



325 E Aspen  
Suite 155  
Fruita CO 81521

Phone:  
970-858-3663

Fax:  
970-858-0210

E Mail  
fruita@fruita.org

Web Site  
fruita.org

City Manager's Office  
970-858-3663

City Clerk/Finance  
970-858-3663

Community  
Development  
970-858-0786

Engineering  
970-858-8377

Human Resources  
970-858-8373

Public Works  
970-858-9558

Recreation Dept.  
970-858-0360

# Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER  
Date: FEBRUARY 12, 2016  
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

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**City Offices are closed Monday, February 15 in observance of President's Day.**

**Our hearts go out to the Mesa County Sheriff's Department and especially the Geer family regarding the tragic loss of Deputy Geer who gave the ultimate sacrifice while protecting our valley and reminds us of the incredible service and risk our law enforcement public servants make on our behalf. Funeral services will be Monday, Feb. 15 at 1 pm at Canyon View Vineyard Church.**

We have had calls and questions as to why our flags are not at half-staff. In case you are getting the same questions or have them yourself, we are only to place flags at half-staff by order of the President or the Governor. We have received this order to do so on Monday, Feb. 15 in coordination with the funeral.

## **Tuesday Night's City Council Meeting**

Tuesday night the consent agenda includes liquor license renewals. Also included is a resolution adopting a policy for funding requests from outside agencies as discussed in a previous workshop and we were directed to add onto an upcoming meeting for adoption. This is the policy that sets forth a process for outside agencies to formally request in time for the budget process to have all requests. This does not include marketing and promotion requests. It does however clarify that city funds are not spent toward things such as tables/tickets for fundraising events. A budget resolution for a supplemental appropriation for 2016, January financial reports and two resolutions regarding phase 2(b) for Brandon Estates are also included in the consent agenda. There are no public hearings or administrative updates scheduled. I plan to provide an update to City Council in the near future on the Gateway Enhancement Project as we narrow down the next steps.

## **Chamber Hosting Candidate Forum**

Message from Chamber Director Frank Ladd:

Fruita City Council Candidates,

On behalf of the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce, let me congratulate and thank you for taking time to represent our fine community by running for City Council. I (we) wish you all the best of luck! The Fruita Chamber will be hosting a Candidates Forum **Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm in Council Chambers**. This will be a

*Honor the Past – Envision the Future* **FRUITA**

timed, debate style format with questions from the community, chamber and moderator. Each candidate will present a 2 min. opening statement and be allowed 90 seconds for closings. All candidates will have an opportunity to answer questions first, in a rotating format, answers will be limited to 90 seconds each. Please reply to me if you would like to participate. Thank you again, we are looking forward to a lively debate!

#### **TID BITS:**

- The PD has been assisting the Sheriff's Department during the aftermath of the tragic loss of Deputy Geer.
- New surveillance cameras purchased by the Forfeiture Board have been installed and are operating at the PD and Municipal Court.
- Staff is coordinating with the Outdoor Recreation Coalition and Luis Benitez for the next gathering that will occur in Fruita on Feb. 22. We will give Luis a tour and there will be a happy hour event at the Hot Tomato from 5:30 – 7:30 pm.
- As part of our overlay and chip seal program this year (later summer/fall) we will be installing a new crosswalk on Coulson.
- Jeff Bates' bike corrals are currently at the powder coater and when ready will be installed downtown.
- Sweetheart Run and Health Expo is tomorrow at the FCC beginning at 10 am. Looks like the weather will be just right. The FCC will still operate with the exception of the gymnasium that the expo will be in.
- We met with Mesa County , BLM, COPMOBA Grand Valley Trails Alliance and CMU to discuss Mesa County taking the lead in a possible state grant opportunity for connecting communities to public lands in an effort to connect Fruita to 18 Road trails or at least in a first phase seek to pave the dirt road out there.
- The J.2 Road pre-bid meeting is Monday at 3 pm with bid opening Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Sorter Construction attempted to work on the Mulberry sewer project but the ground was too wet and we will wait until it is near paving time to finish out the asphalt.
- We will begin advertising the consultant selection Sunday for the design of the Kokopelli Section of the Riverfront Trail.
- The field work for geo-tech was completed for the Kokopelli Trail section.
- The Little Salt Wash Trail construction began this week.
- We received bids for completing the interior of the City Shops building and the bids were higher than budget, so staff is working to adjust the scope to fit the budget.
- The GVDD and the 5-2-1 Authority met this week to begin looking at alternatives for fees. There will be a meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> to present to elected officials the results of this process.
- The election and ballot question have been finalized and approved by the County.
- Staff completed the initial priority based budgeting training focused on program inventory today and will spend the next 2-3 weeks developing the first draft of inventory for the consultants.
- I participated in a panel today to speak to the Club 20 Tourism Committee regarding fruit and bike tourism.

- I love the sun!!!

