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2010 Golden City Council

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

SAVE THE DATE - GOLDEN VISION 2030 COMMUNITY SUMMIT II

It’s your turn to tell us what you want Golden’s future to look like. The Golden Vision 2030 Group is hosting a second Community Summit from 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9 at a location to be determined.

The first Summit was cut short by the March 23 blizzard. Many of the residents who were snowed in showed up to the rescheduled Summit in May.

The Community Summit on June 9 will give residents an opportunity to see what’s been provided to date and to be involved in the process to define Golden’s community values. The Summit will use hands-on activities to make involvement fun and informative. Bring the whole family and help create a vision for Golden. For more information, visit www.cityofgolden.net/goldenvision2030.

STREET MAINTENANCE

City street and sidewalk work is planned for areas of North Ford, 12th Street, 7th Street, Washington Avenue and 10th Street in June. All project dates vary, depending on what the weather allows. Delays and detours are expected to be minimal.

TWEETING WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is successfully reaching residents through Twitter, to warn about road closures, water breaks, or any other event which could affect your day. So far, the department has informed followers about things like road closures for special events and snow and ice alerts, to larger issues like the recent gas line rupture on North Ford Street. These alerts can keep you ahead of the problem spots. To get the latest information sent directly to your Twitter account, simply sign up to follow GoldenPW. If you don’t have a Twitter account, go to http://twitter.com/ and sign up for free.

PARTICIPATE IN CITY COUNCIL ONLINE

Residents can formally weigh-in on City Council agenda items from the comfort of their own home. Prior to a meeting, log on to the City’s website, www.cityofgolden.net, find an upcoming meeting and click on the eComment link next to the posted Agenda. The idea behind eComment is to actively engage a broader audience and increase participation in the decisions that affect the Golden community.

The cut off time for comments is 24 hours prior to a meeting, which allows the City Clerk’s office time to format the comments and gives Council members time to review them.

FREE SPRINKLER INSPECTIONS

The City of Golden is sponsoring the Center for ReSource Conservation to offer free sprinkler inspections through Slow the Flow Colorado. This inspection program is available to residents of Golden. HOA’s and commercial sites may also be eligible. This professional service will help pinpoint any problems with your sprinkler system and also teach you easy sprinkler maintenance. The inspection takes about two hours and they run from June until August.

If you receive water from the City of Golden AND you have an operating underground irrigation system, you can complete the request form online at www.ConservationCenter.org or call 303-999-3820 x217.

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 3
Rescheduled Regular Business Meeting

June 10
Regular Business Meeting

June 17
No Council Meeting

June 24
No Council 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.
**On Growth and Infill**

*By Mayor Jacob Smith*

When I ran for mayor in 2007, one of the concerns I heard most often while standing at doors all over town, second only to concerns about the beltway, was the sense that change was happening to us rather than Golden guiding change to meet our needs as a community. Golden is a small, historic town with a deep sense of place and community. Growth within and around Golden was having a real impact on our quality of life.

One earlier response to growth by the City was the citizen-initiated charter amendment limiting residential growth, and our growth rate has remained well below the one percent limit. But even with a growth limit Golden still experienced some changes, and at the time, we didn’t tackle the character of those changes. As a result, while we’ve seen many widely supported projects, we’ve also ended up with some that really don’t fit the character of the neighborhoods in which they are located.

My colleagues on the City Council shared the sense that we needed to do a better job. One result has been Golden Vision 2030. Through this process so far, more than 800 community members attended eight neighborhood block parties last summer and we’ve recorded more than 350 interviews of Goldenites sharing their thoughts about our community and its future.

Based on this extensive community input, later this year we’ll adopt a Golden Vision 2030 document spelling out our shared vision for the future of Golden. Then we’ll update our Comprehensive Plan and other city codes to make sure we move toward that vision. Critical questions include identifying where modest growth is appropriate and where it isn’t, how best to protect the character of our existing neighborhoods, and how to make sure Golden is connected to larger regional transit and rail systems.

In the interim we made one modest but important policy change to better protect the character of our existing neighborhoods. City Council last year eliminated a provision that allowed multifamily projects in our older neighborhoods to bypass Planning Commission site plan review. Additionally, in July the City Council will consider another important policy change to reduce the maximum height limit from 35 feet to 30 feet for some projects in R-2 and R-3 zones, helping to make sure that new projects don’t dwarf nearby buildings.

