SPECIAL ELECTION IN WARD 2

Council Meetings Go Live April 6

City to Memorialize Historic Vanover Tree

Community Pride Days

Mock City Council Considers Smoking Ban

Celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day

Community Center Expansion

Summer Softball Registration
The Golden Informer is produced and published monthly by the Golden City Manager’s Office and mailed as a source of news and information to all residences and businesses inside the City limits. Comments on the newsletter format and its content are welcome.

Please write to: City of Golden, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, Attn: Sabrina Henderson; call 303-384-8132; or e-mail shenderson@ci.golden.co.us.

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To reach the entire City Council, e-mail citycouncil@ci.golden.co.us

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The Golden Informer
HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

Council Meetings Go Live on Channel 8 April 6

Beginning April 6, you can bring Golden City Council into your living room! Council’s study sessions and regular meetings will be aired live at 7 p.m. Thursdays on government access Comcast Channel 8. Those meetings will also be taped and rebroadcast on Channel 8 at various times of day throughout the week.

Webcasts of the meetings will also be available at www.cityofgolden.net the Saturday after each Council meeting. Webcasts will remain online indefinitely, creating an archive of past meetings.

Finally, DVDs and VHS tapes of the meetings will be available for check out through the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St.

These services are being provided on a three month trial basis, and Council needs to hear your feedback to decide whether to continue the program. You can email City Council at citycouncil@ci.golden.co.us or call 303-384-8197 to give us your feedback.

ROONEY ROAD SPORTS FIELDS
CONTRACTS UP FOR DISCUSSION

City Council’s briefing and discussion of a contract and intergovernmental agreement with Jefferson County regarding the Rooney Road Sports Complex operations and maintenance, as well as the contract with the Table Mountain Soccer Association, have been rescheduled for the April 6 study session. Council is currently scheduled to vote on the contracts and IGA at its April 13 meeting. You may come and comment during the public comment period April 13.

CITY SHOPS BID PACKAGE
TO BE PRESENTED

Public Works Director Dan Hartman will present the bid package for the new city shops facility and explain it to City Council. This is a good time for the public to learn more about the project.

“DARK SKIES” LIGHTING
STANDARDS DISCUSSION

Planning Director Steve Glueck will present initial concepts for new Municipal Code lighting standards in response to Councilor Arthur Chen’s proposed “dark skies” initiative.

Traffic Accidents and Injuries Reduced in Roundabouts

Recently compiled data from Golden Police Department traffic accident reports shows that, while some people don’t like them much, the roundabouts on South Golden Road have been successful by several measures. The data shows that there has been more than a 50% reduction in the number of accidents, and a nearly 90% reduction in accidents that resulted in injuries. Additionally, two independent studies calculated reductions in speed down South Golden Road (which contributes to fewer injury-accidents), while actually improving travel time for drivers who no longer have to sit at red traffic lights. To read the study, visit www.cityofgolden.net/files/roundaboutpaper.pdf. All of these improvements have taken place as a result of the roundabout despite a 30% increase in the amount of traffic on South Golden Road between 1996 and 2005. For more detailed information about the roundabouts or for driving instructions for them, call 303-384-8151.
Council’s Corner

Below is a copy of the Golden City Council’s calendar. Council meetings and study sessions are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Thursdays in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted.

April 6
Study Session

April 13
REGULAR MEETING

April 20
Study Session

April 27
REGULAR MEETING

May 4
Study Session

May 11
REGULAR MEETING

May 18
Study Session

May 25
REGULAR MEETING

Council’s upcoming agendas, packets and meeting minutes are available online under the City Council link at www.cityofgolden.net, or by calling the City Clerk’s office at 303-384-8015.

Opportunities Abound for Youth to Get Involved in the Community

By Mayor Chuck Baroch

Once again this year, middle and high school students have an opportunity to learn about various operations in the City. The police department sponsors a five-day Youth Citizens Academy, and Leadership Golden Alumni Association in cooperation with the City and Golden High School offer Junior Leadership Golden. Both of these programs offer students a civic educational opportunity through a variety of real-life, hands-on and interactive sessions.

The Youth Citizens Academy is a five-day session running from June 12 through June 16. Golden Police Officers and staff provide instruction. The program is designed to allow youth between the ages of 13 and 17 an opportunity to receive an inside view of law enforcement. The students receive training in state statues, criminal investigations, evidence collection, patrol procedures, traffic accident investigations, firearms safety and instruction, and both career and volunteer opportunities. The program is designed to be interactive and includes hands-on activities, team-building exercises and leadership opportunities. Applications for this program need to be filed by May 8 and can be picked up at the Police Department, 911 10th St., or online at www.cityofgolden.net. Students interested in applying should contact Officer Ryan Custer at 303-384-8193. Class size is limited to 10 students, so don’t wait. Students in prior classes rave about their experiences.

