Progress Update on Hwy 58 Bridge Project

Submit Your Photos of Golden for Giant Mosaic

Grow It and They Will Learn
2014 Golden City Council

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In this Issue

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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

TIME FOR THE TREE SALE
The Golden Parks and Recreation Department will be offering seven species of deciduous trees to Golden residents in 2014 through our annual spring tree sale.

The trees available are Hedge maple, Big-Tooth maple, Chanticleer pear, Northern catalpa, Chicagoland hackberry, Kentucky coffeetree and European hornbeam.

All except the coffeetree are grown in air-pruned rootball containers, a relatively recent development which allows for a healthier root system. The coffeetree has the traditional balled-in-burlap rootball.

The container trees will sell for $85 each; the coffeetree for $55. All trees are approximately 8 feet tall with a trunk diameter of 1¼ inches. Quantities are limited, with a total of only 50 trees for sale and you must be a City of Golden resident to buy.

Trees may be purchased between March 1 and April 13 or until supplies run out. Visit www.cityofgolden.net/links/TreeSale for more information or contact our Forestry office at 303-384-8141.

RE-IMAGINE YOUR LANDSCAPE
Now is your chance to get your garden growing! New garden kits and water conserving products will go on sale March 1. Garden quantities are limited and sell out quickly. Visit GardenStore.ConservationCenter.org to place your name on the priority waiting list for this year.

Depending on your selection, all garden kits come with 15 to 33 plants ready for planting, an easy to follow professionally designed 'plant-by-number' design, and a care and maintenance guide. Water conservation products include easy-to-install drip kits. For garden kit questions visit ConservationCenter.org or call 303-999-3820.

Garden kits will be available for pick-up at the Greener Golden event in mid-May – look for additional details on Golden’s annual event to kick-off the garden season in the April Informer and at www.cityofgolden.net.

FREE WATER-WISE SEMINAR
Come learn from the pros. Each spring, the City partners with the Center for ReSource Conservation to offer free seminars on the how-to’s of Xeriscaping and other water-wise landscape practices. Seminars are FREE and open to anyone. Watch for additional details in the March Informer and at www.cityofgolden.net.

NOMINATE A GOLDEN BUSINESS FOR GOOD ETHICS
The Rotary Club of Golden seeks nominations of businesses and not-for-profit organizations which demonstrate the highest standards of ethical business practice, integrity, and civic and social responsibility. Nominations will be accepted through Feb. 28, and can be made online at www.GoldenRotaryEthics.org.

Colorado School of Mines ethics students will select the winners of the 2014 Golden Ethics in Business Awards, and winners and nominees will be recognized at an awards luncheon on April 25. For additional information, visit the website or call Jerry Lovejoy at 720-383-4342.

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

Feb. 6
No Meeting

Feb. 13
Regular Business Meeting

Feb. 20
No Meeting

Feb. 27
Regular Business Meeting

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

Public comment is welcome on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
People in love with their cities invest their time and talents in the community’s well-being and economic growth. Thus, a city worthy of its residents’ affection will thrive. February, the Valentine month, is an ideal time to fan the flames of love for Golden.

The Knight Foundation has identified the three characteristics that create strong emotional bonds between a town and its residents. These sought-after qualities are: beauty of surroundings, a range of social and cultural offerings, and inclusiveness. Polling showed that people take pride in living in an attractive place. They want their city to be a good place to have fun, meet people, and make friends. And they value a community that is open to people of all ages and backgrounds.

One way to measure Golden against the lovability factors is to view it with fresh eyes. Pretend you are looking for a place to live or establish a business. You could be a new college graduate, a parent of small and teenaged children, or a retiree. Cloaked in your imaginary persona, walk around a different neighborhood, visit an out-of-the-way park, try an unfamiliar place of business, take another mode of transport, attend a new event, or strike up a conversation with a stranger. Based on these experiences, put Golden to the test. How would you rate our physical setting and public spaces? Are there fun things to do here? Do the people generally display a welcoming, inclusive attitude?

With its heartbreakingly beautiful setting, an amazing number of social opportunities, and hometown-friendly people, Golden will pass the test with flying colors. In fact, “I love Golden” is the most frequent comment of residents and visitors alike. But the “love check” can help us rediscover what is lovable about our city and restart the cycle of deepening engagement and broadening activism.

Already, Golden affords a wealth of opportunities for individuals and groups wanting to make a difference in our town. The City’s boards and commissions give direct advice to city council relating to parks and recreation, sustainability, economic development, downtown improvement, land use, zoning, historic preservation, and urban renewal. As discussed in the article on page 6 in this issue of the Informer, under the City’s new consolidated appointment process, February is an ideal month to consider applying for a board position.

