



The HUDSON CONNECTION

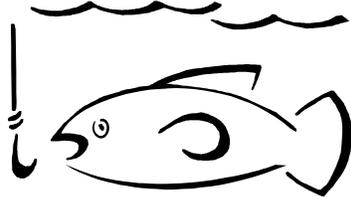


The Town of Hudson Newsletter
Volume No. 53, January-February 2011

TOWN SEEKS GRANT FOR FISHING POND PROJECT Support Needed from the Community

COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GRANT PROGRAM PROPOSED FOR TOWN PARK SITE

The Board of Trustees has given staff the go-ahead to pursue a matching grant from the Colorado Division of Wildlife “*Fishing is Fun*” program for development of a 1½ acre fishing pond on property owned by the Town north of the town park. Similar ponds have been developed through this DOW program in Haxtun, Holyoke, Fleming and other rural Colorado Communities.



DOW funding for the federal program comes from an existing excise tax on fishing tackle and equipment. Working with landscape architects from Colorado State University, the Town is amending the plan for the town park expansion to incorporate the fishing pond. If we are successful in obtaining funding and building the pond, the DOW will keep it stocked at no cost to the town.

Send a letter of support. There is no guarantee that the grant application will be successful. It is important in acquiring grant funds that there is community support for the project. If you think that the pond is a good idea, please send or drop off a note of support that can be included in the grant application. Also, “in-kind” contributions of labor can help match the grant and be used in building the pond, planting trees and vegetation on its edges, and constructing facilities associated with the pond. **Let us know if you can help or if you have ideas for the project.**

WORK PROGRESSING ON FINAL STAGE OF WASTEWATER PROJECT

Work has begun on the final stage of the Town’s wastewater project. “Pond #2” at the wastewater lagoon facility, the site of the planned new pumping station, is being drained in advance of construction.

This final stage of the project will include the lagoon abandonment, construction of a lift station, and several miles of sewer main, connecting the Town and the Hudson Industrial Park to the new wastewater treatment plant north of Town near County Road 18. The Hudson Correctional Facility is currently connected to the new plant. The Town has received bids for the project and is working with a contractor on project details prior to awarding a contract.

Depending on weather and water conditions along a portion of the new sewer line that is near Boxelder Creek, the Town hopes to have the project completed in the fall of 2011.

Please be aware that there might be times while the old sewer lagoons are being drained and dried out that it will be a bit stinky. This is part of the price we all pay for getting rid of the lagoons. It is, after all, sewage. However, any odor problem should be short-lived. The Town and its contractor will do what can be done to minimize this problem.



Contact Town Hall if you have questions.

TOWN CONSIDERING SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Talks between the Town of Hudson and the Northeast - East Colorado Small Business Development Center have begun with an eye towards locating a part-time field office here in Hudson.

The SBDC provides confidential one-on-one counseling with emerging entrepreneurs and existing business owners. Participants are offered free access to small business information and development assistance. Areas of support included, but are not limited to: business plan development, market analysis, loan application, as well as short-term and long-term goal setting. In addition, a variety of training courses and seminars are offered throughout the year to enhance business start-up and expansion.

If you are interested in learning more about this local economic development effort please contact Dan Hamsmith at dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org or call Town Hall at 303-536-9311.

FIRST RESPONSE... FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF JOHNSON

Chief Johnson appeared before the Hudson Board of Trustees at their February 2nd Regular Meeting to update the Town on the recent activities of the Hudson Fire Protection District. During the 2010 calendar year, the district responded to 572 calls for service. This marks an overall increase in the number of calls compared to 2009. For the month of January 2011 alone, firefighters responded to 62 calls for assistance. Again, an increase when compare to January of 2010.



In response to the increases in calls for service, Chief Johnson and the Hudson Fire Protection Board have hired two full-time paid employees. Joining the department in that capacity are Firefighter Cody Pulis and Captain Larissa Kreutzer. They will be dispatched from the Main Station on Cedar Street. Their shift will start at 6am and end at 4pm. We welcome them.

News from the Library

Terri Redden, director

February is when we celebrate **Library Lovers** month. When you visit the library and use your library card we'll give you a kiss. (a Hershey's kiss) If you've never set foot into our library, this is your chance. Call today to find out how you can get your very own library card.



Come in **February 10th** for a Valentine card making class for adults. **Betha Zebroski** is experienced in making cards and will be available for instruction. All levels of experience welcome. It will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call or visit the library to sign up.

If you just want to have **fun** come in on **February 18th** at 2:00 p.m. **Ann Lincoln** will perform for us. She juggles bowling balls!! All ages welcome.

Homework Help is held on Wednesdays. Please bring your homework questions to Marcie at the library from 3:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Story time is every Friday with Tami at 10:30-11:00. Age 2 and up.

