An Eventful August in Golden

pages 14, 18 & 19

Give the City Your Piece of Mind

page 7

Golden’s New City Flag Now on Display

page 6
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 Informer are welcome.

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2012 Golden City Council

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The Golden Informer

Cover photo: file photo
HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
AUG. 7
Be sure to come out for the Golden Police Department’s 15th annual National Night Out from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 7 in Parfet Park, 10th Street and Washington Avenue. This is a great opportunity to get to know your local police officers and also meet your neighbors. There will be free food and beverages, entertainment and raffle prizes along with fun things for the kids. Meet Emcee Greg Moody from Channel 4 News, hear live music and many more surprises. For more information, contact Jodie Marquez at 303-384-8031 or JMarquez@cityofgolden.net.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE PRO CHALLENGE
The Local Organizing Committee is still in need of volunteers for the USA Pro Cycling Challenge Stage 6 in Golden on Saturday, Aug. 25. Specifically, the committee is looking for volunteers able to work the Expo in the Start Village on race day. More than 100 volunteers are needed just for the Expo, with at least another 100 needed for other areas. While the committee has a strong base of volunteers who have been working throughout the summer, more are needed. Tasks include general spectator assistance, parking lot control, assistance with the alcohol control barrier in the park, checking IDs at the beer tent and pouring alcoholic beverages. To check out the volunteer opportunities, visit www.ProCyclingGolden.com and click on the Volunteer tab. If you are interested in positions related to checking IDs or pouring alcoholic beverages, please contact Julie Brooks at 303-384-8013 or jbrooks@cityofgolden.net.

PANEL DISCUSSION: QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN GOLDEN-AREA SCHOOLS
What is the quality of education our children are receiving in Golden-area schools? Is it getting better? Worse? What’s the outlook for the future?
These and other questions will be addressed by a panel of educators and others at a public forum to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 18 at Golden City Hall, 911 10th St. The Rotary Club of Golden is sponsoring this panel discussion in an effort to give our educators an opportunity to address the significant opportunities and challenges they face in achieving the desired results in educating our children. Principals from Golden High School, Bell Middle School, and Pleasant View Elementary will be on the panel, along with an elementary school PTSA president and representatives from the City of Golden and the Golden School Foundation. Forum attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions to the panel. Watch for more details in the September Informer.

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

Aug. 2
No meeting
Aug. 9
Regular Business Meeting and Study Session
Aug. 16
Rescheduled Regular Business Meeting
Aug. 23
No meeting
Aug. 30
No meeting
Council’s upcoming agendas, packets and meeting minutes are available online under the City Council link at www.CityofGolden.net.

Public comment is welcome on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
Thinking Regionally
By Mayor Marjorie Sloan

Golden has a distinct identity that sets us apart from our neighbors. We value our small-town feel, downtown sense of place, foothills setting, and friendly neighborhoods. Every time we come home and view the Golden valley, we re-affirm our choice of hometowns.

Yet, as the High Park and Waldo Canyon fires have just reminded us, Golden is part of a larger region. Smoke and fumes have no regard for municipal boundaries. Nor does automobile, bus, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic. Golden residents cross city and county borders daily; Golden businesses depend on suppliers, workers, and customers from the entire region.

Some issues, such as transportation, are best decided on a larger scale. For instance, the first train will arrive at our light-rail station next April. Golden itself could never have built a rail line connecting us to downtown Denver. The West Rail Line became a possibility with RTD-district voters' 2004 approval of a .04% sales tax dedicated to FasTracks, a multi-billion dollar metro-wide rapid transit system. Golden is among the first beneficiaries of tax amounts collected across the district. Residents of other areas have also been paying into the fund. But without additional funding it is doubtful that mass rapid transit will reach northern-tier communities in the near future. Build-out of the entire system would increase transit options for all metro-area residents and relieve peak automobile congestion. From a regional perspective, Golden should continue to advocate for a complete system — in support of our neighbors and in our own best interests.

Streets and roads also raise regional concerns. Communities along the U.S. 36 corridor (Boulder, Boulder County, Broomfield, Louisville, Superior, and Westminster) recognized that highway congestion was their shared problem. For years, representatives met to reach a collaborative solution. They agreed that an improved road should incorporate additional lanes, public transit, and pedestrian/bicycle trails. They also took a hard look at funding options in light of diminishing federal and state money. In 2007, they decided to accept tolling for partial funding of the desired improvements from Foothills Parkway in Boulder to the existing carpool, bus, and toll lane on I-25. After cobbling together additional funding, they are now ready to go forward on the agreed-upon project. A similar regional coalition has been formed in the south metropolitan area. This group is in the process of evaluating tolling and other options for funding a widened C-470 from I-25 to Kipling. People living along the corridor will soon be consulted about the proposals.

