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To contact the entire City Council, e-mail citycouncil@cityofgolden.net

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.

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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

SEWER SMOKE TESTING PLANNED

The City of Golden Utilities Division will begin smoke testing the sanitary sewer system in early June. Smoke testing is one of the most efficient and economical ways to locate and identify the source of inflow and/or infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. These sources seriously affect the operation of Wastewater treatment facilities.

Smoke testing is intended to find:
- Buildings that have downspout, cellar, yard or foundation drain connections to the sanitary sewer
- Sump pump discharges into a sanitary sewer
- Points of groundwater or surface water intrusion into the sewers
- Any cross connections between sanitary and storm sewers

This type of testing will also find problems with residential plumbing systems such as:
- Inoperable vents
- Failed wax toilet seals
- Dry drains and p traps

Information on the materials used and a list of frequently asked questions is available on Golden’s website, www.cityofgolden.net. If you need additional information please contact Les Major, Utilities Superintendent at 303-384-8170.

COME TO A GOLDEN VISION 2030 BLOCK PARTY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

What do you love about Golden? What qualities about Golden should be preserved? The Local Advisory Committee for the Golden Vision 2030 Plan is bringing the party to you!

The third and fourth of eight neighborhood block parties throughout the City will be held on Saturday, June 13 and Saturday, June 27 in the East Street area and the Beverly Heights area of the City to gather input for the Golden Vision 2030 effort. We want to hear about your favorite places in Golden and what you like best about your neighborhood.

This will not be your average neighborhood get-together, as you can expect BBQs grilling up tasty food, drinks, prize giveaways, and fun for the kids and adults alike. Come meet with your neighbors, tell us your story, and talk about what makes Golden home for you!

For more information go to the Golden Vision 2030 webpage at www.cityofgolden.net/goldenvision2030. Or, for more information, call the Golden Planning Department at (303) 384-8097.

CITIZEN'S ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Golden Police Department is excited to announce the upcoming 2009 Citizens Academy. The Academy is set to begin August 11 and is scheduled for 13-weeks of classroom and skills education.

The Academy combines classroom presentations with hands-on activities to provide the participants with a comprehensive experience. Participants will meet Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. for classroom presentations, and three weekend days for demonstrations and education in arrest control, self defense tactics, driving and firearms. In addition to the skills training, participants will be exposed to K9 Patrol, Drug Enforcement, Traffic Accident Investigations, DUI Traffic Enforcement, and Crime Scene Investigations.

Applications are now being accepted and are available at the Golden Police Department and on the City website www.cityofgolden.net on the Police Department page under Community Programs.

Applications must be 18 years of age with a valid Colorado driver’s license and able to pass a criminal background check. There is no residency requirement.

Applications must be received at the Police Department by August 1st. For additional information please contact an Academy Coordinator, Officer Dan Hyde at 303-277-8746 or Officer Jeff Marr at 303-277-8780.

Below is the Golden City Council’s calendar. Regular study sessions are scheduled for the first and third Thursdays and regular business meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. All meetings are at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted. Council does not normally meet on the fifth Thursday in any month.

June 4
Rescheduled regular business meeting followed by study session

June 11
Regular business meeting

June 18
No meeting

June 25
No meeting

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

Public comment is welcomed and on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
Promoting Accountability and Inclusivity

By Mayor Jacob Smith

I believe one of the most important challenges facing elected representatives across the country is the often deep and widespread cynicism about government. Earning and sustaining the trust of our communities should be one of the highest priorities for City Councilors, Mayors, and other elected officials.

Here in Golden we set a high bar for accountability and transparency last year and are committed to pushing the bar even higher in 2009. To that end, earlier this spring we completed and mailed to every household our first-ever Golden Community Accountability Report. I invite you to read it, ask questions, and share your comments and suggestions for making next year’s Community Accountability Report even stronger.

In addition to promoting a culture of accountability and transparency in city government, we are also working to build an inclusive community. We want everyone in Golden – regardless of ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, disability, sexual orientation, political beliefs – to feel they are a welcome member of our community.

Having a thoughtful and respectful approach to the issue of holiday displays is one element of building an inclusive city. Religious symbols and holiday displays of all kinds have always been encouraged on private property in Golden. The issue of holiday displays on public property is much more challenging, however. We want a policy that respects and honors religious diversity while avoiding divisiveness.

The long-standing practice in Golden has been to place lights on trees all over downtown and elsewhere and to place the historic Santa on the arch. The practice has not included any other holiday displays on public property. Last year the City Council was asked to consider changing this long-standing practice by adding a new, explicitly religious symbol on public property. This request sparked a very impassioned debate in the community. City Council decided to keep things as they were for last year, but we committed to revisiting the issue this year well in advance of the holiday season.

We are now doing that. The tricky part is this: if we add explicitly religious symbols to public property, the city government will then have to make decisions about which religions, which symbols, how many of each, and the like. We certainly can play that role, but we will need to decide if we actually want the City Council to make these sorts of decisions and, if so, how those decisions should be made.

