

CITY LINK SPRING 2024

fruita.org | 858-3663 | 325 E. Aspen Ave.

CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR

Matthew Breman



Matthew, along with his wife Catherine and their son Marcus, has called Fruita home since 2005. Grounded in the principles of servant leadership, Matthew has been actively engaged in our community. He dedicated 12 years to the Board of United Way of Mesa County, serving as its President for four years. Additionally, he contributed five years to the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce (GJCC), where he held the position of Chairman for one year. Currently, Matthew serves on the boards of GJEP and the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce.

Since 2020, Matthew has been a valued member of the Fruita City Council, currently holding the position of Mayor Pro-Tem. Born in Pittsburgh, PA, he earned his undergraduate degree from the University of South Florida. Matthew began his career in the entertainment industry at Nickelodeon Studios and later pursued his MBA at Rollins College. His professional journey led him to executive roles at Walt Disney Resort. Since settling in Fruita, he has successfully operated his own company and is a senior-level leader in a publicly traded company.

CITY OF FRUITA MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON APRIL 2, 2024

The next regular City election will be held on April 2, 2024. The election will be conducted by mail ballot and ballots will be mailed out to registered voters in mid-March. The City of Fruita has a 24-hour mail ballot drop box located in the Civic Center east parking lot where you can drive right up to drop off your ballot.

The ballot will include the election of a Mayor and three City Council members. There is one candidate running unopposed for the Mayor's seat and four candidates for the three Council positions available. In addition, the ballot will also include a TABOR revenue retention question.



You can register or check your voter registration status at govotecolorado.com.

REFERRED ISSUE A

WITHOUT INCREASING EXISTING TAX RATES OR ADDING NEW TAXES OF ANY KIND, SHALL THE CITY OF FRUITA BE AUTHORIZED, FROM JANUARY 1, 2025, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2030, TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND ALL GRANTS AND TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND ALL REVENUES GENERATED IN EXCESS OF THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN INCLUDING THE MAINTENANCE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS?

YES
 NO

FRUITA CITY COUNCIL: If calling City Hall at 858-3663 does not answer your questions, please feel free to contact any of your City Council Members.



MAYOR
JOEL KINCAID
250-9557



MAYOR PRO TEM
MATTHEW BREMAN
314-5991



KEN KREIE
270-3305



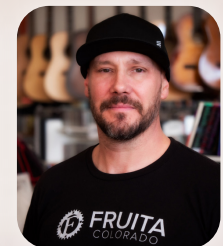
AMY MILLER
640-0751



AARON HANCEY
261-5413



JEANNINE PURSER
260-5413



JAMES WILLIAMS
858-7675

CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL



Frank Graziano

Hello, my name is Frank Graziano and I am running for a position on Fruita City Council. Before moving to Fruita I was on the Steering committee for Thunderbird High School to work with the school district on financing for a new coating on the school's track and a new basketball court. After visiting my son's family several times, we fell in love with Fruita. We retired here in August 2017. I have been involved in Youth Sports and enjoy giving back to our community.

I also have a passion for vintage cars. I was approached by Tom in Parks and Recreation to establish a car show to run during the Mike the Headless Chicken festival. We are now going into our 4th year with monies going to the Fruita P.D. along with the Lower Valley Fire department. I was asked to help Fruita P.D. put on their Cops and Cars show, raising over \$10,000 for Special Olympics.

I have always been interested in local government. I believe involvement is the key to keep Fruita the special place it is. Every friend that comes up to visit us is always depressed to go home. I am sure just about anyone that visits Fruita feels the same way.

While there is a need for every city to continue to stay current, completely changing and going away from what has kept us special, is a NO GO, as far as I believe. If elected, my goal is to always keep Fruita special.



Richard (Rich) Parrish

Rich was born and raised in Utah. He graduated from the University of Utah with a B.A. and M.B.A. He married and brought his family to Grand Junction in 1979 to be the branch manager of a regional wholesale distribution company. Shortly after retiring in 2013, he went to work part-time for CASA of Mesa County where currently he is a part-time volunteer coordinator. He and his wife, Val, have eight children (6 graduates of FMHS and one 12-year-old at FMS) and 13 grandchildren. He and his family have lived in Fruita for the past 11 1/2 years.

