



# The HUDSON CONNECTION

## *It's Spring!!*



The Town of Hudson Newsletter  
Volume No. 54. March-April 2011

### I-76 CORRIDOR TOWNS HOST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT "SUMMIT"

On Thursday, March 10th, an Economic Development Summit for the I-76 Corridor was held at United Power's headquarters. Residents, land and business owners, and other stakeholders from Hudson, Keenesburg, and Lochbuie were invited to take part in the planning process, focused on developing primary jobs for the area.

Larry Burkhardt, President / CEO of *Upstate Colorado Economic Development*, started the evening off by defining economic development and the impact a successful strategy can have on a community. Steering Committee members Candy Veldhuizen, Rob Masden, Cindy Baumgartner, and John Spillane then addressed the nearly one hundred participants, explaining the history behind the initiative, the planning process, progress to date, and the next steps to be taken.

Participants provided their viewpoints on a series of questions relating to our region's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. To see the results of the questionnaire, visit [www.hudsoncolorado.org](http://www.hudsoncolorado.org) and click on the link *I-76 Economic Development Summit Results*. If you would like to provide comments on this regional economic development effort, please send an email to [i76cedi@hudsoncolorado.org](mailto:i76cedi@hudsoncolorado.org).

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### TORNADO SIREN TEST SATURDAY, APRIL 2nd

The Weld County Office of Emergency Management, in coordination with first responders from local communities throughout the county, will be conducting a test of the Emergency Warning Siren System. The test is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, April 2nd at 10am** for approximately thirty (30) seconds to one (1) minute in length. If you hear sirens any other time than this testing period there is the possibility of a weather-related or other emergency event that could require you to take precautions.

### CHAMBER ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the scheduling of two community events for later this year. On **Saturday, July 16th**, Hudson Memorial Park will be transformed into a community **flea market**. In addition to the traditional vendors being available, other activities and entertainment are being planned. Then on Saturday, **September 24th**, the Chamber will host the Annual **Hudson Harvest Festival** at Hudson Memorial Park. Although the festival is in the early stages of planning, two activities being developed include: a travelling trophy softball match



between volunteers of the Hudson Fire Protection District and Southeast Weld Fire Protection District; and a Colorado Vintage Base Ball Association baseball game, featuring "base ball"

as it was played around 1870. A visiting team from the Denver area will challenge a team of folks from Hudson in the event.

Mark Kinnear, Chamber President, is also inviting local business owners, entrepreneurs and residents to learn more about the Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce and the benefits associated with Chamber membership. With that thought in mind, two **After Hours** mixers have been scheduled: one for Wednesday, **April 27th** starting at 6pm at the Pepper Pod Restaurant; and the second one scheduled for Wednesday, **June 29th** at 7pm at the Hudson Fire Protection District Headquarters on Cedar Street. At the June meeting, a water law attorney will be on hand to talk about water projects and other water concerns.

For more information on the Chamber, or the upcoming events and mixers, please contact Mark Kinnear through his office phone number at 303-536-4427.

## YARD OF THE MONTH – SEASON 2

After an exceptional Season 1, the “Yard of the Month” contest will be held again this year!! The Town’s contest for exceptional residential yards will be awarded 4 times per month in June, July, August and September. This year, residents will have the opportunity to nominate the yards they believe to be the most improved yard, or a yard that you believe should be rewarded. To nominate a yard for consideration submit a letter of nomination to [mostimprovedyard@hudsoncolorado.org](mailto:mostimprovedyard@hudsoncolorado.org) or bring it by the Hudson Town Hall. The nominations need to be received by the last day of the month preceding the awarded month. Feel free to nominate the yard each month, however each yard is limited to



winning the award only once in any calendar year. Nominations should be based on the front yard as viewed from the street, backyards will not be considered, even if visible from the street. If your yard is not nominated the Town

judges may still pick your yard as a winner. Send ideas, comments, nominations, or if you would like to volunteer to be a Town Yard of the Month Judge to [mostimprovedyard@hudsoncolorado.org](mailto:mostimprovedyard@hudsoncolorado.org) or come by the Hudson Town Hall.

