



# Black Hawk Lantern

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Volume 8 | Issue 3 | Fall 2015



## Black Hawk 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb

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Cover Photo: © 2015 Rick Luebke / 5280Fire

*"Be the change that you  
wish to see in the world."*

-Mahatma Gandhi



# FROM THE CITY MANAGER



It has been sometime since I wrote about Gregory Street and the City's efforts to offer other amenities and things to do. I am more than happy to announce, and most of you probably already know this, the Gregory Street realignment project has begun. This first stage of the project will most

likely not cause any of us much concern. There will be the occasional dynamite blast, but coming from our mining heritage that should not bother us much. Then there will be the dump trucks carrying material away to make way for the new parking garage and street realignment but the frequency of those will not even be noticed by most of us. Phase one will probably be a non-event. Phase two however, which should start later this fall into winter, will be a different story. That will be when we feel the disruption of actually moving the street and putting in all the new utilities. Obviously it is all necessary in order to accomplish Council's vision of a vibrant entertainment district that compliments the casino business we currently have. If all goes reasonably well the project should be complete by fall of 2016.

Fall is also budget time for the City. The City staff is busily preparing their work programs for 2016. Last year at this time there was a good deal of trepidation about the cost of many of the projects we had planned and budgeted for. This year is not as concerning. Bids on projects have come in under estimates, petroleum products pricing have remained low and general inflation has remained low. All good news to keep costs down for the City. The revenue from gaming to the State is also up slightly which should mean some additional revenue to the City. All in all that is a very good place to be with cost under control and revenues increasing.

I did mention it is fall, and one of the best seasons here in Black Hawk in my view of things. If you haven't had the chance to get out, take the time and do it. The colors are spectacular, the weather is great, and you do know that El Nino is lurking!!

Happy Trails,

*Jack Lewis*



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Colorado Institute for Municipal Clerks



Deputy City Clerk Michele Martin and City Clerk Melissa Greiner attended the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Colorado Institute for Municipal Clerks on the beautiful Regis University campus in Denver the last week of July. The Institute was developed in conjunction with the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Colorado Municipal Clerks Association (CMCA), and Regis University. Classes at the 2015 Institute offered information on Introduction to Public Administration, Structure of Municipal Government, Parliamentary Procedure, Basic Elections, Law School for Clerks, Working with Your Council or Board, Basic Liquor Licensing, Basics of a Personnel System, Risk Management, as well as advanced trainings in these courses. Professional development courses covered Leadership Essentials, Professional Edge, Business Writing, Communication Strategy, Teams and Collaboration, Diversity and Inclusiveness in our Communities, Ethics, Emotional Intelligence, and Team building.



*Top: City Clerk Melissa Greiner and Deputy Clerk Michele Martin attended the 2015 Colorado Institute for Municipal Clerks.  
Bottom: Michele, seen here with CMCA Board members, has completed her Certified Municipal Clerk training.*

IIMC is a professional, nonprofit association that offers programs of professional certifications intended to increase the development of its members through continuing education. IIMC's professional designation programs, the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) and the Master Municipal Clerk (MMC), are designed to raise the standards of the Municipal Clerk profession. These certifications are bestowed on Municipal Clerks after completion of advanced education, professional contributions, and pertinent experience in a municipality. IIMC prepares applicants to meet the challenges of the complex role of the Municipal Clerk by providing them with quality education in partnership with institutions of higher learning, as well as State and National Associations.

Deputy City Clerk Michele Martin graduated the three year program this summer and received her CMC designation. Michele was the previous Town Clerk of Nederland and received the majority of her experience while there. The City of Black Hawk congratulates Michele on this achievement and is grateful to have her on our staff.

# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Sally Cannady



I am the Court Clerk for the City of Black Hawk and have been with the City for 20 years. I deal on a daily basis with defendants, attorneys, the prosecutor, and the Judge. I am in the court room with the Judge, bailiff and defendants. You never can guess

what might happen in the court room. It can be very serious, and then it can be entertaining. I also work for the Records Supervisor. We release records to various people who have a need for them. The people I work with are fun, considerate, and easy to work with.

I have been a member of Colorado Association for Municipal Court Administration (CAMCA) for 18 years and enjoy mentoring new court clerks. I am also on the Dumont Cemetery committee.

I have a husband, Jim, three grown kids, and eight grandchildren. I am a Colorado native; my great grandparents came to Walsenburg in 1860. We have four dogs and two barn cats. In my spare time I enjoy doing sewing machine embroidery,

gardening, reading, and watching the grandkids play soccer, basketball, football, and lacrosse. Some of my favorites: the color red, Smokin' Yards BBQ in Idaho Springs, country music, gardening, and reading. One of my favorite memories is being raised by my grandparents. They took care of me since I was 18-months-old. They raised me to be polite, ethical, and respectful.

