



GRAND LAKE
COLORADO

December 2013

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NOTE: Check the website for
Public Hearings and News Up-
dates.

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TOWN OF GRAND LAKE NEWSLETTER

Spend Local — Keep The Cheer Here!

One of the best ways an individual can support his/her local community is to patronize its locally owned businesses.

Compared to their national competitors, local independent businesses funnel more money back into the local economy and offer better support to a community's non-profit and

civic needs. Locally owned businesses are better positioned to respond to the special and specific needs of the community as they are tied to the community's future. Additionally, independent retailers retain a community's unique character and status as a great place to live or visit, whereas national chains promote a bland and

homogenized community. Many shops will have extended hours on December 15th and 22nd for your shopping convenience.

By promoting the Keep The Cheer Here Campaign, a community supports its vibrant local economy.



No Parking on Grand Avenue

The Town plows all of Grand Avenue between Vine Street and Hancock Street on Mondays and Fridays during the winter, including the parking spaces. Please keep in mind that there are parking restrictions in effect from 3 a.m. to 7 a.m. for snow removal operations on those days, excluding holidays. Let it snow!

Town Hall Closures

Grand Lake Town Hall will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th and Wednesday, January 1st.

In case of emergency, please call 911. The Grand County Sheriff's office is able to contact the Town's Water and Public Works Departments for emergencies such as broken water lines.

Have a wonderful holiday and happy new year!



Town Ice Rink Now Open

Popular in its new centralized location in the Town Park, on the basketball court, the ice skating rink is open! Rocky Mountain Outfitters at 900 Grand Ave., next to the bank, will have ice skates available free for public use. Come skate for free!

Secret Santa Shop a Success



The Grand Angels and the Rotary of Grand Lake sponsored a Secret Santa Shop at the Community House on December 13 & 14. Grand County kids were able to pick out gifts for their moms, dads and pets from items donated throughout the County.

Volunteers helped the children pick out just the right gifts and others assisted with wrapping the presents. Santa was also on scene for pictures and Camille's Angels provided stuffed animals for the children.

There were many happy, smiling children! The sponsor's hope is that these "Grand Kids" learn that it is better to give than to receive. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this such a wonderful event, especially Deb Gahan who worked many days organizing and setting up for the 3rd Annual Secret Santa Shop.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 26

*Historical Society
Benefit
Rapids Lodge*

December 28, 29, 31

Kauffman House Open

December 26-31

*Melodrama at
Community House*

December 31

New Years Fireworks

January 16

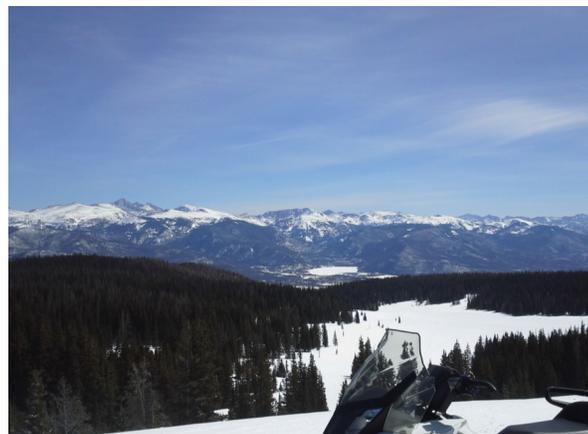
*Community
Engagement Meeting*

February 1

Winter Carnival

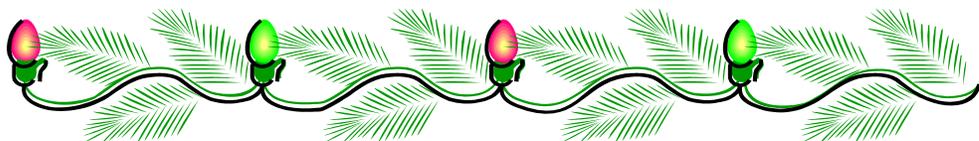
Snowmobile Season

As winter approaches, the Town would like to remind all snowmobilers to respect our residential areas when riding. Please go directly to and from your destinations in Town. Do not ride in town between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. except for **one** entry to or exit from town. Obey all speed limits, yield to all cars and pedestrians, have valid registrations, driver's licenses and snowmobile safety certificates (required for those under age 16). Ride in a single file as far right as possible and in the same direction as the automobile traffic. Stay on the trail when in Rocky Mountain National Park. Remember, riding on the lakes is extremely dangerous due to open water and thin ice.