In addition, Golden’s many cultural, civic, business, homeowner, and faith-based groups provide opportunities for meaningful contributions. Leadership Golden, a worthy organization in its own right, publishes an annual “Directory of Volunteer Opportunities,” available on its website at www.leadershipgolden.org.

Often informal efforts spark the most creative and interesting projects. The most recent example is the Golden Beer Talks initiative. As described on its website at www.GoldenBeerTalks.org, “a few local citizens passionate about nurturing community connections, supporting local businesses, and learning a little something new” have organized monthly informative presentations on wide-ranging topics. (The names of the founders, organizers, and sponsors are also on the website. These folks deserve our thanks and support.) Golden also has community gardens, neighborhood organizations, and babysitting co-ops that were conceived at the grassroots level.

At present, Golden is enjoying the benefits of residents’ engagement. But, ideally, no Goldenite should think “they” need to do something about a concern. Instead, the assumption should be that “we” will work together to resolve the issue, thereby making Golden even more livable and lovable.

Happy Valentine’s Day, Golden.

(Acknowledgements: Peter Kageyama, a speaker and author of For the Love of Cities: The Love Affair Between People and Their Places, Creative Cities Productions, 2011, is the source of many of the ideas expressed in this column. My inspiration, however, comes from the efforts of our community champions.)
Golden’s City Council has two new members. The new councilors will represent Wards Three and Four. In early January, Ward Three Councilor Bob Vermeulen and Ward Four Councilor Bill Fisher gave their farewell speeches. Both decided not to run for another term. What they helped to accomplish during their tenure was recognized by the entire council and city staff.

The outgoing councilors had many accolades for the Golden community. “We’ve accomplished a ton,” said Vermeulen. “I want to thank everyone that gets involved and gives back to this community… the hundreds of residents who are actively involved in this community is overwhelming.” Fisher said he’s always tried to be thankful for the opportunity to serve and mindful of the responsibility. “The goal was always to be one of the residents we serve, we’re no different,” said Fisher. “And also to look at the strategic vision on which we build this community not only just for this special place and this special moment in time that we have, but also to help build the foundation to make sure that it carries on for a long time into the future.”

City Manager Mike Bestor says it’s important for us to have this hyper-local democratic process. “City government is not broken,” said Bestor. “It is the government closest to the people and it’s important to just stop and recognize how big a deal this is.”

Councilor Pamela Gould and Councilor Laura Weinberg will now represent Wards Three and Four, respectively. To learn more about them, visit www.cityofgolden.net/links/CouncilMembers. You can also find contact information for the City Councilors on page 2 of every edition of the *Golden Informer*.

**THE LATEST ON THE SH58 BRIDGE PROJECT**

Work continues on the replacement of the State Highway 58 bridge over Ford Street. Originally constructed in 1967, the bridge was rated as poor, and was structurally the worst Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) bridge in the metro area. CDOT began design of a replacement bridge in 2012, and construction of the redesigned bridge commenced last summer.

In addition to the demolition of the existing bridge and construction of a new bridge, work includes retaining walls and reconstruction of portions of the eastern ramps to and from Washington Avenue. The new bridge will be approximately two feet lower than the old bridge in order to achieve better sight distance for vehicles on SH58. The original bridge was built higher to accommodate the trains that used to travel underneath, in the location of the current bike path.

The first phase of construction is complete and the second phase is now underway. Here’s what it means for drivers: the two eastbound lanes on the south side are now closed to traffic while the second half of the old bridge is removed and replaced. The eastbound on-ramp at Washington will be closed until the second half of the bridge is complete and the eastbound lanes are reopened.

The primary detour for this ramp closure is 10th/44th St. to McIntyre, but there are local alternatives as well. The westbound Boyd Street exit will also be closed during much of the second phase of construction for sound berm construction, but will reopen. The small on-ramp from Clearview has been permanently closed. Ford Street and the bike/pedestrian trail under SH58 will also experience closures and occasional detours during this time. The project is expected to be completed by June.
2014 marks the first annual consolidated process for application and appointment to the City’s many boards and commissions. During 2013, City Council discussed the idea of creating a single process to occur once a year for citizens to apply for appointment to the city’s volunteer citizen boards and commissions. Generally each board or commission has scheduled appointments every other year, but may also have vacancies when a member resigns or leaves the community. By consolidating the application and review process, it will be more convenient for citizens to become familiar with all of the current volunteer opportunities, and to consider applying for up to three different boards or commissions, ranking those choices by order of preference.

In 2014, applications will be accepted for vacancies on Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Board, Economic Development Commission, Citizen Sustainability Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Golden Urban Renewal Authority, Fire Pension Board and Investment Advisory Board. There will also be a new board beginning this year (see the article below).

