



# Community Newsletter February 2017

As the governing body for Gilpin County, the Board of County Commissioners has myriad responsibilities including:

- ⇒ Policy-making and legislative functions
- ⇒ Administering land use regulations
- ⇒ Advocating for citizens at all levels of government
- ⇒ Adopting the county budget and ensuring stewardship of county resources
- ⇒ Establishing the vision and setting the strategic direction for county government activities, programs and infrastructure.

**The three Gilpin County Commissioners are:**

- District 1: Ron Engels, 720-333-4628
- District 2: Linda Isenhardt, 720-233-1734
- District 3: Gail Watson, 303-887-2917

<b>GILPIN COUNTY HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS</b>				
<i>Gilpin County Old Courthouse Building</i> 203 Eureka Street, Central City, CO 80427				
Office	Area of Service	Main Number	Fax Number	Mailing Address
Administration	Commissioners & General Services	303-582-5214	303-582-5440	P.O. Box 366
Assessor	Property Assessment	303-582-5451	303-565-1798	P.O. Box 338
Clerk & Recorder	License Plates/Car & Voter Registration	303-582-5321	303-565-1797	P.O. Box 429
Community Development	Planning/Zoning/Mapping/Building	303-582-5831	303-565-1796	P.O. Box 661
Coroner	Deaths in Gilpin County	303-435-7061	303-327-7900	P.O. Box 333
Treasurer	Taxes & Fee Payments	303-582-5222	303-582-3086	P.O. Box 368
<i>Justice Center</i> 2960 Dory Hill Road, Black Hawk, CO 80422				
Office	Area of Service	Main Number	Fax Number	Suite No.
Courts	County and District Courts, Jury Duty	303-582-5522	303-582-3112	200
Dispatch Center	Non-emergency Services	303-582-5500	303-582-3758	300
District Attorney	Part-time Office out of Jefferson County	303-582-1340		220
Human Services	Adult/Child Protection/Public Assistance	303-582-5444	303-582-5798	100
Jail	Detentions	303-582-3576	303-582-3574	350
Senior Services	Meals, Transportation and Shopping	303-582-5444	303-582-5798	101
Sheriff Administration	Civil Process, Dog Tags, Case Reports	303-582-1060	303-582-3813	300
Victim Services	Dignified Services for Crime Victims	303-582-5926	303-582-6018	300
<i>Gilpin County Apex Facility</i> 495 Apex Valley Road				
Office	Area of Service	Main Number	Fax Number	Mailing Address
Finance	County Budget, Vouchers, Payments	303-951-3671	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 366, CC, 80427
Human Resources	Employment, Insurance	303-951-3673	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 366, CC, 80427
Facilities Manager	Facilities/Maintenance	303-951-3674	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 457, BH, 80422
<i>Other County Offices</i>				
Office	Area of Service	Main No.	Fax Number	Mailing Address
Community Center	Rec. Classes, Mtg. rooms	303-582-1453	303-582-5404	250 Norton Dr., Black Hawk, CO 80422
Community Center Pools	Swimming and swim lessons	720-536-2855	303-582-5404	250 Norton Dr., Black Hawk, CO 80422
CSU/Gilpin Extension Agent	Gardening, forest health, renewable energy, noxious weeds, 4-H	303-582-9106	303-582-5062	230 Norton Dr., Black Hawk, CO 80422
Library	Information Services	303-582-5777	303-582-3938	15131 Hwy. 119, Black Hawk, CO 80422
Public Health Agency	Community Health	303-582-5803	303-582-9063	101 Norton Drive, Black Hawk, CO 80422
Public Works	County Road Maintenance, Trash Transfer, Slash, Hot Logs	303-582-5004	303-582-3291	255 Braecher Pk Rd BH CO 80422
Veterans Officer	Veterans Services	303-582-5444	303-582-5798	2960 Dory Hill Rd, Ste.100, BH, CO 80422

On December 1, 2016, Gilpin County hosted a day-long kickoff meeting of the Broadband Planning Grant in collaboration with Clear Creek County and funded by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Stakeholders included our emergency responders, Gilpin County RE-1 School administrators, information technology professionals from the casinos, cities and county government, United Power, Black Hawk and Central City managers.