By the time this hits your mailbox, we will have had a city web page up for a couple of weeks describing some of the options and inviting comments from members of the Golden community. We’ll invite comments from community members at both our June 4 and June 11 City Council meetings. In addition, as I promised earlier in the year, I convened a meeting of Golden-area faith community leaders to consider the issue. Their recommendation will also be part of City Council’s deliberations.

If you have thoughts on these issues please send City Council an email or letter, visit the web site and leave your comments there, or offer your thoughts at one of our first two meetings in June.
On June 12, 1859, the Boston Company arrived in the Golden Valley and decided to settle here and to create a community. For more than a year, a committee made up of representatives from the Golden Chamber of Commerce, the Civic Foundation, the City of Golden and long-time resident volunteers has been working to plan a celebration to honor the 150th anniversary of this historic occasion. Dubbed “150 Golden Years,” the celebration is intended to be a family friendly event that celebrates the history of Golden, not just the community’s founding in 1859.

The party kicks off at 6:30 p.m. with a parade through downtown which will be followed by a performance from the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra at Lions Park. Cake and ice cream will be served at each of the pavilions and a multi-media laser light show will be the finale of the evening.

Bring the kids and spend an evening with your friends, family, and neighbors as we celebrate the founding of our wonderful community with a night of history, music and lasers.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 150 Golden Years committee is looking for volunteers to take part in this historic celebration. Organizations, groups and individuals are welcome to participate. Volunteers must be at least 16-years-old and be able to work a four-hour shift on Thursday, June 11, Friday, June 12 or Saturday, June 13. Personnel are needed to assist with numerous tasks including event setup, parade organization, the handing out of cake and ice cream, and site clean-up during and after the event.

EVENT TIMELINE

6:30 p.m. – Parade begins at 11th and Arapahoe
7:30 p.m. – JSO Concert Begins at Lions Park
9:15 p.m. – Laser Light Show

All volunteers will receive a special 150 Golden Years t-shirt. Please go to www.150goldenyears.com to fill out an application.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

The 150 Golden Years celebration is being funded through sponsors, parade entry fees, and donations of funds and services. An event of this magnitude requires a lot of things to be a success and funds are needed to cover all of the associated expenses. If you would like to donate to the event please send your donation to:

150 Golden Years Committee
c/o the Golden Civic Foundation
1010 Washington Ave.,
Golden, CO 80401
Last fall, an Evergreen Rabbi asked the Golden City Council to allow a Menorah to be placed on public property in downtown Golden. After significant public testimony and discussion, the City Council decided to keep the status quo for 2008 by adopting Resolution 1928. Holiday displays and religious symbols were and are encouraged on private property, but on public property the Council maintained the practice of not placing any religious displays and limiting holiday displays to lights on trees (with no ornaments) and the Santa on top of the arch based on its historical significance to the community. Council members also promised to bring back the discussion at a later date.

Well, spring is here and the city council would like your input as to what the official City policy should be in regards to what can and cannot be displayed on public property. There are four main concepts that they have been considering. Every option under consideration would still allow holiday displays and religious symbols on private property.

1. Eliminate the lights on trees and the Santa and allow no religious or holiday displays of any kind on public property.
2. Status quo – continue to display lights on trees and the historic Santa but no other religious and/or holiday displays on public property.
3. Status quo plus a Nativity scene, a Menorah, and a symbol provided by the Islamic community (if they wish) on public property during a specific period, perhaps at the Visitor Center or another location.
4. Select a specific location on public property and allow a larger number of religious displays during a specific period of time, trying to ensure that each major religion is represented. This would also require the development of criteria to determine how organizations are selected and what is or is not allowed (such as non-religious displays or potentially offensive displays).

The council is asking for public comment at the June 4 and 11 meetings with a decision expected on June 11. Input can also be submitted via email to citycouncil@cityofgolden.net

State Representative Gwyn Green has announced that she is resigning from the General Assembly effective June 1. Green has represented Golden and House District 23 for the past five years. Prior to her election to state office, Green served three years on City Council representing Ward 4.

In a statement issued on April 27, Green cited health issues and a desire to spend more time with her family as reasons for giving up her seat. “It truly breaks my heart to leave you,” wrote Green. “And I would not leave you should my health insistently demand I do so.”

Golden Mayor Jacob Smith responded to the announcement by saying, “Gwyn has been a tenacious and energetic champion for Golden. She will be missed.”

The City Council will thank Gwyn for her services to the community at its meeting on June 11.
Mountain Pine Beetle Confirmed in Golden

The mountain pine beetle has recently been positively identified in two lodgepole pine trees growing on a residential property in the Beverly Heights neighborhood west of Hwy. 6.

The presence of the mountain pine beetle in Golden should serve as an alert to those who have significant and valuable large pine trees on their property and who may wish to take preventative measures to increase the likelihood those trees will survive an attack. Pine trees most likely to be affected include ponderosa, lodgepole and scotch pine.

City Forester Dave High has been monitoring beetle movement along the Front Range but does not expect a significant impact within the City due to the limited population of lodgepole pine trees.

Trees attacked last year in Fort Collins, which were healthy and vigorous, have apparently been successful in “pitching out” or pushing back the invading insects. Healthy trees which are lightly infested may benefit from preventative care. Heavily infested pines are unlikely to survive and are best removed as they will probably be dead within the year.

