



Black Hawk Lantern

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Changes at City Hall and Police Department

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*"Spring is when you feel like
whistling, even with a shoe
full of slush".*

-Doug Larson

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Sunrise over Hidden Valley

Water Plant - 2019

FROM THE CITY MANAGER



On March 13, 2019, I was appointed by the Black Hawk City Council to serve as your next City Manager.

I'm excited to serve the Black Hawk community and look forward to playing a new role

in Black Hawk's continued transformation into a resort destination.

If you haven't noticed, the City is changing and people are talking about our future development plans. Although the City is already the premier leader in gaming in Colorado, it is transforming into a "must visit" resort destination on everyone's list of places to visit. New projects such as the new Gregory Street Plaza, currently under design, will

attract new visitors to Black Hawk and give visitors shopping and entertainment opportunities.

In addition, the Maryland Mountain trail-head is in its final stages of design and construction and should be completed by the end of the year. Additional trails and amenities are scheduled for development in the future. If you know anything about Black Hawk, development won't end with these two projects. We are always looking for new ways to create a first-class experience for our visitors.

It's our drive and commitment to future development that's creating the buzz around town. I'm fortunate to be part of an innovative and forward thinking City.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Congratulations Wellness Champions!

City of Black Hawk employees were invited to participate in the Maintain Don't Gain Wellness challenge over the holidays. We did not have any of the Casino's to participate this year, but we look forward to next year's challenge. The City would like to applaud all participants for making the pledge to "Maintain, Don't Gain" over the holidays and for their hard work to improve their health.

City employees, who maintained their weight within one pound of their pre-holiday weight, or lost weight, were awarded a \$50 gift card for their active participation and commitment to making healthy choices. The overall team champions were awarded the City of Black Hawk's Golden Sneaker Award. Their hard work has translated into bragging rights for the remainder of 2019!

City of Black Hawk Employee results:

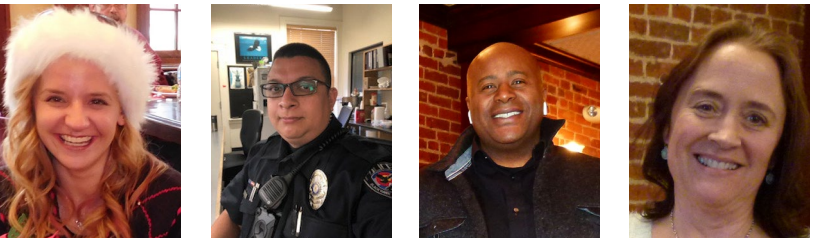
64 participants reported a total of 107.3 pounds lost over the 8-week program. Team Hukuna Masquata won the employee team challenge with a total weight loss of 29.6 pounds!

Golden Sneaker Team Competition Results:

1st - City of Black Hawk "Hukuna Masquata" Average Weight Lost: 5.92 pounds. Total Weight Lost: 29.6/5 participants. Wynter Kasch, Marco Hernandez, Alfred Sayers, and Cathy Cullar.

2nd - City of Black Hawk "C" is for Cookie". Average Weight Lost: 2.23 pounds. Total Weight Lost: 13.4/6 participants. Chris Williams, Aaron Skeen, Shane Castro, Rebecca Blondo, Dave Wellington, and Jordan Stone

Wynter Kasch, Marco Hernandez, AJ Sayers, and Cathy Cullar



3 ways to up your fitness game

You know exercise is good for you. But when your to-do list is a mile long, it can be easy to write off your workouts. To get back on track, focus on simple ways you can move more, more often.

Find your fit

Maybe treadmills aren't your thing. But what about dancing? Shooting hoops? (Pssst! That's exercise!)

Divide and conquer

It all adds up, if you don't have 30 minutes to spare, break it up into 10 minute bursts of activity, 3 times a day instead. The benefits are the same, your body can't tell the difference.

Make commuting your cardio

Walk or bike to your job for a workout, if that's not an option, park farther away - or get off the bus a few stops early, and walk the rest of the way.

CP&D

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

2019 City-Wide Clean-Up Day

Mark your calendars! In conjunction with Historic Preservation Month (May), the annual City-wide Clean-Up Day is planned for Thursday, May 23rd, RAIN OR SHINE.

Each year, the City of Black Hawk residents, local businesses, casino employees, City Council members, Historic Preservation Commission members, and City employees hit the streets of Black Hawk to pick up trash and make the City look its best for everyone's enjoyment.

In addition to trash pickup, many residents take advantage of the City's offer to pick up large items (such as old furniture) for disposal.

Volunteers will be provided both breakfast and lunch, as well as supplies needed for cleaning up the City. The City is having new Clean-Up Day t-shirts produced for this year's Clean-Up Day participants to wear.



As an added incentive, participants will get the chance at the winning one of many gift cards to be raffled off at the end of the event!

If you'd like more information on this fun annual event, please contact Sara Forbes at the City's Planning Department at 303-582-2223 or sforbes@cityofblackhawk.org.

As always, we appreciate your efforts in keeping our City clean throughout the year!



2019 Exterior Paint Program

Reminder to City of Black Hawk residents: Applications for the 2019 Exterior Paint Program must be received by the Planning Department **no later than April 1st**.

All residential properties within the City of Black Hawk Historic Residential District are eligible to have their houses repainted. Applications are available in the Planning Department at 211 Church Street.

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.

For more information, to see if your house qualifies for this program, or to obtain an application, contact Sara Forbes at sforbes@cityofblackhawk.org or 303-582-2223.