Junior Leadership Golden is a three-year old program founded by Leadership Golden Alumni Association. This is a cooperative effort between the Leadership Golden Alumni Association, Golden High School, City staff and members of civic organizations. The program’s goal is to encourage young people to become more civically involved in their communities, whether it be in local government, serving in local civic or service organizations, or becoming more involved in student leadership. The program begins in January and consists of six sessions. These sessions cover topics such as local government, the justice system, arts and recreation, city finances, and handling growth and economic development. The final session is a mock City Council meeting in which they discuss a real-life problem facing the city, such as a smoking ban in the city. Some of the students act as the City Council, others are required to provide public input either pro or con on the subject. The Council then discusses the issue and takes a vote, very much like the actual Council. Students attending this program have been very complimentary of it.

Both of these programs have graduation ceremonies in which certificates of completion are awarded. Parents are invited to attend. I have attended some of the mock City Council meetings and the graduation ceremonies. I am always very impressed with the students who participate in these programs. They are bright, enthusiastic and are there to learn. They certainly represent the future of the country and, with students such as these, our country will continue to be in good hands.

CJ Baroch
YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Mock City Council Considers Smoking Ban

The 2006 Junior Leadership Golden class will conduct a mock City Council session at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 13, in Council Chambers at Golden City Hall, 911 10th St.

Seven of the students will act as City Council, and will consider a no-smoking ordinance for the City. Another 12 students will speak during the public comment period. City Attorney Jim Windholz will act as himself.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend and observe the mock City Council session.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

GOLDEN FIRE PENSION BOARD

The City of Golden has an opening for a citizen volunteer to serve on the Golden Fire Department Pension Board. The Board includes three fire department members, two citizen members, the Mayor, City Manager and Finance Director.

Regular meetings are held at least quarterly, as well as study session and special meetings when necessary (usually not more than six per year). The terms of appointments for citizen participants are two years. For more information, call Fire Chief John Bales at 303-384-8094.

Applications are available from the City Clerk’s Office and online at www.cityofgolden.net. Applicants must be residents of the City of Golden. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., April 19 by the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 911 10th St.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The City of Golden has an opening for a financial professional to serve in a voluntary capacity for a four-year term on the City’s Investment Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to review and monitor the City’s cash management and investment results, and develop and recommend investment policies to the City Council.

Preference shall be given to professionals who live or work in Golden. The Committee shall meet at least semiannually. For more information, call Finance Director Jeff Hansen at 303-384-8020.

Applications are available from the City Clerk’s Office and online at www.cityofgolden.net. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., May 11 by the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 911 10th St.

BOARD OF THE GOLDEN CAPITAL LEASING CORPORATION

The City of Golden has an opening for a volunteer to serve on the Board of the Golden Capital Leasing Corporation. The Board would only meet if there was occasion to refinance the Certificates of Participation issued for the purpose of building the new City Shops Facility, or if the City were to default on the annual lease payments. Applicants should be knowledgeable of the financial arena and live or work in Golden. Appointments are made for an indefinite period. For more information, call Finance Director Jeff Hansen at 303-384-8020.

Applications are available from the City Clerk’s Office and online at www.cityofgolden.net. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., May 11 by the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 911 10th St.
At the end of the Feb. 2 Golden City Council meeting, Ward 2 Councilor Arthur Chen announced that he would resign his seat as soon as a special election could be held to find his replacement.

Chen plans to relocate to California as the result of a job transfer, necessitating a special election be held to fill his seat.

City Council set Tuesday, April 25, as the date for the special election. Only voters registered by March 24 and who live in Ward 2 are eligible to vote in this special election.

The election will be held at the Ward 2 polling place, Golden Fire Station No. 4, at 151 Heritage Road in Golden.

Applications for absentee ballots may be requested from the City Clerk’s Office either verbally or in writing until 5 p.m. Friday, April 21. Call 303-384-8014 or 303-384-8015. For this election, if you want to vote absentee, you must request an application from the Golden City Clerk. Prior requests made to Jefferson County cannot be used for this election.

If you have questions about the election, call the City Clerk’s Office at 303-384-8014 or 303-384-8015.

**CANDIDATES FORUM APRIL 10**

The Leadership Golden Alumni Association is hosting a candidates forum for the Ward 2 City Council special election. Ward 2 residents are encouraged to attend the forum from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 10 in the Gymnasium of Shelton Elementary School, 420 Crawford St. For more information, call Sandy Algermissen at 303-279-3281.

**Candidate Profiles Help Educate Voters**

In order to help voters make educated decisions in the upcoming Ward 2 special election, the City has published Council Candidates’ profiles.

Each candidate was offered the opportunity to submit up to 550 words and a photo for free publication in the Informer. Candidates were not provided with any set questions. **Candidate profiles were not edited by the City for content or style.**

We hope you find this information helpful when making your voting decisions. The City will hold the next issue of the Informer until after the election results are final, so expect to see your next issue in mid-May.