Town Festive for the Holidays

Grand Lake is all deck out for the holidays. The Town tree is lit on Grand Avenue with the large tree at the end of town also glowing brightly. Christmas lights abound, holiday banners are up and Town Lamppost lights are red and green. Shops are decorated and streets are snow covered—ready for snowmobilers. Enjoy winter in Grand Lake!



From the Town Manager's Desk

Greetings! Here it is the middle of December. Are you ready for the holidays yet? I am not, but I will get there!

Here in Grand Lake, winter has arrived. New snow. Cold temperatures. Clear, sunny days. Snow packed streets. Ice on all three lakes. It is a winter wonderland out there! And, as usual, there is a lot to do – the Nordic Center is open for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. RMNP trails are open for the same, with ranger led outdoor programs to begin after Christmas. The snowmobile trails in Arapaho National Forest are open and in excellent condition, as is the trail from town thru RMNP to the forest trail system. Ice fishing will soon be in full swing – probably only a matter of days before the ice is thick enough for wide ranging access.

Please take advantage of all Grand Lake has to offer this time of year. If you are not already here, plan a day trip or a weekend getaway. Shops, restaurants and lodging are open. Check the calendar elsewhere in this edition or at the Chamber website for all the upcoming events that await your participation! Come on downtown!

The 2014 budget process is complete. The Board of Trustees held public hearings at their meetings on November 11, November 25 and December 9 so that folks were able to provide comments and suggestions. The 2014 budget was adopted on December 9. If you have any questions on the budget, do not hesitate to contact me or the Town Treasurer.

Community engagement continues! Most of the committees will not meet in December due to the holidays, but things continue to happen in the background. Looking ahead: **SAVE THE DATE – Thursday, January 16, 2014 will be our next community engagement meeting at the Community House** in Town Square Park. The entire Grand Lake community is invited to join in the ongoing dialogue and participate as we continue to shape our future with your input. You may recall that our last meeting was in early October 2013. We plan to hold these

community engagement meetings quarterly from-here-on-out, beginning with January 16 meeting. Please plan to attend and participate! On a related note, look for specific committee updates in this newsletter beginning with the January 2014 edition. We hope this will assist in keeping the community more thoroughly informed on the activities and direction of the community engagement efforts.

The Town recently received some exciting news - confirmation of a grant award from the National Park Service! The Town has had a long-term vision of providing its citizens and visitors with upgraded year-round access directly between town and the nearby national forest trail system in Arapaho National Forest (ANF). While a trail for snowmobiles is available in the winter, there is currently no ability to travel between downtown and the national forest trail system with quads and similar off-highway vehicles (OHV) in other seasons. The NPS's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program will provide technical assistance to bring together the Town, RMNP, ANF, Grand County and other stakeholders. RTCA assistance will help plan a successful approach to the dialogue necessary to achieve this vision, including helping all stakeholders understand relevant Federal policies and legal options to move our project forward. This is an important step in what is viewed as a multi-step and multi-year process. Stay tuned...

As I have mentioned in recent issues, I continue to desire to expand our electronic newsletter subscriber base. I want to use this forum to inform more and more folks about what is happening in Grand Lake. We try to make the content interesting and relevant. Please spread the word about this newsletter! Tell your friends and family. As you already know, signing up as a subscriber is easy – just go to www.townofgrandlake.com/view-the-towns-newsletter.htm.

See you around Grand Lake soon!
David

