



GRAND LAKE  
COLORADO

# Town of Grand Lake Newsletter

January 2013

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

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## From the Town Manager's Desk

Happy New Year!

Can you believe it is already the middle of January? The holidays have zipped by, the Town's budget was approved and we are well into winter. How time flies when you are having fun!

It's snowy and cold, so do not miss the chance to partake in some of the fun that Grand Lake has to offer this winter. If you are not already here, get here soon.

There are enough activities available in the Grand Lake area all winter long to keep you busy and warm. While snowshoeing is my favorite, I plan on trying to do it all – skiing (cross-country and downhill), fishing (the through-the-ice type), snowmobiling (fast thrills), skating (free skates available for the ice rink at Town Square Park), sleigh rides (bundle up) and more. What a great place to live and work and play!

There are enough events in the Grand Lake area all winter

## Building in Town

As the 2012 construction season has come to a close, the Town of Grand Lake would like to remind individuals now is a great time to start thinking about the improvements you would like to make next year. Depending on the size of improvement, permitting may take more than a month. By pre-planning in the winter months, spring projects can be completed effectively so you are able to enjoy your summertime without hassle.

Neglecting minor repair work may evolve into more serious, long-term problems with your structure. By making invested improvements to your structure, large or small, you can continue to ensure the long term value of your property. Some routine maintenance items and cosmetic alterations may require a building permit; please call Grand Lake Town Hall to discuss your plans for renovations, remodels and additions to ensure you are compliant with municipal regulations. Town staff is available to assist property owners with future plans.

long to fill your calendar, too. Here is what is happening between now and mid-February: the perennial Grand Lake Winter Carnival, Three Lakes Ice Fishing Tournament, Xtreme Mountain Snowmobile Racing and the Flight for Life Poker Run. And do not forget about the programs at Juniper Library and at the Kawuneeche Visitor's Center in RMNP. Something for everyone! If you are planning on participating in March's Pink Ribbon Snowmobile Ride, note that registration closes Feb 8.

In particular, Cathie and I are looking forward to our first Grand Lake Winter Carnival. From what I hear, it is a blast! This year's theme is 'Alice in Winterland'. There will be bed sled races, human bowling, snow golf, kids steeplechase, snowman contest, and more. And Fireworks! And the Winterland Ball (including the crowning of the King & Queen of Winterland)! Wow – I cannot wait!

Another Town sponsored activity underway this winter addresses economic development in Grand Lake. In cooperation with Downtown Colorado, Inc., the Town will conduct a Downtown Assessment on March 4 & 5. This 2-day event will reach out to the community through a series of focus groups and result in the development of a report by a team of experts assembled by DCI and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The report will outline a number of action items that businesses, the Town and the Chamber can take to improve the business climate of Grand Lake. I encourage everyone to participate. See a separate article elsewhere in this newsletter for more details on the Downtown Assessment and two related activities – a showing of a video titled 'The 20 Ingredients to an Outstanding Downtown' and a survey of Grand Lake area businesses.

See you around Grand Lake soon!

Best Regards,

David

## Grand Lake's Downtown Assessment with Downtown Colorado, Inc.

The Town of Grand Lake is pleased to announce the upcoming Downtown Assessment visit conducted by Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI) on March 4 and 5, 2013. Local organization representatives, business owners, property owners, and residents are encouraged to participate in focus group discussions on March 4, 2013 and a public presentation on March 5, 2013. Those who may be interested in participating in the Downtown Assessment are encouraged to save the dates and watch for more details forthcoming.

The DCI Technical Assistance Program is designed to provide downtown enhancement technical assistance and economic development technical assistance to Colorado communities who desire to support small business, create partnerships, and develop and sustain viable and vibrant commercial corridors. The technical assistance is managed by DCI, through a unique collaboration between DCI and the organization's private and public sector member volunteers who provide expertise and practical application from downtown districts throughout Colorado and the United States.

The Downtown Assessment is intended to engage different sectors of the Grand Lake community to better understand preferences for commercial district enhancement (retaining and expanding existing businesses; attracting new businesses), to provide recommendations for enhancing our downtown while accentuating and celebrating Grand Lake's community character, and to provide implementation strategies for a community-led enhancement program.

