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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;
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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

NEW WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES
You might notice a slight increase in your utility bills this year. That’s because the Golden City Council approved water and wastewater rate increases for 2013 and 2014.

The City has spent about $100 million to build a high quality utility system. With today’s prices, it would cost far more than that to replace the entire system. That is why we spend several million dollars each year to not only maintain the health of our current water system, but also to make sure we’re in good enough financial shape to weather any major repair or replacement costs when they come up.

Until now, Golden mostly relied on the fees from new users to cover the costs of maintenance. But now Golden is nearly built out so there is no longer a steady revenue flow from new users. The increase for existing customers is necessary for the City to maintain the outstanding service level it currently provides. Before 2011, customers did not see an increase in wastewater rates for about 20 years.

Water is not a luxury, it is a necessity. Most of us never think about where our water comes from, nor do we wonder if it’s clean and safe to drink. The City makes sure you never have to worry about your water, but it takes a lot of resources and infrastructure to make that happen.

The increases you will see this year are minimal. Water rates increased by $.24 to $5.01 per 1,000 gallons. Wastewater rates increased by $.30 to $2.27 per 1,000 gallons. The changes took effect on Jan. 1. For more specifics on water rates, visit www.cityofgolden.net/live/additional-resources/utility-billing/.

CAMPAIGN ELECTION BOARD OPENINGS
Two appointments to the Campaign Election Board are expiring in March.

The board is composed of three residents of the City of Golden who are registered electors and are not currently serving on another board or commission appointed by City Council. The term is for four years.

Interviews are scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21. Get applications from the City Clerk, or from the city website, www.cityofgolden.net, under Boards and Commissions, Campaign Finance Board. They will be accepted at the Office of City Clerk, City Hall, 911 10th St. or by email to clerks@cityofgolden.net, until 5 p.m. on Wednesday Feb. 13. For more information, email the City Clerk or call 303-384-8015.

HELP PLAN THE FUN STUFF IN GOLDEN
Four appointments to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board are expiring this March. The Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission and City Council regarding the development, expansion and growth of the parks and recreational facilities within the city. Applicants must be residents of the City of Golden.

Applicants must be available for an interview with City Council on Feb. 28. For questions regarding the board, call Parks Director Rod Tarullo at 303-384-8120 or rtarullo@cityofgolden.net. You can also find information at www.cityofgolden.net under Boards and Commissions, Parks and Recreation Advisory. Applications will be accepted at the Office of City Clerk, City Hall, 911 10th St., or by email at clerks@cityofgolden.net until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 20.
I had a really fun conversation on a plane this fall with a woman who told me all about her exciting trip to Golden. It started out as a quick trip to take the Coors tour and ended up being a daylong adventure that included seeing the President, walking along the creek and having dinner downtown. She never asked me where I was from but couldn’t say enough about this great little city she had “discovered.” It is the enthusiasm and excitement of stories like this that I hear over and over from people who visit Golden and it always fills my heart with pride.

2012 was a great year for Golden with the addition of new businesses to the area, seemingly endless crowds of visitors and a multitude of events in town that appropriately showed off our local pride. Now, as 2013 is ramping up, it’s time to look forward and prepare for what is likely to be an important year for Golden.

There are a number of large projects that will have long term impacts on Golden, including the North West Transportation Corridor, the East Downtown neighborhood plan and the West Rail Line.

We learned in late December that the U.S. District Court decided to transfer the property on the eastern edge of Rocky Flats to the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority (JPPHA). As most know by now, JPPHA intends to use the property for a toll road between Hwy 128 and Hwy 93. Despite the court’s decision, Golden will continue to be a leader in proposing innovative ways to solve transportation issues in the Northwest Quadrant of the Denver Metro area. We must also continue to protect Golden from the adverse effects of the 20th century expansion plans that JPPHA and their allies continue to try to push forward. (For more information, check out the article on the next page.)

In Golden, staff has been working with both residents and businesses in the downtown corridor and across the city to build a plan for what all of Golden would like to see develop in the East Downtown area. Design standards, appropriate uses, parking standards, and increased mobility all come together to make a strong future for this part of town that could see major changes over the next ten years. The success of downtown means there will be increased interest in expanding east and west of Washington Avenue and thoughtful plans like the East Downtown plan will help guide the development.

On the south side of town, The West Rail Line will be connecting Golden, Lakewood and Denver with the latest section of Denver metro light rail system. To facilitate access to the new station, we will see a new circulator bus begin service from downtown Golden to the Golden light rail station.