I have traveled internationally to Mexico and Canada and would love to see Austria. I have seen several states in the US, and my favorite place to visit in Colorado is Mesa Verde.

Some of my goals this year are to make sure Court is up and running as it should. I would also like to take advantage of every opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

## Meet Tarik Muhammad



I am the City's IT Manager. Some of my responsibilities include monitoring the City's network; maintaining copier, printer, desktop, and server equipment; managing telecom equipment; planning hardware upgrades; provisioning new technology; and preparing the IT

Budget. I began working for the City in March of 2013. The people really make my job meaningful. The diverse personalities and interactions on a daily basis are very rewarding.

I have a beautiful wife and 2.3 kids. My daughter is 8 and my son is 16, so we have a nice contrast of sweet innocent youth and teenage angst. My son is an offensive lineman at Chatfield High School. He has played football since he was 7. My daughter loves to dance and enjoys chess. I have an 8-year-old Chocolate lab that we adopted from a family who had a baby that turned out to be allergic to dogs. I have lived in the metro area since I was 5 years old. When I'm not in front of a computer, I love to play Street Fighter, run, bike, and grill. I also enjoy playing basketball and

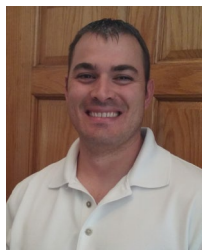
snowboarding. My favorite author is George R.R. Martin, author of the "Game of Thrones" series. I love to read about interesting people who view the world in obscure ways, one of my favorite books is "Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!"

I have never traveled internationally, but would like to visit Belize. I have traveled all over the United States, and Georgia is probably my favorite place to visit. In Colorado, I love to go to Keystone.

One thing that I believe should be taught in school that usually isn't is real-world money management. Students should be learning how to balance a checkbook and check their credit score.



# NEW FACES 2015



## Alan Azar

### Tell us about yourself

I am originally from Texas and currently reside in Denver

with my girlfriend and our two dogs and two cats. I am a Denver Bronco fan and enjoy sports, traveling, and spending time with my family and friends. My friends would describe me as motivated, hard-working, and easy going with a good sense of humor. The majority of my career has been spent working in various countries providing fire and emergency services for U.S. military and coalition forces.

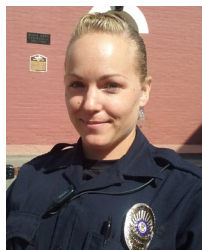
### Tell us about your new position with the City

I work as the Fire Inspector. Fire Inspectors conduct Fire and Life Safety Inspections designed to identify, reduce and ultimately eliminate potential hazards that exist in facilities to help enhance public safety.

### Tell us about your experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far.

I've only been working for the City a few weeks but I have enjoyed it. As a new employee of the City I am finding my job rewarding.

## Heidi Hansen



### Tell us about yourself and your new position with the City of Black Hawk

I am a Colorado native and was raised in Arvada. I started my law enforcement career as a police explorer with the Arvada Police Department and then accepted a position as a dispatcher for the Colorado State Patrol. I was a dispatcher for them for 5½ years before moving to Arapahoe County dispatch for just under a year. Being a dispatcher was not my ultimate goal, and I enrolled in the Community College of Aurora Police Academy full time. This department is my first and only police position. Outside of being a police officer, I love to take my family 4 wheeling and rock crawling in the Jeep, camping, fishing, hiking, or anything outdoors. I am very proud to be here and represent the department.

## Craig Harvey



### Tell us about yourself

I am married and I have a 13-year-old daughter. My friends would describe me as

having a great sense of humor and great to have as a friend. I have many years of experience in the law enforcement field. I worked in Wyoming as a Deputy Sheriff prior to coming to the City of Black Hawk. I enjoy the outdoors and many of the activities one can do outdoors. Some of my favorite activities are fishing, shooting, and riding ATV's.

### Tell us about your new position with the City and your experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far

I was recently hired as a Police Officer

with the City of Black Hawk. My experience so far working for the City of Black Hawk has been great. The City has a family atmosphere that is great to be part of.

## Sean Shirvan



### Tell us about yourself

I've lived in Colorado my whole life and I grew up in Littleton with my loving

parents and my wonderful brother. My friends would say I am a very laid back person. I attended Colorado Mesa University studying political science and I studied water quality management at Red Rocks Community College. In February 2015 I traveled to a village in Kenya and helped construct water tanks for the local community which was an incredibly valuable experience. Besides travel and helping others, I love hiking, biking, and reading.

