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.

Please write to: City of Golden, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, Attn: Karlyn Tilley; call 303-384-8132; or e-mail ktilley@cityofgolden.net.

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Cover photo: On top of North Table Mountain on a foggy day. Courtesy Andrew Terrill Graphic Design.

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Cover photo: On top of North Table Mountain on a foggy day. Courtesy Andrew Terrill Graphic Design.

City of Golden Department Managers

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Golden Community Calendar

December 2013/January 2014

Golden Informer
HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

NEW COUNCIL SWEARING-IN
The City of Golden welcomes the newest members of City Council with a swearing-in ceremony at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9 during the Council meeting in Council Chambers, 911 10th St. The election in November included positions open in all four of Golden’s Wards. The newly elected members include two incumbents, Councilor Marcia Claxton for Ward One and Councilor Joe Behm for Ward Two. Ward Three will now be represented by Councilor-elect Pamela Gould. Ward Four had the only contested race, and Councilor-elect Laura Weinberg won the seat.

During the meeting, a Mayor Pro Tem will also be selected, who serves when the Mayor is absent. If you cannot come to the meeting but would like to watch the proceedings, you can watch it live streamed or recorded, on the City website, www.cityofgolden.net. It will also be broadcast live and re-broadcast on Cable Channel 8.

PUT YOUR KID IN THE HOLIDAY SPOTLIGHT!
One lucky child from Golden will have the honor of helping the Mayor officially turn on Golden’s holiday lights during the Candlelight Walk on Dec. 6! But if you want to be considered, you must hurry. You have until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3 to fill out a card at the Visitor’s Center, 1010 Washington Ave.

You will be asked to provide the child’s name and age, parent or guardian name, family address and a phone number. Children with Golden mailing addresses between the ages of 5 and 10 are eligible. Drop your card in the red cylindrical box at the Visitor’s Center, only one card per child please. Mayor Marjorie Sloan will randomly draw a child’s name. The winner will go up on stage with the Mayor during the Candlelight Walk on Friday, Dec. 6 outside the Visitor’s Center, to flip the giant light switch and turn on our beautiful lights.

The Candlelight Walk is a procession of thousands of people that begins at the Foothills Art Center and goes down Washington Avenue to the Visitor’s Center. At the end of the walk, there is a fun hometown show, live reindeer and hot drinks and goodies for everyone. Also enjoy the view of the Clear Creek Corridor, which will sparkle with thousands of lights.

CITY HOLIDAY HOURS
The City of Golden’s administrative offices will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and Wednesday, Jan. 1 for the holidays.

The Golden Community Center will close at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25. The GCC will also close at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31 and will be open for modified hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Below is Golden City Council’s monthly calendar. Meetings are held on Thursdays and begin at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted.

Dec. 5
Rescheduled
Regular Business Meeting

Dec. 12
Regular Business Meeting

Dec. 19
No Meeting

Dec. 26
No Meeting

Jan. 9
Regular Business Meeting

Jan. 23
Regular Business Meeting

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

Public comment is welcome on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
Thanks to generations of Golden volunteers, councilors, and staff members, our hometown is a wonderful place to live, work, and visit. Our combined efforts have been especially fruitful in 2013, putting us in a great position as we start 2014.

Transportation improvements played a starring role this year. The City of Golden and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) reached a historic agreement memorializing the Golden Plan for the U.S. 6/State Highway 93 corridor. The agreement seals in the major elements that our community has insisted upon for decades: maintaining current speed limits; reducing noise; keeping our local streets at grade level and lowering the major roadways; and providing for cyclist, pedestrian, and landscaping amenities. From CDOT’s standpoint, it ensures that regional traffic will flow safely, smoothly, and quietly from the city limits on the north to C-470 on the south.

The working relationship between CDOT and Golden stands in stark contrast to the intransigence in Washington. CDOT has already announced an award of $20 million toward the first stage – grade separating the presently chaotic intersection of 19th Street and 6th Avenue. After a planning phase, construction should start in about a year. In Golden, we get things done.

Other convenient ways of getting around town also launched this year. With the opening of the RTD West Rail Line and Call N Ride bus service, residents can take stress-free trips to their workplaces, schools, appointments, and entertainment centers. In 39 minutes, the train whisks riders from Golden to Union Station—while they rest, read, chat, or use electronic devices. And the new pedestrian/cyclist bridge connects the light-rail station, the county campus, the Splash, and Fossil Trace Golf Club with the Heritage Road/Golden Terrace neighborhoods and the commercial buildings on the west side of 6th Avenue.

Golden residents made connections in other ways, too. Community grants and block parties gave neighbors a chance to work together and catch up with family news. As usual, volunteer efforts propelled Golden’s terrific signature events. Newer events, such as the Golden Gallop, the library’s One Book One Golden program, and the Mayor’s Community Event added even more community links and connections. The well-planned Golden Gallop saw hundreds of runners pounding the streets on a crisp fall morning. One Book One Golden led to a shared experience reading *Benediction* by Kent Haruf and gathering to hear the author answer questions about his work.

