



## April 5, 2016 Regular Municipal Election

The Regular Municipal Election for the City of Fruita will be held on April 5, 2016.

The Mayor's seat and four Council seats are up for election in April. The three City Council candidates receiving the highest number of votes

will be elected to 4 year terms and the candidate with the next highest number of votes will be elected to a 2 year term. The Mayor's seat is a two year term. The ballot will also include one referred measure giving the City authority

to provide advanced service (high speed internet), cable television service, or telecommunications service; directly or indirectly with public and or private sector partners; to businesses and residents in the City of Fruita.

This election will be conducted by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters the week of March 14, 2016 and must be returned by 7:00 p.m. on April 5, 2016. If you do not receive a ballot or need a replacement ballot, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 858-3663.

A Candidate Forum hosted by the Fruita Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for March 10, 2016 at 6 pm in the Council Chambers. This is an opportunity for the pub-

lic to become more familiar with the candidates and their positions on various issues.

In order to be eligible to vote in the Regular Municipal Election you must be a registered voter residing within the city limits of the City of Fruita at least 22 days prior to the date of election (March 14, 2016). You may check your voter registration status at [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com).

### Ballot drop off locations:

- Parking lot – Official Ballot Drop Box located in the parking lot on the west side of the Fruita Civic Center, 325 E. Aspen, Fruita, CO
- Clerk's Office – Ballot Box located on the first floor of the Fruita Civic Center, 325 E. Aspen, Fruita CO (Administration Counter)

### Election Questions and Contact Information:

Fruita City Clerk's Office,  
Fruita Civic Center,  
325 E. Aspen, Fruita, CO  
Phone: (970) 858-3663  
Fax: (970) 858-0210  
Email : [dwoods@fruita.org](mailto:dwoods@fruita.org)



## Lori Buck - Candidate for Mayor

I am a fourth generation Lower Valley Resident (maiden name Clawson), a graduate of Fruita Monument High School and Colorado State University. I lived on the eastern slope for 11 years getting my education and working in my chosen profession of Forestry. We moved back to Fruita in 2001 to raise our family. I have been married for 22 years and have two daughters 18 and 11. My interest in local government began while working for the City of Fruita Planning Department, where I learned growth management, policy, and planning. I resigned my position the end of 2004 to raise our children and work part-time for our family business.

I have served as the Mayor for the last four years and prior to that I served on City Council for 6 years, 4 of those years as Mayor Pro-tem. Currently I serve on the Police Commission and the Senior Task Force. I have served on the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Board, Tourism Board, and the Arts & Culture Board. I participated in the Community Plan update, the Land Use Code update, and two Tabor Review Committees. I was a participant in the development of the Parks and Open Space Plan and the Economic Development Plan.

I am deeply rooted in this community. I will ensure that the city continues to remain fiscally responsible, that the small town character of Fruita is preserved while supporting the local economy and that growth is managed in a manner to protect citizens' interests.

## 2016 Fruita Municipal Election: Referred Measure A

Voters in Fruita will decide this April if they want the City of Fruita (without increasing taxes) to be authorized to provide advanced service (high speed internet), cable television service, or telecommunications service, directly or indirectly with public and/or private sector partners, to residents, businesses, schools, health care facilities, libraries, nonprofit entities, and other users of such services located within the boundaries of the City of Fruita.

If voters approve this ballot item, Fruita would be exempted from a state law that otherwise intends to limit the City from improving the community's broadband capabilities. This ballot item would not prevent any private business (including existing broadband providers) from initiating or continuing to provide these services.

It is important to note that voting yes on this issue would not commit the City to providing broadband service in Fruita, nor does it mean that the City would have such service available immediately. Fruita has no plans to create a public broadband utility, but passage of this measure would allow the City to explore a variety of options to make its assets available to serve the broadband needs of Fruita residents and businesses.

(This information from the City of Fruita answers frequent questions about this ballot item and is not intended to urge a vote for or against this referred measure.)