**FRUITA IN THE NEWS (or related news to the area):**

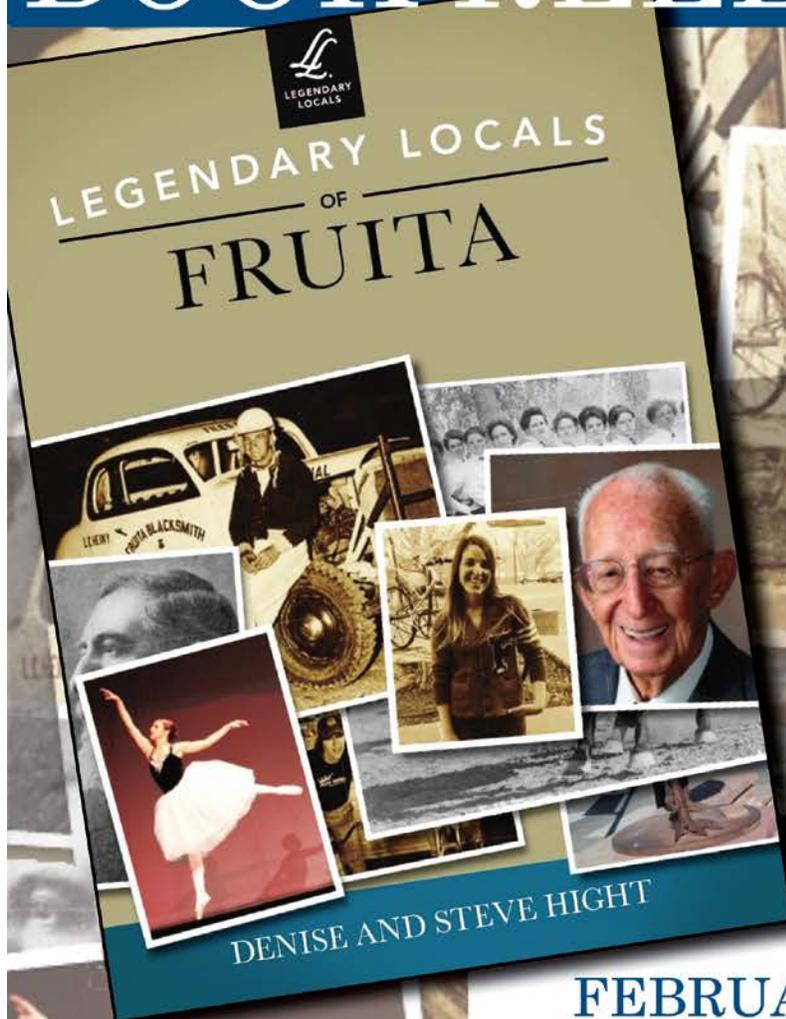
- Fallen Hero: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/fallen-hero/>
- 3 fledgling firms given Jump-start approval: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/3-fledgling-firms-given-jumpstart-approval/>
- Courtyard Care Center seeks funds to remodel TV spot: <http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Courtyard-Care-Center-seeks-funds-to-remodel-367877071.html>
- Mesa County businesses approved for Colorado's Rural Jump-start program: <http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/mesa-county-businesses-approved-for-rural-jump-start-program>
- In need of a little care: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/in-need-of-a-little-care>
- A new level of care: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/lifestyle/articles/a-new-level-of-care>

**UPCOMING EVENTS** (*When an RSVP is required I will include the information. I also ask that you let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can make sure to post if multiple council members plan to attend. Deb would also be happy to RSVP for you.*):

- **Tomorrow, Saturday, Feb. 13** is the Sweetheart Run and Health Expo at the FCC.
- **Feb. 18** we will be hosting the Chamber After Hours Event at the FCC from 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- **Feb. 19** is the launch party and book signing for *Legendary Locals of Fruita*, written by Fruita's Denise and Steve Hight. The event will be hosted by Vintage Common owner Michelle Cools at the Cavalcade (201 E. Aspen) at 6:00 pm (invite below).
- **Feb. 20** will be the Chamber's annual banquet and awards event—this year in Fruita at our Community Center.
- **Feb. 26** is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for Strive at the Double Tree hotel from 6:30 – 10 pm (flier below).
- The Fruita Community Calendar is available on the website at: <http://www.fruita.org/calendar>.
- The **2015** Events Information is also available online at: <http://www.fruita.org/parksrec/page/special-events>

CC: Department Directors

# BOOK RELEASE



**FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:00 pm**

**Meet and mingle with people  
who have made history in Fruita**

**Hosted by  
Cavalcade &  
The Vintage Common**

**Stop on by  
The Vintage Common  
or contact 951-741-6113  
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**Info 970-260-5413**

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116 North Mulberry Street  
FRUITA, COLORADO

# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**STRIVE**  
PEOPLE SUPPORTING PEOPLE

# Celebration

IN FEBRUARY 2016, STRIVE WILL BE TURNING 50 YEARS OLD!  
PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THIS MOMENTOUS  
ACHIEVEMENT WITH A ONE-OF-A-KIND EVENING OF FINE  
DINING, AND PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINMENT THAT WILL HAVE  
YOU TAPPIN' YOUR TOES AND TWIRLIN' YOUR SKIRT!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016

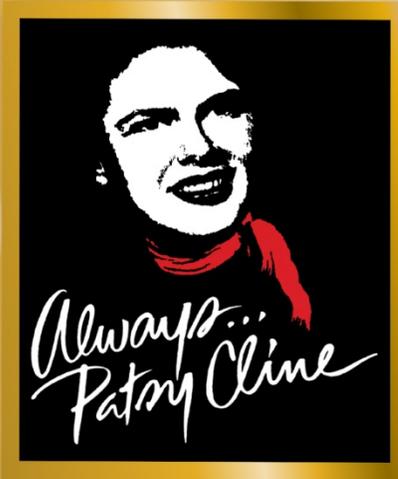
6:30 - 10 P.M.

AT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL

743 HORIZON DRIVE

FINE DINING, DRINKS, AND  
PROFESSIONAL THEATRE

THIS IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MOMENT,  
AND WE WANT TO SHARE IT WITH YOU!  
THERE ARE ONLY 140 SEATS AVAILABLE.



\$150 TICKET- INCLUDES DINNER, DRINKS, AND SHOW  
OR \$1000 FOR A WHOLE TABLE (SEATS SIX)

ALL PROCEEDS FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT WILL GO TOWARDS  
STRIVE'S HIGHLY IMPORTANT CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE BY CALLING:

244-5506

OR ONLINE AT

[WWW.STRIVECOLORADO.ORG](http://WWW.STRIVECOLORADO.ORG)

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