Your Input Needed: Public Meetings Scheduled to Prevent a Beltway

Unique Exhibitions Come to Golden

Annual Tree Sale is Back

Recycle to Help Golden Fire Department
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.

Graphic Designer Sarah Yongprakit

The Golden Informer is the proud winner of the City/County Communications and Marketing Association’s prestigious 2005 and 2007 first place Savvy and 2006 second place Silver Circle national awards for city- and county-produced external printed newsletters in communities of up to 45,000 people nationwide.

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Cover photo: “Snow Heart” by Lisbeth Neergaard Kohloff

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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS
Golden is at a crossroads and must decide how to best protect the City from a beltway. Golden wants its residents to be informed and we want to hear your opinions. There are four open houses scheduled to give you a chance to learn more, ask questions and make comments. For more information, visit www.GetTheFactsGolden.org.

**Monday, Jan. 31** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Shelton Elementary School cafeteria, 420 Crawford St.

**Tuesday, Feb. 1** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fossil Trace Clubhouse, 3050 Illinois St.

**Wednesday, Feb. 9** 1-3 p.m. City Council Chambers, 911 10th St.

**Wednesday, Feb. 9** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mitchell Elementary cafeteria 201 Rubey Drive

SAVE THE DATE – GOLDEN VISION 2030 HEART & SOUL CELEBRATION
Join us on Feb. 22 to celebrate the two-year effort to create a community vision for Golden’s future. While the Golden Vision 2030 Plan was adopted by City Council in late 2010, the massive community effort that was involved to create the Plan deserves recognition. From the block parties, to the group gatherings, to the focus groups, more than 10% of Golden’s citizens had a direct hand in creating the Plan. Visit www.cityofgolden.net/GoldenVision2030 to find celebration event details.

ETHICS IN BUSINESS AWARDS
Golden Rotary seeks your assistance in identifying business enterprises and non-profit organizations that demonstrate high levels of ethical business practices. Nomination forms must be submitted to Golden Rotary by March 1 and the Awards Luncheon is on April 22 with Pete Coors as the keynote speaker. For more information, contact Brian Quarnstrom at 303-278-2400 or thegoldenhome@gmail.com.

VICTIM ADVOCATES NEEDED
Victim Outreach Information is currently accepting applications for Volunteer Victim Advocates to assist crime victims in Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Golden, Edgewater, Lakeside, Mountain View and the School of Mines. 40 hours of training is required and begins in mid-February. We provide emotional support, information, and referrals to crime victims and their families.

Applicants must be 21 and submit to a background check. Volunteers must be available weekends and evenings, and live within a 20 minute response time to the Wheat Ridge/Golden areas. For more information contact Shawna at 303-202-2196 or victimoutreach@aol.com.
The Golden Informer

**MAYOR’S MESSAGE**

**Council Considers Two Options for Keeping Beltway Out of Golden**

*By Mayor Jacob Smith*

One of Golden’s most important fights of the past two decades has been the effort to keep the beltway out of our town. A six- or eight-lane high-speed superhighway plowing through the valley would devastate our community. We have not only kept the beltway out of Golden, but in a major victory two years ago the state actually dropped its beltway plan.

The proponents, including Jefferson County, then scaled back their proposal to a short, privately funded toll highway five miles north of town. Known as the “Jefferson Parkway,” this would run north and east from Highway 93 to Broomfield (but wouldn't overlap with 93 at all).

One important piece of background: About a decade ago, the city developed the community-based Muller Plan proposal to fix our transportation problems and protect Golden's quality of life, regardless of increases in traffic volume over time. Unfortunately, our fight to keep the beltway out of Golden has also prevented us from implementing the Muller Plan, and Golden continues to face significant transportation problems on U.S. 6 and Highway 93 through town, including noise, pollution, congestion, and safety issues. In fact, most of the traffic growth through Golden in the coming decades, and the heavy neighborhood impacts this causes, will occur whether the Jefferson Parkway toll road is built or not.

The Jefferson Parkway proponents are getting closer to being able to build this road, and the Golden community will soon need to decide on one of two major options for continuing to keep the beltway out of Golden. Each of the options involves important trade-offs.

**Option #1:** *Golden can continue fighting the Jefferson Parkway proposal five miles north of town.* The main advantage is that we might delay or prevent construction of the Jefferson Parkway. The downsides include the cost to Golden's taxpayers, the outcome would be uncertain, and we will not make progress fixing existing and future transportation problems – safety, pollution, noise, congestion – on U.S. 6 and Highway 93 in town.

**Option #2:** *Golden can try to reach an agreement with Jefferson County that allows us to begin implementing the Muller Plan for improving City connections and protecting against traffic impacts on 6 and 93.*

The potential agreement now under consideration would limit the roads through town to four lanes and 45 mph, limit noise, reduce air pollution and congestion even if traffic increases, and rebuild most of the intersections through Golden to provide safe, convenient connections between neighborhoods. Every rebuilt overpass in Golden would physically limit the roadway to four lanes, making it nearly impossible to ever force a beltway through town. Through a related agreement, we may also protect a critical wildlife habitat area north of Golden, reducing the potential for sprawl in northern Jeffco.

