South Table Mountain OPEN SPACE DEAL p. 3

Road Work Update p. 12

Beware of Check Scam, Car Thefts p. 14

What’s on Channel 8? p. 16

Firefighters Needed p. 13

Recycling Center a Hit p. 15

No More Teen Smoking p. 15
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.

Dec. 2 Study Session and REGULAR MEETING
Dec. 9 REGULAR MEETING
Dec. 16 No meeting
Dec. 23 No meeting
Dec. 30 No meeting

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.

In This Issue

Council’s Corner ............................................................... Page 2
Coors to Sell South Table Mountain Land for Open Space ............................ Pages 3-4
Streetwise: What’s your favorite thing about South Table Mountain? .......... Page 4
Merchants Compete in Holiday Contest .................................................. Page 5
Holiday Safety Tips ............................................................................. Page 5
Holiday Home Tour Tickets on Sale ....................................................... Page 6
Prevent Carbon Monoxide Deaths ......................................................... Page 6
Events Application Being Reworked ....................................................... Page 7
Code Corner: Pet Care in the Winter ....................................................... Page 8
Community Center Activities ................................................................. Page 9
Community Calendar ........................................................................... Pages 10-11
Street Work Updates ............................................................................ Page 12
New Tobacco Law Impacts High School ................................................ Page 12
Fire Department Recruiting Volunteers .................................................. Page 13
Citizens Asked to Beware of Check Scam, Car Thefts ............................... Page 14
Golden Recycling Center a Success ....................................................... Page 15
What’s on Your Public Access Channel 8? ............................................ Page 16
How Your Local Government Works ...................................................... Page 17
Star City Employee and ESP Award ....................................................... Page 18
Community Profile .............................................................................. Page 19
At the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners meeting Nov. 10, a deal was announced that will permanently protect nearly 730 acres of South Table Mountain as public open space lands.

“This is something that Goldenites have for a very long time hoped and wished for. We are totally thrilled.”

Councilwoman Karen Oxman

Coors Brewing Co. has contracted to sell its land holdings on Golden’s geographic landmark to the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a national nonprofit land conservation organization, which plans to convey the land to the Jefferson County Open Space division. The purchase price agreed to is $10 million.

Coors Brewing Co. announced it also will make substantial charitable donations to TPL as part of the overall transaction to support ongoing conservation programs across the state and to the Jeffco Open Space Foundation, Inc., for future protection of South Table Mountain.

The Coors Brewing Co. property comprises over half of the remaining privately owned land on South Table Mountain that has been prioritized for public acquisition and protection.

Golden Mayor Chuck Baroch said this historic agreement is the culmination of the tireless efforts of many dedicated individuals and organizations. “An open space purchase of this magnitude on South Table Mountain has been years in the making and to say it is welcome would be an understatement,” Baroch said. “We hope eventually the entire area is acquired for open space purposes.

continued on Page 4
The Golden Informer

Golden Officials Laud Efforts of Many Involved in Open Space Deal

continued from Page 3

The City of Golden, its residents and I personally commend all of the parties involved in making this happen.”

Golden Councilwoman Gwyn Green said she is delighted with the announcement and also thanked all the parties involved. She noted the additional efforts of grassroots groups like Table Mountains Conservation Fund and Save the Mesas in consistently pushing for the purchase of South Table Mountain lands as open space, and thanked them as well.

Councilwoman Karen Oxman said news of the acquisition will be met with celebration throughout the City of Golden. “This is something that Goldenites have for a very long time hoped and wished for. We are totally thrilled,” Oxman said.

There is a link to the County’s press release available on the City’s Web site at www.CityOfGolden.net, along with a map of the property ownership on South Table Mountain.

Streetwise:

“What’s your favorite thing about South Table Mountain?”

“It’s a great idea. It will help preserve the integrity of our community. South Table’s kind of an identity with the community. There’s a connection there.”
– Ron Savill, Golden

“It’s a good idea. South Table Mountain is a symbol for the city. It’s important to keep it in a natural state.”
– Teresa Bath, Arvada

“I’m in favor of it, of course. I don’t want anything on it and would like to see the Excel towers come down.”
– Mary Joe Wheeler, Golden

“It’s great. The more open space, the better. It’s nice having it open to hike.”
– Julie Midyett, Golden

“Fabulous deal. Can we bring the venicular back?”
– Mary Zinn, unincorporated Jefferson County

“It’s definitely a good thing. The more Open Space the better. Good climbing up there. It will be good to keep pure with no houses up there.”
– Steve Morwood, Golden

From left to right, Table Mountains Conservation Fund President Elliot Brown, Golden City Councilman Dave Ketchum and Jefferson County Open Space board member Greg Stevinson celebrate the South Table Mountain announcement at Higher Grounds coffee house Nov. 10.
A friendly competition among downtown Golden merchants is being held for the best holiday window display. The theme of the contest is “Songs of the Season.” The public is invited to visit downtown, view the merchants’ window displays and then vote for your favorite.

