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2008 Golden City Council

To reach the entire City Council, e-mail citycouncil@cityofgolden.net

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or e-mail sdagosta@
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The Golden Informer
The City’s annual Community Pride Days will be held May 3 and 4 this year. The event allows Golden citizens the opportunity to properly dispose of items that may be gathering in their yards, garages, basements and other areas of their homes because they are too large or cannot be properly disposed of in regular trash pick up.

Mark your calendars and start gathering items you need to dispose of properly. More information and this year’s valuable coupons will be in the May issue of the Informer.

Below is the Golden City Council’s calendar. Regular study sessions are scheduled for the first and third Thursdays and regular business meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Thursdays of each month 7 p.m. Thursdays in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted. Council does not normally meet on the fifth Thursday in any month.

April 3
Regular Study Session

April 10
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

April 16
Regular Study Session

April 24
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Council’s upcoming agendas, packets and meeting minutes are available online under the City Council link at www.CityofGolden.net.

Public comment is welcomed and on the agenda at all regular meetings.
As I write this column, I’m looking out my window at yet another snowstorm blanketing Golden. It’s hard to imagine that spring is just around the corner but, by the time you read this, we’ll be seeing the flowers bloom, hearing the birds sing, making summer vacation plans, and – yes – probably weathering a few more spring snowstorms. We’ll be at the one-quarter mark for the year, which seems like a good time for a progress report.

The City Council set some ambitious goals for 2008. One high profile goal was to begin implementing our Golden Sustainability Initiative. We appointed an exceptional group of seven folks to the community’s new Sustainability Advisory Board. They are charged with guiding our progress toward the City’s ambitious 10-year goals to increase our use of renewable energy, decrease the amount of waste we send to the landfill, continue bringing good renewable energy and energy technology jobs to the Golden area, and other sustainability goals.

We have also made appointments to our Community Walkability Task Force, and by early May we’ll make appointments to the new Housing Affordability and Bikeability task forces. All three have specific responsibilities and deadlines, and should complete their work in time to help inform the creation of the new biennial (2009-2010) budget this fall. The task forces provide City Council with a good tool for focused thought on specific issues and provide additional new opportunities for members of the community to participate in important community decisions.

We are also moving forward energetically with our neighborhood plans. We completed one plan last year and have three others in various stages. This month, we’ll kick off a process for the South Areas Neighborhood Plan, encompassing the Golden Ridge and Golden Terrace areas, Heritage Dells, Eagle Ridge and Stonebridge. The issues in the southern part of Golden are numerous and complicated, and include protecting the existing neighborhoods (which are important in their own right but also offer some of Golden’s most important affordable housing), ensuring the community gets as much value as possible from the new light rail line, filling in gaps in our network of open spaces and parks, and making sure that the neighborhoods benefit from effective and connected bike and pedestrian routes in the area. The open house and formal kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. April 16 at City Hall, 911 10th St.

The North Golden neighborhood planning process, which we started last year, will continue with an open house to review an initial draft based on public input to date. That meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 21 at City Hall.

We’ll also kick off an East Street Neighborhood Plan at 7 p.m. June 18, also at City Hall.

Spring is also a great time to think about planting, and the City’s 2008 Tree Sale extends until April 7. Speaking of trees, we are very pleased to once again celebrate Arbor Day and Golden’s recognition – for the 18th year in a row – as a Tree City USA. In addition to looking nice, trees provide a host of other benefits, including shade, cleaner air, reduced levels of greenhouse gases, and reduced noise. Golden’s tree-planting efforts tie in nicely with the Mile High Million, a collaborative effort to add one million new trees in the Metro Denver region by 2025.
For the 19th consecutive year, the City of Golden Streets Division is running its annual Pothole Hotline prize contest.

Here’s how it works: Simply spot a pothole and report it to the City’s pothole hotline (either by phone or internet). The City then repairs each of the potholes reported as soon as weather allows, typically within 48 hours. Each week, the caller who reports the largest pothole wins a prize.

The program began March 27 and will run for 5 weeks. You must be a Golden resident to enter.

To report a pothole by phone, call the Golden Info service at 303-215-8882 and select option 2901. To report a pothole online, visit www.CityOfGolden.net and click on Golden Info in the top navigation bar. Then select Public Works and click on option 2901 – Pothole Reporting.

Remember to give the location of the pothole, your name, phone number and address.

Special thanks to this year’s participating merchants who supplied the pothole prizes: Coors Brewing Co., Peerless Tyre Co., Corner Mechanic, Mountain Muffler and Christopher’s Dodge World.

Golden Gears Up for 150th Anniversary

As you may have already heard, Golden will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 2009. Indeed, the Boston Company first arrived in town June 12, 1859, and decided to settle and create a community here. A committee has formed to plan for this momentous occasion. The committee has dubbed the celebrations “150 Golden Years” reflecting its intent to recognize the full span of the city’s history, not just the founding in 1859.