In preparation for the Downtown Assessment in March, a survey of Grand Lake area businesses is now underway. This survey will gather information and feedback on their perspectives of the current condition of downtown Grand Lake, how/if the marketplace is changing, the needs of existing businesses and what businesses the downtown market will support. The feedback from those businesses that complete the survey will be provided to the assessment team prior to arriving in Grand Lake for the Downtown Assessment and will be used by the team in the focus group discussions and report development. Any Grand Lake area business, commercial property owner or organization who did not receive a letter from the Town inviting them to participate in the survey and providing instructions on how to complete the survey may contact Town Hall at 627-3435 for more information.

Additionally, in preparation for the Downtown Assessment in March, a special showing of a webinar series titled *'The 20 Ingredients of an Outstanding Downtown'* is scheduled for Monday, January 21 from 5.30 PM to 8.30 PM at the Grand Lake Community House. This insightful series featuring Roger Brooks of Destination Development International has something for everyone involved in downtown commerce in a destination locale such as Grand Lake. Any Grand Lake area business, commercial property owner or organization who did not receive an invitation from the Town inviting them to the showing may contact Town Hall at 627-3435 for more information. Since seating is limited and a light meal will be provided, RSVPs are required. If interest exceeds our seating capacity for the showing on January 21, a second showing will be scheduled.

Since 2005, DCI has teamed with state and local agencies to identify how best to provide guidance and support to small businesses and other service providers that work in local business districts. Focusing on the current conditions in the downtown, a team of three to five professionals spends two days evaluating the community and facilitating focus groups to provide valuable information about the strengths and opportunities of the downtown, as well as creating the foundation from which a work plan can be developed.

Through the DCI technical assistance program, one downtown assessment visit, valued at more than \$19,000, is provided to accepted applicant communities for much less cost. A majority of the team volunteers their services and the remainder provides services at a highly discounted cost. Additionally, grants from partner agencies contribute to reduce the cost to the local community.

The schedule for technical assistance visits vary, but usually includes a detailed tour of the community and a full day of focus groups with local government representatives, local organizations representatives, business owners, property owners and residents. The two-day visit will conclude with a report presentation to the public providing an assessment of the community as well as suggested action steps. Following a downtown assessment, a detailed hardcopy 'to do' list is provided to assist the community in building local partnerships and generating some quick wins to build momentum.

All organization representatives, business owners, property owners, and residents in and near Grand Lake who are interested in participating in the Downtown Assessment are asked to contact Town Manager David Hook (970-627-3435, [glmanager@townofgrandlake.com](mailto:glmanager@townofgrandlake.com)) or Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lisa Jenkins (970-627-3402, [executivedirector@grandlakechamber.com](mailto:executivedirector@grandlakechamber.com)) or Grand County Economic Development Coordinator DiAnn Butler (970-725-3347, [dbutler@co.grand.co.us](mailto:dbutler@co.grand.co.us)) by Friday, March 1 to learn more details about the focus group and public presentation times.

For further details on how the DCI Technical Assistance Program works, please visit their website at [www.downtowncoloradoinc.org](http://www.downtowncoloradoinc.org).

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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**January 26**

Full Moon Ski  
Grand Lake  
Nordic Center

**January 25-27**

25th Annual Three  
Lakes Ice Fishing  
Contest

**February 2**

Winter Carnival  
"Alice in Winterland"  
Tea Pot Curling, Bed  
Sled Races, Flag  
Football, Movie,  
Parade, Fireworks, Ball,  
Costume Contest &  
more

**February 2**

Kauffman House  
Museum  
Open 1-4

**February 9**

Xtreme Mountain  
Snow Racing at  
Winding River

**February 16**

Flight for Life  
Poker Run

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## Nightly Rental Licensing

For many years now, the Town of Grand Lake has required anyone renting their property on a nightly basis (a rental of less than 30 consecutive days to one entity) to have a Nightly Rental License. This Municipal Code applies to anyone renting or **advertising** their property for rent on a nightly basis.