Colorado Association of Permit Technicians

Community Planning and Development is excited to announce that once again the City of Black Hawk will host the Colorado Association of Permit Technicians (CAPT) meeting on July 26, 2019 at the Crook's Palace. To applaud the hard work of Permit Technicians and reward them with an amazing educational opportunity, Sharon Bonesteel, AIA, CBO, an expert in her field, will present "Plans Examiner Class for Permit Techs".

This is an excellent one-day class that is not only designed for Permit Technicians but also for anyone wanting a detailed review of the most critical elements of residential plan review for dwelling units covered by the 2018 International Residential code.

Navigating the code book to provide a logical path for reviewing plans, participants will learn to "follow the recipe" for a thorough examination of a set of residential Plans.

There is a \$35 registration fee, which covers breakfast, lunch, and training materials. If you would like to know more about the training and how to register, please contact the meeting host Janice Beecher at jbeecher@cityofblackhawk.org or 303.582.2231.



Janice Beecher - Appointed to Colorado Association of Permit Technicians Board of Directors

COLORADO ASSOCIATION PERMIT TECHNICIANS



In April of 1998, a group of men and women with a common goal and a lot of enthusiasm held a meeting to share ideas and knowledge for a position called Permit Technician. There seemed to be a need for this group of individuals to come together and form an association. The International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) was in the process of creating a test for Permit Technician certification with the goal of moving this position into a more technical field. Meetings were set up for the remainder of the year and steering committees were formed to set up future goals. Incorporation followed and the Colorado Association of Permit Technicians (CAPT) became an official corporation on July 12, 1999. The Colorado Association of Permit Technicians (CAPT) is dedicated to the improvement of building safety in areas related to education, administration, interpretation, and enforcement of the permitting and code process. Today, CAPT is 100 members strong, and an officially recognized Chapter of the International Code Council (ICC) that is dedicated to training and networking.

Janice Beecher has worked in Community Planning and Development for over 4 years. Janice joined CAPT and has been an active member of this exciting and educational organization since 2015. She has benefited from the training, networking, and educational opportunities and on December 15, 2017, received her ICC Permit Technician certification. At the Annual Meeting and Banquet on November 14, 2018, hosted by the Town of Parker, CAPT membership nominated and appointed Janice Beecher to service on the Board of Directors for a one-year term, effective immediately.

As a member of the Board, Ms. Beecher will have an active role in the business of the association and assist the organization in fulfilling their objectives:

- To support, organize, and participate in educational seminars and training programs related to practices, procedures, administration, and enforcement of permitting activities.
- To advance the standardization of this profession, within the jurisdictions engaged in building, land use and development regulations.
- To promote the value and recognition of Permit Technicians.
- To encourage the application of distinctive knowledge and skills of the Permit Technician for the benefit of the community.
- To apply knowledge and experience necessary for the protection of public welfare in areas relative to building safety.
- To research and discuss the principles of health and safety as they apply to the location, construction, and occupancy of buildings and related structures.
- To develop and promote the adoption of codes published or endorsed by the International Code Council and to assist in the development and promotion of uniform regulations and legislation pertaining to building construction.
- To be contributing members of the International Code Council and to pursue uniformity in code interpretation, administration, and enforcement.
- To do all such other things as are incidental to, or desirable for, the attainment of the organization's objectives.

Congratulations Janice on your appointment!

CAMP WORKSHOP

The Community Planning & Development Department's Executive Administrative Assistant, Sara Forbes, who also acts as Secretary for the City of Black Hawk Historic Preservation Commission, attended the CAMP (Commission Assistance & Mentoring Program) Workshop at the History Colorado Center in Downtown Denver on Wednesday, February 6th.



This workshop was offered through the Colorado Preservation Inc's annual Saving Places Conference. The most interesting parts of the workshop, according to Mrs. Forbes, were the session on Infill Design (development of vacant parcels within previously built areas) and the Design Review Exercise that participants from municipalities all over the state of Colorado got to work through and debate together.



“Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings” Workshop

The City is pleased to announce its 4th Annual Historic Preservation Workshop to be held this Fall at Crook's Palace. Some of the previous years' workshop topics have been Historic Wood, Masonry Restoration, Historic Buildings and the Code.

This year's topic will be “Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings” and will be held in mid-September. This workshop is open to anyone (homeowners, historic preservation specialists, planners, designers, architects, general contractors, handymen, building inspectors, etc.)

There is a \$20 registration fee which covers the cost of breakfast and lunch. Details will be available soon. If you'd like to know more about this workshop, please contact Sara Forbes at sforbes@cityofblackhawk.org or 303-582-2223.

NEW FACES 2019

Eric Groves



Tell us about yourself. My name is Eric, and I started in the Streets Department on January 8th. Before coming to the City, I worked in the automotive field for 20 years. I live in the area with my wife, who grew up in Gilpin County. In our free time, we like to go to the gym, hiking, and snowshoeing. My friends would describe me as fun, energetic, and exciting.

Tell us about your new position and experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far. My experience so far has been very good; everyone I've met and worked with has been friendly and helpful.

Henry Ho

Tell us about yourself. I'm Henry and I started with the Streets Department on January 9th. My bride and I have been married 23 years and we have 4 wonderful children. I've lived in Colorado for 29 years and enjoy fishing, hiking, boating, camping, gardening, and snowboarding. My friends describe me as outgoing, hard-working, fun to be with, and always on the go. I have been self-employed for most of my career in lawn maintenance and real estate.



