

# COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS WEEK

OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>-26<sup>TH</sup> 2014

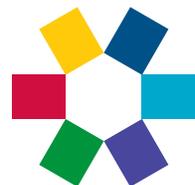


# Ensure Quality of Life

partnering together with

## COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS

an initiative developed by the Colorado Municipal League



# HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED...

HOW DOES *Bennett* WORK

FOR

*You?*

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### *Community Cleanup Day*

Our annual Community Cleanup Day is a Town sponsored event in May designed to encourage our hard working residents to take advantage of a *free service* to dump, recycle and rid themselves of all of their junk. Working closely with organizations like Goodwill and other local businesses, we conduct trash removal, green waste collection, recycling of electronics and more. It is that one day a year where residents have the opportunity to finish up some spring cleaning, while improving the overall appearance of our community.



### *Engage Shape Build*

**YOUR PARTICIPATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

Our Town sponsored Engage, Shape, Build meetings are part of an ongoing effort of improving communications with our residents, and expanding outreach efforts beyond our bi-monthly Town Board meetings to inform and seek public input on an array of Town plans and projects.

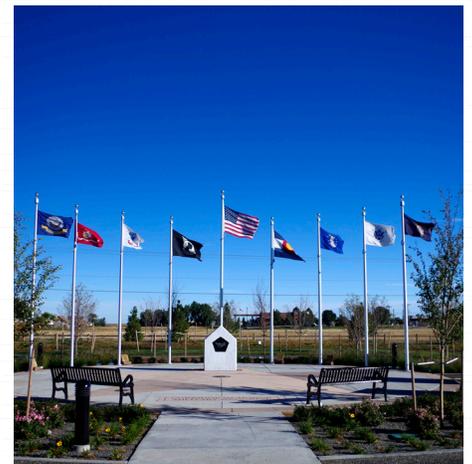
Whether it's Town only projects or working together with other government entities such as CDOT and Adams County Transportation, these venues are intended to ensure the public's engagement is making a difference in their local government's decision making process.



### *Military Memorial Dedication Ceremony*

Through Adams County Open Space funds the Town obtained a grant to develop our new Civic Center Park. At the heart of this park proudly stands the Corridor of Honor Military Memorial. The Town partnered with the Corridor of Honor Committee to establish the *Corridor of Honor Military Memorial*.

As we gathered together to commemorate this recent Memorial Day, we worked with the committee to plan the dedication of the new memorial. It is a place where friends and family who reside along the I-70 corridor and throughout the region can reflect on both Veterans' and current military members service and sacrifice. It is a monument to all our service members, past, present and for generations to come.



## Bennett Days 2014

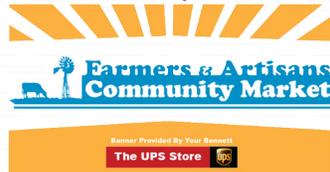
Bennett Days was a huge success! Featuring over 50 vendors, a parade, a kids fun zone, and a beer garden, there was something for all ages!

This year's theme "Growing the Corridor" was intended to capture and highlight all the great and exciting things happening along the I-70 Corridor, including our local business community, organizations, agri-tourism, as well as agriculture and commercial growth.



## Farmers & Artisans Community Market

In 2013 the Town of Bennett collaborated with Market Manager and Alpaca Farmer Becky Zierer and many other vendors to initiate the first *Farmers and Artisans Community Market*. Since then, the Town has granted a temporary use permit at the beginning of each year to continue to provide



a venue for this unique and essential part of our agricultural and rural identity. Located seasonally at our new Civic Center Park, each year the Farmers and Artisans Community Market grows in the cottage food industry, specializing in produce, horticulture, artwork, hand made and craft items. It will be the center of future ongoing agri-tourism efforts on the eastern I-70 Corridor.

## PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is responsible for a 13.66 mile road network, including plowing snow and maintaining road surfaces. This year they also repaired road damage and potholes, using more than 15,000 pounds of crack sealant material in their ongoing road preservation activities.

Public Works is more than roads, the department also maintains the water, wastewater facility, parks, buildings and grounds and utilizes sub-contractor services when needed.



