



CITY DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT 20 Years of Service Anniversary for Staff

The City of Fruita is fortunate to have four employees that celebrate 20 years of service this year and we appreciate the impact of their dedication to public service for this community. John Coughran, Tom Nankervis, John McBride, and Art Shires were all hired in 1999, and have all progressed in their careers where they continue to serve the Fruita community.

John Coughran was hired as a police officer on March 7, 1999. Prior to choosing a career in law enforcement, John had a successful career as a musician. He traveled with his band playing venues across the west coast. John has excelled as a police officer in Fruita. He worked as a school resource officer before being promoted to sergeant, where he has supervised patrol officers ever since. Other assignments John has held include field training

officer and arrest control instructor. John was voted "Best Police Officer" by the *Grand Junction Free Press*, Locals' Choice award in 2014.

Tom Nankervis and John McBride were both hired to assist with maintenance operations in Public Works and have progressed to be leaders within the department. Tom Nankervis came to the City as an equipment operator with experience in the construction industry and quickly became entrenched in maintaining everything from streets, utilities, and building facilities to vehicle & equipment maintenance. Nankervis continues to assist with maintenance operations on the Streets crew where he serves in a field supervisory role that includes mentoring of maintenance staff and always does a good job of keeping work fun.(cont. p.2)

From left to right: Art Shires, John Coughran, Tom Nankervis and John McBride



FRUITA IN MOTION: **Plan Like a Local** (Comprehensive Plan Update)

This summer, the Fruita in Motion planning team has been working on analyzing the existing conditions and drafting the new Comprehensive Plan. As part of this process, Economic Planning Systems (EPS) is preparing a community profile of Fruita. The Community Profile analyzes Fruita and Mesa County economic, demographic, and real estate market data to understand the trends that should be considered in the planning process. The following are important trends highlighted in the profile:

- The economy and population of Mesa County are beginning to grow quickly, after a decade of slow growth. Fruita is growing slower than Grand Junction and the county as a whole.
- The majority of Fruita's employed workforce work in Grand Junction. Only 15% of the City's employed workforce lives and works in Fruita.
- Fruita's home prices are some of the highest in Mesa County. A similar home in Grand Junction may sell for half the

(cont. p.2)

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.



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JOEL KINCAID
250-9557



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LORI BUCK
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KYLE HARVEY
435-724-7387



KEN KREIE
270-3305



AMANDA EWING
275-2165

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Are you interested in joining a City of Fruita Board or Commission? There are several Boards and Commissions of the City of Fruita, and these groups work closely on a variety of issues such as Tourism or Parks and Recreation (to name only a few) and help recommend policies and ideas to the City and City Council. If you are interested or want to learn more information, visit fruita.org/bc. 📞

Reminder from the Police Department —

LOCK YOUR VEHICLES

Over the summer, we saw an increase in thefts from vehicles, most of which were left unlocked. This is typical with warmer weather as there is more activity at night. As a reminder, the Police Department encourages you to always keep your vehicles locked and report any suspicious activity immediately. Do not hesitate to call the non-emergency dispatch line at (970) 242-6707 if you do see anything suspicious. As always, thank you for being our community partners in preventing and solving crime. 📞

City of Fruita Named a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists

In May, the League of American Bicyclists recognized Fruita with a Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly Community award, joining 476 communities across the country in building better places for people to bike. This award recognizes Fruita's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investments in bike infrastructure, education programs, and promoting and encouraging bicycling through events and pro-bicycling policies. To learn more, visit www.bikeleague.org. 📞



CITY DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT

20 Years of Service Anniversary for Staff (Continued from p.1)

John McBride came to the City with a variety of skill sets in manufacturing, industrial maintenance, and construction fields, which translated into having McBride take an active role in developing a number of creative solutions for many of Fruita's maintenance needs. McBride was promoted to, and continues to serve as the Superintendent for Public Works where he interacts most directly with the public in addressing maintenance concerns and enjoys being able to help members of the community.

Art Shires is the longest tenured employee in the Parks and Recreation Department and has seen the parks system literally "grow" since June 1999. Starting off as the only

part-time employee in the Parks division, Art now oversees a staff of four full-time and six part-time and seasonal employees. Art has been named the City of Fruita's Employee of the Year on two occasions (nominated for in many other years) and continues to take pride in providing the Fruita Community with an excellent system of parks, trails and open space areas that are safe, clean and well-maintained.

The employees have all had a big impact on improving the Quality of Place and Lifestyle of the community and if you see them, please help them in celebrating their 20 years of service milestone. 📞



FRUITA IN MOTION: Plan Like a Local (Continued from p.1)

- price it would in Fruita.
- Fruita has a very limited supply of affordable rental units.
 - Education and Health Services are the largest and fastest growing segments of the county economy. Manufacturing is growing as well, as new companies locate in Fruita.
 - Fruita's economy largely mirrors that of the county but has a higher percentage of jobs in leisure/hospitality (tourism).