**COUNCIL CANDIDATES**

Registered voters in Ward 2 may elect one candidate to Golden City Council to represent them for the remainder of outgoing Councilor Arthur Chen’s 4-year term, which ends in January 2010. Below is a list of candidates as they will appear on your ballot. You can find out which Ward you live in online at www.cityofgolden.net or by calling the City Clerk’s Office at 303-384-8014.

Golden City Council Ward 2
(Vote for One)
Joe Behm
Brian Bookmyer
Karla Conner
Dear Golden residents and friends,

It is my honor to announce my candidacy for City Council—Ward 2. I moved to Golden in 1994 following a career with the Town of Frisco in Summit County where I served the community as the Chief of Marketing and Recreation. I currently work for Fortune Valley Hotel and Casino in Central City as the Director of Marketing and Community Affairs.

Before that, I crisscrossed Colorado, working with more than two-dozen towns, creating tourism and recreation programs. I learned how to help communities thrive and have fun. There couldn’t be a better job! Improving quality of life and working with local government has been a constant in my life.

It’s been said, “Tis a privilege to live in Colorado.” That statement applies to Golden as well. Our community is a wonderful place—we are fortunate to call Golden home. It is easy to love our community with its limitless recreational opportunities. It’s a great place to raise a family. We have amazing people who make their homes here and we celebrate our real downtown. I proudly tell people all over the world that I truly live in the nicest city in Colorado. That is at the heart of why I want your vote for City Council—to protect and preserve our treasure.

You can be assured that we all want to keep Golden Golden. The tower fight, the beltway, 1% growth, spending accountability, all are important issues for the City and I would be surprised if any candidate differs regarding those issues. What sets us apart is our experience, our leadership and our thoughtfulness. I have been fortunate to be involved with programs and initiatives that have provided me the skills to work effectively for Golden and its people.

The open space and parks and recreation facilities I planned years ago in Frisco were smart moves and I am proud of my contributions to that community. I fought many battles to improve the infrastructure in Central City and succeeded in providing for the health, safety and welfare of citizens and guests. I am the only candidate equipped to fight the beltway. I championed a transportation solution that was not considered viable by the State highway bureaucrats and succeeded in achieving a non-State endorsed, yet successful, alternative. I have assisted families during times of trouble as a past Board Member of Jefferson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). I serve the City of Golden as a Board member of the Economic Development Commission, working diligently on marketing our community and assisting with business retention. Through my work as a Board Member of the Golden Urban Renewal Authority, we have created dozens of jobs for Golden and have cleaned up a decades-old environmental site right in the heart of downtown.

If you choose to elect and/or support me, I pledge to devote my time and energy to the City of Golden. I will listen first to our citizens before acting. I promise to take a hard line with respect to those issues that you tell me are important to you and your families. I will use my experience and demonstrated best practices to champion our causes. Call me at 303-279-1529 or use my website www.joeforgolden.com to speak to me. Thank you.
Dear Citizens of Golden and Ward 2 residents,

Thank you for voting in November’s election. You gave me tremendous support (only 35 votes away from victory), and I owe you!

This is the third time in a year that Ward 2 is voting for a Councilor. I believe it is important to persevere in meeting our community goals, so you will see the name Brian Bookmyer on the ballot again!

The biggest issues facing our community are the proposed Beltway and the HDTV Tower. I shall support the city’s fight against these projects. Additionally, I will back Golden in developing a community-wide recycling program that we can benefit from soon.

I believe in a local government that has long-term practical solutions and financial policies that ensure a solvent future, and that considers the concerns of all citizens when deciding on the issues. This is the government I will pursue for you.

I have no vested interest in working in government and am not a politician. Who I am, is an average, hard-working citizen who cares about local issues and who wants to represent the citizens of Ward 2 on City Council. I work as a Field Merchandiser under contract with Home Depot in Golden.

On Tuesday, April 25, 2006, I believe the citizens of Ward 2 will set a new record for voter participation.

Thank you very much for your support.

Sincerely,
Brian Bookmyer

Contact me at anytime with your questions and/or concerns at (303)384-0953, or hope4humans@juno.com.
I am no stranger to government. As a Deputy Coroner in Illinois, I served almost a million residents for eight years before attending medical school. Prior to this I earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and psychology and continued with studies in family sociology, urban sociology and public health.

I moved to Colorado to be near my daughter and granddaughter. The move was a long anticipated desired event as I had visited Colorado years ago and thought it a great place to live.

There is a reason that I moved to Golden that most of us share. We enjoy our city, nestled among the foothills, with open space, hiking trails, closeness to the bustling city with the peace and quiet of a unique small country town. Of all the places we could have lived, we chose to live in Golden. Golden is our home!

I have spoken with many Ward 2 citizens over the past few weeks. We have deep concern about the direction our city is taking in terms of growth, spot zoning, development, an even taller radio tower, and the construction of a beltway through our city, our home.