At the Mayor’s Community event, attendees honored residents who made extraordinary contributions to our civic life, then listened to a rousing keynote talk. Jason Roberts, founder of the Better Block project, explained how to use fast-paced grassroots efforts to create a dynamic and inviting public space.

Continued commitment to Golden’s hometown character will be a hallmark of 2014. As usual, volunteers will be wholehearted in their support of events and activities (including a 2014 Better Block project). Use of the 6th Avenue pedestrian bridge will become ingrained in Golden’s active lifestyle and the Call N Ride bus will evolve with residents’ transit needs. Perhaps the biggest undertaking, however, will be the public process to obtain ideas and comments on the design of the 6th and 19th improvements. Golden residents will be using the intersection far into the future – so it’s important to get it right.

By any standard, 2013 was a great year for Golden. 2014 will present its own challenges, but Golden residents, city staff, and councilors are up to the task.

Happy Holidays to all.

Mayor's Message

Looking Back and Moving Forward

By Mayor Marjorie Sloan
Due to an unprecedented number of people using Clear Creek for recreation in 2012, city officials and the Golden Police Department decided to take steps in hopes of keeping the creek a safe, clean and fun place for everyone. Signs displaying park rules were put along the corridor as well as fencing to try to keep people out of environmentally sensitive areas. Part of the efforts also included hiring park rangers to patrol along the creek.

The Park Ranger program launched in July 2013 and was designed to patrol and mitigate specific activities along Clear Creek including smoking, drinking and pets off leash. The program was well received by city residents who were mostly appreciative of the City’s efforts. As a result, the Police Department extended two Ranger positions through the end of 2013. “Keeping the two park rangers in place maintains consistency along the creek corridor,” said Golden Police Chief Bill Kilpatrick. “It will allow for expanded coverage into city parks and bike paths, creating a visibility that has not existed in the past which I believe will also result in an enhanced sense of public safety.”

For 2014, the Police Department requested that the Ranger program continue with two full-time and four part-time positions. The department also recommended an expansion of the Rangers to include all city parks and trails. City Council will make the final decision. If passed, the Rangers would typically work Thursday through Sunday until dark. “I know there is the question about tickets and will they be written,” says Chief Kilpatrick. “The bottom line is this. We do have a leash law in Golden and as such dogs are required to be on a leash when out and about. I believe that our residents know that. However, know that as we morph into this we will give lots of education and lots of warnings in those areas that are outside of the Clear Creek corridor. But at some point, folks will be issued tickets.”

Police are planning for the 2014 season in collaboration with City Parks and Recreation. Collectively, priorities and plans will be developed to address the city’s 20 trails, 402 acres of open space and 253 acres of land that includes 19 parks, ball fields and sports complexes.

The pedestrian bridge over 6th Avenue at the W Line light rail station is nearing completion, and will be open by late December. When complete, this connection will provide a convenient route for pedestrians and bicyclists to access the train station while avoiding the lights and car traffic at the Heritage Road intersection. A ten foot wide concrete path will connect to Golden Ridge Road in the Golden Ridge commercial area. A ribbon cutting and brief celebration is planned for noon on Jan. 10 to formally acknowledge the bridge opening. Stop by and enjoy this new connection.
Golden Awarded $20 million for Road Project

The City of Golden is one step closer to getting transportation improvements that will help with traffic flow but also protect our citizens from the impacts that a major highway can inflict. The City was just awarded $20 million from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to construct a grade separated interchange at US 6 and 19th Street. The City had to commit to a 20 percent match of $5 million, which will come from a $1 million commitment from the Colorado School of Mines and $4 million from the city.

CDOT changed how it budgets and expends funds for transportation projects. Using sound business practices, this new effort known as Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP), better coordinates project expenditures and available funding. Under the RAMP program, CDOT made $300 million available for projects. They received 166 applications requesting a total of $1.54 billion. Within this extremely competitive environment, Golden was fortunate to get its request filled.

The interchange will feature significant bike and pedestrian amenities to eliminate the barrier that the highway presents for residents and students on the west side of US 6, from the rest of the community. Golden will now complete an agreement with CDOT, select consultant teams and begin the design process. We will host community meetings in 2014 to work with stakeholders and citizens on design, with the goal of beginning construction later in the year. Construction is expected to take 12 to 18 months. For more details, visit GetTheFactsGolden.org.

Downtown Votes for DDA

On Nov. 5, Downtown residents, property owners, and business owners cast votes to create and empower a Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The DDA was endorsed by City Council and the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) as a way to continue the kinds of support provided by GURA to our Downtown over the last generation. City Council also appointed a Downtown Development Task Force back in 2011 to study the feasibility of a DDA. Our thanks to these outstanding Golden citizens for their hard work and dedication: Joe Behm, Brent Benham, Gary Bowersock, R. Kevin Brown, Ed Dorsey, Peter Ewers, Leonel Felteau, Brad Haswell, Burt Lewis, Brandon Narva, Karen Oxman, Reilly Sanborn, Tony Shouse and Dean Valdez.