With this data in hand, the planning team will have a draft Comprehensive Plan ready

by the end of September. The City is hosting a draft plan party on October 3rd from 4 – 7:30 pm in Civic Center Park for residents to learn about the plan and provide feedback. Afterwards, the plan will go on tour to HOAs, community groups, and other entities to give the larger community an opportunity to see and provide feedback on the plan. In the meantime, please go to www.fruitainmotion.org to learn more about the plan and upcoming public engagement opportunities. 📞



FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES — Food Boxes for Seniors at the Fruita Community Center

On the fourth Thursday of every month, the Food Bank of the Rockies will be distributing food for income eligible Seniors (age 60 and older) at the Fruita Community Center. This effort is part of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which is a USDA program designed to improve the health of low-income people at least 60 years of age, by supplementing their diets with nutritious foods. Eligible

seniors can receive a box full of food and cheese, as well as pantry items. This program will be at the Senior Center the 4th Thursday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Food Bank of the Rockies institution is an equal opportunity provider. For more information, you can call 2-1-1 and ask about Food Bank of the Rockies ☎

City of Fruita Receives Starburst Award for Excellent use of Lottery Funds for Community Conservation Projects



From left to right: Mayor Joel Kincaid, director of the Colorado Lottery Tom Seaver, City Manager Mike Bennett, One Riverfront Foundation Chair Paul Nelson, Parks & Recreation Director Ture Nycum. 🏆

Update from the Fruita Youth Action Council

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Fruita Youth Initiative (FYI) presents:

START THE CONVERSATION FRUITA

TOPIC LIST

- Vaping: August 28, 2019**
- Suicide Prevention* : September 25, 2019**
- Anxiety: October 23, 2019**
- Prescription Medicine: November 20, 2019**
- Marijuana: December 18, 2019**
*Registration Required

Parents and youth both welcome to learn about these important topics!

Where: Fruita Community Center
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments and snacks provided.
Child care provided for preschool age and older.

Questions?
Email: sarah.schultz@mesacounty.us

Registration
<http://bit.ly/FYIstarttheconvo>

Scan me

Connecting Community. Inspiring Solutions.

As part of the Fruita Youth Initiative, the Fruita Youth Action Council is a group of 18 Fruita youth that provide the City with input on community and youth issues, review and make recommendations on possible programs and strategy implementation methods, promote healthy pro-social activities and events for youth in the community, and provide support for area schools. The Action Council has been busy this year! Earlier this year, the group spent two days and a night floating the Ruby Horse-Thief section of Colorado River to discuss how to be leaders in the community and the issues facing Fruita. Since the start of the school year, the group organized and hosted the Splash Bash at the Community Center, where almost two hundred students attended to learn about the Action Council, as well as enjoyed swimming, barbeque, and live music. This fall, the Fruita Youth Initiative has launched a "Start the Conversation Fruita" series (for both parents and youth) to discuss important issues facing the area. The conversations will focus on topics such as vaping, suicide prevention, and more. The full flyer can be found here 📄

Upcoming dates for Explore Fruita with the City Manager - Casual Community Discussions with City Officials

September 5, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. – Coffee with Mike at Fruita Starbucks

September 24, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. – Hike Dino Hill

October 15, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. – Beer or Root Beer with the Manager at Suds Brothers Brewery

October 29, 2019 at 7:00 a.m. – Coffee with the City Manager at Judy's Restaurant

November 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. – Walk Snooks Bottom – Meet at Opal Hill Trailhead

December 11, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. – Coffee with the City Manager at Camilla's Café ☎



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UPCOMING EVENTS IN FRUITA

9/14/19	Bike Rodeo	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Fruita Community Center	Preschool - 5th grade, will include obstacle course, bike and helmet inspections, bike registration cards
9/15/19	Annual FCC Maintenance Week	9/15/19 to 9/22/19	Fruita Community Center	The FCC will be closed all week for maintenance.
9/27-9/29/19	Fruita Fall Festival	Open Venue	Downtown Fruita	Parade, crafts, food, music, and more
9/28/19	Tour of the Moon	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	TBD	Bike Tour Fruita Aid Station
10/3/19	Comprehensive Plan Draft Party	4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Civic Center Park	Come share your thoughts on Fruita's future!
10/19/19	Hope of the Grand Valley 5k/10k	10:00 a.m.	River Front Trail	Fundraiser for Hope of the Grand Valley
10/26/19	Truck N Treat	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Civic Center Park	Wear your costume and explore unique vehicles!
10/31/19	Trick or Treat Street	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Downtown Fruita	Visit the Fruita downtown businesses to collect candy!
11/2/19	Rimrock Marathon	8:00 a.m.	Colorado National Monument	Continuing a yearly tradition occurring inside the CNM, this venue provides epic views and a world class running course.
12/14/19	Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair	10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Fruita Community Center	Enjoy shopping over 50 vendors at this FREE show!
12/14/19	Hometown Christmas and Parade of Lights	Parade at Dusk	Downtown Fruita	Holiday cheer and beautiful lights and shopping.
12/18/19	Cookies-n-Claus	6:00 p.m.	Fruita Community Center	Wear your PJs and enjoy a short film, story and photos with Santa!