True regionalism is a network of equals working together. All of our neighboring localities have assets that they wish to protect and enhance. Unless Golden participates in regional discussions, these localities will make decisions based on their own considerations and not Golden's special values, character, and terrain.

In other words, if we don't agree upon and voice our own plan, others will plan for us. Before joining a regional discussion, however, our community must come together to re-evaluate engineering solutions for moving local and regional traffic smoothly, safely, and respectfully through Golden. And like our neighbors to the north and south, we must come to grips with funding challenges. In your travels this summer, you can participate in this data-gathering process. Whether you are in Golden, the metro area, or far afield, your heightened awareness of transportation issues can contribute to our community conversation when we re-convene in the fall.

Mayoral Signature

Page 4 August 2012
Golden is unique, guarded from urban sprawl by beautiful mesas to the north and south and glorious mountains to the west. It’s an ideal place to live, work and visit that is different from a typical suburb but still close to Denver.

We are also both blessed and cursed to have major roadways running through Golden. While the roads that connect us to the region make transportation convenient, they channel growth pressures from neighboring communities.

As described in the “Mayor’s Message” on the previous page, a priority for Mayor Marjorie Sloan and the City Council is to protect the interests of Golden’s residents while exploring what will work for the region that surrounds us.

As a result, the city is pursuing two parallel sets of conversations – one with Golden residents and one with our neighbors.

The Mayor and Council are interested in your thoughts and ideas. In September, the city will host a series of community meetings to discuss transportation options and update residents on our planning for future transportation needs. Be sure to check out the September edition of the Golden Informer and www.cityofgolden.net for details as those meetings are set.

Mayor Sloan also has been meeting with officials from neighboring jurisdictions and state agencies. She is often joined by a city councilor, City Manager Mike Bestor or other staff who work daily to plan for Golden’s future.

She is building relationships with other officials, so they will understand Golden’s needs and we will understand their views.

“I generally meet with our neighbors in a place with a view of the Golden valley so our visitors can see for themselves our community’s special small-town atmosphere and our unique terrain that deserve particular consideration,” said Mayor Sloan. “At the same time, I learn of circumstances important to our neighbors and as a result we’ve engaged in productive and mutually respectful discussions about metro transportation ideas.”

GOLDEN CLOSELY FOLLOWING STATE TRANSPORTATION ACTIONS

In the 1950s, the tall concrete I-70 viaduct was constructed with insufficient consideration of its impact on the Denver neighborhoods it divided. It sent the communities into a devastating, long-lasting decline.

Colorado Department of Transportation Executive Director Don Hunt now has proposed rectifying this wrong by dropping the highway below ground and covering it with open space.

"It's going to cost some extra money, but what these neighborhoods have been through will hopefully help balance the ledger," Hunt told The Denver Post.

Golden, the only community that would be bisected by the beltway, applauds Hunt’s leadership.

Well-planned roads, like I-70 through Glenwood Canyon, blend in with the environment. Poorly designed roads, like the I-70 viaduct, destroy communities.

This is not the first time Hunt has demonstrated leadership. With the support of Gov. John Hickenlooper, Hunt initiated and supported transportation negotiations late last year that brought together Golden, Jefferson County, Arvada and the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority to discuss transportation issues.

While those talks ended without agreement, they were a step in the right direction, highlighting the importance of searching for common ground.
New Flag to Represent City

The City of Golden has a new and updated city flag. Over the past few months, Golden held a flag contest where people could submit their designs and then the public could vote online to pick which design they liked best. In all, 23 flag designs were submitted by everyone from grade school children to professional designers. Thousands of votes came in and the top six designs were presented to the Golden City Council, who picked the winner on June 7. The Council decided to go with the flag that received the most citizen votes.

The winning design comes from Golden resident Robert Flood. Flood is an artist and graphic designer and currently uses his talents at his job with the Denver Art Museum. Flood and his wife chose to move to Golden in 2009 because of the small town feel and community that Golden offers. “I am very honored to have my design chosen by the people and City Council and to have it represent the City of Golden for years to come,” said Flood.

The last version of the Golden city flag was adopted by City Council in 1996. It yielded an outdated version of the City logo. Flood wanted to incorporate the current City logo in his design, but then expanded the horizon to include the Front Range and the famous hills including Lookout Mountain, Mt. Zion and Mt. Galbraith. “I chose the one aspect of Golden that will not change over time, and that is the unique location in which Golden is situated,” said Flood.

The new City flag was raised for the first time over City Hall in a special ceremony on July 26. It was also featured in the Buffalo Bill Day parade that same weekend. You can see the flag on the flagpole outside City Hall, 911 10th St.