An agreement like this would be a substantial victory for Golden. The downside is that Golden would have to agree not to sue to stop the Jefferson Parkway, although we still wouldn’t support it. This might make it easier for the proponents to build that toll road, which might result in more intensive development north of Golden.

City Council is planning three more neighborhood open houses on this topic in early February (in addition to the one held on Jan. 31) and we have a web site up now with more information at [www.GetTheFactsGolden.org](http://www.GetTheFactsGolden.org). This is a chance for everyone in the community to kick the tires of the potential agreement, get all your questions answered, and weigh in with your thoughts on our best option.
A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN SUSTAINABILITY

There is a vacancy on the Community Sustainability Advisory Board (CSAB), whose primary purpose is to assist the City in achieving the ten-year sustainability goals set by City Council.

The CSAB meets twice monthly from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and meetings are open to the public. The term of this appointment expires February 2012. Applications are due to the City Clerk’s office no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 23. For more information, call Sustainability Coordinator Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or email Goldensustainability@cityofgolden.net.

HELP PLAN GOLDEN’S FUTURE

There is a vacancy on the Planning Commission for the alternate member, due to a resignation. In 2011 the Planning Commission’s major topics will include an update of the City comprehensive plan, work on three neighborhood plans, and infill development issues. The Planning Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. The appointment will expire in January 2014. If you are interested in applying, you are welcome to attend the Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 2 in Council Chambers, 911 10th St.

City Council will conduct interviews before its regular business meeting on Thursday, Feb. 24 in Council Chambers, 911 10th St. Applications are due to the City Clerk’s office no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 16. For information, call the Planning and Development department at 303-384-8097 or email Planning and Development Director Steve Glueck at sglueck@cityofgolden.net.

TO APPLY FOR A BOARD POSITION

Applications are available on the City’s web site, www.cityofgolden.net, under Boards and Commissions. They may be mailed to the City Clerk: 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, faxed to the City Clerk: 303-384-8001, or emailed to Clerks@cityofgolden.net. Applicants must be residents of the City of Golden.

Neighborhood Grant Program Naming Contest

City Council has named this the Year of the Neighborhood, and a part of that is a new neighborhood grant program. City Council would like this program for the community to be named by the community.

Two types of grants will be available through the program. Small grants will be awarded for up to $500. These grants can be used for addressing needs such as a neighborhood block party or other community organizing effort, but neighborhoods should be creative and submit any ideas that will build cohesiveness in their area.

The second grant involves up to $2,500 in matching funds. These matching grants are for bigger projects that will improve neighborhoods. Neighborhood matches should be in the form of sweat equity, donations of materials and money for your project.

More details about the grants will be coming soon on the City’s web site and in the April Informer, but we can’t give it great publicity until it has a great name. As an example, a similar program in Seattle, WA is called Small Sparks: Light a Spark, Make a Change, See a Difference. Send your suggestion for a name, and a tag line if you wish, along with your contact information, to City Clerk Susan Brooks at sbrooks@cityofgolden.net, or by mail to her attention at 911 10th Street, Golden, CO 80401.

The deadline for submitting entries is 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 28. The winner will be announced at the Council Meeting on Thursday, March 10 and will be published in the April edition of the Informer. Questions about the program or the naming contest can be directed to Susan Brooks at 303-384-8014 or by email at sbrooks@cityofgolden.net.
In December 2010, the City of Golden completed two years of effort and cooperative negotiations with one of our original Golden families to acquire a critical parcel of open space, and the site of a future neighborhood park. The City now owns most of the vacant parcel at the southeast corner of Heritage Road and West 4th Avenue, known as the “Bachman property”.

The parcel was recently owned by four brothers; Albert, Eugene, James, and Leon Bachman, and was the last substantial parcel owned by the Bachman family as a whole. Albert and Katherine Bachman bought the 720 acre Apex Ranch in 1937 and moved their family into the 1860 hand-quarried house that still exists on the property. The Bachman ranch included what is now the 6 & 40 Business Center, the foothills neighborhoods of Golden Terrace West, Heritage Dells and Tripp Ranch, as well as Heritage Square and Lafarge quarry property. Much of the land at the time was used for dry land cattle ranching.

The recently acquired 14 acre site will add to the City’s natural open space areas, and will in the future fulfill the need for a neighborhood park as identified by the City’s 2007 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The purchase will also preserve established wildlife habitat and afford community bike path and trail linkages.

A SPECIAL HONOR AT MINES

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter presented the graduation address for the Midyear Degree Convocation on the Colorado School of Mines (CSM) campus in December. At the ceremony, 154 bachelor of science degrees were awarded, 186 master of science degrees and 29 doctor of philosophy degrees. Governor Ritter also received an honorary degree from CSM.