The winning business will receive a $500 cash award. A second place runner up will receive a $250 reimbursement prize.

The contest begins Dec. 3 and runs through Dec. 23. Voting cards that include a map can be picked up at the Golden Visitors Center on the corner of 10th Street and Washington Avenue or at participating businesses. Only one vote is allowed per person. When you cast your vote, you will automatically be entered into a drawing to receive one of two $50 gift certificates from a Golden merchant. Winners will be notified by Dec. 28.

Merchants still interested in participating can call 303-839-1415, x1. Residents and visitors with questions can stop by the Visitors Center or call 303-279-3113.

**Tips to Arrive Safely this Season**

It is the season of office parties and for getting together with family and friends.

The Golden Police Department would like to remind you of two simple facts that could help you and your family have a safe holiday season; seat belts save lives, while drinking and driving can destroy them.

In 2002, over 34,300 drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol in Colorado. Of those, 876 were young drivers between 16 and 18 years old. Already this year, the Golden Police Department has arrested over 225 drivers for drug and alcohol related driving offenses.

In 2002, there were 575 traffic accident fatalities in the state. Sadly, 66 percent, or 380 of those killed in accidents were not wearing their seatbelts. This number includes 84 children under the age of 18.

The Golden Police Department will be doing its part to help make this a safe holiday season.

There will be designated DUI Enforcement officers on patrol and conducting DUI Sobriety Checkpoints. Police will be making traffic contacts based on seatbelt use.

Citizens of Golden can do their part, too. If you drink alcohol, drink in moderation. Several factors can affect intoxication levels, including food consumption and sleep. Have someone in your group be the designated driver.

Wear your seatbelt. Make sure your children are properly restrained by their seatbelts or are properly secured in their child safety seats. Talk to older children about wearing their seatbelts while driving or riding with their friends.

The members of the Golden Police Department wish you a healthy, safe and happy holiday season.

---

**Shopping Safety**

If you’re in the spirit, holiday shopping can be lots of fun. In order to keep the holidays cheerful, the Golden Police Department would like to remind you of a few safety tips to keep in mind while you’re shopping.

- Don’t leave packages or valuables in your car. If you must – lock them in a trunk or keep them out of sight.
- Always lock your vehicle and don’t leave your car running while unattended.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Don’t carry large amounts of cash when shopping.
- Never leave a purse or wallet in a shopping cart.

Please report any suspicious persons or activity to the Golden Police Department by calling 303-384-8045.
Tour unique homes and buildings in historic Golden this holiday season at the annual Golden Opportunity: Holiday Tour of Historic Homes.

Join sponsors the Golden Pioneer Museum and the Golden Landmarks Association on Sunday, Dec. 12 as they explore a home whose back door opens into a mine, tour the glorious Calvary Episcopal Church and visit an 1890s Colorado mansion that has been in the same family for five generations.

From unusual architecture and exquisite décor to the hospitality of one of Colorado’s oldest communities, make your holiday season a “Golden” one with this exciting event.

Please note, this event is not designed for young children.

Tickets are $12 in advance, $15 the day of the event. For information and reservations, contact the Golden Pioneer Museum at 303-278-7151, stop in at 923 10th St., e-mail goldenpioneermuseum@comcast.net, or visit the Web site at www.goldenpioneermuseum.com.
Prevent Carbon Monoxide Deaths: Install an Alarm and do an Inspection

As the weather turns colder, consumers need to be aware of an invisible killer that can seep through the home, causing serious injury or death. In Benton Harbor, Mich., three family members were hospitalized due to carbon monoxide poisoning caused by a malfunctioning furnace or gas water heater. In Salt Lake City, Utah, a man was hospitalized with carbon monoxide poisoning after the furnace in his condominium malfunctioned. These types of incidents are not old news; they occur each and every month.

To help prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisonings, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) urges consumers to have a professional inspection of all fuel-burning heating systems, including furnaces, boilers, fireplaces, water heaters, space heaters, chimneys, flues, and vents. The Golden Fire Department can schedule an inspection for you by calling 303-384-8094.

“Each year, CO poisoning from heating systems, water heaters, and ranges and ovens kills about 80 people in the U.S.,” said CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton. “Many of these tragedies could be prevented by having a professional check these appliances annually for proper operation and CO leaks.”

CO is a colorless, odorless gas that can be produced by burning fuels such as natural gas, propane, oil, kerosene, coal, or wood. Properly installed and operating fuel-burning appliances pose minimal CO hazards. However, under certain conditions, all appliances that burn fuels can leak deadly levels of CO into the home. The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to flu (but without the fever) and include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Exposure to high levels of CO can cause death.