The DDA will have much less funding to start out with than GURA has now after nearly 25 years. But the DDA will be able to provide critical redevelopment financing and other programming to keep downtown vital and competitive into the next generation.

The next steps to get the DDA up and running are:

1. Downtown electors (those who were entitled to vote) who are interested in serving on the DDA Board of Directors should submit an application for appointment. The Mayor makes the appointments and City Council confirms them.

Applications are available at www.cityofgolden.net/links/DDA or from City Clerk Susan Brooks, who can be reached at sbrooks@cityofgolden.net.

2. Council will make appointments in January or February of 2014.

3. The DDA Board’s first steps will be to appoint its officers and then it will get to work drafting and adopting the DDA’s Plan of Operations, which will guide the work and spending of the DDA over the next 30-50 years.

This is an exciting time of transition for the City of Golden and especially downtown. For more information on the mission of the DDA and how you can get involved, visit www.cityofgolden.net/links/DDA.
Golden Volunteer Firefighters Needed

The Golden Fire Department (GFD) is currently seeking Golden residents who are interested in joining the family of Golden Volunteer Firefighters. The Department provides all training through the Golden Fire Academy, during which you will learn the basics of being a firefighter; from putting out fires and responding to accident scenes to helping educate the public.

Founded in 1879, the GFD has faithfully protected the lives and property of Golden citizens and visitors for more than 12 decades. Today, the GFD volunteer firefighters respond to about 1,400 incidents yearly. Responses include structure fires, motor vehicle accidents and fires, hazardous material spills, emergency medical assists, and a variety of technical rescues including swift water and rope rescue.

The GFD provides initial certification and training, equipment and uniforms. To be considered, you must be at least 19 years old, have a valid Colorado driver’s license and you must pass required testing and a thorough background check. Both residents and non-residents of Golden are welcome to apply.

The Golden Fire Department will be accepting applications for the 2014 Fire Academy until Dec. 16. If accepted, the Fire Academy starts on March 1, 2014 and runs through June with classes scheduled on two weekday nights and Saturdays. For additional information, contact Lt. Matt Kasriel at 303-215-8885 or email mkasriel@cityofgolden.net.

REMINDErs FOR a SAFE HOLIDaY SEaSON

The holidays are meant to be times of joy, celebration and gatherings with family and friends. The Golden Fire Department has a few reminders to keep your holiday festivities safe.

When putting up holiday lights use only lights that have a recognized testing laboratory label on them. Make sure outdoor extension cords are weather proof. Inspect your lights before hanging them on the house or putting them on your tree. Discard light sets that have damaged cords or loose sockets. Don’t overload electrical outlets or run extension cords under carpets or across doorways or near heat sources.

Candles often bring a warm glow to short winter days and are often part of holiday celebrations. Consider using battery-operated candles which can look, smell and feel like real candles. If you do use real candles, use sturdy, safe candle holders. Protect the flames with glass globes or containers. Never leave burning candles unattended, and keep children and pets away from them.

Fresh cut Christmas trees fill our homes with that fresh pine scent, but they can also be a fire danger. Make sure you get a fresh tree that is not dropping needles. Place your tree in a sturdy, non-tip stand and keep it well away from fireplaces, exits and heat sources. Keep your tree watered and check the water level daily. Dispose of trees after four weeks or if they dry out, and store them away from your house until you can recycle them into mulch.

Holidays also mean delicious feasts, but kitchen fires are the number one cause of residential fires. Give cooking your full attention and don’t leave the kitchen while food is cooking on the stove top. Keep pot holders, food packaging, cookbooks, dish towels or paper towels away from your stove. Turn pot handles to the back so they can’t be bumped or pulled over by children. Built up grease can catch fire, so be sure to wipe up spills and keep your oven clean. The Golden Fire Department wishes you a safe and joyous holiday season.
Recycle and Reuse Your Tree

Wondering where to take your dried up Christmas tree? The City of Golden will take it off your hands and recycle it. We will accept trees from Dec. 26 through Jan. 26. Trees can be dropped off at any time between those dates at the Golden Recycle site, just west of Hwy 93 and north of Golden Gate Canyon Road. Please leave trees at the south end of the site; there will be a sign there for tree recycling.

Trees must be stripped of all ornaments, hardware, strings of lights and tinsel. Mulch from the chipping process will be available for free at the public pickup site on 11th Street, just west of the Clear Creek History Park. For further details, contact the City of Golden Forestry office at 303-384-8141.

