



**PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CENTRAL CITY
CO
PERMIT NO. 3**

GILPIN COUNTY



photo courtesy of J. West

Gilpin County Community Newsletter January 2008

COMMUNITY CENTER FAMILY EVENTS

FATHER-DAUGHTER SWEETHEART BALL February 9, 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Cost: \$15/couple + \$5 for extra sweethearts. Price includes dancing, picture together, frame, corsage, refreshments, sweetheart treats, and memories. This event sells out so sign up early!

FREE FITNESS EXPO March 8, 10:00 am. to 1:00 pm. Sample our fitness classes. 20-minute class rotations in Cardio, Martial Arts, Yoga, Pilates, Sports Conditioning & Aquacize.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT March 19, 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Join us for an evening of egg hunting, prizes, pics with the Easter Bunny, and fun for kids ages 1–11 and their families. Bring your swimsuit for egg diving. A special thank you to Eagles' Nest Early Learning Center for helping to make this a free event for the community. For Community Center information please call 303-582-1453.

Inside this issue:

Message from the County Manager	2
County Health Assessment	2
Tax Notices Update	3
Vehicle Registration Online Renewal	3
US Forest Service	4
Library Seeks Artist	5
Library Film Series	5
CSU Extension Office	6
Radon Awareness	6
County Events	7
Parks & Recreation Programs	7
Phone Listings	8

A Message from the County Manager

Snow Removal, Trash Service, Transportation and Funding Requests

Winter has returned to the Colorado high country, and with it the annual concerns about the County's snow removal process.

There are some facts about the Road & Bridge operations that folks should know, because they make a difference in what you can reasonably expect this winter. We don't plow every time it snows just a few inches, for example, and we don't have the personnel for 24-hour operations. If we get a really big storm, it's going to pile up a bit before the crews begin opening up the roads. Deciding when we start plowing depends on a number of factors: whether it's a school day or a holiday weekend, for example, or how long the storm is expected to last.



Let me again quote from the *County's Primer for Living in the High Country*, first published in 1999: "Be aware that the County does not clear the snow berm created across your driveway when public roads are plowed. It is not practical to individually clear two thousand driveways on 150 miles of road. Clearing the end of your driveway is your responsibility and one of the joys of rural living. Easier, too, if removed before being driven over or packed into a wall of ice." It goes without saying that a dependable four-wheel-drive vehicle is a big plus.

Snow removal is something our citizens have a right to expect; our free trash service, however, is a benefit that has been extended more recently. Unfortunately, it's also been somewhat abused. Accordingly, over the course of the year, as Gilpinites register their motor vehicles, they will find enclosed in the envelope which holds the little month and year decals for the license plates, a numbered red decal

that says "Gilpin County Residential Sticker, 2008-2009," and has the County logo on it.

We're asking folks to place the stickers in the rear window, driver's side, of their vehicles. Eventually, once we get these out to everyone in the County, they will be required on any vehicles coming to the trash transfer station for the free disposal of household hazardous waste.

Speaking of vehicles, there's a questionnaire in this newsletter on the County's bus system, the Gilpin County Connector; we're thinking of expanding the service, but need your input as to whether, how and where. Fill out the questionnaire, mail it back, or drop it off at any County facility and we'll consider your suggestions.



Finally, although we are just weeks into the New Year, the Commissioners have already received funding requests from community groups. The County has a very specific process for handling such requests on an annual basis; it involves getting a form from our Finance Director, Clorinda Smith, in the Spring; returning it by July 31; and having an amount approved in the budget cycle at the end of the year for the **following** fiscal year. In a tight fiscal year such as we expect in 2008, having to repeatedly deal with such requests can seriously compromise the County's fiscal position. So if you are a member of a group who would like to apply for funding for the future, please contact Clorinda at 303-951-3671, and get on the list for notification of next year's cycle.

Roger Baker
Gilpin County Manager

Gilpin County Community Health Assessment

Results from community surveys, key stakeholder interviews, and other data sources are now compiled into one, comprehensive document that outlines health in Gilpin County. Contact Gilpin County Director of Public and Environmental Health Services Jennifer Lavelly by phone, 303-582-5803 or e-mail, jlavelly@co.gilpin.co.us to learn how to get a copy of this report and to participate in the County's planning for community health programs.

