



MINTURN DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



GIVING TREE UPDATE



Once again this year, the Minturn Community fund is organizing "The Giving Tree", an opportunity to help your neighbors in need during the holiday season. The concept is simple: if you so choose, pick from a number of ornaments hanging on Christmas tree in the Town Hall lobby, and help enrich the holiday season of many of our neighbors. Each ornament will include a holiday wish list of a Minturn kid, the needs of our Minturn seniors, or - new this year – a way to help purchase a holiday dinner for our very own local heroes: Minturn's veterans. Be neighbors helping neighbors...

For those who attended the tree lighting and weren't able to get an ornament, or those who couldn't attend but are still waiting – we just received more information from the Salvation Army regarding the local families in need. We apologize for the delay, but this is a big undertaking every year by the Salvation Army and it takes alot of time and work. We continue to receive more names / needs, so ornaments and information will continue to be added to the town hall tree over the course of this week (the week of December 11th). We know this doesn't give a lot of time to shop, as gifts are to be turned in by December 18th. We thank you for your patience & for your willingness to help those in need during this very special time.

Additional information at [minturn.org](https://www.minturn.org).

CHRISTMAS TREE BONFIRE AND TREE DROPOFF

The Town of Minturn Annual Christmas Tree Bonfire will take place on Friday, January 5th, from 6-7:30pm at upper Little Beach Park. The Town will be providing hot cocoa and supplies for s'mores. In addition to the main bonfire, a smaller (kids) bonfire will be available for s'mores roasting. ERFPD will be on hand to supervise the fires.

Tree Dropoff: Trees may be dropped off at upper Little Beach Park anytime after January 1st (there may be a small pile already started, just outside the parking area gate above the amphitheater). You may drop off until the bonfire on the 5th. You can also drop off the night of the event, just bring your tree directly to the bonfire. If bringing your tree directly to the event, please drop off prior to 7pm.

Regarding pickups - Our Public Works team will be picking up trees where possible, based on need only from January 2nd to January 5th. If you can drop off your tree, please do so. If you cannot (only seniors or those who need assistance), we will pick it up. However, due to snow plowing demands and due to being short-staffed, we are asking that residents try to drop off their trees at the bonfire location vs. having them picked up. Pickups will occur through Friday morning the 5th (**reminder that trees MUST be curbside to be picked up, no exceptions!**). For questions, please contact Cindy Krieg (970-445-2415, events@minturn.org).

2024 WATER RATES

Notice to Residents:

The Town of Minturn completed the 2024 budget approvals on December 6th. Within the budget, it was recommended by the financial analyst to increase the water rates by 12% to cover operating expenses. The Town Council deliberated extensively on this matter and decided to only raise the water rates by 6%, so residents will see a 6% increase in the base and volumetric rates on their water bill beginning 2024. The full 2024 Town Budget will be posted soon.

2024 MINTURN MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Make a difference in your community and run for Minturn Town Council. Minturn's Municipal Election is coming up on April 2, 2024, and voters will elect a Mayor and three (3) Council members. The Mayor is a two (2) year term, the Council seats are each four (4) year terms.

Minturn residents that are interested in running for Mayor or Council may pick up a nomination petition from Town Hall starting Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Once candidates pick up a nomination petition, they have until Monday January 22nd to circulate their nomination petition and file it with the Town Clerk at 302 Pine Street in Minturn. All candidate nomination petitions must be filed by Monday January 22nd to be eligible for the municipal election in April.

For more information contact the Town Clerk, Jay Brunvand, at 970-445-2423, or via email at treasurer@minturn.org. More information, including qualifications and requirements, can be found at www.minturn.org.

Qualifications:

- Citizen of the United States for not less than seven (7) years
- At least 25 years of age
- Resident of the Town of Minturn for Mayor not less than five (5) years; for Council not less than two (2) years
- A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be eligible to become a candidate nor serve for an elected Town Office
- Must maintain residency within the Town of Minturn during the entire term of service

BROKEN FLAGPOLES

Several of the flagpoles on Bellm Bridge are currently broken and require the Town to remove the flags until the poles can be repaired in the spring.

MCF SHOVEL SQUAD

The Minturn Community Fund SHOVEL SQUAD is back! The MCF is still looking for more volunteers to help out our seniors (or injured residents, new parents, etc) on those big snow days. If that's YOU, please register to volunteer at: <https://www.minturncommunityfund.org/mcf-contact> and indicate Shovel Squad. The "on-call" team will run December 15 – April 15 and volunteers can take shifts whenever it fits their schedules.

To request help (seniors, post-surgery residents, new parents, etc) please contact Diana Scherr to coordinate. Call or text 970-376-4445.

