

THE HUDSON CONNECTION

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE
TOWN HALL AT 303-536-9311.

REMEMBER... Town Board meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month are open to the public. Agendas are posted in the Town Hall window and at the Post Office.

Visit the Town's web site for more up-to-date news about what's going on:
www.hudsoncolorado.org



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The HUDSON CONNECTION

The Town of Hudson Newsletter

Volume No. 68

July-August 2013



Inside this issue:

Sewer Rates	2
Memorial Bricks	2
Backyard Chickens	2
Events Schedule	2
Volunteers	2
On-line Credit Card	3
2014 Budget Process	3
Skunks	3
Yard of the Month	4
Library News	5
CR49 Meeting	5
Chamber Events	5
Centennial Planning	6

TOWN ADOPTS TRUCK WEIGHT STANDARDS

On July 17th the Board adopted Ordinance Nos. 13-06 and 13-09 regarding weight limits on town streets. These ordinances are intended to address concerns with safety in residential areas of town and damage to town-owned streets by overweight vehicles that are doing business outside of town. Details of the ordinances were presented in the last issue of the *HUDSON CONNECTION*.

Ordinance No. 13-06 defines residential and non-residential streets in town, and sets a



20,000 GVWR weight limit on residential streets. Trucks exceeding that weight on residential streets, including Beech Street, will be in violation of the law and subject to tickets.

EXCEPTIONS:

The ordinance provides several exceptions to the limit, including:

See **TRUCKS**, p.7

SUMMER OF IMPROVEMENTS

Town crews have been working this summer on a number of community improvement projects:

- Installation of flower planters in the downtown area and at the Veterans Memorial. Planters were built for the town by inmates at the correctional facility.
- Construction of split rail fence at the Memorial Park.
- Installation of picnic tables and an irrigation system for trees at the fishing pond.
- Additional trees at the fishing pond.
- Fencing at the wastewater plant.
- Landscaping of the highway "islands" at the Town's Highway 52 entrance.
- Planning for relocation of the 5th & Cherry maintenance shop.

In addition to these projects, the Town purchased a pavement crack sealing machine that will enable the crew to do "in-house" sealing of cracks in asphalt pavement, saving the Town money by keeping up with needed maintenance.

2014 TOWN BUDGET UNDER WAY

It's an annual ritual at Town Hall, the budget. Every year the Board and the staff prepare a financial plan to manage public funds and to assist in achieving goals for the community. Feedback from citizens is important to ensure that public funds are spent wisely.

You are invited to share your ideas with the Board at public meetings on September 4th and on November 6th. You can also contact Town Hall any time if you would like to share your ideas.

SURVEY COMING SOON

Later in August every household will receive a survey in the mail. It is a great way to share your ideas and preferences for the budget.

**PLEASE!
COMPLETE AND
RETURN YOUR
CITIZEN SURVEY
WHEN YOU RECEIVE IT IN THE
MAIL.
YOUR OPINIONS
COUNT!**

99 YEARS AND
COUNTING

TOWN OF
HUDSON

INCORPORATED
JANUARY 21, 1914



SEWER RATES TO BE INCREASED

Sewer rates are going up. In an effort to bring the Town's sewer utility into a financially sustainable condition, the Town is implementing a program of cost cutting and rate increases. The amount of the needed rate increase and the manner of implementing the new rate will be considered during the upcoming 2014 budget process.

The Town's new wastewater treatment plant was completed in January 2010. In early 2012 the old lagoon system was "decommissioned" and the entire town was connected to the new plant. The entire \$9 million project was financed by grants, developer fees and a \$3.5 million loan from USDA Rural Development. The state-of-the-art treatment facility enabled the town to accept new customers and to meet new water quality standards mandated by the federal government.

The terms of the Town's financing on the system with USDA/RD and prudent business practices require that the system be operated on a sound financial basis. With the exception of cost-of-

See SEWER, p. 7

VETERANS MEMORIAL BRICKS STILL ON SALE

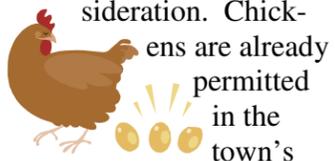
By popular demand, the Town is selling additional engraved bricks at the Hudson Veterans Memorial for \$40 each. Anyone wishing to honor a U.S. armed forces veteran can pick up an application at Town Hall or download an application from the Town's web site. Bricks will be engraved and installed by Veterans Day. **DEADLINE for applications is SEPT. 1st.**

BACKYARD CHICKEN RULES CONSIDERED

An ordinance to provide for permits to keep up to six backyard hen chickens in the R-1 residential zoning district is tentatively scheduled for consideration. Chickens are already permitted in the town's three agricultural districts.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on September 11th. The Board of Trustees' hearing will be at 7:00 p.m. on September 18th. Both hearings will be at Town Hall.