Tell us about your new position and experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far. Working here has been a good learning experience and I am enjoying the scenery a great deal. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve the community of Black Hawk. I am looking forward to establishing healthy relationships with my team members as well as the interdisciplinary teams in the City.

Garrett Flesh

Tell us about yourself. My name is Garrett, and I started with the Streets Department on February 11th. Before coming to the City, I worked at the Ameristar for 2.5 years, 8 months as a lead officer. My friends would



describe me as a teddy bear; I like to think of myself as funny. My wife, Amber, and I have been married for 2.5 years and we have a son named Trevor. In my free time, I like going to Rockies games with friends, traveling, and Lego's!

Tell us about your new position and experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far. So far my experience here has been an adventure, the views are amazing and it's much better than being indoors all day.

Justin Storms

Tell us about yourself. I have lived in Gilpin County for most of my life after moving here from Texas with my family. My parents also live in Gilpin, one of my sisters lives on the Front Range, and my other two sisters live in Texas. I graduated from Nederland Middle Senior High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Colorado Christian University in Lakewood. I have done contract work for the local Weekly Register-Call Newspaper from middle school all the way through college, as well as summer jobs doing maintenance for Golden Gate State Park, and event setup at CCU. After college, I spent three years working at the Monarch Casino in various capacities including security officer, wardrobe attendant, phone operator, security dispatcher, and surveillance operator before coming to work for the City.



Tell us about your new position and experience working at the City of Black Hawk so far. I am a Communications Officer for the City of Black Hawk Police Department. I answer all incoming 911 and non-emergent phone calls, dispatch appropriate resources as needed, maintain records of all activity for the shift, and run individuals or vehicles through the state and national computer systems when necessary. My experience working here has been very positive so far; the City employs some good people that are a pleasure to work with.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Becky Lou Bush  y



Sergeant Becky L. Bush  y

Becky L. Bush  y has been in Law Enforcement for many years and on April 18, 2019 will have served with City of Black Hawk for 17 years. In that time, she has consistently received accolades for her enthusiasm and dedication to the job and to the people of Black Hawk. In recognition of this hard work, Becky was recently promoted to Sergeant! She has always been willing to lend a helping hand, reaches out with a smile and a generosity of spirit, and true friend to all. We have asked Becky to tell us about herself, her goals and what its like being a team member of the Black Hawk Police Department. Take it away Becky!

Tell us about the duties in your current position: My recent promotion has given me the opportunity to morally guide and supervise our outstanding patrol officers. These duties will include, but are not limited to: teamwork, schedules, approving reports, assigned administrative duties, time cards, delegating assignments, command staff support, and training.

What does working for the City mean to you? My fellow police department co-workers, including all city employees, council members, and our entire community. The partnerships and valued relationships I have formed over the years are the most meaningful to me. Additionally, our city is historically exceptional and beautiful, making it an honorable place to work. My top priority this year is being a team player and an inspirational leader.

Tell us about yourself - I moved from Northern Michigan to Colorado in 1995. I have three sisters left in my immediate family (including several aunts, uncles, and cousins). My older sister Ruth lives in Virginia, Kelly in Florida, and my youngest sister Brenda lives in South Carolina. I have 13 nieces and nephews, and 8 Great nieces and nephews. My favorite color is maize (bright yellow) since it is a lively and motivational color (nothing to do with Michigan, wink!). I enjoy listening to Country and Christian music, and one of my favorite movies is "I Can Only Imagine" which is based on a true story. One of my favorite quotes is: "The Team, The Team, The Team" Bo Schembechler U of M. One of my favorite memories is going to the "Big House" Michigan Stadium for the first time to watch the Wolverines play against Ohio State, and Michigan won!! My hobbies are collecting sports memorabilia, cooking, reading, watching college and professional sports (Go Blue!), fishing, and golf. I have a sassy black cat named Bella Lou.

My favorite activities - My favorite place to be is outside, possibly near a lake with a fishing pole, or on the greens with my golf clubs. Indoors - having a fire in the fireplace on a cold day, watching movies, cooking and playing games. I played softball throughout my life in little league, high school, and women's leagues. I also play tennis, shooting, hunting when possible, and played rugby for a year. My favorite place is Estes Park. I haven't traveled internationally, except Canada; however, I am inspired from other employees to start taking cruises, so I plan on being more adventurous next year. I really want to go to Alaska!! The top of my bucket list is to fish in Alaska.

Who to do your admire, and why? I admire many people in my life, especially my sisters, but I would like to honor my former Regis University Professor, Dr. Blenda Crawford. She challenged me academically to give my very best and still inspires me to be a better leader and person within my career and personal life.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT.....

Meet James Randall



This past February marked my 5th year with the City of Black Hawk Police Department. Up until recently, I have been working night shift patrol, conducting traffic enforcement, criminal investigations, foot and vehicle patrols, and responding to all requests for police service within the city.

I was recently provided the opportunity to transition to day shift as a Police Corporal, which is a very exciting change of pace. I am looking forward to getting out there during the day time and seeing some new faces. Working for the City of Black Hawk as a Police Officer is a very unique experience. I enjoy that Black

Hawk has a small town feel to it, while also having the call variance of a larger city.

I was born and raised in Colorado, having spent my earliest years in the Nederland area before moving to Boulder when I was 8. I went to Fairview High School in Boulder and then moved on to the Navy after graduating High School. I spent 8 years in the Navy and was stationed in Jacksonville Florida during my entire enlistment. I was assigned to a helicopter squadron and was deployed 4 times, twice on an aircraft carrier and twice to Kuwait and Iraq. We mostly conducted air ambulance and search and rescue operations. After my enlistment in the Navy I moved back to Colorado to be with my friends and family and I began pursuing a career in law enforcement.