The application of a chemical treatment has been successful in preventing an infestation and the chemicals used must be applied in May or June. Please contact a professional tree care company if you are considering chemical treatment.

Fun on Clear Creek Presents Real Dangers

While waters of Clear Creek can be an enticing place to cool off in the hot summer months, the City of Golden would like to remind citizens that the creek can be extremely dangerous. Currents are fast, especially during the spring runoff season, and can easily knock a person off their feet and sweep them downstream.

Every summer, the Golden Fire Department’s swift water rescue team saves people who get into trouble while inner tubing and swimming in the creek. When using Clear Creek for recreational purposes, citizens should take all necessary safety precautions including the use of a properly-fit life vest and helmet. You should never swim or inner tube in the creek without the appropriate safety equipment. Children are especially at risk and should be kept out of areas where they could accidentally fall into the water.

Most dog are excellent swimmers, but just like people, harsh currents can pull them into the middle of the creek and tire them out before they make it safely back to the shore. This puts your pet in danger of drowning and often leads to pet owners putting themselves at risk. Many injuries and fatalities have occurred while owners were attempting to rescue their pets.

If you want to use Clear Creek recreationally, please contact a professional to learn a water sport and to purchase the appropriate personal safety equipment.

For a more family friendly way to cool off this summer, come to the Splash Aquatic Park located on Illinois Street near Fossil Trace Golf Club. For more information about Splash please visit the City website at www.cityofgolen.net and click on the parks and recreation section under residents and visitors.
SUSTAINABILITY: Environmental Issues

Plastic or Paper? How About Neither!

Did you know that Americans use and discard over 100 million plastic bags each year? These require more than 12-million barrels of oil to produce, but less than 2% are actually recycled*. Are you tired of accumulating all those plastic grocery bags and want to acquire more of the reusable kind? The Community Sustainability Advisory Board’s 2009 Sustainability Workshop Series is partnering with Wallace Vacuum & Sewing Chalet to provide free reusable bags to help reduce waste and preserve our natural resources. Volunteers will help you pick fabric and sew a bag for you to bring home on Saturday, June 13th from 10 am to 4 pm. Kids and adults can try their hand at easy stitches while learning how simple lifestyle changes can help us all live more sustainably. For more information on this event, contact Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or tworsham@cityofgolden.net.

*Worldwatch Institute

Changes to Your Trash & Recycling Collection

Have you heard about possible changes to trash and recycling collection in Golden?

In 2007, a citizen’s sustainability committee recommended changing the curbside trash and recyclables program to encourage more recycling. The Golden City Council will be evaluating a Pay-As-You-Throw program as well as other options to improve the collection of trash and recyclables, including improvements to the drop-off site or new rules for waste haulers.

WHY ARE CHANGES NEEDED?

• To reduce heavy truck traffic
• To reduce noise and air pollution
• To provide curbside recycling to all residents

HOW WOULD THIS AFFECT ME?

This program applies to residential homes, including single-family, townhomes, and lower-density multi-family residences. The program would not apply to apartment buildings or commercial businesses. While your options to choose a hauler could be limited under this program, prices and services could be standardized across the broader community.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION OR PROVIDE MY INPUT?

• Visit the City Website at www.cityofgolden.net/ sustainability and leave comments online
• Attend an upcoming block party in your neighborhood.

LEARN HOW TO COMPOST AT HOME

Golden’s resident and Master Composter, Kathy Demane, will be teaching free composting workshops to interested Golden residents on Saturday June 13th and Saturday, July 18th from 9 to 11 a.m. Join us to learn the basics of composting, how to select a suitable bin for your needs, and how to get the right mix of materials. Use your yard waste while creating a natural fertilizer for your garden at the same time. Classes meet at the Clear Creek History Park along 11th Street and are FREE, but please RSVP to 303-384-8011 to reserve your spot for either of the dates.

GOLDEN Vision 2030

Visit www.cityofgolden.net/goldenvision2030 for times and locations
• Contact Chris Naber by phone at 303-384-8183 or send him an email to cnaber@cityofgolden.net
• Email your Council member representative

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Golden’s first community garden will break ground and hold a grand opening celebration on June 21 from 1-3 p.m. The Golden Community Garden is located west of the Golden Community Center near the Briarwood Inn on the site of the old city shops facility. City Council unanimously approved the project in April.

The garden will consist of approximately 30 individual 10-foot by 10-foot plots and 10-foot by 20-foot plots. Each plot will be gardened by individuals, school groups, and organizations. Several area churches will be growing produce to help support their food banks. Others will be utilized to support low-income students with the time, tools, and space to grow their own food.

The project will be managed by the Golden Community Garden steering committee in cooperation with Denver Urban Gardens and roughly 40 local gardeners. The committee plans to use the garden as an educational tool by offering classes on composting, square foot gardening, low water use gardening, and more. The garden will be open from dawn till dusk and will feature spaces for public gatherings, a children’s gardening area, and learning center with a library of books.

