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Rec campus planning in the works, p. 15
Golden City Council

Chuck Baroch  
Mayor  
303-278-9697  
E-mail: cbaroch@ci.golden.co.us

Lynne Timpeiro  
District One  
303-273-9302  
E-mail: ltimpeiro@ci.golden.co.us

David Ketchum  
Ward One  
303-278-2331  
E-mail: dketchum@ci.golden.co.us

Marcie Miller  
Ward Two  
720-341-5271  
E-mail: mmiller@ci.golden.co.us

Karen Oxman  
District Two  
303-278-0400  
E-mail: koxman@ci.golden.co.us

Bob Nelson  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Ward Three  
303-279-2594  
E-mail: bnelson@ci.golden.co.us

Gwyn Green  
Ward Four  
303-271-1500  
E-mail: ggreen@ci.golden.co.us

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

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 residents. All City departments contribute material for use in this publication. 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; or call, 303-384-8132 or e-mail shenderson@ci.golden.co.us.

City of Golden  
Department Managers

City Manager:  
Mike Bestor

Planning and Development:  
Steve Glueck

Public Works:  
Dan Hartman

City Clerk:  
Susan Brooks

Parks and Recreation:  
Rod Tarullo

Police Department:  
Bill Kilpatrick

Fire Department:  
John Bales

Finance:  
Jeff Hansen

Human Resources:  
Teresa Reilly

Communications Manager:  
Sabrina Henderson

City Attorney:  
Jim Windholz

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.

Aug. 5, Study Session
Aug. 12, REGULAR MEETING
Aug. 19, Study Session
Aug. 26, REGULAR MEETING
Sept. 2, Study Session

Council’s upcoming agendas and previous meeting minutes are available online at www.cityofgolden.net under the City Council link, or call Deputy City Clerk Karla Leibelt at 303-384-8015.

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Fire Department Celebrates 125 Years of Service

In celebration of its 125th anniversary, the Golden Volunteer Fire Department is gearing up for a celebration in August. The City of Golden’s official fire department was established in 1879, when three previously formed fire companies joined forces. Despite the initial rivalry between these fire companies, their merger made them a superior firefighting force. Because of their different equipment and focuses, the companies complemented each other in their firefighting activities, much as engine companies and truck companies do in present day departments.

As the three companies merged, the one thing that remained consistent was the community’s belief in the professionalism of the new department. This concept remains an essential focus of today’s fire department. In fact, many residents are surprised to learn that the Golden Fire Department is comprised primarily of volunteers, as they display such incredible dedication to the job.

The Golden Fire Department volunteer staff is complemented with only a few paid, career staffers, including: Fire Chief John Bales, Training Division Chief Kevin Milan, Fire Marshal Jerry Stricker, Fire Safety Education Specialist Kay Woolley, Fire Inspector Sherrie Olguin, Fire Mechanic Ralph Jacques, Media Services Captain Tom Young (volunteer) and Assistant Anna Trzeciak, and part-time Fire Mechanic John Kellenbenz.

Although the fire service is full of tradition, the 21st century Golden Fire Department faces change and challenges. In 2003, the fire department responded to 1,229 incidents compared to 798 in 1999. These incidents include structural fires, wildland urban interface fires, vehicle fires, hazardous materials, service, medical and a vast array of technical rescue calls. The department’s technical rescue team also specializes in steep slope and low angle evacuations, swift water rescue, ice rescue, auto extrication, and industrial rescue.

This year the Golden Fire Department will celebrate 125 years of serving and protecting the citizens of Golden. Since the beginning and continuing well into the future, the Golden Fire Department is committed to being community partners in fire and life safety.

County set to reopen Tower Hearing

At 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12, the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners will reopen a hearing on a broadcast tower proposal brought by Lake Cedar Group.

LCG wants to replace several towers on Lookout Mountain with one larger tower. The Commissioners approved the zoning change needed for LCG to do so.

The City of Golden and CARE (Canyon Area Residents for the Environment) went to court. The court ordered the commissioners to reopen the hearing to allow opponents of the tower an opportunity to comment on documents LCG submitted late during the original hearing.

The commissioners have set aside additional time at 5 p.m. Aug. 17 and 9 p.m. Aug. 24 for additional testimony if needed.
Heavy rains that descended on Golden for several hours June 27 flooded streets and homes primarily in north Golden, but no one was injured.

In just one hour, between 3.5- and 4-inches of rain fell in isolated areas of the City. The downpour caused flash flooding in some neighborhoods, filling some residents’ basements with water and destroying one home. The flow of water that came through the Arapahoe Gulch area was approximately three times the current flow of Clear Creek.

Golden Police Dispatch received 18 calls related to flooding from the rain between 3:30 and 6 p.m. The Golden Volunteer Fire Department sent out 31 crew members in all its vehicles to check public safety and mitigate potential problems with electric and gas utilities. At each of the calls, emergency responders checked neighboring homes as well. American Medical Response stationed two ambulances at the north and south ends of town, but thankfully were not needed.

City of Golden street crews closed roads that were flooded and worked to keep culverts and drains clear. The City closed State Highway 93 around 4 p.m. to allow several feet of water to subside. The northbound lane was reopened about an hour later, while the Colorado Department of Transportation cleared mud from the southbound lane.

Early indications are that all City drainage worked as it was designed to. However, Hartman noted that Arapahoe Gulch is not designed to hold an event anywhere near the amount of rainfall the area received that day. Where 2.66-inches of rain in one hour constitutes a 100-year event, Golden received about 50 percent more that day. (A 100-year event does not happen only every 100 years, but has a 1 percent probability of happening any given day.)

Water damaged homes south of the Canyon Point commercial development, east of State Highway 93 and west of Washington Avenue, along with several homes along Ford Street south of the Golden Pond development and a few near Fossil Trace Golf Course.