CPSC recommends that the yearly professional inspection include checking chimneys, flues and vents for leakage, blockage by debris and to make sure they are not loose or disconnected. Birds, other animals and insects can build nests in vents over spring and summer, resulting in blockages that cause deadly exhaust to enter the home. The inspector should also check appliance operation to ensure proper fuel input rate, gas pressure, and operating temperatures.

In addition, the inspector should check appliances for gas leaks and adequate ventilation. A supply of fresh air is important to help carry pollutants up the chimney, stovepipe or flue, and fresh air is necessary for the complete combustion of any fuel. Never block ventilation air openings and check the appliance filter to ensure it is clean. Make sure the appliance is operating on the fuel that it is designed to use. To convert an appliance to burn propane, hire a professional to do the modification.

“CPSC recommends that every home have a CO alarm in the hallway near bedrooms in each sleeping area,” said Chairman Stratton. “A CO alarm can wake you up and give you time to save your family.”


Consumers should never use gasoline-powered generators or charcoal grills indoors or in attached garages because of the risk of CO poisoning: opening doors and windows or operating fans cannot supply adequate ventilation and can be deadly. Use a generator outside in a dry area away from doors, windows, and vents that could allow CO to come indoors. Even with a CO alarm, never use a gasoline-powered generator or a charcoal grill inside.

Live Tree Safety

If you decide on a live tree for your holiday decorations this year, please do the following:

- Treat with flame retardant;
- Make a fresh diagonal cut at least one inch above original cut before placement;
- Fill support stand with hot tap water initially and do not allow the tree to become dry at any time;
- No open flames, candles or heating appliance should be used on or near a live tree or garland;
- Electrical decorations should be listed by Underwriter Laboratories (UL);

For more information on proper live tree care, call the Golden Fire Department at 303-384-8093.
With a new year of events planning ready to begin, the City of Golden’s Special Events Approval Committee has undertaken a reinvention of the special events application process.

When someone wants to hold a special event on public property in the City, they are required to fill out a multi-page packet of information about the proposed event and submit it to the City. The packet includes many different forms, and previous event holders have told City staff that it is often confusing and difficult to figure out which forms are required.

Over the summer, City staff began collecting comments on the special events process from both the event holders and the businesses and residents such events impact. Most agreed that the City’s current guidelines for approving or disapproving a special event are vague and ill-defined, making it difficult for event-holders to know what standards they must meet, and making it difficult for the City to maintain quality control.

Improvements have been made to make the application easier to understand, including a matrix that helps event-holders determine what forms to fill out and what other requirements are expected of them. Additional information will be required to help City staff more accurately determine the impacts an event will have on businesses and residents. The new application process also encourages event-holders to proactively work out any concerns prior to submitting their event for City approval.

The new and improved application process proposed for 2005 was presented to City Council on Nov. 18. City Council was asked to consider charging an application processing fee and establishing reimbursement rates for services (such as police presence and traffic control devices) provided for special events. Such fees would help the City to recover costs associated with the growing number of large and successful events held in our beautiful City each year.

The Communications Department will contact all event organizers who held events in Golden in 2004 to notify them of changes to the process and inform them of reservation deadlines for 2005.

If you have suggestions for or questions about the special events application revamp, please call 303-384-8132 or email shenderson@ci.golden.co.us.
**Camp Snowball**

Don’t sit around at home during the holidays. This camp is guaranteed to keep everyone busy! Activities include arts and crafts, gym time, kitchen time, field trips, tutoring and more. Don’t miss out during this holiday break. Schedule of activities available Nov. 30. All campers required to bring a sack lunches. An afternoon snack will be furnished.

- Ages 6 to 12
- Camp is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with drop off from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and pick up from 4 to 6 p.m.
- Session 1: Wednesday, Dec. 22
- Session 2: Thursday, Dec. 23
- Session 3: Friday, Dec. 24 (until 3 p.m.)
- Session 4: Monday, Dec. 27
- Session 5: Tuesday, Dec. 28
- Session 6: Wednesday, Dec. 29
- Session 7: Thursday, Dec. 30
- Session 8: Friday, Dec. 31 (until 3 p.m.)
- Session 9: Monday, Jan. 3
- Session 10: Tuesday, Jan. 4
- $28 Resident, $33 Non-resident (per day)
- Registration #34300

**Indoor Parent/Tot Soccer**

Parents, grab your little one and join us for this fun, informal soccer class. The very basics of soccer will be covered, as you and your little one learn to maneuver the soccer ball together. This interactive class will give you and your little one an opportunity to play together, and with other close to their age. A parent or guardian is required to attend at all times.