He has served on the following boards of directors: Crime Stoppers of Mesa County (40 yrs.), CACI Educational Foundation, Family Health West, Western Colorado Horticultural Association and Charisma Chorus. He has served in various leadership positions with Boy Scouts of America, on committees with United Way and Mesa County Valley School District 51 and as a lay leader in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He has volunteered with the FMHS Booster Club and at Grand Junction Community Food Bank, tutored at Mesa County Library, company advisor at 6 sessions of Colorado Business Week and served on the Mesa County Citizen Review Panel.

Rich loves to live in Fruita as it is a great place to raise children and enjoy wonderful places to exercise, to work, have fun and worship. He would like the opportunity to serve this community on the city council.

19 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (COMING FALL 2024)

The City of Fruita is planning utility and roadway improvements along 19 Road, from Highway 6 & 50 north to J.2 Road. The improvements are expected to begin after the irrigation season in early November and last until summer 2025. Improvements are expected to consist of the following:

- Sanitary sewer installation from the canal north to J.2 Rd.
- Storm drain installation from the canal north to J.2 Rd.
- Irrigation line and structure improvements at J Rd. and J.2 Rd., including the replacement of the line along the west edge of 19 Rd. from J Rd. south to Iron Drive
- Road widening
- Pedestrian path installation

Work associated with the project will begin in early fall. You can expect slowdowns and traffic control. Please check back for more updates on specific street closures.

Construction (utility work and road work) will start after irrigation water is shut off for the season (early to mid-November) and is expected to last until early to mid-summer 2025.

Please visit FRUITA.ORG/19ROAD for project updates and schedules.



THE NEXT CITY OF FRUITA MUNICIPAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON **APRIL 2, 2024**

CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL



Aaron Hancey

Aaron Hancey, a Colorado native, has been a resident of Fruita since 2014 when he was hired by West Star Aviation to serve as the Financial Controller for the Grand Junction, CO and Chattanooga, TN facilities. He currently resides on a small farm with his wife, Lori, and their four children who currently attend FMS and FMHS. In 2018, Aaron started a consulting practice to support growing businesses as a consulting/fractional Chief Financial Officer. His volunteer activities have included serving as an FWorks on-site coordinator, youth leader for his church, BSA leader for 13 years, and missionary service in Norway for two years. Aaron and his family have loved living in Fruita and have enjoyed its small-town feeling!

Aaron has a passion for supporting small, locally owned businesses, and his ownership of the Fruita Sno Shack, as well as his professional consulting work with several local businesses and organizations, gives him a unique perspective on the future of our community.

From May 2021 to October 2022, Aaron served on the City's Planning Commission where he successfully fought for the property rights of the existing community and growth of Fruita.

Aaron was appointed in October 2022 by the Mayor and City Council to fill a vacancy on City Council. With this appointment, he has continued to support the community by increasing transparency and engagement, helping to increase housing options with non-single-family developments, increasing parking in the downtown area, minimize regulations, and many other community-centered successes.



Andrea Stolarczyk

Andrea Stolarczyk is a Colorado native and six-year Grand Valley resident. She has gratefully called Fruita home for the past three years alongside Tony, her husband of two decades, and their teenage children, Hudson and Isabel. She is a seasoned business owner, working mainly as a creative entrepreneur in fine art, graphic design, and visual arts instruction, with notable collaborations including those with Hayden Outdoors, Colorado Landscapes, and Smith Fork Ranch.

From 2021-2023, she taught over 150 art classes at the Fruita Community Center through Fruita Parks and Recreation. She enthusiastically supports local arts and business, serving on the Fruita Arts and Culture Board since 2021 and the Fruita Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors since 2022.

The impact of her work extends across the Valley. Andrea was Art Director for The Wellspring Project for two consecutive years and Artist-in-Residence for the Bureau of Land Management and Colorado Canyons Association from 2022-2023, an effort that culminated in a nearly sold-out exhibition of over 250 attendees.

In 2023, Andrea received recognition by the Community Impact Council of Mesa County for her "exceptional philanthropic contributions" and won the inaugural Fruita Fall Festival Art Award that same year. Her commitment to local arts abounds through active engagement in Art Tag Fruita and as a Grand Valley Creative Alliance Open Studio Tour Artist. She is currently the Creative Director for Our Lady of Perpetual Motion.