Having lived in a quaint little town, much like Golden, I watched open space disappear, buildings constructed whose architecture did not match the image of the town, and soon most everything that one valued as a nice place to live...was gone. All lost, one issue at a time.

I am committed to preserving our unique city, local businesses and open spaces and I am a very strong advocate for affordable housing for seniors.

Citizens continue to express their concerns about the 1 percent growth limit. They voted for the 1 percent growth limit and it must be enforced.

I firmly believe in representative government and giving citizens the fiscally responsible representation they deserve. Every expenditure or contract must be feasible, reasonable and suitable to the people of Golden. The interests of our citizens should be in the forefront of all decision making. As counselor I will work hard to place and protect all our interests above those with special interests and hidden agendas at our expense.

I am also particularly concerned about health issues with regard to the impact non-ionizing radiation may have on the welfare of all our citizens. Those seeking to increase our citizens exposure to non-ionizing radiation are purposely making a choice to cause us harm without knowledge to what extent we may suffer. Shame on them! We need only to remember the health impact of asbestos to those exposed to a supposedly harmless product. I am committed to the fight against a new more powerful tower.

We do not need, or want, a 6 lane slab of concrete cutting through our city. We do need to maintain and improve existing roads with provisions for access to I-70 and C-470. I will defend against the construction of a beltway through Golden.

I am not afraid to ask the tough questions and have shown that I can assess difficult situations and make informed decisions.

I sincerely appreciate the support I have found from the residents in Ward 2. Thank you!

I will need your continued support and vote in this special election.

ward2citizen@yahoo.com

Please allow me the opportunity to give your concerns representation in city council.
**APRIL 2**

*Daylight Savings Time Begins*

**APRIL 8**

*Teen Poetry Workshop*
Teens will learn and practice the techniques of poetry writing in this 2.5-hour workshop taught by the Lighthouse Writers Workshop at 1 p.m. Free tickets are required and are available. Call the Golden Public Library at 303-279-4585 for more info.

**APRIL 12**

*After School Fun — Fudge!*
Fudge does nothing half way. Adventures abound in this series by Judy Blume. Come in for some fun with these wacky characters at 4 p.m. at the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St. This program is intended for students in grades 1 through 6. Free tickets are required and are available at the library two weeks before the event.

**APRIL 14**

*Arbor Day*
See article on Page 12.

**APRIL 21**

*Earth Day*
See article on Page 11.

**APRIL 22**

*Dance Around the World*
The Children’s Choir of Golden, directed by Allison Olsson, and the Westside Flyers Violin Ensemble, directed by Laura Barnette, will present “Dance Around the World” at 7 p.m. in Calvary Church’s Great Hall, at the corner of 14th and Arapahoe streets. Tickets are $5 for adults, $3 for children ages 6 to 11, and free for children under age 6. For more information, call 303-279-2932 or visit www.goldencommunitychoirs.org.

**APRIL 24**

*Puppets and Things on Strings*
Meet Willy the Bookworm and other wonderful characters in this program for children of all ages at the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St. Free tickets are required and are available at the library two weeks before the event.

**APRIL 25**

*Tuesday Night Book Group*
The book group will discuss “I, Robot” by Isaac Asimov at 7 p.m. Call the Golden Public Library at 303-279-4585 for more info.

**APRIL 28**

*Table Mountain Tales Writing Contest Award Ceremony*
The third annual Table Mountain Tales Writing Contest awards will be presented at 7 p.m. in the Foss Auditorium of the American Mountaineering Center, 10th Street and Washington Avenue. With more than 150 entries this year, impartial judges had great difficulty choosing the top three entries in adult, middle school and elementary categories. Selections from the winning entries will be read and cash prizes awarded. The program will also include a slide presentation documenting the history of the Denver-Golden inter-urban trolley system that operated from the late 1800s to 1950, stopping in front of Foss General Store. Pictures of the electrified trolley car, affectionately called the “galloping goose” by some, will be shown.

**APRIL 29**

*Private Eyes*
Miners Alley Playhouse presents the fascinating suspense comedy “Private Eyes,” written by Seven Dietz and directed by Terry Dodd every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through April 30. Visit www.minersalleyplayhouse.com.

**APRIL 30**

*Art Display*
Fatima School students will display their art in the Children’s Room at the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St.

**MAY 6 & 7**

*Golden Community Pride Days*
See article on Page 11.

**THROUGH MAY 7**

*Colorado Clay 2006 Exhibit*
Foothills Art Center proudly presents Colorado Clay 2006, a juried biennial exhibition showcasing the very best in contemporary ceramics by Colorado artists. Colorado Clay 2006 boasts a variety of techniques, surfaces and thematic approaches. This group of artists explores figurative, architectural, organic, functional, narrative and installation concerns. Call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org for more information, admission prices and hours.

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**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 shenderson@ci.golden.co.us. 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.
Golden Community Pride Days May 6 & 7

Golden Community Pride Days, a favorite annual event, provides an opportunity for the citizens of Golden to clean up their yards and businesses by providing free drop off points for items normally hauled to landfills.