The 150 Golden Years committee has determined that its role should be to encourage Golden businesses, cultural organizations and other community institutions to incorporate the 150th theme in all their 2009 events. The committee will help provide inspiring ideas and will commit to help promote the community’s various 150th-themed events throughout the year.

In addition, the committee will host a celebration for the community the evening of Friday, June 12, 2009. Thus far, the committee has tentatively agreed on a parade through downtown Golden on Washington Avenue and turning down 10th Street to end in Lions Park. Spectators will be invited to join in the end of the parade, following it to the park, where a party will be held, complete with cake and ice cream, a 150th-themed live music program, and a very special finale display like Golden has never seen before.

More information on the event, sponsorship and volunteering will be available on the web site later this spring.

The committee looks forward to beginning work with the community on the year’s celebrations. If you have questions or ideas, we encourage you to contact us through our web site at www.150goldenyears.com.

The 150 Golden Years Committee is:

Charles J. Baroch, Executive Director, Golden Civic Foundation
Krista Braton, Administrative Assistant, Golden Chamber of Commerce
Sabrina D’Agosta, Communications Manager, City of Golden
Barbara Mills, Executive Director, Golden Pioneer Museum
Donna Plummer, Golden native
John Tracy, Sales Manager, Mile High Newspapers
Gary Wink, Executive Director, Golden Chamber of Commerce

Do you love all the recreational opportunities Golden has to offer? Do you have ideas for how you could make them even better? You can contribute to your community in a meaningful way by joining the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. City Council is looking for a Golden resident to volunteer for a term expiring in March 2009.

For more information about the Parks Board, visit www.cityofgolden.net, click on Boards & Commissions in the Quick Links on the left of the page, and then click on the Parks Board. You can also contact Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf Rod Tarullo at rtarullo@cityofgolden.net or 303-384-8120.

Applications are available at www.cityofgolden.net by clicking on Boards & Commissions, or through the City Clerk’s Office. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board applications are due by 5 p.m. April 24 to the City Clerk in person at or by mail to City Hall, 911 10th St., via email to sbrooks@cityofgolden.net or by fax to 303-3984-8001. Interviews with City Council are tentatively scheduled the evening of May 1.
Special Election in Ward 4 on April 22

In the November 2007 election, Golden voters elected then Ward 4 Councilor Jacob Smith to serve as the new Mayor. On Jan. 10, Smith resigned his Ward 4 seat to be sworn in as Mayor, leaving the Ward 4 seat open and requiring a special election be held to fill the vacancy.

The City Clerk will hold a mail ballot election, with ballots to be mailed to all active registered voters in Ward 4 around April 7. Ballots must be returned by no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, April 22, 2008, to the City Clerk’s Office at Golden City Hall, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401. (Postmarks do not count.) City Hall will be the only ballot drop off location and will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day, April 22.

To check your voter registration status, call the Jefferson County Elections Office at 303-271-8111. The last day to register to vote in the April 22 Special Election was March 24.

A map of the Council Wards and Districts is available online at www.cityofgolden.net by clicking on Residents & Visitors and then on Maps. You can zoom in on the map to determine whether you live in Ward 4. Or, you can also visit the web site and click on Golden ezMaps in the Hot Topics bar on the right of the page. There you can click on the Jefferson County Address Wizard and enter your address for a complete overview of all your political jurisdictions.

For more information about the Special Election, call the City Clerk’s Office at 303-384-8014 or 303-384-8015.

ELECTION FORUM APRIL 1 AT MITCHELL

Leadership Golden and the Golden Transcript are hosting a candidate forum at 6:30 p.m. April 1 in the Mitchell Elementary School gymnasium. All of the Ward 4 candidates will be invited to participate. If you have questions about the forum or would like to suggest questions for the candidates, contact LouAnne Dale at 303-273-0091 or LatDale@aol.com. The forum will be taped and aired on Comcast Cable Channel 8 at various times throughout April. Check www.cityofgolden.net/channel8 for program times or to view the forum online.

Candidate Profiles Help Educate Voters

In order to help voters make more educated decisions in the upcoming general election, the City publishes candidate profiles in each of the races.

This election, citizens will vote for their Councilor in Ward 4. Ward 4 is in District 2. The Ward is shown to the right, and a zoomable version is available online at www.cityofgolden.net, or you can call the City Clerk’s Office at 303-384-8014 to determine which Ward you live in.

Each candidate in the Ward 4 special election was offered the opportunity to submit up to 500 words and a photo for free publication in the Golden Informer. Candidates were not provided with any set questions or subject matter to write about. Candidate profiles were not edited by the City for content or style.

We hope you find this information helpful when you make your voting decisions.

ONE ADDITIONAL CANDIDATE MAY BE CERTIFIED ON THE BALLOT.

The Golden City Clerk received nomination petitions from one additional citizen, who had not yet been certified as an official candidate as of press time.

That individual did not submit a candidate profile for publication in the Informer. Final candidates will be posted at www.cityofgolden.net with other election information.
A positive vision. Neighborhood values.