There are a variety of tools we as a community can use to protect the character of our neighborhoods while giving developers clarity about what’s appropriate and what isn’t. None of them are perfect, and the Planning Commission has been working hard to sort through the pros and cons and has come up with reasonable proposals. Please stay tuned, please weigh in, and please – if you haven’t already – be part of the Golden Vision 2030 process.
Congratulations to the City of Golden Parks and Recreation Department, a finalist for the second consecutive year for the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management. There are only four finalists nation-wide.

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.

“The award of finalist recognizes the department as one of the top four national leaders in the provision of high quality parks and recreation and is quite an honor in and of itself,” said Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf.

Golden will compete for the Grand Award honor in the population category 25,000 and below. The award comes from the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA), in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The winner will be announced during NRPA’s Annual Congress and Exposition in Minneapolis in October.

CIRCULATOR BUS DISCUSSIONS BEGIN

In order to take full advantage of the light rail coming into the Golden area, the City is beginning to look at what can be done to transport people from the light rail station into Downtown Golden.

The transit feasibility study, which was released in December 2009, was a test to determine whether or not a circulator bus in Golden would have a reasonable chance for success in the community. The study itself is not a plan, but its successful completion signaled the beginning of the circulator planning process.

So far this effort has involved three neighborhood meetings, an open house, and discussions at the All Ward Meeting and at City Council. Since a circulator service would not begin until light rail arrives in 2013, there will be many future opportunities for community input. The main goal for 2010 is to negotiate partnerships and begin obtaining grants that would be needed to fund and operate a potential circulator. If this partnering and funding effort proves successful, Council and the community can begin serious discussions on topics such as potential routes and types of vehicles.

The transit feasibility study is available for download at: http://goldentransitproject.com/. You can also email City staff with any questions or concerns at circulator@cityofgolden.net.

Record Numbers at Pride Days

The City of Golden’s annual Pride Days event in May drew nearly 1,400 car loads of unwanted waste. That’s about 200 more participants than last year. Residents could bring just about anything they wanted to throw away, recycle or shred. For the second year, residents could also bring unwanted pharmaceuticals for safe disposal, and this was a popular service. 110 pounds of pharmaceuticals were dropped off. If you missed out, the City of Golden plans to hold Pride Days again next year.
Get your cloth sacks ready to carry home the bounty from the Golden Farmers Market. The market is located in the lot west of the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St. It will run every Saturday (except for July 24, Buffalo Bill Days) from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from June to October. This year there will be several new vendors selling spices, toffee, flax seed, Irish soda bread, jerky, smoked salmon, chowder and more. There will also be the usual great fruits, veggies and lean proteins available. Come meet the new vendors and welcome back your old favorites.

There will be a rock climbing wall on site from Golden Rock Guides, local merchants in the service and retail booths, solar and renewable energy companies, CSU Master Gardeners answering your gardening questions and giving demos, entertainment, Cultural Alliance information on the great cultural facilities and activities in town, and other booths to give you ideas about enjoying a long, healthy summer in Golden!

Also, again this year you will be able to use debit and credit cards to buy "Market Bucks" that can be used only at the Market. Federal food assistance benefits are also accepted. For more information, call the Golden Chamber of Commerce at 303-279-3113 or visit www.goldencochamber.org.

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First Friday is expanding to include a street fair! On Friday, June 4 from 5 to 9 p.m., Washington Avenue between 12th and 13th will be closed off for Golden’s First Friday Street Fair. For $3 you can sample one “Taste of the Chuckwagon” from area restaurants including Buffalo Rose, Blue Canyon Bar & Grill, D’Deli, Three Tomatoes Steakhouse & Club at Fossil Trace and Bridgewater Grill along with Coors beer. There will be family friendly entertainment, free horse-drawn carriage rides, rock climbing and music from Kari and Jerry Duo. This is in addition to the merchant sales and special events that are always part of the First Friday in downtown Golden.

The event is sponsored by MillerCoors, GURA, EDComm and put on by the Golden Chamber of Commerce/ Downtown Merchants Association. For more information call 303-279-3113 or visit www.goldencochamber.org.