Destructive Pest May Threaten Ash Trees

A destructive insect pest which has killed tens of millions of ash trees in the mid-section of the United States, was discovered in Boulder in September. The Emerald Ash borer (EAB) was positively identified in four trees. In October, an extensive survey was administered in Boulder County to search for further infestation and as of Oct. 31 a quarantine will be in effect for all of Boulder County, the City of Erie, two landfills around Erie and the Republic landfill on Hwy 93 in north Jefferson County. This quarantine is an attempt to prevent further spread of the EAB via nursery stock or any ash wood product since the movement of these materials has been demonstrated to widen the region affected by the insect.

There is no evidence of the EAB existing in the Golden area. City staff will continue to search for any signs of the insects’ presence by inspecting branches pruned from selected ash trees, beginning this winter and likely continuing for several years. Golden has participated in federally sponsored detection trapping for the last four years.

There is no reason to recommend chemical treatments for the prevention of EAB infestation in our valued ash trees at this time. State authorities are currently considering treatments only in areas within five miles of northeast Boulder. Golden will provide updated information and recommendations as the situation evolves. Visit the Colorado Department of Agriculture website at www.Colorado.gov/ag/dpi and select “Emerald Ash Borer,” contact the CSU Cooperative Extension Office, or contact Golden City Forester Dave High at dhigh@cityofgolden.net for additional information.
Ideas for Sustainable Holiday Gifts

Instead of accumulating more stuff, why not try a few non-traditional gift ideas? This year consider consumables. Consumable gifts, as opposed to durable gifts, are meant to be used up, not stashed in a closet for the next yard sale. Think homemade, one size fits all, or things that can be used up. Here are a few ideas:

• Garden-In-A-Box kits. Now is a great time to plan for spring. The City sponsors discounts for the first 100 kits ordered by Golden residents. Purchase a gift certificate toward a box at www.gardenstore.conservationcenter.org.

• Buy a CSA Share. Community-Supported Agriculture keeps your dollar local and connects you with fresh fruit, vegetables, and meat. Many local farms offer year-round shares. Find a CSA at www.coloradocsas.info.

• Donate To or Be a Library. Why accumulate stacks of your favorite magazine at home when you can donate your subscription to the library, check it out anytime, and share it with others? Or, purchase a “Little Library” kit for your front yard and give your used books a second life.

• Give Experiences. Can’t recall the gifts you received last year? Perhaps the most memorable gifts are the times we spend with others. Golden has many experiences to offer: Family in town? Try the Astor House or the American Mountaineering Center Museum. For kids? Try the Colorado Railroad Museum or studio classes at Art on the Brix. Get cultured with tickets to a Miner’s Alley Playhouse show.

Envisioning Golden

On Sept. 7, the City hosted a Neighborhood and Volunteerism Celebration where neighborhood representatives shared their summer experiences and honored the hard work of those who improve our community. Fresh from a neighborhood rehab project, more than fifty Be A Tool volunteers (www.beatool.org) celebrated after a long day of work. In addition, folks took time to give input on what the future of Golden should include. For a glimpse into their comments, check out the short video on the Golden Vision 2030 webpage at www.cityofgolden.net/links/CommunityPlans.

Recycled Gift Wrap Ideas

• Reusable tote bags • Old calendars
• Free old maps from the USGS office at the Federal Center on Kipling
• Brown paper packages, tied up with strings...
GOLDEN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Through Dec. 22

It’s a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play
This play is performed as a 1940’s live radio broadcast in front of a studio audience. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and show times call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Dec. 5 and 19

MOPS
Mothers of Preschoolers meets from 9 to 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Golden, 1805 Washington Ave. For details call 303-279-4605 or visit www.fbcgolden.org.

Dec. 6

Golden’s Candlelight Walk
Gather at Foothills Art Center (15th and Arapahoe streets) at 6 p.m. The walk begins at 6:30 p.m. down Washington Avenue to the Visitors Center, 1010 Washington Ave. where there will be a show and holiday celebration. For details call 303-279-3113.

Dec. 7

Warren Miller’s Ticket to Ride
Watch this movie presented by and benefiting the Alpine Rescue Team. 8 p.m. at American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. Tickets at https://alpinetickettoride.eventbrite.com/.

Dec. 7, 14, 21

Olde Golden Christmas Parades & Activities
Parade from 11 to 11:30 a.m. on Washington Avenue between 10th and 13th streets. What the Dickens? Newfoundland Dog Cart Rides (noon to 3 p.m.)

Dec. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides
Rides through historic downtown Golden start at 12th Street between Washington Avenue and Arapahoe Street, weather permitting. Rides are from noon to 4 p.m.

Dec. 8

JSO Holiday Concert
Performing Church Windows by Respighi and traditional holiday music. 3 p.m. at the Green Center, 924 16th St. For details visit jeffsymphony.org or call 303-278-4237.

Dec. 12

Holiday Party at the American Mountaineering Museum
Live music, local brews and a silent auction benefiting and hosted at the American Mountaineering Museum, 710 10th St. For details call 303-996-2763 or visit www.americanmountaineeringcenter.org.