I have been married for 15 years and have 3 children. My wife and I met in High School and she has been an incredible source of strength and encouragement through all my crazy adventures. We also have a huge Alaskan Malamute named Murphy and we love to take him hiking and out on our boat.

Having spent so much time in Denver, I have developed a love of craft beer. I love to visit all of the craft breweries we have here and experience different styles of beer. I also love spending time outdoors as much as possible, especially during the summer. A typical weekend involves taking our boat to the lake or visiting our cabin in Wyoming. My family loves traveling to tropical locations, and my wife and I hope to one day retire and spend our days sailing the Caribbean.

One thing that I believe should be taught in school, that isn't already, is financial responsibility. Knowing how to plan a budget and manage debt is a crucial life skill that is unfortunately never taught to many young adults.

PUBLIC WORKS

Trash Disposal in Black Hawk - what you need to know!

Miner's Mesa Dumpsters

- The dumpsters located at the Mesa are for City resident and employee use only.
- The gate will remain locked at all times.
- The dumpsters on Miners Mesa are for excess residential household trash that cannot be contained in the weekly pick up.
- Gate hours are Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. To request access, residents need to call ahead to Public Works, allowing enough time for staff to unlock the gates.
- Residents are responsible for placing trash **inside** the dumpster.
- **Hazardous materials are prohibited.**

PROHIBITED ITEMS*

- Car batteries
- Rocks, dirt, compost materials
- Items containing Freon
- Paint
- Oil
- Tires
- Excessive remodeling material
- Household hazardous waste & liquids**
- Scrap metal drop off, water heaters, furnaces, appliances, etc. may be accepted with prior arrangement with the Public Works Department.

* For Recycling, eWaste, tires, and disposal of other restricted items, please contact Gilpin County Transfer Station at 303-582-5004.

** For a curbside pickup of hazardous materials, the Colorado Department of Health and Environment recommends contacting Waste Management at 1-800-449-7587 or visit <http://www.curbsideinc.com/public-access.aspx>.

Residential Trash Service

- Weekly collection of up to 128 gallons of household trash generated by residents.
- Collection will be curbside near the homeowners house.
- **All trash must be contained in bear proof trashcans.**
- Trash service will be delayed one day on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.
- The following items are restricted from curbside residential service:
 - o Car batteries, paint, chemicals, tires, banned electronics, or other item restricted by the landfill
 - o Refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners
 - o No bulky items like appliances or furniture
 - o No construction debris, demolition debris, or other non-compactable material

Please contact the City of Black Hawk Public Works Department at 303-582-1324 with questions regarding your residential trash service.



Black Hawk
• 1872 •

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Combating the Mayday

"We don't rise to the level of our expectations; we fall to the level of our training." -Archilochus

Black Hawk Firefighters recently completed a "Combating the Mayday – Firefighter Survival Mindset" training designed and delivered by Black Hawk Firefighter Cody Kalb.

The purpose of the Mayday training was to prepare firefighters mentally and physically for handling a worst-case scenario by becoming familiar with mayday distress signal procedures to call when they have a life-threatening emergency and need assistance or rescue. Another important aspect of this training is to maintain proficiency and establish memory recall.



Lt Reid, Firefighter Bowman, and Engineer Griffin performing the SCBA Grinder Drill. Firefighter Bowman Kalb giving instruction with Engineer Slagle assisting. Their face masks are obscured so they cannot see.

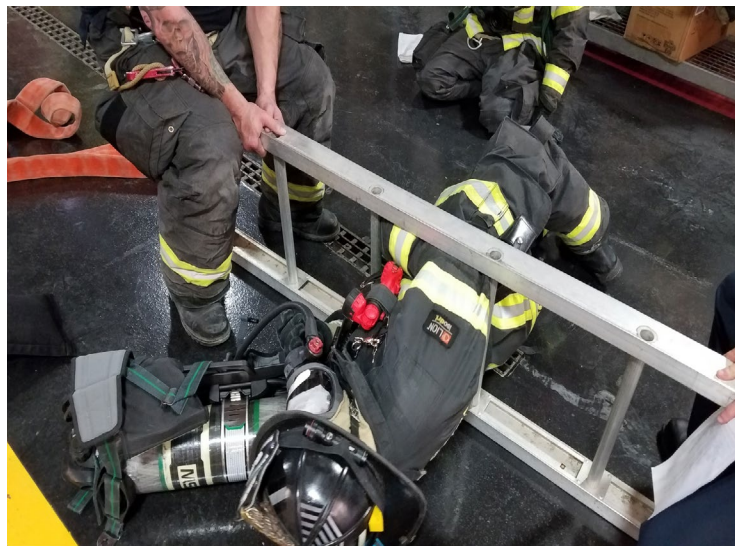
The training began with learning about the psychology and physiology of traumatic responses followed by completing a set of drills to emulate a mayday situation.

"There are things we can do to train our bodies to react how you want them to in these situations," said Firefighter Kalb. "These trainings give us the

opportunity to practice reacting appropriately during dangerous situations."

During rescue operations, firefighters might find the need to fit between wall studs or navigate through the debris of a collapsed ceiling causing obstructions that are difficult to pass through.

During the training, firefighters simulated navigating through a tight space by practicing maneuvers through rungs of a ladder while their vision was blinded.