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**BUFFALO BILL DAYS CALL FOR PARADE ENTRIES**

The Buffalo Bill Days Committee is asking all organizations who had entries in last year’s parade and any new potential participants, to contact them regarding an application for the 2010 parade. The deadline for entries is July 1. Call Bart Jones at 720-988-7041 or email Bart_Jones@mcafee.com.

Buffalo Bill Days runs from July 21 to 25 this year. This event dates back to the 1950s and is currently the largest community event held in Golden. The event draws many people from surrounding areas who enjoy bringing their families to a wholesome, small-town community event.
Over the last ten years or so, downtown Golden has been transformed. We have added hundreds of new residents and jobs, dozens of new businesses, a handful of new buildings and many beautification projects. These improvements have a way of re-enforcing each other as more businesses see the value in locating downtown, and more residents are able to achieve the dream of living, working, and playing without ever getting into a car. This is just what we’ve been trying to accomplish!

To ensure that downtown Golden continues to be a thriving, vital place for businesses, residents and tourists alike, we must rely on the people who have purchased a building, opened up a shop or made downtown their home. If all of the different kinds of people who utilize downtown understand how each group functions, they can help each other maximize the potential for vitality founded upon shared values.

To help create this culture of mutual responsibility and better communication, the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) and the Golden Police Department have launched the Downtown Golden Vitality Project. This group represents seven partners and 10 stakeholder groups ranging from business owners to residents to Colorado School of Mines students. The group meets monthly to try out new ideas or discuss issues related to downtown. Each stakeholder group is encouraged to meet independently and bring new ideas to the table. If things keep running smoothly downtown, you’ll know the experiment is working.

For more information, call Mark Heller at 303-279-4162 or Officer Glenn Moore at 303-384-8080.

Connecting Neighbors Community Grant

If you have an idea for making your neighborhood a better place but don’t know where to find the money to do it, now is the time make it happen. The City of Golden continues to award funds from a $10,000 grant to promote community efforts designed to improve the connectedness and health of neighborhoods in Golden.

Golden received the grant in 2003 from the LMC Community Foundation, now known as Community First Foundation. The foundation has the authority for final approval of grants and all money will be awarded to deserving projects on a first come, first served basis.

Projects are limited only by your imagination. In the past, the foundation has made awards for neighborhood parks, block parties and neighborhood signage. The application process is simple and informal. Successful applicants are expected to submit a final report describing the results of the project and the lessons learned. Previous applicants have also submitted such things as before and after photos and photos from block parties to show how the money was spent.

Applications will be available after Tuesday, June 15. For more information about the grant process and to receive an application, contact Denise Hish at 303-384-8011 or dhish@cityofgolden.net.

MINES MOVES UP THE RANKS AMONG BEST GRADUATE SCHOOLS

The graduate school at the Colorado School of Mines (CSM) ranked 63rd in the 2011 listing of “Best Engineering Schools” in the U.S. News and World Report listing of “America’s Best Graduate Schools.” The ranking moves CSM up from last year, when it ranked 72. The rankings include more than 192 graduate engineering programs nationwide.

Several of CSM’s individual programs were also highly ranked. Mines ranked 26th for Materials Engineering, 34th for Environmental Engineering and 49th for Chemical Engineering.

The Colorado School of Mines has created a website for its neighbors in Golden, to stay up on current events happening in and around the school. To get the latest neighborhood news, visit http://inside.mines.edu/News-for-Golden-Neighbors.
As the July 4th holiday approaches, the Golden Fire Department would like to remind citizens that the possession, sale/giving/furnishing and use of ALL fireworks is prohibited by the City of Golden Fire Code. This includes those fireworks that may be permissible in other parts of the county or state.

Generally speaking, state permissible consumer fireworks are those that do not produce a loud explosion or that 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 the types of consumer fireworks that are illegal anywhere in Colorado.

Why are fireworks prohibited in Golden? Nearly every year, the July 4th holiday is one of the driest times of the year and one of the busiest times of the year for most fire departments. There is no exception for the volunteer-based Golden Fire Department.

Fireworks related fires and injuries continue to be a significant problem in the United States. According to the National Fire Protection Association, there were an estimated 32,600 fires caused by fireworks in the U.S. in 2006. The fires resulted in six deaths, 70 injuries and $34 million in property damage. An estimated 9,800 people were treated in emergency rooms in 2007 for fireworks related injuries, mostly involving the hands and eyes. Nearly 50 percent of the injuries were burns. Remember, even the seemingly harmless sparklers throw off hot sparks that exceed temperatures of 1,200 degrees.