In addition to these big projects, we will continue to work on the transition of the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) as it nears its sunset in 2014. We also need to come up with ways to protect the integrity of one of our greatest resources, Clear Creek, while still allowing everyone to enjoy it responsibly. I am sure there are other big projects I am forgetting, but keep an eye out in the Informer, the city website www.cityofgolden.net, and various newsletters for what the Council and the City are working on. 2013 appears to be a very important year for Golden and I look forward to working with all of you to continue the success we have had.

Best, Bob
Efforts to protect Golden from the negative effects of a toll road have received regional and state attention. While the city has been fighting the creation of the Jefferson Parkway in court, it has also been proactively reaching out to neighboring communities and the Colorado Department of Transportation to come up with solutions that will be beneficial... not detrimental... to our entire region.

Golden recently received an unfavorable decision. In December, a federal district judge upheld a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to transfer land on the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge for construction of the Jefferson Parkway.

A year earlier, the Town of Superior had filed suit challenging the decision to transfer the land. The City of Golden and two environmental groups joined the lawsuit shortly thereafter.

“Golden knew that challenging the federal agency’s decision presented an uphill battle,” said Mayor Marjorie Sloan. “The court does not have to agree with the agency's decision, only that the agency had a reasonable basis for reaching its result. We believe that the Fish and Wildlife Service's decision was so flawed as to be reversible, but the district court disagreed.”

The court’s decision allowed the parkway to clear one hurdle, but it faces others. As the interim director of the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority told the Boulder Daily Camera, this is “only one step in a very long process.” For example, proponents still need to identify taxpayer dollars to make the project financially viable.

The Town of Superior, WildEarth Guardians and Rocky Mountain Wild have appealed the court’s decision and continue this phase of the legal battle. Meanwhile, Golden is making tremendous strides in educating our regional neighbors about Golden’s needs for appropriate transportation solutions.

Golden last year held a community transportation conversation to evaluate possible US 6 and SH 93 corridor designs that would be consistent with residents' vision for our small town. Based on that feedback, Golden engaged in productive discussions with neighboring communities and the State to identify collaborative engineering solutions. The goal is to address regional transportation needs while enhancing the connectivity of Golden neighborhoods along the corridor, preserving views of the mountain backdrop, maintaining reduced speeds, and minimizing highway noise.

“Communities across the region can address our common transportation needs in a responsible, cooperative manner,” said Golden Mayor Pro Tem Joe Behm. “In that spirit, the City of Golden this year has maintained a dialogue with neighboring communities and the Colorado Department of Transportation, looking for solutions that work for various parties. That remains our approach and our commitment today, just as it was before the judge’s ruling.”

“The lawsuit developments do not mean the Jefferson Parkway will be built in the near future,” Sloan added. “And even though Colorado transportation funding is severely constricted, Golden is making headway toward a regional consensus on how roads through our town can and should be designed to meet our community values.”
In addition to the usual methods cities use to guide development, Golden has employed a strong “growth rate cap” since 1996. The Golden Planning Commission, working with updated community goals and policies, proposes to re-affirm the City’s current one-percent growth policies and suggests modest refinements to better facilitate residential construction that supports our Golden Vision 2030 goals.

The Goldenites who participated in the Golden Vision 2030 process in 2009 and 2010 remember that the Planning Commission and City Council hosted dozens of meetings and events intended to define and articulate our community values. The end results of that process included the Golden Vision document and updated Comprehensive Plan, both of which are available on the Planning Division page at www.cityofgolden.net. In addition, two new neighborhood plans were adopted, and a third related to the East Downtown area is underway.

Our community values require that we direct and manage change, assure smart growth (transportation and development), affordable housing, and sustainability. As a community, we expect sustainability that preserves the small town look, feel, and character of Golden for today and for future residents.

As we begin 2013, Planning Commission is actively working on two more implementation measures recommended by Golden Vision, the Comprehensive Plan and individual neighborhood plans. These two efforts are (1) a new approach for zoning in specific areas of potential future change, and (2) minor adjustments to the administration of our growth management system. The new zoning approach is commonly called “form based zoning” and while it continues to regulate land use, it places a greater emphasis on the location and orientation of buildings to insure neighborhood compatibility. Planning Commission will start hearings on this Community Mixed Use zone district concept on Feb. 6.

