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# Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
From: Margaret Sell, Finance Director/City Clerk  
Date: February 26, 2016  
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

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## Tuesday Night's City Council Meeting

Tuesday night's consent agenda includes Liquor items including a modification to the Suds Brothers Liquor License to include a sidewalk restaurant along with the sidewalk restaurant permit and an Ordinance providing for the creation of an Entertainment District and application procedures. Also included is the first reading of an ordinance approving the lease agreement with the Museum of Western Colorado, a resolution setting a hearing date for annexation of property, and a resolution approving a grant application to the Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District for downtown improvements. a request to table the ordinance amending the Sign Code until May 3, 2016 and introduction of an ordinance amending the Land Use Code concerning zoning uses and general requirements. There are no public hearings or administrative updates scheduled.

## Tid Bits

- Consultants are working on the long term waste water reclamation facility study focused on both operational and capital costs combined with new standards and regulations that will be required in the future. The results should be completed in May.
- Staff is also making time to inspect collection systems to prioritize replacement schedules
- Staff is working with the Lower Valley Fire Department on updating the City's Emergency Operations Plan and will be participating in a tabletop training exercise soon, prior to bringing the updated plan for Council approval.
- Work on Grrreta began this week thanks to the grant from the Thrift Shop. She is getting a tummy tuck, exfoliation and dental work. Calvin Stucco (who has experience working on dinosaurs in Vernal, UT is completing the work to re-stucco and water proof the iconic dinosaur.
- Creative, authentic functional artwork by Jeff Bates in the form of bike racks and corrals for downtown are currently at the powder coater along with the howitzer (which should be replaced by next week in the Veterans Memorial).

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

- Charter Communications is the latest sponsor for this year's Mike the Headless Chicken Festival.
- The heat exchanger in the boiler for the indoor pool went out on Tuesday and subsequently closed the pool until the new part and installation occur---hopefully over the weekend.
- As part of the City's MOA with BLM, staff will be collecting the dog waste bin at Devil's Canyon Trailhead when servicing Snooks Bottom recreation area.
- The bids came in for J.2 Road under budget
- Mulberry Sewer project: contractor completed the concrete work and back filled the trench with road base. All that is remaining now is the asphalt.
- The request for qualifications for the design of the Kokopelli section of the Riverfront Trail is out.
- Construction on Little Salt Wash Trail is progressing with completion around the end of May.
- Kingsview road will be graded in the next couple weeks. This is also one of the roads that will be chip-sealed in our partnership with the county this year in June.
- FCI begins construction inside the new City Shops building next week.
- At the beginning of the week, FCI will first work on the pavilion in Civic Center Park.
- There has been a bit of graffiti showing up on some bridges around town. Staff is coordinating with CDOT for the removal.
- BLM has now enabled river rafting camp site permits to be reserved online for the Ruby Horsethief section float (release copy below).
- Food Truck Fridays are scheduled to begin on June 24<sup>th</sup> and will continue to occur on the fourth Fridays in July and August and on the fifth Friday in September (September 30<sup>th</sup>)

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

- City of Fruita One Step Closer to Establishing Entertainment District:  
<http://www.westernsloopenow.com/news/local-news/city-of-fruita-one-step-closer-to-establishing-entertainment-district>
- Fruita Chamber recognizes local business leaders:  
<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/business-briefcase-feb-25-2016>
- Fruita to see two new franchises: <http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Two-businesses-coming-to-Fruita-370038941.html>
- Fruita hospital earns higher trauma level accreditation:  
<http://thebusinesstimes.com/fruita-hospital-earns-higher-trauma-level-accreditation/>
- Engineering firm earns national recognition for a project using unmanned aerial system to survey a trail near Fruita: <http://thebusinesstimes.com/engineering-firm-awarded-for-high-flying-survey/>
- Fruita's Clayton Voytilla wins State Wrestling Championship:  
<http://fmhsathletics.com/2016/02/22/clayton-voytilla-wins-state-wrestling-championship/>

- Enterprise Zone could save businesses thousands:  
<http://www.kjct8.com/content/news/369782421.html>
- Will Canon City be the Next Fruita?:  
<http://www.pinkbike.com/news/will-canon-city-be-the-next-fruita-2016.html>
- Community members line up outside Hot Tomato to support Geer Family:  
<http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Community-members-line-up-outside-Hot-Tomato-in-Fruita-to-support-Geer-Family-369549491.html>
- Fox 21 News on Dinosaur Journey Museum:  
<http://vgorode.net/watch.php?vid=bac9ca4ed>



## **NEWS RELEASE**

February 25, 2016

Contact: Chris Joyner, Public Affairs Specialist, (970) 244-3097

### **McInnis Canyons river camping permits now online**

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. – Reservations for McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area riverfront camping will be available online beginning March 1 for the popular Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado River.

The online reservation system should provide greater flexibility to users looking to make a reservation.

The BLM began requiring permits for camping in the Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado River in 2012 to organize and improve camping opportunities. Fees were implemented in 2013 with generated revenue returning to improving user experience on that section of the river.

"I think this new system will be much more user friendly," said River Ranger Shaun Ray. Ray believes the 24/7 access to both reserve and make changes to permits will benefit everyone. "We are always looking to improve user experience and increase access and opportunities."

The number of people camping on the river has steadily increased each year since the permit system was instituted. More than 14,000 river runners camped along the Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado River in 2015. Those visits generated approximately \$90,000 in revenue that the BLM is using for boat launch and campsite improvements, permit administration, and river ranger patrols.

For more information and to make reservations, find us online at: [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

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Invite you to a sneak preview ...

# FUN & GAMES

Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum in Meeker

Museum of Northwest Colorado in Craig

ON THE

# Western Slope:

# Heritage Rendezvous 2016

Colorado Mesa University John U. Tomlinson Library Special Collections & Archives in Grand Junction

Western Colorado Center for the Arts in Grand Junction

Rifle Heritage Center in Rifle

Palisade History Center in Palisade

Mesa County Libraries in Mesa County

Museum of the West in Grand Junction

Pioneer Town Museum in Cedaredge

Bringing the Heritage of the Western Slope Together

**March 3 • 5:30 - 7:30 pm**



**Museum of the West**  
462 Ute Avenue, Downtown Grand Junction