Community Pride Days also provides coupons for free curbside pickup of unusable appliances, and free hazardous waste drop-off for household chemicals, old paint, batteries, etc.

Golden Community Pride Days will be held May 6 and 7 this year. More information about the event and coupons will appear in the May issue of The Golden Informer. Proof of Golden residency will be required in order to participate in this community event.

Earth Day Celebration and Art Show

The City of Golden’s Environmental Services Division will present its programs at an Earth Day celebration from 1 to 3 p.m. for students and 3 to 5 p.m. for the public on Earth Day, Friday, April 21, at Shelton Elementary, 420 Crawford St. Sponsored by the Shelton Elementary School PTSA, the City is one of several participants setting up special booths at the event. Environmental Services employees will give educational presentations on water quality, pollution prevention, recycling and water conservation.

Environmental Services, in partnership with the Jefferson County Public Library and the Colorado Mountain Club, presents the annual April art show in celebration of Earth Day. Artwork created by first through sixth grade students from Mitchell and Shelton elementary schools will be placed on display at the Golden Library Children’s Room, the Colorado Mountain Club and the Community Center Front Porch (upstairs). The work is inspired by nature, uses recycled materials or otherwise represents an environmental theme. Please visit to view artwork throughout the month of April.
Many park visitors, motorists, cyclists and pedestrians passing by Vanover Park on Ford Street in Golden are aware of the huge old Cottonwood that has served as a landmark in the City for an amazing number of years.

This tree, known in local legend as the “hanging tree,” is undoubtedly the largest in Golden, if not the oldest as well. (It got its nickname because it was supposedly the site where the park’s namesake was hanged.) All who have seen it marvel at the sheer mass of its presence – a trunk more than 8-feet in diameter!

As is the case with all living things, death will one day bring an end to this magnificent tree. Sadly, that day will arrive soon. A healthy Cottonwood growing in the plains under ideal circumstances can have a lifespan of 100 to 150 years. This specimen is quite possibly 200 years old! Since the construction of the park in 1990, the Cottonwood has steadily declined, probably not only due to old age, but from damage sustained during the compaction of the soil and disturbance of the root system by heavy machinery.

One half of the tree’s canopy has had to be removed due to the die-back of very large limbs. Now, an irreversible decay is spreading fast throughout the trunk and the root system has been fatally compromised by rot. Squirrels scamper in and out of large hollows in the stems and limbs high above the ground.

All of this deterioration has resulted in a potentially high-risk situation that cannot be ignored. The Vanover Cottonwood will likely become a significant danger to the same people who come to the park to sit in its shade. For these reasons, and after receiving concurring evaluations from both a professional consulting arborist and the Golden District Forester with the Colorado Forest Service, this historic tree will have to be removed within the next few months, perhaps as soon as June 1.

If you have ever stopped to appreciate the presence of this astonishing old tree, you may wish to visit the park for one more viewing before it is lost. Perhaps you will be inspired to plant a tree of your own, which may one day be as special to you as the Vanover Cottonwood has been to so many of us in Golden.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is currently considering a number of ways in which to memorialize the Vanover Tree. If you have suggestions, send them to rtarullo@ci.golden.co.us.

**Plant a Tree this Arbor Day**

On March 9, Mayor Chuck Baroch officially proclaimed the City of Golden’s participation in Arbor Day, April 14, and urged every family and business in Golden to plant a tree at some time during this year in commemoration of an event, such as a birthday or anniversary, as a living legacy.

To do its part, City Forester Dave High will plant a spruce tree at 10 a.m. April 14 at Heritage Dells Park. Second graders from Shelton Elementary School will help with the planting of the tree, and will be asked to assist the City in protecting and caring for the tree in years to come.

The City of Golden has been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for 16 consecutive years.

If you would like assistance in the selection or care of a tree, contact the City’s Forestry Division at 303-384-8141, a local nursery or the local Extension Office.
City, GURA Working to Minimize Impacts of Construction on Parking this Summer

The City and the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) are working to minimize inconveniences and parking impacts resulting from several long-awaited construction projects scheduled in downtown Golden this summer. Here is an overview of what you can expect:

HESTED’S REDEVELOPMENT

The long-awaited redevelopment of the former Hested’s building at 13th Street and Washington Avenue is finally underway. GURA and the developer, NexCore Group, closed on the real estate transactions on Feb. 14.

As reported in earlier editions of The Informer, the new “Gateway Station” project will replace the Hested’s and Linder buildings with a new mixed-use building containing underground parking, 34 residences, and 23,500-square-feet of shops, offices and restaurants. More information on this project is available online at www.gura.com.

The design of the new buildings evolved over months of meetings with a variety of City-appointed boards, citizens and organizations so that it will blend well with our historic downtown. Importantly, the Linder Building façade will be rebuilt and restored to its former glory.