Though the land was donated by the City, the Golden Community Garden still hopes to raise $20,000 in funds or in-kind donations for garden infrastructure, irrigation, soil enhancements, pathway construction, signage, and raised beds for gardeners with special needs. They are also looking for donations of top soil, garden compost, tools, a picnic table, plants, and volunteers.

The mission of the Golden Community Garden is to enable the citizens of Golden to work together to grow organic fruits, vegetables, and flowers for our families and our community. For more information please contact Matt Burde at 720-204-1755 or visit www.goldencommunitygarden.org.

Farmers Market Returns June 6

Spring! Our reaction is anticipation, planning and hope. In centuries gone by, the hope was for a bountiful fall harvest that would keep bellies full next winter. In our time, we anticipate the bounty and fun of the Golden Farmers Market throughout the summer and fall. So, when does the fun begin?

Saturday, June 6, is the opening day of this year’s Golden Farmers Market. As usual, it will run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday (except July 25) in the parking lot just west of the Library on 10th Street. A number of new venders will join our old favorites, including a new salsa vendor, with some innovative products and an additional organic grower who will offer free range chicken and pastured pork.

June is not the biggest harvest month but there will be fresh fruits and veggies available including asparagus, cherries, green onions, lettuces, rhubarb and strawberries. Most of the fresh items at the Farmers Market have been picked within 24-hours of the market opening. Can your supermarket say that?

In addition to great food, the volunteer Master Gardeners from the Jeffco Extension Agency will be present each Saturday. As always, they will be glad to answer your gardening questions. This year they will have a variety of new and unique presentations and hands on demonstrations, including sustainable gardening, container gardening of all kinds and preparing plants for your vacation.

So, enjoy the anticipation of spring. See you at the Market.
**June 5**

An Evening with John Fielder

The evening will begin with a sneak preview of Fielder’s upcoming book, Ranches of Colorado, available in stores in September 2009. The book is being published in order to bring attention to the fact that the loss of ranchland to development in the West is accelerating. Ranches of Colorado will raise money for the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts, which assists in the creation and operation of Colorado’s non-profit land trusts. Fielder will also share some of his photos of North and South Table Mountains, and discuss the importance of preserving the “gateway to the Rockies.” The presentation is FREE and will take place at the American Mountaineering Center located at 710 10th Street. For more information call 303-278-7465 or go to www.tablemountains.org.

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**June 6**

GFD Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale Fundraiser

The Golden Fire Department will be hosting a spaghetti dinner to benefit injured Firefighter Trent Beachy who was injured in an auto accident while travelling back to Colorado over the Thanksgiving holiday in 2008. The suggested donation is $8 for this all you can eat event which runs from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at Golden Fire Station 1 located at 911 10th Street. For more information contact Firefighter Bruce Peters at 303-359-9389.

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**June 11**

The ART of Taste - Green Chili Cook-off

With the success of our first contest, Foothills continues the series of “flavor” contests with a celebration of “The Art of Green Chili.” Applicants may send up to two recipes with a description and title of their green chili stew. Foothills will select up to ten applicants to present a pot full at the opening reception of the summer exhibition the evening of Thursday, June 11th. Visitors at the opening will vote, and the winner will receive a $100 cash prize! The event will run from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is FREE. For more information contact Michael Chavez by email at: michael@foothillsartcenter.org or by phone at 303-279-3922. The Foothills Art Center is located 809 15th Street.

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**June 12**

Golden Celebrates 150 Years

The City of Golden will celebrate 150-years with a parade through downtown, a Jefferson Symphony Orchestra performance at Lions Park, and a multi-media laser light show. Cake and ice cream will also be served. The parade begins at 6:30 p.m. For more information please go to www.150goldenyears.com.

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**June 13**

Dinosaur Discovery Day: Geocache and Earthcache Day

Explore for dinosaurs and learn about geocaching. Guides, including experts from the Morrison Natural History Museum, will be stationed along the trail to explain fossils and answer questions. Hike free or take the shuttle bus for $2 per person (5 & under ride free). Several hands-on activities for kids include a dinosaur dig and track painting. Trek through Time, a new exhibit, will be free all day. The event is FREE and runs from 10am-2:30p.m. For more information please contact Tom Moklestad through email at: tom_moklestad@dinoridge.org or by phone at 303-697-3466.
June 13 & 27

**Blacksmith Demo Days**
Golden had a local blacksmith as early as 1859, so why stop now? Join Matt O’Callaghan and other guest blacksmiths in our blacksmith shop as they craft metal into useful, everyday items. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Clear Creek History Park on the corner of 11th and Arapahoe. Admission is FREE. Weather can impact performances so please call 303-278-3557 to verify. For more information you can go to www.goldenhistorymuseums.org.

Thru June 14

**Golden Celebrates Art**
In honor of Golden’s 150th anniversary, Foothills Art Center (FAC) and the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) have summoned Jefferson County resident artists to participate in an exhibition in FAC II that celebrates the remarkable city of Golden. The event runs through June 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $5. The Foothills Art Center is located at 809 15th Street. For more information please contact Michael Chavez by email at: michael@foothillsartcenter.org or by phone at 303-279-3922.