An evening meeting at the Gilpin County Community Center with residents was well-attended in order for them to meet the **NEO Connect** team who will be orchestrating this countywide study, inventorying our current assets and speaking with local businesses and residents. One of the **critical components to this broadband study is completion of two surveys with links below.** One is geared for residents and the other for businesses. For those people who are involved in both, please complete both surveys. They only take about **10 minutes** and the information will be invaluable.

Gilpin County also has **hard copies** of these surveys at the front desks of the Library, Community Center, Human Services and at the Central City Courthouse in the hall outside of the Clerk and Recorder's office. **DEADLINE to return completed surveys is February 12, 2017.**

**Gilpin County Business Survey:**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GilpinCountyBusinessBroadband>  
**Gilpin County Residential Survey:**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GilpinCountyResidentialBroadband>

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### CSU Extension in Gilpin County

Irene Shonle, Director

Low cost **seedling trees** are still available for sale – visit our website for an application form. Order now, trees arrive May 17<sup>th</sup>, order soon – some species have already sold out.

**Chickens in your mountain yard** class (including a panel on predator issues) will be on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Exhibit Barn. Cost: \$5, please RSVP to 303-582-9106.

**Earth Day**—April 22 – two earth-friendly classes at each \$5 in the Exhibit Barn. Come to one or both, RSVPs appreciated. **Rain barrels and passive water harvesting** at 2:00 pm: **Firewise landscaping - turn defensible space into a waterwise and pollinator people - friendly space** at 3:00 pm.

Gilpin Extension **4H STEM** programs: Registration for the Wednesday and Friday sessions is through the Gilpin County Parks and Recreation Department's Afterschool/Youth Camp program at 303-582-1453. The Thursday program is drop in but registration is required so please call the Extension Office at 303-582-9106.

**Healthy Living Wednesdays** (K-5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:00 pm) will be having "Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry." **In February:** Can you make an orange float? What about making ice cream, discovering catalysts to create fizzy foam, or shining pennies with common edible household products? We are also looking forward to Chris, The Foodie, coming as a guest chef.

The **Thursday STEAMing Ahead** group (7-12 year olds on the first and third Thursdays at 4:15 pm or when bus arrives) will start exploring LEGO WeDo2 robotics and how to program them. The **Friday Youth Camp STEM group** in February will include building a Newton Car and rockets.



**NEW! Teen Tech Thursdays** at the Gilpin Library and Gilpin Extension. This is a Free Robotics/Tech Afterschool program for ages 12 and up. It will kick off on February 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:00 pm with a pizza party and building a Mars Rover. It will continue every second and fourth Thursday at the Gilpin Library throughout the school year. Youth may come directly to the Library, take the bus from the Nederland school or take the Gilpin bus to the Rec Center and drive over with 4-H Program Associate Kirsten Springer. Nederland students dropped off by bus earlier can participate in gaming or have hangout/homework time until the program starts at 4:30. **Pre-registration strongly encouraged** – sign up at the Library or the Extension office or call 303-582-9106



*If anyone has any **old digital cameras** you are no longer using, please consider donating them to the 4-H afterschool program. Thank you!*

Save energy around your house by checking out our **Home Energy Audit Loan (HEAL) kit** – you can check it out for **FREE** from our office. **NEW: we have an infrared camera** (we require a fully refundable \$100 deposit for the camera).

If you'd like to get on our email list, please visit our website and click on the lower right where it says "Gilpin County Extension Email list" and fill out the form. We do not share your email address.

230 Norton Drive (Exhibit Barn), 303-582-9106 website: [gilpin.extension.colostate.edu/](http://gilpin.extension.colostate.edu/)



### Library News

Michael Carlson, Director

2017 looks to be another exciting year here at the Library. Just this past year we had over 13,000 people visit the library and checkout over 24,000 items. The Library looks to expand our collection by offering the latest titles along with adding new formats. We

will soon be subscribing to the newest electronic databases offered by the state. Keep an eye on our website as we add the Auto Repair and Small Engine Repair Reference Center to a list of over 20 databases that patrons will be able to access from home.

We will also be continuing our tradition of holding exciting programs. The Artist in Residence program will be in full swing this summer along with a revamped Summer Reading Program. Stop by and visit our rotating exhibit of local artists that are featured in the meeting room. Join one of our afternoon or evening book clubs for adults. We also hold a weekly children's story and craft hour every Wednesday morning. In a partnership with the Gilpin Extension, we will be kicking off "Teen Tech Thursdays" starting on February 9<sup>th</sup> by building a Mars rover using Lego robotics.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month will feature a STEAM themed program for ages 12+. Visit our website or Facebook page to keep abreast of other special events we hold throughout the year.