Nominate Someone Extraordinary

For the third year in a row, the Rotary Club of Golden and Golden Mayor Marjorie Sloan plan to present the Mayor’s Awards for Excellence to Golden residents and businesses making extraordinary contributions to the community. Now is your chance to nominate someone for this special recognition.

Nominees for individual awards must be a resident of or employed within the City of Golden. Nominations should explain the contributions the nominee makes to the Golden community and why these contributions are exceptional. Nominees for Entrepreneur of the Year must own or operate a business within the city limits of Golden. Nominations for this category should explain how the business owner and their business contribute to the Golden community through their entrepreneurial spirit, innovation, creating high quality jobs in Golden and any other ways that are relevant. Taking initiative, exercising leadership, solving problems in the community, creating community value, and serving as a role model are examples of some of the qualities the awards committee may consider for all nominees. Completed nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 6 at City Hall, 911 10th St. Nominations can also be returned by email to Denise Hish at dhish@cityofgolden.net. Questions can be directed to Denise at 303-384-8011. The awards ceremony and a “State of the Community” presentation will be held on Oct. 3. Watch the September Informer for details.

Nomination forms are available at www.cityofgolden.net/links/MayorsAwards.
With your help and input, the City of Golden could have a new community bus system within a year. In late 2009 the City engaged the community in transit surveys and focus groups as part of a study to test the feasibility of a community bus in Golden to launch in conjunction with the West Corridor light rail line in the spring of 2013. The feasibility study was released in early 2010 and concluded that a community bus system connecting the Jefferson County light rail station to destinations in downtown Golden could be successful.

Following the conclusion of this study, a series of meetings were held for community input. While the community seemed to welcome the prospect of a community bus overall, there was one recommendation in the study involving paving Illinois Street through Fossil Trace as a bus-only connection that seemed to create some controversy.

Since the community expressed general support for a community bus, City staff went about building partnerships and looking for necessary funding. Working with RTD and the Colorado School of Mines (CSM), the City was able to secure a federal grant to secure the majority of funding, with additional funding provided by RTD, CSM and the City.

RTD has since agreed to operate the community bus service and is now working with CSM and the City to lay out some viable service options, which will be presented to the public for consideration this summer and fall. The controversial Illinois connection will not be under consideration. City staff plans to first present these options through the new “Golden Vision” community engagement website at http://goldenvision.cityofgolden.net/, where citizens can react to ideas as well as post their own. (Details about this new website are in the article below). The City will also host a series of public meetings on these community bus choices in the fall.

Gearing Up for Public Transit

Golden is pleased to announce the launch of a new online community engagement tool that will allow residents to share ideas with others and chime in on city projects that will affect them most. The electronic forum called "Golden Vision" is available at http://goldenvision.cityofgolden.net. Just go to that site, register and join the discussion with your neighbors.

Golden Vision is an extension of a community outreach process over the past few years, where citizens engaged in new and innovative ways to make their voices heard. Planning Commission and City Council are continually looking for new ways to keep this Golden Vision community spirit alive. This commitment to civic engagement led to a partnership with MindMixer to provide a new but intuitive way for citizens to connect with one another in an ongoing electronic forum for Golden residents and business owners to share ideas and thoughts about topics that affect the community.

Now Goldenites will be able to conveniently find out about ongoing and upcoming projects, as well as provide their own ideas and feedback to help guide the public process. The first topic in the forum was the Draft South Neighborhoods Plan, which primarily affects the neighborhoods along Heritage Road, and includes planning for the end of line light rail station at the Jefferson County campus. Topics in the weeks ahead will address plans for the Golden Community Bus, East Downtown and Vanover Park. So go to http://goldenvision.cityofgolden.net/ and start sharing your vision for Golden with your fellow citizens.

SHARE YOUR GOLDEN VISION ON-LINE

WHAT’S YOUR IDEA?

Visit our online forum to share your ideas that will help improve our community.

Think of all of the police officers in Colorado and the many different types of cases they work on each year. That perspective makes it even more impressive to tell you that above all other officers and the many great things they do, it was a Golden police officer who was recognized as Colorado’s Officer of the Year.

Det. Stacy Galbraith works in the Criminal Investigations Section of the Golden Police Department. 2011 proved to be a very challenging and rewarding year, as Det. Galbraith headed up an investigation that crossed over into many different cities and even another state to put a serial rapist behind bars.

Det. Galbraith’s investigation and ability to put the pieces of the puzzle together was a big part of what led to the arrest. She brought together more than 100 law enforcement professionals who worked to solve some of the most horrifying rape cases you could imagine. The judge who sentenced Marc O’Leary called him a monster and put him behind bars for 327½ years on 28 felony charges.