### Tell us about your new position with the City

I'm proud to work in Black Hawk's Water Department as a Utility Operator.

### Tell us about your experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far

I've had a wonderful experience working for the City so far and I couldn't ask for a better set of coworkers. The water department is run very smoothly and I've been learning more each day as I do my best to provide high quality drinking water.

# FINANCE

## Adopting a Balanced Budget

The City of Black Hawk operates on a Calendar Year–End for budgeting and financial reporting purposes. However, June 30th is also significant, as it reflects the State Fiscal Year–End. The Division of Gaming imposes a progressive tax on all casinos based on accumulated Adjusted Gross Proceeds (money wagered minus winnings paid out) for the fiscal year. As a casino’s AGP accumulates during the fiscal year, it pushes them into the next tax bracket. These brackets range from 0.25% to 20.00%. After the conclusion of the Fiscal Year, the Division of Gaming distributes the Gaming Tax collected, less the cost to operate the Commission, to recipients as directed by the State Constitution. The three host gaming communities share 10% of the net gaming tax distributions, based on the proportion of gaming revenue generated by each jurisdiction. Although the actual amount of the distribution from the Division of Gaming to the City is not yet available, the statistics below illustrate the significant roll Black Hawk plays in gaming Statewide.

- Annual gaming statistics for the Fiscal Year–End June 30, 2015 have recently been released. Statewide AGP (casino gaming revenue) was up 3.45% from the previous 12 month period. Black Hawk saw an increase of 4.85% in AGP, Central City was down 2.05% and Cripple Creek was up slightly at 0.09%.
- Statewide Gaming Tax (paid by the casinos) was up 4.96% from the previous 12 month period. Black Hawk saw an increase of 5.40%, Central City was down 2.65% and Cripple Creek was up 6.00%.

As we move into late summer and early fall, City Officials and staff will be working on the 2016 Budget. The annual figures above, as well as upcoming monthly statistics, will be monitored to ensure a balanced budget is adopted. The Gaming Tax distribution from the State is significant, making up roughly 35% of all General Fund revenues.

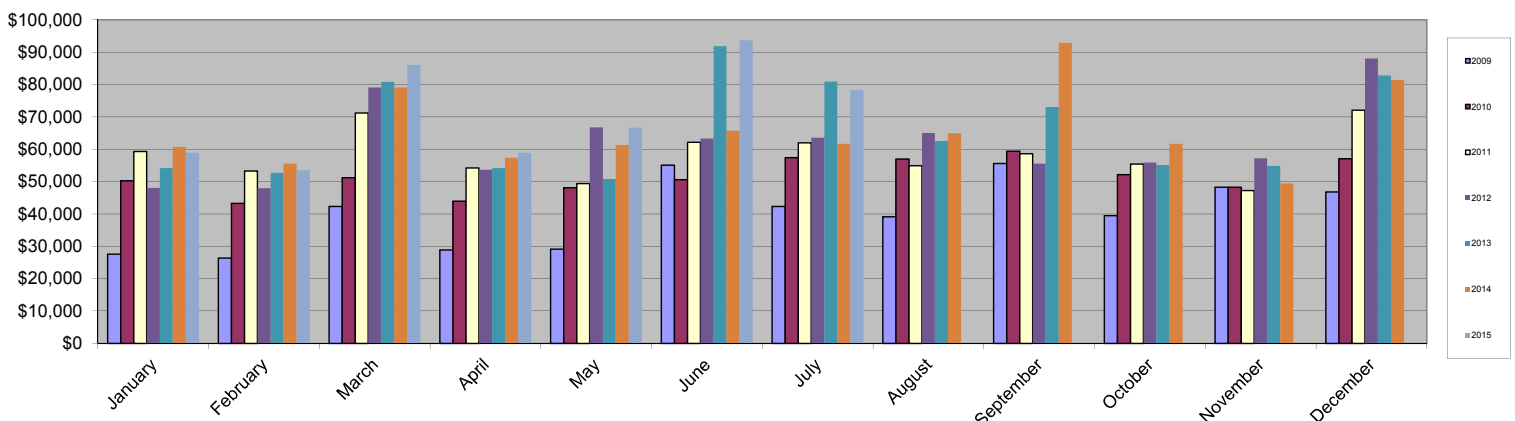
## City of Black Hawk Educational Enhancement Tax

In 2008, the registered electors of the City of Black Hawk approved an increase in the Sales Tax rate from 4.00% to 5.50% for the purpose of providing financial support to Gilpin County School District RE-1.