Citizens interested in becoming board and commission members are invited to check out the various duties, responsibilities, and missions on the Boards and Commissions section of www.cityofgolden.net. In order to review the application materials for this year’s opportunities, visit the City Clerk’s page on the City web site to download the application forms (they are pdf links). You may submit your name for a position on up to three boards, but feel free to focus on the board(s) that most closely match your interests. Applications this year will be due by March 21, and Council will likely conduct interviews of finalists on April 3, in the evening. For more information, email cityclerk@cityofgolden.net.

Downtown Development Authority
Seeking Initial Board Members

Golden’s new Downtown Development Authority (DDA), approved by eligible downtown area voters in November 2013, will be ready to begin operating by mid-year with the creation of a board of directors and adoption of a Downtown Development Plan. The DDA Board will be responsible for budget and policy direction for downtown programs, infrastructure plans, and redevelopment projects. Although similar to the goals and policies by which the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) approached downtown vitality, the DDA will develop its own priorities, and begin managing a separate budget in 2015.

To be eligible for appointment to the board, applicants must be a resident, property owner, or business owner in the downtown area. The board will consist of seven members appointed by City Council including one City Council member. The board will meet monthly during 2014, but will likely cut back to every other month in 2015, except when needed for specific project evaluation.

The initial appointments will vary from one to four years, in order to have staggered terms. The application deadline for the initial appointments is Feb. 26. Council interviews have been tentatively scheduled for March 6. Applications and more information are available on the City web site at www.cityofgolden.net/links/DDA. For specific questions, contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 303-384-8095.
Golden is now offering a free service to residents, which makes it possible to track sex offenders moving into the community.

Sex Offender Tracking and Registration (SOTAR) is maintained by the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office and provides a central database for law enforcement agencies who are on the system to access and share files on offenders as they relocate. It also provides a way to keep concerned citizens informed through email notifications, and direct online searches.

The Golden Police Department met with the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office and signed an interagency agreement to join SOTAR. At the time of this writing, 60 different law enforcement agencies in the region are part of the network, with more than 6,700 registered users in the system, 1,800 public users, and of those, 1,100 public users signed up to receive email notifications.

Prior to SOTAR, each law enforcement agency kept track of its own offenders via spreadsheets or other methods, and didn’t share files unless requested. SOTAR keeps everyone in the loop with one detailed file for each offender including address verifications, pictures, reports and details added by each agency. This makes it easier to track offenders, provides a useful investigative tool, and generates a public registry.

Citizens can utilize the information provided by the public registry by going to www.SOTAR.us. There, users can perform limited searches for sex offenders in the area, and create maps of known sex offender locations. By creating an account, public users can also sign up for email notifications alerting them whenever a sex offender moves within a specified radius of their address. It should be noted that not all offenders are registered and not all offenders are eligible to be posted on the internet. A full list of offenders registered with GPD is available upon request from the GPD Records Section.

In August 2013, an offender listed as a Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) moved into Golden and the Golden Police Department worked diligently to inform the community through a mass mailing and a community meeting. SOTAR will be a valuable tool for keeping the public informed when similar situations occur in the future. There are currently 33 offenders registered with the Golden Police Department. Offenders are still required to register in person and cannot use this site for registration; but it will help law enforcement and the public stay informed. You are encouraged to go to the website and sign up for email alerts, which would include the movement of the known SVP.

To do a search or sign up for notifications of sexual offenders moving into your area, visit www.SOTAR.us.

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**ONLINE BILL PAY NOW AVAILABLE**

Save a stamp or a trip to City Hall. City of Golden residents can now pay their utility bills online! In order to pay online, you will need to sign in to the website, and you will be asked for some basic personal information. Once you’ve signed in, it’s just a few quick steps to get your bill paid online.

Log on to https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/goldenco. There you will find the services to pay their utility bill, along with the terms and conditions regarding the information you provide. The City plans to add online municipal court payments to this website soon, so stay tuned!

For utility bill questions, call 303-384-8026.
Clear Creek in Golden experienced a phenomenon never seen before in our lifetime. If you walked down by the creek in December and January, you saw that it looked more like a glacier than a creek.

You might have wondered why this happened. As a result of historic rains last September, the creek flows were 50 percent above normal for the winter months. To add to that, we were hit with a full week of extreme cold in December, which caused all of that high water to freeze to as much as four feet thick in some places. As additional water flowed down from the canyon, there was no place for it to go. So many parts of the path along the creek were overtaken with water and there was also some flooding along 10th Street and into the Clear Creek RV Park.

On one night in particular, an ice dam that had formed up the canyon near Idaho Springs broke and the media showed video of a giant wall of water and debris headed down the canyon. This caused concern among citizens that the wall of water would hit Golden. The RV Park and Canyon Side Condos were evacuated as a precaution because of possible flooding.