- Ages 2 to 3 years
- 3:25 - 3:55 p.m. Mondays, Nov. 15 through Dec. 6
- $25 Resident, $30 Non-resident
- Registration #33090

**Mini-Hooper Basketball**

If you have a young hooper in your house, then you don’t want them to miss out on this basketball class. Your child will enjoy a modified basketball setting with lower baskets and smaller balls. This lead-up class concentrates on fun and simple activities involving a few skills while introducing dribbling, shooting and passing. Games will be played as class progresses. The emphasis is on having fun! Non-marking gym shoes are required.

- Ages 4 - 6
- 4:50 to 5:30 p.m., Mondays, Nov. 15 through Dec. 6
- $30 Resident, $35 Non-resident
- Registration #33055

**Pee Wee Indoor Soccer Kids**

Hands off in this class! This is a great class for little kickers! It’s time for your little one to use their feet and legs while learning the very basics of soccer with an emphasis on having fun. Skill development will include dribbling, passing, shooting and defending. Non-marking gym shoes are required.

- Ages 4 - 6
- 4:50 to 5:30 p.m., Mondays, Nov. 15 through Dec. 6
- $30 Resident, $35 Non-resident
- Registration #33080

**Skyhawks Mini-Hawks**

Mini-Hawk is an introductory program for young children. Mini-Hawk helps participants explore soccer and basketball in an organized setting. There is no pressure, just lots of fun, while these young athletes participate in both sports through unique Skyhawks games. Our Mini-Hawk coaching staff is trained to meet the special needs of young children. Staff are committed to helping children start off on the right foot, as they take their first steps into athletics. Please bring shin guards if you have them.

- Ages 4 to 6
- 4:15 to 5:15 p.m., Wednesdays, Nov. 3 through Dec. 8 (no class Nov. 24)
- $35 Resident $40 Non-resident
- Registration #33080

**Everybody Moves**

Toddlers enjoy games and activities that challenge their boundless physical energy. This class will discover new rhythms, move to music, peek under parachutes, run obstacles and jump to new heights. Take a deep breath and off you go together. Come join the fun! A parent is required to participate. (*We reserve the right to ask for a birth certificate for age verification.*)

- Ages 18 months to 2 years
- 2:15 to 2:45 p.m., Mondays, Nov. 15 through Dec. 6
- $30 Resident $35 Non-resident
- Registration #33015

A full catalogue of courses is available at the Golden Community Center or online at [www.goldenrec.com](http://www.goldenrec.com). Pre-register for all classes at the Golden Community Center, online at [www.goldenrec.com](http://www.goldenrec.com) or by calling 303-384-8100. Some classes break during holidays.
The Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce hosts these and many other fun-filled holiday season events during December. For more information about these and other events not listed here, call 303-279-3113.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3
Candlelight Walk
Dress festive and gather at 6 p.m. at 15th and Arapahoe streets to kick off this year’s annual Candlelight Walk with caroling. The caroling will be led by the Colorado School of Mines choir. The Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce will sell candles for 50 cents. The walk will begin at 6:30 p.m. Hot beverages will be served after the walk by the Golden Lions Club at the top of the hill and at the Golden Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave. The Visitors Center will have complimentary candy canes provided by residents of Clear Creek Commons. Live reindeer will be on hand for petting and Le Chock will present his holiday puppet show in the parking lot. Golden Safeway will provide cookies, and other refreshments and entertainment will be provided at downtown businesses and cultural facilities.

Leadership Golden Ornament Signing
Signed ornaments by artist William Bowles are available at the Golden Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave. This year’s ornaments are $8, with $1 going to the Golden Volunteer Fire Department. Past ornaments will be for sale at $6 each. 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Call 303-279-3113.

Joy Egan’s West Side Dance Christmas Fest with vocalist Divine will perform at 7:15 p.m. at the end of the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 10th Street and Washington Avenue. Call 303-278-0372.

The Golden High School Choir will perform at 7:15 p.m. in the Visitors Center parking lot.

SATURDAYS, DEC. 4, 11 & 18
Olde Golden Christmas on Parade
Come see a true olde-fashioned hometown parade with floats, clowns, Christmas characters, music, and of course, Santa. Join the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce in celebrating the true spirit of the holidays from 11 to 11:30 a.m. in historic downtown Golden on Washington Avenue.

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, DEC. 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 18 & 19
Free Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides
Free horse-drawn carriage rides through historic downtown Golden will be available. Pick up your ride on 13th Street between Washington Avenue and Arapahoe Street from noon to 5 p.m.
**DEC. 3**

**Holiday Book Boutiques**
This holiday, give a gift that enlightens, inspires and entertains page after page: a book. Do your holiday shopping for loved ones at a fraction of the cost of new books. The Golden Library Book Boutique will be open from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3 at 1019 10th St. There will be a wonderful selection of children’s books, art, history and recent fiction, as well as leather-bound classics, cookbooks, crafts, gardening, audio books, videos, CDs and holiday books. There also will be many collectible gift items to choose from: nesting dolls and birch boxes from Russia, animal collectibles, storytellers, bookmarks, and holiday-themed ties and scarves. For more information, call 303-275-2216.