Effective January 1, 2009 the City of Black Hawk commenced imposition of an additional 1.50% Sales Tax coined the “Educational Enhancement Tax”. The funds collected from the Educational Enhancement Tax are intended solely for costs incurred in the classroom for educational purposes and shall not be used to cover the cost of general administration.

For the period beginning January 2009 and ending July 2015, the City of Black Hawk has remitted \$4,626,866 in Educational Enhancement Tax to Gilpin County School District. For the Gilpin County School District fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 the Educational Enhancement Tax made up over 14% of all revenues collected.

## Gilpin County School District Sales Tax Disbursements





# PUBLIC WORKS

## The Colors of Summer

Each year, the Public Works Streets Department puts a lot of thought and effort into the summer flowers that beautify our entire City. Every detail is given sincere thought, from the types of flowers to the colors.

Toward the end of February, our Streets Department loaded several trailers with the City's empty flower pots, hay racks, and hanging baskets. The containers were then taken to a greenhouse in Louisville to start the process of creating the amazing flower arrangements you see today. The flowers are all hand selected with special thought given to what flowers will flourish at our altitude. The flowers are also chosen for specific locations; some need full sun while others will thrive in partial sun. While the flowers start growing, the City starts looking for seasonal workers with green thumbs that will be dedicated to maintaining the flowers throughout the season.

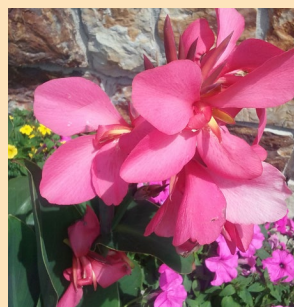
After spending a few months growing into beautiful creations, the pots and baskets are brought back to the City once the threat of freezing temperatures is over. It takes multiple trips to get all the flowers safely back to the City as they have to travel back in enclosed trailers. Once

here, it takes a little over a week to hang and place all the flower arrangements.

Staff installs arrangements on light poles and railings, hangs baskets, and places the patio pots. The flowers are maintained by our seasonal employees by watering three times a week, fertilizing weekly, dead-heading as needed, and making attempts to prevent the adorable chipmunks, rabbits, and squirrels from destroying the floral displays.

During the spring and summer months, staff is kept busy weeding and planting new perennials in the flower beds throughout the City. Staff maintains these areas by mowing, pruning, planting, and weeding throughout the season. Our goal each year is to help enhance the beautiful setting we're already in.

The City of Black Hawk goes to great lengths to beautify the area with the colors of summer and arrange for beautiful floral displays to greet the visitors and residents of our City. The Public Works staff works very hard to ensure that the flowers and parks stay beautiful for the duration of the season. Visitors are delighted by the abundant amount of flowers on every street and in every park.



Seasonal workers Christian Ball and Wayne Novak tend to the bounty of blooms in Black Hawk.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Department Promotes Captain and Lieutenant

The Fire Department is proud to announce the promotion of Lieutenant Mark Schaller to the position of Captain and Fire Engineer Chris Reid to the position of Lieutenant.

Mark began his City employment with the Public Works Department in July of 1997 where he was in the Streets Department until he transferred to the Fire Department in February 1999. He served as a firefighter until February of 2007 when he was promoted to the position of Lieutenant. He served as a Lieutenant until he was promoted to Captain on July 10<sup>th</sup> of this year. Mark will assume the role of the A-Shift Captain with his promotion.

Chris began his career with the Black Hawk Fire Department in June of 1997 and has served as a Firefighter,



*Black Hawk Fire Department Captain Mark Schaller.*



*Black Hawk Fire Department Lieutenant Chris Reid.*

Engineer, and also as an Acting Lieutenant over the last 18 years. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and became the new A-Shift Lieutenant on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

With these promotions, the Fire Department has begun a new era of promotion processes which involve written evaluations, oral and technical review boards, and a Chief's

interview. This process was challenging to each who applied for the promotions.

Mark and Chris both excelled in the promotion process and truly showed their leadership abilities throughout.

Congratulations to Captain Schaller and Lieutenant Reid on their new leadership roles with the City of Black Hawk Fire Department.





## 2015 Black Hawk 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb

On Friday, September 11, 2015, the City of Black Hawk and the Ameristar Casino Resort Spa hosted the annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb.

The Memorial Stair Climb is a way for first responders and the general public to remember September 11, 2001 and honor the memory of those who were lost while symbolically completing their heroic journey to save others.