One of the Golden Vision implementation challenges that concerns Planning Commission is that the current administrative procedures and municipal codes used to implement Golden’s residential growth management don’t help direct the nature, location, or quality of residential development. Instead, the strict annual provisions actually make it more difficult to propose certain improvements like a sustainable mixed use project that supports the new light rail line. While Planning Commission and Council universally support the one-percent growth system, Commission is asking whether its administration should be updated to better encourage the types of housing anticipated in Golden Vision 2030. Planning Commission’s discussion paper about the issue is available online at www.cityofgolden.net/media/GrowthManagementRecommendations.pdf. Stay involved in this important discussion by checking the Planning Division page on the City website for announcements of community discussions beginning this month.

WHERE TO FIND TAX FORMS

In the past, the Jefferson County Public Libraries (JCPL), including the Golden Library, offered all of the paper tax forms you might need. But due to budget cuts, the JCPL is reducing the number of paper tax forms. This year the libraries will only offer the most common tax forms and next year they plan to eliminate paper forms altogether.

Instead, residents can now download, print and request any tax form you might need at the following locations:

- Federal forms: www.irs.gov/Forms-&-Pubs
- State forms: www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/Revenue/REVX/1177017542056
- Contact JCPL: http://jeffcolibrary.org/askus/
Always a popular destination, the Clear Creek Corridor experienced unprecedented use during the 2012 summer season due to minimal run off coupled with extreme high temperatures. The Clear Creek Corridor is a linear park connecting Lions Park to Vanover Park, downtown Golden to regional trails, and plays host to a kayak course, ball fields, museums, businesses, the Farmer’s Market, Golden Library and the Golden Community Center. It provides residents a truly unique multi-use area in which to recreate, shop and work; one that promotes synergy with the downtown environment and surrounding neighborhoods.

Congestion and use conflict between recreational users could be witnessed all along the creek corridor this past summer. The volume of visitors descending on the creek also led to increased violations, with new regulations and heightened enforcement beginning in July.

City staff is currently working with the National Park Service to develop a Clear Creek Management Plan through a public engagement process. The goal of the plan is to establish a framework for managing the wide variety of recreational uses while balancing the need to restore and preserve the creek and its banks.

The Clear Creek Management Plan objectives include:
- Understand how people currently use the creek and how they want to use the creek
- Develop and evaluate management strategies that could be employed in summer 2013
- Understand core issues and develop goals based on user input
- Field verify understanding of current use issues
- Find ways to achieve the vision set forth in the Golden Vision 2030 Plan
- Build an understanding amongst creek users about safety, culture and preservation
- Use an inclusive, collaborative process
- Effectively communicate expectations of creek corridor use

For more information and to participate in Clear Creek discussions, visit http://goldenvision.cityofgolden.net.

As staff and elected officials contemplate future strategies to keep the Clear Creek Corridor a fun, thriving and safe environment, we need your input! Join us for an Open House to discuss strategies for managing Clear Creek from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12 at the Golden Community Center, 1440 10th St.

The City of Golden Parks and Recreation Department will once again be offering small trees to residents at very reasonable prices this spring through our annual sale. Our mixture of deciduous and conifer species will be available for purchase beginning March 1.

There are a variety of trees to choose from, including six species of pine in 3’-5’ sizes at $50 each and five species of deciduous 6’-10’ tall with approximate trunk diameters of 1.25” for $45-$85 each. Quantities are quite limited, with a total of only about 100 trees available through this sale.

For the first time, about 80 percent of the deciduous tree supply will be shipped in air-pruned containers, a recent development which allows for a healthier, more transplant-friendly root system. These products are a bit higher priced than the traditional “balled and burlapped” root system but the improvement in quality should provide greater customer satisfaction.

More details will be in the March issue of the Golden Informer. You can also visit www.cityofgolden.net/links/TreeSale or contact City Forester Dave High at 303-384-8141 or dhigh@cityofgolden.net.

Plant a Legacy
Golden residents are catching on to a program that allows you to use city money to improve your neighborhood. It’s called the i-Golden Neighborhood Grant program. Last year, 23 people applied for and received small grants of $500 or less. The majority of these grants were used for block parties to build a sense of community within a neighborhood. Everything from a Thanksgiving potluck, to a “Christmas on the Cul-de-sac” party that collected toys for a local charity.

Lewis Court Apartments, Golden’s new senior housing at 24th and Jackson streets, obtained a grant for Christmas decorations and a celebration for its residents. Another small grant was given to purchase a bench in a park where kids can wait for their school bus or parents can use while watching their children play.

The sky is the limit when it comes to creativity to get a grant, and the neighborly fever can be contagious! A group of Mines students held a block party to get to know their neighbors and are now considering future projects such as helping their neighbors with small home repair projects and tutoring high school students. Another grant was for a sustainability group who set up a Tour of Solar Homes along with do-it-yourself training.