Household Hazardous Waste Pick-Up

Getting rid of your unwanted motor oil, filters, paint, batteries, pesticides and chemicals is as easy as picking up the phone. Household hazardous waste (HHW) can be picked up right at your doorstep any time during the year. All you have to do is call 1-800-HHW-PKUP (1-800-449-7587) and ask for the next available pick up date in Gilpin County. \$5.00 co-pay and some material restrictions apply.

Notes from the Treasurer's Office

by Alynn Huffman, Gilpin County Treasurer

It's that time of year again. The last week of January, the Treasurer's Office will be sending tax notices to the assessed owners of all properties. Included with your tax statement will be inserts with information from the Assessor's Office.

Tax notices are now on their way

If you are escrowing with a mortgage company, that company usually contacts our office for your tax information. Most mortgage companies pay by halves. Check to be sure your mortgage company is paying your escrowed money by calling the Treasurer's Office at 303-582-5222 anytime after March 15, 2008. You may also visit www.co.gilpin.co.us and choose Departments, Treasurer's Office, then Pay or View Taxes.

If you are responsible for your tax payment, due dates are as follows:

Full payment:

Wednesday, April 30, 2008.

Half payments:

First half: Friday, February 29, 2008 (you get an extra day due to Leap Year!).

Second half: Monday, June 16, 2008. Second half payments are normally due on June 15, but when that date is on a weekend, the payment is due the next business day.

As always, it is the postmark date that counts when mailing payments, not the date on your check.

People who have applied for either boundary line eliminations or boundary line adjustments must keep all taxes current until the BLE or BLA is completed and the Assessor's Office has your affected schedule numbers down to one number. Remember, the Assessor works in the current year while tax notices you receive from the Treasurer's Office are for the previous year (2007).

If you no longer own the property and are not responsible for the taxes on a tax notice, please notify the Treasurer and return the notice to us.

Check the legal description on your tax notice. If it is not correct, please notify the Assessor's Office at 303-582-5451. If your lots have been split, you will receive more than one tax notice. All notices received must be paid.

If you have not received a tax notice, please notify us. You may have changed addresses and that information did not reach us. We attempt to find correct addresses for all notices that are returned to us, but if we can't, the returned tax notices remain here at the office.

Finally, if you have any questions at all, please call, email or come in to the Treasurer's Office. We will do our best to help you.

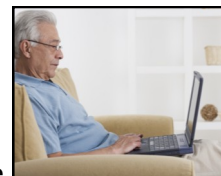
COMING SOON!
A NEW Reverse 911 Notification System for Gilpin County.
Online access for residents to update contact information.
Watch the County webpage for activation date or call 303-582-5214.

Gilpin County Motor Vehicle Office Offers Online Renewal Service

You can now perform your motor vehicle registration renewals online, from the comfort of your home and when it is most convenient! The Online Vehicle Registration Renewal Program allows you to renew your eligible vehicle registration quickly and easily via the internet. With this program, you may renew one or several vehicles in a single transaction using a credit card or electronic check.

Please keep in mind the following to ensure that you receive your renewal documents: Your current mailing address and registration address on file with the motor vehicle office must be

the same; you must provide the license plate number for the vehicle you are renewing; current insurance information must be on file for the vehicle you are renewing; you must have your credit card or checking account information available; you must have a valid email address.



Log on to www.colorado.gov and choose the Online Vehicle Registration Renewal link from the Online Services listing box. Call the Gilpin County Clerk and Recorder's Office at 303-582-5321 for more details.