As we look to provide new services and programs, don't forget about the helpful services we currently offer. There are seven public internet computers for everyone to use. Printing is 10 cents a page and faxing is available for \$1.00 a page. We also provide free scanning and notary service. If you have a laptop, feel free to stop by and access our Wi-Fi. For large organizations and nonprofits, our community room is a great place to hold a meeting. When you need help or answers, remember that your Library is always here for you by calling us at 303-582-5777.

Children's Story Hour happens every Wednesday morning from 10am to 11am. Drop-ins are welcome!



### Treasurer's Update

Alynn Huffman, Treasurer

**TAXES, TAXES, TAXES!** Tax notices for 2016 taxes will be mailed out around January 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are paying your taxes, the first half will be due February 28 and the second half will be due June 15, 2017 or full payment mail-ins must be postmarked by April 29, 2017 and walk-ins have until May 1, 2017 since April 30<sup>th</sup> is on a Sunday. You may also make your tax payments online at <http://co.gilpin.co.us>.

All tax notices are sent to the property owner. If a mortgage company is escrowing money for your taxes, **you** will receive the tax notice. Your mortgage company will contact the Treasurer's Office for the exact amount of your taxes. If you purchased your property close to the end of 2016, the Assessor's Office may not have received the transfer information in time to show your name as owner. The Treasurer's Office works closely with the Assessor's Office to make sure that the tax notices are sent to the current owner. However, should you receive a tax notice for property which you have sold/transferred, please notify the Treasurer's Office. If you do not receive a tax notice, please contact the Treasurer's Office as we may not have your current address.



If you have any questions regarding payment of taxes or your tax notice, the staff at the Treasurer's Office is here to help at 303-582-5222.



**Public Works Department**

Bill Paulman, Director

Gilpin County Public Works & Facilities Department includes our Road & Bridge Operations, the Solid Waste Transfer Station for trash & recycle, and the slash yard. The Facilities Department oversees the County buildings and properties.

**Roads & Bridges**

Our staff is diligent about maintaining all of the county - maintained roads. However, sometimes you, the resident, will notice a need before we do. We truly appreciate it when you report a road problem such as a drifted road, a clogged culvert under a road, downed trees that interfere with traffic, or other issues. Do not hesitate to contact our office at 303-582-5004.

Gilpin County maintains “Cross-culverts”, culverts that cross underneath roads. Driveway culverts are property of the homeowner, the responsibility for maintaining them and keeping them open belongs to the owner. Installing a new driveway? Any new access (or changes) to a public road require an access permit. You will find the Driveway Access Permit and policies on the County website, <http://co.gilpin.co.us> under the Public Works Department listing or call 303-582-5004.

**Snow removal 101**

The basic philosophy governing the Gilpin County Snow and Ice Removal Policy is that main County roads (Level 1 and Level 2) including school bus routes, will receive priority. County Roads classified as local roads (Level 3) will receive snow and ice removal after the higher priority roads have been plowed, sanded and remain open. During nighttime hours Gilpin County will provide snow and ice removal only on Level 1 and Level 2 roads.



Usually, there are two separate snow removal operations. The first is during the storm itself and consists of plowing to keep the roads open. The second operation begins after the storm has ended. It consists of widening the travelled portion of the road and pushing the snow back. Unfortunately, each operation may result in a berm of snow across private driveways. Clearing this berm is the responsibility of the individual resident or business. During the second phase, the County may clear the berm from the driveways which had been cleaned out initially and have been plowed shut again from the widening process. Reasonable effort is made to plow in a manner that will minimize the snow berms.

**Talkin’ Trash**

The Gilpin County Transfer Station is a convenient way to dispose of your household trash. County residents are charged \$2 per bag (for 33 gallon size or smaller) and \$3 for bags larger than 33 gallons. Non-residents pay \$4.00 and \$6.00 respectively. Discount punch cards are available at the Public Works office (255 Braecher Park Road) at \$20.00 for \$24 worth of bags. Punch cards purchased at the Transfer Station are \$20.00 for \$20 worth of bags. The fee schedules for disposal of electronics, tires, debris and solid waste are available at the county website <http://www.co.gilpin.co.us>. We still accept cash, checks and charge cards (with a small service fee for charge cards).