Responding to residents’ concerns about drainage, the City’s insurance carrier, CIRSA (Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency), hired an independent firm, Wright Water Engineering, to conduct a forensic study by reconstructing the flash flood event through computer modeling. The firm will then make a determination regarding the relationship of the existing drainage system to the cause of this flooding. City Council will hear the results of the report at its Aug. 19 meeting and determine if any action is needed.

Hartman said the City’s preliminary review shows that even if Arapahoe Gulch had been drastically improved and Canyon Point and Golden Pond developments had never been built, the amount of rainfall would have flooded neighboring homes just as much, although it may have taken a few minutes longer to do so. To improve Arapahoe Gulch to hold a 100-year event would cost the City about $7 million and require many homes, some of which are historic, to be condemned and torn down.
Community helps flood victims

The City of Golden supported a fund-raiser at the Golden Community Center organized by Coors Brewing Company to benefit the Ricciardi family, who lost their home in the June 27 flood. The Ricciardis lost almost everything in their home of 25 years after water filled their bowl-shaped property on Sixth Street just north of State Highway 58. Flood water reached to within inches of the ceiling.

The rush of the water lifted and overturned furniture in the house onto the stove, causing a small fire. The Golden Fire Department was able to quickly put out the fire because it was already on scene making sure the Ricciardis weren’t home when the flood hit. While fortunately the Ricciardis weren’t home when the flooding started, all of their belongings were.

Golden Police victims advocates put the Ricciardis in touch with Salvation Army and Red Cross for emergency assistance, including food and hotel vouchers. The family declined to stay in a hotel, choosing instead to sleep in a temporary storage unit on their property and in their vehicle so they could watch the belongings they had placed out on their lawn to dry. The City’s streets division helped the Ricciardis pump water from their home and property the morning following the flood.

Phillip Ricciardi works part-time at Coors after retiring from many years as a high school teacher. Coors held the silent auction and raffle to help the Ricciardis rebuild their lives after the flood. Coors Credit Union collected monetary donations which were placed in an account for the Ricciardis.

In traditional Golden style, much of the community turned out at the event to help show support for the Ricciardi family. The Ricciardis said they were very grateful for all the offers of help from the community.

The Coors Credit Union is accepting donations for Phillip, Kaye and Zac Ricciardi. Call 303-279-6414 for details.

Stormwater vs. Sanitary Sewer Systems

When homes are flooded, residents try to pump water out of their homes and basements as quickly as possible. However, Chapter 13.13.040 of the City of Golden Municipal Code prohibits the introduction of stormwater drainage into the sanitary sewer unless approved by the City.

Flood water should always be pumped into the proper drainage system. Uncontaminated groundwater from sump pumps and flood cleanup should be discharged into lawns, gardens or to street gutters. Additionally, to minimize unnecessary volume to the wastewater treatment plant, ensure that roof drains are not connected to the sanitary sewer.

The City can provide interested residents with brochures that better explain the differences between the sanitary sewer and stormwater drainage systems. For more information, please contact the Environmental Services Division at 303-384-8181.

Drainage Maintenance

In 1999, the City’s streets division began a drainage maintenance program. The City began identification of more than 560 drainage inlets, 350 manholes, 125 detention ponds, 21 miles of underground pipe, and 15 miles of open channels. Streets crews then tied this information in with the City’s Cartograph and GPS systems. It took a year and a half to catalogue, but the system now helps City streets crews to inspect and maintain drainage.

For the past three years, the streets division has inspected all the City’s drainage and cleared it of debris, overgrown vegetation and erosion at least once a year. The program costs about $65,000 a year. Severe storms and heavy leaf-fall in the autumn cause the streets department to do additional clearing work. A flood on July 29, 2003, cost an additional $44,182 to clean up after, and the hail storm June 8, 2004, cost just over $15,000. The cost of flooding that occured June 27 has yet to be determined. The stormwater utility fees established several years ago help pay for these expenses. Prior to the institution of the drainage program, the City’s drainage was not routinely cleared by City staff.

The streets division is currently beginning to identify channels and drainage crossings that are located on private property. Streets crews are also out doing street sweeping and clearing manholes this time of year, so if you see their cone zones, please drive cautiously. For more information, visit Streets on www.cityofgolden.net under Departments and Public Works.
The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is forging ahead with its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the need for additional highways and traffic improvements in northwest metro Denver.

Many believe the outcome of the federally mandated EIS process has been predetermined to ensure a major high-speed beltway connection from the Northwest Parkway in Broomfield County through Golden to C-470 – even though every major traffic study has shown that such a road would not solve congestion in the region.

The City of Golden is committed to finding real solutions for the region’s traffic needs, but has maintained that it will not be steamrolled by a beltway that would create more problems than it would solve. The City is determined to identify the best possible traffic solution for the region, rather than the most politically expedient solution for the state.

**GOLDEN IS A TEAM PLAYER**

Golden is, always has been and will continue to be a team player when it comes to finding solutions to the region’s traffic needs. From 1991 to 1996, the City worked with Jefferson County and neighboring communities to design, fund and construct the C-470 connection to U.S. Highway 6, primarily to relieve congestion on Heritage Road. The City also was an active participant in the 2000 Northwest Quadrant Feasibility Study, which studied many of the same issues CDOT is reexamining now, and concluded that a high-speed beltway connection would not be the best solution to the region’s traffic problems. Golden continues to be an active participant in the state’s EIS process, sending representatives to all of its meetings.