Also available are larger, matching grants of up to $2,500 and four groups received them last year. The projects varied in size and scope and benefited many in our community. One large grant helped to support a running race to raise money for the Golden Schools Foundation. Money was also given for neighborhood tree trimming, a neighborhood rehabilitation project, and landscaping beautification on a corner lot owned by the city.

Now it’s your turn! If you are interested in learning about the i-Golden Neighborhood Grant program, visit www.cityofgolden.net under Live, Get Involved, Neighborhood Grants. For questions call City Clerk Susan Brooks at 303-384-8014 or sbrooks@cityofgolden.net.

February brings the celebration of Valentine’s Day, but in Golden, it also celebrates a different kind of heart. This is the month that the Golden Civic Foundation (GCF) honors our city’s non-profit organizations by giving them much needed funding.

Each year in November, the GCF holds its annual Dinner and Auction, which is supported by local merchants, corporations and individuals. The money raised goes directly back into the Golden community in the form of grants. The grant requests come from a wide variety of organizations including Golden’s schools, cultural organizations and charities.

The 2012 auction raised more than $75,000, which will now be given out to the lucky recipients. Since starting its annual grant program, the Golden Civic Foundation has donated more than $2.6 million to Golden’s non-profit community.

For more information on the grant program and for a list of winners, visit www.goldencivicfoundation.org/grants.htm. To contribute to the Foundation’s efforts, click on the “Support Our Work” tab.
Golden has seen a surge in popularity this past year along the creek corridor and throughout town. People are coming from all over the metro area to enjoy our amenities, museums, shops and restaurants. But it’s not just visitors who’ve noticed our city… burglars have also taken an interest.

Late on Thanksgiving night and into the early hours of Nov. 23, 2012, 16 cars and seven homes were burglarized in the downtown Golden area. They all had one thing in common… unlocked doors. The Golden Police K-9 unit tracked the path of the suspects, which took them from one car to the next. “This was a crime of opportunity,” said Detective Jamie Guess. “They looked for unlocked doors to cars and homes and took the path of least resistance.”

Golden is a relatively safe community. But that doesn’t mean that bad things can’t happen here. That is why you should never get complacent about locking your doors and windows on your cars and homes. Never leave anything of value in your car but if you must, keep it out of view. Golden Police also suggest having good lighting around your home to detract burglars. In addition, take inventory and photographs of your personal property, including makes, models and serial numbers when available. This is extremely helpful for law enforcement in tracking down stolen items in the event that you do become a victim.

Several suspects have been identified and some arrested for the burglary spree in late November. Golden Police say the public played a big role in their capture. One homeowner caught a suspect in the act of stealing from a car and called police right away with a description. “It is always important for people to watch for things out of the ordinary,” said Det. Guess. “If you see something strange, no matter how minor you think it is, call police. That is what we’re here for.” The better you know your neighbors, the more likely you will be able to spot unusual behavior. If you would like more information on neighborhood awareness, contact Community Resource Officer Jodene Fowler at 303-384-8073.

Take that extra moment each day to lessen your chances of being victimized by a burglar. Lock up your cars, homes, bikes and any other property that could be stolen. If you want to report suspicious behavior, you can call Golden Dispatch at 303-384-8045 or dial 9-1-1.

Golden’s Dispatchers will now send emergency notifications to residents and businesses through a system called Code Red. There are some things you need to know about this new system, so that it works for you in the event of an emergency.

A call from the Code Red system will generally be a computer generated voice or a recording from a dispatcher, which will provide you information about police or fire activity in your neighborhood. These calls will show up on caller ID as coming from phone number 866-419-5000 and might say “Emergency Communications.” Please do not ignore these calls. These messages are voice activated, so be sure to give a verbal greeting in order to hear the message. Please DO NOT call 9-1-1 to verify the message. Dispatchers will likely be very busy and need to focus on emergencies.

The system will attempt to call every hard-wired phone within the notification area, even if your number is unlisted. If you do not have a hard-wired phone and only use a cell phone or Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) you must register your number at www.your911.net. Enter your phone number and click on search. You can then enter your information. You can have multiple phone numbers registered for each address so no one in your family will miss out. You can also register to receive email and text message notifications.

Keep in mind that no notification system is perfect. The system is dependent on the amount of phone lines available at the time of the notification, so it’s not a guarantee that you will receive each notification. However, the system automatically makes several attempts to contact each number.
Through Feb. 17

Mrs. Mannerly
A hilarious comedy where the narrator remembers himself as a 10-year-old boy studying manners taught by a tyrant teacher. Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Through April 27

Surface Explorations

Feb. 2
Groundhog Day

Coffee with a Councilor
Sip on your favorite beverage and talk with City Councilors about topics concerning Golden. 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.