The Golden Fire Department wants everyone to have a fun and, more importantly, safe July 4th holiday. The City of Golden actively enforces the fireworks ordinance in coordination with the Golden Police Department.

Help protect yourself, your family and your neighbors by leaving the fireworks display to the professionals. Supervised public displays by state licensed fireworks display operators with a fire department fireworks display permit are allowed in Golden, unless weather and drought conditions cause a local or statewide ban of all fireworks.

Our dogs are our friends and companions. They count on us for their basic needs and that includes doing everything possible to find them if they wander away from home. One of the most basic ways to protect your pet is to license them. According to animal control officers, a license is a ticket home.

It’s also the law. A dog license is mandatory in Golden and many other parts of Jefferson County. Yet only a small portion of the population complies. There are an estimated 5,711 dogs in Golden and less than 20 percent of them are licensed. The Golden Police Department is working to change that.

As extra incentive for licensing your pet, remember that the fees go to help build the new Foothills Animal Shelter near the Jefferson County Fairgrounds which will replace the existing Table Mountain Animal Center and will be the main shelter for Golden. The shelter is under construction and donations are far short of the final $3 million needed for its completion and operation.

Registering your dog is simple. You can get a form online at http://animalcontrol.jeffco.us along with additional information about registration and fees. By helping your own pet, you will be helping secure a future for many others.
Ethical Businesses Honored

The Golden Ethics in Business Awards are a Golden Rotary Club tradition of honoring two local organizations, one for-profit and one non-profit, for leading the way in business ethics. The winning organizations demonstrate the highest standards of ethical business practice, integrity, and civic and social responsibility.

Meyer Hardware is this year’s for-profit winner. Meyer Hardware is a family-owned, three-generation hardware store serving Golden and the surrounding area since 1945. In addition to stocking basic hardware, Meyer Hardware also has sporting goods, offers fishing and hunting licenses and has a complete housewares department.

Jeffco Action Center is a human services organization that provides an immediate response to basic human needs and promotes pathways to self-sufficiency to Jefferson County residents and the homeless. Since 2007, Jeffco Action Center has served more than 60,000 residents, nearly half of them under the age of 18.

More than 300 people attended the awards luncheon to honor these two winners, including Congressman Ed Perlmutter. Ed Greene of CBS4 News was the Master of Ceremonies for the event.
GOLDEN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Through June 20

*Dietrich & Chevalier*

This regional premiere features two Legends in Love. 1932, both Marlene Dietrich and Maurice Chevalier were world superstars. This is the true fascinating story of their love and a lifelong friendship featuring 15 of their signature songs. Shows on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are $25 with discounts for seniors and students. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For more information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Through August 1

*20th Anniversary Quilt Exhibit*

Features quilts from early America in the 1800s and 1900s. These remarkable quilts have been in a private collection and have never before been shown together in public. Ticket prices vary. Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. For more information call 303-277-0377 or visit www.rmqm.org.

June 7

*Foothills Art Center Free Admission Day*

Thanks to Target, admission is free every first Monday of the month. Enjoy a variety of exhibits throughout the summer. Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call the Foothills Art Center at 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

June 9

*Chronic Pain/Chronic Illness Support Group*

Meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at Mesa View/1st Presbyterian Churches Sunday School Building in the “Room for 1 More” room, 1707 West 16th Ave. For more information call April Struck at 303-279-2776.

Through July 10

*Robin Hood*

The Heritage Square Children’s Theatre presents *Robin Hood.* Fun for kids of all ages. Tickets are $6. Heritage Square Music Hall, 18301 W. Colfax Ave. For information, call 303-279-7800 or visit www.hsmusichall.com.

June 4

*First Friday Street Fair*

The first Street Fair of the season is expanded to include entertainment, food and much more. On Washington Avenue between 12th and 13th streets. 5 to 9 p.m.

June 5

*Golden Farmers Market*

From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday from June to October in the parking lot west of the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St. Come meet the new vendors and welcome back your old favorites. For more information, call the Golden Chamber of Commerce at 303-279-3113 or visit www.goldencochamber.org.