I am running with a vision to preserve and enhance our quality of life and the enjoyment of our natural surroundings.

My wife Kathy and I have lived in Golden with our two boys for a while and feel privileged for the opportunity to serve our community.

In the past I have worked on issues as a citizen including the effort to keep the Billion Dollar Beltway from splitting Golden. I volunteer on several boards and commissions, including the Golden Campaign Election Board and as an appointed commissioner on Golden’s Urban Renewal Authority for downtown.

I have gotten to know many of the good people who have so much pride in operating our City services. For much of 2007 I spent time with fellow citizens on the Golden Sustainability Initiative working groups.

GROWTH & PRESERVATION

Golden faces challenges to our quality of life, but I believe that consistent, positive action is the right path to enhance our town.

Blasting a 6-8 lane super highway through our small community will fracture our town, separate neighbors, and will not solve traffic congestion. It is fiscally irresponsible, and we must implement better solutions.

The 1% Growth Initiative has successfully helped direct the inevitable surge of residents as more people discover Golden. We should continue to act with measured, well-considered responses to incorporate limited growth into a sustainable future for the benefit of us all.

LONG-TERM PLANNING & VITALITY

I will continue the revitalization of Golden. The past 15 years have seen great improvements across the City: Downtown streetscaping, better-maintained parks and a growing trail system, enhanced city services, as well as safe and secure water supplies. We have new Master Plans covering the Character of our downtown, Bicycle and pedestrian transportation, Parks & Recreation, a new fire department and more.

LIVABLE CITY, WALKABLE TOWN

Golden soon celebrates our 150th anniversary, and sustainability is the key to our future: meeting the needs of today and creating a legacy for our families in the future.

Preserving our unique heritage and character, promoting economic stability, developing transportation solutions to meet the changing energy landscape, adopting Safe Routes to School, broadening neighbor involvement in city affairs, and enhancing community and recreation facilities that serve our families are how I envision helping Golden be a sustainable city for the next 150 years.

I look forward to speaking with you regarding the future of Golden and many important challenges we face. Thank you for considering supporting me in these efforts.

Please visit www.WilliamFisher.com for a more comprehensive discussion of my priorities. I am available via phone or email and welcome any comments or questions you may have at 303-588-3389 or email me at bill@williamfisher.com
The City Council is in the process of forming task forces to help study several priority items in 2008. The City’s first Walkability Task Force was appointed March 20 and will meet April 15. The Affordable Housing Task Force will be appointed April 10 with its first meeting to be announced.

The City is currently seeking applicants for its Bike Master Plan Task Force. More specific details and an application will be available after April 11 at www.cityofgolden.net. Applications will be due by 5 p.m. April 24 and interviews with Council are tentatively set for the evening of May 1, with appointments being made May 8. Watch the web site for more details!

The City Council relies on the contributions of its volunteer boards and commissions to supply them with recommendations in a number of specialty areas. Among them are the Golden Urban Renewal Authority and the Investment Advisory Board, which are currently looking for new members.

Investment Advisory Committee

The Investment Advisory Committee is seeking a financial professional to serve a 4-year term beginning in April 2008. The purpose of the Committee is to review and monitor the City’s cash management and investment results, develop and recommend investment policies to the City Council, and assist in the selection of investment facilitators and managers.

Applicants should be knowledgeable of and experienced in the financial arena. Preference will be given to professionals who live or work within the city limits of Golden.

The Investment Advisory Committee meets at least semiannually, typically during the work day in January and July. For more information about the committee, contact Finance Director Jeff Hansen at 303-384-8020 or jhansen@cityofgolden.net.

Applications are available at www.cityofgolden.net by clicking on Boards & Commissions, or through the City Clerk’s Office. Investment Advisory Committee applications are due by 5 p.m. April 10 to the City Clerk in person at or by mail to City Hall, 911 10th St., via email to sbrooks@cityofgolden.net or by fax to 303-3984-8001. Interviews with City Council are tentatively scheduled the evening of April 17.

Golden Urban Renewal Authority

GURA will appoint two new members whose 5-year terms will begin in June 2008. GURA commissioners provide policy direction and oversight to staff on a variety of downtown redevelopment issues ranging from light pole banners to major construction projects. GURA meets publicly on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month. For more information on the responsibilities and activities of a GURA commissioner, call 303-279-4162 or visit www.gura.com

Applications are available at www.cityofgolden.net by clicking on Boards & Commissions, or through the City Clerk’s Office. GURA applications are due by 5 p.m. April 24 to the City Clerk in person at or by mail to City Hall, 911 10th St., via email to sbrooks@cityofgolden.net or by fax to 303-3984-8001. Interviews with City Council are tentatively scheduled the evening of May 1.
Battery Recycling in Golden

Every year, Americans buy an estimated 3 billion batteries that are used to power things like cell phones, toys, automobiles and cordless power tools. The many shapes and sizes of batteries demonstrate their versatility and uses in many of our modern day conveniences.