## Body Worn Cameras: What We Learned

BY: JUDY MACY, CHIEF OF POLICE

In April 2015, the Fruita Police Department began a Body Worn Camera (BWC) pilot program. Two of our fine officers volunteered to test the cameras and provided feedback throughout the year. We tested three models, the Body Cam, VieVu, and Safetyvision, and learned a great deal.

We soon realized Body Cams are potentially a great tool. The recordings provided excellent evidence for criminal cases as well as documenting what good work our officers do in what are (often) very difficult situations. There were times when one of the officers with a BWC was called to an incident, specifically because they had the camera deployed.

We learned that the actual use of the camera, depending on the model, could be complicated or simple and it didn't take long for both officers to determine which cameras functioned well in the field. Each model had pros and cons regarding the quality of the images during daylight/nighttime hours, peripheral viewing, how much information is captured, and the quality of the images captured during tactical and high stress maneuvers.

Uploading the video and data storage was certainly the greatest challenge. We spent many hours and many phone calls determining the best procedures to save, store and back up data. In fact, we continue to wrestle with that issue today.

And that's the bad news. In order to do a comprehensive BWC program, at least one additional employee would be needed, specifically dedicated to managing and administering data storage. Purchasing the cameras is one hurdle, but likely the least difficult as technology in the field continues to evolve, improve and the devices become more affordable. Reliable data storage is the greatest hurdle. The size of the department and the amount of data determines costs, which can be substantial, not including the additional personnel costs.

While there were numerous media articles on grant programs, the reality is the amount of funding and availability didn't begin to meet the demand. We partnered with the Grand Junction Police Department on a grant application, but ultimately we were unsuccessful. In addition, 2015 was a difficult budget year, which made prioritizing for 2016 tough as well. Based on those priorities, I made the decision to forego implementing the program at this time. In consideration of all the equipment needs for the department, as well as other city projects that provide basic services to citizens, the cameras were simply a luxury we couldn't afford.

On a positive note (once again) this project reminded all of us at the police department how supportive the people of Fruita are in our efforts. This City of Fruita is a great place to work.

## Lou Brackett

Lou Brackett moved to Fruita, Colorado in 2008 and decided that the community of Fruita was the perfect place to live – a small town atmosphere and friendly citizens. Lou was born in Price, Utah and while growing up was active in sports, and enjoyed the outdoors. He later moved to Salt Lake City. However, Lou never forgot the benefits of being raised in a small town, learned the value of hard work, receiving a good education, and experiencing the satisfaction of helping others.

Lou received his Bachelors and Masters Degree from the University of Utah, completed post-graduate course work in Education at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois where he also was on the faculty. Lou served in the US Army retiring at the rank of Colonel holding a variety

of Command and Staff positions.

Lou currently serves as a volunteer on the Fruita Planning Commission, Fruita Tax Advisory Committee, Fruita Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, National Junior College Baseball (JUCO) Committee, Boy Scouts of America, Commander of the Fruita American Legion Post 2006, Colorado Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) under the Department of Defense, and on the Veterans Advisory Board of the Grand Junction Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Lou and his wife Suzie live in Fruita. Suzie recently retired from a nursing career and both remain active in church and community service organizations. They enjoy six children, thirteen grand children and love of the outdoors.



## Michelle Cools

I was raised in California and moved to the Grand Valley in 2005. Initially settling in Grand Junction, I worked as a seamstress from home. It allowed me to be there as my daughter grew. It was a privilege and joy to be a homemaker in a place I loved. As my daughter thrived and began attending school I was happy to help and volunteer there but we were drawn to the culture and warmth of Fruita and have since moved here.

I wanted to be a part of this culture in a meaningful way and contribute to the community in a way that both preserved its feeling of family and also expanded its celebration of artisanship. In 2010 I became involved with Mirth, which later inspired myself and several others to form Cavalcade. Through workshops and classes, and open mic nights, Fruita's best and blossoming musicians and crafters came together to share their trades and their talents with each other. This prompted me to open my own shop in 2011 which was then called Ones and later became what is now The Vintage Common. Being a small business owner, I have been very active in the community. I have organized events around town and I am also co-founding a Community Garden as of this year.