While the highway proponents in the region would like to assert that Golden is taking a “NIMBY” (Not-In-My-Back-Yard) position on the beltway issue, they all have consistently said they don’t want a beltway alignment through their communities to be considered. The City of Golden continues to assert that the beltway is unnecessary, and therefore does not need to be built in anyone’s backyard. Golden believes that a series of improvements to existing north/south arterial roads in the region – including highways 6 and 93 in Golden – would be more judicious and effective at improving traffic flow.
TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS

Every traffic study that has looked at this region – including the Northwest Quadrant Feasibility Study – has concluded that a high-speed beltway is NOT the way to solve the traffic issues facing the region. In fact, the Northwest Quadrant Feasibility Study showed that a series of improvements to existing roads, including improvements to highways 6 and 93, would be MORE EFFECTIVE at handling projected traffic than the beltway option.

Based on the Northwest Quadrant Feasibility Study, the City of Golden sponsored another study to look at how to implement improvements to highways 6 and 93. The resulting plan by Muller Engineering showed that improvements to existing roads could be made in a way that will meet projected traffic needs for many years to come without disrupting the natural and historic charm of the region. (This study is available online at www.cityofgolden.net.)

THE EIS PROCESS

The Environmental Impact Statement process got underway in January of this year. While most EIS processes take 3 to 5 years to complete, this EIS is scheduled to wrap up in 2006 – leaving the project team about half the time it usually takes. The rushed time table is causing the project team to cut corners and limit input from all parties.

One example of this is the fact that the EIS project managers tried to eliminate all alignment options that would avoid Golden at a March 30 technical committee meeting. Doing so suggested that there are in fact predetermined outcomes – contrary to public comments made throughout this process. It was only after significant outcry at the public meetings held in April that all options were put back on the table.

The project managers’ attempt to eliminate options and refusal to provide comprehensive and relevant traffic data and modeling to the technical committee is designed to short-circuit the process, perpetuating a fraud on the public, which has approached this process in good faith.

GET MORE INFO AND GET INVOLVED

Your participation and vigilant watch over the process are essential to ensure a reasonable outcome.

For more information, call Golden Communications Manager Sabrina Henderson at 303-384-8132.

Streetwise:

“What do you like best and what would you like added to the Golden Community Center?”

“I like the convenience of the hours and my kids like the pool. I’d like to see a juice bar, steam rooms and tanning beds.”
– Rick Castiglia, Green Mountain

“It has a great kids pool – it’s nice and warm and gentle for the kids. I’d like them to add wet steam and a hot tub.”
– Erinn Carusetta and daughter Francesca, Coal Creek

“I like the fact that it’s got everything: a track, weights and the pool. I can’t think of anything else I’d want.”
– Gloria Stelmokas, Golden

“I like that there’s people around. There should be more tours.”
– Ray Luckinbill, Pleasantview
In 2000, the Golden Civic Foundation began a fund-raising effort to expand Golden’s collection of public art. As the fund-raising took off, the foundation established a public art partnership, in which the City of Golden agreed to donate the time and expertise of its Public Works Department to install and maintain the sculptures the foundation purchased.

The first sculpture the Civic Foundation purchased was installed by the City in the median just south of Washington Avenue and 10th Street, near Parfet Park, and unveiled during Buffalo Bill Days in 2000. The statue of Buffalo Bill with a child on his shoulders welcomes visitors to historic downtown Golden.

The next piece was a sculpture of Adolph Coors (1847 - 1929) celebrating his dedication and commitment to the City of Golden. This piece stands in front of the Old Capitol Grille at Washington Avenue and 12th Street.

The third addition was “Helping Hands,” which resides across the street from Foss Drug and commemorates Barbara and Heinie Foss’s love of Arabian horses, and the tremendous support they’ve given to the children of Golden.

Another addition to the collection was sculpted by one of the Public Art Partnership committee’s board members, Pat Madison. Entitled “Return of the Cutthroat,” it commemorates the return of trout to Clear Creek, and is placed between Clear Creek and the Golden Hotel. An additional copy of this sculpture was purchased at a later date and installed on the north side of Clear Creek at the bottom of the new slide at Parfet Park.

“Cowboy’s Day Off” (pictured below) was unveiled during the candlelight walk in December 2002. This piece sits on the corner of Washington Avenue and 11th Street, in front of the Golden Hotel.

“The Cowboy” is on display at the corner of 13th Street and Miner’s Alley at the rear entrance to Foss Drug and the entrance to the Miner’s Alley Theater.

“Winter Wind on the Mesa” was added to the collection and is displayed on the south bank of Clear Creek, east of the Washington Avenue bridge, behind the Clear Creek Commons building.

“Newsboy” was unveiled Dec. 5, 2003, on the night of the annual Golden Candlelight Walk, and was dedicated to the Golden Transcript.

On Dec. 13, 2003, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell helped unveil “Nighthorse on the Mesa,” which used Senator Campbell’s image as the basis for the figure of the Cheyenne warrior and is a remembrance of the people who once populated the area.

“Son of Liberty,” a revolutionary soldier was placed to honor the Daughters of the American Revolution board of the Pioneer History Museum. The sculpture was placed on Clear Creek behind the museum.

“Eddie at Bat” is a child baseball player and is located between the two ball fields at Lions Park.

Miniatures are available of Buffalo Bill, Helping Hands, Adolph Coors, and Cowboy’s Day Off, as are full-sized copies of Return of the Cutthroat. All proceeds from the sale of these works support the Public Art fund. Contact the Civic Foundation at 303-278-9697.
**Intro to Pilates** Mondays, Aug. 2 – Aug. 23, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. $20 resident, $25 non-resident. Learn Pilates Basics and what Pilates is. This class is required before taking any other Pilates class at the Golden Community Center.

**Bootcamp** Tuesdays/Thursdays, Aug. 3 – Sept. 9, 6 to 7 a.m. $72 resident, $77 non-resident or drop in for $8. Get over a plateau, or kick up your routine to the next level. Be prepared to sweat!