Andrea's greatest strength is her creativity, especially as expressed locally and collaboratively. She loves Fruita with a passion.

SPRING CLEAN UP EVENT



**SATURDAY, APRIL 20
8 AM - 2 PM**

Drop off items you want to dispose of for *FREE!

Drop off Location: **900 Keifer Ave. Fruita, CO 81521**

The following items will not be collected: Aerosol cans, air conditioners, air/gas cylinders, ammunition, antifreeze, asbestos materials, asphalt rubble, batteries, auto batteries, concrete rubble, electronics, engines/motors, fluorescent lights, freezers, freon, fuel tanks, gasoline/grease/oil, hazardous waste, insecticides, items longer than 6', large drums, liquids of any kind, major appliances, medical waste, microwaves, paint/stain, pesticides, refrigerators, road flares, shingles, spa/pool chemicals, tires.

*Mattresses and box springs can be dropped off for \$18 each. Cash or check accepted.

GEARING UP FOR IRRIGATION



Irrigation water is typically turned on around the first of April and crews will be working to get the City's irrigation systems up and running as soon as possible. To assist in the startup of irrigation season, residents are reminded to make sure ditches are cleaned and valves (that were used to drain pumps and irrigation systems for winter) are closed prior to April 1.

Please keep in mind that most newer subdivisions are not connected to the City's irrigation system and are supplied water through their Homeowners Association. Residents are encouraged to make sure they know who to contact with questions about their irrigation systems, especially in an emergency situation. We recognize recent fiber internet construction may have inadvertently impacted some irrigation lines. If you suspect damage to your irrigation system, especially in areas where there was digging, please contact Clearnetwork directly at 970-240-6600.



FRUITA
COLORADO

**325 E. ASPEN AVENUE
FRUITA, COLORADO 81521
FRUITA.ORG**

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PERMIT NO. 134

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

3/28	Easter Egg Scramble	4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Fruita Community Center
4/4	City Manager Engagement Event	4:00 p.m.	Mulberry Plaza
4/12	FCC Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament	9:00 a.m.	Adobe Creek Golf Course
4/12 - 4/14	Desert Rats Races	Open Venue	Trails around Fruita, CO
4/20	Lower Valley Professional Firefighters Cornhole Tournament	2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Civic Center Park
4/20	City of Fruita Spring Clean Up Event	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	City Shops (900 Keifer Ave.)
4/26, 5/24, 6/28, 7/26, 8/23	Fruita Fourth Fridays	3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Mulberry Plaza in Downtown Fruita
4/27	Fishing is Fun	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Snooks Bottom Open Space
5/3 - 5/5	Fruita Fat Tire Festival	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita and 18 Road Trailhead
5/4	18 Hours of Fruita	Open Venue	Highline State Park
5/5	Co2uT	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita
5/11 - 5/12	Adventure Fest at 18 Road	Open Venue	18 Road Trailhead
5/31 - 6/1	Mike the Headless Chicken Festival	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita
6/6 - 8/8	Thursday Night Concerts (No concert on 7/4)	7:00 p.m.	Civic Center Park
6/8 - 10/26	Fruita Farmers Market	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Reed Park
6/11	City Manager Engagement Event	5:15 p.m.	Copper Club Brewery
6/14 - 6/16	Ride the Rockies	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita
6/20 - 6/22	Country Jam	Open Venue	Country Jam Ranch
6/27	Fruita City Council Ice Cream Social	7:00 p.m.	Civic Center Park
7/3	Fireworks Display	Dusk	City of Fruita
8/14	City Manager Engagement Event	8:00 a.m.	Bestslope Coffee
9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 10/24	Movie in the Park	Dusk	Civic Center Park
9/27 - 9/28	Fruita Fall Festival	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita
10/25	City Manager Engagement Event	8:00 a.m.	Camilla's Kaffe

For more information, or if you don't see the event you were looking for:

City of Fruita, fruita.org/calendar, 970-858-0360

Fruita Tourism, gofruita.com

Fruita Chamber of Commerce, fruitachamber.org, 970-858-3894