Dec. 12 and 13

GHS Holiday Concert
Golden High School’s Music Department presents its holiday

Through Dec. 31

Merry Christmas to All and All a Good Night
The final presentation by the Heritage Square Music Hall this holiday musical/comedy revue features some of the most beloved skits from throughout the years.

Santa Needs a Holiday
This final holiday show is presented by Heritage Square Music Hall Children’s Theatre. Reservations are recommended as performances often sell out. For more information call 303-279-7800 or visit www.heritagesquare.info/theatre.

Through Dec. 29

HART
The Holiday Art Market (HART) features unique gifts and fine crafts by nearly 200 Colorado artists for sale at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Admission is free. For information call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

Dec. 2 through 20

Express Boot Camp
A session-based program for every fitness level giving you the results of personal training for a group session price. 5:45 to 6:45 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. Details call Kim at 720-628-2901 or kim@BCCDenver.com.

Dec. 7 and Jan. 4

Coffee with a Councilor
Enjoy coffee and conversation with your City Councilors at 10 a.m. at Bean Fosters, 720 Golden Ridge Rd. For details call Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-709-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

Dec. 12 and 13

GHS Holiday Concert
Golden High School’s Music Department presents its holiday
concert featuring the band, orchestra and choir. 7 p.m. in the GHS auditorium, 701 24th St. Tickets are $3 at the door. For more information, contact Angela Becker at abecker@jeffco.k12.co.us.

Dec. 14
“Holiday in a Nutshell”
Christmas Show
Enjoy this annual variety show featuring some of Golden’s finest dancers of all ages at 1 and 3:30 p.m. at Bell Middle School, 1001 Ulysses St. For details call 303-795-3183.

Christmas Tea Time
at the Astor House
Tea Time at the Astor House, 822 12th St., with lunch, tea, stories and music presented by servers in Victorian dress. For details and times call 303-278-3557 or visit GoldenHistory.org.

Dec. 19
Rock Band & Drum Line Show
Golden High School presents a Rock Band Concert and a Drum Line Show at 7 p.m. in the GHS auditorium, 701 24th St. Tickets are $5 at the door. For more info contact Katharine Parker at khparker@jeffco.k12.co.us or 303-982-4187.

Dec. 21 First Day of Winter

Dec. 25 Christmas Day

Dec. 26 Kwanzaa Begins

Jan. 1 New Year’s Day

Jan. 13 through Feb. 21
Boot Camp Challenge
All fitness levels welcome. 5:45 to 6:45 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. Details call Kim at 720-628-2901 or Kim@BCCDenver.com.

Jan. 20 Martin Luther King Day

Through Jan. 25
Quilt Museum Exhibition
Twice as Nice: Two-Color Quilts at Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. For details call 303-277-0377 or visit www.rmqm.org.

Opening Jan. 25
Colorado Clay
This exhibition showcases clay in a way that goes beyond functional and into the realm of art. The public is invited to attend the opening reception on Jan. 24. For details visit www.foothillsartcenter.org or call 303-279-3922.

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.
Celebrate Health!

Fridays, Dec. 6 & Jan. 3

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

Receive the Front Porch News Online!

Visit us online at www.cityofgolden.net/links/FrontPorch or email frontporchnews@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

Computer Training for Life-long Learning

These introductory computer classes are presented for FREE by the Jefferson County Public Library. Each class is designed to accommodate all skill levels! Space is limited, Min/Max: 4/8. Sign up in the Front Porch or call 303-384-8130. Classes are held in the library’s book mobile in the Golden Community Center’s 8th St. parking lot.

Mondays, 1-3 p.m. on the E-Train
Jan. 13 – Intro to using a Computer
Jan. 20 – Intro to using the Internet
Jan. 27 – Microsoft Word Basics

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

Saturday Night Dance at the Clements Center - #35008-1

Enjoy three hours of dancing to a live band and refreshments at our neighboring community center. We will stop for dinner on the way and arrive early enough to secure a table before we dance the night away. Please bring $7 cash for your entrance fee.

Saturday, Dec. 21, 4:45 to 10 p.m.
Exertion Level: 3
Register/Cancel by Dec. 18.

Super Dogs - National Western Stock Show #35009-1

A show full of amazing tricks, stunts and comedy antics, all performed by man’s best friend. We will also tour the grounds.

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 3:30 to 9 p.m.
Exertion Level: 4
Register/Cancel by Dec. 21.

The Candlelight Dinner Theatre - #35010-1

9 to 5 - The Musical

Set in the 1970’s, this is a hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era. Outrageous, thought provoking and even a little romantic!

Sunday, Jan. 26, 1 to 5 p.m.
Exertion Level: 1
Register/Cancel by Jan. 8.
Light Rail Ticket Books Available

If you frequent the new West Light Rail line and want to save some time and money, consider getting ride ticket books. The ticket books contain ten tickets valid for one-way bus or light rail service and are perfect for the busy commuter, student or passenger on the go. Prices vary based on local, express or regional service, but the ticket books are a better deal than individual ticket purchases. There are also discounts available for seniors, individuals with disabilities, Medicare recipients and students ages 6-19. To use passes from your ticket book for light rail service, just validate your ticket by inserting it into a validator machine prior to boarding. Tickets are useable for 90 minutes after validation.