Feb. 4
Scrambowl for Lights
Come cheer on your favorite team and join in on dinner for $5. 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 each year. For information call 303-279-3113 or visit www.goldencoachamber.org.

Feb. 7 and 21

MOPS, Mothers of Preschoolers
MOPS is a support group for mothers and children from birth to kindergarten. First and third Thursdays of every month through April. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, 1805 Washington Ave. For information call 303-279-4605 or visit www.fbcgolden.org under Families.

Feb. 10
Chinese New Year

Feb. 14
Valentine’s Day

Feb. 14 to March 3
One Enchanted Evening
This popular show makes a brief return for the season. Heritage Square Music Hall, 18301 W. Colfax Ave. Visit www.hsmusicshall.com or call 303-279-7800 for tickets and show times.

Feb. 17
International Young Artists Concert
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will feature the winner of its annual International Young Artists Competition at 3 p.m. at the Colorado School of Mines Green Center, 924 16th St. For information call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffsymphony.org.

Feb. 18
President’s Day

Feb. 21 to 24
Colorado Environmental Film Festival
50 world-class environmental films that are inspiring and educational. American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. For a list of movies and event information, visit www.ceff.net.

Feb. 23
Freshly Brewed History
Join us for breakfast and coffee and hear Barb Warden discuss Golden’s funiculars and tourism in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Following, Jenifer Doane from Visit Golden will share current insight on touring this picturesque city. 9 to 10 a.m. at Astor House Museum, 822 12th St. $3 members, $5 non-members. For information call 303-278-3557 or visit www.GoldenHistory.org.

Feb. 24
Buffalo Bill Birthday Bash
The 32nd annual Birthday Bash is from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Buffalo Rose Events Center, 1119 Washington Ave. General admission is $5, re-enactor entry fee is $25 and costume entry fee is $15. For more information call Ralph or Barb Melfi at 303-816-0097 or 303-816-1435.

Feb. 27
Buffalo Bill Birthday Party
This free event includes music, contests, cake and prizes. Noon to 4 p.m. at the Rock Rest Lodge & Restaurant, 16005 S. Golden Rd. For information, email monarchproductions@earthlink.net.
**Feb. 25 to April 5**

**Boot Camp Challenge**

This is a six week session-based program for every fitness level. Now there are two camps to choose from: 5:45 to 6:45 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays OR 5:30 to 7 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. For details call Kim at 720-628-2901 or info@BCCDenver.com.

**Feb. 27 and 28**

**Band and Orchestra Concerts**

Bell Middle School’s Band will perform on Feb. 27 and the String Orchestra will perform on Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Golden High School auditorium, 701 24th St. Suggested donation of $3, cash and checks accepted at the door. For details, contact Katharine Parker at 303-982-4187 or khparker@jeffco.k12.co.us.

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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 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.

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**FREE Sales and Use Tax Workshop**

The City of Golden is hosting **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 workshop will be held in the **Golden City Hall Conference Room, City Hall, 911 10th St.**

March 6, 2013 .......... 8:30 to 10 a.m.
April 3, 2013 .......... 8:30 to 10 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. Class is geared toward individuals who need to learn about 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 6, 2013 .......... 8:30 to 10 a.m.

**Class is free, but space is limited.**

Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.

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**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2013 GOLDEN ETHICS IN BUSINESS AWARDS**

The Rotary Club of Golden seeks nominations by the public for businesses and not-for-profit organizations that demonstrate the highest standards of ethical business practice, integrity, and civic and social responsibility. Nominations can be made online until Feb. 28 at www.GoldenRotaryEthics.org.

Colorado School of Mines ethics students will select the winners of the 2013 Golden Ethics in Business Awards, and winners and nominees will be recognized at an awards luncheon on April 19. For more information, call Dan Green at 720-383-4342.

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Fighting Hunger is a Year-Round Challenge

Golden’s Food Bank is experiencing an increased demand for food throughout the year. In a typical month, the Christian Action Guild (CAG) Food Bank serves 300 people, providing key staples like peanut butter, beans, pasta, rice and canned fruits and vegetables.

CAG is a non-profit, non-denominational organization that provides a lifeline for people in Golden who struggle with hunger including seniors, people with disabilities and low-income singles and families. Over the years Golden’s generous community of individuals, churches, public and private organizations have provided money, food, volunteer time, donated goods for the thrift store and even fresh produce from the community garden.