Ritter was elected as Colorado’s 41st governor in 2006, the first Colorado-born governor in more than 35 years. The sixth of 12 children, Gov. Ritter was raised on a small farm in Arapahoe County. He was a member of the first graduating class of Gateway High School in 1974; he earned his bachelor’s degree in political science from Colorado State University in 1978 and his law degree from the University of Colorado in 1981. Ritter handed over the reins of Governor to John Hickenlooper on Jan. 11, 2011.
Since Golden’s beginning, the 12th Street Historic District area has been a distinct historic area of the city. Its earliest documented development began in 1860, when Haycraft & Wood built a store at today’s 12th and Cheyenne, but quickly it became a predominantly residential area of the city. The neighborhood’s area was part of the Original Town plat of Golden, created in 1859.

The area became a neighborhood of predominantly one to two story single family homes made primarily of brick with some business structures overlapping from Downtown at its eastern end. Illustrations from 1873 and 1882 also demonstrate the historic nature of the neighborhood. Along with the historic maps they demonstrate the neighborhood as a distinct concentration of homes along 12th Street in the area west of the Downtown commercial area, with borders of the Clear Creek delta to the north, the hillside to the south and the ridge area to the west.

By 1899 Golden’s Transcript newspaper proclaimed 12th Street (then called 2nd Street) “the handsomest residence street in the city” and noted the advent of flagstone sidewalks being built along it. In 1902, silver maple trees were planted along the street by Golden’s noted landscape gardener P.H. Murray. By 1897 the neighborhood had its own community baseball team which competed with other teams such as the Court House Hill neighborhood, and by the early 1900s it had its own recreational gang of kids known as the Second Street Gang. In 1905 the Transcript said, “Twelfth Street is one of the prettiest residence thoroughfares of the city, yelept ‘Lovers’ Lane’ by some of our visitors.”

Culturally the neighborhood was home to merchants, prominent business owners and industrialists, as well as the heart of Golden’s Swedish immigrant community. It had generally larger homes with more permanent materials and elaborate styling than its 9th Street counterpart on the north side, which had smaller homes made with a greater mixture of wood and simpler styling, and had a blue collar demographic. These neighborhoods exemplified the more general class cultural dynamic which long existed between the north and south sides of Clear Creek, with the south being more of an upper class and the north a lower class, both integral to the community’s functioning and existence.

In recent decades the southern and western boundaries of the 12th Street neighborhood have been further cemented with the expansion of the Colorado School of Mines campus to those areas, and the eastern boundary further cemented with Downtown commercial encroachment from the east. This encroachment, along with a desire to preserve and beautify the neighborhood, led to its revitalization in the 1980s and beyond. By the time of its designation in the 1980s, it was perceived as a closely knit community, different from its surroundings with a sense of community and pride.

**About the Golden Historic Preservation Board:** The Golden Historic Preservation Board is an advisory board made up of community members who provide guidance to residents on how improvements to properties affect the preservation of historic Golden.
The Golden Informer

City Hosts Forestry Council

In January of this year the City of Golden Forestry Division had the honor of hosting the Front Range Urban Forestry Council (FRUFC). The Council meets bi-monthly in select cities to discuss urban forestry issues of Front Range Communities and provides an opportunity for foresters to share ideas, research, information and trends in urban forestry.

During the recent Golden meeting, Golden City Forester Dave High and the City Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator Quint Pertsch presented the City’s highly advance tree inventory and hazard tree recording system to the group. Dave and Quint have been combining forces for the last several years to develop a system using Cartegraph mapping technology, handheld recording systems and the industry standardized tree rating system to seamlessly record real time information in the field, thus streamlining the collection of critical urban forestry information. This technology means that City workers can record pertinent information concerning tree specifics, values and potential hazards while on the street and without paper, greatly improving operation efficiency.

The meeting also allows for several subcommittees to be first reporters of critical information regarding research in potential new trees for regional planting, identifying and dealing with dangerous tree conditions, and area insects and disease, which allows staff to lessen the impacts of disease in the community.

An additional topic of January’s meeting was canopy mapping through the Mile High Million initiative, a collaborative effort to plant one million trees in the Denver metropolitan area by 2025. Canopy mapping is an excellent measurement of year to year success of any urban forestry program.

FRUFC is a sub group of the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC). The CTC is an affiliation of various urban foresters of all levels of government and private industry. The mission of the CTC is to preserve, renew and enhance community forests. Golden is an active member of both the CTC and FRUFC.

For more information on the Colorado Tree Coalition or the Front Range Urban Forestry Council please go to www.coloradotrees.org. The City of Golden Forestry Division can be reached at 303-384-8137 or Dhigh@cityofgolden.net.

2011 Tree Sale

It’s become a tradition for the City of Golden to offer residents an opportunity to buy small trees as a way to encourage you to plant more trees in our City. The trees are manageable and affordable, since the City offers them at cost.