You can get the ticket books at the King Soopers and Safeway stores in Golden. Monthly passes are also available. Stop by the customer service counter at the grocery store to get yours. Please note that day passes are not sold at the King Soopers or Safeway outlets. For more information, visit www.rtd-denver.com/FaresPasses.shtml.

Safer Parking Options in Golden

The City of Golden recently began changing some areas of head-in angle parking to back-in angle parking. Areas undergoing these changes include those where children are frequently exiting vehicles and where equipment is being loaded/unloaded from trunk areas. One example is on 10th Street on the south side of Lions Park.

What is back-in angle parking?
While it may look unusual at first, back-in angle parking is similar to both parallel parking and standard head-in parking. Instead of pulling straight into an angled parking space, cars back into the space after signaling and stopping. This creates clear visibility both when backing into the space and when pulling from the space back into traffic. With head-in angled parking, drivers often must pull blindly into the traffic lane.

How does back-in angle parking work?
Back-in angle parking works very similar to parallel parking, and may even be easier for most drivers.
1. Signal a right turn to warn other drivers
2. Pull past the parking space and stop
3. Back into the parking space

What are the benefits of back-in angle parking?
1. Improved visibility and increased field of vision. When leaving a parking space, motorists are able to see oncoming vehicles instead of having to back blindly into traffic. This line of sight can reduce accidents caused by cars backing into the traffic flow from head-in parking spaces.
2. Improved safety for children and cyclists. With back-in angle parking, car doors open in a manner that directs children to the back of the vehicle, toward the sidewalk rather than the street. As vehicles exit the space, they have better visibility of cyclists on the roadway.
3. Improved loading and unloading. Trunks and cargo spaces are adjacent to the sidewalk and open car doors offer protection from the street, allowing loading and unloading to occur away from the traveled roadway.
4. Quicker and safer entry into traffic flow. Because of the increased visibility, drivers can quickly and safely enter the roadway.
The sales tax refund is limited to senior, low-income or disabled individuals who have lived within the city limits of Golden for at least 90 consecutive days in 2013 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return. The refund amount for 2013 is $50. This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden and partial year at age 65.

Please check one box only:

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

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

Please print or type:

Name: Mr(s). [______________________]

Age: _______________  Date of Birth: _______________

Name: Mr(s). [______________________]

Age: _______________  Date of Birth: _______________

Address: [_____________________]  Golden, CO  ZIP: [__________]

Phone: [______________________]

How many months did you reside in the city limits of Golden during 2013? _____ months

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

Signature: ___________________________  Signature: ___________________________

This form must be submitted by no later than April 15, 2014.

Refund Donation Option:

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

- Golden Volunteer Fire Department
- Golden Cemetery
- Golden Senior Front Porch
- Other City program or department (please identify): [______________________]

Office Use Only:

Account #013031-6190  STR  Vendor # ________  Received ________  Payable ________
Golden History Museums accepted over 50 artifact donations in 2013. Many of the new acquisitions were specifically acquired for Made in Golden, Where Innovation Lives, the newest exhibit at the Golden History Center. But due to limited space not everything can be exhibited. Other items are cataloged and then go into storage for future research and exhibits. Below are 10 highlights from largest to smallest.

1. The Fair 5 & 10 Store exterior sign - A downtown fixture for over 100 years, it finally closed in 1993. The red sign with gold lettering measures almost 20 feet.

2. A 1951 Philco cabinet TV and phonograph - Donated by the Herron family, it was possibly purchased locally from either Meyer Hardware or Golden Furniture.

3. CoorsTek holiday anniversary ornament - Holiday ornaments were given to CoorsTek employees in celebration of their 100th anniversary in 2010.

4. Copy of a Burgess & Murphey’s 1881 city directory - Includes an alphabetical listing of all Golden residents as well as business advertisements, such as W. Dougherty’s dry goods, grocery, and hardware. Apparently he was a dealer of Merchant’s gargling oil and worm tablets.

5. Nicholas Koenig’s personal leather wallet embossed with decorative letters that read, “The Woods-Rubey National Bank of Golden.” Nick was one of the bank’s directors and even served as mayor, but is most often remembered as the owner of Koenig’s Mercantile.

6. Four different menus from the LaRay Hotel - Before Table Mountain Inn and the Holland House existed there was the LaRay Hotel. Just like the others, the LaRay offered accommodations and operated a fine dining room. Their $1.35 dinner special came with your choice of filet mignon or grilled lamb chop.

7. Assortment of letterhead and statements from Golden businesses operating in the 1940s and 1950s - Of special interest is letterhead from the Baxley Hospital and Clinic once located at 815 12th St., and another from the Jefferson County Republican (one of Golden’s other early newspapers).