“The rise of ice in the river was spectacular,” said Golden Public Works Director Dan Hartman. “But there was no imminent danger to Golden because the creek flow widens out and flattens out at the base of the canyon, which is why Golden was never hit with a wall of water.”

However, damage did occur. The normal path of the creek was frozen over, so the water created a new path and made our trail impassible. It also damaged the city’s water intake line, which will have to be fixed once all of the ice is gone. Fortunately, the city has an alternate point of diversion so our water supply was never in any peril.

The Clear Creek Trail received the most damage. As a result, the trail along the north side of the creek just west of US 6 will remain closed until sometime in the spring or summer.

The remarkable Clear Creek Freeze

The staff of the school cafeteria at the Colorado School of Mines is taking dining to a whole new level with a variety of programs focused on healthy eating and social awareness. Many different programs have been incorporated into the dining experience. The latest program, Mindful, takes the guess work out of finding a healthy meal to eat. Students simply select a meal with the Mindful icon and receive a complete meal under 600 calories.

The company who runs the cafeteria, Mines Dining by Sodexo, has also worked towards the City of Golden’s sustainability goals by composting all pre and post-consumer food waste. Last year, they diverted 125,000 pounds of food waste from a landfill, which was composted to create rich soil for farmers.

In the Slate Café, they are in their second year of “trayless dining” which helps reduce water consumption because there are fewer dishes to wash. They saved an estimated 75,159 gallons of water last year alone through this project.

For the Better Tomorrow Challenge put on this past fall semester, Mines Dining by Sodexo invited some vendors from the Golden Farmer’s Market to set up their booths in the dining hall. The students were able to learn about local business, sample foods and purchase goods from the vendors. The idea was to teach the students to focus on sourcing food and products from local vendors, support the local community and increase their sustainability. To find out more about the CSM dining experience, visit www.csmdiningservices.com.
Golden attracts recreation enthusiasts from across the region to hike, bike, climb, kayak and more. An attractive stop-over on the way to ski country, Golden knows the value of play to its residents and visitors. Another less known, but equally important element of play is Golden’s commitment to reinvesting in neighborhood playgrounds.

In 2012, residents from a rapidly developing neighborhood on the north side of Golden came to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to request funding for their neighborhood playground, the oldest in Golden’s parks system, Norman D. Park, which is located along North Ford Street.

With limited funding available for playground improvements, the City of Golden had to get creative by working with the neighborhood HOA to sell city-owned property once used for access which was no longer needed. The property was sold for a single family home with proceeds allocated to improving the 25 year old playground and meeting the expanding needs of the neighborhood.

Using an extensive public engagement process to best define the wishes of the evolving users of Norman D. Park, staff held several design meetings at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for parents and their children. In addition, a survey was distributed via scanning a QR code at the park, with concepts posted on both Golden Vision (http://goldenvision.cityofgolden.net) and the City’s website to solicit feedback.

The City used a variety of vendors to get a diverse, futuristic playground which includes a state of the art climbing structure, sand play, accessible surfaces, spin buckets, a flexible balance beam and many swings including one accessible swing for those with disabilities. There is something for kids of all ages, including the adults who can enjoy ample new seating and a bike path with rolling hills for the beginning mountain biker.

Vanover Park, located next to Coors Brewery along Clear Creek, also received a new look in 2013. This time the concept was a nature theme incorporating existing tree stumps, log walks, steppers and a new climbing structure.

Golden’s parks system has several neighborhood playgrounds over 20 years old. Recognizing the value of revitalized play in the Norman D. Park and Vanover Park neighborhoods, funding is now budgeted to make improvements to other neighborhood playgrounds in the city this year. What is the future of play in your neighborhood park? Stay involved by going online and filling out our playground surveys. You can find them at www.cityofgolden.net/links/surveys.

A New Look for Norman D. Park

Norman D. Park’s new look includes a futuristic playground structure.
Through March 9

*Parallel Lives*
This comedy features two actresses playing over 30 different characters. The award winning play was written by Mo Gaffney & Kathy Najimy. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Through March 16

*Colorado Clay*
See fine art made out of clay from Colorado artists. Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. For information on hours, tickets, lectures and artist demonstrations, visit www.foothillsartcenter.org or call 303-279-3922.

Through April 29

*Quilts Made by Men*
The “MANifestations” exhibit highlights the diversity and skill of men who quilt. Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. For details call 303-277-0377 or visit www.rmqm.org.

Feb. 2  *Groundhog Day*

Feb. 6 and 13

*MOPS*
Mothers of Preschoolers is a support group for mothers of children aged from birth to Kindergarten. 9 to 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Golden, 1805 Washington Ave. For info call 303-279-4605 or visit www.fbcgolden.org.