All batteries have one thing in common: they all use heavy metals to store and generate electricity. When batteries reach the end of their useful life and are thrown in the trash, the metals in each battery will eventually contaminate the environment.

In an effort to divert batteries from disposal in the local landfill, the City of Golden has developed and implemented a battery recycling program for all types of batteries used by the City and its employees. Batteries are sorted into two groups: rechargeable and non-rechargeable.

Rechargeable batteries are collected and recycled through Interstate Battery, a member of the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) at no cost to the City. All other non-rechargeable batteries are collected for shipment to a battery recycler at minimal cost.

Batteries that are recycled are shredded and the different components separated for use in other materials. Many times, recycled batteries are used to manufacture new batteries or are incorporated into other steel products like rebar.

Do Your Part
Citizens can also recycle batteries.

Right here in Golden, Meyer Hardware Store, 1103 Arapahoe St., participates in the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) program, which allows you to recycle rechargeable batteries for free.

The Rooney Road Recycling Center, 151 South Rooney Rd., also accepts vehicle batteries for $13. This is a great option for citizens who also have other household chemicals they wish to dispose of. However, you must first call 303-316-6262 to set up an appointment before you can drop-off items.

Please do not bring any non-rechargeable batteries to these locations. Programs for disposal of non-rechargeable batteries are typically only available through private companies, so check with your employer to see if they can offer this service to employees.

Sustainability Board Begins Work Implementing 10-Year Plan

The City of Golden’s new Community Sustainability Advisory Board was appointed Feb. 28 and held its first meeting March 26. Congratulations to the following board members on their selection:

- Tom Atkins
- Susan Buhr
- Chuck Baroch
- Hilary Mizia
- Scott Morrisey
- Gunter Ritter
- Karen Smith

The formation of the CSAB came out of the recommendations made in fall 2007 by the Golden Sustainability Initiative’s community working groups. Those citizen groups worked several months in seven areas of study to revise the City’s sustainability goals and make recommendations to City Council on how to best achieve those goals.

City Council ultimately adopted the revised goals and chose 15 recommendations to start with, one of which was to form an advisory board charged with implementing the 10-year plan for the community. To learn more about the City’s sustainability efforts, visit www.cityofgolden.net/sustainability.
MARCH 30

JSO Features Young Artists Concert
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 30 at the Green Center on Colorado School of Mines campus, at 16th and Cheyenne streets. The theme of the concert is “A Look into the Future: Young Artists Concert.” This is a rare opportunity to see and hear the future of classical music in one exciting concert. Come hear a likely star of the next generation of concert violinists, see a rising teen-aged conductor, and hear a symphony composed by a teenager who is being compared to Mozart! Kyung-Jun Kim, 20, winner of the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra’s 2008 Young Artists Competition, will perform Prokofiev’s “Violin Concerto No. 2 in g minor.” A reception will follow the concert. Tickets are $17 for adults or $15 for seniors, and other discounts are available for students and children. Call 303-278-4237, visit www.jeffersonsymphonyorchestra.org or get your tickets at the door the night of the concert.

APRIL 1

Candidates Forum
See sidebar on Page 4.

APRIL 4

First Fridays
Join downtown Golden merchants who are keeping their doors open late the first Friday of each month. Free horse-drawn carriage rides will be available through historic downtown Golden, and several shops will have their own treats for you to enjoy, so dress warm and come on down and enjoy.

APRIL 6

Madrigal Concert by Confluence
Confluence, a 16-voice auditioned group from the Golden Concert Choir, will perform a spring concert of madrigals at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 6 at Applewood Valley United Methodist Church, 2035 Ellis St. Visit www.goldencommunitychoirs.org.

APRIL 12

Buffalo Soldiers Tea Time
Who were the Buffalo Soldiers and what role did they play in the early West? Learn the dynamic scope from John Bell, a descendant of real Buffalo Soldiers. Hear true stories and see artifacts of African American men who served their county. Enjoy a luncheon or dessert tea with this dramatic performance at the Astor House Museum, 822 12th St. Luncheon is a full meal of scones, finger sandwiches, salad and desserts for $25. Just Desserts treats you to scones and desserts for just $15. Members receive a discount. Paid reservations are required by calling 303-278-3557.

Get L.O.S.T in Historic Downtown Golden

On May 1, get “L.O.S.T.” in historic downtown Golden, where you’re sure to find interesting samples and free services while you shop ‘til you drop.

Sponsored by the Original Shopping Districts, the “Ladies Only Sample Tour” is a special girls’ night out for friends, daughters, mothers, colleagues and in-laws. With the purchase of a $10 L.O.S.T. bracelet, all ladies receive free products and services in-store and a 60-day redemption coupon book.