June 12

*Wild West Auto Roundup*

More than 200 cars line Washington Avenue for the Wild West Auto Roundup. A great chance to get a
close look at vintage cars, along with food and entertainment. There is no charge to attend. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Washington Avenue downtown. For more information or to sign up for a spot for your car, call the Golden Chamber of Commerce at 303-279-3113 or visit www.goldencochamber.org.

June 12 and 26
4-H Livestock Days
Jefferson County 4-H families are back this summer to showcase some of the animals they’re raising for the Jefferson County Fair held in August. This is an opportunity to meet the animals and talk with local experts from JeffCo 4-H. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Clear Creek History Park Corral, 822 12th St. For more information call Carol Happ at 303-278-3557 or carol@goldenhistorymuseums.org.

June 19
Summer Solstice Music Festival
Celebrate the official start of summer with this annual fundraiser from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Clear Creek History Park, 822 12th St. Bring your blanket and enjoy some barbeque along with a variety of music played on the natural hillside amphitheatre. Tickets are $12. Discount tickets are available for students, children and members of the museum. For more information, contact Carol Happ at 303-278-3557 or carol@goldenhistorymuseums.org.

June 20
Father’s Day

June 21
Summer Begins

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!
The second annual Sustainability Awards were handed out on Earth Day to six outstanding nominees. The awards recognize individuals and organizations that embody sustainability best practices and contribute toward achieving the City’s ten-year sustainability goals.

Each year, the City of Golden and the Community Sustainability Advisory Board (CSAB) present awards in four categories: Student, Individual, Business, and Community Group.

STUDENT AWARD – ROBBIE
1st grader Robbie started his business, Sand Shark, in 2009 to raise money to help feed children in Colorado through selling reusable cloth napkins made in Golden. To date, Robbie raised enough funds to provide lunches to over 250 children. He has also partnered with Food Bank of the Rockies to raise awareness. His Feeding Frenzie napkins are reusable and help prevent waste.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS – THE FAMILY OF LLOYD ATHEARN AND POVY ATCHISON, AND THEIR SON FORREST
These East Street neighborhood residents demonstrate how families can successfully live sustainably in Golden. Their sustainable lifestyle includes a 4.2 kW solar system for a home-based business, water conserving dual-flush toilets, low-flow fixtures and energy-efficient appliances. They’re dedicated recyclers, xeric gardeners, back-yard composters, and they are long-time users of mass transit, proving that Golden is very walkable through their daily commute to work and day care.

BUSINESS AWARD – ABC CAR WASH
Jim Beetham’s car wash at 730 Heritage Road, conserves water through on-site reclamation, prevents waste water pollution from entering Golden’s rivers, uses biodegradable chemistry, and conserves energy through efficient lighting. In addition, ABC was recognized by the Western Carwash Association as “most innovative” for its efforts.

BUSINESS AWARD – GOLDEN REAL ESTATE
Jim Smith has invested in making his building at 17695 S. Golden Road more energy efficient through a 5.2 kW solar photovoltaic system. In addition, three solar tubes eliminate the need for interior lighting on most days, he has LED light fixtures and CFLs, a public drop-off site for polystyrene (Styrofoam) recycling, and free re-used moving boxes and a moving truck for his clients’ use. Jim is also participating in a study to design a small wind turbine for his building.

BUSINESS AWARD – WOODY’S WOOD-FIRED PIZZA
Jon Bortles works to make the family business at 1305 Washington Ave. more sustainable while also benefiting his bottom line. Woody’s has a 9.84 kW solar photovoltaic system, automated energy monitoring, high-efficiency appliances and lights, water-conserving fixtures and a rigorous recycling program, just to name a few.

COMMUNITY GROUP AWARD – INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS (IES)
Carol Lyons, executive director of IES, spearheads this pilot project effort to measure Contaminants of Emerging Concern. IES’s goal is to use education to mitigate and prevent the introduction of household and personal care contamination to the downstream water supply. For more than a year, IES has worked with Golden utilities, manufacturers, researchers, and residents to evaluate contaminants and implement effective communication strategies to reduce impacts. IES’s outreach to the Golden public and stakeholders has provided a valuable service to the Golden community.
Throughout the summer, solar panels will be installed on 17 buildings in South Golden. When completed, the project will include 8,100 solar panels. It will be Golden’s largest solar installation and one of the area’s only multi-tenant buildings to offer solar power.