Unfortunately, higher prices at the grocery store and low-growth wages have impacted not only the need for assistance, but also the ability for people to donate. CAG is operated solely by volunteers and is dependent on donations. When the food bank shelves are empty, CAG uses the income from the adjacent thrift store to purchase food from the Food Bank of the Rockies.

You can help! Donate clothing and goods to the thrift store, donate money and food to the food bank, or volunteer your personal time or your company’s civic project time to help the less fortunate in Golden.

CAG Thrift Shop & Food Bank
1401 Ford Street
Golden, CO 80401
303-279-5674
Open Tuesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Now is the time to start planning for your spring garden, and the City of Golden can help. The City is once again partnering with ReSource (formerly known as the Center for ReSource Conservation) to bring you low-water garden collections that can thrive in our climate.

The 2013 garden selection includes three perennial xeric garden kits, two for full sun and one for the more shady areas. Also available is the “Spaghetti Dinner” vegetable garden which includes basil, eggplants, tomatoes and many more. Depending on your selection, kits come with 15 to 33 plants, an easy to follow plant-by-number design and a care and maintenance guide. For garden kit questions call 303-999-3820 x.217.

The kits go on sale this month while supplies last, and will be available for pickup in May. To view the kits, visit http://gardenstore.conservationcenter.org/.

Kudos for a Cleaner City

A big thank you from the City of Golden to all of the individuals and groups who volunteered their time and efforts to pick up roadside, trail and channel litter over the past year. The Adopt-A-Street/Spot programs are very popular and make a big impact on keeping Golden beautiful.

Thank you to the following 2012 volunteers:

ADOPT-A-STREET
• Evergreen Disposal Service
• Golden Elks Lodge 2740
• Golden Fire Dept. Volunteers
• Jefferson Co. Justice Service Dept.
• Knights of Columbus
• Lookout Mountain Youth Services
• Realtors on Bikes.com
• Rocky Mountain Metal Container
• Rotary Club of Golden
• Stephanie Day
• Stockton Bail Bonds

ADOPT-A-SPOT
• Bob Nelson
• David Johnson & Kim Hag
• Gene Raymond
Plan for Eating Local this Year

While the summer fruit and vegetable harvest is later in the year, now is a good time to create a plan for eating local. If you have space at your home or in a plot at the Golden Community Garden, choose veggies that your family loves to eat. You can even share or trade with neighbors. If you can’t have a garden, buying into Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm share or visiting the weekend Farmers Market in downtown are great options. Many CSAs make a weekly stop in Golden, so check out their offerings at www.colorado-ecas.info. Most CSAs deliver from June through December and also offer year round delivery for many items.

Nominations Open For 2013 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 from now until March 19. Download an application at www.cityofgolden.net/government/departments-divisions/sustainability/golden-sustainability-awards. For more information, call Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or email tworsham@cityofgolden.net.

MONEY BACK FOR INSULATION

Is there a room in your house that’s always cold or drafty? You may be losing up to 25 percent of your heating or cooling energy due to insufficient insulation. Installing or upgrading your home’s insulation is one of the best investments you can make in lowering your energy bill, and Golden residents can even earn rebates on qualified insulation. Xcel Energy is offering rebates equal to 20 percent of the total cost of the insulation and installation up to a maximum rebate of $300.

It includes:
- Insulation for attic and walls
- Air sealing
- Weather-stripping

Call Xcel Energy at 1-800-895-4999 or visit www.xcelenergy.com to learn more about the program.

STEPS TO SUSTAINABILITY

Local eating in winter isn’t as difficult as you might think. Several CSAs deliver items to grocery stores in Golden. Pick up eggs, meats, and root vegetables year round.
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 2012 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return. **The refund amount for 2012 is $50.** This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden and partial year at age 65.

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**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

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**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 2012? _____ months
Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person’s income tax form?  □ yes □ no

Signature: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________

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**This form must be submitted by no later than April 15, 2013.**

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**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): ____________________________

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**Office Use Only:**

Account #013031-6190 STR Vendor # _________ Received _________ Payable _________
Celebrate Health!
Fridays, Feb. 1, March 1 & April 5
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!
Stay up-to-date about Games, Classes & Clubs, Volunteer Activities, Wellness, Trips & Events. Visit us online at www.cityofgolden.net/links/FrontPorch or email frontporchnews@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

FREE Seminars Available!