In addition to that landmark case, Det. Galbraith was also the lead detective on a bank robbery and a domestic murder case with suspects arrested in both. Det. Galbraith was nominated for Officer of the Year by Golden Police Chief Bill Kilpatrick, who says he takes exceptional pride in having her on the department. “Det. Galbraith is an extraordinarily talented investigator,” said Chief Kilpatrick. “She is knowledgeable, dedicated, tenacious and committed to finding the truth. This is a well deserved honor.”

Congratulations to Det. Stacy Galbraith for being named Officer of the Year by the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police.

**Golden Police Chief Bill Kilpatrick with award winner, Det. Stacy Galbraith and Wheat Ridge Police Chief Dan Brennan who presented the award.**

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**Better Employees, Better City**

Periodically we tell you about City employees who have gone above and beyond in their jobs in order to make Golden a great place to live. This month, we honor staff in the police and fire departments.

**Ofc. Bernadette Rankin, Golden Police Officer**

The Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run has been involved in supporting and raising funds for disabled athletes for over 30 years. Although many law enforcement agencies participate in this annual event, Golden never has. This year, Officer Bernadette Rankin convinced three others at Golden Police to join her for a 13.5 mile race to the state Capital. She succeeded in not only gaining positive recognition for the department and the City, but in helping to remind those members who were involved, of the importance of volunteering and giving back to the community they serve, even when they are “off the clock.”

**Debbie Testroet & Steven Parker, Administrative Technician & Fire Inspector**

Debbie and Steven were tasked with finding a way to bring the fire department’s records system into the 21st century. For two years, they studied different systems and found that a program called “Emergency Reporting” was the best option. Two years of their hard work, a lot of stressing, data input and field testing prior to implementation have given the Golden Fire Department a premier records and incident management system that is second to none and under budget. In fact, Golden has become a model program being looked at by other departments across the country.
Recently Golden Storage, located at 732 Hog Back Dr., took a large step towards sustainability by reducing its dependence on electrical power.

The business, a self-storage facility in north Golden, installed 100 new LED light bulbs in fixtures throughout the property. The actual savings is quite substantial, based on Xcel Energy data post-installation. The bills indicate that Golden Storage has reduced its electricity consumption by 37 percent and is saving 50 percent of its monthly bills. The estimated annual energy savings is projected to be 62,000 Kilowatt hours, which is the equivalent of saving the electricity of ten homes for an entire year.

One specific example of how Golden Storage dramatically reduced its usage, occurred with just five fixtures at the entry of the facility. There were two spotlights on the highway sign, two floodlights on the flagpole and one pole light for the drive entry. Together these five fixtures totaled 1,500 watts. The four new fixtures replacing these now do a better job and consume just 150 watts, a ninety percent reduction in usage.

Overall, the return on investment for all of the LEDs will be less than a year. The City and the Community Sustainability Advisory Board salute Golden Storge for proactively reducing its energy footprint and for discovering that LEDs can also be good for a business bottom line.

DID YOU KNOW?

Installing flow restrictors on your home’s water faucets not only saves water, but can also save you money on your heating bills. Sink aerators and low-flow showerheads are easy to install and still provide a generous amount of water. Even better, the City has a limited supply of these fixtures to give away for free. Residents may email goldensustainability@cityofgolden.net or call 303-384-8117 to request fixtures for the home and a date and time for pickup.

Waste Warriors Needed for the USA Pro Cycling Challenge!

The City is looking for volunteers on Aug. 25 for Stage 6 of the USA Pro Cycling Challenge. Last year's waste efforts wouldn't have been as successful and seamless as they were without volunteer participation, and the City is looking for another 50-75 people interested in helping others recycle at this event. Join us for a few hours to promote sustainability efforts and enjoy watching the professional bike racers. Sign up at www.ProCyclingGolden.com (click on the volunteer tab) or email goldensustainability@cityofgolden.net.
The Belle of Amherst
Emily Dickenson is portrayed telling the stories of her life, featuring some of her most thoughtful poetry. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and show times, call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Evolutions Quilt Challenge and Politics as Usual

American Idols
Five contestants decide to launch their own tour after being passed up for the reality shows. Heritage Square Music Hall, 18301 W. Colfax Ave. Visit www.hsmusichall.com or call 303-279-7800 for tickets and show times.

Golden Gate Canyon Games
Celebrate local history with a day full of old-fashioned games and fun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Clear Creek History Park, 11th and Arapahoe streets. Admission is free. See page 18 for more details.

Coffee with a Councilor
Join members of your city council for a cup of coffee. This month the main topic is the City’s efforts to partner with our local schools. 9 a.m. at 5th Ring Coffee House, 2421 Ford St. For more information, contact Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-709-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

A Golden Night in the Park
Join the Golden Police Department for the 15th annual National Night Out celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. in Parfet Park, 10th Street and Washington Avenue. Free food, games, demonstrations and giveaways. For more information call Jodie Marquez at 303-384-8031 or jmarquez@cityofgolden.net.