Forest Service Wildfire Mitigation Project Proposed for Lump Gulch Area

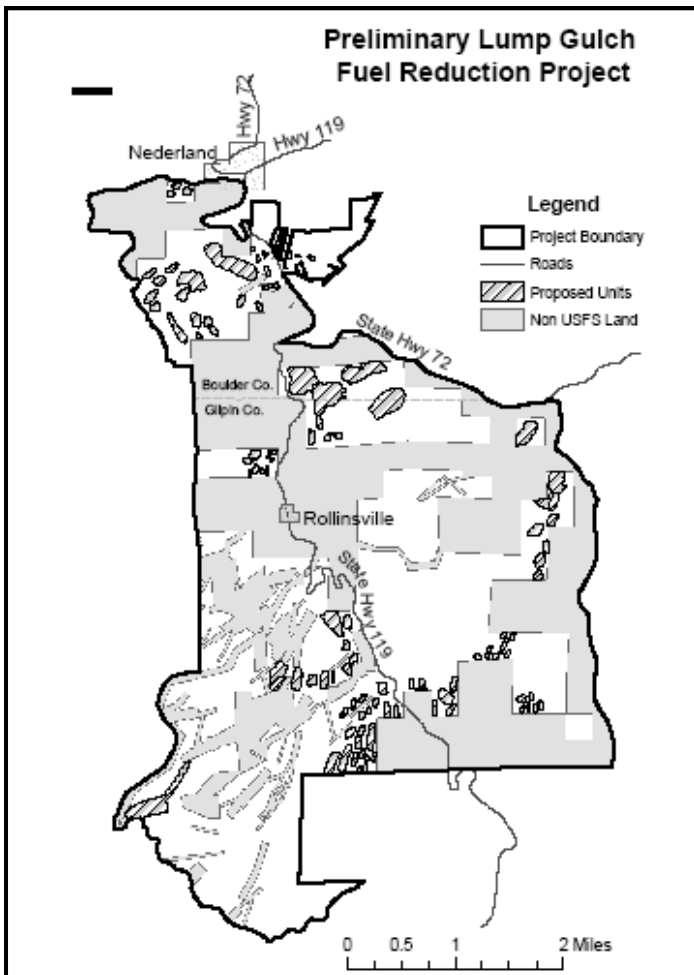
by Laura Pramuk, US Forest Service

The Boulder Ranger District of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest is considering a variety of tree removal and forest thinning activities that would reduce the amount of vegetation in the Lump Gulch area of the National Forest. The majority of the 11,800 acre project area is located in Gilpin County in the vicinity of Rollinsville, south along the Peak to Peak Highway and east to Beaver Creek. The area south of Nederland, in the West Magnolia and Big Springs area in Boulder County is also included in this proposed project. Forest Service resource specialists have been analyzing the project area since last year and have produced a treatment plan of about 1000 acres. The proposed treatment units are concentrated near communities, subdivisions, and high-value sites such as recreation facilities.

Proposed Treatments

The objective of these activities would be to reduce

the risks to homes and forestlands from wildfire. The District is currently considering possible treatments and developing project design criteria based upon field surveys and analysis of the area. Our findings will be reported in an environmental document and will take into account input from the public. As proposed the project targets about 1000 acres of the National Forest for a variety of mechanical and manual thinning activities. Manual thinning is generally conducted by people using chainsaws, while mechanical treatments take place via logging equipment such as feller-bunchers, skidders, and small tractors. No broadcast burning is planned, however, pile burning would be used to eliminate some of the slash material so that it would not create a future fire hazard. Patch and clear cuts from 5 to 40 acres are being considered in areas dominated by lodgepole pine. These activities would reduce the threat of wildfire and improve the health of the forest by selectively cutting trees, creating or expanding existing openings, and clearing the understory of excess shrubbery, small trees and woody material. These treatments will also have some effect in reducing the future overall impact of the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation that is beginning to effect National Forest lands in epidemic proportions in some parts of the project area



Environmental Analysis and Public Input

There are many resource concerns that go into the development and analysis of a project. These natural resource concerns are addressed and analyzed by Forest Service Resource Specialists, including a Landscape Architect and Soil Scientist, to ensure that the Forest Plan and the laws that govern land management on National Forest System lands are followed. Comments from the public help us ensure that our land management decisions are also guided by the concerns of the community and user groups. Our goal is to arrive at a balanced approach that best addresses both resource issues and public concerns. Overall, the proposed project should maximize beneficial impacts while

Forest Service continued

minimizing and mitigating for adverse impacts in achieving a reduction in the risk of wildfire in the Lump Gulch area.

Comment Period to Begin in January

The Boulder Ranger District will be inviting the public to attend public meetings and comment on the project beginning in mid-January. Please be on the lookout for articles in local media, as well as letters from the Boulder Ranger District about the project and our outreach efforts. We look forward to working with

Gilpin and Boulder County residents on this important project and hope that many people will participate in the public involvement process. If you would like to be added to the project mailing list or have questions please call Laura Pramuk, Public Affairs Specialist at 303-245-6429.



GILPIN COUNTY LIBRARY FILM SERIES
 Five successive Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.
 Presented and discussed by Walter Chaw, Film Critic.