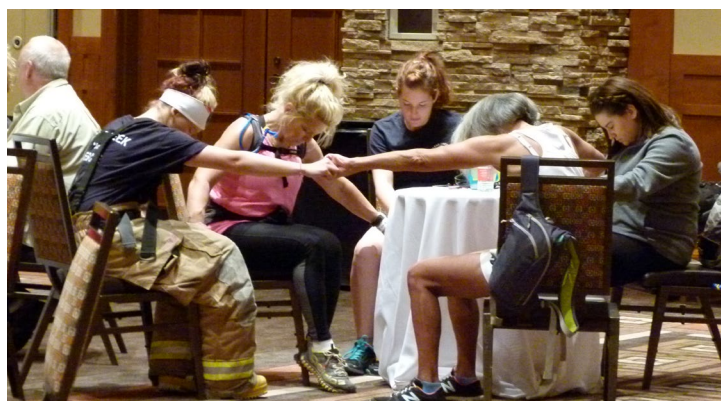
124 participants from five states climbed a total of 116 floors in four laps in the Ameristar's hotel tower, exceeding the total levels of the World Trade Center. Unlike other stair

climbs, the Black Hawk climb has a unique added degree of difficulty as participants not only begin the challenge at 8,042 feet above sea level, but gain 192 feet of elevation, making the Black Hawk 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb the highest stair climb in the world.

"While we are quite a distance from New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania, the events of that day affected each of us," said Black Hawk Fire Chief Don Taylor. "The Black Hawk 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb is an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices

made by all emergency responders on 9/11 and on the days and years that have followed. We climbed as a team to honor each individual and the first responder community as a whole."

Nearly \$5,000 was raised at this event to support the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) who create and maintain programs that support fire service survivors. NFFF provides much needed assistance to the surviving families and co-workers of the firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001.



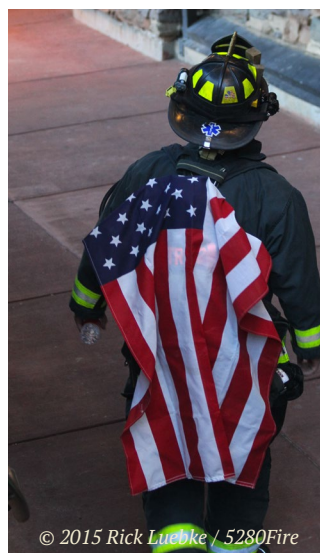
*Clear Creek County Fire Authority circled in prayer prior to the start of the climb. Black Hawk Fire Chaplain, Captain Kevin Martschinske, led the opening prayer and moment of silence.*



*Fire hose inscribed with the names of all 343 fire fighters whose lives were lost on 9/11.*



*Climber, Black Hawk resident, and Ameristar Cares team member, Tonya Cadena-Barnett.*



*© 2015 Rick Lucbke / 5280Fire*



*Historic Preservation Commission member and Black Hawk resident Tom Gish cheers on climb participants with his family Tiffany and Adley Morrell.*



# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## Digital Extortion Part 2: Deny, Deny, Denied

In part 1 of Digital Extortion we talked about the file kidnapping Ransomware known as crypto virus, today we will talk about another cyber stick-up method known as a Denial of Service attack and the effects that it can bring.

A Denial of Service, or more commonly known as a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack, is when a computer or group of computers floods a network with traffic until that network becomes so congested that it can no longer respond to requests. This pushes the network to 100% capacity and causes legitimate traffic to be dropped or processed incorrectly. Depending on the type of attack, an entire network may be taken down or it can be limited to internet traffic only. For companies who depend on internet traffic to make money and/or provide critical services, lack of access can be a nuisance.

### More than a network issue.

When a DDoS attack is happening, people trying to access network resources tend to think that the problem is on their end because the internet is performing sluggishly. Applications that are internet

connected and other internet functions will cease to operate. This can lead to a spike in the volume of calls to service providers, support centers, and help desks until the problem is recognized and reported. The combination of increased calls for help along with decreased productivity is a recipe for an unhappy company and an even unhappier customer.

### Targets change daily.

The target of a Denial of Service attack is not predictable but the motivating factors behind an attacker are usually based on either politics, profit, or just to gain notoriety amongst peers. A hacker group claiming to be a part of the notorious “Anonymous” faction launched a Denial of Service attack on a government entity due to political disagreements surrounding the “Educational Ministry.” In August 2015 a Britain youth was paid over \$100,000 to launch an attack on an Anti-Spam company, likely on behalf of a competitor who wanted to prove that this chosen network protection was inadequate. Late last year a group referred to as “Lizard

Squad” unleashed several attacks on companies just to promote their custom Denial of Service tool.

### Not just the big fish at risk.

For most people who only use the Internet for entertainment purposes, a DDoS attack would merely be an inconvenience. Not being able to stream the latest episode of your favorite TV show or browse You Tube is not going to cause financial harm, but you could make a case for a partial refund on your next bill if the outage last over 4 hours. If you do however run a server or carry out business that relies on the internet, you should review how your internet provider handles these types of attacks just in case your business is targeted.