## WASTEWATER PROJECT MOVING ALONG

Reynolds Construction is making progress on the installation of a 5-mile long sewer main that will connect



the town to the new wastewater plant. In the first four weeks of construction they completed about 1.5 miles of

pipeline. At the same time, Parker Ag has been working on the first phase of the abandonment of the old lagoon plant on Highway 52. They removed “biosolids” from one of the three ponds in preparation for construction of a sewer lift station at the north end of the pond. Construction will continue into the fall when we hope to activate the new project.



COMING SOON



Pay by Credit Card

After several requests, the Town will soon be accepting payments by credit or debit card. The Town will continue to accept payments via check or cash, but as an alternative payment option, credit/debit card payments will also be accepted for utility bills, traffic fines, dog licenses, business licenses, etc.

For those who choose to make payments with a credit/debit card, the service includes a non-refundable “portal administration” fee. This fee is based on the payment amount. Each transaction is subject to a fee that covers the cost associated with providing this service. The portal administration fee is equal to \$0.75 plus 2.25% of the total amount of the payment plus \$0.75 per transaction.

For example, if your utility bill is **\$50.10**, and if you choose to pay by credit card, your portal fee is:

$$\$0.75 + (\$50.10 + \$0.75) \times 2.25\% = \$1.89$$

The total charged to your Credit/Debit Card would be **\$51.99**. ( \$50.10 + \$1.89)

Each transaction can be reviewed and/or cancelled with all applicable fees **prior to finalizing the transaction**.

This service will be offered at the counter in the Town Hall.

On-line transactions and e-checks will be available at a later time.

## News from the Library

Terri Redden, director

Libraries are places for new beginnings. Whether you are getting your first library card, learning new computer skills or planning a trip, the library is the place where your story begins. This National Library Week, join our nation's libraries and librarians and *Create Your own story @ your library.*

The **Hudson Public Library** is celebrating National Library Week by hosting Curtis Mork, an avid Lego collector. He has a current Lego collection that is made up of 67 sets totaling just under 39,000 pieces. His sets include Star Wars, buildings, cars and a fully functional carousel and a train. Curtis will give a presentation about the history of Lego on Wednesday, April 13 at 5:45 p.m. His collection will be on display Wednesday thru Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. There will be chances to build your own creations and contests with prizes on Friday April 13<sup>th</sup>.

I encourage all residents to visit the library this week to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available@ your library.

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*

## WATER RATES UNDER REVIEW

Nothing is getting any less expensive, including the costs of running utilities. For the last eight years the Town has been able to keep its water rates the same. But inflation has finally forced a review of the current rates. The price of electricity for the pumps, chemicals for treatment, and other operating costs have continued to go up. In April, the Board will hold work sessions to discuss alternative rates and ways to keep rate increases to a minimum.

The Colorado Constitution requires that municipal “enterprises” such as our water utility be self funded, placing strict limits on subsidies from other state or local sources of revenue. In short, the water system has to pay its own way. But the fact is that the Town is selling water for less than it costs to produce, treat and distribute it.

Hudson has very good quality municipal water and we intend to keep it that way. It is a blend of water from mountain sources and from wells that is treated to a high standard with a filtration plant and a “reverse osmosis” plant.

As a point of reference, Hudson’s current base monthly rate for 5,000 gallons of water is a total of \$27.25. A recent survey of 17 area communities in Weld and Adams Counties showed an average monthly rate for the same 5,000 gallons of \$33.18.

We will continue to strive to provide some of the best quality and lowest cost water of any town in the area.

### SIX ON 6

This summer, the Town of Hudson will be sharing the “spotlight” with communities located along US Route 6. Malerie Yolen-Cohen, a magazine and newspaper feature travel writer, with credits in National Geographic Traveler, Newsday, Sierra, Ladies Home Journal, and Westchester, will be hitting the road for a six week travel adventure on US Route 6. “If there is enough interest along this historic route, I plan to do a ‘Six on 6’ guidebook,” wrote Malerie.

In preparation for her journey, Malerie has spent the past few months contacting the many towns and cities located on Route 6 to learn more about their “notable attractions, restaurants, lodging and shops.” The Town of Hudson has shared information on the Pepper Pod Restaurant, Wild Animal Sanctuary, and the Vintage Aero Flying Museum with Malerie.