**DEC. 5**

**JSO Family Holiday Concert**
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will ring in the holidays with its Family Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. Dec. 5 at Colorado School of Mines Green Center, 924 16th St. Performances include: *Sinfonia Antartica* (#7), Vaughan-Williams’ harmonic expression of the power of the natural world, and *Holiday Music*, the always-popular audience sing-along, featuring soprano Mee Ae Nam. Tickets are available at King Soopers, by calling 303-278-4237 or at the Green Center the night of the performance.

**DEC. 10 & 11**

**Christmas Concert**
The Golden Concert Choir and the Children’s Choir of Golden will perform their annual Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10 and Saturday, Dec. 11 at Calvary Episcopal Great Hall, 14th and Arapahoe streets. Ushers (who attend for free) are still needed. For more information, call Irv Saltzman at 303-838-6520.

**THROUGH DEC. 17**

**Write to Santa**
Golden Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave., Golden, CO 80401, is accepting letters for Santa’s mailbox and Santa will answer them through the North Pole Golden branch of the U.S. Postal Service for Santa. Call 303-279-3113.

**THROUGH DEC. 23**

**Toy and food drive**
Golden River Sports is collecting canned food and toys for the less fortunate through Dec. 23. The store is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and is located at 806 Washington Ave.

**THROUGH DEC. 30**

**Golden City Tastes & Traditions Cookbook**
The perfect holiday gift is available at the Golden Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave. This is not only a collection of great recipes; it is a collection of unusual stories and facts about Golden. On sale through December for only $16 including tax. Call 303-279-3113.

**Foothills Art Center Holiday Art Market**
The 29th Holiday Art Market features unique handcrafted gifts for holiday shoppers. All items are original in design and creatively crafted by hand. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays in December at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Call 303-279-3922.

**JAN. 22**

**Town Meeting**
State Senator Moe Keller and State Representative Gwyn Green will hold a town meeting from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 22 at City Hall, 911 10th St., to discuss the upcoming legislative session.
The City of Golden Public Works Department recently completed a series of improvements to 19th Street between U.S. Highway 6 and Washington Avenue.

The goal of the improvements, which included installing medians and street narrowing, was to decrease traffic speeds coming off the highway and transitioning into a residential neighborhood.

Public Works Director Dan Hartman explained that by adding medians and narrowing the streets slightly in select areas, the design effectively causes drivers to feel like they need to be more cautious, thus forcing them to slow down. In other words, people who drive too fast through the area will likely feel like the road is too narrow or the medians are problematic, which should force them to slow down.

During the third week of November, the City conducted a test to determine whether the traffic calming improvements to 19th Street had the desired effect.

As a result of the road improvements, the 80th percentile speed on 19th Street at Illinois Street was reduced by 7 miles per hour, from 42 mph to 35 mph.

The speed was also reduced significantly on 19th Street at Washington Avenue, where it is now down to an average of 32 mph.

“The results show that the medians and narrowing in the road has successfully slowed traffic from the commercial area near the Ford dealerships to the residential area downhill,” said Hartman. “This type of traffic calming will effectively improve the quality of life for people living in those residential areas by reducing the amount of speeding.”

Kids can no longer legally possess or use tobacco products.

Last month, Golden City Council unanimously passed an ordinance that makes it illegal for those under 18 years of age to purchase, possess or use tobacco products within the City limits. The new law will officially go into effect Monday, Nov. 8.

Golden High School Principal Mike Murphy sent a letter home with students letting parents know that the school supports the stricter law and explaining how it will change things at the school. One impact will be that the school is shutting down the area known as “the pit,” where students congregate to smoke. Students will not be allowed to congregate in that area even if they are 18 or older.

Under current state law, no one is allowed to use tobacco products on school grounds. Now, no one under the age of 18 may use or possess tobacco products on school grounds or anywhere in the City of Golden.

Principal Murphy said the school would work to educate students about the new law and provide warnings. After Dec. 1, however, the law will be strictly enforced by the school and the Golden Police Department. Tobacco possession and use will be handled in the same manner that alcohol and other illegal substances are treated.

Students found in possession of tobacco products will have them confiscated. Students who use or sell, exchange or give tobacco products to others will face suspension from the school and tickets from the Golden Police Department. Students who go out into the neighborhood to smoke will face school consequences as well as police consequences because tobacco use is not allowed for anyone under the age of 18 in the City.

“We do not want students disrupting the neighborhoods just because they want to use tobacco products,” Principal Murphy said. “We recognize that this will be a major adjustment for some students, but we believe that this creates a healthier environment for all students and staff, as well as creating a consistent message about the use of tobacco.”
Did you know that when you call 9-1-1 for response to a fire, it’s your neighbors volunteering their time to protect our community?

