



TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

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February 1, 2020



ABOUT THAT *BLACKOUT!* IN CENTER . . .

As everyone knows, on January 10, power was out in Center from 4:42 pm to about 9:00 pm. We all sat in the dark with our candles and flashlights wondering when the lights would come on again and realizing how much we depend on electricity for so many things.

The outage was on Xcel's side at the 8-mile transmission station between County Roads 3 and 2. That station feeds electricity to the Town's southern substation and from there our utility system delivers electricity throughout Center. So when the 8-mile transmission station went down, our entire town went dark, and our crew couldn't do anything about

it. We had to wait for the Xcel crew to make the repair. In the meantime, the full moon cast a hopeful glow that kept us from total blackness.



Phone and text messages went out to residents who have signed up for the Nixel service to keep us informed. If you do not have Nixel, you can sign up by calling Town Hall. Nixel is a free service that sends out alerts for any emergencies such as this outage. One precaution we can take if this happens again in the cold weather, is to let our water faucets drip slightly to keep pipes from freezing.



Municipal Election Coming up April 7

TOWN ELECTION DRAWS MANY CANDIDATES

The Center Municipal election is scheduled for April 7, 2020. The Mayor's seat and three Trustee seats are open. Several citizens have submitted their petitions and have been cleared to run for election. Watch for your ballot in the mail, starting March 16, and be sure to fill it out and return it to the Town Hall (inside, or in the drop box by Election Day).

Those running are the following:

For Mayor

James L. Sanchez
Pedro Tino Segura
Anthony Tony Garcia
Jaime Hurtado
Delsa G. Chavez

For Trustee

Archie Gallegos
Nivek Beiriger
Annette Martinez
David Ramon
Nick Shaffer
Peggy Martinez
Herman Dicky Sisneros
Leslie Duran Shelley



**Give
Yourself
a PAT
on the
BACK**

GOOD NEWS ON WATER USE CENTER RESIDENTS!

Wow! Center residents used 33 million gallons of water LESS this year than last year.

This is something to be proud of!



CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS

First prize for Christmas lighting was awarded to the Teddy Garcia family; second prize went to Brian Archuleta; and third prize went to Tom Beiriger. Thanks to everyone who participated and provided beautiful lighting displays to the community.



NEW SCHEDULE FOR TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The Town Board agreed on January 14 to hold board meetings only once per month, usually on the third Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Following is the schedule for 2020:

Month	Date	Month	Date
January	14 and 28	July	21
February	18	August	18
March	24	September	22
April	21	October	20
May	19	November	17
June	23	December	8



2020 CENSUS—A VITAL SOURCE OF “LIFEBLOOD” FOR OUR TOWN

Every ten years all people living in the USA are counted as required by the US Constitution. That means EVERYONE, whether you're a US citizen or not. The first census was in 1790 and has been done every ten years since then. The census is very important to all of us. Why? Because it affects our budget, our representation in Congress, our elections. The results of the census are used to:

1. Figure out how many representatives each state gets in the US House of Representatives.
2. Determine how more than \$675 billion are spent for our state, country, and our community's vital programs.
3. Draw the boundaries of our individual legislative districts to ensure that we get fair representation in state and local government.

In the past years, Center's participation in the census has been low—25 percent have not responded. When our response is lower than other communities, we can get left out in the cold. We all need to be counted to ensure that we get our fair share of monies and representation. This spring your census form will arrive in the mail. Be sure to fill it out and mail it back. If not or if you need help to complete it, someone will come to your house to help you. Everyone needs to be counted regardless of citizenship.



IMPORTANT!! YOUR CENSUS INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL, BY LAW.

Individual names are not included in the data. All information is protected in a secure system. By law, your information **cannot** be shared with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

Let's all help to have a good count for Center. It is our civic duty to complete it, and let's aim for 100 percent!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FEBRUARY

February 10, Monday, 10:00 am- 2:00 pm: Saguache County Commissioner Visit.

February 14, Friday, all day: Valentine's Day—spread the love!

February 17, Monday, all day: Presidents' Day, Town Hall closed all day.

February 18, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Town Board Meeting, Town Hall.

February Coffee with the Chief: Time and location to be posted at the Town Hall.

February 22, Saturday, 1:00 pm: Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Town Hall. Everyone invited. Help make Center safer!