This project is an approximate $9 million investment, offset by a rebate from Xcel Energy and a federal grant. The properties are all owned and managed by MIE Properties, Inc. MIE Properties is a full service real estate development firm that owns and manages more than nine million square feet of industrial, office and retail space nationwide. This project will cover more than 650,000 square feet of office space on West Colfax.

“This is certainly the largest investment MIE has ever made in alternative energy,” said Steve Rasmussen, regional partner of MIE Properties. “And we’re absolutely thrilled to be taking our first foray into solar power here in Golden.”

Golden’s Director of Planning & Development, Steve Glueck, commended the project. “We are very excited to see MIE Properties embrace alternative energy, especially to this scale,” said Glueck. “It certainly supports Golden’s resolution to encourage more sustainable businesses and we wholeheartedly applaud this effort.”

Even though the project is massive in scale, it will likely never be seen by most. The types of solar panels being used are positioned at a much lower angle than traditional solar panels, so they are not visible from ground level.

When completed, the system will generate 1,890,000 kilowatt hours per year. This is enough energy to supply electricity to 250 typical Colorado homes for one year and offset 1,500 tons of CO2 annually.

The project is expected to be completed by August.

Over the past several years, the Golden Fire Department has received several questions about the increasingly popular outdoor fireplaces sold at many outdoor and home improvement stores. As of November 2009, the International Fire Code (IFC) defines an outdoor fireplace as any solid fuel burning fireplace made of noncombustible material such as metal, concrete or clay. They are also defined as being open in design or provided with a hearth opening and a short chimney on top.

The outdoor fireplaces that resemble a bowl with a domed screen top would be open in design. A Chiminea would be an example of an outdoor fireplace with a hearth opening and a short chimney. Both are provided with a metal stand; however, some of the open type may be built into a table that serves as the stand. They can be used for cooking and pleasure.

These outdoor fireplaces are permissible in the City and do not require a permit to operate; however, they are required to be operated on the ground level no closer than 15 feet from a structure or combustible material such as a neighbor's wooden fence or pile of firewood. The exception for this clearance by the IFC is that this would not apply to one and two family homes; however, GFD recommends everyone follow this practice. Golden Fire urges everyone to let their neighbors know that they intend to use an outdoor fireplace to avoid calls for a burning odor by an unsuspecting neighbor. And finally, Golden Fire follows all county and statewide burning bans which may mean these outdoor fireplaces cannot be used. If this is the case, public information will be distributed.

The Golden Fire Department hopes everyone has a fire safe and fun summer season.
Children and babies show the highest level of exposure to Bisphenol A (BPA), a chemical used to make plastics for packaging materials and containers for food and drinks. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced concerns over the health effects of BPA this year. The FDA, which regulates BPA in food and drink packaging, said it has “some concern about the potential effects of BPA on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland in fetuses, infants, and young children.”

Almost 100 percent of BPA exposure is through food consumption, according to the U.S. National Toxicology Program. Parents can easily protect their children by knowing what products most likely contain BPA and keep them away from children.

**Avoid:** Hard plastic kitchen tools, such as spatulas, ladles and colanders because they come into contact with heat and food and may contain BPA. Heat can cause BPA to leach out.

**Switch to:** Wood, metal or glass stirring spoons, spatulas, measuring cups and measuring spoons.

**Avoid:** Water from five-gallon commercial jugs. The rigid plastic could contain BPA.

**Switch to:** Golden tap water – it is clean and pure.

**Avoid:** Plastic baby bottles, unless they are labeled “BPA-free.”

**Switch to:** Glass baby bottles.

**Avoid:** Plastic sippy cups, unless they are labeled “BPA-free.”

**Switch to:** Stainless steel water bottles. Again, purchase stainless steel bottles without plastic liners.

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Golden library patrons can now access enhanced high-speed wireless networks. The expanded wireless Internet access is an effort by the Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL) to meet the needs of library users throughout the county. According to the JCPL, in 2009, patrons accessed online library resources more than 3.9 million times, up from only 215,000 in 1999.