L.O.S.T. bracelets are eligible for freebies in any of the five Original Shopping Districts that night between 4 and 7 p.m. – so comfortable shoes for shopping are a necessity. The Original Shopping Districts, comprised of five unique shopping venues, feature independent merchants in Historic Downtown areas throughout metro Denver. Maps and directions are available online at www.originalshoppingdistricts.com.

Bracelets will go on sale April 15 for $10 each at participating merchants in historic downtown Golden. If any remain, bracelets may be purchased on the L.O.S.T. shopping day at designated areas in downtown. It is recommended that bracelets are pre-purchased.

Ladies, start your shopping carts. L.O.S.T. begins promptly at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 1.

Back row: second-place winner Aaron Perdue, third-place winner Daniel Pate. Front row: first-place winner Kyung-Jun Kim
ARTISTS CONCERT

JSO FEATURES YOUNG
MAR. 30

for students and children. Call 303-278-

seniors, and other discounts are available

tickets are $17 for adults or $15 for

Prokofiev’s “Violin Concerto No. 2 in g

Young Artists Competition, will perform

the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra’s 2008

Mozart! Kyung-Jun Kim, 20, winner of

a teenager who is being compared to

tor, and hear a symphony composed by

violinists, see a rising teen-aged conduc-
tive to the next generation of concert

one exciting concert. Come hear a likely

cert.

the theme of the concert is “A

streets. The theme of the concert is “A

The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will

perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 30 at

the Green Center on Colorado School

APRIL 19

TOWN HALL MEETING
Representative Gwyn Green and Senator Moe Keller will host their monthly Golden town hall meeting from 10 a.m.
to noon, Saturday, April 19 at the Golden Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. The Golden elected officials will give anupdate on legislative bills, and discuss topics including education, healthcare, transportation, voting and elections. Themeetings are held the third Saturday of each month in Golden. Community members are encouraged to contact Rep. Green and Sen. Keller with their questions and ideas any time. Rep. Green can be reached at 303-866-2951 and Sen. Keller can be reached at 303-866-4856.

APRIL 19

Dakota Blonde Concert
Join well-known local band Dakota Blonde for an evening of fun, frivolity and music. Back for a third show, Dakota Blonde brings unique pop and bluegrass-tinged sound to Acoustic Alley at Miner’s Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. Mary Hucks’ sweet, yet strong vocals are the lynchpin to this local trio’s sound, melding perfectly with the smooth steady guitar playing and cool harmonies of Don Pinnella (nope, not blonde) and the charming acoustic bass work and humor of Tony Raddell. Come enjoy their blend of original songs and well-known cover tunes. Tickets are $13 in advance or $16 the day of the show and are available at www.acousticalley.org.

APRIL 19

Teddy Bear Tea
It’s tea time at the Golden Pioneer Museum, 923 10th St. Enjoy finger sandwiches and tea with your child and their favorite teddy bear. Learn the history of teddy bears and about traditional tea times at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Paid reservations are required at $10 per child. Adults and teddies are free. Adults will assist their children. For more information, contact Kathryn Maleva at 303-278-7151.

APRIL 19

Spring Concert by Children’s Choir and Westside Flyers
The Children’s Choir of Golden and the Westside Flyers violin players will perform their spring concert, “Songs Your Grandmother Knows,” at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 19 at Applewood Valley United Methodist Church, 2035 Ellis St. Visit www.goldencommunitychoirs.org.

APRIL 19

SCFD Free Day
Come and enjoy free admission all day (from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the Golden Pioneer Museum, 923 10th St., as part of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District’s Free Day.

APRIL 22

Earth Day
See story on Page 16.

APRIL 22

Ward 4 Special Election
See information on Page 4 and candidate profiles on Pages 5 through 7.

APRIL 25

 Arbor Day
See story on Page 17.

APRIL 26

Golden Concert Choir Spring Concert, Silent Auction and Bake Sale
The Golden Concert Choir will present a spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26 at Applewood Valley United Methodist Church, 2035 Ellis St. The concert will include various selections celebrating nature. Visit www.goldencommunitychoirs.org. There will be a silent auction and bake sale before the concert to benefit the Golden Community Choirs.

2HOURVACATION.COM

For more up to date information or other things to do in Golden, visit www.2HourVacation.com.

To list a community event happening in Golden here, please send your listing to:
Golden City Hall, Communications Dept., 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, or by e-mail to sdagosta@cityofgolden.net. Listings should include the date(s), the event name and a brief description of the event, which may include cost, location and contact information. Submissions must be received by the first of the month prior to the issue you would like them printed in (i.e., Jan. 1 for the February issue). Call 303-384-8132 with questions or for more information.
A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA®) will arrive Saturday, April 19 to examine all aspects of the Golden Police Department’s policy and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief Bill Kilpatrick announced.

The assessment team will verify that the Golden Police Department meets CALEA’s state-of-the-art standards as part of a voluntary process to gain accreditation — a highly prized recognition of public safety professional excellence, he said.

As part of the on-site assessment, agency personnel and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session at 7 p.m. Monday, April 21, in the Council Chambers at Golden City Hall, 911 10th St.