Aug. 4
Coffee with a Councilor
Join members of your city council for a cup of coffee. This month the main topic is the City’s efforts to partner with our local schools. 9 a.m. at 5th Ring Coffee House, 2421 Ford St. For more information, contact Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-709-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

Aug. 7
A Golden Night in the Park
Join the Golden Police Department for the 15th annual National Night Out celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. in Parfet Park, 10th Street and Washington Avenue. Free food, games, demonstrations and giveaways. For more information call Jodie Marquez at 303-384-8031 or jmarquez@cityofgolden.net.
Aug. 18 and 19
Golden Fine Arts Festival
More than 130 artists display and sell their works of art. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday in downtown Golden. The festival is free. For more information visit www.goldenfineartsfestival.org or call 303-279-3113.

The Fine Arts Festival expands into Clear Creek History Park, where you’ll see demonstrations from artisans who use traditional trades and crafts, and be able to purchase your favorite original works of art. Details at www.GoldenHistory.org.

Aug. 19
Free Concert in the Park
Bring a picnic and enjoy the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra perform a free concert at 6:30 p.m. in Parfet Park, 10th Street and Washington Avenue. Visit www.jeffsymphony.org or call 303-278-4237 for more information.

Aug. 24 and 25
USA Pro Cycling Challenge events

Friday:
Taste of Golden Block Party, 5 to 9 p.m. on Washington Ave.
Movie in the Park: Breaking Away - Begins at dusk at Lions Park Ball Fields.

Saturday:
The Samples in concert! Free concert from 4 to 7 p.m. in Parfet Park, 10th Street and Washington Avenue.
For more information on USAPCC events in Golden, visit www.ProCyclingGolden.com.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!

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

Information is subject to change. Please use contact information to confirm the details of an event. 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 ktilley@cityofgolden.net. Listings should include the date(s), the event name and a brief description of the event, which may include cost, location and contact information. Submissions must be received by the first of the month prior to the issue you would like them printed in (i.e., Jan. 1 for the February issue). Call 303-384-8132 with questions or for more information.
Golden Lions Club Awards Scholarships

Three of Golden’s outstanding high school graduates will be getting some financial help from the Golden Lions Club as they start college this month. The Golden Lions Club awarded three $1,000 scholarships to graduates of Golden High School. The winners are Hannah Hebberd, who plans to attend Colorado School of Mines, Christine Carnicello, who will be attending Colorado State University, and Ryan Wareham, also accepted at the Colorado School of Mines. Presentations were made at the Golden High Senior Awards night on May 17 by Golden Lions President Dennis Neumayer. The scholarships are awarded in memory of Tom Plummer, past Lions President and community leader who graduated from Golden High School, and former members Bill Pazar and Stewart Reinhard.

Show Your Demon Pride

It was last fall when the Golden High School volleyball team was playing their last game of the season in the gym at Elizabeth High School. The lady Demons were surrounded by a packed and hostile house full of cheerleaders, the student body, alumni and people from the opposing town.

Despite the raucous crowd, the Golden team beat Elizabeth in three of the five games and took home the win. But Golden’s Volleyball boosters say the emotional level and crowd in the Elizabeth gym was reminiscent of a scene from the movie Hoosiers, where a whole town came out to support their high school team.

“Golden could use a small dose of what a small town like Elizabeth has,” said Golden Volleyball Booster Gary Bishop. “Visiting teams playing Golden bring more fans to our home games, usually outnumbering and out-cheering our own fans and supporters, so our girls could use more community support.” Every August, dozens of girls from Golden try out for various positions and teams, and for the right to represent their high school and the community against rival schools.

Varsity Coach Barry Lago is working hard to build a winning tradition at Golden High School. He encourages the younger girls to play in competitive leagues around the area when they are not playing for Golden. The idea is to give the girls a solid foundation so they can be more competitive against some of the more experienced schools along the Front Range.

The lady Demon volleyball season is starting up again, so check out the Golden Volleyball website for the complete schedule of games. Visit www.goldenvb.net.

BACK TO SCHOOL AT BELL

It’s hard to believe summer is over and it’s already time to start thinking about the kids going back to school. The first day of school at Bell Middle School is Aug. 21 and Principal Bridget Jones says they are looking forward to a successful 2012-2013 school year for all students.

Back to school events will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. on Aug. 20 with an open house to visit classrooms, find lockers and get familiar with the school. From 5 to 8 p.m. there will be breakout sessions to be informed about departments, curriculums and programs. One of the newest programs is iSTEM (innovation, science, technology, engineering and mathematics) for incoming 7th graders. The program is already full and organizers are looking to expand it due to its popularity.