Firefighter Bowman demonstrates how to navigate in his SCBA through the rungs of the ladder.

While not to the degree of a real emergency situation, this simulation provided for a psychological effect of panic for the firefighters who needed to rely on their other senses to negotiate their way through a tight space with their gear.

Another stress-inducing simulation used sand bags to emulate a building collapse. The firefighters, still completely blinded, had sandbags

laid on them and were required to get to their radio and transmit a mayday call for help. During these exercises, firefighters were provided with voice commands from the trainer to help determine the best next steps. Instruction like this would not be available during an emergency, but is helpful in establishing memory recall.



Lt Reid, Firefighter Bowman, and Engineer Griffin with Firefighter Kalb giving instruction.

Additional tasks completed while firefighter vision was blacked out included changing channels on the radio, reaching for their buddy breather, connecting someone to a rapid intervention pack to help refill air, and taking pack off and on while on air to fit through tight spaces. When a firefighter becomes disorientated, lost, injured, out of or low on air, trapped, or need to be rescued, it can create a stress response that makes it difficult to immediately recall and perform these actions, which is why this rehearsal is so important.

Good breathing techniques are also important to recall. The fire fighter's self-contained breathing apparatus is designed to provide 45-minutes of air under normal breathing conditions. In a heavy cardio-state, the tank could deplete in as little as 15-20 minutes.

Firefighter Kalb closed the trainings with reviewing case studies of line of duty deaths. He broke down the areas where the problems started, what preventable steps could have been taken, and how to approach similar situations differently.

We'd love to hear from you!

Employees, residents, businesses, and visitors, we appreciate your feedback! Stop by City Hall to drop your feedback letters in our comment box or simply email CityClerk@cityofblackhawk.org.

HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Stories from Fire Department's Past

While researching the history of Black Hawk Fire & Hose Co., and it's future, we came across two versions of their letterhead. They are represented below. It isn't known when these were used, but we thought it would be interesting to see them again. We also found stories and funny anecdotes to share with you.

BLACK HAWK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
BLACK HAWK, COLORADO

*Meetings First Thursday Each Month
City Hall, Black Hawk*



Unknown Firefighter - Bereavement Request

One of those original firefighters came into the station one day and announced that he had to take bereavement leave because his Rottweiler had been killed. According to him, his dog had been hit by a snow plow and he needed to mourn and bury his dog.

His request was denied by the Chief. So he called in sick the next day. When he returned to work he told us that the snow plow had hit and killed his Rottweiler, that this dog was his best friend and that he should have been given bereavement leave for his loss.

Two days later he came back to work and announced that he had his dog back. Was he resurrected?? Nope. Someone in the next subdivision called him to come get his dog who had been living on his porch for 3 days. We asked about the dog that he had buried. "Oh, that dog was the neighbors Doberman."

Back to the Chief's office...

I was the backup guide while the other firefighter was backing the ladder truck into the fire station. The firefighter had it so off that I signaled to pull out and start over. The firefighter cranked the wheel all the way to the stop and proceeded out. With the long overhang behind the rear axle, I watched helplessly as the gap between the door jam and the side of the ladder truck closed to nothing, then hit. Damage was minimal, chipped bricks and replacement of a piece of aluminum trim on the truck. And of course getting chewed out by the Chief.

That afternoon, while returning from a call on Main Street, a construction fence section had been left partially into the street. Only the edge of the chain link frame was visible and neither the firefighter nor I saw it until it was right in front of us. I yelled, "The gate". POW!!

It sounded like a shot gun blast inside the cab. The fence section hit the passenger side rear view mirror and slammed it against the side window shattering the mirror. The only damage was to the mirror and you can still see the scar on the side window.

Back to the Chiefs office for another butt chewing.



The Firefighters Cake...

In those days we were usually cooking for ourselves but sometimes it was a joint effort. If someone brought in a pie or baked a cake, I said that it was the firefighter way to divide the dessert into as many pieces as there were firefighters to eat it. If there were 3 on duty, the dessert got cut into 3 pieces or for 2 on duty it got cut in half. The firefighter said "That was not the firefighter way". The firefighters dad was a Denver Firefighter so I told the firefighter to ask him. The next shift the firefighter reported that I was correct and then tried to eat his share of the cake.

A Brief History of the Black Hawk Fire Department By Fire Chief Robert Norris

(Written on May 18, 2010)

In 1996, when gaming was only 4 years old, the Black Hawk Fire Department consisted of a Fire Chief and 8 firefighters. They were working out of a brand new fire station with a new engine and a new ladder truck. They were Fire Chief Brian Leshner and Firefighters Cindy Carducci, Larry Yarberry, Gary McWilliams, Heidi Burmeister, Ron Cook, Mike Driscoll and Frank Wolf.

The Firefighter with the most seniority was automatically in charge of the shift on duty and was expected to run the shift and be in charge on calls. Usually there were only 2 firefighters on duty. In this era, the ambulance ran out of a run down house just above the fork in Central City. Black Hawk Firefighters were required to live within 7 miles of Black Hawk. I'm not sure where this distance came from but my guess is that the Chief lived 7 miles out and that was the limit for everyone.

I was recently unemployed and the Chief contacted me saying that he was overwhelmed and needed a fire inspector because of the sudden large construction projects starting up in Black Hawk. I came to Black Hawk as a part time/temporary fire inspector. The Lodge was a hole in the ground, the Isle of Capri was in the works and Main Street was torn up installing new water and sewer mains. My position was never part time or temporary, as there was so much to do.

