

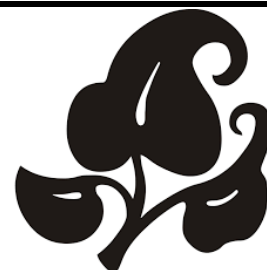


TOWN OF CENTER NEWSLETTER

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October 1, 2018



STINKY DITCH PROBLEM ABOUT TO BE FIXED—WE HOPE!

The stinky ditch that runs east of Center along Highway 112 really isn't the responsibility of the Town, but no doubt about it: We all suffer from the smell!



Well, an effort is underway to correct the problem. The Center Sanitation District, the SLV Irrigation District, and Idaho Pacific have joined forces to address the issue. Apparently, the smell is the result of a buildup of potato and carrot processing waste and weeds that has hardened at the bottom of the ditch, preventing the wastewater from seeping into the ground as it is supposed to do. So the waste collects and sits there, smelling like "you know what."

To solve the problem, an alternate ditch is being dug parallel to and south of the ditch out to Road 3E. Wastewater will be diverted into this alternate ditch so that the original ditch can be dried out and thoroughly cleaned to allow water to seep into the ground as it should.

Once the cleaning has been completed, the wastewater will be diverted back into the cleaned ditch and the smell should be gone.

We certainly hope so and look forward to a sweeter smelling Center.

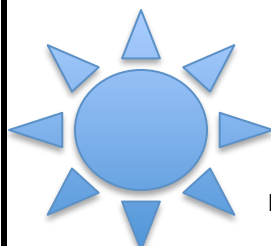
2017 AUDIT COMPLETED

The audit for 2017 has been completed and presented to the Town Board for review. A further report will be included in November's newsletter. The results of the audit provide important information for planning the budget for the coming year, a process that is beginning now. The audit also provides a guide for improving the Town's accounting system. The audit is done by the accounting firm of Wall, Smith, and Bateman.



ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

With the electric system upgrade on the south side of Highway 112 completed ahead of schedule, our utility crew is now heading "north." They have completed digging under the highway at Miles and between Hurt and Warden by the Catholic Church. They will lay primary electric cable underground all the way to 3rd Street along Miles and either Hurt or Warden. They hope to finish this by the end of the year. Next year, they will begin laying secondary cable underground along east/west streets. The secondary cable will be above-ground in the alleys. The project will continue for the next few years.



This is a huge undertaking, and will be a great improvement to Center's infrastructure, which is 70 to 90 years old and in serious need of repair. We are moving into the 21st century and looking forward to the future. Thanks to the utility employees who have taken on this project in addition to their regular responsibilities.

CHIEF VAN ZALINGE SEEKS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

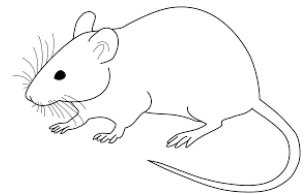
SLV Crimestoppers is active in Monte Vista and has proven effective in helping to solve crimes there. Chief Van Zalinge is encouraging Center to initiate the program here. Crimestoppers encourages citizens to report to the police when they witness signs of suspected crime. Reporting is ANONYMOUS for the protection of citizens. There is some funding to pay people if a tip to police is useful in resolving a crime. Neighborhood Watch groups are also a part of the program, which involves people in sharing the responsibility for safety in our neighborhoods.

Chief Van Zalinge is also interested in starting an Advisory Council to meet periodically with him to discuss problem areas in the community and ways the police department can be of help. This would be an informal, standing body without decision-making responsibility, but with the knowledge of the community which can be helpful to the police department.

If you are interested in either of these efforts, contact Chief Tristan Van Zalinge at 754-2442 or see him at Town Hall.

REMINDER

Fall is the time when mice are looking for homes for the winter. It's a good time for garbage cleanup around house and yard.



ELECTION NOVEMBER 6—YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Your vote
counts

National, state, and local elections are set for November 6. If you are not registered to vote, you have until Election Day to do it. To register in Colorado, you need to be 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Colorado for at least 22 days.

You may register by going on-line to GoVoteColorado.com. You may also register at the Saguache County Clerk's office in Saguache or call the Clerk's office at 655-2512 for an application.

In Colorado, we use the mail-in ballot so your ballot will be arriving in the mail between October 15 and 19. After you vote, you can mail in your ballot or drop it in the drop box at the Saguache Court House starting October 22. The drop box will be open 24 -7. Voting is a right and a privilege and everyone is encouraged to vote. **YOUR VOTE DOES COUNT!**



OCTOBER 15 LAST DAY FOR WATERING

Time to put those hoses and sprinklers away for the winter. October 15 is the last day allowed for watering. Let's hope for lots of snow this winter.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OCTOBER 2018

- **October 3, Labor Day:** Town Hall closed all day
- **October 8, 9:00 am–2:00 pm:** Saguache County Commissioner visit, Town Hall
- **October 9 and 23, 6:30 pm:** Town Board Meetings, Town Hall
- **October 15:** Last day for watering this year