You can learn more about techniques and tips to help identify and mitigate DDoS attacks at <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/network-security/5-tips-for-fighting-ddos-attacks.html>

*References: (<http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2015/08/04/2003624588>) ([http://www.theregister.co.uk/2015/07/10/spamhaus\\_ddos\\_teen\\_sentenced/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2015/07/10/spamhaus_ddos_teen_sentenced/)) (<http://mashable.com/2014/12/31/lizard-squad-ddos/>)*





# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Tune In: Police & Fire Emergency Calls

**There's an app for that! Listen to Black Hawk Police and Fire Emergency Calls**

Police and Fire calls are streamed live on the internet through cell phone applications available on smart phones. Many of the police scanner apps are free and can be used to listen to police calls, just like the old radio scanners. The calls are streamed on the internet as a service to the public. Just search for the "police scanners" application on your cell phone and download any of the free apps. The Black Hawk 911 Dispatch Center can be heard by selecting United States; Colorado; Gilpin County; and then selecting Black Hawk Police Dispatch to activate the link. Some apps list Black Hawk separately from Gilpin County. After downloading the app, you can listen to police and fire calls almost anywhere in the country, as long as you have a smart phone and access to the internet or have cell phone coverage.



## iPads and Police Work



In 1845 the first organized police department was created in New York City which consisted of officers walking a beat in neighborhoods. There were no cars, no cell phones, no computers or technology to help officers perform their jobs.

Fast forward 170 years, the Black Hawk Police Department has continued the tradition of using foot patrol as one of its main strategies of keeping the public safe, but in today's world, police officers would be lost without our modern technology. Computers, two-way radios, cell phones, and motor vehicles are now the backbone of most police departments, including officers in the Black Hawk Police Department.

Keeping up with technology is a constant struggle for law enforcement agencies and very expensive. However, the Black Hawk Police Department recently acquired Apple

iPads to provide "state-of-the-art" technology at a lower cost. Officers can now use Apple iPads in their patrol cars linking officers to critical information at a fraction of the cost of traditional mobile computer systems found in most patrol cars. The iPads are portable and can be used to take photographs, write reports, review policies, review ordinances, send email, and access the police records management system.

Within the next few months, the Department's iPads will be linked with the City's Dispatch System allowing calls to be sent directly to the iPad. Officers can receive more detailed information and add their own notes to call logs, thereby providing better documentation of their activity.

Police Chief Steve Cole is optimistic about the iPads improving service, "Today's technology is becoming more affordable and it's designed for speed, efficiency, and flexibility." With the increase in visitors to the City, and subsequent calls for service, it is essential to utilize available technology to support officers in the field.



## Emergency Alerts: Stay Informed with CODERED

If you've ever been stuck in traffic on Highway 6 due to an accident, you may have been able to avoid the delay by subscribing to Black Hawk's CODERED notification system. Residents, visitors, businesses, and casino employees can subscribe to the emergency notification service and get alerts about emergency conditions such as road closures, fires, and other emergency conditions. Go online and register cellular and Century Link phone lines to ensure you receive emergency notifications.

Subscribe to the CODERED Service by going online and registering your information at <http://co.gilpin.co.us>.

# SIGNS OF THE SEASON

## Bear Season is Here Again



Bears are becoming more active this time of year as they prepare for winter. It's not unusual for bears to be seen within the City limits of Black Hawk, and though bear attacks are rare, encounters with bears can still be dangerous and frightening.

If you encounter a bear near your residence, please call the Black Hawk Police Department and we will attempt to scare the bear into retreating into the woods.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife receives numerous phone calls every year regarding the trapping and relocation of bears to less populated areas due to bear sightings. The Colorado Division of Wildlife does not like to trap bears unless absolutely necessary.

The best way to reduce the potential for encountering a bear is to limit their access to food. Each of us can play a role in reducing our potential for accidental encounters with bears by following some simple practices.

- Put garbage containers out the same day it is collected.
- Clean trash containers with ammonia.
- Do not leave pet food outdoors. Keeping food in an outbuilding may still attract bears.
- Bird feeders are prime targets for bears. Avoid their use if possible.
- Pick all ripe fruit off trees, and remove vegetables and fallen fruit from the ground.

Visit the Colorado Department of Natural Resources website at <http://wildlife.state.co.us> for more information.



