

# The Poncha Press

News from the Crossroads

April 2008

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## Easter Egg Hunt

The weather could not have been nicer for the 2008 Easter egg hunt held in Chipeta Park. Perhaps around 200 adults and youngsters gathered for the event. Which began when the Easter Bunny himself led the countdown. Less than two minutes later, there was not one egg remaining on the ground. Nothing but smiles were seen on the faces of the little ones as they opened each egg to see what kinds of goodies were inside. Thanks to all the volunteers that made the event a success.



## Election Results

The town election was held on April first. We would like to thank the election judges for donating their time. And thanks to all concerned citizens who turned out to vote. Mark Thonhoff was reelected mayor with 47 votes. Greg Smith was reelected with 46 votes. Brad Redmiles was reelected with 44 votes. Rick Roberts was reelected with 44 votes. And Ruby Taylor was reelected with 44 votes.

**Ballot Question A, Use Tax**, did pass with 34 votes for and 14 votes against the measure.



### **Name the Bear Contest**

Most of you by now have probably noticed the massive new bear statue placed in front of town hall. It was carved for us by our own very talented local artist Mark Bjerstedt of the Juniper Gallery. Great fun was had by folks at the Easter egg hunt trying to come up with the best name for the beast. We have had dozens of entries and have decided to continue the contest until May 9<sup>th</sup>, contestants should be age 12 or under. Please submit your name, phone number and proposed bear name to us at Town Hall, or drop your idea in the night drop box. The winner will be announced at the Town Clean-up Day event on May 17 and receive \$25 at the bear dedication. We would like to thank Fastenal of Salida for donating the correct fasteners for proper installation of the bear.

### **Dog Owner Responsibility**

One of the things that make Poncha such a great place to live is that we are a dog friendly town. We love our dogs as if they

are our children. Although dogs are welcome in our parks, they cannot clean up after themselves. We are hoping to remind you good citizens to please remember to clean up your dogs mess. Many people already do, but many do not. The town has small brown trash bags for this purpose available at each park. Please use them, because the dogs aren't the only critters who play there, our kids do too. **Thank you**

### **Town Clean-up Day**

**Saturday, May 17** will be the Town clean-up day. Whatever trash and debris that you hoped the Poncha wind would blow into your neighbors yard and didn't, you might as well pick it up, and let the town pay the bill for disposal. There will once again be a large dumpster at town hall, 8:00am is "Go time" continuing until the dumpster is full. No household garbage/trash will be allowed. The town will be providing heavy-duty trash bags at no cost for street clean-up. Simply drop in to the public works shop due west of town hall and ask Wendel or Bret for some bags.

### **The Great Highway 50 Yard Sale**

Our little town is once again going to participate in the annual Great Coast to Coast Highway 50 Yard Sale by offering free space in the park as well as placing yard sale signs on Highway 50. The town hopes to make this event as successful as possible. All you need to bring is a table and all of the things you couldn't live without, when you bought them at last years yard sale and see if you can get your money back out of them. Hopefully the weather cooperates. The town is not responsible for your goods, so please plan to stay with your table until the last ray of hope for a naïve customer fades.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Lunch**

Whoever said there's no such thing as a free lunch was wrong. The fun planned for Saturday May 17, continues with the good people of the Crossroads Baptist Church grilling up some hotdogs and burgers at noon. Everybody is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## **Free Landscape and Garden Mulch**

Right now, on the west end of the Public Works shop lies a large pile of free, high quality mulch. It is available on a first come, first served basis. Wendel or Bret will be happy to load your pickup with the towns backhoe.

Simply call the Public Works phone at 719-207-2293 to set up a time.

## **Bear Awareness**

Although no reported sightings yet that we're aware of. We know that anytime now the local bears will start waking up. Because there is still such a large amount of snow in their high country, they may appear in town sooner than usual looking for food. Hungry, Yawney and Grumpy, they'll be looking for easy dumpsters, bird feeders, humming bird feeders, or pet food carelessly left out. Please remember that bears can be dangerous animals and should never be approached. Also keep in mind that the Colorado Division of Wildlife can and will issue you a ticket if a bear gets into your garbage that is left out.

## **Acequia Ditch Update and Rules**

The Acequia Ditch will soon be turned on. The Town will adjust the ditch's course to make sure everyone has the opportunity to use it. If you do not have water one day, you should have it the next.

Wendel and Bret would like to thank everyone who cleaned out the ditch in front of their property.

In an effort to maintain residents' use of Town ditch water, the following rules have been established:

1. Cuts in the ditch will be allowed at night only, and will be regulated by a sign up sheet that will rotate participants.