Now in its 125th year of service to Golden, the Golden Fire Department boasts a team of dedicated volunteers. In fact, all of the assistant chiefs, captains and firefighters are volunteers – and they’re looking for a few more community-minded individuals to add to their team.

Golden volunteer firefighters live in the City of Golden and come from all different walks of life. There are single and married firefighters ranging in age from their 20s to their 50s and working in a variety of professions. Despite their diversity, Golden’s firefighters share a commitment to our community to be there when a neighbor is in need of help.

Golden’s volunteer firefighters are required to complete a rigorous recruit academy in their first year with the department. They receive top-notch training in both structural and wildland firefighting. They also earn medical and hazardous materials certifications. Minimum training requirements during the course of a year start at 60 hours.

“The first year with the Golden Fire Department requires more training hours than at any other time in your career,” said Fire Chief John Bales. “This time equips our firefighters with the knowledge and skills to be able to respond to all types of emergencies.”

After the first year, firefighters receive ongoing training Tuesday nights and in other scheduled special training sessions.

In addition to training, members of the department are required to complete a minimum number of hours of work detail, which can include weekly vehicle and equipment checks, testing hoses, public education functions, etc. Firefighters are expected to respond to a minimum number of emergency calls each year, as well. However, most volunteers are easily able to meet the minimum requirements in all areas while effectively balancing their jobs and their families with their service to the fire department.

“Being a volunteer firefighter in your own community is not for everyone. It is a big time commitment, but the rewards are great,” said Chief Bales. “While some calls are more exciting than others, every time we respond, it is because someone in our community needs help. The feeling of satisfaction at being able to help one’s neighbor is immeasurable.”

If you are interested in becoming part of this important organization, stop by Fire Station No. 1, 911 10th St., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays to pick up an application. Or, you can also pick one up at City Hall, next door, or online at www.CityOfGolden.net.

The next recruit academy begins in February. Those interested in joining must apply by Dec. 15.
Citizens Asked to Beware of Check Scam

The Golden Police Department is advising citizens to be aware of a check scam that has recently hit again in Golden. This is an old scam with several variations occurring across the country. Over the past week, several reports of fraudulent checks and money orders have been reported coming into the City to purchase items citizens are selling online.

Victims who are selling property through the internet are targeted. Sellers of large value items, such as cars, motorcycles and bicycles are contacted via email by a person who says they are interested in purchasing the item. The “buyer” then offers the seller full price and sends a fraudulent check or money order for several thousand dollars more than the asking price. The “buyer” gives a complex story about why they overpaid, often saying they are a broker for another buyer and the extra amount is to cover their fees and shipping costs. The “buyer” then requests the seller refund the balance to an address in another state, where it is somehow claimed and cashed. The result is the seller cannot cash the initial fraudulent check and is out the “refunded” money.

In some cases, the “buyer” actually follows up with the seller to say they have received the refund, and are even as brazen as to request additional money to pay for shipping of the item before the unsuspecting seller discovers the check is fictitious.

The suspect(s) in these cases make the transaction extremely complex until the victim often complies out of confusion.

Because the Golden Police Department has received several reports of these crimes recently, it is asking the public to be duly aware and to notify police at 303-384-8045 immediately if they suspect they have been targeted by this scam, and ensure the check or money order they have received is legitimate before proceeding with any financial requests of them.

Vehicle Stolen in Golden Recovered in Carjacking

A request by Lake Cedar Group LLC to lift a court-ordered preliminary injunction prohibiting it from beginning construction of a telecommunications supertower on Lookout Mountain was denied Oct. 22. In a victory for the plaintiffs, the City of Golden and CARE (Canyon Area Residents for the Environment), District Court Judge R. Brooke Jackson refused to lift the stay.

Golden and CARE argued that the certified record of the hearings will demonstrate that the Commissioners still have not received competent evidence concerning the guy wire issue. The Court directed the Board to certify the record as soon as possible and set a permanent injunction hearing promptly thereafter.
**Golden Recycling Center A Success**

Since the opening late last year of the Golden recycling drop-off center in the parking lot of The Splash at Fossil Trace water park, the amount of recyclables collected continues to increase. Golden residents are collectively recycling at a rate of more than 9,000 pounds of containers and more than 15,000 pounds of paper each month.

The drop-off center, operated in cooperation with the City of Golden, receives support from Ball Corporation and Coors Brewing Company. The purpose of the site is to increase recycling rates and raise awareness about the importance of recycling.

The site is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is a large bin for commingled aluminum, glass, steel, and PET and HDPE (numbers 1 and 2) plastic containers. Four smaller bins are designated for office paper, newspaper, junk mail and magazines. The site is maintained by the Lookout Mountain Youth Services Center student council.

Thank you for continuing to respect the use of the site and bringing only those materials accepted for recycling. There has been very little illegal dumping of non-recyclable materials.