**Bergen Peak Hike** Saturday, Aug. 7, 7:15 a.m. SHARP. $7 resident, $10 non-resident or $12 day of the hike. Experienced hikers will enjoy the 27 switchbacks to get to this nearly 10,000-foot peak. Experience the deafening silence, while getting a great view of the continental divide!

**Tai Chi Practice Session** Saturdays, Aug. 7 – Aug. 28, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. $15 resident, $20 non-resident or drop in for $8. For experienced students who wish to practice Tai Chi and continue with breathing exercises.

**Yoga 101** Saturdays, Aug. 14 – Sept. 18, 11 to 11:55 a.m. $30 resident, $35 non-resident or $8 to drop in. For the unbendable, Yoga illiterate, willing-but-unable and the uneasy. Learn Yoga with others who have no idea what they’re doing.

**Intermediate Yoga** Saturdays, Aug. 14 – Sept. 25, 9:45 to 10:55 a.m. $30 resident, $35 non-resident or $8 to drop in. We add inverted postures in this class to bring a deeper sense of well-being to your Yoga experience.

**Lap pool closing for upgrade**

Each year, the Golden Community Center closes its pools temporarily for maintenance. Last year, the leisure pool was resurfaced, and this year the maintenance crews will fix up the lap pool.

The lap pool will be closed Aug. 17 to 27, reopening Aug. 28. During the closure, Community Center annual members will be able to access The Splash at Fossil Trace water park to continue their fitness routines. The Splash also will honor the Community Center’s punch card passes during the closure, as well.

The Community Center’s gymnasium also will be temporarily closed from Sept. 7 to 26 for a complete floor refinish. The gym will reopen Sept. 27.

For information, call the Community Center at 303-384-8100.

**Barnyard Yoga** for your little ones! Ages 3 to 7, Mondays, Aug. 23 – Sept. 20. $24 resident, $29 non-resident or $8 to drop in. We use different animal poses, bark, roar and practice all the fun noises while learning a story! Parents are welcome to participate.

**Youth Activities**

**CPR/First Aid** Aug. 14, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Bring sack lunch. Residents $50, non-residents $55. American Heart Association Certification course issued fulfills all state, OSHA and Social Services requirements.

**Kids Night Out** Tentatively starts Sept. 17, held from 6:45 to 10:45 p.m. most Fridays throughout the school year. Cost is $10. (Late fee of $1 for each minute past 10:45 p.m.) It’s a Friday night filled with themed activities: gym time, DJ and dancing, games, prizes, swimming and much more. A fun night out for children ages 9-14 years, no exceptions!

**C.A.R.A. Youth Volleyball** Sept. 14 – Nov. 11. Residents $50, non-residents $55. A co-recreation program for youth ages 16 and younger (by Dec. 31, 2004). Youth will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays with tournaments on weekends. A state tournament will conclude the season.

**N.F.L. Punt, Pass & Kick** Sept. 10 at 4:30 p.m. at Lions Park Ball Field, 10th & Maple streets. A free program for ages 8 to 15 (as of Dec. 31, 2004). Children will test their skills in punting, passing and kicking with winners advancing to a competition at a Denver Bronco game! A copy of a birth certificate is required. No cleats of any kind are allowed.

**Creative Dance** Wednesdays from Aug. 4 – 25. Residents $35, non-residents $40. All skill levels of dance are available for children 2-8 years old, and special Mommy (or Daddy) & Me dance classes for ages 12-24 months.

**Wet Paws Fun Run** Saturday, Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. $25 or $20 18 and younger and 60 and older. A great day for your 4-legged friend. Race bags, T-shirts, raffle prizes, food/drink, music and promotional booths will be provided. This is a 2.5-mile, non-timed event, followed by a dog swim at The Splash at Fossil Trace water park, 3151 Illinois Street.

**Little Tykes T-ball** Tuesdays and Thursdays, Aug. 17 – Sept. 9 from 4 to 4:40 p.m. at Lion Park ballfields. Residents $30, Non-residents $35. A valuable opportunity for physical, emotional and social growth through hands-on fundamental t-ball skills for 4-6 year olds. This is a great beginners class.

Pre-register for all classes at the Golden Community Center, or call 303-384-8100. Some classes break during holidays. The Parks and Recreation Department’s complete catalogue will be mailed the first week of August. If you do not receive a copy, feel free to stop by the Community Center to pick one up.
MONDAY, AUG. 2 - FRIDAY, AUG. 6
The Colorado Mountain Club’s Youth Education Program (YEP!) presents the Introduction to Climbing courses for youth ages 11 through 15, Session 2 Courses are based at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden with field trips to mountain parks. $250/child with gear included. For information, contact Krista Javoronok at 303-996-2751 or javork@cmc.org

TUESDAY, AUG. 3
A Golden Night in the Park: National Night Out
5:30 to 9 p.m.
Parfet Park
10th Street and Washington Avenue
Part of the National Night Out Program, A Golden Night in the Park is designed to heighten crime awareness, generate support for anti-crime programs, and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. There will be fun-filled activities for all ages, including face painting, a baseball throw and K-9 police dog demonstrations. An AirLife helicopter will land on 10th Street at 5:30 p.m., provided it is not responding to an emergency. Door prizes will be given away and local vendors will provide free food and beverages. For more information, call 303-384-8051.

SATURDAYS,
AUG. 7, 21 & 28
GREAT 3rd annual Golden Outdoor Cinema
Free movies in Lions Park
Movies to be announced will roll at dusk Saturdays, Aug. 7, 21 and 28. Visit www.goldengreat.org for more info.

FRIDAY, AUG. 13 - SUNDAY, AUG. 15
Golden’s 52nd annual Flower Show
Golden Community Center Front Porch
Schedules will be available at Golden City Hall, 911 10th St., and the Golden Library. For more information, contact Swiss Hoffman at 303-384-9516.