Also known as the Grand Army of the Republic Highway, US Route 6 is the longest contiguous federal road in the United States. Spanning from Provincetown, MA to Bishop, CA, this transcontinental highway runs through 14 states and is 3,652 miles in length. While passing through northeastern Colorado, Route 6 overlays a great portion of Interstate 76.

If all goes well, Malerie anticipates being in Hudson by the middle of June. For more information on her trip, and to learn about the best that US Route 6 has to offer, please visit Malerie’s on-going travel blog at <http://stayonroute6.blogspot.com/>.

## MORE NEWS FROM TOWN HALL...

- The grant application for the fishing pond, as featured in the last issue, has been submitted to the Colorado Division of Wildlife. We should know soon if the project will receive funding.



- Weld County Sheriff John Cooke and Roy Rudisill, Director of the Weld County Office of Emergency Management, recommend that every citizen have an emergency weather radio to provide up-to-date weather warnings and emergency information. For information on weather and emergency preparedness, please visit [www.weldsheriff.com/OfficeofEmergencyManagement.html](http://www.weldsheriff.com/OfficeofEmergencyManagement.html).

- Eighty-two dogs were treated at the annual rabies clinic on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Remember that dogs in Hudson are required to be vaccinated and to have dog licenses. We still have a problem with dogs illegally running at large. Without tags it is harder to reunite them with their owners.

- Town of Hudson's Residential Clean-Up Days scheduled:

May 13, 2011 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

May 14, 2011 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

May 15, 2011 by appointment

- With windy weather recently it would help the



Public Works Staff if residents would label trash cans with their address. The Public Works Department will try to return found cans that have blown away.

- Reminder: Spring is here keep weeds under control. The Municipal Code requires weeds be under six inches.

- Jock Johnson, Fire Chief, Hudson Area Fire Protection District, reported that the Fire District has responded to 118 calls in 2011, 62 of these calls were in February 2011.

- Want to keep track of the latest information regarding the Town of Hudson in between newsletters... go to [www.hudsoncolorado.org](http://www.hudsoncolorado.org).

## GOT DRUGS???

On Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, the federal government's Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will be holding its Second Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The DEA, along with its national and community partners, will be providing the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by "ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs." The event will be held from 10am – 2pm.

During the September 2010 event, Americans turned in over 242,000 pounds of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by more than 3,000 of the DEA's state and local law enforcement partners. The DEA hopes to collect even more this spring as they will be opening the event up to long term care facilities.

Items that cannot be accepted for the "Take Back Program" include: needles and other sharp objects; mercury thermometers; oxygen containers, chemotherapy / radioactive substances, pressurized canisters; and illicit drugs.

The nearest collection site available to the Town of Hudson is the Commerce City Police Department Substation located at 18240 E. 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Commerce City. For more information, or to identify other collection sites please visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov).

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## COMMUNITY COLLEGE DAY

Aims Community College is inviting the public to experience Aims for a day at the first Community College Day on April 15<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 8pm. This free event is being offered as a way for the college to celebrate National Community College Month and to give back to the communities that support Aims.

More than 150 sampler classes, nearly all being 50 minutes in length, are being offered at the Greeley, Windsor, Loveland, and Fort Lupton campuses, including the Corporate Education Center. Course offerings range from career and college success, parenting and physical education, to art, automotive, computer, criminal justice, science and literature just to name a few topics.

For more information on this free event, visit [www.aims.edu/ccday](http://www.aims.edu/ccday).

## **SBDC FIELD OFFICE OPTION BEING EXPLORED**

For the past year the Towns of Hudson, Keenesburg and Lochbuie, along with Upstate Colorado Economic Development, have been collaborating on a regional economic development effort known as the I-76 Corridor Economic Development Initiative. The main focus of this initiative is to attract primary employers, those companies that bring new money into the local economy. This type of strategic planning effort typically involves a long-term process. In some cases it can take five years or more to reap the benefits capable of being produced by such intense planning.



With the economy being so fragile, Hudson's elected officials and town administration began looking at ways to help more quickly stabilize and strengthen the town's existing business

community. With that goal in mind, the Northeast - East Central Colorado Small Business Development Center (SBDC) was contacted to learn more about their services. Richard Pickett, Executive Director of the regional SBDC, explained that his organization's services and resources are complimentary in nature to the efforts currently being undertaken by the I-76 group. Richard also discussed the value of establishing a local SBDC field office in our community.

