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**Human Resources** 970-858-8373

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Recreation Dept. 970-858-0360

# Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER

**JANUARY 23, 2015** Date:

WEEKLY INFO UPDATE Re:

# This Tuesday's City Council Workshop

We have four items on the agenda for your Tuesday's workshop: (1) an update on 2014 court filings from Judge Brown, (2) a presentation by Chief Macy regarding offhighway vehicles, (3) a presentation by Family Health West regarding the City's help in issuing bonds (no financial liability but our name on the bonds) for an expansion to the Oaks and the Nursing Home, (4) a discussion of who should represent the City at a potential valley-wide drainage summit and (5) a brief update and discussion on redesigning the City's website.

#### **BIG THANK-YOU TO THE RIVERFRONT FOUNDATION**

The Riverfront Foundation heard our presentation at their board meeting this week and unanimously approved to contribute \$160,000 to assist in our match to a GOCO Paths to Parks grant we will apply for in March to extend the Riverfront Trail to Loma.

# **Legislative Update**

Councilor Fuller and I attended the weekly AGNC legislative conference call today. Once again it covered bills schedule for committee this next week. There were no bills of significance to the City, but mainly some that have impacts on counties that were discussed at this point in time. It is of interest that only two weeks into the session, 249 bills have already been introduced. We will continue to monitor.

# Citizen Thank-you

I wanted to highlight a great thank-you for a job well done by Officer Rezak that we received via email this past week from Charles Adamson:

"In this day and age when our police departments are coming under such scrutiny in towns from New York, Ferguson to LA, I want you to know that Im proud of our police department in Fruita, Colorado.

You guys have always gone beyond being professional whenever I have been naughty or innocently in trouble.

Thanks so much for going out of your way helping me find my little dog today. Losing Jessi was the worse part of the accident but were both together again. You can count on me to stand behind our police department because you have such stand up officers.

#### Charles Adamson

## **TID BITS:**

- The Community Center will be closed at 6:30 tonight to host the Night at the FCC.
- We are happy to have our street sweeper back in operation cleaning the streets. Unfortunately it was out of commission for a while, but it is back in business.
- We received bids for our most expensive equipment purchase this year (Vactor Truck) and bids were within budget.
- We are beginning interviews next week for our City Engineer vacancy.
- We are also beginning a recruitment process for a Planning Technician as Mary Van Ackeren was selected to be the new Administrative Assistant for Public Works (Hopefully Dahna will start talking to Ken again soon ©).
- Chief Macy, Lower Valley Fire District Chief Cavaliere and I are reviewing and updating the City of
  Fruita Emergency Operations Plan. We will bring this to Council for an update and approval in the
  future.
- We are also preparing a request for proposals for banking services, with a plan to go to bid by the first of March in line with our purchasing procedures.
- Staff is coordinating with Partners and the Fruita Business Incubator seeking to work out how we can assist Partners to have a presence in Fruita.
- We are also reviewing a draft lease amendment with Dinosaur Journey and will be coordinating with Ed Sands on this.
- Had a great week meeting with the Sentinel's Managing Editor Mike Wiggins, Barb Bowman with the VCB, Orilee Witte with our Visitor's Center (and new Tourism Advisory Council Member), Janet Gardner at the Children's Nature Center, Superintendent of the CO National Monument, Judge Brown and our Tourism Advisory Council.
- Mayor Buck and I also had the opportunity to meet with the new Director of AGNC Bonnie Petersen this week.
- For those how were not able to attend the municipalities dinner Thursday, attached below is the agenda and PowerPoint presentation highlighting the operations of the regional communications center as well as the funding challenges ahead.
- Also attached below is a thank you letter from the Chamber for our hosting the After Hours event last week and an update letter from Kids Voting Board of Directors regarding the recruitment of a new director, their banquet in March and introducing new board members.
- Speaking of board members, I have joined the District 51 Foundation Board and look forward to partnering with our schools as education is a key factor to our community.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Thursday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> is the Grand Junction Visitor & Convention Bureau Travel & Tourism Annual Meeting at the Two Rivers Convention Center at 8:15 am.
- The January 2015 City of Fruita Meeting Calendar is available on the website at: <a href="http://www.fruita.org/documents/admin/mtgcal.pdf">http://www.fruita.org/documents/admin/mtgcal.pdf</a>.
- The D51 White Iced Cocktail Party will be Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 pm at CMU this year. Tickets are \$60.