8. A photograph of Lu Lu Ethel Easmond standing with a dairy cow on her family’s farm in Golden - When not working the farm she worked as the house mother for Sigma Alpha Epsilon House at the Colorado School of Mines.

9. A photograph of 12 members of the Koenig family gathered around their dining room table - There are even bottles of Coors beer on the table. It must have been a party.

10. A real photo postcard of riders posed on donkeys under the summit of Castle Rock - The following is written on the back: “Castle Rock Resort at Golden, affords visitors to Denver one of the most novel and slighty foot hill trips.”

The museum is always looking for interesting items. Of special interest are items from the Duvall-Davison Lumber Company and Baxley Hospital and Clinic. If you have an item or story to share contact Mark Dodge, Curator, at 303-277-8714 or mdodge@cityofgolden.net.
2014 Swim Lessons
Open Registration
Golden Aquatics will open registration for 2014 Winter/Spring Swimming Lessons on Monday Dec. 2 for residents and Tuesday Dec. 3 for non-residents. For class schedules and to register, visit https://rec.cityofgolden.net.

American Red Cross
Lifeguard Training
This American Red Cross (ARC) designed course is one of the National Standards for Lifeguard Employment. To receive certification, candidates must complete required reading, actively participate in all classes, correctly demonstrate all skills, perform the final skills scenarios satisfactorily and pass the final written exam with a minimum of 80 percent correct in each of the four sections.

Upon successful completion, the candidate will receive certification in ARC Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer. Lifeguard Training will be held Tuesday Jan. 2 through Sunday Jan. 5. This course fills up fast and space is limited. For more information and to register, visit https://rec.cityofgolden.net.

Golden Parks and Recreation
Welcomes Britt Gaitanis Maxwell
Britt Gaitanis Maxwell has been performing since childhood in countless musicals, dance performances and plays. A Musical Theater Major in College, "Mrs. Britt" was trained by some of Denver’s best theatrical teachers and institutions. Mrs. Britt is bringing her passion for performing to share with children of all ages at the Golden Community Center. She will inspire self-esteem and creativity in her class participants!

Modern Dance Cardio, Adult
Do you need to shake up your cardio routine? Put music, your body and creativity to use in this Adult Modern Dance Class. Simultaneously explore self-expression and vision, while getting an amazing full-body workout. The class will work as a team to inspire each other through movement, balance, rhythm and imagination. All skill-levels and movement abilities are welcome!

Golden Toys for Kids
Help us make sure every child in Golden receives a gift this holiday season. The Rotary Club of Golden is sponsoring the 7th annual Golden Toys for Kids drive. You have until Dec. 24 to drop off new, unwrapped toys at any of these locations: The Golden Hotel, Meyers Hardware, Golden Community Center, Guaranty Bank on Colfax and Big 5 Sports. Assistance is also being provided by Alpha Graphics, King Soopers and the Interact Club at Golden High School.

All of the toys collected will be distributed to local children before the end of the year. Last year the community donated more than 700 toys and we hope to get 1,200 gifts this year. Donations are also accepted and used to purchase toys. Donations can be mailed to Rotary Club of Golden, P.O. Box 851, Golden, CO 80402.
Santiago Gonzalez is a senior at the Colorado School of Mines (CSM). He is majoring in Computer Science, plans to pursue a Masters in the same field and eventually a PhD in Computer Engineering. Certainly there’s nothing unusual about that for a student at CSM, which is home to some of the nation’s brightest. But Santiago is just 15 years old. Born in Mexico City, Santiago and his family moved to the U.S. before he was a year old. By the time he was in first grade, both Santiago and his parents, Yago and Vanessa, realized he wasn’t like the other kids when he tested at a 6th grade level. “I was bored and everything seemed repetitive,” said Santiago of first grade. It took several years for his parents and the education system to figure out what to do with this exceptionally gifted boy. Meantime, Santiago was miserable. He wanted so badly to learn and be challenged, but the standard education system isn’t set up for kids like him. So he started educating himself. “The internet is a wonderful thing,” said mom Vanessa. “When he got past the point where we could teach him things, we would try to study whatever he studied so we could have conversations with him.” Vanessa was frustrated for many years that she couldn’t find the resources needed to help her son develop his gift, but she never gave up.

By the time Santiago was in 6th grade, he was taking classes at a community college. Throughout his short life, he had a few amazing teachers who thought outside the box to help educate Santiago. But it wasn’t until he was 12 years old that Santiago found his educational home. CSM officials saw his test scores and welcomed him as a student. For the first time in his life, Santiago was challenged mentally and he was happy.

Santiago doesn’t have any friends his own age; he prefers his college friends. He prefers his college friends because they can talk “the same language as me.” For this young man, that includes at least a dozen computer programming languages. “I don’t think of myself as being special,” said Santiago. “I do think it’s kinda cool. I don’t have to deal with kids, I get to learn more and I am getting a head start on things.” When asked if he is sad he missed out on the regular adolescent experiences, he said, “On the contrary, I’m not at all sad about missing out on junior high or high school.”