The 2011 sale will offer a diverse mix of ornamental trees, shade trees and conifers. The small deciduous trees will have trunk diameters of approximately 1¼ inches and range in height from four to eight feet. The conifers are three to four feet tall.

Ornamental deciduous selections include: Tatarian Maple, Serviceberry, European Hornbeam, Coralburst Crabapple and Tree Lilac. Shade deciduous include: Catalpa, Hackberry, Turkish Filbert, White Oak, Red Oak and Greenspire Linden. The deciduous trees are $45 each. Conifer selections include: Scots Pine, Vanderwolf’s Limber Pine, Austrian Pine and Bosnian Pine. The conifers will be priced around $50.

Quantities are limited and orders will only be accepted for five trees or less. Orders will be taken beginning March 1 through April 4. Order forms can be found on either the City of Golden website www.cityofgolden.net/TreeSale or at the front desk of the Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. The sale is restricted to City of Golden residents, who must show proof of residency.

Trees will be distributed during the last two weeks of April. Please contact City Forester Dave High for details at 303-384-8141 or dhigh@cityofgolden.net.
Getting To Know Your Utilities

High winter utility bills can serve as a blunt reminder to look for ways to conserve energy. One of the first steps in reducing your energy consumption can be to track your usage. It’s as easy as looking at your bills each month and creating a simple spreadsheet. Before you recycle your Xcel Energy or City of Golden water bill, record your consumption of these resources each month and soon you’ll be able to compare your consumption year over year:

- Electricity – measured in kilowatt hours. A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is a unit of energy equal to one kilowatt for one hour. The average monthly consumption in Colorado for residences is 687 kWh*.
- Natural Gas – Gas usage is defined in Therms, a measure of the energy content of natural gas consumed. About half of all Colorado residences use natural gas for either hot water and/or home heating.
- Water – The amount of indoor and outdoor water use is shown in gallons and is measured in thousands of gallons on your quarterly City water bill. The average home in Golden uses about 6,500 gallons of water each month.

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*Source: Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration and City of Golden.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2011 GOLDEN SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Do you know someone who is a stand-out supporter of sustainability? Someone who is vigilant about energy conservation or recycles that last bit of material? The Community Sustainability Advisory Board is soliciting nominations for outstanding individuals and groups who have committed their efforts toward achieving a more sustainable city. We are looking for nominations for the following categories:

- Student
- Individual
- Business
- Community Group

Nominations will be accepted through March 31 and applications can be downloaded from the sustainability page of the city website at www.cityofgolden.net/sustainability. For more information, please contact Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or tworsham@cityofgolden.net.
**GOLDEN COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**Through Feb. 27**  
*“Don’t Dress For Dinner”*  
An evening of hilarious confusion ensues with improvisation at breakneck speed. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and information, call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

**Through March 13**  
*“Habitat”*  
An exhibition exploring the relationship between our natural and manmade worlds. Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is $5 for adults and $3 for seniors. Free for members and students. For more information call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

**Feb. 4**  
*Golden’s First Friday*  
5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy extended shopping hours with Golden’s downtown merchants.

**Feb. 7**  
*Scrambowl for Lights*  
Come cheer on your favorite bowling team. Start times are 5:30 and 7 p.m. at Golden Family Bowl, 525 24th St. This event provides funding for the holiday lights on South Golden Road.

**Feb. 20**  
*Music for Romance*  
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. at the Green Center, Colorado School of Mines campus, 16th & Cheyenne streets. For more information call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffsymphony.org.

**Feb. 21**  
*President’s Day*  
City offices will remain open.

**Feb. 26**  
*Buffalo Bill Birthday Bash*  
Live entertainment, costume contests, food and refreshments. Come dressed in your finest Old West duds and participate in a panoramic photo outside the Buffalo Rose. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Buffalo Rose Events Center, 1119 Washington Ave. General admission fee is $5. For more information call 303-384-0003 or visit www.buffalobilldays.com.

**Feb. 14**  
*Valentine’s Day*

**Feb. 20**  
*Music for Romance*  
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. at the Green Center, Colorado School of Mines campus, 16th & Cheyenne streets. For more information call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffsymphony.org.

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**Free Buffalo Bill Birthday Party**  
Contests, prizes, cake and Old West re-enactors. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wrigley’s Sports Bar and Grill, 18200 West Colfax Ave. Admission is free. For more information, call 303-975-1151 or visit www.monarchproductions.info.

**SCFD Family Free Day**  
Free admission from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. For more information, call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

**Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!**

**GOLDEN COLORADO**

**2HOURVACATION.COM**

For more up to date information or other things to do in Golden, visit www.2HourVacation.com.

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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 killey@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.
**COMPUTER SERVICES FOR SENIORS**

The Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL) and the Jefferson County Department of Human Services, Aging Well in Jefferson County Project are partnering to offer a unique training opportunity to senior citizens. The JCPL will bring its eTrain mobile computer training lab to local non-profit and faith-based organizations to provide seniors, ages 50 and older, with onsite training in Basic Computer and Internet Job and Volunteer Search Skills. This program is being funded by a generous grant from Rose Community Foundation with a matching in-kind contribution from JCPL.

