

December Events

St. Jude's Night of Lights
Dec. 5-6 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. each night. Event for the entire family.

Christmas Tree Lighting in Frank Crowe Park Dec. 5 at 8:00 p.m.

Deadlebug Bazaar Dec. 6 in the Parks & Rec gym from 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

Santa's Picture Party Dec. 6 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Bicentennial Park

Santa's Electric Night Parade Dec. 6 at 4:30 p.m. down Nevada Way to Fifth Street.

Luminaria and Las Posadas Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. in Bicentennial Park.

Celebrate 2008 & 8 on Dec. 12 at the Community College building, 798 Wyoming. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call 293-2448 for tickets.

Nutcracker Ballet Dec. 12-14 at the Boulder Theatre. Call 293-1161 for tickets.

AAUW Home Tour Dec. 12. Start at the Boulder Dam Hotel at 12 noon and view local homes from 1 p.m.—4 p.m. Call 339-9882 or 294-0354 for tickets.

Twilight Bazaar at the Art Center in ABC Park Dec. 13 from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. First 50 guests receive a free gift. Free drawings throughout the event.

Art Center Holiday Sale Dec. 15-19 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. each day at the Art Center in ABC Park.

December 2008

City of Boulder City

Utility Mailer

City Website: www.bcnv.org



Power Supply Resources

From Ned Shamo, Electric Administrator

Historically, Boulder City has received most, if not all of its wholesale power resources from Federal Hydro-power Projects, namely Hoover Dam and Glen Canyon Dam. Because of these inexpensive resources, the City has been able to offer low electric rates. Boulder City's residents pay about half as much per kilowatt hour (Kwh) as do the residents of Clark County.

For the last few years, the Western US has been experiencing a severe drought. Last year was the first year in many that the average precipitation in the Rocky Mountains was above normal. It is too early to tell whether that may have marked the end of the prolonged drought, or if the West will continue to experience abnormally low levels of precipitation. This drought is impacting the amount of wholesale power available to Boulder City.

It is becoming increasingly more apparent that the City needs to be securing long term ownership interests in firm, base load power supplies. The City currently does not own any generation resources. The Hoover Power contracts expire in 2017. The Glen Canyon contract expires in 2024, and the NV Energy contract expires in 2019. There is no more additional hydro energy available. City staff, along with the other Hoover Contractors, has recently begun the process of re-negotiating the renewal of the Hoover contract. It is anticipated this contract will be renewed, but it is doubtful that it will be renewed at its existing level. It is likely that it will have some form of renewable or environmental stipulations tied to its renewal.

NV Energy—The NV Energy contract provides the City with energy whenever it is needed it at a very attractive rate. Currently, more than half of Boulder City's power comes from NV Energy. Recently, NV Energy informed the City that it is likely that its rate will be raised significantly after the first of the year. This increase will have to be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington DC. The City has retained Washington DC legal counsel for representation in this matter. Depending on the outcome of this filing, it is anticipated that the City will be forced to raise its electric rates in order to cover the costs of this NV Energy increase.

Solar Energy - Solar energy is considered to be a "renewable" resource. Renewable resources, such as wind and solar, generate electricity when there is sufficient energy from the wind or the sun. Because of this, they cannot be controlled in the same manner as more conventional generation. For this reason, they are called "intermittent resources." This makes them somewhat problematic when integrating them into a conventional energy portfolio. Their intermittency makes them difficult to schedule with certainty into a conventional power delivery schedule. They are a good peaking resource because they are typically at their maximum output in the middle of the afternoon in the summertime, when they are needed most by the utility to meet peak air conditioning loads. The only drawback to solar is its high cost. Most solar energy costs between 15 and 30 cents per Kwh to produce.

Conclusion - This is a brief discussion of the City's Power Supply resources. There are many complex issues associated with providing reliable and economical power to the residents of Boulder City. The City is fortunate to have the Federal contracts that have enabled residents to enjoy some of the lowest power rates in the country. It is hoped that the City will be able to have these contracts renewed into the future. The challenge will be to secure a mix of new long term base-load resources, renewed hydro-power resources, and renewable resources that will supply the City well into the future.

We're on the Web:
www.bcnv.org

December Meetings

- **Airport Advisory Committee meeting Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.**
- **City Council Meeting Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall.**
- **The regularly scheduled City Council for the fourth Tuesday of the month will be vacated during the month of December.**
- **The regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting for the fourth Monday of the month will be vacated during the month of December.**
- **The regularly scheduled Historic Preservation Committee meeting for the fourth Wednesday of the month will be vacated during the month of December.**

Update on the Juvenile Conference Committee

A number of years ago, a pro-active person at the Boulder City Police Department came up with the idea of a Juvenile Conference Committee (JCC). What is the JCC? It is a committee composed of Boulder City residents from all backgrounds that hear status offenses committed by juveniles. These offenses consist of curfew violations, alcohol consumption, etc. The Committee members hear these offenses, to which the juveniles plead guilty, so that they do not have a juvenile offense on their record and they do not have to go to court in Las Vegas. The coordinator of the JCC is executive secretary Pat Spero who also serves as Chief Finn's secretary.

The JCC has worked so well over the past half dozen years that Pat has taken the program "on the road" to show it off to other cities around the country. It has been shown in Baltimore, Laughlin, Mesquite and soon, Carson City. Police Departments in these cities have truly taken to this program that counsels young people in the hope that they don't commit these offenses again. Young people going through the JCC do receive community service or some other type of "punishment" for their offense, but the guiding principle of the JCC is to help them stay out of trouble and learn from their mistakes. Pat and the JCC members show a really caring attitude toward Boulder City's young people. The JCC is program of which we can all be proud.

Testing the City's Capabilities

Recently, the Public Safety Dispatch Center at the Boulder City Police Department went through a series of tests to assure that the 911 roll-over abilities of the phone system were in perfect working order. In the event that the Dispatch Center loses telephone capabilities, the roll-over feature would activate, and 911 phone services would still be operational.

Three separate roll-over options were successfully tested by the City's IT Manager Maureen Walsh and an Embarq representative. These tests ensured that the Dispatch Center would have operation of the 911 system in the event of an emergency. Another test of this critical component of public safety is being scheduled for March of 2009 in order to maintain this most important communication link.

Safety Tips From Building Inspector Ron Nybo

Do I need a permit for my home project?

Check with the City building department before beginning home improvement projects. Permits are required for many home improvement projects, including electrical, mechanical, structural or plumbing work. Inspections provide a measure of safety to protect your life and property.

Projects that usually require permits:

Installing electrical outlets, replacing windows, remodeling kitchens or bathrooms, installing a pool, spa or hot tub, building an addition, including seasonal rooms, installing appliances and replacements such as furnaces, boilers, water heaters, fireplaces, space heaters and building a fence.

If you are planning to make home improvements, contact the City building department at 293-9282 to find out if you need a permit.