Want a simple way to get books, DVDs and CDs? Highplains Library District catalog is available 24 hours a day at www.mylibrary.us. If an item is not available in our library it can be obtained by putting a hold on it and brought to our library via courier. The courier visits us 6 days a week. We can also take returns for any library in the district. If you have any questions about accessing our library catalog our staff is more than willing to help you learn how to use it.

We have **tax** forms here and online.

Hudson Library is located at 555 Main St. right across from the Conoco gas station.

Call at 303-536-4550.

Our Hours are: M-T-Th-F 10-6, Wed 10-7, Sat. 9-2, Sunday closed

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents" Emilie Buchwald

SAD NEWS

The community was saddened recently by the death of long time resident, former Trustee Gaylord Neal Pontius. Mr. Pontius was the father of six children, including our current Mayor Neal Pontius. Services were held at the Aspen Mortuary on January 24th. An Air Force veteran, Mr. Pontius was interred at Fort Logan National Cemetery. Our condolences go out to the Pontius family.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS

Again this winter, the Town hosted a contest for Christmas lighting. Every year there are more and more beautifully decorated homes. It was a joy to drive through Hudson and see all of the lights. Winners receive a credit on their water/sewer bills.

Winners for this season were:

- First Place (\$50) – 646 Hickory Street
- Second Place (\$40) – 702 First Avenue
- Third Place (\$30) – 23 Sunset Court
- Fourth Place (\$20) – 238 Ash Street

Congratulations to everyone whose decorations added to the holiday cheer!

TOWN PARTICIPATES IN RAIL CAR HAZARD TRAINING

In January, staff members from the Town of Hudson, the Hudson Fire Protection District, and Chemical & Metal Industries met at the new fire headquarters to attend a rail car hazard training workshop. Paula Thomas (BNSF) and Rob Ahlgrim (UPRR) led the interactive course developed by *Operation Lifesaver*.

The session included preparation for a potential train incident. Case studies from actual railroad incidents helped to illustrate the various types of on-scene hazards that could be expected, including electrical, mechanical, chemical, structural, and others.

First responders then went to the Hudson Terminal Railroad for some hands-on training. BNSF provided a locomotive and rail car for the exercise. Thanks to BNSF and to Hudson Terminal Railroad for helping with this important event.

FIRE DISTRICT ANNOUNCES RULES FOR BURN PERMITS

Effective January 1, 2011, "Open Burning Permits" will be issued through Weld County. Persons wishing to obtain permits will no longer be getting them from the Hudson Fire District. Permits are available on line at www.co.weld.co.us/A-Z. Search on *Open Burning Permit/Weld County*.

RULES ADOPTED FOR PARKING TRAILERS AND OVERSIZE VEHICLES ALONG TOWN STREETS

The Board of Trustees has approved Ordinance No. 10-12 amending rules for parking of large trucks, trailers, boats and recreational vehicles on Town streets for periods in excess of 24 hours.



The ordinance provides for permits to park these trailers and oversize vehicles within the Town-owned street right-of-way, **but off of the pavement and sidewalk**, for longer periods if the parked vehicles do not block the view of signs or intersecting traffic, does not violate other Town codes, and is not objected to by neighbors.

Contact Town Hall for details.

PLEASE WATCH YOUR PETS!

We have had a rash of loose dogs in town lately. Please be sure to keep your dog inside, in a properly fenced yard, or on a leash. And remember that dogs in Hudson must be licensed and must have the required shots. This is a serious public health issue. And if dogs are licensed and tagged it helps neighbors and Town personnel reunite loose dogs with their owners. Contact Town Hall for information on dog licensing.

Also, be sure to keep your pets inside during periods of severe cold. Even furry critters can suffer from the kind of cold that we've been experiencing.

BOARD DISCUSSES NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Over the past few months, the Board of Trustees has discussed ways in which we might increase our law enforcement presence in Town, while staying within budget. This year's increase of five hours per week of coverage from the Sheriff's Office will be helpful, but we are still a long way from having "24/7" police presence.

One idea that we have discussed with the Sheriff's Office is the formation of "*Neighborhood Watch*" groups around town. These groups would be volunteer-based organizations, set up on a block by block basis. On any block where there is an interest among residents in forming a group of volunteers, the Town and the Sheriff will provide assistance and information.

Neighborhood Watch is a program by which neighbors are trained to be more observant of any suspicious activities in their neighborhoods, and to report such activities to the Sheriff. It is a way in which law enforcement officials and residents can better share in the task of making Hudson a safer and more livable community. Citizens serve as "eyes and ears" for Sheriff Deputies, and get to know their neighbors better. *Neighborhood Watch* can also serve as a social organization in which people can organize block parties or other neighborhood activities.

If you have an interest in organizing a *Neighborhood Watch* program on your block, contact Town Hall.

TOWN OF HUDSON SNOW PLOW POLICY

Snow plowing is a difficult and expensive process. The safety of our town residents is our main concern. To that extent, Hudson's Public Works Department has established goals and a strategic plan designed to keep town streets cleared as best as possible.