My intentions are to help preserve that feeling of family where everyone is welcome and to protect the interests of our town, while expanding the ever-growing celebration of the unique people that make Fruita so special.



## Ben Collins

Dr. Ben Collins is passionate about two types of vision: improving lives by enhancing people's eyes, and improving lives by providing vision/goals for the community. By day, he is one of the managing eye doctors at Hoffman Eye Care and ICON LASIK, where he provides care for patients going through surgery. During his off hours, Dr. Collins works tirelessly to serve the various communities he is a part of.

In 2013, he organized a Western Colorado division of the Colorado Optometric Association and served as the first president. He now sits on the Board of Trustees for the Colorado Optometric Association. He also serves weekly in his religious community.

Ben received his Doctorate of Optometry from Ohio State University. His wife, Renee, is a published author, substitute teacher at Fruita schools, and mother to their three kids, ages 11, 8, and 5. Ben and Renee love Fruita because it is a wonderful place to raise a family and has great recreational activities for all ages. Ben enjoys fishing, mountain biking, and reading about politics, leadership, and government.

Government is something Dr. Collins has always had a passion for. He's committed to an open, friendly dialogue and believes it is critical to listen to every member of the community. On City Council, he would work to find reasonable, practical solutions for the city that would build on Fruita's strengths. He would also work to better inform the citizens of Fruita about events and activities that are happening.



## Dave Karisny

I have lived in Fruita for many years with my wife, Becky, and step children. We are both retired educators from the school district. My 3 stepchildren all grew up in Fruita and returned after college to live and raise their families here. We now have 4 grandchildren, 2 of which are in the local school system. Over the decades, we've all experienced the growth and many changes in Fruita. I have previously served on the Fruita City Council (2000- 2008) and have remained actively involved in our community, mostly through my participation on the Planning Commission. Over the years, I have participated in multiple community plans, land use code revisions, and valley wide committees. I've had the opportunity to participate in the planning for a variety of capital projects including the Community Center. I am most proud of the planning we did leading to the ultimate construction of the Fruita Community Center and the ongoing efforts to make Fruita a walkable/bikeable community. These, like many projects, are only accomplished by dedicated staff and strong community participation. We are fortunate to continue to attract and retain quality professional staff, as well as having lots of community support through boards and commissions. As we continue to strive to make our community a destination for recreation and economic development, we must also maintain and value our way of life. We all want Fruita to be a place where future generations want to live, raise a family, and "love where you live."



## Ken Kreie

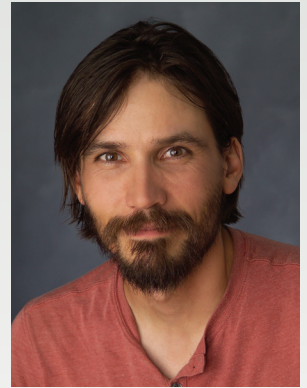
I am a lifetime Grand Valley resident. I graduated from Central High School in 1994 and went on to receive a Bachelor of Science from Colorado Mesa University in 2001. Following graduation, I started working as a field technician at Cordilleran Compliance Services, which is now Olsson Associates. I currently act as Senior Scientist at Olsson Associates. I moved with my family to Fruita in 2006. My wife of 20 years, Rachelle, and I have two children. Our daughter attends Fruita Monument High School and our son attends Fruita Middle School. I am currently President of the Orchard Valley West HOA Board, a member of the Elmwood Lateral Ditch Board, a member of the City of Fruita Downtown Advisory Board, and a member of the Grand Junction



Chamber of Commerce Energy and Economic Development Committee. I have always enjoyed live entertainment, which is why I love booking music concerts and comedy shows at a local performing arts venue called Cavalcade, where I am also emcee for their monthly variety show. There are a lot of great things going on in Fruita and I am honored at the opportunity to serve as City Council member and continue to help build a strong community.

## Cullen Purser

I was born and raised on the northern end of Grand Junction and always had a westerly leaning. Thankfully, so did my wife. We have lived in downtown Fruita since 2001 and we have seen many things change in that time, not the least of which are our daughters now 10 and 15. I have been a cabinet maker, harp builder, youth pastor, production manager for a book bindery, and a handyman with an emphasis in artistic wood and iron work. You can find my work in many homes in Fruita and across the valley - most notably, the entrance to the Hot Tomato.