The eTrain is an innovative mobile computer training lab with eight computer work stations and a trained instructor on board. The classes are two hours each.

Any organization serving seniors is eligible to schedule one or more onsite training sessions. For details call Stacy McKenzie at 303-275-6236.

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**GOLDEN LIBRARY CLOSED ON MONDAYS**

All Jefferson County Public Libraries (JCPL), including the Golden Library, are now closed on Mondays, including the Library’s Call Center. The Monday closures are part of a response to significant budget challenges facing the system.

“The decision to close our libraries on Mondays was not something taken lightly,” said JCPL Executive Director Marcellus Turner. “We are facing a perfect storm of budget challenges requiring us to reduce the operating budget by $3 million over the next two years. The Monday closure will allow us to begin to bring our expenses in line with projected revenues and ensure the future success and sustainability of JCPL.”

The JCPL hopes to mitigate the impact of Monday closures by keeping the Online Library available 24/7 and keeping library book drops open to accept the return of materials on Mondays.

The new hours for the Golden Library:
- Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m.

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**FREE**

**Sales and Use Tax Workshop**

The City of Golden is hosting a FREE Sales and Use Tax workshops taught by our professional staff of auditors and geared toward individuals who need to learn sales and use tax concepts on an in-depth level.

The workshops will be held in the Golden City Hall Conference Room, City Hall, 911 10th St.
- March 2, 2011 ........... 9 to 11 a.m.
- April 6, 2011 .............. 9 to 11 a.m.
- June 1, 2011 .............. 9 to 11 a.m.
- July 6, 2011 .............. 9 to 11 a.m.

Although these classes are free, space is limited. Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.

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**FREE**

**Building Use Tax Workshop**

The City of Golden is hosting a FREE Building Use Tax Workshop taught by our professional staff of auditors. Classes are geared toward individuals who need to learn building use tax concepts on an in-depth basis.

The workshop will be held in the Golden City Hall Conference Room, City Hall, 911 10th St.
- February 2, 2011...... 9 to 11 a.m.
- May 4, 2011............. 9 to 11 a.m.

Classes are free, but space is limited. Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.
Each year, the Golden Fire Department (GFD) sets aside some money to put on a Christmas party for the kids of the volunteer firefighters, as a way to say thank you for their hard work and dedication to our community. This year, the firefighters unanimously decided to forgo their party and instead use the money to help families in Golden.

Through word of mouth, firefighters found two Golden families in need of assistance. One was a widow and her five year old son and the other was a mother, disabled father and three young children. GFD Chaplain Kevin Kirby met with the families to assess their needs. The wishes were not for fancy electronics or high tech gadgets, but for basic needs like clothes, school supplies, backpacks and books.

Firefighters went shopping for the families and just a few days before Christmas, they delivered the gifts in a way that made Santa’s sleigh look shabby. Twelve firefighters arrived in three fire trucks, lights flashing and filled with presents. Santa rode in the bucket of the ladder truck, which seemed to impress the kids even more than flying reindeer. “The kids came out of their homes, their eyes as big as saucers, and they were jumping up and down,” said Chaplain Kirby. Volunteer firefighter Adam Simkins added, “It’s one of the most thrilling things I’ve ever done.”

In addition to clothes and school supplies, the kids also received toys and the parents were given gift cards to a grocery store, along with a new pair of glasses for dad. The entire event was just as rewarding for the firefighters as it was for the families. Firefighters hope to make their act of generosity a new holiday tradition in Golden.

Help Golden Fire Department by Recycling

If you have old electronics that you no longer use, there is now a free way for you to get rid of them and help the Golden Fire Department (GFD) at the same time. To responsibly recycle technical equipment typically costs money and takes time to get the devices to an appropriate facility.

The GFD, in cooperation with Gazelle, is making recycling electronic equipment trouble-free. Gazelle is a reCommerce service that resells most of the items customers send in and donates a portion of the value to charity. Gazelle uses recycling as a last resort so that fewer products end up in landfills.

To donate your old equipment and help Golden, go to http://GFD.gazelle.com and type the name of your product in the search bar. The site will ask a few questions about the condition of the item and whether you have the original accessories like cables and AC adapters. It then prices your gadget based on current market value and immediately returns a figure of how much they will donate to the Golden Fire Department. To proceed, click the Add to Box button. Gazelle will then send a postage paid box for easy shipping. If your gadget has no market value, Gazelle will still recycle it. The process is easy and at no cost to you.