CLASSIC SCREEN ADAPTATIONS:
 February 2 *Liliom* (1934) directed by Fritz Lang
 February 9 *The Killers* (1946) directed by Robert Siodmak
 February 16 *The Night of the Hunter* (1955) directed by Charles Laughton
 February 23 *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962) directed by Robert Mulligan
 March 1 *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1978) directed by Philip Kaufman
 For more information, call Library Director Larry Grieco at 303-582-0161.

Gilpin County Library Seeking Artist-in-Residence

The Gilpin County Public Library has long been interested in programs and services having to do with the arts and humanities. We have hosted some very successful poetry readings with notable guest poets who have shared their talent and work with an audience of poetry lovers, both writers and non-writers alike.

This summer the library will appoint, for the first time, an “artist-in-residence,” who, during the months of June, July and August, will engage in activities in the library that would promote and further the public’s appreciation of poetry.

These activities might include (without being limited to) organizing and hosting poetry readings, recommending to the library director poetry books for addition to the library’s collection, and producing displays and other public relations strategies to promote poetry in the library. The artist-in-residence project will be funded by the Friends of the Library, which will include an honorarium of \$1,000, plus up to \$500 for expenses to implement



any planned activities.

We invite nominations (including self-nominations) in the form of a letter describing qualifications and interest, along with letters of support and recommendation. Send to: Gilpin County Public Library, Attn: Larry Grieco, 15131 Highway 119, Black Hawk, CO 80403. Deadline for application materials is Friday, February 29, 2008. Please contact Library Director Larry Grieco, at 303-582-0161 if you have any questions. (Candidates must live in Gilpin County.)

CSU Extension Office Classes, Programs & Plant Sale

by Irene Shonle, CSU Extension Agent, Gilpin County

Make Parenting a Pleasure

Class: February 22, 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the Community Center. Join us to learn ways to have more fun as a parent. Special guest Janet Benavente, Family and Consumer Science Agent from Adams County, will have indoor activity ideas and suggestions for dealing with stress. There will be time to discuss family-centered programs that Colorado State University Extension can bring to your community. Parents, grandparents, foster parents, children or prospective parents are all welcome. \$5 class fee. Please call 303-582-9106 to register.



Pine Beetle Class: March 7, 4:00 pm at the Exhibit Barn. If you are concerned about the effect pine beetle might have on your land, seedling trees can be a great way to start reforesting and diversifying. Learn how to choose and use seedling trees to build the

most resilient forest you can. Remember to get out and check your trees for signs of pine beetle before it's too late to treat them (you have fewer options the closer it is to the time that they emerge from their host tree in July). Come into the office to learn how to recognize and treat pine beetle.

Native Plant Master Program:

Learn about Colorado's many wonderful native plants. The program is an intense series of field classes in which you will learn how to identify native plants and noxious weeds, learn their scientific names, their ecological relationships, and landscape uses. Courses consist of three classes each on consecutive Saturday mornings in May, June, July, and September. The July class will take place at East Portal in Gilpin County. An application process is required; registration is limited.



Plant Sale: Very low cost seedling trees and shrubs are available again through the Extension Office application process. Plants are available in lots of 30 or 50 (and cost is \$26.28 to \$39.20), depending on the species. They are for reforestation, windbreaks, or wildlife only. You must have two acres to apply. Order and pay now, pick up **May 6** at the Extension Office and attend the free class on how to plant for best success at 6:00 pm. Visit our website or pick up an application to see species availability. Please call for an application or for help in deciding which trees or shrubs are appropriate.

The Colorado State University Gilpin County Extension Office is located in the Exhibit Barn, 230 Norton Drive, next to the Community Center. Call 303-582-9106 or visit www.coopext.colostate.edu/gilpin.

Gilpin County Residents, Are You "Radon-Aware"?

Did you know that radon, an odorless, colorless gas, is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the country? Did you know that Gilpin County has a very high potential for radon? The only way to know the level of radon in your house is to test for it. You can pick up a free radon test kit at the Gilpin County CSU Extension Office (courtesy of a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment). Kits are in limited supply and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call 303-582-9106 for more information.

