

# BERTHOUD infocus



ISSUE NO. 4

DECEMBER 2014



## DECEMBER CALENDAR

All meetings take place in the Berthoud Town Hall, 328 Massachusetts Ave. View agendas and meeting minutes at [www.berthoud.org/Town/documents.php](http://www.berthoud.org/Town/documents.php)

- 2 6-8 p.m.  
Historic Preservation Committee
- 9 6:30-10:30 p.m.  
Regular Town Board Meeting
- 11 7-9 p.m.  
Planning and Zoning Commission
- 18 9-11 a.m.  
Municipal Court
- 24-25 Town Offices will be closed for the holidays
- 31 Town Offices will be closed

## MUNICIPAL BUDGETS 101

Each year, the Town of Berthoud evaluates their operating budget to make adjustments for the next year's services and programs. The 2015 Budget process is almost complete; the Board of Trustees will approve the budget in December.

In Colorado, municipal governments are funded through local sales and use tax collections, grants from state and federal agencies and fees collected from developers. Most of the Town of Berthoud's general fund budget comes from sales tax collections. When you purchase items in Berthoud, the sales tax collected goes directly to pay for Town services such as public safety, Municipal Court, recreation facilities and programs, street maintenance and many other departments that make Berthoud a great place to live! When you shop in a nearby city, the sales tax collected on your purchases stays in the other city.

Berthoud has one of the lowest sales tax rates in the region

### REGIONAL SALES TAX RATES

Boulder	8.360%
Louisville	8.3%
Longmont	8.075%
Fort Collins	7.350%
Loveland	6.5%
BERTHOUD	6.5%
Johnstown	5.9%



## SHOPPING LOCALLY SUPPORTS OUR QUALITY OF LIFE DURING THE HOLIDAYS AND ALL YEAR LONG

If purchasing gifts is part of your holiday tradition, consider shopping in Berthoud and keeping sales tax collections in town. Supporting local businesses also contributes to a healthy, diverse economy. Many of the people who own or work in local stores are our neighbors, family or friends. Happy holidays, and thank you for supporting Berthoud businesses!

## DRINKING WATER QUALITY AFFECTED IN SOME HOMES

The Town of Berthoud recently conducted routine, sample home water quality tests. Unfortunately some of the homes tested high for lead in the water. The lead is NOT from the Town's water supply or water treatment plant; rather the lead originates within the affected home's copper plumbing fixtures.

Informational letters on how residents can reduce the exposure of lead in drinking water are being mailed in December. Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources.

The Town has initiated an extensive lead and copper monitoring plan throughout its drinking water distribution system. A Corrosion Control Program is being developed in partnership with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; implementation of the program should alleviate the problem by educating citizens on lead and copper piping.





## HAVE YOU RIDDEN TRANSIT LATELY?

Your car refused to start in the frigid cold weather. Your carpool buddy stayed home sick. You find driving stressful and frustrating. What should you do? Ride public transportation to work, appointments, school and more. Berthoud is home to several affordable, convenient options.



**BATS:** Berthoud Area Transit System is a demand-response transportation service operated by the Town of Berthoud. Call 532.3049 at least 24 hours before you need a ride to schedule your trip. Not a taxi service, rather a personable and reliable service that picks you up and drops you off where you need go within Berthoud town limits, and beyond. BATS operates Monday through Friday. For more information on hours and fares, visit [Berthoud.org/bats.php](http://Berthoud.org/bats.php).

**RAFT:** Rural Alternative For Transportation serves rural area residents (seniors and other adults with disabilities) who need rides to places outside of Berthoud. Call to see if you qualify for RAFT service: 970.532.2730, or visit [berthoudraft.org](http://berthoudraft.org).

**FLEX:** A fixed route, regional transit service, operated by Transfort, which connects Fort Collins, Loveland, Berthoud, and Longmont. FLEX operates Monday-Saturday at frequent times. Visit [ridetransfort.com](http://ridetransfort.com) for fares, passes and schedules.



## COMMUNITY STATS

# 50

New Single-family Home Permits  
(through October 2014)

# \$804,280

Sales & Use Tax Collections



(through October 2014)

## NOVEMBER CRIME REPORT:

# 53

 Total calls for service

# 4

 arrests

# 70

 traffic warnings

# 12

 citations

## OIL AND GAS TESTING UNDERWAY



Over the last several months, Geokinetics, an international oil and gas company, held two public meetings to share their upcoming seismic testing plans with the community. The seismic testing is taking place now to determine the best locations for oil extraction in and around Berthoud. If you have any questions on this activity, please contact the Town's Community Service Director, Sherry Albertson-Clark at [salbertson-clark@berthoud.org](mailto:salbertson-clark@berthoud.org) or call 970.532.2643.



## TOWN OF BERTHOUD TRUSTEES

**Mayor David Gregg**  
970.532.5207  
[dgregg@berthoud.org](mailto:dgregg@berthoud.org)

**Mayor Pro Tem Jan Dowker**  
303.868.1690  
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**Trustee Jennifer Baker**  
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**Trustee Chris Buckridge**  
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**Trustee Suzie White**  
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**Trustee Paul Alaback**  
970.227.4745  
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The Town Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the Berthoud Town Hall, 328 Massachusetts Ave. The public is welcome to attend. Meeting agendas and minutes are available online <http://www.berthoud.org/Town/documents.php>

QUESTIONS?  
COMMENTS?  
SUGGESTIONS?  
COMPLIMENTS?  
**CONTACT US!**  
[www.Berthoud.org](http://www.Berthoud.org)

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BERTHOUD  
*in focus*