## Snow Removal, Really?

It's hard to think about snow removal at this time of year, but winter is just around the corner. The first snow fall tends to catch many people off guard before they get into the snow shoveling routine. New residents may not be aware of a City Ordinance requiring property owners, tenants, and/or occupants to remove snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their properties within 6 hours of the cessation of any snowfall.

# MUNICIPAL CODE MOMENT

## Sec. 7-27. Weed Control.

(a) All owners, agents and occupants of land in the City shall prevent property owned or occupied by them from becoming overgrown in weeds. Weeds shall include brush, natural or cultivated plants or grasses in excess of twelve (12) inches in height and other vegetation grown in a rank or unsightly fashion, and shall also include without limitation bindweed, Canada thistle, common ragweed, dandelion, fireweed, milkweed, mustard, perennial sowthistle, Russian knapweed, Russian thistle, sandburs and any other similar plants and vegetation. The foregoing enumeration is not intended to be all inclusive, but rather is intended to be indicative of those types of plants which are considered a nuisance. As used in this Article, the term weed does not include flower or vegetable gardens, cultivated or tended shrubbery or agricultural crops, including but not limited to hay or grass grown for feed, fodder or forage.

(b) It shall be unlawful and shall be deemed a nuisance for the owner, agent or occupant of any property to permit weeds to grow on such property to a height of more than twelve (12) inches.

(c) Weeds shall be controlled by cutting, spraying or other lawful and suitable method of weed control.

(d) The Board of Aldermen may, by resolution, exempt certain areas in the City, whether publicly or privately owned, from the prohibitions contained in this Section, if the Board of Aldermen determines that such areas are: natural open space, natural park, conservation areas, erosion control areas, agricultural zoned property or irrigation or drainage ditch rights-of-way.



## Buying a Vehicle: Tips & Tricks

The State of Colorado's website provides consumers with helpful information when buying or selling vehicles. The website (<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/vehicles>) provides information, which can make any transaction a little easier and will reduce the likelihood of fraud. The three websites are accessible through the State of Colorado's main web site, which can help consumers make informed decisions. The information contained on the site is only as good as the information provided by the contributing sources, but it may prevent a consumer, especially a "buyer," from being victimized by an unscrupulous "seller." "Buyers" will need the vehicle's identification number (VIN) located on the dash of the vehicle to search the web sites listed in this article.

- Entering the vehicle identification number into the Motor Vehicle Verification System will confirm the vehicle has not been reported stolen. (<https://www.colorado.gov/apps/dps/mvvs/public/entry.jsf>)
- Entering the vehicle identification number into the National Insurance Crime Bureau website will help confirm the vehicle hasn't been declared a total loss by an insurance company. ([https://www.nicb.org/theft\\_and\\_fraud\\_awareness/vincheck](https://www.nicb.org/theft_and_fraud_awareness/vincheck))
- In addition, buyers can purchase vehicle history reports through numerous vendors, but the State's website provides several links to providers. (<http://www.vehiclehistory.gov/>).

"Sellers" should remove license plates from the vehicle at the time of the sale, but don't worry, the "buyer" can drive



the vehicle home without a license plate under specific circumstances described in Colorado Revised Statutes C.R.S. 42-3-115(2)(b) and C.R.S. 42-6-113. In general, the statute applies to purchases made when license tag offices are closed and the purchaser can't obtain a temporary tag. If driving the car without a tag, the driver will need a bill of sale containing all the details of the sale and proof of insurance. The vehicle should only be driven to the place it will be stored pending proper licensing. In counties where emissions testing is required, the "seller" is responsible for obtaining the emissions test at the time of the sale. Colorado's website also includes registration information for "buyers."

# POLICE EMPLOYEE UPDATE

**Tory Jantz** was promoted from the rank of Sergeant to the rank of Lieutenant in June. He has been employed by the Police Department for over 20 years and is a graduate of the 349<sup>th</sup> session of the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command. He will command the Patrol Division of the Police Department.

**Jozette Encinias** has been with the City for over eight years and was promoted from Police Officer to Sergeant.

**Jeremiah Carrigan** has been with the City for nearly five years and was promoted from Police Officer to Sergeant.

**Sally Cannady** completed 20 years of service with the City of Black Hawk. Sally has worked in several departments in the City and is currently the Municipal Court Clerk assigned to the Police Department.

**Cathy Cullar** completed 10 years of service as an Emergency 911 Dispatcher in the Police Department.

**Steve Flageolle** completed 10 years of service and is currently assigned as a Detective in the Police Department.

**Craig Metcalfe** completed 10 years of service as a Police Officer in the Police Department.

**Brandon Davis** completed 5 years of service as a Police Officer in the Police Department.

# CP&D

## COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

### Colorado Association of Permit Technicians visit Black Hawk

The City of Black Hawk Community Planning & Development Department hosted a Colorado Association of Permit Technicians (CAPT) business meeting and a seminar entitled “Construction Vocabulary” at Crook’s Palace on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>.