**Transfer Station & Slash Site Hours**

Wednesday – Saturday 7:00am to 2:30pm ; Sunday 8:00am – 1:00pm. When a County holiday falls on a Monday, the transfer station generally closes the Sunday before. **“Free Trash Day Tokens”** are available to Gilpin County residents, with proof of residency, and must be picked up at the Public Works office. “Free Trash Day” is intended for residential clean up and is limited to 5 cubic yards per residence (approximately a full size pickup with racks) and is not available to businesses. More details are listed on the Gilpin County website or call with questions, 303-582-5004. **Solid Waste will open the Slash Site on Wednesday, April 26.** It will be open the same schedule as the Transfer Station through Sunday, October 15, 2017. Slash drop off is free for county households, with small fees for contractors and users from outside the county.



**2017 Property Values & Sample Tax Calculation**

Anne Schafer, Assessor

Colorado law currently requires a two-year reassessment cycle of all real property, **2016 was the intervening year** of the cycle. For most properties, the value remained the same as what appeared on your 2015 Property Notice of Valuation.

In this intervening year, the May 2016 Notices of Valuation were only sent to property owners with a property that changed in value. Value changes were usually due to new construction, reclassification or demolition.

Your 2017 tax bill, being sent out mid-January, is for your 2016 taxes. Please refer to the back side of your tax bill for information on how to apply for the Senior or Veteran’s Tax Exemptions. **You will be sent your 2017 Notice of Valuation on May 1, 2017.**

**Calculation of Property Taxes**

The actual value of property is **not** the taxable value; rather, the taxable value is a percentage of the actual value. The percentage is called an “assessment rate,” and the resulting value is called the “assessed value.” It is currently 7.96 percent for residential properties and is 29 percent for vacant land and all other properties.

Your property taxes are calculated by multiplying the mill levy or tax rate by the assessed or taxable value of your property.

**Example:**

The actual value of Mr. Jones’ home is \$200,000. The Notice of Valuation showed the current assessment percentage as 7.96%. Then, multiply the **assessed value** times the **decimal equivalent of the total mill levy**.

Actual Value x Assessment Rate	Assessed Value
\$ 200,000 x 7.96% =	\$ 15,920

If Mr. Jones’ assessed value is \$15,920 and the corresponding mill levy is 35.530 (example only), his taxes will be:

Assessed Value x Mill Levy (example only)	Taxes
\$ 15,920 x .035530 =	Approx. \$ 565.64



**Gilpin County Emergency Management**

Sergeant Kevin Armstrong, Preparedness Director



In 2016 the Gilpin County Sheriff’s Office kicked off the Community Emergency Preparedness presentations. Almost 90 Gilpin residents took advantage of the opportunity to become more involved in their preparedness in the event a disaster occurred. The presentations provided Gilpin citizens with information, resources and tools to be better prepared. As we all move into 2017, the Gilpin County Sheriff’s Office will continue to bring these presentations to the community, HOA meetings, faith-based groups and any other organization that would benefit from the presentation. Please watch the local papers and the Sheriff’s Office web page for Community Emergency Preparedness Presentation dates and times to come.

If you have any questions or would like to host a Community Emergency Preparedness Presentation, please contact Sergeant Kevin Armstrong at 303-515-4321 or [karmstrong@co.gilpin.co.us](mailto:karmstrong@co.gilpin.co.us). There is a link to the new guide on the County’s website, please check it out.

**Upcoming for GCART**

Vicki Nemec, Gilpin Representative to GCART

The Gilpin County Animal Response Team responded to their first emergency shelter setup on July 9, 2016. Animals started arriving at the fairgrounds by 3:00 pm. and at the end of the emergency, the shelter was housing 150 animals with the help of 37 GCART volunteers and 7 from Jefferson County. The shelter was up for 10 days and at the end, all agreed more volunteers would definitely be needed for anything that lasted longer than that.



Luckily, new members are showing interest at every event. FREE training is being scheduled during 2017 to assist volunteers with learning what will be expected of them during an evacuation or call-out by GCART.



