Park camping, fishing, and hunting moose with the camera. Mike loved taking his son Jason, nieces and nephews camping and teaching them to fish. He will be remembered for his mountain cooking, bread-making and his famous green chile stew. Survivors include his wife Louise; son Jason (Veronica) Contreras; five grandchildren; and three great grandchildren; "Mom" Virginia Cotter; brothers James (Jerrilyn) McDonald, Chuck (Mary) Contreras, John (Sherry) McDonald, Jerry (Kim) McDonald, Joe McDonald, Jeff (Ahna) McDonald; and sisters Diana (Joe) Heckman, Julie Fanciullacci, Janice McDonald, and Jackie Grawe. He was preceded in death by his sisters Jeanine McDonald, and Joyce McDonald. Memorial service, 2 p.m., **today**, at Applewood Baptist Church, 11200 W. 32nd Ave., Wheat Ridge. [Tabor-Rice Funeral Home](#).

Now playing

AMC Theatres in Brighton Pavilions

Dr. Seuss' *The Grinch* PG • *Beautiful Boy* R • *The Girl in the Spider's Web* R • *Overload* R • *Bohemian Rhapsody* PG13 • *Nobody's Fool* R • *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms* PG • *Halloween (2018)* R • *A Star is Born* R • *Venom* PG13 • *Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween* PG • *Smallfoot* PG

Business Pitch Winners from Page 1

and special events. It plans to expand services to include a commercial commissary kitchen, cooking and baking classes and expanded meal prep.

"In Adams County, we support innovative ideas and new business concepts," said Tricia Allen, Adams County Economic Development senior vice president. "StartUp North is a platform to develop our entrepreneurs and small businesses with services and capital to advance their business ventures."

All three companies pitched their business plans before a panel of expert judges and a live audience at an event hosted Thursday afternoon in the Armory.

The cash prizes awarded to the

Tuesday

9:30-10:15 a.m. – Baby Bounce; Anythink Brighton; time with your little one with songs, rhymes and stories for babies and caregivers; for ages birth-23 months.

10-11 a.m. – One-on-One Tech Help. Anythink Brighton Appointments; your chance to get one-on-one help from a tech guide; for appointment, RSVP online or call 303-405-3230.

2:30-3:15 p.m. – Baby Bounce; Anythink Brighton; time with your little one with songs, rhymes and stories for babies and caregivers; for ages birth-23 months.

4-5 p.m. – STEAM Tuesdays; Anythink Brighton; explore science, technology, engineering, art and math. Appropriate for students in grades K-5. RSVP online.

5-6:30 p.m. – NaNoWriMo: Write In, Anythink Brighton; National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. Participants are working toward the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30; a great space to start or finish your novel? The Write-In provides writers of all levels a comfortable and convenient space to work on their novel with professionals on hand to assist; for ages 12 and older.

5-7 p.m. – Total Joint University, Platte Valley Medical Center; for patients scheduled for or contemplating a joint replacement; info from pre-op to recovery; RSVP dcllements@pvmc.org or 303-498-1840.

5:45-6:30 p.m. – Pilates Mat Class, Platte Valley Medical Center, Suite 130 Medical Plaza 1; strengthen and tone your abdominals, hips and shoulders, increase flexibility, stamina and improve overall fitness and health; taught by licensed physical therapist and certified Pilates instructor, \$9 per class, RSVP 303-498-1840.

7 p.m. – Bible Study Fellowship, Men's group at Zion Congregational Church on 27th Ave.; Women's group at Brighton United Methodist Church on Eighth Ave.; interdenominational, in-depth Bible study. All are welcome. To learn more call Kristen at 303-654-0972 or Caroline, 303-659-4686.

companies were raised through private donations. In addition, Lewis Brisbois, a Denver law firm, donated legal services; and Honest Films, a Westminster marketing company, donated promotional videos to the top two winners.

Each of the companies filled out applications, conducted in-person interviews, and had their business plans reviewed. They also attended a "Pitch Academy" to receive feedback on their product/service to prepare them for their pitches, a news release from Brighton EDC stated.

The Good Couch, a Northglenn company, and Dingo Diner and Spa, a Westminster company, also were recognized at the event as StartUp North top-five finalists.