SATURDAY, AUG. 14
Concert in the Park
6 to 8 p.m.
Parfet Park
10th Street and Washington Avenue
Just in time for back to school, alternative rock band THE FRAY will welcome back Colorado School of Mines students and entertain Golden residents before reintroducing OPIE GONE BAD. The alternative funk group played Golden’s Concerts in the Park last year to record crowds. Families are encouraged to bring the kids out for one last night of fun together before back to school. The lineup is sure to please parents and students alike. For updates about Concerts in the Park, visit www.cityofgolden.net

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 18
Treasure Evaluation
5 to 8 p.m.
Golden Library, 1019 10th St.
Free verbal appraisals on two of your family treasures from experts Russ Jones and Leon Feldman in this special program. Free tickets are needed and are available at the information desk beginning Aug. 4. For information, call 303-279-4585.

SATURDAY, AUG. 21 & SUNDAY, AUG. 22
14th annual Golden Fine Arts Festival
11th Street between Arapahoe and Maple streets
More than 140 artists will participate and there is no admission charge for this juried, open-air festival. Free horse-drawn carriage rides, musical entertainment, artist demonstrations and other activities will be offered all weekend at galleries and merchants in historic downtown Golden, only one block from the Festival.

SUNDAY, AUG. 29
7th annual Mesa Music Festival
10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Lions Park
Mesa Music Festival will provide a day of music, relaxation, fun and sun with the purpose of raising awareness of open space issues and promoting the preservation of North and South Table Mountains in Golden. Featured musical groups include Rebecca Folsom Band, Chris Daniels and the Kings with special guest Hazel Miller, The Indulgers, Wendy Woo. Admission is free. For more information or to volunteer, visit www.tablemountains.org.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3 & SATURDAY, SEPT. 4
Fletcher Wood Memorial Rodeo
7:30 p.m. Friday & 7 p.m. Saturday
Jefferson County Fairgrounds
Rodeo proceeds will benefit Jeffco 4H. For more information, call Steve at 303-589-0682.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27
Election Forum
American Mountaineering Center
10th Street and Washington Avenue
The City of Golden and Leadership Golden Alumni Association will host their annual educational Election Forum for the public Monday, Sept. 27 at the American Mountaineering Center. The evening will consist of pro/con discussions of potential ballot issues, which may include the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District tax extension, TABOR, FasTracks, and a Jefferson County R-1 Schools funding proposal. For more information, contact Ed Dorsev at 303-384-9923 or etd911@aol.com.

SATURDAYS
Golden Farmers Market
Jackson Street between 12th and 13th streets
The Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce is hosting the third annual farmers market Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jackson Street between 12th and 13th streets. Vendors offer fresh vegetables, fresh fruits, fresh jams, sweets, snacks, potted plants, cut flowers and more. Free horse-drawn carriage rides are offered and Bonfils will take blood donations.

GOLDEN PEACH DAYS
The Rotary Club of Golden is once again bringing the best, freshest peaches you’ve ever tasted to Golden. The Freestone peaches literally fall away from the pit! A 25-pound box of 60-70 tree-ripened peaches picked in Palisade, Colo., costs $30. All proceeds benefit projects supported by the Rotary Club of Golden. Peaches are available on a pre-paid order basis only and ORDERS MUST BE COMPLETE WITH PAYMENT RECEIVED BY AUG. 14.

Peach order forms may be picked up and dropped off at:
The Artful Framer, 2001 Youngfield
The Hair Place, 2001 Youngfield
Dru Short, State Farm, 1320 Simms St., #104
Foss General Store, service desk, 1224 Washington Ave.
The Golden Transcript, 1000 10th St.
The Golden Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave.

Peaches can be picked up from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. only Saturday, Aug. 21 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W. Sixth Ave. Peaches not picked up will be donated for Golden charity food distribution needs.

For more information, call Bob Short at 303-233-4131 or visit www.goldenrotaryclub.org.
As a home rule city, Golden has a city charter that is its principal governing document. Golden’s charter, adopted in 1967, reflects community values and guides how its municipal government should operate. In short, the charter is the City’s “constitution.” It can only be adopted, amended or repealed by a majority of the City’s voters.

No requirements exist for a charter to include certain provisions, but a city will oftentimes reserve for itself the greatest amount of power possible. To do this though, a city must declare through its charter – as Golden has done – its intention to avail itself of all powers, functions, rights and privileges the state constitution grants to charter cities.

Among many things, a charter allows a city to:

- Control its municipal affairs (however, a city must adhere to state laws concerning matters not municipal in nature);
- Decide its organization and the duties and powers of elected offices;
- Determine the dates and conduct of city elections;
- Set term limits and rate of pay for elected officials;
- Regulate general finance issues and taxation.

A city does not have to extend the reach of its charter further than desired. It can restrict its own powers if it so chooses.

Golden’s City Charter established City Council as the legislative and governing body of Golden. As such, it adopts laws, ordinances and resolutions. City Council can exercise all powers conferred upon it by the City Charter. Golden’s City Council consists of seven members. Four are elected from wards, two are elected from districts, and one is an elected, at-large mayor. Each district is comprised of two wards. District One contains Wards One and Two, and District Two contains Wards Three and Four.

City Council appoints a professional city manager who serves at the pleasure of the Council. The city manager implements and directs, as effectively as possible, the various goals and projects set forth by the Council. The city manager is the administrative head of the city.

In addition to performing managerial duties, a city manager assists in developing policies by providing information and advising City Council. Some of a city manager’s responsibilities include: preparing and submitting the budget, controlling city finances, managing City contracts, coordinating departmental operations, assessing future needs, and hiring and supervising City staff.

Mike Bestor has been Golden’s City Manager for more than 10 years. He can be reached at 303-384-8010 or mbestor@ci.golden.co.us.

So What is a Council-Manager Form of Government?

