

# COLUMBINEVALLEYVOICE

WINTER 2015



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## From the Mayor:

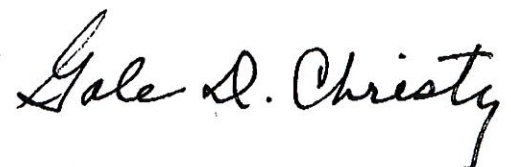
As I write this newsletter item snowflakes are beginning to fall, so I hope they fall "west" of CV where they can do the most good. If they do visit our Town in 3 inch depths or greater Columbine Valley is ready to deal with them.

There are several news items worthy of your attention inside this newsletter. Be sure to read the Development Updates for some news regarding the Circle K convenience store on the corner of Bowles and Platte Canyon Road as well as another round of proposed development for the Clayton Family Farms land at Bowles and Watson Lane. Both of these developments are in Littleton but the Columbine Valley staff continues to be involved doing their best to oppose any development that impacts our Town in a negative way. Ultimately, it will be up to the Littleton City Council to decide what happens with Clayton Family Farms.

Also note that we have municipal elections coming up in April 2016 and now is the time to decide if you would like to be a candidate for a seat on our Town board. The Trustees are responsible for many things including passing ordinances, hiring executive staff and adopting a budget, speaking of which....

The Board of Trustees approved the 2016 Annual Budget on first reading in November. A few highlights are -- NO TAX INCREASES; a \$300,000 street improvement program; a \$20,000 telephone equipment replacement; and some office revisions to accommodate efficiencies, primarily for the Police Department.

That's it from the Mayor's corner at this time. I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are looking forward to a Happy Holiday and Christmas Season.



**MAYOR &  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



**Gale Christy, Mayor**  
(Term Expires April 2016)

**Dave Cope, Mayor Pro Tem**  
Trustee (Finance)  
(Term Expires April 2018)

**Mark Best,**  
Trustee (Planning)  
(Term Expires April 2016)

**Richard Champion,**  
Trustee (Special Affairs)  
(Term Expires April 2018)

**Jeff May,**  
Trustee (Building)  
(Term Expires April 2016)

**Bruce Menk,**  
Trustee (Public Safety)  
(Term Expires April 2018)

**Jim Newland,**  
Trustee (Public Works)  
(Term Expires April 2016)

Mail Correspondence To:  
2 Middlefield Road  
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Or Email To:  
BoardofTrustees @columbinevalley.org

# DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

## Willowcroft Manor

There have been 17 building permits issued and all of the permitted lots are built or under construction. There have been no new permits issued since September 8 and Taylor Morrison does not anticipate applying for any additional permits this year. As of publication, five families have moved into their new homes in Willowcroft Manor – welcome to Columbine Valley!

## Wilder Lane

Wilder Lane infrastructure work is nearly completed and the first four building permits have been issued. All remaining homes in that development will be custom designed once the lots are purchased and marketing efforts are now underway.

## Wild Plum Farms

Hines Investment Company was unable to negotiate an acceptable contract with the Tuck Family and is no longer engaged in discussions. Continue to watch the “Development Updates” section of the Town’s website for current information.

## Columbine Country Club

The Town has reviewed the plans for the Club’s pool and tennis facility renovation and work is expected to begin on that phase of the project at any time. A pre-submittal meeting for the main clubhouse occurred before Thanksgiving. The staff will provide the Club with comments and a formal submittal is expected in early December. The tentative schedule is for a Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing on the preliminary plan on January 12, 2016.

READ MORE ON PAGE 4

## Beware of Phone Scams

The Columbine Valley Police Department report that residents are experiencing a significant increase in reported and unreported phone scams and frauds. The scams vary in nature, but most involve the suspect contacting the victim by phone and notifying them that they are the subject of government action or an investigation.

The government agency they supposedly represent can vary depending on the victim's location. The caller tells the victim that they have to send money through various means to keep from being arrested.