My work has always followed my interests, not the other way around. As a result, I have met many people from all walks of life. I enjoy seeing what happens when I connect this person with that person.

I served on City Council from 2012-2014. I expected to leave that position more cynical than when I entered it. But, this was not the case. I discovered a very functional level of government. Local government works - especially in Fruita! I love my life here in Fruita. I love what Fruita was, what Fruita is, and I am committed to being a part of what Fruita will become.

## Joel Kincaid

Joel has lived in Fruita for the past 12 years with his wife Tammy and kids, Kyle (19); and twins Arianna and Taylor (14). Joel enjoys being outdoors and is an active mountain biker and road cyclist. Hiking is a common summer activity for him with his family.

In 1990, Joel received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Spring Arbor University in Graphic Design. He worked for a screen printing and embroidery company as well as a manufacturing company for over 12 years before starting his own business, Merge 2 Media, Marketing by Design. In July of this year Merge 2 Media will celebrate its 14th year in business.

Joel has been active in the local Fruita community for the past 11 years. He served as the Fruita Chamber President in 2011

and as Vice President in 2009 and 2010. With his 4 years serving on the Chamber board, he was also active on the Chamber marketing committee for 9 years. Joel is familiar with Fruita having served 7 years on the Fruita Tourism Council. He has coached Fruita soccer for 9 seasons for his girls' teams and looks forward to future seasons.

Joel has also been active in the Grand Valley serving for several non-profits and volunteering at his church. He has served on several HOA boards and was on the Camp Rock board for 5 years. He is currently serving on the Fruita Parks & Recreation board as well as on the Museum of the West board.



## Alissa Pruitt

My name is Alissa Pruitt and I have been a proud resident of Fruita since 2007. Originally from Southern California, I pursued higher education at Southern Utah University where I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics Education, with minors in Music and Spanish.

I taught high school at Omaha Central High School in Nebraska prior to moving to Fruita. After moving here, I have been very active in the community serving on my HOA board, teaching piano lessons, and participating in many church service projects and activities.

I love Fruita and have several ideas about preserving its history and small town atmosphere while allowing it to grow. I believe I can represent the citizens of Fruita and effectively communicate their interests. I am looking forward to serving the residents of Fruita as a council member from the perspective of a young family. I live in Fruita with my 4 children ages 10, 8, 5, 3 and my husband Luke.



## J.2 Road to Get a Face Lift

For those who use J.2 Road east of Pine Street, you may have wondered how the utility poles located in the shoulder of the road can be safe for motorists and pedestrians. Well, the truth is that they are NOT SAFE! This short section of road still consists of a narrower County road section and up until

now there had not been adequate room to move these poles. With the help of Mesa County and the utility companies, the City of Fruita is in the process of undergrounding these utilities and will be removing the poles

to eliminate the potential safety issues caused by having these obstructions along the edge of the road.

You will also see more construction underway on this section of road starting in March of 2016 as a result of the City's partnership with Mesa County. This roadway construction



will include installing storm drain piping, roadway widening, and improved pedestrian facilities along the north side of the road from J.3 Road to Olive Street.

Roadway construction is projected to take approximately 3 months and be complete by summer. During this time, road closures and de-

tours will be necessary to minimize safety issues that are present in construction zones. Please be patient and allow adequate time for potential delays. More information on this project can be found on the City's website at [www.fruita.org/projects](http://www.fruita.org/projects) or by calling the Engineering Department at (970) 858-8377.