Golden has a council-manager form of government – the most implemented governmental structure in U.S. cities with populations of more than 10,000. This form of government channels the will of citizens through an elected council.

In fact, City Council is elected by, representative of and responsible to all of the city’s citizens. Some might be inclined to believe the old adage that “you can’t fight city hall.” However, our local political system was designed to enable citizens to have a significant voice in addressing community issues and problems, often with successful results.

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Genevieve Hale is pursuing a master’s degree, and is participating in an internship at the City of Golden.
GURA grants benefit arts

The Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) awarded two major arts grants last month. Miners Alley Playhouse will receive $50,000 over the next six years and Foothills Art Center will receive a $30,000 grant this year. These funds raise the total amount already distributed or committed to various individuals, arts, civic and merchant groups this year to more than $130,000.

“The GURA Board of Commissioners is committed to assisting Golden’s cultural community,” said GURA Chairwoman Roya Stanley. “The Miners Alley Playhouse grant will help the theater build its membership and attendance by reducing the rent payments over a six year period. This grant is based on significant public safety and access improvements made by the property owner during renovations to the theater space. The Foothills Art Center grant will defray more than 1/3 of the costs to renovate the disabled access and entryways to the Center.”

Rick Bernstein, Executive/Artistic Director of the Miners Alley Playhouse, said, “It is great to know that GURA believes in our work and is willing to support our programs. GURA’s thoughtful and quick action on our grant application will help us focus our energy where it belongs – on producing great plays.”

“GURA has generously supported every major capital improvement project Foothills Art Center has undertaken,” said Jennifer Cook, the center’s Executive Director. “Our Dickinson Sculpture Garden ... is certainly one of the most exciting projects in the history of our organization, and we are extremely grateful to GURA for its assistance.”

GURA Executive Director Mark Heller said these grants add to the more than $50,000 already directly awarded by GURA or disbursed through the newly created Reinvestment Fund. The fund is administered by the City’s Economic Development Commission (EDComm) and funded by GURA to support downtown promotions and other activities not tied to physical projects. For more information on these grants or other GURA matters, call 303-279-4162, visit [www.gura.com](http://www.gura.com), or stop by 1111 Washington Ave., Suite 115.

Museums torch BBQ in favor of fund-raiser

For the last few years, Friends of the Astor House Museum and Clear Creek History Park have held a BBQ and silent auction fund-raising event. This year, the museums are saving you the trouble of making time for yet another social obligation. Rather than hosting a BBQ this year, the museums mailed out their famous Reynolds Cabin Rib Rub recipe and are asking that you instead send in a tax-deductible donation.

All proceeds support the museums’ educational programs, including the Hands-On History Summer Sessions, special events like Tea Time at the Astor House and daily school programs. The museums thank everyone who supports their fabulous programs.

Donations can be mailed to Astor House Museum and Clear Creek History Park, 822 12th St., Golden 80401. For more information, call 303-278-3557 or visit [www.clearcreekhistorypark.org](http://www.clearcreekhistorypark.org) or [www.astorhousemuseum.org](http://www.astorhousemuseum.org).

Thanks...

A big thanks to Botanical Interests, a seed packet company in Broomfield, that generously donated seed packets to the City of Golden for distribution in elementary school packets.

For more information, visit [www.botanicalinterests.com](http://www.botanicalinterests.com).

Code Corner

Golden Code Enforcement Officers remind you not to leave pets in the car during hot summer months. Even with the windows cracked, vehicle interiors can reach more than 100-degrees in just minutes. It takes very little time for an animal to overheat and possibly die if they cannot escape heat. If you can’t bring your pet inside, please leave them at home where they are safe and have access to water and shade.
Late last year, Leo Bradley proposed to expand his building at 1300 Washington Avenue by 420 square feet to build a Golden branch of Clear Creek National Bank. His neighbors, the Gardner family, objected because they said the expansion would block views of their historic building at 805 13th St., known as Quaintance Block.

The site plan was referred to Planning Commission in order to allow public input and debate, and a decision in a public forum. This action was taken in order to seek a determination regarding the placement of the addition prior to completing final architectural elevations and construction level plans.

At the planning commission meeting, the Gardners explained that Quaintance Block was designed as a corner building with two fronts to the building, a main entrance at a 45-degree angle on the northeast corner of the building and two store-fronts with windows and doors on the north and east sides of the building. It initially sat on Bradley’s lot on the corner of 13th Street and Washington Avenue and was later moved one lot west, where it sits now.

Conrad Gardner, a lawyer, and his son Rick Gardner, a local historian, explained that Bradley’s building, as it stands now, does not block the view of both “fronts” of Quaintance Block from Washington Avenue. They said the proposed expansion, however, would almost completely cover the east facade of the building.

Conrad said blocking the view of a building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, specifically because of its unique corner architecture, is in violation of section 18.40.350(f) of the city’s downtown zone guidelines, which say site development plans shall “create view corridors using open spaces that focus on architectural landmarks, natural landforms or special activity areas.”

However, the Golden Municipal Code’s standard for approving a site plan dictates the following: “Planning Commission shall hold a hearing and make a decision for approval or denial based upon whether the proposal complies with the development standards of Chapter 18.40, and whether the proposal substantially complies with the guidelines contained in this chapter. Substantial compliance with the guidelines does not require compliance with each of the guidelines, nor substantial compliance with each individual guideline, but rather a demonstrated attempt to comply with the guidelines, with the result of compliance with the preponderance of the guidelines in their entirety as contained in Chapter 18.40.” (emphasis added).

Following the public hearing and discussion, the Golden Planning Commission voted 4-3 to deny the bank’s request at its Feb. 4 meeting based on non-compliance with a downtown design guideline. Believing the decision was in conflict with the municipal code, Bradley and the bank appealed the decision to Golden City Council, which heard the case at its Feb. 26 meeting.