The instructor, Glenn Mathewson, who is a building code consultant and educator, gave an in-depth presentation of construction industry vocabulary and definitions in the areas of framing and plumbing. His visual and anecdotal presentation was very informative for anyone whose job has them working alongside contractors who use specific terminology when they discuss construction projects.

The participants were all pleased with the information they gained and left the seminar with resources that they can access in the future, when needed.



*Left: Code consultant and educator Glenn Mathewson explains how there can be a variety of terms for one construction concept. Right: Seminar participant gets a hands-on experience of a particular type of framing technique.*



### Historic Wood Workshop Coming to Black Hawk

The City of Black Hawk is looking forward to hosting the Historic Wood Workshop presented by Ron Anthony of Anthony & Associates on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the presentation will be on assessing the wood found in historic structures, such as many of the residential houses in Black Hawk.

For the classroom presentation portion of the workshop, topics will include:

- Wood as historic construction material
- Factors that affect wood performance
- What to look for and where to look in a historic wood structure
- How to determine when you need help
- Considerations for making more informed repair and replacement decisions

City of Black Hawk residents, Tom Gish and Greg Moates, of 251 High Street have graciously offered their historic home to be used during the field work portion of the workshop.

Participants will take the knowledge gained in the classroom and use it to assess the wood conditions on this residential structure.

The goal of this workshop is to increase awareness of the value of historic resources, as well as how to salvage the wood, when feasible, in order to preserve the character of historic properties.



## Black Hawk Residential Exterior Paint Program

The City of Black Hawk's General Fund Exterior Paint Program, which is used to routinely repaint residential houses in the City, is well underway this summer. The purpose of this Program is to provide financial assistance that will promote the exterior appearance of Black Hawk's residential properties and to provide for the continuation and enhancement of a functional, sustainable, healthy, and vibrant Black Hawk residential community.

In order to qualify for the General Fund Exterior Paint Program, homeowners were required to submit

an application to the Planning Department no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>. The painting projects were then sent out to bid, and this year all five were awarded to the lowest bidder, Gonzales Custom Painting, Inc. of Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

The City and the homeowners are equally pleased with the professional job that the painting company has performed, thus far. These photos show the before and after images of two of the houses whose exterior paint jobs have been completed this summer: 111 Marchant Street and 131 Marchant Street. Two houses on

Clear Creek Street and the Stroehle House on Chase Street (owned by the Gilpin Historical Society) have also qualified for the Program and have been repainted this summer.

All residential homes within the City of Black Hawk are eligible to have their houses repainted. Applications are available in the Planning Department at 211 Church Street and are due each year by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Once a resident's house has been repainted in the General Fund Exterior Paint Program, at least eight years must pass before they may apply to have their house painted again.

### 111 Marchant Street



BEFORE



AFTER

### 131 Marchant Street



BEFORE



AFTER





City of Black Hawk  
PO Box 68  
Black Hawk, CO 80422



The Black Hawk Lantern is also available on our website at [CityofBlackHawk.org](http://CityofBlackHawk.org).  
To receive a digital copy of The Black Hawk Lantern, email [RBlondo@CityofBlackHawk.org](mailto:RBlondo@CityofBlackHawk.org).

# MUNICIPAL CODE MOMENT

## **Residential Solicitation: What you need to know**

Ordinance 2015-16, approved by City Council on July 8, 2015, repealed and reenacted the City's Residential Solicitation Code in order to ensure a reasonable registration method to further protect public safety. Owners or lawful occupants of private property may register their property on the City's "Do Not Solicit" list by completing a form provided by the City Clerk's office.

The City Clerk's office will publish the list on the City's website. Each permitted solicitor is responsible for reviewing the list immediately upon issuance of their permit. They are prohibited from soliciting at those addresses registered with the Clerk's office, as well as any public or private premises in the City if a "No Solicitation," "No Trespassing," or other sign conveying a similar message is posted at or near the entrance or entrances to such premises.

Registered and authorized solicitors are required to wear a photo identification badge bearing the words "Permitted Solicitor." All door-to-door solicitation shall only be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and the later of 8:00 p.m., or sunset, as announced and published by the National Weather Service daily.

Please visit the City Clerk's page on the City of Black Hawk's website or call 303-582-2221 for further information, or to access the "Do Not Solicit" registration form.

*From the desk of the City Clerk*

The Black Hawk Lantern is published by the City of Black Hawk.

For submissions or feedback, please contact:  
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