Nurturing the Brain
This class provides some practical ways to improve your mental abilities along with a small cookbook of Brain recipes.
Thursday, Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Computer Training for Life-Long Learning
These introductory computer classes are presented for FREE by the Jefferson County Public Library. Each four week series is designed to accommodate all skill levels! Space is limited, sign up in the Front Porch.
Min/Max: 4/8

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

History Colorado Lecture - #15004-1
www.historycolorado.org
A Misplaced Massacre: Sand Creek in History and Memory: For nearly a century and a half, the Sand Creek Massacre has been at the center of struggles over history and memory in the West. Join Dr. Ari Kelman as he discusses this controversial chapter of Colorado’s history in the History Colorado Center.
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$20 (van and lecture, bring money for lunch)
Exertion Level: 2
Register/Cancel by Feb. 15.

The DCPA Tour - #15005-1
www.denvercenter.org
Explore backstage at the Denver Performing Arts Complex, the world’s largest performance facility! The 90-minute guided tour takes you backstage, through dressing rooms, into costume and design studios, and on stage. We will have lunch after the tour.
Monday, Feb. 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
$18 (van, tour included, bring money for lunch)
Exertion Level: 4
Register/cancel by Feb. 20.
Register online at https://rec.cityofgolden.net.

2013-2014 Preschool Open Enrollment
Visit https://rec.cityofgolden.net and print the registration form. Submit the form by Friday, Feb. 25 to be entered in the lottery. The lottery will be on Monday, Feb. 28 at 9 a.m. An emailed receipt will be sent out within three business days indicating the status of your child’s registration. Registration forms will be accepted after this date, but if the program is full, a waitlist will be maintained. Emergency forms and immunization records are due by July 31. Call Tracy at 303-384-8124 with questions.

Parent/Tot JumpBunch®
Enjoy hands-on interaction with your child as they learn and grow with this highly-acclaimed program built for children 18 months to 3 years of age. Trained coaches lead parents and children through a wide variety of sports and games geared to build balance, coordination and keep your toddler moving!

Age: 18 months - 3 years
Thursdays, 4 - 4:30 p.m.
Feb. 7 - 28
$35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

JumpBunch® Preschoolers
Learn about nutrition and healthy living habits in addition to weekly activities that enhance hand-eye coordination, color and shape recognition, fine and gross motor skill development, self-confidence and much more.

Age: 3 - 6 years
Tuesdays, 12:45 - 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 5 - 26

JumpBunch® JB Sports
Students can expect fun and in-depth lessons that focus on enhancing physical skills and cognitive development. Light competition is introduced as students learn the finer details of many sports and games.

Age: 6 - 12 years
Thursdays, 5:15 - 6 p.m.
Feb. 7 - 28
$40 Resident, $45 Non-resident

Spanish for Travelers
This course is for beginner students who want to learn specific grammar, vocabulary, and conversational topics pertaining to real life situations encountered while traveling in Spanish-speaking countries.

Age: 14 years and older
Thursdays, 6 - 8 p.m.
Feb. 21 - April 4
- No class March 28.
$170 Resident,
$175 Non-resident

Lifeguard Training
This American Red Cross (ARC) designed course is one of the National Standards for Lifeguard Employment. Upon successful completion, the candidate will receive certification in ARC Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer.

Tuesday thru Friday,
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
March 27 - 30
(JeffCo Spring Break)
$175 Resident,
$200 Non-Resident

Rockin’ Rockets Workshop
With SpaceTime’s Rockin Rockets workshop kids will get to do just about everything there is to do with rockets…short of riding one into space! Activities include learning about the science and history of rocketry, crafting their own Space-Time Blaster Rockets and launching several different kinds of rockets.

Age: 5 - 12 years
Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon
Feb. 9
$20 Resident, $22 Non-resident

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 Brian Harris at 303-384-8125 or email bharris@cityofgolden.net for availability, facility tours and rates. Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
In a small city near the mountains there lived children who loved stories. Each month, storytellers visited the children at school to share captivating tales of jazzy grasshoppers, clever coyotes, and miraculous chickens.

This is a true story for children at Mitchell, Shelton, and other area schools who enjoy visits from some very creative storytellers who volunteer for Jeffco Spellbinders. The Spellbinders is the local chapter of a national organization of trained and background-checked volunteer storytellers who regularly visit over 350 classrooms in Jefferson County schools.

One of these storytellers is Golden resident, Lev Ropes, a.k.a. “Grandbear,” who tells stories to children in 3rd grade classrooms at Mitchell and Shelton Elementary Schools. Grandbear’s stories are inspired by the things he sees when hiking, living life and strolling the streets of Golden. The children love Grandbear and his stories. “Grandbear’s stories make me think in ways I never thought of before,” said one Shelton student, who added that he thinks of Grandbear as being a “skinny Santa Claus” because he “spreads joy and cheer.”