COMMUNITY DINNERS, & HELP NEEDED

The Minturn Community Fund will once again be hosting Community Potluck Dinners in 2024, after the upcoming holidays. These dinners are designed to help connect with friends and neighbors during the winter months, when there are less social events happening. The dinners will be held the second Monday of January, February and March from 5:30 – 7pm, with themes to be announced soon. The January through March dates are as follows, and there may also be a dinner held in April (TBD). If you are interested in helping with the dinners (setup, teardown, cleanup, etc), please contact Jen Pace at 970-393-0364.

Monday, January 8th

Monday, February 12th

Monday, March 11th

April – TBD

MCF WEBSITE HELP NEEDED:

Additionally, the Minturn Community Fund is looking for volunteer help with their website. The time required would be minimal (up to a few hours per month). If you have experience with website work and would like to help out, please contact Diana Scherr at 970-376-4445.

CPW 2023 WINTER CLASSIFICATION FLIGHTS

This time of year marks the start of the CPW winter deer and elk classification flights. They will be flying over most of Eagle County over the next week, weather permitting. It is typical to see low flying helicopter operations as they classify wildlife.

RFM SEEKING DJ'S

Radio Free Minturn is currently seeking DJs. At one point, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, RFM had as many as 60 DJs. The station is now down to 20-25 and is seeking more. No experience necessary, will train. You can pick your own music, pick your own show, if you want to do a talk show or play music, it's up to you. It's a great opportunity for young people to learn the business – learn to announce, how to record, how to do interviews, and more.

Anyone interested should contact station manager Janet Bro at 210-488-6632, or janet@radiofreeminturn.org.

USPS – OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL – AUDIT INFORMATION

The US Postal Service Office of the Inspector General recently conducted an audit of Colorado Mountain Towns due to concerns over delivery delays and customer service. The initial results of that audit can be found [HERE](#).

BRAVO! VAIL VIRTUAL FOCUS GROUPS

Bravo! Vail seeks input from local residents aged 35 and younger! If you are between the ages of 18 and 35 and would like the opportunity to share your ideas about the Bravo! Vail Music Festival and live classical music in the Vail Valley, please sign-up for one of the February Zoom focus groups. Confirmed participants will receive a \$100 Gift Certificate to Moe's Barbeque and tickets to an upcoming 2024 Bravo! Vail performance! The focus groups will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, February 13 and Thursday, February 15. Opportunities for individual interviews are available if interested but not available during these times. Please sign up [here](#).

QUARTERLY UPDATES

Quarterly Reports by Town Staff are available on the Minturn website at www.minturn.org. They can be found [HERE](#), or on Town Newsletters and Quarterly Reports page under the Residents section.

ONE BOOK, ONE VALLEY

One Book One Valley returns for its 13th year and in 2024 we are focusing our attention on a Native American author, Oscar Hokeah, and his debut novel, "Calling for a Blanket Dance", published in 2022.

"A moving and deeply engaging novel about a young Native American man as he learns to find strength in his familial identity. Oscar Hokeah's electric debut takes us into the life of Ever Geimausaddle, whose family - part Mexican, part Native American – is determined to hold onto their community despite obstacles everywhere they turn. Honest, heartbreaking, and ultimately uplifting, "Calling for a Blanket Dance" is the story of how Ever Geimausaddle finds his way

home. <https://oscarhokeah.com>. More information can be found at <https://onebookonevalley.com/>.

A MINTURN CHRISTMAS POEM, BY CHAT GPT

In Minturn's embrace, 'neath the Rockies' tall,
a Christmas tale begins, a festive call.
Snow-kissed peaks in the moonlight gleam,
as Minturn dreams its holiday dream.
Through the pines, a whispering breeze,
carols dance on the crisp air with ease.
In the heart of Colorado, a town so bright,
Minturn's adorned in a gown of white.
A quilt of snow blankets, streets so quaint,
where joy and laughter sweetly acquaint.
Families gather, hands warmly entwined,
in the glow of love, true treasures find.
Oh, Minturn, with your charming grace,
each storefront adorned, a festive embrace.
Twinkling lights in every hue,
reflect the spirit of the season anew.
Beside the river, frozen and still,
Minturn rests 'neath the silent hill.
A haven for joy, love, and cheer,
as Christmas magic draws near.
With snowflakes falling, a gentle cascade, each one
a wish, a promise made.
To spread goodwill and joy so wide, In Minturn's
arms, let love abide.
Around the fire, stories unfold, of holidays past, of
silver and gold.
In Minturn's heart, the flame burns bright,
igniting hope on this silent night.
In the crisp mountain air, a choir of pines, sings
carols sweet, where the river twines.
Minturn, a tableau of festive delight, a Christmas
wonderland, sparkling and bright.
So here's to Minturn, in this snowy delight,
May your Christmas be merry and your spirits light.
In the embrace of mountains, where memories are
born, Minturn, Merry Christmas, from dusk until
dawn!

GETTING IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Minturn residents are getting into the holiday spirit. The Town of Minturn would like to wish the entire community a happy, healthy, safe, and JOYFUL holiday season.