June 20

**Summer Solstice Music Festival**
Bands take the stage at the Clear Creek History Park for our annual fundraiser. Spread your blanket on the natural hillside amphitheatre and groove to great live music. Enjoy grilled burgers and beer. Event runs from 5 to 9:30 p.m. and will take place at the Clear Creek History Park on the corner of 11th and Arapahoe. Tickets are $9 for adult members, $12 for adult non-members, $9 for college students with ID, $5 for kids ages 10-17, and kids under 10 get in free. Buy your adult tickets in advance and save $2. Tickets are non-refundable. For more information please contact Kathy Husband by email at:kh_1964@q.com or by phone at 303-278-3557. You can also check out their website at www.GoldenHistoryMuseums.org.

June 20-21

**Mountain Fest 2009**
Mountain Fest is a celebration of the Colorado Mountain Club, the state’s premiere mountain-adventure organization dedicated to recreation, conservation, and education. Designed for beginning to expert outdoor enthusiasts, this annual event is a weekend of exciting mountain activities, music, and more. The Colorado Mountain Club is committed to making Mountain Fest a low-waste, environmentally friendly event. Admission is $10 for members of CMC and $15 for non-members. The event is being held at the American Mountaineering Center on the corner of 10th and Washington. For more info, please call 303-279-3080 or visit www.cmc.org/fest.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!

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

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 jashford@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.
Fireworks Are Illegal Within the City Limits

As the July 4th holiday approaches, the Golden Fire Department would like to remind citizens that the storage, possession, sale, and use of ALL fireworks are prohibited by the City of Golden. This includes fireworks that may be allowed under state law and are sold or used in unincorporated areas of the county which are outside the city limits of Golden. As a home rule municipality, Golden has the right to prohibit all fireworks. Counties are prohibited from banning state permissible fireworks by state law. Generally speaking, state permissible consumer fireworks are those that do not produce a loud noise or do not leave the ground such as cones, fountains, ground spinners and sparklers. Fireworks commonly known as firecrackers, bottle or sky rockets, roman candles, cherry bombs or M-80’s are illegal anywhere in Colorado.

Both state law and the City of Golden fire code allow public displays to be conducted by licensed fireworks operators provided they obtain the necessary permits from the fire department. In fact, the Golden Fire Department encourages citizens to enjoy supervised public displays, such as the Golden Lions club display which is conducted annually provided weather and drought conditions do not call for a local or statewide ban of all fireworks.

Some may wonder why the city council chose to ban all fireworks in 2002, and in particular state permissible fireworks. In 2002, the state of Colorado was at the height of a drought period which contributed to numerous devastating wild fires. Nearly every year the fourth of July is one of the driest times of the year and one of the busiest periods for fire departments, often stretching resources to their limits. While they are legal in some areas, state permissible consumer fireworks cause many fires and significant property loss as well as injury.

The Golden Fire Department wants everyone to have a fun and, more importantly, safe July 4th. As such we actively enforce the City of Golden fireworks ordinance in coordination with the Golden Police Department. Help protect yourself, your family, and your neighbors by leaving the fireworks to the professionals at one of the local public displays.

For information about this year’s Lions Club 4th of July fireworks please turn to page 14.

2008 NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
FIRE ANALYSIS AND REPORT ON FIREWORKS

- July 4, 2005, there were 2500 reported structure and vehicle fires caused by fireworks which resulted in 60 civilian injuries and $39 million in property damage.
- 1000 of these fireworks fires were structure fires involving homes.
- Of the 9200 fireworks related injuries treated in emergency rooms in 2006, 28% of the injuries were caused by seemingly “safe and sane” sparklers, fountains and cones. Sparklers burn at temperatures of at least 1200 degrees Fahrenheit.
‘Tis the Season for Door-To-Door Scams

by Jeff Hesalroad

It’s that time of year again, when we are settling down to enjoy the shade of the front porch and a stranger comes walking up the sidewalk? It’s the college-aged sales person. Hello sir I’m so-n-so. This sure is a nice place you have here. I’m from the south side of Detroit, it’s pretty rough there. But I am out here trying to earn enough money so I can win this contest and if I do then I get to……Whoa!!!!!!!!!

Okay, at this point the young person who invited themselves into your yard and up to your front porch has not taken so much as one breath, looks like they have this spiel down pat. They do. This is all they do, all day long. They are dropped off by their “manager”, usually four to six of them at a time. They work a neighborhood for two or three hours then move on. Most of the time they do not have a sales permit from the city. If asked, the sales person will tell you their manager has it with them. Good luck finding the manager.

As a young man, I fell victim to two women who were working as a team at a large apartment complex where I was living. I made almost all of the mistakes a person can make. I let them talk. They were flirtatious. They talked their way into my apartment. About thirty minutes later I had signed up for six different magazines. Being assured they were coming back “after work,” I wrote a check and gave my driver’s license as identification. So, they left and no they did not return after work. I found out later that my check had been washed and two zeros added to the amount I wrote it for. I’m sure they went shopping and had a real good time at my expense.