The SBDC works directly with budding entrepreneurs and small business owners in a variety of ways. Whether it's a start-up needing assistance or an existing business looking to survive / thrive / expand, the one-on-one counseling sessions, on-line training, and conference seminars / workshops are designed to help business owners gain control of their business operations. While SBDC counselors cannot eliminate risk, they work hard to minimize risk by helping their clients write comprehensive business plans, conduct financial forecasts, strategize marketing tactics, apply for funding, and improve overall operations. A majority of the services are free of charge; however some of the seminars and workshops are available for a modest fee.

If you are interested in learning more about this value added service, supporting the concept of an SBDC field office, or are interested in participating, please contact Dan Hamsmith, Management Assistant with the Town of Hudson, through his email at [dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org](mailto:dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org) or call 303-536-9311.

## **TRAINING PLANNED FOR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

Planning is underway for this year's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Crisis Action Guide (CAG) Training Exercise. The grant-funded, all-hazards disaster management documents were created in the fall of 2008 by the Center for International Security Policy Research (CISPR) with subsequent training being provided by CISPR as well.

The emergency / crisis management plans adhere to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) which has been adopted by the federal, state, and local governments, including the Town of Hudson. NIMS provides a consistent approach to the effective management of situations involving natural and man-made disasters. In support of the Incident Command System, standardized Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) were established describing specific roles and responsibilities of various agencies within the emergency response framework.

Town administration, elected officials, staff from the Hudson Fire Protection District and mutual aid partners will attend the May 31st training session. The mock tornado disaster training exercise will take place at the Hudson Fire Protection District Headquarters on Cedar Street from 6p-10p. If you would like more information about this event, or would like to participate as a community volunteer, please contact Dan Hamsmith at 303-536-9311.

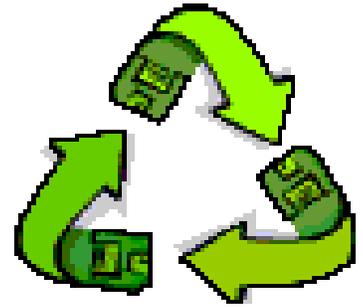
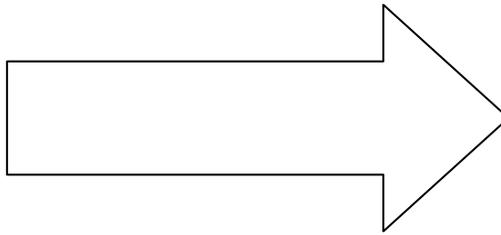
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### **TOWN LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE EVENTS COMMITTEE**

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 soon. 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](mailto:dhamsmith@hudsoncolorado.org) or by calling Hudson Town Hall at 303-536-9311.

Visit our web site: [www.hudsoncolorado.org](http://www.hudsoncolorado.org)



## **TOWN OF HUDSON RESIDENTIAL “CLEAN-UP DAYS”**

**May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>**

**May 15<sup>th</sup> by appointment only**

**DUMPSTERS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE TOWN’S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT,  
HIGHWAY 52 & HICKORY STREET**

Clean-up days are a service provided exclusively to the citizens of the Town of Hudson. You will need a valid ID with a Hudson Water Bill or Utility Bill (other forms accepted; must have name and physical address). You will not be allowed to dump without one. Weld County Household Hazardous Waste Program will be accepting items this year. See list below for items that are acceptable. Oil is limited to 10 gallons per residence; *must be capped or will not be accepted*.

**Please Note Hours:**

Friday, May 13, 2011 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday, May 14, 2011 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday, May 15, 2011 By Appointment

**APPLICANCES WILL BE ACCEPTED THIS YEAR:**

Refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners will be accepted this year with a \$35.00 Freon and oil recovery charge per appliance.