The Nightly Rental program was established to address several issues. The program ensures that neighbors have someone locally they can contact if there are issues with the renters or property, that trash from the renters will be handled, and that parking must be onsite so as to not interfere with the neighbors. Also, the Town Board can place special conditions on a rental if they are warranted by complaints and concerns of the neighbors. The yearly renewal process also helps make sure that contact information is updated in case of issues and

requires a hearing process to handle "justified" complaints on the property. A "justified" complaint is a signed letter to the Town with the complaint(s) listed or a police report of an incident at the property.

Also, Colorado state law requires the County Assessors to assess a personal property tax on anyone renting their property. The State Department of Revenue and the County Assessors have been actively working on getting people to comply with this law. All of the licensed nightly rentals in Grand Lake are in compliance with this law as the Town is required by Municipal Code to notify the County Assessor when the nightly rental license is issued.

The license costs \$400.00 and is valid from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

If you are going to rent your property for the first time, the license is prorated on a monthly basis for that first calendar year only. If your property is in any Zone other than Commercial, Commercial Transitional, or Resort, there is an additional application fee of \$150.00 for the new license. This fee helps cover the cost of the required certified mailings which serve as notification to and request for comments/concerns from your neighbors. Notifications to neighbors are also required in Commercial, Commercial Transitional, and Resort Zones, but those notifications are not required to be certified.

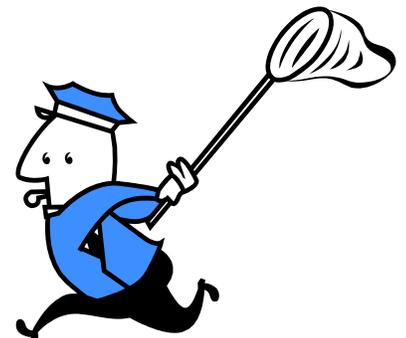
The application and other information on the program can be found at the Town's website at [www.townofgrandlake.com/nightly-rental/htm](http://www.townofgrandlake.com/nightly-rental/htm) or you can call or e-mail the Town with questions.

## Winter Parking Restrictions 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!

## 2013 Dog Tags

Its time to get 2013 Grand County Licenses. Dog tags are available at Town Hall. Come by to register your dog for the year. The license fee for fixed dogs is \$5.00; for intact dogs, the fee is \$10.00.



## Town Snowmobile Rules

Snowmobiles are allowed on the streets of Grand Lake under certain rules and restrictions. Regulations are strictly enforced by the Grand County Sheriff's Department. Please follow Town regulations and remind your guests to respect our residential areas. Snowmobile drivers may be ticketed for violations of the following regulations:



- DO NOT JOY RIDE AROUND THE TOWN. GO DIRECTLY TO AND FROM YOUR DESTINATIONS.
- DO NOT SPEED. OBEY ALL AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC LAWS.
- DO NOT RIDE IN TOWN BETWEEN 11 P.M. AND 6 A.M.
- CHILDREN UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT OPERATE SNOWMOBILES IN TOWN.
- CHILDREN BETWEEN 10 AND 16 YEARS OF AGE MUST BE UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT OVER THE AGE OF 18.
- ONLY STOCK MUFFLERS ARE ALLOWED.
- RIDE IN SINGLE FILE AS FAR RIGHT AS POSSIBLE IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC.
- SNOWMOBILES MUST YIELD TO ALL AUTOMOBILE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.
- SNOWMOBILES MUST HAVE CURRENT REGISTRATION.
- DO NOT RIDE ON SIDEWALKS OR BOARDWALKS.
- DO NOT RIDE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS.
- **SAFETY ALERT!** RIDING ON THE LAKE IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS DUE TO OPEN WATER AND THIN ICE.

## Town Ice Rink

The Town ice skating rink is open in the Town Park, on the basketball court.

Continuing the partnership formed in 2010, Blue Water Bakery has free ice skates available for public use. Come skate for free!



**No  
Open  
Burning  
Allowed in  
Town**