If you are receiving unsolicited calls demanding money or requesting personal information or computer access information you should decline.

If you are concerned about the validity of the contact, follow up by contacting the agency that the caller is supposedly representing. Make sure you use a number that you locate, not the one provided by the caller.



## 2015/2016 Snow Removal

The Town has once again contracted a private company to remove snow this winter. The goal of the Town of Columbine Valley is to provide snow removal to all Town streets within 24 hours of the snow having stopped falling. The Town's priority is to keep arterial roadways and bus routes open to facilitate emergency traffic and then to clear snow from all remaining residential streets.

Plowing will commence once snow has reached a depth of 3 inches and will be cleared with 8-foot lane in each direction. On occasions when less than 3" falls, the Town will treat intersections with sand-like ice-slicer to help prevent cars sliding.

Residents are encouraged to refrain from parking on the street during and immediately following a snowstorm. Parked vehicles and other obstructions interfere with the safe and continuous operation of snow removal equipment. Plow drivers will do their best to avoid pushing snow into cleared driveways, however, they have very little discretion as to where the snow can go and their priority is to clear the streets to ensure safe travel.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Town during normal business hours.

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

There are three seats on the Board of Trustees, as well as the position of Mayor that are open in April 2016. Trustee's terms are for four years with a two term limit and the Mayor's term is for two years, with a three term limit. If you are interested in running for any of these open positions, here are some important dates to know:

- December 10, 2015 - Optional Candidate Orientation at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- January 5, 2016 – Nomination Petitions for Trustee and Mayor are available at Town Hall
- January 25, 2016 – Complete Nomination Petitions must be filed at Town Hall by 4:00 p.m.
- March 21, 2016 – Ballots mailed to each eligible Columbine Valley voter
- April 5, 2016 – Ballots must be returned to Town Hall by 7:00 p.m.

For further information, please call J.D. McCrumb at Town Hall at 303-795-1434.



## Development Updates: Outside of Columbine Valley

### **Clayton Family Farms** – (SW Corner of Bowles and Watson Lane)

The Clayton Family Farms LTC is proposing to develop 22 single family home on a 4.08 acre site, a density of 5.8 dwelling units per acre. This is a revision of a similar plan that was referred to the Town in May of this year. At that time a response letter was sent to the City of Littleton discussing a number of concerns, primarily the density and the small lot sizes. The revised proposal contains only a small reduction in density, a small increase in lot sizes and minor adjustments to the front and rear yard setbacks. It was the Trustee's opinion that developers have not addressed their major concerns and notice was sent to Littleton reaffirming their opposition to the revised project.

### **Circle K Conveyance Store** (SE Corner of Bowles and Platte Canyon)

The owners of the property propose to reconstruct a convenience store on the site. The issue that the Trustees addressed in their response to this development related to proposed improvements of the Platte Canyon/Bowles Avenue intersection as called for in the Town's Platte Canyon Road Feasibility Study, a study completed in 2014 in conjunction with the City of Littleton and Arapahoe County.

A letter was sent to Littleton requesting the dedication of the necessary right of way on the Circle K site to allow the construction of double right turn lanes from Platte Canyon onto Bowles intended to ease the congestion problems on Platte Canyon and improve the overall efficiency of the highway.



### **K.B. Homes** – (SW Corner of Bowles and Platte Canyon)

K.B. Homes is proposing to develop 48 residential units (duplexes) on a 5.6 acre site, a density of 8.8 dwelling units per acre. This is a revision of a proposal referred to the Town earlier this year. The earlier proposal was for 56 units, a density of 10.4 units per acre. A letter was sent by the Mayor outlining the serious concerns he had with the project, primarily the density and the traffic impact on Platte Canyon Road.

After receiving comments from the Littleton staff as well as the Mayor's letter, K.B. withdrew that specific plan. The revised plan is not a significant improvement from the original. In addition, there are major concerns over the present congestion on Platte Canyon Road and this development only exacerbates the problem. A letter to Littleton expressing these concerns was sent in October, 2015.