The former Home Imports building on 13th Street, just east of the Hested’s building and the 95-space Jackson Street parking lot, will be replaced by a 268-space, GURA-funded public parking garage and other future development. But first, GURA will remediate the dry cleaning solvents that polluted the site. Groundbreaking is scheduled for June and construction will continue for 18 to 24 months. We will keep you posted on progress.

JACKSON COURT

GURA also recently finalized the redevelopment of the vacant parking lot adjacent to the downtown parking garage on 12th Street. Construction is well underway at this site.

Denver-based architects Brad Haswell and Jim Dauer were selected to build this two-story office and retail building, and will move their nine-person firm into the building upon completion. This building is the fourth and final piece of the Clear Creek Square redevelopment project. Construction is scheduled throughout the year.

The third piece of Clear Creek Square, the Millstone Condos, is also scheduled for completion by the end of this year.

PARKING & FARMERS MARKET

While none of these changes will happen overnight, downtown will experience some inconveniences. Portions of the Jackson Street parking lot are already being used to house several sales trailers. Other spaces in that lot will be closed periodically this spring, and eventually the whole lot will be closed for excavation and construction.

With that pending closure, the City is helping the Chamber of Commerce move the popular Farmers Market to a new location. Once the site is finalized, it will be announced in The Informer.

To compensate for the parking disruptions, the two-hour parking spaces in the Jackson Street lot and portions of the two-hour public parking spaces along Arapahoe Street have been converted to all-day parking. Also, the remainder of the two-hour parking throughout downtown will be converted to three-hour parking. Finally, the public is reminded that the middle two floors of the parking garage on 12th Street are free all-day public parking.

We will make every effort to minimize the dust and disturbance from these exciting projects, but with everything happening in the heart of downtown, we will likely run into a variety of challenges. We ask your patience and forgiveness during this period, and hope that the final products will be well worth the trouble.

If you have questions regarding these or other GURA programs, call GURA at 303-279-4162.

SALES TAX CHANGES

On Oct. 27, Golden City Council adopted Ordinance No. 1717, which made modifications to the Sales & Use Tax Code. Please note that the rate has not changed – it is still 3%. To view a copy of the new ordinance, visit www.cityofgolden.net. Click on “Business” and select “Licensing and Sales & Use Tax.” Then download “Changes to Sales & Use Tax Code.” Or call 303-384-8002.
A new vehicle in the Streets Division is replacing two old ones and making Streets crews more efficient.

In the past, the Streets Division had two separate trucks for marking pavement and for street signage. As a result, the crews had to switch back and forth from one truck to another, wasting time lugging tools to and fro and racking up excess mileage between the two vehicles. At the time, it was the only way to get the job done. A new, more efficient vehicle has combined all those functions into one, helping crews do their jobs more productively.

The new truck replaced an inefficient and messy hydraulic system with a much cleaner pneumatic (air) driver for pounding sign posts into the ground. Sign installation times have been cut in half, which has additionally improved the replacement schedule.

The truck also allows crews to choose between three types of pavement painting techniques depending on which application is most appropriate. These include regular pavement painting, glued 3M tape, or thermo tape that is actually melted on the asphalt. Again, crews have greatly improved efficiency by having all of these options available to them at any time on one truck.

Drive times have been significantly reduced, as the truck can carry all of the necessary tools for both pavement painting and sign installation, and because the truck can carry multiple large signs on board at a time.

Additionally, the new truck is equipped with high LED lighting, which is much safer as it is much more visible.

This new vehicle also included an added function that Streets crews did not previously have. A core driller on the truck allows crews to take asphalt samples that assist them in engineering.

Eventually, the truck will also be equipped with a laptop so that crews can remotely update GPS and IDs for all of the City’s signage in a special program called Cartegraph. The City has over 6,000 signs that are all logged into this program and tracked, helping crews locate them easily and monitor the need for replacement.

For more information about the City’s Streets Division, call Mark Dugan at 303-384-8108 or visit www.cityofgolden.net, click on Departments, Public Works, and the Streets Division is listed in the left-hand navigation bar.
City Wants Input on Intersection, Parking Plans for New High School

A community meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at Golden High School to discuss the City’s plans for parking in the neighborhood and road changes related to construction. City staff will discuss proposals for the intersection at 24th and Jackson streets, including a possible roundabout. The City is also proposing temporary elimination of permit parking in the neighborhood surrounding the school during construction. Jefferson County R-1 School District officials will also attend and give an update on the site plan and schedule for construction.

The public is strongly encouraged to attend this meeting to learn about the plans and provide the City and school with feedback.

In November 2004, Jefferson County voters approved a bond election providing Jeffco Public Schools with $323.8 million for building, renovating and repairing school facilities. Approximately $33 million will be spent to totally replace Golden High School on the existing site, while classes continue in the existing building. For more information on the project, please contact GHS Principal Mike Murphy.