Contact Town Hall for more information or if you would like to review the proposed ordinance.



VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED

At the June 19th meeting, the Board of Trustees recognized the contribution to our community of two volunteers. Laura Hargis served on the Town Planning Commission since 2008. However, Laura's "retirement" from the Commission was short-lived. Her circumstances changed and she again volunteered for another term.



Steve Straten has been a regular sight at the Veterans Memorial and in the park, volunteering his time and efforts to help maintain the area.

Both Laura and Steve received certificates for their community spirit. Thanks Laura and Steve!!

2013 HUDSON EVENTS SCHEDULE

- August 9 – Yard of the Month Awards
- August 28 – Weld County Road 49 Access Plan Open House @ Big Foot Turf, 5:30 p.m.
- Sept 4 – 2014 Town Budget, Public Input Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- Sept 7 – Fishing Derby (Hudson Fishing Pond)
- Sept 7 – Movie in the Park feature presentation **BRAVE** (Park Main Pavilion) co-sponsored by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
- Sept 13 – Yard of the Month Awards
- Sept 27 & 28 – Fall Clean-Up Days (Location - Hudson Hills)
- Oct 18 – Pumpkin Patch Giveaway (Hudson Memorial Park Main Pavilion)
- Nov 6 – 2014 Town Budget, Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- Nov 9 – Veterans Day Celebration @ Hudson Veterans Memorial
- Dec 6 – Hudson Town Hall Christmas Lighting Celebration and visit from Santa
- Dec 16 – Residential / Business Christmas Lighting Competition Judging Week (week of 12/8 or 12/15)

SEWER, cont. from p.2

living increases, rates have not been increased since 2008. But in the meantime, costs of operating the system have increased due to inflation, increasingly stringent state and federal water quality standards, and payments on the loan for the new plant.

Any increase in rates will be done carefully, mindful of the need to operate the wastewater system economically while continuing to meet health standards.

Town staff is working on a rate study with the following goals in mind:

- Continue to operate the town's system in compliance with state and federal standards.
- Build a prudent operating reserve.
- Base rates on demand, i.e., charge more for customers who dispose of larger amounts of waste water and place greater demand on the system.
- Adjust rates gradually over three or four years rather than in one step.
- Seek new customers in order to benefit from "economies of scale."

New rates are expected to be considered by the Board in the fall. Call Town Hall if you have

CRITTERS, cont. from p.3

your pets is a public health issue. Please take it seriously.

- Do not leave pet food outside. It attracts wild animals.
- Keep all trash in secure, tightly closed containers.
- Call the Colorado Division of Wildlife office at 303-291-7227 if you have problems with wild animals.
- AFTER HOURS, if you see a skunk that is acting abnormally, call Weld County dispatch (970) 350-9600 and ask for the on-call person for the Health Dept.

If your vaccinated pet is bitten by a rabid skunk or other animal, it will need a "booster" vaccination and will need to be isolated at home for 45 days.

If your pet is not vaccinated and has been bitten by a known or suspected rabid animal, it must be either euthanized or impounded at the owner's expense for six months.

NOT VACCINATING YOUR ANIMALS PUTS YOUR FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY AT RISK.

If you are bitten by an animal, consult with a doctor immediately.

The Town has limited resources to deal with skunk or raccoon sight-

ings. DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS you can call Town Hall and we will attempt to trap the animal. We will also pick up dead skunks and deliver them

FALL CLEAN-UP SCHEDULED

The next "Clean-up Days" event has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 27th & 28th. The Town will provide dumpsters and will accept tires and recyclables. It will again be held on the south side of town in Hudson Hills.

There is one change for this event. **We will be unable to accept televisions and computers.**

Call Town Hall if you have questions.

LIBRARY, cont. from p.5

belt in Jujitsu, and is currently training in Karate and Bagua. The class will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Girls and women from the age of 12 and up are welcome.

Imagination Station will be back on September 6th. Storytime is from 10:15 to 11:00. Join us for stories, puppets and games. The last Friday of the month will feature a special program or time to enjoy a play date with new friends. The program is geared for kids Kindergarten and younger with their parents or caregivers as partners.

TRUCKS, cont. from p.1

- Exempts vehicles up to 40,000 GVWR used for commuting by residents. Commuter vehicles over 20,000 GVWR must park off-street.
- Provides for hardship on-street parking permit for commuters over 20,000 GVWR if off-street parking is impossible.
- Exempts local (in-town) deliveries, school buses, emergency vehicles, public transportation, agricultural vehicles, vehicles on local business.