Feb. 8  *Coffee with a Councilor*
Enjoy coffee and conversation with some of your City Councilors at 10 a.m. at Bean Fosters, 720 Golden Ridge Rd. For details call Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-709-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

Feb. 10  *MOMS Club of Golden*
Moms Offering Moms Support is a group for at-home mothers and their kids. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 17701 W. 16th Ave. For details visit https://goldenmomsclub.shutterfly.com/ or email goldenmomsclub@gmail.com.

Feb. 14  *Valentine’s Day*

Feb. 16  *JCSO Concert*
A Tribute to Haydn performed by the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra with a guest performance by one of Denver’s most prominent jazz musicians, Ron Miles. 3 p.m. at the Green Center on the Colorado School of Mines campus, 16th and Cheyenne streets. For tickets and information, call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffsymphony.org.

Feb. 17  *President’s Day*

Feb. 22  *Buffalo Bill Birthday Bash*
The 34rd annual Birthday Bash is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Buffalo Rose Events Center, 1119 Washington Ave. Re-enactors, performers, live entertainment, costume competition and prizes. General admission is $10. For more information call 303-816-1435 or email whotefoxco@aol.com.

Feb. 27 through March 1  *GHS Spring Play*
Golden High School’s Stage Right Productions presents Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward. Thursday and Friday performances at 7 p.m.,
Saturday performances at 2 and 7 p.m. in the GHS auditorium, 701 24th St. Tickets are $10 at the door, $8 for advanced purchase. To buy tickets visit www.goldenhighschool.com and for details contact Scott Hasbrouck at shasbrou@jeffco.k12.co.us or 303-982-4200.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!

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

The City of Golden extends our warmest thanks 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 pristine.

Thank you to the following 2013 volunteers:

**Adopt-A-Street**
- Golden Elks Lodge 2740
- Golden Fire Dept. Volunteers
- Jefferson Co. Justice Service Dept.
- Lookout Mountain Youth Services
- Knights of Columbus
- Panorama Orthopedic and Spine Center
- 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
- Heather Rice

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 workshops will be held in the Golden City Hall Conference Room, City Hall, 911 10th St.
- March 5, 2014 .......... 8:30 to 10 a.m.
- April 2, 2014 .......... 8:30 to 10 a.m.

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

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 5, 2014 .... 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Class is free, but space is limited. Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.
What started as the idea of a few parents from Mitchell Elementary literally grew from the ground up into a project that combines education with healthy living. This spring the school will begin its second growing season in an on-site school garden.

The program’s co-founder Leslie Altman says she saw a flyer about getting a grant for a garden and decided to apply. Once she got that, support for the garden flooded in from the City of Golden, area businesses, Mitchell parents and administration, and the Jefferson County School District. The land donated for the garden used to be a dilapidated old volleyball court the kids called the “Sand Pit.” Now, there is a beautiful fenced-in garden complete with irrigation lines and raised garden beds built with concrete block.

The garden is 100 percent volunteer-run. But teachers are now incorporating the hands-on gardening experience to fit with their in-class curriculums. It is a great way for kids to learn about food sources and nutrition while getting the satisfaction of watching their plants grow and turn into food or flowers. In a world full of processed food, this is an important lesson.

In its first growing season, the garden flourished with tomatoes, bell peppers, lettuce, pumpkins, marigolds, spinach, lavender and sunflowers. The parent volunteers knew the growing process needed to be very visual to keep the interest of the kids, so they tried to pick plants that would help them to see the fruits of their labor. “We had kids who asked, ‘can I eat this?’” said Altman. “Many kids had never seen the organic process of growing food. But even kids who don’t like vegetables are more likely to eat these because they helped to grow them. It’s a sense of pride for the students.”

The students, parents and teachers who help in the garden get to take the food home. Anything left over is donated to local food banks. But volunteers hope to expand this program so that the food grown in the garden goes straight into the school cafeteria and is incorporated into a healthy lunch program. There are also plans to partner with Red Rocks Community College and Warren Tech to build a structure near the garden where teachers can hold classes and conduct lessons.

As parents start preparing for this year’s growing season, they are asking for avid gardeners to volunteer their time to help set up the garden and run programs for the kids. If you are interested in helping in the Mitchell School Garden, contact Ursula Webhofer at 303-887-2876 or email ursula.webhofer@gmail.com.
Most of us know about single-stream recycling – all of our materials go into one bin. From there, the Front Range has several sorting plants called “MeRFs” (Material Recovery Facilities) that sort material, but where do our cans and bottles go from there? Because Colorado has very few processing plants, most of the material is shipped out of state. While the market for materials varies from month to month, Colorado companies seek to get the best pricing for materials. Here are a few examples:

- **Tin (steel) cans** are made into rebar by a Pueblo company. Rebar is embedded in concrete for added strength and support.