Your efforts to recycle do a lot of good for the environment! Recycling keeps materials out of the landfill and saves resources. Recycling 70,000 pounds of paper saves 600 trees and 245,000 gallons of water. The glass collected at the site returns to Coors and is recycled back into new beer bottles. There is a large appetite for recycled cans in the United States. In as few as 60 days, your used beverage cans can be melted down and recycled into new cans, saving 95 percent of the energy required to make new cans from virgin material. Used plastic bottles can become new carpeting, fleece jackets or plastic lumber.
The City of Golden operates and cablecasts to Comcast cable television subscribers programs and information on Government Access Channel 8. A variety of programs are scheduled at various times throughout the month.

This station serves as a community bulletin board for upcoming events in the area. The “ticker line” that scrolls across the bottom of the screen during the community messages slide show, keeps you up to date on activities happening in the community. The ticker includes news headlines directly from the Associated Press that are updated about every 10 minutes. Watch the ticker for information about new programs being shown on Channel 8.

Golden’s Channel 8 also cablecasts informative programs, such as “Army News Watch,” which takes a comprehensive look at what is happening throughout the U.S. Army. This program is an award winning biweekly television newscast that is produced by soldiers about soldiers. It focuses on the issues, the equipment and the people that make the U.S. Army what it is today.

“Navy/Marines News” is a half-hour television news program that provides news and information of interest about the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps team, including civilian employees and family members, at home and around the world, ashore and afloat.

“Air Force News” is a weekly program produced by the U.S. Air Force about the Air Force.

These weekly and bimonthly military programs will keep you informed on what’s happening with the four branches of the U.S. military services abroad.

“Red Rocks Today” is a national award-winning show that focuses on the issues and events pertaining to Red Rocks Community College.

“Destination Tomorrow” is a program produced by NASA. This show focuses on interesting scientific breakthroughs at NASA.

“Health & Home Report” is a half-hour monthly program covering health tips, home repair, improvement techniques and many more up-to-date topics.

The City of Golden is currently looking at ways to bring more programming about Golden events and news to viewers. If you have questions or would like to comment about the City of Golden’s Channel 8 cablecasts, call the hotline at 303-384-8197. Your comments and suggestions will help us provide viewers with more of what they want to see.

### December Channel 8 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages4</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 PM</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
<td>Community Messages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What’s on Your Public Access Channel 8?**
The reform efforts of the late 19th Century gave birth to the discipline of city planning. Such movements as the parks movement, the progressive movement for government reform and efforts to improve public health, among many other things, spurred the necessity of city planning.

The first National Conference of City Planning took place in 1909. Early city planners heralded from such diverse professions as engineering, architecture and law. The goal these planners shared was to promote health, safety, environmental quality, social equality and aesthetics.

Although the organized profession of city planning has only been around for about 100 years or so, most if not all cities throughout time have been designed and laid out to fit the needs of inhabitants and to conform to the natural landscapes.

City planning attempts to integrate various constantly shifting elements into a functioning whole. There are three categories of physical elements of a city which are: networks, buildings and open spaces. Networks facilitate the flow of goods, water, energy, information and people. Buildings help contribute to a city’s distinct character.

Planners try to design a city to take into account population densities, traffic, social relationships and the compatibility of different structures and activities. Open space contributes to the quality of life. Open space consists of such places as parks, gardens, courtyards, plazas and so on.

There are two types of city planning: visionary and institutionalized. Visionary planners seek sweeping changes for the form of the city that are coupled with drastic economic or social change. Institutional planners, on the other hand, tend to create incremental and pragmatic change and to work within the structure of government. Institutional planners are acutely mindful of and give deference to political and economic forces that act as constraints.

Land zoning is a means by which city planners control development. For years, planners typically divided cities into zones within which only certain land uses could take place or in which certain buildings could be constructed. The purpose of zoning is to create an optimal mix of buildings and activities. For example, it is not a good idea to locate factories near residential neighborhoods. The Supreme Court in 1926 gave legal approval for land-use zoning.

The City of Golden Planning and Development Department carries out the provisions of the Golden Municipal Code under Title 17 (Subdivisions) and Title 18 (Planning and Development).

The subdivision regulations ensure that the creation of new lots are legally and accurately surveyed and that those lots can provide adequate utilities (water, sewer, etc.) to future homeowners. The zoning regulations provide a framework in which different land uses, growth management and the process for the City’s review of new development is regulated.

Environmental regulations within the zoning code also address such issues as restricting development in floodplains, unstable slopes or other areas that are unsuitable for development, as well as pollution and waste disposal.

The Planning Department processes development applications through the Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Board and serves as a liaison to the Economic Development Commission and the City museums.

Long-range planning is provided through the City’s Comprehensive Plan, which outlines our citizens’ long-term goals for the next several years. The Comprehensive Plan addresses not only the direction of future development, but also transportation planning, open space acquisitions, community facilities and housing needs. Goals of the Comprehensive Plan are then translated into code requirements of the zoning regulations.