- The Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet will be Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 5:30 10:00 pm at the DoubleTree Hotel. The event will include dinner, cocktails and a silent auction, as well as dressing up as your favorite movie character. Tickets are \$60 per person or \$650 per table of 10. Please let Deb know if you are planning on attending.
- The 2015 Events Calendar is also available online at: http://www.fruita.org/documents/rec/EVENT\_CALENDAR.pdf

**CC**: Department Directors

# AGENDA Municipalities Dinner Thursday, January 22, 2015 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Grand Junction Public Safety Building Gary Konzak Training Room

# **AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Welcome given by Grand Junction Mayor Phyllis Norris
- . Severance Tax Issues Discussion & Possible Press Confesence Monday of Mayors
- Tour of the Communications Center
- Sustainability of the Communications Center
- Addressing Update

# **ROUNDTABLE REPORTS:**

- Town of Collbran
- Town of DeBeque
- City of Fruita
- City of Grand Junction
- Mesa County
- Town of Palisade
- School District 51

# **OTHER BUSINESS:**

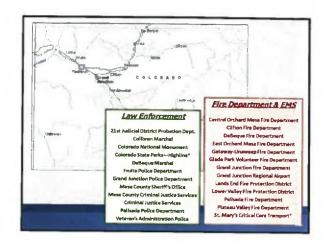
• Next Municipalities Dinner

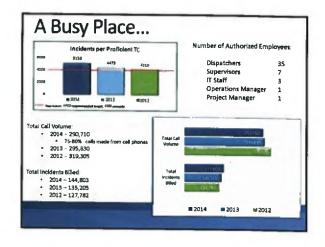
\* Fruita will host (April)

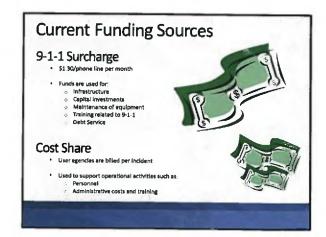


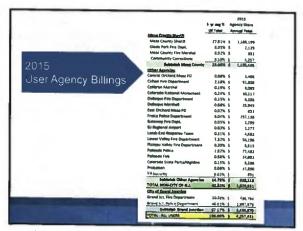




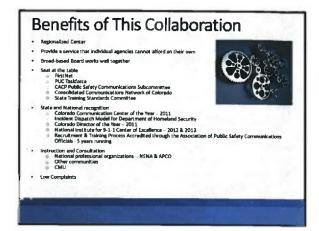


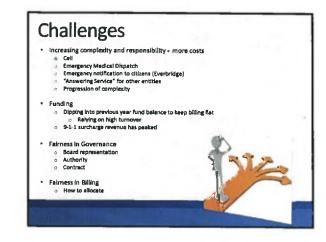




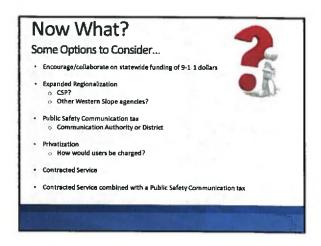


- based on 5-yr. rolling aug. -> 0% based on ## of Incidents











#### Fruita Chamber of Commerce

432 East Aspen Avenue • Fruita, CO 81521 970-858-3894 • 970-858-3121 (F) info@FruitaChamber.org • www.FruitaChamber.org

January 16, 2015

Michael Bennett City of Fruita 325 East Aspen Avenue Fruita, CO 81521

# Dear Michael:

Thank you for hosting the *January Business After Hours*. It is vital to the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce to have your support. The evening gave an excellent opportunity for business networking and for chamber members and guests to get to know City of Fruita.