- **Glass** is recycled into new bottles by Rocky Mountain Bottling Company in Wheat Ridge. While glass travels the shortest distance of all of Golden’s recycling, it is susceptible to breakage during sorting. Check out the “glass only” recycling dumpster at the north Golden Recycling Drop-Off site which transports glass directly to RMBC without going through the sorting process, ensuring that more material is recycled.

- **Aluminum** is melted in Texas by a smelter that shreds old material into small chips before being melted and cast into ingots. The ingots are sent on to manufacturing plants where they are rolled into sheets of aluminum and used to manufacture end products ranging from cans to car bodies.

- **Newspaper** becomes newspaper again in Oregon and Washington. After a process of de-inking, pulping, bleaching, and mixing with wood pulp for additional strength, rolls of recycled paper are then sent to printers to become tomorrow’s news.

- **Cardboard** is recycled into paper products in California, Oregon, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Corrugated cardboard and boxboard (think cereal boxes) are divided and processed in separate facilities.

- **Plastics** #1 HDPE (high density polyethylene) and #2 PET (Polyethylene terephthalate) are melted and remolded into many plastic products. Hi-Tec Plastics in Denver is one of Colorado’s only plastic processors. Hi-Tec grinds, washes, and pelletizes recycled HDPE materials. Golden’s own Williams Form Engineering is one of Hi-Tec’s largest customers. Lower grade plastics #5 through #8 are sometimes shipped overseas where the demand is higher.

- **Those ubiquitous plastic bags** – Why can’t I put those #4 LDPE bags in with my other materials? While there is a demand for #4 plastics, bags are rather unfriendly to the sorting process. Getting caught in the cog wheels of conveyor belts, most MeRFs must stop their operations each hour to cut bags out of the wheels. Your best bet is to recycle them at grocery or department stores that accept used bags and will backhaul them to a processor in the southern U.S.

- **E-waste** – Since July 2013, electronic waste is restricted from Colorado landfills. Computers, monitors, laptops, televisions, printers, fax machines, DVD & VCR players, keyboards, mice, radios & stereos, and video game consoles must be recycled through a certified processor because of hazardous components. Several companies throughout the U.S. disassemble your used equipment and recycle metal and plastic components.

Golden offers tours of MeRFs in April near Earth Day. Check www.cityofgolden.net/links/Sustainability for details and for more information about where your materials go.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

When you recycle your mattress & box spring through Spring Back Colorado, it’s all recycled; steel springs are melted for new metal products, fabric is shredded for new carpet padding, and wood frames are free to the public for reuse. Check out their location in Denver’s River North Art District (RiNo) just north of Downtown.
2014 Claim Form for 2013 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 2013 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return. The refund amount for 2013 is $50. This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden and partial year at age 65.

Please check one box only:

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

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

Please print or type:

Name: Mr(s). ________________________________
Age: ________________ Date of Birth: ________________
Name: Mr(s). ________________________________
Age: ________________ Date of Birth: ________________
Address: _________________________________ Golden, CO ZIP: __________
Phone: ________________________________

How many months did you reside in the city limits of Golden during 2013? _____ months
Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person’s income tax form?  yes  no

Signature: ________________________________ Signature: ________________________________

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

Refund Donation Option:
You have the option to donate your refund to a City of Golden program or department by checking one of the boxes below:
- Golden Volunteer Fire Department
- Golden Cemetery
- Golden Senior Front Porch
- Other City program or department (please identify): ________________________________

Office Use Only:
Account #013031-6190 STR Vendor # __________ Received ________ Payable ________
Celebrate Health!
Friday, Feb. 7
Celebrate Health! is a monthly wellness program featuring a variety of healthy living opportunities for adults of all ages. The first Friday of each month we offer free blood pressure screenings, healthy refreshments and presentations on a variety of wellness topics. 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.

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

Mondays, 1-3 p.m. on the E-Train
Feb. 3 – Intro to using the Internet
Feb. 10 – Microsoft Word Basics
Feb. 24 – Email Basics

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

Boyer’s Coffee & Hammond’s Candy - #35012-1
Visit the Boyer’s Coffee Schoolhouse, the original schoolhouse built in 1927. They no longer provide tours, but they offer samplings of coffee, beautiful architecture, and tasty coffee to purchase. Then take a tour of the Hammond’s Candy Factory and sample freshly made Valentines candy. Lunch will be at the iconic Denver diner, The Red Rooster.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
$10 (van, tour included. Bring money for lunch and incidentals.)
Exertion Level: 2
Register/Cancel by Feb. 1.

Celebrate Black History Month with a Trip to the Black American West Museum - #35013-1
This museum is dedicated to collecting, preserving and disseminating the contributions of black Americans in the old west. This is a rescheduled trip from the fall. After enjoying the museum we will have lunch at the highly rated Welton Café.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
$20 (van, tour included, bring money for lunch)
Exertion Level: 2
Register/Cancel by Feb. 12.