2008 County Events Calendar

January 26	Tae Kwon Do Tournament	June 7-8	3rd Annual Flea Market; Rocky Mountain Team Penning Championships & 1 ST Outdoor Gear Swap
February 9	Father/Daughter Sweetheart Ball	August 16-17	16th Annual Gilpin County Fair
February 22	Parenting is a Pleasure Class	August 23-24	Black Hawk Motherlode Rodeo (This is not a County event, but a free fairgrounds event)
March 8	Fitness Expo	October 25	Family Fun Hayride
March 19	Easter Egg Hunt	November 19	Tax Lien Sale
April 12	9Health Fair	December 13	6th Annual Winter Arts Festival
April 26	Renewable Energy Symposium		
May 10	Mountain Gardening Basics Mother/Son Hawaiian Pool Party		
May 17	Native Plants for the Mountains		
May 31	Best Low-Water Perennials		

For more information on the above events please call:

CSU Extension Office at 303-582-9106; Events Coordinator at 303-582-5214; Public Health Department at 303-582-5803; Treasurer's Office at 303-582-5222; Community Center at 303-582-1453

Upcoming Community Center Classes

Spanish for the Traveler: January 9 to February 13
January Detox (Health Cleanse Class): January 19
Saturday Morning Clay: January 19 to March 8
Pottery - Basic Wheel Throwing & Hand Building: January 24 to March 13
Willmaker Seminar: February 2
Adult / Family Dance: February 4 to February 25
Self-defense: January 14 to February 21, & February 26 to April 10.
Babysitter Training: February 23
Aikido: February 10 to March 30

Teen Events & Youth Sports with Gilpin Parks & Recreation

“Jump, Jive & Wail” Teen Dance: Friday, January 25. Come to dance lessons, then show off your new moves at the dance. Dance Lessons, 5:00—6:00 pm, Dance 6:00—8:00 pm, grades 6-12, \$5.

Freestyle Pool Jam: Friday February 1. Practice your ski & ride tricks off the diving board, while watching a freestyle movie on the big screen. 6:00—8:00 pm, grades 6-12, free.

Teen Dive-In Movie: February 22. Get your swimsuit on, grab your float and head to the pool, 6:00—8:30 pm, grades 6-12, \$5.

Indoor Youth Basketball League

Starts practicing on January 7 with games starting the six-week season on January 19. Teams based on age, 5-14 years old, includes a jersey and award. \$45 first child, \$40 each additional child; registration deadline January 2.

Gilpin County Little League

Although not a GCPR league, registrations are being accepted on January 15 at the Gilpin Community Center. Practices primarily held at the Gilpin County fields, ages 5-12 years old. Registration January 15—March 15: \$40 first child & \$10 each additional, March 16—April 10: \$50 first child & \$10 each additional child.

County Phone Numbers

9 1 1 – POLICE, FIRE and MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Gilpin County Old Courthouse 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	303-582-3957	303-582-3390	P.O. Box 333
Treasurer	Taxes & Fee Payments	303-582-5222	303-582-3086	P.O. Box 368

Justice Center 2960 Dory Hill Road, Golden, CO 80403

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
Public Health	Promotes, Improves and Maintains Community Health	303-582-5803	303-582-5798	120
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

Gilpin County Emergency Services Building 495 Apex Valley Road

Office	Area of Service	Main Number	Fax Number	Mailing Address
Finance Department	County Finances, vouchers, payments	303-951-3671	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 366, Central City, 80427
Human Resource Department	Employment, insurance, etc.	303-951-3673	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 366, Central City, 80427
Facilities Manager	Facilities/Maintenance	303-951-3674	303-951-3675	P.O. Box 366, Central City, 80427

Other County Offices

Office	Area of Service	Main Number	Fax Number	Mailing Address
Community Center	Pools, Recreation, Classes, Mtg.	303-582-1453	303-582-5404	250 Norton Dr., Golden, CO 80403
CSU/Gilpin Extension Agent	Mtn. Gardening, 4-H Youth	303-582-9106	303-582-5062	230 Norton Dr., Golden, CO 80403
Library	Information Services	303-582-5777	303-582-3938	15131 Hwy. 119, Golden, CO 80403
Road & Bridge	County Road Maintenance	303-582-5004	303-582-3291	255 Braecher Park Rd Golden, CO 80403
Veterans Officer	Veteran Services	303-582-5444	303-582-5798	P.O. Box 366, Central City, CO 80427

<http://co.gilpin.co.us>