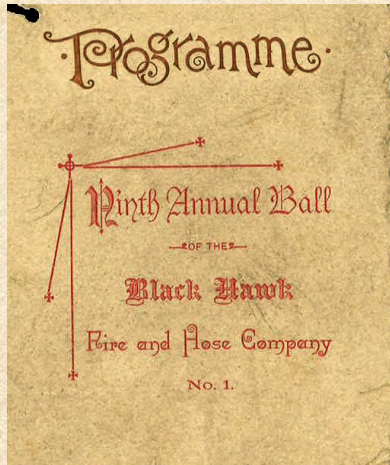
A couple of months into the job, a firefighter walked in, laid his badge down and resigned. He had been offered his old job back and he took it. On September 26, 1996, I took this firefighter position and became a full time firefighter for the second time in my career working 24 hour shifts and doing all of the fire inspections and plan reviews.

The Lodge got built, the Isle was coming out of the ground and plans were in place for the Riviera and Mardi Gras. Two more firefighters quit. One firefighter told me recently that he should have stayed but the residency requirement forced him to resign. The residency requirement was extended to 25 miles and then dropped completely.

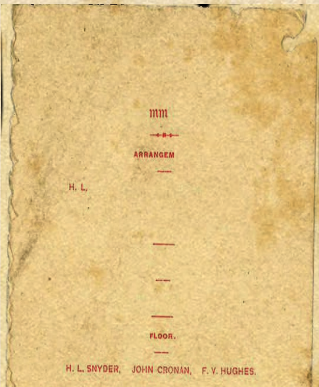
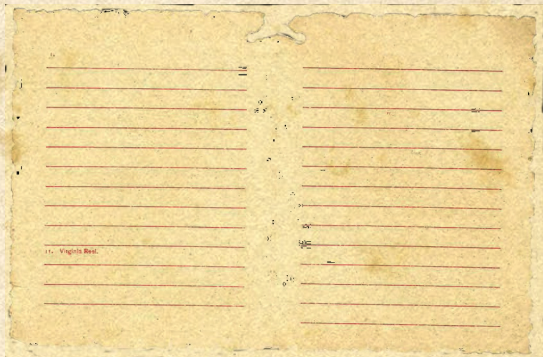
Not long after two more quit. Of the original group, only two were still on the department and they have since left. To replace these firefighters, Chris Reid, Mark Schaller, Trent Ingle, Kip Karr, Dave Wellington, Jennifer Hembroff and Jim Major were hired and are still with us today. Also the Chief quit and I was appointed Fire Chief.

From that shaky start when gaming was getting off the ground the Black Hawk Fire Department has grown, matured (although firefighters regardless of age or rank are just big kids), became the best anywhere and now is the well trained, highly respected, efficient organization that serves Black Hawk today.

A new Black Hawk Fire Chief will be appointed soon and I am sure that this person will continue, with the help of the officers and firefighters of Black Hawk, to advance this department into the future as Black Hawk enters its' next growth spurt.



“Ladies” “Will you help this firefighter fill his dance card?”



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

State of Technology in 2019

The top 5 hard skills to have in 2019

According to LinkedIn these are the Top 5 hard skills to have in 2019, 3 out of the 5 relate directly to technology.

- 5. **UX Design.** UX stands for User Experience which is the art of making an app not only feel natural, but also something you want to use.
- 2. **Artificial Intelligence.** AI is predicted to be used in the most challenging of applications including health care and traffic management.
- 1. **Cloud Computing.** Cloud computing will bring the previous skills together with an incredible amount of flexibility, scalability, efficiency.

The top 5 soft skills to have in 2019 according to LinkedIn.

- 5. **Time Management**
- 4. **Adaptability**
- 3. **Collaboration**
- 2. **Persuasion**
- 1. **Creativity**

Four of the top five soft skills are essentially about creating efficiency but the most demanded skill is reflecting that business is driven by finding creative solutions to address the other areas.

Tech that is on the rise

Social Media. Social Media continues to dominate the top spot for most widely used tech and will keep moving forward as new outlets emerge to compete for market share. With Facebook leveling out on growth other platforms like Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, will gain ground. If Facebook decides to merge its platforms (FB, Instagram, Whatsapp) there may be a spike in their current user base by 2020.

5G Wireless. The 5G wireless standards describe a theoretical bandwidth of 1GBps which is 10 times faster than current 4G speeds. The speed increase is nice but the real advantage is in latency which is the time it takes a message to arrive from sender to receiver. The reduction of latency will allow for a wider range of industrial applications such as robotics, self-navigating vehicles and autonomous flight systems.

Tech set to bust

3G. The cellular data standard that gave us mobile web browsing, which was famously introduced to the masses by the Original iPhone, is set to be deprecated at the of 2019 in order to make room for 5G. There are some places where 3G has already been reported to no longer function which forces people into upgrading to devices that support 4G at minimum.

Early iOS/OSX Devices. With Apple releasing its source code for iOS/OSX operating systems the speculation is that older versions of the popular iPad, iPhone and some Mac computers may become less secure than their already limited versions are. The problem is that no updates will be pushed to these devices to address any discovered security flaws however these devices will continue to work and are great for use in non-critical scenarios.

LinkedIn Top 10 demanding Job Skills for 2019 (<https://cnb.cx/2RGXCBn>)

FINANCE

2018 REVENUE IN REVIEW

Before we move too far into 2019, it may be a good idea to take a look at how the City’s finances concluded in 2018. The City of Black Hawk’s general government is funded primarily by three revenue sources.