We received many positive comments regarding the festive atmosphere you provided for the evening. Thank you again for hosting this event.

Best Regards,

Tami Biart

Administrative Assistant

Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce



## Kids Voting Mesa County

P.O. Box 4246 Grand Junction, CO 81502 (970) 245-3414 www.kidsvotingmc.org

## Mesa County Program Founders

Bruce Crowell Jane S. Quimby Jim Robb

#### Mesa County Board of Directors

Rachel Schowalter, President
Chris Muhr, Vice President
Mike Wiggins, Secretary
Jana Gerow, Treasurer
Michelle Heldmyer
Kayla Peach
Nathan Perry
Valerie Robison
Ethan Schweissing
Amy Gekas
Jodie Atchley
George Holly

January 15, 2015

# Contributors & Friends

We are grateful for your continued support of Kids Voting Mesa County, so want to keep you informed of some changes and upcoming events.

Karen Houlihan, who was brought in this past year as our executive director, has had an excellent career opportunity with a local banking organization. Karen notified us just prior to the holidays that she would be moving on in mid-January. We appreciate the professionalism and energy Karen has given Kids Voting in the past few months and wish her continued success.

Having advertised the position for Executive Director since Karen's announcement, we have been fortunate to have several qualified candidates. Thus we are in the final stages of selection of our new Executive Director and will keep you posted via the website when that person is on board in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, with some solid support from many of our previous donors and some new contributors, we are moving ahead with plans for our 2015 events! Our Kids Voting Banquet, where we honor students for their outstanding community service, will be Saturday, March 12 at the Colorado Mesa University Ballroom again this year. We hope to have you and many of your friends and associates join us! Just contact our office for tickets at 245-3414, email us at kvmcdirector@gmail.com or contact one of our board members. If you would like to volunteer for any of our 2015 events, call or email us.

Regarding our board members, we are happy to welcome Ethan Schweissing, a student at Fruita Monument High School, Amy Gekas a student at Colorado Mesa University and Jodie Atchley of Rocky Mountain Health Plans who all joined our board this fall. We are also excited to have George Holley, who is an assistant district attorney for Mesa County joining the board as of January 2015. We are continually looking for both adult and student board members, as our board members transition out, so if you know someone who may serve our board well, please have them contact Jana Gerow, (970) 640-0176 or <a href="mailto:desired-augmail.com">desired-augmail.com</a>, our board member heading the board selection committee.

We have lots more coming up for Kids Voting in 2015, so keep in touch with us via phone, email or the website at <a href="https://www.kidsvotingmc.org">www.kidsvotingmc.org</a>

The Board would like to thank you again for your support, and we hope that 2015 is a wonderful year for you, your staff and your family.

Kids Voting Board of Directors

Voting • Leadership • Democracy

# WHITE ICED COCKTAIL PARTY

A WHITE-ATTIRE AFFAIR TO BENEFIT OUR SCHOOLS



COCKTAILS, DESSERTS, SILENT AUCTION & AWARDS

2.7.2015 \* 7-10 PM \* CMU BALLROOM

WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG \* 254-5108 ONLINE PURCHASE ONLY

TICKETS \$60.00 EACH \* RSVP BY JANUARY 28 PURCHASE TICKETS AT WWW:D51FOUNDATION.ORG

# **OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS**











The Regional Medical Center

**Alpine Bank** 

# **SUPPORTING** MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING BREAK CAMP

THE D51F RAISES FUNDS FOR ACADEMIC GROWTH & ACHIEVEMENT AND PROMOTES OUTREACH TO BENEFIT KIDS & COMMUNITY