Dazzle Jazz Lunch - #35014-1
Dazzle Jazz is consistently being recognized as one of the top jazz clubs in the nation. The cost of the meal will be very modest, so sit back and enjoy the jazz!

Friday, Feb. 28, 10:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
$10 (van, bring money for lunch)
Exertion Level: 2
Register/Cancel by Feb. 20.
Never Goodbye, Just Good Wishes

ame just about any successful Golden event, and it’s likely that Gary Wink had a hand in making it great. Gary was the President of the Golden Chamber of Commerce for 19 years before retiring last month. During his nearly two decades in Golden, our city has transformed from a sleepy town with boarded up stores, to a vibrant and world class tourist destination.

One of the reasons for Golden’s rising popularity is its variety of home town events, which draw local, regional, national and even international guests. A good majority of those events were spearheaded by Gary and his Chamber crew and volunteers.

Originally from Iowa, Gary served in the US Air Force and then spent 25 years in the Hotel and Restaurant Management business. In 1995, he was hired in Golden and now holds the record for the longest-serving President in the Chamber’s 92-year history.

The Chamber’s membership has more than doubled since Gary came to Golden, and he wants his legacy to be the Chamber’s move to the beautiful Visitors Center on the corner of 10th and Washington.

Gary Wink receives a standing ovation at his surprise retirement party.

But we’ll give him credit for much more than that. His event accomplishments include the First Friday Street Fairs, Golden Farmers Market, Golden Fine Arts Festival, “Knock Your Boots Off” Beer Tasting and Chili Cook-Off, Golden Family Easter and Halloween Trick or Treat Downtown, just to name a few. The Golden Chamber of Commerce estimates its events bring in an economic impact of over eight million dollars to the City.

In 2012, Gary received the Governor’s Award of Downtowner of the Year in which it was stated, “Gary’s wisdom and energetic leadership are among the main reasons why Golden has evolved to become one of the most successful, creative, and resilient downtowns in the country.”

Gary has given up countless weekends and holidays with his family to ensure successful events in Golden. Now it’s time for him to focus on his wife, Diana, son and daughter-in-law Christopher and Molly, and his adorable granddaughter, Gracie Mae.

Gary may not be spearheading Golden’s events anymore, but there’s a sneaking suspicion we’ll still see him at all of them. But this time, he’ll be able to do it with a beer in his hand. Congratulations and thank you from the City of Golden.

WELCOME TO THE NEW CHAMBER PRESIDENT

The City welcomes Dawn Smith as the new President for the Golden Chamber of Commerce. Prior to joining Golden, Dawn was the Executive Director for the Conifer Chamber of Commerce. Dawn has also worked for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Colorado, a law firm in Milwaukee and she was the newsroom coordinator for the NPR affiliate in San Diego.

Dawn also helped to make a lot of very popular movies in Los Angeles, including Austin Powers The Spy Who Shagged Me, Wag the Dog, and the Vertical Limit. She is married to Rev. Dr. Aaron Smith, who teaches theology and philosophy at Colorado Christian University.

New Chamber President Dawn Smith.
MAN Made Quilts

In 1992, the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum (RMQM) presented “Man Made,” the first exhibit of quilts made exclusively by men. Museum visitors were surprised. Were there really men working in what was traditionally thought of as a woman’s art form? And furthermore, why would they want to? The novelty has long since worn off as more and more men choose to express their creativity through quiltmaking. RMQM’s biennial showcase of quilts made by men continues to be one of the museum’s most anticipated and popular events.

Why do men quilt? Some of the exhibitors say they find sewing relaxing and therapeutic. Others like the idea of making something useful, while there are those who use fiber to create purely non-functional art. Some grew up with quilting mothers, sisters, or grandmothers. A few began quilting for hire as a money-making venture. Some of the quilters represented are retirees. Others are professional quilters who enter their work in competition, lecture, and teach. The reasons—and the quilts in the exhibit—are as varied as the individuals themselves.

“MANifestations: Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum’s 12th Biennial Exhibition of Quilts Made by Men” is open now through April 29 at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. For hours and ticket prices, visit www.rmqm.org or call 303-277-0377.

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FEST RETURNS

Mark your calendars for the 8th annual Colorado Environmental Film Festival (CEFF) showing Feb. 21 and 22 at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. Additionally, Feb. 21 is the opening reception for the 3rd Environmental Photo Exhibition with opening discussion by Boyd Norton (www.wildernessphotography.com/index.html).

Join in on a free evening celebrating some of the best films from CEFF’s first seven years, on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. Come back Saturday at noon for a family-friendly film called YERT -Your Environmental Road Trip. Choose from a variety of environmental documentaries throughout the day and finish in the evening with a premier showing of the Human Experiment, narrated and executive-produced by Sean Penn, and produced by Denver producer Chelsea Matter.