Ordinance No. 13-09 modifies the Town's current overweight vehicle permit system as follows:

- Defines non-residential. Streets.
- Sets vehicle weight requiring permit on **non-residential town-owned streets** at weights defined by the state.
- Sets fees for annual, daily or single-trip permits.
- Exempts emergency vehicles, public transportation, and agricultural vehicles from permit requirement.



Copies of the ordinances and overweight vehicle permit applications are available from the Town, (303) 536-9311 or email: info@hudsoncolorado.org

Hudson recognizes 1887, the year when the first plat of the town was filed by John M. Lapp of Denver, as the date of its founding. However, it wasn't until 1914 that it was incorporated as a municipality. The 1887 plat covered 160 acres of land, generally between Hwy. 52 (CR12) and CR 12.5, and between Beech Street and Hickory Street.

A total of 74 people voted in the incorporation election, with only three voting "no."

PEPPER POD CELEBRATES

The Town's centennial coincides closely with the 2013 centennial of the Pepper Pod. **Congratulations to Dave and Beth Martin, Chef Amy, and the crew at the "Pod!"**

PHOTOS NEEDED

Unlike many other Front Range communities, Hudson doesn't have a large inventory of historic

TOWN PREPARING FOR CENTENNIAL



Hudson Elementary School (date unknown)



Know all men, by these presents, that J. John M. Lapp, of the city of Denver and state of Colorado, have subdivided and platted the parcel of land as shown on this map, under the name and style of Hudson; being the S. E. 1/4 of Sec. 5 T. 1 N. R. 65 W. Weld County Colorado, and I hereby grant to the public the perpetual right of way over and through all streets as shown on this map, excepting where marked reserved.
Witness my hand and seal this 20th day of November A.D. 1887.
John M. Lapp.

buildings. Folks from many of the older families in the area have moved away over the years. So, assembling artifacts to help with the centennial is a challenge. That's where you come in. If you or any of your friends and family have old photos from the town's early days, please share them with us. We will promptly scan and return the originals to you. The photos on this page were provided courtesy of Gene and Phyllis Andrews.

If you have photos or other artifacts from Hudson's early years, or if you would like to get involved in planning for the event, please contact Town Hall.

Thanks for your help. Lets make the Centennial memorable!

ON-LINE CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

The Town is now accepting on-line credit card and debit card payments (MasterCard, American Express, Visa, and Discover) for Town fees and charges. Our service provider, *Colorado.gov*, charges a non-refundable fee of \$0.75 per transaction plus 2.25% of the total for the service. (The Town does not receive any of the Colorado.gov charges.)

Online payments will be processed the next business day during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, excluding holidays. In the unlikely event that



the on-line system is not operating for any reason, it will still be necessary to pay bills on time at Town Hall or by mail. If you have received a disconnect notice, please call Town Hall immediately to let us know if on-line payment has been made, 303-536-9311.

Credit card payments can be made for:

- Utility Bills
- Building Permits (Send application and plan documents to Town Hall)
- Business Licenses (Send completed application to the Town Hall)
- Sales Tax Licenses (Completed application needs to be sent to the Town Hall)

Transactions will include the words "CO GOVT SERVICES" on your credit card statement.



MDA Pancake Breakfast

You're invited to join us for a pancake breakfast stacked with excitement!

All proceeds benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. MDA is dedicated to curing muscular dystrophy, ALS, and related diseases by funding worldwide research.

**Saturday, August 31
8:00 am - 10:30 am**

Hudson Fire Protection District Building
702 Cedar Street
Hudson, CO

TOWN VISITED BY UNWANTED GUESTS

Town Hall has received numerous calls in the past few weeks about encounters with wildlife in town, particularly skunks and raccoons.

Although there have been no reports of rabies in any animals in Hudson this year, there have been several in other communities in the region. Other than the obvious need for care in dealing with skunks, people are urged to be careful to avoid anything that might attract these critters.



Skunks and bats are the most common carriers of rabies in Colorado, but other animals may also be infected. Symptoms can vary, including lethargy, loss of appetite, changes in temperament, erratic behavior, and paralysis.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

- Do not touch wild animals. Raccoons are cute but they can be nasty. Teach children to leave wildlife alone.
- Have your pets vaccinated. There are still a lot of dogs in Hudson without tags or vaccinations. **Vaccinating**

See CRITTERS, p.7

News from Town Hall...