2. Trash is a continuing problem in personal culverts, therefore, the minimum culvert size is 12", which the Town will enforce, and any new culverts must be pre-approved by the Town.

3. On weekends and holidays call the public works cell phone to reach Wendel or Bret for a problem. 719-207-2293

4. Violators will be verbally warned first, and then will receive a letter from the attorney if violations continue.

5. On low water days, a schedule will be established and publicized. For example, Mondays this street will receive ditch water, on Tuesdays this street will receive ditch water, etc.

6. During the daytime, obstructions in the ditch are allowed to assist in pumping. Report ditch problems to Poncha Springs Town Hall during regular business hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-12 & 1pm-5pm. If anyone is caught changing the diversion structures, they will be prosecuted. Changing the diversion of the water may cause flooding and property damage.



## **TOWN OF PONCHA SPRINGS MUNICIPAL WATER RESTRICTIONS**

In order to conserve water and reduce the demand on the Town of Poncha Springs municipal water system the following water restrictions are in place, and will be enforced, April 1 - October 31

of every year, for users of the town's municipal water:

- Residences with an address ending in an odd number will be permitted to use municipal water for outside use on lawns, gardens, etc, on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Residences with an address ending in an even number will be permitted to use municipal water for outside use on lawns, gardens, etc. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
- No outside watering will be allowed on Mondays.
- Outside watering will be allowed **ONLY** between the hours of 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. on regularly scheduled watering days.
- The town reserves the right to further restrict the use of the municipal water system for outside watering purposes.

Persons that have the ability to water outside with their private wells or through use of the municipal ditch system are strongly encouraged to do so.

Questions?? Call 539-6882

/s/Diana K. Heeney

Clerk/Treasurer

June 12, 2006

### **Visitor's Center**

The Crossroads of the Rockies Visitor's Center, Poncha Springs, will be open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, Friday through Monday. The Chaffee County Visitors Bureau will oversee the volunteer staffing, Alison Ramsey will be the contact person, call 719.239.1431 or email [alisonramsey.msn.com](mailto:alisonramsey.msn.com); or fill out the volunteer sign-up form and return it by mail or in person to Town Hall by May 1, 2008. If you have questions, contact us at Town Hall 539.6882.



### **2008 Tree Program**

Once again this year the town will be offering its good citizens affordable, high quality trees to be planted street side on their property. The town will pay 50% and the citizen will pay 50% of the cost. In addition, the tree will be planted by town personnel at no additional cost. Brady's nursery will be supplying the trees this year.

### **List of trees and cost to citizen:**

#### **Rootball size- species- price:**

#15 Spring snow-radiant crabapple  
\$62.50

#10 Prariefire Crabapple \$24.50

#15 Canada Red Chokecherry  
\$62.50

#15 Ash Patmore Summit \$62.50

#15 Locust Shademaster \$62.50

#15 Maple Autumn Blaze \$62.50

5 foot tall Pinon Pine \$50.00

5 foot tall Ponderosa Pine \$50.00

4 foot tall Colorado Blue Spruce \$50.00

**April - May  
Meeting Dates & Times**

**Maintenance & Utilities 4:00 P.M.**  
 April 7, 2008  
 May 5, 2008

**Planning & Zoning 6:30 p.m.**  
 Apr 7, 2008  
 Apr 21, 2008  
 May 19, 2008

**Finance 5:15 p.m.**  
 Apr 21, 2008  
 May 19, 2008

**Board of Trustees 6:30 p.m.**  
 Apr 14, 2008  
 Apr 28, 2008  
 May 12, 2008  
 May 27, 2008

**Town Hall will be closed for holidays on the following dates:**

**May 26, 2008**

**July 4, 2008**

**Contact Information**

Call us:  
 719-539-6882

Fax us:  
 719-539-6898

E-mail us: [mail@ponchaspringscolorado.us](mailto:mail@ponchaspringscolorado.us)

Visit our Website:  
[ponchaspringscolorado.us](http://ponchaspringscolorado.us)  
 Town of Poncha Springs  
 PO Box 190  
 330 Burnett Avenue  
 Poncha Springs, CO 81242

**Volunteer Sign-up Form**

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Name

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Address

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Phone Number

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email

**Tree Order Form**

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Name

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Address

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Phone Number

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Type of tree

**Chaffee County Website**  
[chaffeecounty.org](http://chaffeecounty.org)

**State of Colorado Website**  
[colorado.gov](http://colorado.gov)

**Arkansas Headwaters of Adventure**  
<http://www.coloradoheadwaters.com/>

**Chaffee County Recycling Guide**  
[http://www.uaacog.com/upper\\_arkansas\\_recycling.htm](http://www.uaacog.com/upper_arkansas_recycling.htm)

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