## COLUMBINE VALLEY WATERCOLOR

If you are looking for a last minute holiday gift, consider purchasing a print of the historic Willowcroft Mansion. The original watercolor painting, by area-artist Marty Tennison is on permanent display in the lobby of Columbine Valley's Town Hall. For more information call or visit Town Hall.





## NO VISIT LIST: REMINDER

The Town of Columbine Valley has recently had to amend the municipal code as it relates to solicitors. Where in the past, residents were automatically placed on a NO VISIT LIST and had to opt-off the list if they wanted commercial solicitors to visit their home, all residents of Columbine Valley are now required to add their home to the NO VISIT LIST.

Since the fall newsletter was published 240 homes have registered for the list, which is approximately 45% of the homes in Columbine Valley. The NO VISIT LIST is online and will be updated monthly. A new page has been added to the Web site under the "Community" section which includes the permit application, a sample solicitors badge and frequently asked questions for residents.

If you would like your home to be on the NO VISIT LIST please email [jdmccrumb@columbinevalley.org](mailto:jdmccrumb@columbinevalley.org). If you have any questions about these changes, please don't hesitate to contact Town staff.

## 2016 Town Directories

Town Directories will be mailed soon. When yours arrives, please check your name, address and phone number carefully and notify the Town if there are any corrections that need to be made. Corrections will be mailed in the next newsletter.

If you are a new resident and are not in the Directory, please email Dana Struthers at [dstruthers@columbinevalley.org](mailto:dstruthers@columbinevalley.org) with your name, address and phone number. Residents always have the option to NOT have their information published, however, the Town appreciates having the information so that we can contact you in the event of an emergency or other official use.

Starting this year, the Town is offering residents the option to have their cell phone numbers and "at-home" children listed in the directory. If you would like to have either of these options listed, contact the Town.

Finally, all residents are invited to register an email with the Town so that we can contact you with emergency/important alert information via email. Go to our Web site, [www.ColumbineValley.org](http://www.ColumbineValley.org) and click "Community Updates" on the home page to register.

## DATES TO KNOW

- **Dec 8:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Dec 25:** Town Hall Closed—Merry Christmas!
- **Jan 1:** Town Hall Closed—Happy New Years!
- **Jan 12:** P & Z Commission Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Jan 18:** Town Hall Closed—MLK Jr. Day
- **Jan 19:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Feb 9:** P & Z Commission Meeting; 6:30 p.m.
- **Feb 16:** Board of Trustees Meeting; 6:30 p.m.

*Please check with Town Hall for any changes, additions or cancellations*

## TOWN STAFF

J.D. McCrumb  
Town Administrator

Lee Schiller  
Town Attorney

Bret Cottrell  
Chief of Police

Jeff Tempas  
Town Treasurer

Dana Struthers  
Court Clerk/Accounting

Phil Sieber  
Town Planner

Connie Carpenter  
Admin Assistant

Brent Kaslon  
Assistant Planner

Hobbess Hayden  
Public Works

Troy Carmann  
Town Engineer



2 Middlefield Road  
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
LITTLETON, CO  
PERMIT NO. 549

## Columbine Valley Seeks Volunteers:

The Town is seeking volunteers to work at Town Hall. Since its incorporation in 1959 the Town has maintained a paper archive. As you can imagine there is a great deal of documentation currently filed in the basement of Town Hall. In 2015 Town staff began the process of digital conversion. This project, once complete will modernize and streamline the process of document retrieval and retention, making the history of Columbine Valley more accessible to staff and citizens. Volunteers are needed to sort, scan and digitally archive these documents. Training will be provided but basic computer skills are helpful.

This volunteer program will give members of the community an opportunity to get involved and gain insight into the history and operations of your Town government. If you would be interested in working a two hour shift every week or two please contact J.D. McCrumb at [jdmccrumb@columbinevalley.org](mailto:jdmccrumb@columbinevalley.org) or by phone at 303-795-1434.