Principal Jones is also pleased to announce a new extended day program that will provide additional learning and leadership opportunities for students. Information on registration and programs can be found at http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/middle/bell/ or you can call 303-982-4280.
Permit Parking in Golden

The City of Golden has established two residential permit parking programs for areas surrounding the Colorado School of Mines campus and Golden High School, to make it easier for homeowners and residents to park near their homes. As the number of students rise, the streets have become more and more crowded with vehicles. The permit system designates resident parking, to make parking more accessible to those who live in the area, during the school year.

Parking permits are issued by the City to property owners within the permit area and are required for parking during the school year from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. New permits are issued each new school year and are mailed to residents. There is strict enforcement of the program, including fines for parking without a permit during school hours.

If you are a new resident to the area, it’s important to find out if you need a permit for your street. For more information and to see maps of the two areas, go to www.cityofgolden.net/city-services/city-parking-permit-program or contact Denise Hish at 303-384-8011 or dhish@cityofgolden.net.

Join a World Wide Discussion

The Colorado School of Mines (CSM) is taking part in a global event involving thousands of people around the world, and they’re looking for local volunteers to join in on the conversation. The event is “World Wide Views on Biodiversity.” At least 100 citizens in each participating country will attend a day-long meeting to learn about biodiversity issues and express their views. The meetings will start at dawn in the Pacific and continue until dusk in the Americas.

Biodiversity is the extraordinary variety of all living things on Earth. It includes diversity of ecosystems, species and genes, and the ecological processes that support them. This diversity is essential to society, providing things like food, clothing, shelter, fuel and medicines – and plays an important role in sustainable development. Biodiversity is under threat in many areas of the world, and thus has become a top public issue throughout the world.

CSM will host the Colorado deliberations, and is recruiting citizens to participate on Sept. 15. Applicants must be at least 16 years old, and CSM will choose participants who reflect the demographics of the Denver metro area. Those who attend will receive $50 to cover travel costs, plus meals for the day. Applications are available at http://hannebach.mines.edu/HB-wwviews-biodiversity. For more information contact Sandy Woodson at 303-384-2335 or wwwviewsbiodiversity@gmail.com.

Still Time to Order Peaches

You have until Aug. 11 to buy fresh-picked Western Slope peaches while helping a local charity. The peaches are from the Palisades area of Colorado and are sold in 20 pound boxes for $35. You can order online at www.goldenrotarypeaches.org or pick up an order form at many Golden locations including the Visitor’s Center, 1010 Washington Ave., and the Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. The deadline for ordering peaches is Aug. 11. The fruit will be available for pick-up on Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 West 6th Ave. Proceeds from the peach sales go to support the many charitable efforts of the Golden Rotary, helping those in need in the Golden area and worldwide.
No Golden summer would be complete without the Golden Fine Arts Festival (GFAF). In its 22nd year, the juried festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18 and Sunday, Aug. 19.

Hosting 130 juried artists from throughout the United States, the Festival features a variety of media, including ceramic arts, fiber arts, glass, jewelry, mixed media, painting, photography, sculpture and 2D. More than 35,000 people are expected to attend, making it one of the area’s most popular summer arts festivals.

There is no admission fee for the Festival, which includes free horse-drawn carriage rides, free live musical entertainment, artist demonstrations, and a special hands-on Kids Art Zone operated by ArtReach that is always a hit with younger art patrons.

This year, neighboring Clear Creek History Park will feature Artisans in the Park. Visitors will have the opportunity to observe demonstrations by blacksmiths, leather toolers, spinners, and fiber artists, and can purchase their traditional artwork.

Also be sure to catch the Farmer’s Market which will be open on Saturday, Aug. 18 until 4 p.m. And the Festival will be capped off by the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra’s free Summer Pops Concert in Parfet Park on Sunday, Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Golden artist Jesse Crock was chosen to be the featured artist. His painting “Crestone Needle, Early March” was reproduced for the 2012 Golden Fine Arts Festival poster, which can be purchased for $20 at the Festival.

For more information, visit the Festival’s web site at www.GoldenFineArtsFestival.org or Golden’s visitor web site at www.VisitGolden.com throughout the year.

Get Your Fine Art Fix for Free

The city is partnering with the Center for ReSource Conservation to offer Golden water customers a free sprinkler inspection.

WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?
• Save money on your water bill.
• Improve the appearance of your landscape.
• Receive a customized watering schedule.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?
The entire process will take about two hours. Larger commercial or HOA properties may take longer.

WHEN ARE INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE?
Inspections are scheduled from June until August. Call now to reserve a spot.