Citizens who can’t attend the public meeting but would like to provide comments to the assessment team, may do so by calling 303-384-8003 between 1 and 3 p.m. Monday, April 21.

Telephone comments, as well as comments at the public meeting, are limited to 10 minutes and must address the Golden Police Department’s ability to comply with CALEA standards. A copy of the standards is available at the Golden Police Department, 911 10th St., or by contacting Captain J. V. Garavaglia at 303-384-8030. Citizens wishing to offer written comments about the Golden Police Department’s ability to meet the standards for accreditation should be sent to: CALEA, 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Va., 22030-2215.

The Golden Police Department has to comply with 459 standards in order to gain accredited status, Kilpatrick said.

The CALEA Program Manager for the Golden Police Department is Maya Mitchell. The assessment team is composed of public safety practitioners from similar, but out-of-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other locations where compliance can be witnessed. The assessors are:

- Team Leader Chief (retired) Randy Nichols, Pitt County Memorial Hospital Police Department
- Team Member Sgt. James Griner, Garden City, Ga., Police Department
- Team Member Sgt. Paul Lindenschmidt, Mason, Ohio, Police Department

Once the CALEA assessors complete their review of the agency, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status, Mitchell said. Accreditation is for three years, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

For more information regarding the CALEA, write the Commission at: 10302 Eaton Place, Suite 100, Fairfax, Va., 22030-2215; call 800-368-3757 or 703-353-4225; or visit www.calea.org.
The San Luis Valley – which comprises more than 8,000 square miles in southern Colorado and represents the six most economically challenged counties in the State – was desperately in need of fire equipment to protect its citizens. A unanimous vote by Golden City Council on March 6 helped begin to resolve that need by donating a Golden fire pumper truck that was no longer in use to the San Luis Valley.

While serving as the President of the Metro Denver Fire Chiefs Association in November 2007, Golden Fire Chief John Bales was contacted by the regional coordinator of the San Luis Valley regional emergency trauma advisory council (RETAC) in Alamosa, Colo. The regional coordinator reported that not only did San Luis Valley fire departments not have the money to budget for purchasing their own equipment and apparatus, they also didn’t have the money available to apply for matching grants. As a last resort, they were requesting donations of used fire equipment.

In contrast, the Golden Fire Department has been fortunate to be able to purchase, maintain and operate a high-quality fleet of fire apparatus over the past two decades, thanks to the generous support of the citizens and City Councils. In fact, the Department had a 1982 Seagrave Fire Pumper in its inventory that had served the Department well for 26 years. In 2001, it was moved off of the front-lines and placed in reserve status as a backup vehicle. While it no longer meets today’s national standards for pumper trucks, it does still function and pump well, and passed its pump test in 2007.

By the time San Luis Valley contacted the Golden Fire Chief, the pumper was no longer being utilized as a reserve pumper, but was primarily being used in the fire academy for training new fire recruits. After some discussion, it was decided the best alternative for the apparatus was to donate it to Sanford, Colo., via the San Luis Valley RETAC.

“We’re really thrilled that we are able to do something positive for a community that is in need,” said Chief Bales.

Sanford is a community of about 800 people and currently has no full-size fire apparatus for structural fire protection. Members of the Golden Fire Department plan to deliver the pumper in April or May.
The City of Golden is working collaboratively with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to replace the State bridge on Washington Avenue over State Highway 58.

During construction, traffic has been diverted into two lanes (one in each direction), as opposed to the four lanes (two in each direction) it was previously. Traffic was diverted to the two westernmost lanes when construction began in mid-March for the demolition of the east portion of the bridge, which was scheduled for March 16.

While the bridge is not a City-owned bridge, Golden decided it was an important enough gateway to the historic downtown to offer to pay for upgrades and improvements to the bridge, above and beyond the very basic design CDOT would have otherwise undertaken.

The City held an open house in November 2006 asking for citizen input on several possible design options, and the City Council ultimately approved $2.1 million in additional funding to assist CDOT in building what was labeled as “Option A.” This bridge design will add pedestrian and bicycle connectivity improvements, as well as improve the bridge aesthetics at this critical City entry point.

CDOT currently has scheduled for construction to be completed in the summer of 2009. As of press time, the City did not have a complete construction schedule, but will continue to post updates on our web site as we receive them from the contractor and CDOT. Visit www.cityofgolden.net and click on Public Works, then Capital Projects and choose Highway 58 Interchange for up-to-date information throughout construction.
Floods are dangerous. Even though they appear to move slowly (3-feet per second), a flood 2-feet deep can knock a person off his feet and float a car.

Your property may be high enough that it was not flooded in the past, but the next flood could be worse, as not all storms are the same. If you are in the floodplain, the odds are that someday your property will be damaged. If your property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, there is a 26% chance that you will experience flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage, and the odds are 96% that your property will be affected by the 10-year flood. For comparison, odds are only 1 to 2% that your house will catch on fire during the same 30-year mortgage.