### Did you know?

Public Works' ongoing programs attract private contractors! The Town awards bids for projects and in turn contractors are responsible for construction of those projects. This partnership between government and business works well to support the local economy as we improve and expand our Town systems.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

This department is a highly skilled team in Finance, Accounts Payable/Receivable, Utility Billing, Human Resources and Technology. Some of their responsibilities are to:

- Account for all revenue and expenditures generated by the Town
- Provide internal controls for financial security of Town funds
- Prepare quarterly reports, annual audit and budget
- Capital Improvement Program
- Provide human resource support to all Town departments
- Water and Waste Water Utility Billing
- Manage Town technology for all departments
- Prepare and submit grant reports for the betterment of the Town, including:

Grand Total Grant Awards From 2009-2014

Grant Awards: \$2,748,577

Town of Bennett Cash Match: \$821,118

Town of Bennett In-Kind/Leverage: \$1,945,340

Total Project/Increased Town Value: \$5,515,035

Town of Bennett's Percentage of Cash Match: 15%

### Municipal Court

Municipal Court is held monthly at Town Hall and deals with violations of Town laws committed within Town limits. Generally these laws involve traffic, shoplifting, disorderly conduct and other ordinance violations. Legislation is enforced by local law enforcement which is contracted out to Adams & Arapahoe County Sheriffs Departments.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## *Code Enforcement*

Within the next year, we will be streamlining the complaint and compliance process with new software. Not only will this allow us to better research prior complaints, it also allows us to print out warnings or summonses in the field. This will help to address the violation on the spot, saving time and money otherwise spent on envelopes and stamps.

## *Animal Control*

A holding kennel for strays is in the works to eliminate travel to the Adams County Animal Shelter and claim your pet sooner. Additional measures are being implemented to better control feral cats in the community. Animal Control actively patrols within Town limits; addressing violations and is able to sell animal licenses at your home, upon request.

## *Planning and Development*

Our department plays an active part in the planning and zoning process of existing and new development, making sure applications are complete, referrals are sent out, and public hearings are posted. We also coordinate with Adams and Arapahoe County Tax Assessors and GIS Departments to update information on the county website.

## *Building Department*

Building permit applications can be found on the Town website. The permit process had been streamlined and can be completed online, including payment, once the permit is approved. Check with our office prior to starting any projects to verify if a permit is required or not.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

While we are excited by new development, one of our ongoing goals of economic development is to provide support to our local businesses. Specifically, we market a multi-faceted media approach to increase business recognition; whether via our quarterly newsletter, or other media outlets, we strive to help show what they bring to the community!

One of our most successful events supporting local businesses, non-profits and other organizations in the region, is our annual Bennett Days Celebration. Our Bennett Days



campaign blankets the corridor with an array of media and marketing materials designed to enhance the recognition of all our participating members. In addition, we match that

with a weekend full of events and activities for the whole family sponsored and hosted by our community partners, businesses and other groups. Bennett Days has transformed into an economic

driver for our corridor businesses, showcasing the value they bring to the local region.

## *Support Local Business!*

### **Do you know?**

When you support local businesses you support the Town of Bennett. When you shop locally it generates revenue for our Town. Three cents (\$.03) of every dollar goes into the Town's general fund which can be used in many different ways to help finance expenses such as: law enforcement, animal control, street repairs, snow removal, park maintenance and more. There are more than 35 different businesses within Town limits, and they all depend on support from the Bennett Community. ***Remember, when you shop locally, you not only support local business, you support your Town!***

# REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

## *Adams County Education Consortium*

As a municipality, we are aware of the many new requirements impacting education in Colorado and the need to provide additional resources to our education professionals. That is why we serve as a current Board Member and an ongoing supporter for youth professional development in the county and, in Bennett specifically. Our membership includes a fee per-student enrolled at the Bennett School District and is paid as dues to the Adams County Education Consortium and their programs supporting our local school district.

As part of this membership fee, students in the Bennett School District receive access to various career exploration/professional development programs established by the Consortium. The Adams County Commissioners' Career Expo is enjoyed by every 8th grader in the District. Last year, one hundred eight Bennett 8th graders participated.

This year, several Bennett High School juniors and seniors attended the annual networking and etiquette program, Backpacks to Briefcases, which is sponsored by the Town of Bennett. Students and professional employees from the Town of Bennett enjoyed a three course meal and tips on interviewing, networking, table manners, and transitioning out of high school into the real world of work or post-secondary education.

In the future, we hope to expand our support to the Adams County Education Consortium with additional programs supporting our local school district.