The GFD is a mostly volunteer department that depends on donations. The money donated through this project will be used to purchase fire rescue equipment. For more information about this fundraiser, contact Tom Young at tyoung@cityofgolden.net or 303-384-8091.
The Power of Volunteerism

By Captain Tom Young,
Golden Fire Department

Someone once said, “The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.” Volunteering and volunteers have shaped my life. On July 6, 1982, I joined the Golden Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter. For seven years I continued my education, gained knowledge on the job as a volunteer and discovered a new career path. In early 1989, I was hired as the Fire Inspector for the City of Golden and then in February of 1990 I was promoted to Fire Department Manager. A short five months later, on July 6, 1990, ironically eight years to the day after joining the Golden Fire Department, I suffered a career ending line of duty injury. I fractured my neck during a rescue call and was left paralyzed from the neck down. I was flown to St. Anthony's Hospital for treatment. The doctors told me that I would never be able to breathe on my own again; this was after they had told me that I would never be able to walk or use my arms.

On July 28, 1990, volunteerism would once again make a difference in my life. Nearly 300 volunteers walked from Golden to St. Anthony's Central for a fundraiser, which was organized by volunteers, to help with the costs of my care. They gathered outside of the hospital and shouted, "We love you Tom." Bob Lowery and Marv Kay delivered a check to my ICU room. That same day, the ventilator was removed and I was able to breathe on my own. After nearly six months in hospitals, healing, rehabilitating and learning to live the rest of my life in a wheelchair I was able to go home with my family. For one year we lived in my in-laws’ walkout basement during the construction of our wheelchair accessible home. Although we had a contractor, volunteers completed much of the home construction and all of the landscaping. Once again, dedicated volunteers touched my life.

After 2½ years of feeling sorry for myself, my wife Linda and I had a heart-to-heart talk about togetherness. We both agreed that 24 hours a day seven days a week was a little bit too much togetherness. She said that I was young and still had a lot to offer and I should consider going back to work. Although my salaried position was still open for me, it was determined that the best way for me to keep my Social Security benefits and still go back to work was to volunteer. Working gave me the opportunity to once again feel productive and ended the severe depression I was experiencing. When I first went back, I was only able to tolerate one to two hours a day. Presently, I volunteer with the Golden Fire Department three to seven hours a day five days a week. Over the past 17 years volunteering has given me the sense of repaying a community that has given me so much.

The community of Golden has been shaped by volunteerism. Whether you enjoy the beautiful parks, ballparks and trails or have ever needed emergency services, have been down on your luck and needed a meal or clothing, have stopped by The Visitors Center, the list goes on and on, a volunteer from Golden has made a difference in your life. If you don't volunteer please consider it, there are many opportunities in Golden to volunteer. Someday, somehow, your volunteering will touch a life, and like me, that life just might be your own! Thank you to all in this community who touched my life.
Celebrate Health!
Fridays, Feb. 4 and March 4
We’ll have free blood pressure checks and healthy goodies.
Chair massages...............$13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions........$13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce .........$15 per 15 minutes
Call 303-384-8130 to make your appointment.

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

The Golden Sew N Sews
The Golden Sew N Sews is a group of senior volunteers who share their time and talents to bring a little cheer to disadvantaged children and seniors in nursing and/or assisted living facilities in Jefferson County. For the 2010 Holiday Season, the Sew N Sews made 80 lap blankets, 300 Christmas stockings and several hundred one of a kind tote bags. Proceeds from the sale of some of the tote bags were used to fill the stockings with toys and the rest of the bags with pajamas and other necessities and convenience items. All items were donated to those in need through Jefferson County Social Services.

Planning for Easter projects is underway and the Sew N Sews are always welcoming new volunteers who can assist their mission. Sewers work at home with fabric, materials and patterns provided. Non-sewers can also help. If you would like to become a part of the Sew N Sews, please sign up in the Front Porch or call Mary Kuhns at 303-278-2058.

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

Colorado History Lecture - #15013
Lincoln, the Crisis Over Slavery, and the Creation of the Colorado Territory: Join us as we travel to Denver to hear this presentation by Dr. Susan Schulten of the University of Denver as she helps us to reconsider the events, personalities and crises that created the Colorado Territory, just as the nation descended into civil war. This is part of the Colorado History Museum’s lecture series held at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. We will stop for lunch prior to the presentation.
Tuesday, Feb. 15 - Register / Cancel by Feb. 10
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
$10 (van; bring $8.50 for admission and money for lunch)

Senior Savers Energy Saving Workshop - #17015
The Senior Savers Workshops provide interactive learning about energy use with immediate money-saving actions that people can adopt. Come join us to learn how you can save money on your energy bills!
Monday, Feb. 21 (In the Front Porch)
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
FREE to all and all are welcome!

Denver Museum of Nature & Science - #15015
This trip includes not just your Museum entrance fee, but tickets to the Planetarium presentation as well. We will stop for lunch on the way to the museum.
Thursday, March 10
Register / Cancel by March 7
10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
$24 van; admission; bring money for lunch)
For over five years, Golden History Museums has been hosting the Hands-on History (HoH) Summer Camp for kids at Clear Creek History Park. Participants in this popular program get to pan for gold, cook on a woodstove and attend a one-room schoolhouse during the week-long camp sessions. This summer will bring a redesigned and expanded program to give kids a chance to explore other aspects of local history. Campers can participate in full-day or half-day sessions that will include outdoor and indoor activities to allow campers to be active while giving them a break from the sun. Participants will be divided into two age groups, 6-8 and 9-11, to engage campers at an age appropriate level.