So, what can you do? If you ever feel concerned that a door-to-door salesperson may not be legitimate, please contact the police department at 303-384-8045 and report the information. We will contact the sales people, check for permits, have them contact their manager so we can talk to them and most of the time, tell them to leave Golden until they have the proper permits. You can then return to the sanctity and shade of your front porch.

The “DO’S AND DON’TS” OF DEALING WITH DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES PEOPLE

DO: Post a No Soliciting sign on the front of your house.

DO: Tell the sales person at the very beginning; what ever you are selling I am not interested.

DO NOT: Let them into your house for any reason. They can use the restroom at the gas station.

DO NOT: Give them a credit card, driver’s license or check. If for some reason you want to buy whatever it is they are selling consider paying with cash, but insist on a receipt. Most magazine companies have online services to purchase subscriptions which are much safer.

DO NOT: Be afraid to ask them to leave. These people can be pushy and persuasive and sometimes threatening, but you do have the right to ask them to leave your property.

Pharmaceutical Round-Up a Great Success

The City of Golden added a new feature to Community Pride Days this year, a pharmaceutical round-up intended to provide a safe place for citizens to dispose of unwanted or expired medications. Medications were removed from their packaging and sorted by a pharmacist who volunteered her time to help with the program. In one day, roughly 100-pounds of medication were collected, sorted, and properly disposed of by the Golden Police Department.

In recent years, there has been a growing concern nationwide about the amount of medication ending up in the water supply due to improper disposal. While Golden has not had an issue, providing a safe way for people to dispose of unwanted medications helps to ensure that they will not be dumped down the drain.

Thanks to this year’s success, the Environmental Services Division is planning to continue the pharmaceutical round-up at next year’s Community pride Days.
Make plans to come to Lions Park on July 4th and enjoy a day with your neighbors and friends. The 38th Annual Golden Lions Club Fourth of July Festival will be held in Lions Park, located at 10th and Maple. This day long event will feature food, beverages, entertainment, live bands and will culminate with a spectacular fireworks show around 9:30 pm. The Golden Lions Club is giving back to the community again this year with free rides for the kids, including a trackless train ride. The Fourth of July Raffle, starting at 1 pm this year, will feature a $1,000 grand prize. There will be many other prizes including patio furniture, hotel stays, and gift certificates from local merchants. In all, more than 200 prizes will be awarded with a total value of $15,000. Raffle tickets may be purchased from any Lions Club member for $1 each, or a book of 10 for $5 and you do not need to be present to win. To buy your raffle tickets look for the Lions Club members at the Golden Farmers Market, Foss Liquors, Safeway, and King Soopers, Saturday mornings 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., starting June 6.

The Fourth of July Festival Raffle is a major fundraiser for the Golden Lions and all proceeds from this family event go towards the Club’s Community Betterment Fund. This fund has been used in the past to finance numerous construction projects around town that Golden residents enjoy everyday. The concession building at Ulysses Park, the restrooms at 12th and Arapahoe streets, the pavilions in Lion’s Park, gazebo type pavilions in the Norman D., Beverly Heights and Southridge neighborhood parks and picnic tables and benches all around Golden have all been funded by the Community Betterment Fund. This year the Club’s project (just completed) was to replace the roofs on the four large picnic shelters at Tony Grampsas Park. Your generous raffle ticket purchases help make all this happen.

Come on out and celebrate the holiday, show your community spirit, and help support a very good cause; the Golden Lions Club’s Community Betterment Fund. For more information on this day long event on a holiday weekend and a map to the park check out the Club’s website at www.GoldenLionsClub.org.

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**GOLDEN LIONS CLUB INSTALLS NEW ROOFS AT GRAMPSAS PARKS**

The Golden Lions Club recently completed a roof replacement project on four picnic shelters at Tony Grampsas Park. This was part of the Lions’ annual effort to take on improvement projects in City parks. This year’s project was a significant effort since it involved four large picnic shelters, each with about 900-square-feet of roof surface. Existing wood shakes had to be removed before the new steel roofing could be installed. Roughly 400 man-hours went into the project along with about $8000 in materials, all donated by the Golden Lions.

Other Lions projects planned for the City include solar lighting for flagpoles and a new fountain aerator for the pond at Lions Park. Past projects have included the construction of gazebo style picnic shelters in several neighborhood parks and improvements at the Clear Creek History Park.

The Golden Lions Club is celebrating its 66th year of serving the Golden community.
The You Make the Difference award is a way for City of Golden employees to be honored by their peers for going above and beyond. The awards are issued at each quarterly employee meeting. These are the winners for the first quarter of 2009.

Kim Luchetta, Recreation Coordinator - Data Management
Although not part of her regular responsibilities, Kim has spent more than two-months designing and maintaining the Fossil Trace Golf Club website. She is always able and willing to research and implement the staff’s vision for the site taking great pride in the amazing finished product.

Chris Naber, Environmental Specialist/Pretreatment
In January, a large amount of hazardous materials were found at a private location. Because of the potential danger to the neighborhood, the City called in a clean-up crew which could have become quite expensive. Chris diligently made a series of phone calls and was able to locate a university that was willing to take most of the chemicals at no cost with the agreement that they would properly dispose of them if they could not use the chemicals.