The most serious flooding in the City of Golden has been the result of cloudbursts occurring from May to September. Several severe floods have been recorded in Golden since 1864.

On Aug. 1, 1888, cloudbursts along the Front Range produced a peak discharge on Clear Creek of 8,700 cubic feet per second (cfs). By comparison, the 30-year average flow on Clear Creek for Aug. 1 is just 281 cfs! This discharge was measured 7 miles upstream of Golden. Most of the damage from this flood occurred in Clear Creek Canyon between Idaho Springs and Golden.

On July 24, 1896, cloudbursts over Clear Creek Canyon and Golden Gate Canyon produced floods on both Clear Creek and Tucker Gulch. Three people were killed when a wall of water passed down Tucker Gulch. Most of the homes and businesses along lower Tucker Gulch sustained substantial damage (many were completely demolished) and most of the bridges across Clear Creek were swept away.

On July 23 and 24, 1965, heavy rains over the Clear Creek and Tucker Gulch basins (4.5 inches in 1 hour being reported on Tucker Gulch) produced flash flooding in Golden and inundated a wide area, causing major damage to homes, bridges, and utility lines. The most extensive damage occurred along Tucker Gulch.

Most recently, June 2004 brought two intense storms resulting in flooding. The June 27 storm exceeded the 100-year storm intensity, and the June 8 storm was between the 50- and 100-year intensities.

These are just a few examples of some of the more damaging floods experienced in Golden; however, many other floods have also inflicted damage.

The City has important information it can provide you with tips about how to protect yourself, your family, your home and other valuable property from floods. Flood maps and flood protection references are available at the Golden Public Library, or make an appointment to visit the Engineering and Building Divisions at 1445 10th St. to see if you are in a mapped floodplain. Call 303-384-8156.

If requested, the Public Works Department will review flood information on file and produce a written Floodplain Determination for your property. To request a FREE Floodplain Determination: visit www.CityOfGolden.net; call the Golden Info line at 303-215-8882, and request item number 2903; or make an appointment with the City Engineer at 303-384-8156. These services are provided at no cost to you.
Clear Creek Restoration Begins

West Denver Trout Unlimited (WDTU) began an important river restoration project with a ground-breaking ceremony March 3. The Golden Mile will be located on Clear Creek roughly between the City of Golden’s kayak course and the new Jeffco Open Space Park bridge upstream.

The objectives of the stream restoration are to:

• Improve habitat for coldwater wildlife,
• Provide an educational resource for area youth,
• Improve opportunities for nearby recreational fishing, and
• provide improved fishing access for the physically handicapped.

“Clear Creek will be the most accessible quality coldwater stream fishery for many people throughout Denver,” said WDTU Project Director Miles Williams.

He said a number of variables attracted WDTU to the Golden Mile project, including proximity and the good general health of the creek. Williams said that although Clear Creek has been abused from prior mining, road-building and development upstream, water quality improvements mandated years ago by the EPA have made Clear Creek’s water quality reasonably good and capable of sustaining a trout population.

WDTU has budgeted $180,000 for the Golden Mile project, with additional in-kind contributions and donations bringing the total value of the project to more than $250,000. Contributors include the City of Golden ($50,000), Federal Fishing is Fun Program ($75,000), Jefferson County Conservation Trust Fund ($30,000), Coors Brewery ($10,000), more than $18,000 from WDTU’s Chapter and individual member donations, and $2,000 from national Trout Unlimited’s “Embrace a Stream” program. A substantial amount of stone for the project is being donated by Ben and Albert Frei of AFS Quarries, the City of Golden, and, if necessary, Cotter Corporation. Frontier Environmental Services of Arvada is the lead contractor for the project, and has added $12,000 in donated services.

Williams says the Golden Mile project adds more stream improvements to the already-existing kayak course through Golden. This improved stretch of Clear Creek, including the kayak course and the new stream improvement section will eventually be about one continuous mile of river. The fishery improvements will include a series of J-dams, cross vanes, boulder fields and other structures to provide consistent water depth, sinuosity; improved shelter and other habitat conditions; and to stabilize the banks and river bed.

WDTU [began] work on The Golden Mile in March, but the project won’t be completed until December or January 2009. Work on the section of river immediately above the 6th Avenue bridge, (about 600 feet) is in limbo for now, pending final approval on an access arrangement with Canyonside’s homeowners association, which owns the south bank.

“The Golden Mile is the first step to future improvements on Clear Creek,” WDTU President Fred Portillo said. “Clear Creek is the home water of many of our 950 chapter members. We hope success with this project provides a springboard for more improvements upstream.”

For more information, visit www.WestDenverTU.org.
City Celebrates Arbor Day with Tree Planting

The City of Golden will celebrate Arbor Day (April 25) by planting a tree at 1:45 p.m. April 18 in New Loveland Mine Park. As he does every year, City Forester Dave High has invited a group of second-graders from Mitchell Elementary School to help him with the special tree planting. Representatives from the State Forest Service will also join in the festivities. The public is welcome to attend, as well.