While first the planning profession was originally created out of the need for public health and safety, planners now strive to promote high-quality development that is responsive to the community’s needs. The Planning and Development Department continues to play an active role in facilitating the public’s vision for the future of the City of Golden.

Genevieve Hale is pursuing a master’s degree, and is participating in an
ESP Award
Extraordinary Service Professional

The City of Golden recognizes an individual employee each quarter who goes the extra mile in their job. Award recipients are nominated by their coworkers and must meet certain criteria. Recipients receive $50 and recognition on the City’s Web site and in the Informer.

The Golden Fire Department nominated Administrative Assistant and Public Education Specialist Kay Woolley for her consistent demonstration of higher productivity, willingness to provide extra assistance to fellow employees, commitment to regular duties while willing to work with others, and for being enthusiastic and motivational.

“Kay has gone above and beyond her duties in securing two grants from FEMA in 2004. Our grants totaled $63,876. The grants were utilized to provide additional programs for Juvenile Firesetters, Senior Citizen Fire and Safety Education, and a program that reached 8,000 sixth graders in Jefferson County through their outdoor education experience called Firewise,” said Fire Chief John Bales.

“Kay is most deserving of this ESP award for her dedication and demonstration of the work required to procure these grants and receive this national recognition,” the Fire Department nomination said. “In addition, she continues to serve as the State President of the Colorado Fire Public Educators Association for the last two years.”

Nominate an Endangered Site

The Golden Historic Preservation Board (HPB) is now seeking nominations for the 2005 Endangered Site List.


Golden’s historic places are under the threat of development, deterioration or neglect. In order to bring attention to special places not currently protected by historic designation, HPB annually identifies our town’s most endangered landmarks and landscapes. With the aid of citizens, community organizations, and preservationist organizations, HPB honors Golden’s historic treasures through the annual Endangered Site List.

HPB encourages anyone interested in historic preservation to submit a nomination for the Endangered Site List.
Hal Shelton, Golden artist renowned for both his early cartography and his easel painting, died at the age of 88 on Nov. 2.

Shelton was a founding board member of Foothills Art Center in 1968. He has been honored locally, regionally and nationally for his cartography and his landscape paintings.

His early career combined art and science. He perfected the first full-color, shaded relief maps – maps that looked like the area depicted but were also scientifically accurate. Out of these maps grew his “mountain portraits” and ski maps produced for ski areas around the country.

In 1985 (40 years following his initial innovations in cartography), Shelton was honored by the Library of Congress, which called him one of the foremost cartographic artists of our century, and invited him to Washington D.C for a special presentation.

Thirty-three of his renowned early map drawings of all the land masses of the globe were valued at nearly $2 million and were donated to the Library of Congress by the Los Angeles Times Mirror Corporation. The Library of Congress also purchased his painting “Canyon Lands.”

He is survived by his wife, Mary; four sons; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A memorial celebration of Shelton’s life was held in November at the the school named for he and his wife.

In lieu of flowers, Shelton’s family requests that all memorial contributions be made to Hal and Mary Shelton Elementary School, 420 Crawford St., Golden, CO 80401 to benefit the Hal Shelton Memorial Arts Fund.
Several hundred Golden citizens turned out to an open house on the Northwest Corridor traffic study held by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) in late October. Attendees grumbled about the meeting being scheduled on the same night as a Broncos game and openly wondered where the feedback they keep giving CDOT is going.

CDOT held the meeting to show how they have reduced the number of traffic solution alternatives for the corridor from more than 70 to just a handful. A major, high-speed, tolled highway linking the Northwest Parkway in Broomfield and C-470 south of Golden remains on the table, despite strong opposition from Golden.

In response to frustration with what many believe to be a predetermined study by CDOT, the City of Golden has launched a new Web site with several partners. CARE (Canyon Area Residents for the Environment), Communities for Transportation Solutions (CTS) and Citizens Involved in the Northwest Quadrant (CINQ) have joined forces with the City to create www.BetterTrafficSolutions.com.

The new Web site tells you what CDOT won’t:

- Traffic studies show that a beltway will not solve the traffic problems in the region.
- “Toll” is just another word for “tax,” and it is unreasonable to think people will pay to drive when there are free alternatives.
- The natural assets of the area, including the air quality, will be damaged by such a road.
- Major highway projects like this lead to uncontrolled growth and sprawl, something this region cannot support.

In addition, the City has recently added an open chat forum for citizens to openly discuss their thoughts and concerns about the beltway and share information with each other.

“We believe this is an excellent way for people who feel like their voices aren’t being heard by CDOT to really get to discuss the issue with others openly,” said Communications Manager Sabrina Henderson. “We hope you’ll try it out.”