Dan Krehbiel, Ken Grimes, Greg Mortimer, Shauna Paulson, IT Network Administrator, IT Network Administrator, IT Manager, IT Tech Support
Between Feb. 10 and March 6 City employees attended training for the citywide upgrade to MS Office 2007. This group managed to upgrade 220 workstations to MS Office 2007. As each employee attended training, the IT group upgraded their work stations while they were in the training sessions. This enabled each employee to begin utilizing their new skills as soon as they returned to their desk.

Dave High – City Forester
Recently Dave was asked to assist with two community projects; one required the removal of trees and the other required new trees to be delivered and planted. In both cases, Dave quickly responded to provide the assistance needed. Not only does he provide timely and professional assistance, but he is truly a pleasure to work with.

Paul Burkholder, Manager Parks, Forestry and Cemetery
The Golden Rotary Club approached the City looking for a community project. It was suggested that they landscape the median of the roundabout in front of the new Golden High School. Paul stepped in to lead the way in helping them obtain the necessary materials and in contacting an irrigation contractor to assist with the project. He also offered his time to oversee the installation.
Parks and Recreation Selected as Gold Medal Finalist

The City of Golden Parks and Recreation Department has been selected as a finalist for the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Golden is one of four finalists in the category for communities with populations under 25,000.

The Gold Medal Award honors communities throughout the United States that demonstrate excellence in long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development, and agency recognition. Each agency is judged on its ability to address the needs of those it serves through the collective energies of citizens, staff and elected officials.

Director of Parks, Recreation, and Golf Rod Tarullo is excited about the honor and thanked his staff for their hard work and dedication. "Congratulations to each of you for your personal efforts and contributions in making Golden Parks and Recreation one of the very best departments in the whole United States," said Tarullo in a recent email. "This is the equivalent of the Oscar Award to Hollywood."

A panel of five judges will review each community’s application and will select a Grand Award winner from each population category. The winners will be announced at the NPRA's Annual Congress and Exposition in Salt Lake City, UT, to be held October 13-16, 2009.

For more information about the award program or about the NPRA please go to www.nrpa.org.

Playground Improvements Made with Old Tires

Three of Golden’s parks recently had playground surface improvements made utilizing recycled tires. The surfaces at Tony Grampas, Parfet and Lions Parks were replaced with new synthetic surfaces made from tires that would have typically ended up in landfills. In all, more than 2,800 tires were used for this project. A grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) covered most of the cost of the improvements. DOLA provides grants to communities that purchase recycled products manufactured using Colorado waste tires.
Check out the programs offered this summer at the Community Center
To register, visit www.goldenrec.com

Fabulous Fishing Derby
Bring your own pole and bait. The Fishing Derby will offer prizes for fish caught and a raffle.
Ages 12 years and under
Saturday, June 6
9 to 11 a.m.

Family Music Night
Bring the whole family in to enjoy fun music making!
Ages 6 months-8 years (plus a parent or guardian)
Tuesday, June 23
4:30 to 5:15 p.m.
$20 per family up to 4
($3 per additional family member)

Music Participation Workshop
Make music with your own instrument, percussion, string, voice, horns and any instrument suitable for ensemble.
Ages 10 and over:
    Thursdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m.
Ages 50 and over:
    Thursdays, 7:30 to 9 a.m.
June 11 - July 16
$55 Residents, $60 Non-residents

Outdoor Photography Workshop
Outdoor Photography is for both beginners and advanced participants. Participants must be able to walk up to one mile with their own camera equipment. Digital cameras or film are okay.
Ages 10 and over
Wednesdays, June 10 - July 15
7:30 to 9 a.m.
$65 Residents, $70 Non-residents

Golden Sun Preschool Camp
Join us for weekly summer camp fun.
Ages 3 - 5 years

Lift Off Workshops!
Take a wild ride into the world of rockets as you build and launch different kinds of spacecraft.
Ages 5 - 12 years
Tuesday, June 9th
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
$18 Resident, $21 Non-resident

Legs to Wings
Enjoy insect building with k’nex and computer exploration with a digital microscope.
Ages 4 - 6 years
Wednesday, June 10 or Friday, June 26
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$40 Residents, $45 Non-residents

Advanced Care Babysitting Courses
This course is designed for the pre-teen (11-13) and helps them prepare for those first babysitting opportunities.
Wednesday, June 10 or Friday, June 26
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

Raise a Ruckus with Robots
Children will build their own robots using an infrared controlled robo-vehicle construction set.
Ages 4 - 6 years
Monday - Thursday, June 15 - 18
2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
$40 Residents, $45 Non-residents

Located at the base of the foothills, the Golden Community Center is a venue with a view!
Perfect for weddings, graduations and other events, put your mind at ease with the support of professional staff members and the convenience of an adjoining caterer’s kitchen.
Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates.
Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
Check out the Golden Community Center’s Front Porch - designed specifically for people 50 and older.

The Front Porch offers respite and entertainment, coffee, healthy snacks and cookies. There is a full schedule of games, sports, social events, trips and volunteer activities. Shoot some pool, surf the internet, work on a puzzle, or just relax before you hit your next fitness class.