As part of Arbor Day, the City will also celebrate its recognition as a Tree City USA for the 18th year in a row by displaying the Tree City USA flag at the tree planting event. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service.

Golden has again met the four standards to required to be a Tree City USA community:
- A tree board or department;
- A tree care ordinance;
- A comprehensive community forestry program; and
- An Arbor Day observance.

“Trees in our cities and towns help clean the air, conserve soil and water, moderate temperature and bring nature into our daily lives,” said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Tree City USA designation recognizes the work of elected officials, staff and citizens who plant and care for the community forest. Trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in our cities and towns, and provide environmental and economic benefits. A community and its citizens that recognize these benefits and provide care for [their] trees deserve recognition and thanks.”
Summer Softball Days Are Here Again

The crack of the bat can already be heard on Golden softball fields this year. The fun spring season that players are currently enjoying is about to give way to a fantastic 12-week summer season. The City of Golden’s athletics staff has been hard at work all winter planning the summer softball leagues that hit a homer with softball players at all levels. Registrations are currently being accepted for all divisions of play for summer leagues that begin in May.

Once again, Golden is offering a variety of different leagues and divisions at the most affordable rates in the area. Affordable rates combined with top notch fields and facilities are just a few of the reasons why the City of Golden softball program is growing and bringing in more teams for a fun and exciting summer of softball.

Golden offers a league for every team, regardless of skill level or competition. With divisions in Men’s, Women’s and Co-Recreational leagues offered every night of the week, every team can be accommodated.

Registration is currently open and divisions are expected to fill quickly. Registration will remain open until the April 23 deadline or until the division is filled.

Don’t have a team? The athletics staff can help you find one. Call Becky at 303-384-8194, or fill out the online “free agent” form at www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec to add your name to a list of players looking for a team.

Our website is also an outlet for teams to find up-to-date information on schedules, statistics, scores and standings, in addition to rules, rosters and free agent lists. Come see what all the hubbub is about. Sign your team up today for the best value, competition and overall softball experience in the metro area.

For more information on softball or other adult athletic programs, such as kickball, basketball or dodgeball, visit www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec or call Becky at 303-384-8194.

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Golden Community Center activities calendar

Pancake Breakfast and Creekside Walk for 50+ Lions Park East Pavilion

In conjunction with “America on the Move,” the Front Porch is hosting this event for anyone 50-years-old and older. Plan on having a good breakfast before your morning walk.

Bring your pedometer and wear your sturdy shoes for a local stroll down Clear Creek led by SilverSneakers Instructor Debbie Tewell. Please register early!

8:30 to 10 a.m. Monday, June 16
$8

Opera for Beginners – for the Culture Vulture at Any Age Golden Community Center

This class empowers beginners and regulars. If you want to explore the world of opera, without making the investment, this class is for you. Tom Powers will present the most melodic and moving operas ever written and expose the musical highlights, plots, composers, backgrounds and translations of each opera. Don’t miss the chance to delve into this rewarding musical experience.

7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays
April 2 – “La Traviata”
April 9 – “Rigoletto”
April 16 – “Lucia di Lammermoor”
April 23 – “Faust”
$35 resident, $40 non-resident, $12 drop-in fee
2008 Seasonal Positions Available NOW!

THE SPLASH AQUATIC PARK
Lifeguards & Swim Instructors
Concession Workers
$7.05 - $11/hr

Customer Service Reps
$7.50 - $14/hr

Aquatic Park Manager
$9 - $16/hr

RECREATION
Batting Cage Attendants
$7.05 - $11/hr

Day Camp Leaders
Youth Program Leaders
$7.50 - $14/hr

Field/Gym Supervisors
$7.50 - $14/hr

Fitness Instructors
$12.50 - $20/hr

FOSSIL TRACE GOLF CLUB
Seasonal Golf Maintenance Workers
$7.50 - $14/hr

FIELD/COURSES
Batting Cage Attendants
$7.05 - $11/hr

Day Camp Leaders
Youth Program Leaders
$7.50 - $14/hr

Field/Gym Supervisors
$7.50 - $14/hr

Fitness Instructors
$12.50 - $20/hr

MAINTENANCE
Cemetery, Parks, and Forestry Seasonal Maintenance Workers
20-40 hours/wk
$7.50 to $14/hr

For more information and to apply online, visit our website at www.cityofgolden.net or call the City of Golden Jobline at 303-275-8962 Option #6000. A City of Golden application must be submitted for employment consideration.
When you live in Golden, there's two hours of fun, two minutes from home. So we suggest getting away by staying right here. Get a double scoop of ice cream and meander down Washington Avenue. Stroll through our amazing art galleries or museums. Shop in one of our unique stores. You'll be surprised at all there is to do right here under your nose. Visit 2HourVacation.com for more great ideas.