Golden Spellbinder Leo Lohman tells stories to students in grades 4, 5, and 6 at Mitchell Elementary and students are equally excited when he visits. Leo has many stories that he has personally developed to align with the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade curriculum. As a retired Jeffco Elementary principal, Leo has a good sense of both curricular content and strategies that support the learning of elementary aged students. “The teachers are responsible for teaching the curriculum,” said Leo. “If my stories help the kids learn and remember, I have achieved my goal as a Spellbinder.”

If you are interested in learning more about Spellbinders or in becoming a Spellbinders volunteer visit www.spellbinders.org or contact Carrie Jantz at carriejantz@yahoo.com.

You can learn more about Grandbear and hear samples of his stories at www.grandbearthestoryteller.com.

Once Upon a Time, in Golden

“Grandbear” (left) and Leo (right) entertain the students at Mitchell Elementary with their unique stories.

GEARING UP FOR AN EXCITING YEAR AT FOOTHILLS ART CENTER

The Main Gallery at Foothills Art Center will be closed in February to get ready for some spectacular upcoming exhibits. March will bring the 22nd Annual Colorado Watercolor Society State Exhibition to Golden. Enjoy nearly 100 exciting works in the world of watercolor.

Beginning in April and running through June is an extraordinary and rarely viewed exhibition. Edgar Degas: The Private Impressionist presents a unique selection of drawings, prints and photographs by the illustrious French artist, Edgar Degas (1834-1917). The exhibition is enriched with rare works of art on paper by friends and colleagues in Degas’ circle, such as Mary Cassatt and Paul Cezanne.

During the February renovation, the Gift Gallery will be open. Also, the Colorado Woodturners exhibition will be in the Community Gallery and runs through March 15. For more details, visit www.foothillsartcenter.org or call 303-279-3922.
A Historical Year for the History Museum

Face to Face: Contemporary Portraits of Legendary People opens this month. Join us at the Golden History Center, 923 10th St., on Friday, Feb. 1 for a free opening reception from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Food and beverages will be provided, along with classical music from members of the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra. Please RSVP by calling 303-278-3557, Tuesday through Sunday.

It’s not every day that a museum gets to commemorate its 75th birthday. Come celebrate with Face to Face: Contemporary Portraits of Legendary People!

Golden History Museums got its start back in 1938 as the Jefferson County Museum. Soon after the museum’s founding, a set of portraits were commissioned commemorating notable individuals from the Golden community. The paintings included the likes of William Loveland, George West, and William Sarell, among others. (Nine of these paintings are currently on display). We drew inspiration from our past, and decided to commission a new set of portraits with the help of legendary Golden photographer Rick Souders.

In July 2012, we asked Goldenites to nominate individuals for consideration in the project. We were looking for a diverse group of people, and that’s exactly what we got. One of the hardest parts of this project was selecting the finalists. Now that the hardest part is finished, we’d like to introduce you to 15 legendary people of Golden: Marvin Kay, Bethany Thomas, Gary Wink, Dr. Cathy Skokan, Heinie Foss, William K. Coors, Thomas J. Mullin, JoAnn Thistlewood, Joseph Coors Jr., Steve Stevens, Dr. Charles Fay, Richard Gardner, Rick Souders, Sal Glessner, and Irma Wyhs.

The larger-than-life canvas portraits can be seen at the Golden History Center throughout the year.

Steve Stevens poses in his sustainable museum, Golden Oldy Cyclery of Sustainable Transportation in Golden.
ATTENTION
Golden Businesses!

Be an Event Sponsor and increase YOUR business with personalized marketing. Learn more by calling 303-384-8172.

BUY GOLDEN WEEK
March 8 - 17, 2013
Contribute to Golden’s future with your purchase during Buy Golden Week and help raise funds for Golden Public Schools.

On the Big Screen in Golden

The Colorado Environmental Film Festival returns to Golden for its 7th season in late February. The Festival presents 50 thought-provoking films and dialogue that raise awareness of a wide variety of interconnected ecological, social and economic themes.

This year’s kickoff event is the screening of Watershed: Exploring a New Water Ethic for the New West at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. Executive produced and narrated by Robert Redford and directed by Mark Decena, Watershed tells the story of the threats to the once-mighty Colorado River and offers solutions for the future of the American West.

The other 49 films are shown from Feb. 22 to 24 and are expected to be equally as inspiring and educational. For more details, including the entire schedule, vendor, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.ceff.net.
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.

Be sure to check out our website at http://sitetools.cityofgolden.net/employment.asp for job availability.

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 at Fossil Trace
- Cashiers and Food & Beverage Workers at The Splash