Golden Community Center Expansion in the Works

If you’ve been in to the Golden Community Center in recent months, you are probably aware that the City of Golden has been planning improvements and expansion of the Community Center, and also improvements to the Tony Grampsas Gymnasium.

Because citizen input is so important to the project, questionnaires were available at the Community Center for several months last year. A public meeting was held April 6, 2005, to explain the project and get additional feedback.

The architectural firm of Barker, Rinker, Seacat has been retained to provide architectural services for this project. The architects provided schematic drawings for City Council to review and are now completing construction drawings in anticipation of starting construction this month. Completion of the project is anticipated in December.

More information and updates about this project are available online at www.cityofgolden.net. Click on Projects in the left-hand navigation bar and then select Recreation Facilities Improvements. You may also contact Parks and Recreation Director Rod Tarullo at 303-384-8127 or rtarullo@ci.golden.co.us.

LADIES GOLF LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Fossil Trace Ladies League is looking forward to its third season of play at the beautiful and challenging Fossil Trace Golf Course. If you are interested in playing golf with a special, fun-filled group of ladies, contact Bonnie Johnston at 303-278-3190 or visit www.fossiltrace-women.com.

A Rules Clinic for members will be hosted by Rick Ellefson, PGA Director of Instruction at 7 p.m. April 27 for $10, which includes the “Rules of Golf” book.

Dues for the 2006 season are $85. The cost of the opening luncheon is $20. Players will have the option of playing 9- or 18-holes each week.

2006 SCHEDULE

April 20: Opening lunch
April 27: Rules seminar
May 4: Play begins
“Back to the Basics” classes begin
July 20: Guest day
Aug. 3 and 10: Club Championship
Oct. 12: Last play date
Oct. 19: Closing luncheon
**Golden Community Center activities calendar**

**What’s New at the Golden Community Center?**

**CONTAINER HERB GARDEN**
Enjoy the aromatic and culinary benefits of an herb garden. You will design and plant your own garden to take home, along with knowledge on proper care and uses. Refreshments will be provided. Please pre-register. An additional $20 materials fee will be paid directly to the instructor.

*6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 20*
$20 Resident / $25 Non-resident

**YOUTH DANCE CLASSES**
Let dance instructor Joy Egan teach your child ballet techniques and routines in an environment where dance is fun and positive! This class will keep the attention of even the youngest dancer. Leotard, tights and leather ballet shoes are required. Parents may watch.

*Ages 3 to 4 years, 3:15 to 4 p.m., Wednesdays, April 19 through May 10*
$35 Resident / $40 Non-resident

*Ages 4 to 6 years, 4 to 5 p.m., Fridays, April 21 through May 12*
$40 Resident / $45 Non-resident

**TUMBLING**
Tumbling is a semi-structured, interactive class for the active child. Tunnels, beams, mats, low bars and other fun toys will be available. Parents may participate with their child.

*Ages 2 to 3 years, 3 to 3:35 p.m., Wednesdays, April 5 through April 26*

*Ages 3 to 4 years, 3:40 to 4:25 p.m., Wednesdays, April 5 through April 26*

**WORLD TAI CHI DAY**
On April 29, the Golden Community Center is offering a **FREE** Tai Chi sampler event. Tai Chi is the ancient art of meditation and relaxation through motion. Regular practice can reduce stress; improve balance, coordination and mental clarity. The Community Center is offering a different form of Tai Chi every hour, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is not required and all levels are welcome. For more information, call 303-384-8100 or email dyandyke@ci.golden.co.us.

**RED CROSS LIFEGUARD TRAINING**
For the swimmer in the family, Red Cross Lifeguard Training registration is open. To receive certification, students must complete required reading, actively participate in all classes, correctly demonstrate all the skills, perform the final three skill scenarios satisfactorily, and pass the final written exam with a minimum of 80% correct in each of the four sections of the test. Lifeguard and First Aid training are valid for three years. CPR for the professional rescuer is valid for one year. All certifications can be renewed later in briefer “challenge” or review classes. **Please note:** This class requires passing a pre-test class prior to registration. Please visit [www.goldenrec.com](http://www.goldenrec.com), call 303-384-8100 or stop by the Golden Community Center to register for the pre-test. **Fee:** $150
Colorado’s most popular outdoor team sport is about to get under way for another season in Golden. After smashing success last summer, the athletics staff is ready to make the 2006 softball season the best yet. A continued partnership with USSSA and improvements in lighting and facilities at the ballparks help to ensure a fun and competitive season.

Golden is offering a variety of different leagues and divisions to provide a league for every team, regardless of skill level or competition. With divisions in Men’s, Women’s and Co-Recreational leagues offered all nights of the week, every team will be accommodated.

Registration is currently open and divisions are expected to fill quickly. **Registration will remain open through April 17, or until the division is filled.** For individuals who don’t have a team, the athletics staff will help you find one! Contact Becky at 303-384-8194, or fill out the online “free agent” form on our Web site to add your name to a list of players looking for a team.