Here are some of the exciting new additions to the camp program:

Dirty Jobs: Campers will dig in to mining and try their hand at a number of industries that kept our town alive and kicking.

Mechanisms: This session takes a look at the latest in 1800s technology, from telegraphs to typewriters.

HoH seeks to make history relevant for young minds by encouraging kids to think about the past as a way to look at their world. Our hands-on activities make it easy for kids to learn while having fun during the summer.

For more session themes and HoH Summer Camp details visit www.GoldenHistoryMuseums.org.

The City of Golden honors its exceptional employees with “You Make the Difference” awards which are handed out at quarterly employee meetings. Three employees were recently honored with the award.

Pam Heimbach, Human Resource Analyst
Quint Pertzsch, GIS Analyst
Matt Daniels, Asset Management Technician

Pam, Quint and Matt are honored for their hard work and extra efforts put into the City’s “Around the World” fitness challenge. Over the summer, participating City employees tracked their exercise activities and converted them into steps. This is part of the City of Golden employee wellness program, which provides health screenings and resources to help employees maintain and improve their health. Good health not only contributes to quality of life, but helps reduce insurance costs, days away from work and injuries.

Thanks to the ingenuity of these three employees, participants could track their progress which took them to locations like France, Egypt, India, China and the Galapagos Islands. It was a creative, fun and ongoing activity throughout the summer that promoted healthy, friendly competition among staff. Pam collected the exercise data regularly then tracked it on a virtual map created by Quint and Matt in the GIS department. Pam also shared cool pictures and information about the locations where employees “traveled.” This is a great example of teamwork across departments and a commitment to go above and beyond that makes Golden such a great place to work.

Helping Kids Get Their Hands on History

(from left to right) Quint Pertzsch, Matt Daniels and Pam Heimbach
The Golden Community Center’s Preschool program strives to offer a creative place where children can learn and play. The state-licensed program is designed to encourage the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of each child. Golden Preschool focuses on the whole child offering hands-on experiences that enrich and build each child’s learning skills according to their age and ability.

Golden Preschool has taken an important step in providing continuous program improvement through the Qualistar Rating program. Qualistar is the first statewide network of resource and referral agencies dedicated to improving early learning experiences. Qualistar supplies the program with tools and strategies for success and continuous improvement. The preschool program is 4-Star Qualistar Rated, the highest rating possible.

Golden Preschool also utilizes the POCET (Preschool Observation Checklist Evaluation Tool) program, Jefferson County Public Schools benchmarks and standards, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children’s (NAEYC) Developmentally Appropriate Practices.

The success of the preschool program is translated into demand from both residents and non-residents. In 2009, Golden Preschool enrolled 60 students ages three to five and waitlisted approximately 75. Staff recognized a shortage of preschools in the Golden area and the need for an inexpensive program which meets best practice standards. Golden Preschool charges an average of $5.50 dollars per student per hour, one of the lowest fees in Jefferson County. In 2010, Golden expanded the program with the addition of a third room in the Community Center dedicated to preschool. The expansion allowed the program to increase student enrollment in September to a total of 100 children enrolled through May 2011.

Golden Preschool has set their sights even higher for 2011 and will begin the process to become NAEYC Accredited. Accreditation shows Golden’s commitment to provide the highest quality preschool education for the children of the community.

Enroll your child into the 2011-2012 Golden Preschool Program at www.cityofgolden.net/preschool. Print the registration form and submit by Friday, Feb. 25 to be included in the lottery. An emailed receipt will be sent out within three days indicating the status of your registration. Registration forms will be accepted after this date, but if the program is full a waitlist will be started. Emergency forms and immunization records are due by July 31. For more information contact Tracy Hagelund, General Programs Supervisor, at thagelund@cityofgolden.net.

Located at the base of the foothills, the Golden Community Center is a venue with a view! Perfect for weddings, graduations and other events, put your mind at ease with the support of professional staff members and the convenience of an adjoining caterer’s kitchen.

Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates. 
Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
For more information and to register for Golden Community Center Programs, visit https://rec.cityofgolden.net

There is still time to sign up for the Golden Dance Program classes. Choose from youth ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, vocal music theater and cheer/dance prep team. Options for adults include tap, jazz and ballet.