One of the bank’s directors, Kathryn Isenberger, who also was Bradley’s personal assistant for about 30 years before he passed away in March, said Bradley was sensitive to the Gardners’ concerns. She said the architect left a significant notch out of the northwest side of the building, 10 feet back from Quaintance Block and 10 feet back from the north property line to preserve the view of the building. She said the rest of the expansion plans still show a 5-foot-6-inch setback from the north property line on 13th Street. The plans also retain seven mature trees on the property.

Isenberger said the expansion is absolutely necessary to accommodate the bank’s vault, a handicap accessible bathroom and a small employee kitchen.
Concrete Replacement and Traffic Calming

As part of the City’s 2004 concrete replacement budget, a number of areas are being repaired this summer. They include:

- Ford and Jackson corridor from 14th to 24th streets
- South Golden Road from 24th Street to the southern City limits at the King Soopers roundabout
- Illinois Street from 19th to 24th streets

The Public Works Department said there is a possibility they may be able to do more if funds remain after these projects are complete.

Recruitment Campus Planning

The City of Golden recently won a challenge to the way it spent bonds approved in an election for recreational campus purposes (see July issue of the Informer). When the City prevailed in court, it immediately began planning recreational facility improvements.

Unfortunately, during the time the case was tied up in litigation, the spending power of the bond money was eroded by construction inflation to the point where the City will only be able to build for its citizens 75 percent of what could have been built when the bonds were initially approved by voters.

City Manager Mike Bestor has asked City staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to turn the delay into something positive and reexamine plans. Staff is debating whether the City should go with its plans to add air conditioning and showers to the Tony Grampsas gymnasium and add racquetball courts and more weightroom space to the Community Center. Or is there a better plan out there?

Bestor said the goals for the project are fairly simple: the City should only use the bond money to build something that is popular and will produce new revenue to help halt or reverse the trend of subsidizing the Community Center more and more each year. No ideas are off limits for discussion – the City is even throwing around the possibility of building an ice arena instead.

The Parks and Recreation Department and Advisory Board hope to begin the long-awaited improvements next year. The City is looking for any ideas you have, no matter how crazy they may seem. Please call 303-384-8120.
Community Profile:

Bill & Charlene Pazar

Every July, people from far and wide come to historic downtown Golden to observe and participate in a festival dedicated to the history of the Wild West and Golden’s heritage as the territorial capitol of what became Colorado. Moreover, Buffalo Bill Days celebrates the strong sense of community pride and civic involvement that continue to permeate Golden and mark it as a unique place to live in the metro region.

The magnitude of the event grows each year thanks to all of the volunteers who dedicate enormous amounts of time and energy to it. Two of those volunteers stand out for their tireless devotion to Buffalo Bill Days – which they have been involved in organizing for 17 years – in addition to their year-round volunteer activities in many other organizations.

Bill and Charlene Pazar have lived in Golden since they were married in 1962. Both Colorado natives (Charlene is from Englewood and Bill is from Walsenburg), the Pazars were able to buy their first home in Golden in 1966 and have lived there ever since. Their daughters, Michelle and Trish, were raised in the home.

Bill runs his own business in the greenhouse industry, and Charlene is now a full-time volunteer after retiring from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Rocky Flats office. Known for their tag-team approach to organizing Buffalo Bill Days, the couple says it’s worth all the work.

Bill first became involved with Buffalo Bill Days through the Golden Jaycees and Golden Lions Club, which used to organize the event before the Buffalo Bill Days Corporation was formed. Bill served on the initial board in 1989 and has been a member ever since. He was president of the board in 1990 and 1996, and has been treasurer since 1997.

Charlene was initially involved in Buffalo Bill Days as a volunteer, eventually becoming a board member. Charlene was president for one term and secretary for several years. Charlene almost single-handedly coordinates the entire Buffalo Bill Days parade.

Primarily for their efforts in making Buffalo Bill Days happen, the Pazars have been jointly honored many times: the Golden Rotary Club chose them for the “Service Above Self” award for 1996-’97; the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce presented them with the Charlie O’Brien award for outstanding service to the chamber in 2001; and the Golden Gate Grange gave them its annual appreciation award for 2002.

Bill also served with the Golden Jaycees from 1970 to 1976, and was president in 1974. He joined the Golden Lions Club in 1977, was president in 1987-’88, has been secretary of the club since 1990 and is very active in planning the Lions Fourth of July Festival.

Since 1970, Charlene served on the City’s greenbelt committee, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Golden Planning Commission, and the Committee to Preserve North Table Mountain. She also was active in the Jefferson County R-1 Schools’ West Area Task Force, including the follow-up committee that oversaw the necessary changes to make Golden High a 4-year high school. She has been on the board of the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra for more than 10 years, participating primarily in the activities committee. Charlene also contributes to the Shady Ladies – known for their appearances in Buffalo Bill Days, the group researches biographical information on women who helped settle the West.

The City of Golden salutes Bill and Charlene Pazar for yet another incredible Buffalo Bill Days, and for their tireless contributions to the City they call home.

The Buffalo Bill Days committee is comprised solely of volunteers and welcomes people interested in contributing their time. Call 303-278-7789.
As of Aug. 1, Golden has a new director of Parks, Recreation and Golf. Rod Tarullo has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado in Recreation Administration. He is a graduate of the National Institute of Golf Management, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Recreation Facilities Design and Management School.

Tarullo was previously employed by the City of Loveland, Colo.; Green River, Wyo.; and has been the Director of Parks and Recreation in Lafayette, Colo. since 1985. His responsibilities have included oversight of recreation, parks, open space, trails, golf, cemeteries, senior citizens programs and building maintenance. He has been the chief project manager for several capital projects including the construction of recreation centers, golf facilities and the development of parks. He served as the Interim City Administrator of Lafayette in 1998.