This is made up of the City’s 4.50% Sales Tax, fees assessed on each Gaming Device and the City’s share of State Gaming Taxes. In total, these three revenue sources accounted for more than 84.5% of all General Fund revenue for 2018.

Sales Tax for 2018 was up by 8.81% as compared to 2017. The City’s share of the State Gaming Tax for 2018 was up 7.06% from the previous year. And finally, the

Gaming Device Fees for 2018 increased by 9.54% as compared to the prior year, due in part to an increase in the device fee for live table games.

The City continues to experience an ongoing reduction in the number of devices available for play on the casino floor. The monthly average number of devices in 2018 was 7,298 compared to 7,413 in 2017 and 7,922 in 2016.

When looking at the three revenue sources combined, the total for 2018 was up about 8.35% from 2017. The City Council continues to explore and implement a variety of amenities and incentives designed to increase the number of visitors to Black Hawk and in turn, increase the three major revenue streams.

Find your happy here!

The City of Black Hawk is hiring for passionate and engaged employees to fill several positions within the Public Works, Police, and Fire Departments. If you are interested in being a part of the City of Black Hawk family, and are seeking great compensation, benefits, success, and stability, visit www.cityofblackhawk.org to view current openings and apply online.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Department Makes Changes in 2019



BLACK HAWK POLICE DEPARTMENT

There have been many changes at the Police Department in the past few months beginning with several personnel changes. Municipal Court Clerk Sally Cannady retired after 22 years of service with the City of Black Hawk and was replaced by Janet Dennehy who transferred from the Police Department’s Communication’s Center. Alicia Marotti retired after seven (7) years with the City and served as a Communication’s Officer and Property and Evidence Technician in the Police Department. John Heikes replaced Alicia after he transferred from the Communication’s Center. Communication’s Officer Amy Gresham moved from the Dispatch Center to Patrol as a police officer. Justin Storms and Ellie Younger were hired as new Communication’s Officers.

The City Council also approved five (5) new positions in the Police Department in the 2019 budget: three (3) patrol officers; one (1) Dispatcher; and one (1) Rotating Detective position. The new positions were added due to increases in the current work load in the Department and the anticipated increase in call load in 2019. The Department is actively recruiting to fill police officer and dispatcher positions. The positions are listed in the Weekly Register-Call Newspaper and on-line through Indeed, and on the City website - www.cityofblackhawk.org.



The Police Department has also restructured the Department to allow police officers and supervisors more opportunities.

Three (3) officers now hold the rank of Corporal and are partnered with a Sergeant on each shift to improve supervisory coverage and to allow officers to develop their supervisory skills. Officers Jake Adler, James Randall, and Eli Solis were selected to fill the newly created Corporal positions. The Corporals will serve for one (1) year periods and may reapply for a second year. The Chief will evaluate the effectiveness of the program after two years.

Police Sergeants will also see changes in their jobs. Each Patrol Shift now has one (1) Sergeant on a shift, responsible for all shift activity. In addition, one (1) sergeant is assigned to the Investigations Section in a rotating position. Sergeant Aaron Sheedy has been assigned to lead the Investigations Section in 2019 and Officer Craig Metcalf is rotating as a Detective, both will return to Patrol duties after a year. The rotating positions in the Investigations Section are designed to give patrol sergeants and officers an opportunity to strengthen their investigative skills.

After an extensive selection process, two vacant sergeant positions were filled in the Department. Officer Becky Hart was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and has served as a Police Officer with the Black Hawk Police Department for nearly 17 years. She has a Bachelor and Master’s Degree in Criminology from Regis University. She is joined by Troy Cooper who served as an investigator and supervisor with the District Attorney’s Office in the 1st Judicial District. Sergeant Cooper has a Bachelor Degree in Sociology from CSU and a Master’s Degree from Regis University.

My Car Was Broken Into - Now What?



You walk out the door, ready to start your day or return to your car after a night out at the casino. Then your heart sinks as you notice broken glass surrounding your car.

Unfortunately, you're not alone. A car break-in is a scene that too many Americans encounter each year. After those initial feelings of shock and disappointment subside, you may be left wondering what to do next.

Here are some steps you should take if your vehicle has been broken into:

- Check your surroundings. Before you do anything else, look around to make sure you're safe. Most of the time vehicle burglars are only after your valuables and quickly leave the scene. But if anything makes you feel uncomfortable, leave your vehicle and find a safe place to call for help.
- Record what you lost. If your car was broken into, chances are the thief found something of value. Check for missing purses, wallets, smart phones and other electronics. Then, make a list of anything that was taken. It's also a good idea to take photos of your vehicle damage for reference.
- File a police report. To make a report, call the police office's non-emergency number – not 911, in Black Hawk call 303-582-0503. While not all break-ins can be solved, the report will help officers track crime trends and provide documentation for your insurer if you file a claim.
- Protect yourself from identity theft. If you discover any credit or debit cards are missing, immediately notify your bank to cancel the old cards and order replacements. They'll also help monitor your accounts for suspicious activity.
- File an insurance claim. Should you file a claim or not? Damage to your car from a break-in is typically covered under your auto policy's comprehensive coverage, but if any of your belongings were taken, they might be covered under your homeowners or renters policy.

While break-ins are never completely preventable, you can take some steps to help lower your risk. Always lock your car doors, roll up your windows, and keep valuables out of sight.

Deterring Vehicle Break-ins



The Nationwide Insurance Company indicates there are 1.85 million thefts each year from vehicles and approximately \$1.26 billion in personal items and accessories stolen from those vehicles. It takes less than a minute for someone to break into your car and escape with valuable items. There are several preventative steps that can be taken to assure your vehicle is not a target.