- The Town received approximately \$105,000 from an insurance settlement for warranty work on the 2009-10 paving project. The money will be used for various repairs this fall.
- The Town received \$25,000 from Anadarko Petroleum and \$26,280 from Encana Oil & Gas in fulfillment of agreements regarding use of Town streets to access well sites that are out of town. Money was used for purchase of pavement maintenance equipment and supplies.
- The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation contributed \$5,000 toward expenses for the Veterans Memorial.
- The Town still has openings on the **Planning Commission**. If you are interested in getting involved in the town's future by serving on the Commission, you can apply at Town Hall.
- The planned realignment of the north I-76 frontage road, explained in previous issues of the *Hudson Connection*, is planned to go out to bid by the end of the year. Completion expected by mid 2014.

CONGRATULATIONS to the June - July Yard of the Month Winners!



555 Beech St.



25 Dahlia St.



205 Ash St.



15 Cook Ct.



422 Cherry St.



426 Beech St.

**HUDSON
PROUD!**



...and **THANKS** to this year's
generous sponsors!

- Farm & Home Lumber** - **Andersen's Star Market**
- United Power** - **Hudson Public Library** - **Valley Bank & Trust**
- Pepper Pod Campground** - **Village Gift Company** - **Oh Nuts**

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

We had 368 readers sign up this year for "Dig Into Reading!" During June the library was alive with activity. Rock talks by Juanita Beedy Tweedy, entertainment by "Dino Girl", Chocolate Chip Cookie Mining, just to name a few activities. The carnival at the Keenesburg Fairgrounds featured "The Bubble Lady", games and hot dogs for all in attendance.

Thanks to our sponsors: A Witness to Life Photography, American Legion Post 180, Andersen's Star Market, Arnold's Custom Seeding, Colorado Country Homes, Colorado Tenderfoot Properties, Corner Market Shell, Discount Attention Getters!, Gamers Corner, Gray Brothers, Keene Auto Supply Inc., Main St. Insurance, Mark Kinnear Farmers Ins., Market St. Mart, Nordholm Realty, Outpost Storage, Pepperpod Campground, Ries Electric, Simpler Times, South East Weld County Chamber of Commerce, Top Gun Framing, Towns of Keenesburg, Hudson & Lochbuie, Valley Bank & Trust, SEWC Jr. Fair & Rodeo, El Faro, RE3J School Dist., Rebel Express, A To Z Special T's.

Self Defense for Women will be taught in the library on Saturday, September 21st by Kathleen McIrvin. She has a black

TOWN APPLYING FOR PLAYGROUND GRANT

The Town is again applying to Great Outdoors Colorado, "GOCO," for a matching grant to build a new playground at the Hudson Memorial Park. The playground is to be located southwest of the park's picnic shelter. The application deadline is August 28th.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

If you would like to provide a letter of support for the application, please send it or drop it off at Town Hall by Friday, August 23rd. Community support is a major factor in the grant decision. Letters from adults **OR** from **KIDS** will show that support. Thanks for helping!



Southeast Weld County Chamber of Commerce Events Calendar

- Aug 8th** - Multi Weld Cty Chamber Business After Hours at The Fort, Ft Lupton
- Aug 28th** - Chamber Lunch Meeting at El Faro, Hudson (Guest Speaker)
- Sep 12th** - Business After Hours at Valley Bank, Hudson, sponsored by four chamber businesses
- Sep 25th** - Chamber Lunch Meeting at Hud-

- son Fire House, Hudson,
- Oct 10th** - Business After Hours TBD
- Oct 30th** - Chamber Lunch Meeting at the Pepper Pod, Hudson
- Nov 14th** - Business After Hours at United Power, Brighton
- Nov 27th** - Chamber Lunch Meeting at Hudson Fire Station
- Dec 25th** - No Meeting
- Jan 18th** - Annual Business Meeting, Awards, 2014 Board of Directors nominations.
- VISIT THE CHAMBER'S NEW WEB SITE**
- www.southeastweldchamber.com

LAND OWNERS ALONG COUNTY ROAD 49 AND PEOPLE WHO USE THE ROAD ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON DRAFT ACCESS CONTROL PLAN

WHAT: WCR 49 Access Control Plan Open House. On behalf of Weld County, Big Foot Turf is hosting a *dinner meeting*.
WHEN: Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at 5:30 pm.
LOCATION: Big Foot Turf, 22455 WCR 49
RSVP—dinner reservations—email Francie Collins at fcollins@weldgov.com.

PURPOSE: Weld County Public Works has completed the initial draft of the WCR 49 Access Control Plan and requests participation and your feedback. Elected Officials and Staff will provide a presentation on the plan and be available to answer questions and provide information about the future of WCR 49. The priority of this effort is safety!

You can find a copy of the draft plan on the Weld County website at <http://www.co.weld.co.us/Departments/PublicWorks/TransportationPlanning/index.html>.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Elizabeth Relford at erelford@weldgov.com or call at (970) 304-6496.