**Celebrate Health!**

*Fridays, June 5* and July 10

(*second Friday due to July 4 holiday weekend)*

Free blood pressure checks and healthy goodies!

Chair massages.................. $13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions........ $13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce....... $15 per pedicure

*Please note:* Our Mayor, Jacob Smith, will be visiting with us on Friday June 5 - Make sure to stop in and say hello!

**TRIPS & TOURS:**

**Pancakes Plus! Breakfast and Creek Side Walk - #25006**

Wednesday, June 10 - 8:30 to 10 a.m.
$8 per person; Please register.
Come join us for a killer breakfast, and then walk the creek! Wear sturdy walking shoes and join either the easy walk or the longer walk (5K) at 10 a.m.

Register/Cancel by June 8

**Front Range Airport 25th Anniversary Air Show - #25007**

Sat, June 13 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
$30 per ticket; Please register early!
(van, admission; bring $$ for lunch)
Featuring the Blue Angels.

Register/Cancel by May 29

**Lunch & Learn, “Physical Activity and Your Arthritis” - #25010**

Thurs, June 25 - 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
$3 (free to SilverSneakers®)
This seminar covers the benefits of physical activity for arthritis, and is limited to 25 people due to room capacity. Please register to guarantee your seat.

Register/Cancel by June 23

**Scenic Drive and Picnic - #25015**

Mon, June 29 - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
$10 (van only)
Let’s take a drive on 285! Picnic at Guanella Pass, and a small detour to Silver Plume to visit the tea house and bakery.

Register/Cancel by June 24

**For more information:**

- Stop by The Front Porch, upstairs at the Community Center, 1470 10th St.;
- Call 303-384-8130;
- Subscribe to the Front Porch Newsletter ($7/year);
- Check out the Recreation brochure; or
- Visit www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334

**Here’s what’s happening this month:**

**ATHLETICS & WELLNESS**

For a complete schedule of exercise programs, stop in at the Front Desk and ask for information. You can also check classes online at www.goldenrec.com.

**Games, Classes & Clubs**

All week long, everything from Bridge, Pinochle, Dominoes, Mah Jongg and Billiards, Quilting, Pottery and lots more.

**Volunteer Activities**

Whether you want to sew, provide administrative duties, or converse with International School of Mines students – we have people who could use your help!

**Receive the Front Porch News online!**

Stay up-to-date about Games, Classes & Clubs, Volunteer Activities, Wellness, Trips & Events. Visit www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334 or sign up for email!
Dear Homeowner...

We would like to tell you about an exciting and unique opportunity that may be available to you. Rebuilding Together Metro Denver is a non-profit organization, supported entirely by contributions of time, labor, materials and money, dedicated to repairing and rehabilitating the homes of low-income homeowners who are 1) disabled, 2) caring for a disabled family member, and/or 3) 55+ years of age, to make their homes warm, safe and dry...at no cost to the homeowner.

In 2009, the City of Golden/Rebuilding Together hope to identify and select several homes for repairs.

**About Rebuilding Together...**

**What is our mission?** Our mission is to work in partnership with communities to rehabilitate qualified homes. National Rebuilding Day, held each April and October, the metro Denver chapter will rehabilitate over 70 homes, all within the time frame of a one-day event.

**The next Rebuilding Day project will take place October 3, 2009**

*We are currently looking for homeowners in Golden to participate in this opportunity!*

**How are homeowners selected?** Homeowners must be low-income, own/occupy their home, be unable to do the rehabilitation work themselves and be disabled, caring for a disabled family member, and/or 55+ years of age. Homes are chosen through an application and selection process administered by Rebuilding Together staff. Applications and referrals and/or self-referrals are accepted on a year round basis.

**What type of work is done?** Rebuilding Together repairs homes so that qualified homeowners may continue to live in warmth, safety and independence. In our community, skilled and unskilled volunteers from the Together Church of Golden will perform repairs such as installing new roofs, carpets, floors, wheelchair ramps, deadbolts, windows and appliances, as well as painting, yard cleaning, and weatherizing to make homes comfortable. Minor home repairs are also done throughout the year.

**Do homeowners pay?** There is no cost to the homeowner. All repairs are free for eligible homeowners. Labor and many supplies are typically donated. Homeowners and family members are asked to welcome the volunteers into their homes and work alongside them to the extent possible.

**Who sponsors Rebuilding Together?** For Golden homes, the City of Golden has designated funds to provide repairs for eligible homeowners. Funds also come from individuals, corporations, foundations, civic organizations, churches and synagogues.

For more information, please call:
Ken Tribby, City of Golden Planning and Development, 303-384-8111  **OR**
Bethany Thomas, Together Church of Golden, 303-279-2188  **OR**
Rebuilding Together, 720-524-0840  **OR** go to www.rebuildingdenver.org
When you live in Golden, there’s two hours of fun, two minutes from home. So we suggest getting away by staying right here. Get a double scoop of ice cream and meander down Washington Avenue. Stroll through our amazing art galleries or museums. Shop in one of our unique stores. You’ll be surprised at all there is to do right here under your nose. Visit 2HourVacation.com for more great ideas.