Patrons with Wi-Fi enabled laptops may access the new wireless system by connecting to the “JCPL-Public” network. No special password, user names or settings are required to gain access to the Internet; however, users must agree to abide by the Library’s Internet and Safety Policy. Golden is one of eight Jefferson County libraries to receive the upgrade.

Other new high-tech offerings include Playaways (portable audio books), downloadable eBooks and downloadable audio books. For more information on these and other JCPL offerings, visit the Golden Library, 1019 10th Street or visit www.jeffcolibrary.org.

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**BPA-proof Your Home**

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The You Make the Difference award is a way for City of Golden employees to be honored by their peers for going the extra mile to really make a difference in their jobs. The awards are issued at each quarterly meeting. These are the winners for the first quarter of 2010.

Debbie Testroet, Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief
The Golden Fire Department recently faced a huge spike in billing for utilities at one of the fire stations. The monthly charge went from about $200 a month to over $2,000 a month. Debbie took it upon herself to research this dramatic change and figure out what could be done. It turned out that the utility company had made an error and because of Debbie’s persistence, the problem was solved. She saved the volunteer-driven department about $9,000 by catching the mistake and getting it corrected.

John Powderly, Utilities Maintenance Worker
Utilities Maintenance Worker John Powderly was repairing a water main break, when he noticed a burning odor in the air and could see a smoke haze in the general vicinity. John began investigating and found the back side of a home was heavily involved in fire. After calling 9-1-1, John assisted a neighbor in trying to extinguish some of the flames with a garden hose until rescue crews arrived. John’s quick thinking in locating the source of the smoke and his immediate actions helped to prevent the spread of the fire and reduced further damage to the residence.

Mark Williams, Utilities Supervisor
Chad Helmke, Senior Maintenance Worker
Brian Matzke, Senior Maintenance Worker
Kyle Raley, Senior Maintenance Worker

The Streets Division was down two employees this winter season due to the hiring freeze and the Utilities Division was asked to help out with snow and ice control operations. These four individuals stepped up without any hesitation, got all the proper training and became part of the team. Whether they were called in at 2 a.m. on a Saturday or asked to work 12-hour shifts, they accomplished their assigned duties with no complaints. Without their assistance the City would not have had as much success removing snow and ice from City streets and sidewalks.
Word Processing for Communication
The Write Stuff! Using MS Office® 2003 or 2007, this course focuses on the tools of word processing and enables participants to communicate professionally.
  Age: 18 years and older
  Thursdays, June 3 and 10
  5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
  $69 Resident, $74 Non-resident

Advanced Care Babysitting Courses
This course is designed for the pre-teen and helps prepare for babysitting opportunities. Certification provided.
  Age: 11 years and older
  Friday, June 4 or 25
  9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  $65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

Rockin’ Rockets Camp
Over the course of five days you will do just about everything there is to do with rockets short of riding one into space.
  Age: 6 to 12 years
  Monday through Friday,
  June 7 to 11
  9 a.m. to noon
  $99 Resident, $104 Non-resident

Advanced Care CPR and First Aid
An American Heart Association certification will be issued.
  Age: 14 years and older
  Saturday, June 12
  9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  $65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

007 Secret Agent Camp
The innovative LEGO® Spybotics will be used to build and program robots.
  Age: 7 to 12 years
  Monday through Thursday,
  June 14 to 17
  4:30 to 6 p.m.
  $60 Resident, $65 Non-resident

Robo Tots
Class will use kits for small hands, crafts, activities and an infra-red controlled robo-vehicle construction set. Parents must attend with their toddler.
  Age: 2 to 3 years
  Mondays and Wednesdays,
  June 14 to 23
  9:30 to 10:15 a.m.
  $35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

The Computer as a Learning Tool in the Preschool Classroom
This course focuses on selecting developmentally age-appropriate software for classroom use, integrating computer activities to reinforce readiness skills, teaching tips and techniques.
  Age: 18 years and older
  Thursdays, June 17 and 24
  5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
  $69 Resident, $74 Non-resident

Geo-Caching GPS - Games & Treasure Hunt
Small groups, using hand-held Global Positioning Systems, will search for treasure caches and leave replacement “valuables” for another adventurous group to find.
  Age: 4 to 6 years
  Monday through Thursday,
  June 28 to July 1 - 10 to 11 a.m.
  $40 Resident, $45 Non-resident