At 15 Santiago is smarter than most adults. “But he’s also just a kid,” says Vanessa. “Yes, he can think and act like a grad student when he’s in class, but he does really silly stuff too. It’s important to remember that emotionally he’s still very young.”

When Santiago started at CSM, Vanessa walked him to every class and sat outside the classroom until he was done. After a few years, the university offered her a job in the administration department so she could work at the school but still be close to her child.

Santiago’s sister Andrea is 13 years old and already testing at college levels. Vanessa said it’s been easier with her because they already knew where to find the resources needed to help her. Unlike Santiago, though, Andrea wants the high school experience before she heads off to college. Vanessa says there are many intelligent people on both sides of Santiago’s family, but there is no genius gene. She jokes, “It’s like when you have two ingredients that don’t necessarily taste good by themselves. But when you put them together, they taste great. Our kids are a good mix of ingredients!”

The 15 year old has been featured in a video for THNK, had a 10 page article in Rolling Stone Magazine, and was named the 16th smartest teenager in the world by thebestschools.org. Santiago doesn’t much like taking time away from his studies to do interviews. But he wants other kids to know it’s ok to not be normal, and to pursue your passions no matter what your age.

In January, Santiago turns 16 and for the first time in his life, there’s a test he’s not particularly excited to take… his driver’s test. Vanessa would love for him to start driving himself around, but Santiago could care less. He has more important things to do. Santiago hopes to work for Apple someday, and maybe be the next Steve Jobs. He’s already created a handful of iPhone and iPad apps that people use every day. No doubt in a few years, if you hear the name Santiago Gonzalez associated with a computer product, it would be wise to invest.
Many students at the Colorado School of Mines (CSM) are from foreign countries. They are getting one of the best school educations in the country. But the school cannot give them the experience of what it’s like to be part of an American family. That’s where you come in. Golden residents have the opportunity to help these bright students acclimate to life in our beautiful city.

The CSM Friendship Family Program has been matching up international students with local families for more than 20 years. By opening up your home and heart to a student, you can learn about each other’s cultures, lifestyles, languages and countries.

The connection can be as simple as one dinner at your home or as amazing as building a life-long friendship. There are more than 500 international students from over 100 countries studying at CSM. If you are interested in participating, contact Alyda Morosco at 303-273-3210 or amorosco@mines.edu.

OPEN YOUR HOME TO A YOUNG MUSICIAN

The Jefferson Symphony is looking for 12 volunteer families to host some very talented musicians. Host families will need to provide meals, lodging and local transportation. The artists are mostly college-aged students and will be coming from all over the world to participate as finalists in the 55th International Young Artists Competition. Host families do not need to provide any musical instruments.

The musicians will arrive on Thursday, Jan. 2 and leave on Sunday, Jan. 5. The competition takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 4 at the Arvada Center. For details and to apply, call Frani Bickart at the Jefferson Symphony at 303-278-4237 or iyac@jeffsymphony.org.

SHOP THE HOLIDAY ART MARKET THROUGH DEC. 29

Are you struggling with what gifts to get your friends and family for the holidays? Check out the Holiday Art Market (HART) at Foothills Art Center and you’re likely to find something unique for just about anybody. All of the gifts for sale are made by Colorado artists and include ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, paintings, woodworking, photography and much more. All gifts purchased help support both local artists and the Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Admission to HART is free and it runs through Dec. 29. For hours and special events call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.
The Colorado Cowboy Gathering has been going on for 25 years, and what better place to host than in the town “Where the West Lives.” Over the course of four days in January, there will be eight performances by top Cowboy Poets from all over the U.S., Canada and Australia.

The Gathering kicks off on Jan. 16 with a branding party at the Clear Creek History Park (CCHP). Local ranchers are invited to bring their branding irons to the forge at CCHP and leave their brand on the weathered barn wood that will become part of the permanent covering for monitors on the stages of the Colorado Cowboy Gathering.

The Gathering is proud to welcome one of America’s best storytellers, Baxter Black, to their new event home in Golden. He will open the event at 7 p.m. on Jan. 16 with his unique brand of western wit and insight. If you haven’t heard him on National Public Radio, now is your chance! The show is at the Green Center, 924 16th St.

Another featured show takes place at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 18 at the Green Center. Riders in the Sky is part musical history lesson and part comedy act with a talented and funny team of singer-songwriter-poet cowboys who will have you singing along and laughing out loud.

In between those two blockbuster shows, you’ll be treated to the finest in cowboy poetry, music and storytelling at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St., including Cowboy Church on Sunday. For tickets and information, visit www.ColoradoCowboyGathering.com.
Olde Golden Christmas Parades
Dec. 7, 14 & 21
11 - 11:30 am

Candlelight Walk
Friday, Dec. 6
6:30 pm

Olde
Golden
Christmas
2013

www.visitgolden.com