There will be two basic CART shelter classes, two ESF-11 classes and one BULLS class held in 2017. GCART will be sponsoring one of the ESF-11 classes in the spring. If you are a new member to GCART, the basic CART class will be one you will need to take in order to work in the shelter during an emergency. The ESF-11 class will be needed by anyone who wishes to work in the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and be GCART's representative in the EOC. As many local volunteers as possible that are able to attend this class are encouraged since it is never known who will and won't be available during an emergency.

The BULLS (Big Useful Livestock Lessons) would be for any volunteer planning on working with the larger animals during an evacuation.

In short, 2017 will offer several free training classes for new and veteran volunteers alike. If you are interested in helping animals during a disaster, please contact any GCART representative or check the GCART website at <http://co.gilpin.co.us/GCART/GCARTdefault.htm> for more information.

**Upcoming Events for 2017**



- ⇒ High Country Auxiliary **Chili Dinner/Silent Auction** will be held March 4, 2017 in the Community Center Gym
- ⇒ High Country Auxiliary and Gilpin County **Flea Market** will be June 9 & 10, 2017 at the Exhibit Building.
- ⇒ FREE Chip and Low Cost Pet Vaccinations in the Spring at the Exhibit Building.
- ⇒ Gilpin County **Fair** complete with rodeo, free rides and much more will be August 19 & 20, 2017 at the Fairgrounds Complex.
- ⇒ **Winter Arts Festival** will be held December 9, 2017 at the Community Center.

Keep an eye on the county website for dates on the 2017 Gymkhana Buckle Series and other county events as dates are set..



Current and past issues of the Gilpin County Newsletter may be viewed online at <http://co.gilpin.co.us>.  
For more information, or to change a mailing address, contact us at 303-582-5214.

**Gilpin County Community Center**

Kathi Lambert, Director

On-going classes

- **Youth Swimming Lessons**
- **Private/Semi-Private Swimming Lessons**
- **Swim Team**
- **Fitness Classes:**
  - Pilates Barre: Mon 8:15-9:15am
  - Hatha Yoga: Mon & Th 9:30-10:45am
  - Aquacize: M/W/F 9:30-10:30am & T/Th 5:30-6:30pm
  - BootCamp: Mon 6:15-7:15p, Th. 8:15-9:15am & Sat. 10:00-11:00am
  - Quick Cardio & Toning: Tues. 8:15-9:45am
  - Fire Fitness: Wed 9:15-10:15am
  - Adult Strengthen, Stretch & Balance: Wed. & Fri. 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - Guts & Glutes: Wed 6:15-7:15pm
  - Cardio Dance: Fri 9:30-10:30am
- **Personal Training**
- **Tae Kwon Do:** T/Th 6:00-7:30pm
- **Tai Chi:** Wed 6:30-7:30pm
- **Pottery Classes**
- **Youth Dance Classes**
  - Beginning Combo ages 3-5 (Ballet/Tap/Acro) 4:30-5:30pm
  - Beginning Acrobatics 5:30-6:30pm
  - Advanced Acrobatics 6:30-7:30pm
- **Youth and Adult Co-Ed Leagues** including: Youth Basketball, Youth Baseball, Youth Wrestling, Youth Soccer, Adult Volleyball, Adult Softball, Adult Kickball, Adult Pickleball
- **Youth Afterschool, Friday Camp, Holiday Camp and Summer Camp Programs**
- **4-H Programs** in conjunction with our Youth Camp Programs

*Father Daughter Sweetheart Ball*

Gilpin County Community Center  
February 11th from 6pm - 9pm



Price includes:  
♥Dancing  
♥Valentine Gifts  
♥Picture together  
♥Refreshments  
♥Special Invitation to save the memory

*Create a memory to last a lifetime! Daddy, bring your little sweethearts to the Sweetheart Ball.*

Cost: \$18/couple (additional sweethearts are \$7 ea.)

Call 303-582-1453 to register and for more information.

**Now Open on Sunday 12-6!**



Teens 16+  
Get your summer job now!  
**Youth Camp Aide  
Lifeguard**  
<http://co.gilpin.co.us/Employment/jobs.htm>

**Youth After School!**

Bus Arrival - 6pm

Friday Camp  
7am-6pm + \$32/day

Grades K - 6th take the school bus from Gilpin RE-1 School to the Gilpin County Community Center and get ready to have some fun!  
\$6/Day



4-H - Robotics  
Crafts - Cooking  
Swimming

 250 Norton Drive 303-582-1453 [www.gilpinrecreation.com](http://www.gilpinrecreation.com)