Red Cross Lifeguarding
The City of Golden offers two American Red Cross Lifeguarding Classes this spring. Attendance is mandatory in all classes.
1. March 28 to April 1 (Jefferson County School Break)
2. Saturdays, April 9 to 30 $150 resident, $175 non-resident

CARA Volleyball
CARA (Colorado Association of Recreational Athletics) Volleyball is offered to youth in grades eight and under. Skills of passing, setting, blocking, team strategy and other volleyball skills will be covered, with more advanced techniques for more skilled players. Teams will participate in weekend tournaments against other metro-area recreation agency teams. A state tournament will conclude the season. CARA Volleyball is held at Tony Grampsas Gym.
Age: 11 to 16 years (1) Wednesdays and Fridays, 4:45 to 6 p.m.
Age: 8 to 13 years (2) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
$80 Resident, $85 Non-resident

Advanced Care CPR and First Aid
This course gives you the knowledge and confidence to step forward if needed in an emergency.
Age: 14 years and older
Saturday, Feb. 19
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$60 Resident, $65 Non-resident

Kids on Canvas
Through this painting program, young artists explore a dynamic medium while building artistic skills, developing creativity and learning about the styles and techniques of outstanding artists.
Age: 6 to 12 years
Saturdays, 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 26 to March 19
$78 Resident, $83 Non-resident

FUNdamentals of Art
This FUN class will explore elements of creating art through drawing, painting, and sculpting. During this class, students learn about art FUNdamentals such as line, color, shape, texture and balance.
Age: 6 to 12 years
Saturdays, 2 to 3 p.m.
Feb. 26 to March 19
$65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

Girl Scout & Boy/Cub Scout Badges
Get your Pottery Badge at the Golden Community Center! Your troop will enjoy three classes of instruction by a qualified professional with expertise in coil methods, clay handling, tile making and decorating and glazing. Each group of up to ten registered members will receive a 25lb. bag of clay to build their projects. Call Tracy at 303-384-8124 and set up a time. Fee per student is $20 depending on badge requirements (based on a minimum of six).

COME CATCH THE FUN
The Golden Girls Softball Association (GGSA) has been a part of the Jefferson County league since 1956. It began with four teams and last season there were nine teams carrying on the tradition of girls’ softball in Golden.
This coming season the goal of the GGSA is to increase membership and promote this opportunity for all of the young ladies of Golden. GGSA is looking for girls, ages five and up to learn the game, foster team spirit and make some great new friends.
Golden Girls Softball practices and games are held during the week. Practices will start at the end of April and the season continues through the end of June. Registration is underway. Forms and additional information are available at www.goldengirlssoftball.com or www.jeffcogirlssoftball.com.
City of Golden  |  911 10th St.  |  Golden, CO 80401

2011 Claim Form for 2010 Sales Tax Refund

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 2010 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return.

The refund amount for 2010 is $50. This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden.

Please check one box only:

- **Senior Refund** (must be 65 years or older)
- **Low Income Refund**
  
  *Proof required.* Attach a photocopy of one of the following:
  - State of Colorado Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate 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 2010? _____ 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, 2011.

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 _________
Foothills Art Center, with the David B. Smith Gallery of Denver, creates a stimulating, innovative dialogue about an age-old topic with its newest exhibition, HABITAT, which opened in January.

In an era where technology, development and consumerism dominate, but we spend our weekends trying to get away from it all, HABITAT explores the tumultuous relationship between our natural and manmade worlds. Through installation, drawing, painting and found object sculpture, this exhibition examines the sophistication that has become the modern world and its undeniable effect upon our planet’s natural state, despite our continued longing for a connection with nature.

HABITAT will present compelling works by artists from across the United States, several who have exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. HABITAT runs through March 13 at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. It is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.. Admission is $5 for adults, $3 for seniors, members and students are free. For more information call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

World War II was often called “The People’s War,” because nearly everyone in the U.S. was involved in it. Between 1941 and 1945, women were busy keeping the home fires burning, working in the defense industry and planting Victory gardens. Frugal survivors of the Depression, they sewed; women made, mended, restyled and altered clothing for themselves and their families. They also made a lot of quilts.

Exhaustive research done by historian Sue Reich revealed that five types of quilts were showcased military insignia. There were quilts made for donation to the Red Cross, some were made to raise money for the war effort, and others just fit the style of the day. As members of the Greatest Generation leave us, their quilts evoke memories of America’s darkest days and greatest triumphs. Made for sons, husbands, brothers and loved ones, quilts unique to the World War II era, collected by Sue Reich, are now on display at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. The exhibition runs through April 30. For more information, call 303-277-0377 or visit www.rmqm.org.
2011 Summer Employment Opportunities

The City of Golden will soon be accepting applications for seasonal and part-time positions at the Golden Community Center, The Splash Aquatic Park, and Fossil Trace Golf Club. Opportunities include Lifeguards, Swim Instructors, Batting Cage Attendants, Field Crew, Day Camp Leaders, Youth Program Leaders, Parks, Cemetery and Golf Maintenance, Pro-Shop Guest Services, and Cashiers and Food & Beverage Workers at The Splash.

Be sure to watch our website at http://www.cityofgolden.net/Employment.asp for job availability

OR

subscribe to our website at http://www.cityofgolden.net/Login.asp where you can enter your email address and ask to be notified each time a new job is posted.