In addition to ballpark improvements, continued upgrades to the athletics Web site help to provide teams with a wealth of information. Statistics, rules, rosters, free agents and registration information can all be found on the site.

For more information on softball or other adult athletic programs such as kickball, dodgeball or beach volleyball, visit [www.cityofgolden.net](http://www.cityofgolden.net) or call Becky at 303-384-8194.

**Softball Registration Swings into High Gear as Summer Approaches**

**FILE PHOTOS**

Get outside this summer. Come and join the fun through a City softball league. There’s a team for every level of competitor, regardless of skill level. Registration is only open until April 17, so sign up now and get involved in your community’s recreational opportunities.

**YOUTH ATHLETICS**

The City of Golden Parks and Recreation Department will offer the following activities for youth athletics for the summer of 2006: T-ball, soccer, basketball, Skyhawks sports camps, youth tennis lessons, CARA tennis and CARA track. For more information on these programs or to register, visit [www.cityofgolden.net](http://www.cityofgolden.net).

**ADULT DODGEBALL**

You want to relive those old junior high glory days? The City of Golden is offering an 8-week dodgeball league for anyone with the fortitude to step out on the court. Bring it on! All games will be played under current Colorado Association of Recreational Athletics (CARA) rules. League awards go for first-, second- and last-place teams and first-place individual. League begins April 10. For more information, call Becky at 303-384-8194.

**Fee:** $175 per team (includes player fees)

**Registration Dates:**

All Teams – Friday, March 10
Deadline – 5 p.m. Monday, April 3 or until filled
Q: Is there a law requiring you to turn your car wheels into the curb when you park on a hill?

A: Yes. The Colorado Model Traffic Code requires that anyone who parks a vehicle on any grade shall set the parking brake and “turn the wheels to the curb or side… in such a manner to prevent the vehicle from rolling.”

The City of Golden can issue a parking summons for not turning your vehicle’s wheels into the curb, which carries a fine of $15.

For safety reasons, please do not only rely on your parking brake on hills. By turning your vehicle’s wheels to the curb, the curb will act as a parking block keeping your car secure if the brake fails. Vehicles have occasionally rolled away from their parking places causing damage to other vehicles and buildings and seriously injuring adults and children.
The sales tax refund is limited to senior, low-income or disabled individuals who have lived within the city limits of Golden for at least 90 consecutive days in 2005 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return.

The refund amount for 2005 is $40. This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden.

Please check one box only:

- **Senior Refund** (must be 65 years or older)
- **Low Income Refund**
  
  *Proof required.* Attach a photocopy of one of the following:
  - State of Colorado Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate Form 104PTC
  - Proof of Medicaid benefits
  - Proof of LEAP eligibility
  - Proof of eligibility for food stamps

- **Disabled Refund**
  
  *Proof required.* Attach a photocopy of one of the following:
  - State of Colorado Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate Form 104PTC
  - Proof of full benefits from Social Security Disability Income, SSI or the Department of Human Services
  - Proof of total disability from a public or private insurance plan

Please print or type:

- **Name:** Mr(s).
- **Age:**
- **Date of Birth:**
- **Name:** Mr(s).
- **Age:**
- **Date of Birth:**
- **Address:** Golden, CO **ZIP:**
- **Phone:**

How many months did you reside in the city limits of Golden during 2005? _____ months

Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person’s income tax form?  □yes  □no

Signature:  ________________  Signature:  ________________

*This form must be submitted by no later than April 15, 2006.*

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**Refund Donation Option:**
You have the option to donate your refund to a City of Golden program or department by checking one of the boxes below:

- □ Golden Volunteer Fire Department
- □ Golden Cemetery
- □ Golden Senior Front Porch
- □ Other City program or department (please identify):  ______________________________________

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**Office Use Only:**
Account #013031-6190  STR  Vendor # ________  Received ________  Payable ________
SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MAINTENANCE
Cemetery, Parks and Forestry
Seasonal Maintenance Workers
20 to 40 hours per week
Start at $7.50 to $14 per hour

RECREATION
Youth Program Leaders
Day Camp Leaders
Field/Gym Supervisors
$7.50 to $14 per hour
•
Batting Cage Attendants
$6 to $11 per hour
•
Fitness Instructors
$12.50 to $20 per hour

THE SPLASH AQUATIC PARK
Lifeguards and Swim Instructors
Customer Service Representatives
Concession Workers
$6 to $11 per hour
•
Aquatic Park Manager
$9 to $16 per hour

FOSSIL TRACE GOLF CLUB
Guest Services
(including Starter, Player Assistant, Range/Cart Attendant)
$6 to $11 per hour

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY!
For more information and to apply online, visit www.cityofgolden.net/Employment.asp,
stop by City Hall, 911 10th St., or call the Jobline at 303-215-8882, Option #6000.
A City of Golden application must be submitted for employment consideration.