HOW DO I SCHEDULE AN INSPECTION?
If you receive water from the city of Golden AND you have an operating underground irrigation system, complete the request form online at www.ConservationCenter.org or call 303-999-3820 x217.
Celebrate Health!
Fridays, Aug. 3 and Sept. 7
Celebrate Health! is a monthly wellness program featuring a variety of healthy living opportunities for adults of all ages. For more information or to make an appointment for one of our services, please call 303-384-8130.
Chair massages $13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions $13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce $20 per 15 minutes

Receive the Front Porch News Online!
Stay up-to-date about Games, Classes & Clubs, Volunteer Activities, Wellness, Trips & Events. Visit us online at www.cityofgolden.net/links/FrontPorch or email frontporchnews@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

FREE Seminars Available!
Sign up at the Front Porch.

Cooking with Spices
Learn how to “spice” up your life with some new seasonings. A follow up to “Cooking with Herbs”.
Tuesday, Aug. 14, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Computer Training for Life-long Learning
These introductory computer classes are presented for FREE by the Jefferson County Public Library.
Mondays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Aug. 6 - Social Networking Basics
Aug. 13 - Free Downloadable Resources at your Library: E-Books, Audio books and Music
Aug. 27 - iPad Basics

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS
Limon Heritage Museum & Railroad Park - #25039-1
http://limonmuseum.com/
The Limon Heritage Museum complex contains an exhibit museum, a depot, schoolhouse, saddle boxcar, windmills and a beautiful plaza with gardens throughout. We will eat lunch before and stop for ice cream or coffee afterwards. Wear sun protective clothing and bring plenty of water.
Tuesday, Aug. 28, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
$23 (van, tour included, bring money for a snack)
Exertion Level: 3
Register / Cancel by Aug. 27.

The Lucky Three Ranch - #25040-1
www.luckythreeranch.com
Located in Loveland, this working ranch in the classic western tradition houses some of the finest mules and donkeys in the country. It is also home to the Loveland Longears Museum & bronze Sculpture Park. We will have lunch after visiting the ranch.
Thursday, Sept. 13, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
$20 (van only)
Exertion Level: 3
Register / Cancel by Sept. 11.

White Fence Farms - #25041-1
www.whitefencefarms.com
We’ll enjoy a fabulous dinner, the lovely grounds and musical entertainment.
Thursday, Sept. 20, 4:30 to 8 p.m.
$9 (van only, bring money for dinner)
Exertion Level: 1
Register / Cancel by Sept. 10.
For more information and to register for Golden Community Center Programs, visit us online at rec.cityofgolden.net

**GCC Closure Notice!**
The Golden Community Center will be closed Aug. 20 - 26 for Facility Maintenance Week.

**Swim Lessons**
**Offered Year Round**
Fall and winter swim lesson registration for residents is Monday, Aug. 13, non-residents is Tuesday, Aug. 14. Register online http://rec.cityofgolden.net or at the Golden Community Center.

**Advanced Care Babysitting Courses**
This course is designed for the pre-teen (11-13 year olds) and helps prepare for those first babysitting opportunities. Also stressed will be home and fire safety, infant and child CPR, rescue breathing and choking procedures. Certification provided.

- **Age:** 11 years and older
  - **Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**
  - Aug. 18
  - $65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

**Private & Semi-Private Vocal, Piano or Guitar Lessons**
If you don’t have enough people to create your own class of 5-10 students, try a private one-on-one or semi-private with 2-5 students. Fees are per student. Must provide your own guitar, but keyboards are provided.

- **Age:** 4 years and older
- **Semi-Private Lessons: (30 min.)**
  - $136.00 for 8 classes
  - $40 materials fee
- **Semi-Private Lessons: (45 min.)**
  - $216.00 for 8 classes
  - $40 materials fee
- **Private Lessons: (30 min.)**
  - $216.00 for 8 classes
  - $40 materials fee

**Sailing the Solar System Workshop**
Set sail on an amazing journey through our cosmic neighborhood with SpaceTime’s *Sailing the Solar System* workshop. This program will take students on a cosmic adventure through the Solar System.

- **Age:** 5 - 12 years
  - **Thursday, 10 a.m. - noon**
  - Aug. 2
  - $20 Resident, $23 Non-resident

**Adventures in Green Screen**
Using a green screen and special photo-editing techniques, students will venture into real or imaginary locations and film the trip to share with friends.

- **Age:** 8 - 14 years
  - **Monday to Thursday**
  - **11 a.m. - noon**
  - Aug. 6 - 10
  - $50 Resident, $55 Non-resident

**Music Producer**
Work together in small teams from recording sounds and vocals, to learning how to manipulate elements of music. Become a music producer as you explore song writing software, using sound samples, experiment with patterns, pitch, volume, rhythm and speed.