Visit www.ceff.net for ticket information and to see the entire program.

Colorado Clay

The Foothills Art Center (FAS) is host again this year to a special clay exhibition from now through March 16. Witness clay in a manner that goes well beyond functional objects and into the realm of fine art. Several highly accomplished Colorado artists, who are doing new and exciting things with clay, have been invited to participate in the exhibition. The remaining objects were selected by a juror.

The exhibition at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St., is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. FAS is closed on Mondays. Visit foothillsartcenter.org for more information, including lectures and artist demonstrations.
Innovations come from anywhere and for different reasons. The latest exhibit at the Golden History Center tackles many forms of innovation and the incredible results seen in our community. This spring, kids 6 to 11 years old will learn about innovation as part of our spring break Hands-On History Camp. Campers will discover the unintended and unforeseen outcomes of Golden’s innovators.

A great example of a “by-product” of innovation is the recycling movement. The Coors Brewing Company was the first company in the United States to recycle aluminum. After Coors debuted the first aluminum beverage container in 1959, the company wanted to decrease the amount of money being spent on the complex mining and extraction methods needed to mine the raw aluminum. Recycling the processed metal cans was the best solution. A consumer received one cent for every seven ounce Coors can returned. Initially there was skepticism about whether or not a recycling program that involved consumers returning their cans would succeed. Research companies analyzed the program and predicted that only one or two percent of the cans sold would be returned.

In the book Catalyst for Change, the former Vice President of Sales and Advertising, Everett Barnhardt, said, “1 or 2 percent didn’t really make the effort worthwhile. But Bill Coors, Adolph Coors III and I sat down and talked about it, and we said, ‘Why don’t we try it anyway?’”

The gamble paid off when almost 10 percent were returned during the first year. The program continued to grow and by 1965, 60 million cans had been collected.

An Innovative and Interactive Spring Break Camp for Kids

What do survival sleds, knives and aluminum cans all have in common? They were all innovated right here in Golden! Find out what type of innovator your child is when campers engage their creative problem solving side to save whales, build backpacks and engrave their very own keepsake during this fun Wednesday morning camp.

Golden History Museums is offering three different half-day camps on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for 6 to 11 year olds during Jeffco's spring break. Multi-day discounts are available, so sign up for one or all three! Visit www.GoldenHistory.org/springhoh or call 303-278-3557 to find out more.
The Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) is seeking images to create an enormously large mosaic banner on the CoorsTek building façade along Washington Avenue. Local artist Jesse Crock has donated a beautiful painting of North and South Table Mountains that will serve as the template for the mosaic. Your submitted photos will become the tiles that create the mosaic, as depicted in the picture to the right.

GURA is excited to capture a true “Golden Portrait” by accepting pictures of your Golden family, friends and colleagues experiencing our beautiful city. Because this is a community mural, all images will be previewed with human eyes for community-appropriate content. Any obscenity, nudity, drug paraphernalia, profanity, advertising, and overt political or religious imagery will be identified and excluded.

TEN THOUSAND images will be needed to complete the mosaic! GURA will use specialized software to place the images in whatever order is needed to get the best overall image. All appropriate images will be submitted into the computer, but not all may be used so there is no guarantee your images will get on the mural. But submitting the maximum allowable number of images will certainly increase your odds.

Here are the guidelines:

• Limit of 10 pictures per person.
• Images must be in JPEG format, and between 1.5MB and 12MB in size.
• Images must be in focus.
• Must be submitted by a person legally authorized to use and distribute the images.
• You may submit images taken at any time in history as long as they were taken in Golden.
• Those submitting must either reside or work in Golden.
• All photos must follow this naming convention:
  Last name_First name_Brief description_Image number 1-10.jpg.
  Ex: Doe_John_Familyphoto_2.jpg

The community mural won’t just be huge, it will also be interactive. GURA will mount a viewing scope across the street from the mural, and a digital version of the mosaic will be available online. The naming convention described above will allow GURA to provide you with the coordinates to find your images out of the 10,000 that will be used.

To submit images for the community mural, email your named pictures to: GoldenPortrait@artonthebrix.com. For questions, email elyse@gura.com. The deadline for submissions is May 31.
2014 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.

Be sure to check out our website at http://agency.governmentjobs.com/goldenco/default.cfm for job availability.

Opportunities include:

- Lifeguards
- Swim Instructors
- Batting Cage Attendants
- Field Crew
- Field Gym Supervisor
- Youth Sports Coach
- Day Camp Leader
- Day Camp Coordinator
- Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Maintenance
- Golf Maintenance
- Pro-Shop Guest Services at Fossil Trace
- Cashiers and Food & Beverage Workers at The Splash