Lock your car - The goal is not to make your car theft or break-in proof, the goal is to make your car hard enough to break into that the thief decides it is not worth the effort to break into your car.

Don't leave your keys in the car - This makes the job easier for would-be thieves.

Reduce incentives or opportunities for thieves - Don't leave your iPad, purse, or cell phone in view of a would be thief. Lock items in the trunk, glove box or hide them under a seat.

Put away valuables before you park - Make sure shopping bags are placed directly into the trunk when you come out to your vehicle.

Keep your vehicle clean - It's even a good idea to put away all power cords, iPad adapters and phone chargers so there is no evidence of potential valuables in the vehicle. Clean vehicles attract less attention.

Park your vehicle in a well-lit place - Park in well-lit areas, away from fences, larger vehicles or foliage that could obstruct the view of your vehicle. If you are parking in a parking garage, try to park nearest to a door or parking attendant.

Following these easy steps may reduce your chances of being a victim and decrease your chances of having to make costly repairs to your car. Be aware of your surroundings and keep your valuables out of sight.



How to Survive if You Are Stranded in Your Car During Extreme Weather

Colorado weather can change in just a few short hours from sunshine to hail, snow, rain, flooding, and electrical storms. Any one of these extremes can cause you to be stranded. These tips below and supplies to keep at hand will help you survive.

All types of extreme weather:

- **Pull off the highway.** Turn on hazard lights and hang a distress flag from the radio antenna or window.
- **Remain in your vehicle where rescuers are most likely to find you.** Do not set out on foot unless you can see a building close by where you know you can take shelter.
- **Exercise to maintain body heat, but avoid overexertion.** In extreme cold, use road maps, seat covers, and floor mats for insulation. Huddle with passengers and use your coat for a blanket.
- **Take turns sleeping.** One person should be awake at all times to look for rescue crews.
- **Drink fluids to avoid dehydration.**
- **Be careful not to waste battery power.** Balance electrical energy needs - the use of lights, heat, and radio with supply.
- **Turn on the inside light at night** so work crews or rescuers can see you.

Snow Conditions:

- **Be careful;** distances are distorted by blowing snow. A building may seem close, but be too far to walk to in deep snow.
- **Run the engine and heater about 10 minutes each hour to keep warm.** When the engine is running, open a downwind window slightly for ventilation and periodically clear snow from the exhaust pipe. This will protect you from possible carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Leave the car and proceed on foot **only if necessary** - once the extreme weather passes.

Heavy Rain or Hail:

- **Go to higher ground.** Slow down - avoid hydroplaning - find shelter and pullover until storm passes.
- **Don't drive into lower laying areas.** Avoid flooded areas - depth of water can be deceiving.
- **Get under shelter.** Carport, any underpass or structure (car wash for example). Stop driving, stay in vehicle, avoid breaking windshield. Keep vehicle angled so that the hail is hitting away from you - towards front of car.

Lighting:

- **If indoors:** Stay away from open windows, electrical items and outlets.
- **When driving:** Find shelter - underpass, carport, other structures if possible. If none, pull over - turn engine off, turn on hazard lights if **not off road or in a parking zone.** **Avoid metal** - don't touch until storm passes.

Keep these items in your vehicle:

- Shovel

Windshield scraper and small broom

Flashlight

Battery powered radio - Extra batteries

Water -Snack food

Matches

Extra hats, socks and mittens

First aid kit with pocket knife
- Blanket(s)

Tow chain or rope

Road salt and sand

Emergency flares

Fluorescent distress flag

Bowl, Candle

Booster cables

MUNICIPAL CODE MOMENT

Vaccinations for your Pets

Now is the time to check your pet’s vaccination records to ensure inoculations are current. Most grooming and pet care facilities require pet vaccinations before they will provide services for your animal.

The City of Black Hawk also has an ordinance requiring all dogs to be inoculated against rabies and to be licensed in the City of Black Hawk. Your veterinarian can vaccinate your pet and provide the required rabies tag and vaccination certificates.

If you are new to the area or looking for a low cost alternative, consider Charlie’s Place located in Clear Creek County. Charlie’s Place is a new, modern animal shelter serving the residents of Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties.

The facility is located in Dumont, just 10 minutes west of Idaho Springs on the I-70 corridor. Vaccination Clinics are held the first Sunday of every month from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. for dogs and cats. The Distemper/Parvo vaccination and Bordetella (kennel cough) injection is available for dogs, while the FVRCP (upper respiratory) vaccination is available for cats.

The facility also offers discounts on spay and neutering, microchips, and they even have live traps available for loan. Rabies vaccinations are also available for dogs and cats. No appointments are needed and service is provided on a first come, first serve basis. Call the shelter (303-679-2477) for more information.

Sec. 2-134. Violations Bureau
(c) Designation of violations and penalties.
(1) A penalty assessment may be issued for a first violation within the City of Black Hawk of the following sections of this Code not involving bodily injury or restitution, pursuant to the following schedule:

\$50.00 fine plus court costs and surcharges.
Sec. 7-60 - Attachment to dog collar or harness.

\$75.00 fine plus court costs and surcharges.
Sec. 7-52 License required.
Sec. 7-54 Rabies inoculation required.
Sec. 7-69 Running at large prohibited.
Sec. 7-74. Noisy dogs prohibited.

(Ord. 69-4 §4; Ord. 99-20 §1)





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