Tarullo can be reached at 303-384-8120 or rtarullo@ci.golden.co.us.

Parks & Rec gets new director: Rod Tarullo takes helm

In collaboration with the City of Golden, the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA), which is an independent state governed organization, hired Mark Heller as its executive director.

Heller has been GURA’s interim executive director since the former director resigned last year.

More information about Heller and GURA are available online at www.gura.com, or call 303-279-4162.

GURA hires executive director

Star City Employees

Congratulations to the following City of Golden employees who have received professional certifications since January:

Kirk Dickson
IT Network Administrator
Microsoft Certified System Engineer for Windows 2003

Pam Heimbach
Human Resource Analyst
Re-certified as a Professional in Human Resources, HR Certification Institute and the Society for Human Resource Management

Jeremy Reichert
Sr. Utilities Maintenance Worker
Level 1 Water Distribution Certification, Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Certification Board

Will Stambaugh
Utilities Pump Control Technician
Level 2 Certification for Wastewater Collection System Operator and Water Distribution System Operator, Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Certification Board

Kay Woolley
Fire Public Education Specialist
Re-certified as a Child Passenger Safety Technician, National Safe Kids
Communication between City and Citizenry

With all the technology available in this day and age, there are many different ways for governments to communicate with their publics. The City of Golden recognizes the importance of communicating effectively with the public as a measure of accountability to constituents. Positive communication also enables elected officials and City staff to have a better understanding of what the citizenry needs and wants, and helps them to effectively implement those projects.

In a recent survey of Golden residents (available at www.cityofgolden.net), respondents were asked to indicate if the amount of information provided by the City was too much, too little or just right. Only 4 percent said too much, 59 percent said just right, and 37 percent said too little. Since the survey was conducted, the City hired a communications manager to help provide more information to the public. Below are some of the venues available to the City, including how and why they are used:

**The Informer**

The publication you are currently reading is one way in which the City has chosen to communicate with you. Of the various sources of information available in the community, the 2004 Citizen Survey showed the Informer in the lead, with 38 percent of residents obtaining information about Golden from the City’s newsletter often, and 37 percent sometimes. Neither the Golden Transcript or word of mouth scored as high as a local source of information!

As a result, the City is publishing the Informer twice as often, mailing it to every address in the City limits on the first of each month. The goal of the publication is to bring timely information to residents and businesses about what the City is working on, what it has completed and what it has in mind for the future.

**CityOfGolden.Net**

The City underwent a massive redesign of its Web site last year, for which Golden IT Manager Greg Mortimer wrote a strategic plan for e-government. The City’s new and improved Web site can be found at www.cityofgolden.net (or www.ci.golden.co.us) and includes loads of information about City happenings. The Citizen Survey showed that 32 percent of residents sometimes get their information about the City from the Web site, and an additional 11 percent said they do so often.

Residents, businesses and visitors can get information on City events; agendas and meeting minutes for City Council and all City boards and commissions; download maps of City parks; access the City Charter and Municipal Code; e-mail the City Council or staff; download important forms and applications; apply for jobs; the list is long.

The Web site also enables people to subscribe to get regular updates sent to them by e-mail when City news is posted on the Web site. You can pick and choose a variety of areas tailored to your interests.

If you haven’t checked it out, we encourage you to do so and provide us with feedback! Also, watch next month for online Parks and Recreation course registration.

**Golden Info**

For those who prefer telephones to computers, the City of Golden also set up Golden Info. This telephone system allows callers to dial an extension about a subject they are interested in and receive more information. The automated system gives callers the information they request, and also gives them the opportunity to leave a message.
with their contact information and any comments or questions. This message is then automatically directed to the proper contact person on City staff, who can return the call promptly.

Golden Info is basically a very large database that helps answer frequently asked questions. Not only does it save City staff time, but it enables the public to call in at any time of day and access important information – even if you don’t have (or like) the Internet! Stop by City Hall at 911 10th St. to pick up a directory, or call 303-384-8000 to have one mailed to you.

In addition to our automated telephone inquiry system, Golden continues to have a receptionist on duty during regular business hours. Unlike some City’s that have automated operators, Golden still employs personnel to answer your calls and questions and connect you with the right party.

Channel 8

Public Access TV

The City of Golden, like many municipalities, also has a public access station on Channel 8. This station can be used to disseminate important information to the public. Currently, Channel 8 is used primarily to run programming provided to the City at no charge, as opposed to producing content internally.

Some residents have asked City Council to cablecast its meetings (and perhaps boards’ and commissions’ meetings) on Channel 8 for public viewing. City staff advised the Council against televising meetings for several reasons. While the 2004 Citizen Survey showed Channel 8 on similar footing with the City’s Web site as an information source (36 percent use it as a source sometimes, and 9 percent often), only residents who pay for Comcast cable can access Channel 8 broadcasts – basic television and satellite companies don’t offer the public access channel. Furthermore, the expense of purchasing the television filming equipment to internally produce meetings for cablecast on Channel 8 are somewhat cost-prohibitive, at about a quarter-million dollars, and would require the City to dedicate a full-time staff member to operate.

We want to know what you think and how you prefer to get your information. Call 303-384-8132 or e-mail shenderson@ci.golden.co.us.
The mission of the Minority Engineering Program (MEP) at the Colorado School of Mines is to graduate ethnic minorities in the areas of Math, Science, and Engineering. MEP was established on the Mines campus in 1989.

Each year, MEP offers a variety of activities and programs for current and prospective students. The group’s pre-collegiate program features a four-week summer challenge for high school students.

The college-bound engineering students volunteered an entire day of their time helping the City of Golden Streets division to clear gulches, medians and trails of debris, overgrown vegetation and rocks.

The City of Golden thanks all the students who participated, pictured here, for their hard work. We hope they learned something about the practical ways in which the City applies engineering to its streets and drainage ways.