## City of Fruita's Annual Electronics Recycling Event



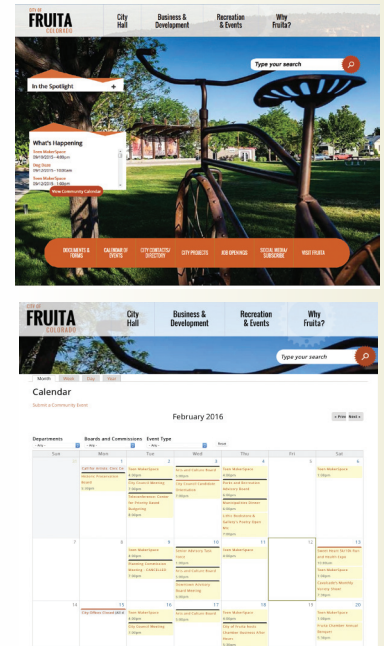
The City of Fruita will team up with Waste Management to offer Fruita residents an opportunity to recycle their electronic devices on Saturday, April 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fruita Civic Center parking lot at 325 E. Aspen Ave. Waste Management will collect several brand name electronics at no cost, including: Sony, LG, Zenith, and Gold Star. In addition, all cords, cables, laptops and cell phones will be collected at no cost. All other electronics will have a nominal fee.

Residents can feel confident that their electronics will be recycled in an ethical and environmentally sound manner with Waste Management's involvement. Please call 858-3663 if you have any questions.

### FREE DAY AT THE FRUITA TRANSFER STATION

The Fruita Transfer Station at 1275 17 1/2 Road will be offering a FREE Day on Saturday, April 9th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Free Day exceptions include tire disposal, electronic waste, appliances containing refrigerants and commercially hauled materials. These items are not part of the Free Day program and their disposal will be subject to normal fees. ALL WASTE MATERIALS ENTERING THE LANDFILL OR TRANSFER STATIONS DURING FREE DAY MUST BE TARPED AND SECURED. UNTARPED/UNSECURED LOADS WILL BE TURNED AWAY – NO EXCEPTIONS.

The Mesa County Landfill will also have a FREE day on Saturday, April 16th at 3071 Highway 50 from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.



## [www.fruita.org](http://www.fruita.org)

Check out the City of Fruita's new website! Did you know that there is a Community Calendar on the website? This feature allows businesses and residents to list their events on the calendar! If you would like to list your event on the website, visit [www.fruita.org](http://www.fruita.org) and click on the View Community Calendar button and then choose Submit a Community Event. Complete the form and submit for approval.

Do you want to know what's going on in Fruita? Visit the City of Fruita's website at [www.fruita.org](http://www.fruita.org). Click on the In the Spotlight section to learn about the latest news in the City of Fruita.

## Upcoming Events in Fruita

|             |   |                 |                                |
|-------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| March 5     | An Evening of Art (Ticketed Event - \$25.00 – Tickets Available at the Fruita Community Center, Lithic Press and the Fruita City Market. Proceeds go to support and keep art alive in the Fruita Community) | 7:00 – 9:00 pm  | Fruita Community Center        |
| March 18    | Olympics - Nite at the FCC (Grades 5–7)   | 7:00 – 10:00 pm | Fruita Community Center        |
| March 23    | Easter Egg Scramble (get there early!)  | 4:00 – 4:15 pm  | Fruita Community Center        |
| April 8     | Youth Scholarship Golf Tournament (Registration \$75 per player - Register at the Fruita Community Center. All proceeds to support the Fruita Parks and Recreation Youth Scholarship Program)               | 9:00 am         | Adobe Creek Golf Course        |
| April 22-23 | Gear Up Festival  |                 | Downtown Fruita                |
| April 23-24 | Rumble at 18 Road Mountain Bike Races   | All day         | 18 Road MTB Area               |
| April 27    | Arbor Day Celebration   | TBD             | TBD                            |
| April 28-29 | Fat Tire Festival   |                 | Downtown Fruita                |
| May 6-7     | 18 Hours of Fruita Mountain Bike Race   |                 | Colorado State Park - Highline |
| May 7       | Girls on the Run 5K Race  | Morning         | Fruita Community Center        |
| May 28      | Outdoor pool opens  |                 | Fruita Community Center        |
| June 3-4    | Mike the Headless Chicken Festival  |                 | Downtown Fruita                |



PRESORT STD.  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 GRAND JCT., CO  
 PERMIT NO. 134