The Town uses several methods to determine when to begin plowing and/or sanding, including contacts with law enforcement personnel and local businesses that are open after hours. Certain streets have been designated as primary snow routes while

others are classified as secondary routes. In the event of a major winter storm no resident will be required to travel more than two blocks to reach a cleared street.

Plowing is not really effective until snow depths reach three inches. Often times salt/sand mixtures will be placed down before snow accumulates to the three inch level or when icy conditions are anticipated. We concentrate sanding on stopping areas and main arterials. Rush hour traffic periods are also a major focus. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Town Hall.

MORE NEWS FROM TOWN HALL...

- Spring 2011 "**Clean-up Days**" are scheduled for May 13-15. More information will be published as we near the date.



- The annual rabies clinic is scheduled for March 5th. Watch for posters.
- Larry Finn has joined the Town Planning Commission and Tamara Eyestone has come on board as an alternate member of the Commission. Thanks to both of the new members for their community spirit!

TOWN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Town of Hudson is seeking enthusiastic volunteers for its Town Events Committee. Becoming a volunteer is a great way to get involved in helping to plan, coordinate, fundraise, promote, and staff the various community events the Town of Hudson hosts from year to year.

Regularly scheduled meetings will begin in March. If you have the energy, passion, vision and commitment to make Hudson a better place to live and play, please contact Dan Hamsmith by email at dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org or by calling Hudson Town Hall at 303-536-9311.

**Visit the Town web site at:
www.hudsoncolorado.org**

I-76 CORRIDOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE UPDATE

The I-76 Corridor Economic Development Initiative is an ongoing collaborative effort between representatives of the towns of Lochbuie, Hudson and Keenesburg, local educational institutions, utilities and private sector businesses. Its goal is to construct a strategic plan for economic development that is consistent with the opportunities, assets and resources available to the region, and thereby to strengthen the local economy.



To construct the plan, the three communities appointed a Steering Committee comprised of the following members:

- Town of Hudson
 - John Honnold, Trustee
 - Rob Masden, Geo Group
 - Tom Kaufman, Land Advisors
- Town of Keenesburg
 - Cindy Baumgartner, Trustee
 - Patricia Cooke, Keenesburg Chamber of Commerce
 - Bruce Sparrow, land owner
- Town of Lochbuie
 - Candy Veldhuizen, Trustee
 - Leon Sanders, Trustee
 - Ted Shipman, Bromley Companies
- Area Representatives
 - Barb Kirkmeyer, Weld County Commissioner
 - Randy Reese, United Power
 - John Karl, BNSF
 - Susie Townsend, Weld RE-3J School District

Additional strategic partners are being identified as the planning process evolves. The overall planning effort is being facilitated by Larry Burkhardt, President and CEO of Upstate Colorado Economic Development, and his staff.

Since August of 2010, meetings have been conducted on a regular basis. Members of the Steering Committee have been participating in all efforts to structure a plan

that outlines realistic expectations, goals, objectives and strategies that will result in a stronger local economy for the I-76 corridor region.

The first task undertaken was a Community Assessment Exercise. This exercise was designed to evaluate as objectively as possible some key issues and opportunities that exist within the area, and provide a context within which the Steering Committee could next determine strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the region.

Once the Community Assessment Exercise was completed, the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis was initiated by the Steering Committee. This in-depth evaluation allows us to market to our strengths; identify areas where we might be able to make adjustments that would result in heightened opportunity, and be of great assistance in determining our industry targets. Key to conducting a useful SWOT analysis was the willingness on the part of the partners to be as objective as possible in conducting the assessment.

The third assignment is the development of a Vision and Mission statement for the initiative. When those statements are completed, the Steering Committee will begin work on the following:

- Construction of goals, objectives and strategies
- Construction of an Action Plan or Implementation Plan that outlines specific steps that will be undertaken to put the plan in motion
- Assignment of roles and responsibilities
- Construction of a timing matrix
- Building of an implementation budget

While this is intended to be a mutually-beneficial regional plan, it is intended to recognize that each of the three participating communities is unique, with individual community aspirations for the future.

If you would like to be involved in this exciting economic development initiative, we encourage you to become a part of the initiative's larger stakeholders' group. To do so, simply send your contact information to Dan Hamsmith, Management Assistant with the Town of Hudson, at dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org, or call Dan at Hudson Town Hall at 303-536-9311.

We look forward to hearing from you.

THE HUDSON CONNECTION

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

**REMEMBER... Town Board meetings
are open to the public. Agendas are posted
in the Town Hall window and at the Post
Office.**

- *Fishing Pond Grant application*
- *Small Business Development
Center*
- *Economic Development Plan*
- *Neighborhood Watch*
- *Library news*
- *Wastewater Project update*
- *Lighting contest winners*
- *Rabies Clinic scheduled for March 5, 2011*
- *Spring 2011 "Clean-up Days" scheduled May 13-15, 2011*

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