- **Age:** 9 - 14 years
  - **Monday to Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m.**
  - Aug. 6 - 10
  - $99 Resident, $104 Non-resident

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Located at the base of the foothills, the Golden Community Center is a venue with a view!

- Perfect for weddings, graduations and other events, put your mind at ease with the support of professional staff members and the convenience of an adjoining caterer’s kitchen.
- Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates.
- Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
As the temperatures rise, Golden residents and visitors flock to the outdoors to enjoy a myriad of recreational and leisure opportunities whether it be a trail run or ride, a day on the golf course or a picnic in the park. We are fortunate to have a variety of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors right at our doorstep.

Often taken for granted, water fountains are an amenity provided throughout Golden’s park system to provide free, clean drinking water to those enjoying the surrounding landscape. Many communities today are removing public water fountains in an effort to reduce maintenance costs and encourage the purchase of water and other drinks.

Drinking fountains are a crucial element of any healthy space. They provide a service to those who want to drink clean water, are environmentally friendly and offer a chance to educate the public about the importance of safe and affordable public drinking water.

Golden provides 16 water fountains in the parks system, approximately one fountain per 16 acres of parkland maintained by the city. Throughout the years new fountains have been installed as parks were developed, with replacements added as needed due to vandalism or age. Golden parks staff have not removed any fountains in the parks in the last 15 years, though attention is given by moving fountains to more ideal locations within the park, such as the Norman D. Park fountain, now located adjacent to the popular Tucker Gulch Trail. Most replacement fountains are also dog friendly and child friendly, offering varying heights.

To further encourage sustainable water consumption, last year, as host of the USA Pro Cycling Challenge Stage Six, staff provided temporary drinking fountains in Parfet Park to those taking part in the race festivities. The temporary fountains were a hit, making several more appearances at city events, most recently at the Golden History Museum’s Summer Solstice Event in June.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States has some of the highest quality tap water available in the world for a very low cost to consumers. There are approximately 155,000 public water systems in this country including the City of Golden that treat, filter and deliver tap water at an average cost of only two cents per gallon.

The City of Golden is committed to providing its residents and visitors with a dependable, affordable and clean drinking water supply. Bring your reusable water bottle, find a drinking fountain and enjoy the day in Golden. To learn more about Golden’s drinking water supply, visit www.cityofgolden.net and click on the Environmental Services link under the City Services tab.
Golden History Museums (GHM) has recently worked with a number of residents from the Golden Gate Canyon area to gather historical information, special memories and the history of the canyon. From these sources GHM discovered a long tradition of festivals, picnics and square dances that speak to the strong community created by people who often lived miles apart.

In memoirs collected before his death, James Ramstetter remembered attending events at the Guy Hill Grange.

“The hall was lit up by a dozen or more kerosene wall lamps that had special reflectors behind them, which seemed to magnify the amount of light. A piano was located at the northeast corner of the hall...The neighborhood was blessed with quite a number of musicians who played various instruments. Most played by ear with the exception of the school teachers.”

James Ramstetter also wrote about the annual Fourth of July picnic.

“At the picnic there were all kinds of games for the children to play. The grown-ups had horse racing and other activities where horses were involved. The picnic lasted til right after sundown and then everybody headed for ...the Eight Mile House.”

According to longtime canyon resident Lena Baughman, some of those activities included the slipper kick. It was a game just for women, and they would line up and kick slippers off their feet to see who could kick the farthest. Another favorite for the ladies was the rolling pin toss where each participant would throw a large rolling pin at a dummy in a competition for accuracy.

Discontinued for many years, Golden History Museums now brings the festivities back to life. Golden Gate Canyon is the original location for the historic buildings at the Clear Creek History Park, so it’s a natural fit for the **Golden Gate Canyon Games**. Come join in the fun from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 11. It’s free, and there will be plenty of activities all day long, including the slipper kick and rolling pin toss competition. Visit [www.GoldenHistory.org](http://www.GoldenHistory.org) for details on this and other activities throughout the year.
COMING TO GOLDEN THIS AUGUST
PUSS IN BOOTS 8/3
THE MUPPET MOVIE (1979) 8/10
DOLPHIN TALE 8/17

WITH MUSICAL GUESTS
AUGUST 3
DR. HARLAN’S
AMAZING BLUEGRASS TONIC

AUGUST 10
DWIGHT MARK

AUGUST 17
TOMMY AND THE TANGERINES
When you live in Golden, there’s two hours of fun, two minutes from home. So we suggest getting away by staying right here. The end of August brings the USA Pro Cycling Challenge back to town. When the race leaves town, enjoy lunch at one of our local restaurants and shop in our unique stores. Then head to Parfet Park for a free concert. You’ll be surprised at all there is to do right here under your nose. For more great ideas, go to www.VisitGolden.com.