**CHARGE FOR TIRES:**

Tires – Passenger Car & Light Trucks (< 1 Ton) \$2.50. Passenger Car & Light Truck Tires with wheels \$5.00  
*Large Truck or Tractor tires will NOT be accepted.*

**COMPUTER MONITORS & MODEMS: \$10.00; KEYBOARDS: \$5.00; TV’S: \$20.00**

**WELD COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ITEMS ACCEPTED:**

Weld County will have containers to collect household hazardous waste this year. All cans, bottles with liquids will have to be labeled and must be capped or will not be accepted. Items they will accept are:

Automotive Supplies

Garden Supplies (Insecticides, Weed Killer, Rat, Mouse, Gopher Poison)

Hobby & Pet Supplies

Building & Woodworking Supplies (Caulks, cements, fluorescent lamps with ballasts & tubes, wood preservatives)

Painting Supplies (latex oil, spray paint, stripper, thinners, wood stains, brushes, rollers, pans, acids, Xylene & acetone)

Cleaning & Laundry Supplies (polishes, rug cleaner, dry cleaning supplies, moth balls & flakes, spot remover)

Cosmetics & Medicine

Cleaners (ammonia, chlorine bleach, drain openers, oven, tub & tile cleaners)

Other Products (aerosol cans, flea powder, shoe dye/polish, batteries, fire extinguishers, small propane tanks, helium tanks)

**DO NOT LEAVE TRASH OUTSIDE THE FENCE AFTER DUMPING HOURS – THOSE  
DOING SO WILL BE CITED FOR LITTERING**

## RAILROAD CROSSING WOES CONTINUE

Recently, a Hudson resident came in to Town Hall to complain about the condition of the railroad crossing on Highway 52. She said that she felt like a “bobblehead” when she bounced across the tracks. She’s not alone. For years the Town has asked the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the BNSF railroad to do some repairs on the crossing, but to no avail. Meanwhile, the condition of the crossing continues to deteriorate. This is a state highway crossing a railroad right-of-way. The Town has no authority to make repairs.



At its meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> the Board of Trustees discussed the crossing condition with Bill Snowden, CDOT’s Railroad Program Manager, and two representatives from BNSF, Andy Amparan, Manager of Public Projects, and the local Road Master, Marco Lechuga. Mr. Snowden advised the Board that Stolfus Engineering has been hired to do the design work for an upgraded crossing, including the road surface, updated signals, and an upgraded pedestrian crossing. Although they were unable to pinpoint a date for completion of the work, it appears unlikely that it would be done before late 2012.



At the Board meeting Mr. Amparan indicated that BNSF has no plan to do repair work on the crossing prior to the upgrade

project. He said that they had no way to repair the anchors on the rocking concrete panels between the rails. Subsequent to the meeting, the Town had a conversation with CDOT about at least milling the asphalt hump that has

developed on the east side of the tracks. Since this is close to the tracks, it will require BNSF approval for CDOT to do this work. We are waiting for an answer.

Hudson is not alone. Rail crossings were the topic of discussion at a recent meeting of the Upper Front Range Regional Planning Council, the group that works with CDOT on allocation of funds to regional transportation projects. Other member communities have their own examples of crossings in disrepair. Believe it or not, ours might not be the worst! Upper Front Range will consider a resolution regarding this situation at its next meeting.

Residents are welcome to continue complaining to the Town. But please understand that we have no direct way to get the crossing repaired. Mr. Lechuga’s phone number is (303) 480-6413. CDOT’s complaint number is (303) 757-9485.

In the meantime, please use caution when driving across the crossing.

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## LOCAL VIETNAM WAR HERO TO BE HONORED

On Friday, April 15th, a dedication ceremony will take place prior to a scheduled track meet at Weld Central Junior High’s stadium honoring fallen Vietnam War hero Mauro Martinez.

U.S. Marine Pfc. Mauro Martinez, a Hudson resident and graduate of the Weld County RE-3J School District was killed in action on April 16, 1968. After learning about Mauro in a social study class, Jessica Beach, an 8th grader at the junior high set out to research his past and came up with the idea of renaming Weld Central Junior High’s football stadium after Martinez.

Donations are being accepted for the memorial and stadium sign. If you would like to contribute, make your check payable to the Mauro Martinez Memorial can be sent to Weld Central Junior High School at 4977 Weld County Road 59, Keenesburg, CO 80643.

# 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.**

- *Economic Development Summit*
- *Community Events*
- *Yard of the Month Contest*
- *Credit card payments*
- *Library news*
- *Water rates*
- *Small Business Development Center*
- *Emergency Operations Plan*
- *Clean-Up Days*

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