Alternative Energy Engineering
Build cars, cranes, drawbridges, etc., from LEGO® kits and operate them using alternative energy sources.
  Age: 7 to 12 years
  Monday through Thursday,
  June 28 to July 1 - 5:30 to 7 p.m.
  $80 Resident, $85 Non-resident
Welcome to the new and exciting summer opportunity for teens ages 13-15 years old brought to you by the City of Golden’s Park & Recreation Department. We have four fun adventures set up for your teen (as noted to the right). The registration fee covers transportation and supervision and the teen is responsible for bringing cash to pay for the field trip activity. Teens are also welcome to bring money for snacks - should the opportunity arise. Please bring a cold lunch and drink. The only location where lunch may be purchased is Elitch Gardens.

Teens must be registered online at rec.cityofgolden.net. Activity #24270 - registration fee, $20. First come, first served. Parents must fill out the Teen Adventure Friday Emergency Packet and turn it in to Tracy.
- Fax: 303-384-8104
- Email/scan: thagelund@cityofgolden.net
- Drop it by the Golden Community Center: 1470 10th Street, Golden
- Turn in emergency forms and registration as soon as possible.
- All forms are available at: www.cityofgolden.net, select Parks & Recreation Dept., Recreation, and then Teen Adventure Fridays.

If this program proves to be successful, more Fridays will be added next year.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tracy at 303-384-8124 or email thagelund@cityofgolden.net.

All teens must meet in the lobby at the Golden Community Center by 9 am sharp! Field trips are as follows (teen must always bring sunscreen):

**June 11**  X-Treme Fun Athletics, Inc. Arena
82 Inverness Drive East, Unit 2A, Englewood
www.xtremechallengearena.com
Fee $25
- Teens will encounter games of skill, wit and determination. After the field trip, teens will enjoy a few hours of disc golf at the Arvada Disc Golf Course east of Hwy 93 & 64th Ave.

**June 25**  Elitch Gardens
2000 Elitch Circle, Denver
www.elitchgardens.com
Fee $21
- Teens will enjoy a full day of rides, both wet and dry. Bring your swim suit and a towel. May bring money for lunch.

**July 9**  Sky Venture Colorado
9230 park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree
www.skyventurecolorado.com
Fee $30
- At 9 a.m., teens will enjoy a quick pick up game of flag football at White Ash Mine Park followed by two indoor skydiving flights at Sky Venture. If time allows, teens will stop by Splash for a quick dip (no charge for teens at Splash).

**July 23**  Golden River Sports
8th & Washington St, Golden
www.goldenriversports.net
Fee $50
- Teens will enjoy 4 hours of fly fishing instruction on Lion’s Park Pond and Clear Creek, followed by fly fishing on Clear Creek below tunnel two. Guides may take teens up the canyon if time allows. Waders, boots, fishing poles, and bait will be provided. If you have your own gear, please let Tracy know.
Celebrate Health!
Fridays, June 4 and July 2
We will have free blood pressure checks and healthy goodies.
Chair massages..........................$13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions...............$13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce .................$15 per 15 minutes
Call 303-384-8130 to make your appointment.

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

WHAT’S NEW THIS MONTH....

Outdoor Photography Workshop - #27005
This is for both beginners and intermediate photographers. Participants should be able to walk a mile or two with photo equipment. Students must provide their own transportation and camera equipment. First meeting is at the Golden Community Center.
Age: 10 years and older, Min/Max: 5/12
Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9 a.m. - June 9 to July 14
$65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

Abstract Art Series - #28080
This class will provide education on Abstract artists’ lives and the period of history in which they lived. Participants will create art each day (may include painting, drawing, sculpting) with the guidance of an Abrakadoodle instructor.
Age: 15 years and older, Min/Max: 5/9
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon

June 15 to June 24
$94 Resident, $99 Non-resident

JUNE EVENTS

The Phoenix Gold Mine, Idaho Springs - #25025
Temperature in the mine will be 45-50°F; moderate level of walking on a slope. Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, bring a jacket, water and snacks. Lunch at the Buffalo Bar before tour.
Friday, June 18 - Register/Cancel by June 16
10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$15 (van, mine admission, bring $$ for lunch)

Rockies vs Milwaukee Brewers - #25030
Sunday, June 20 - Register/Cancel by June 11
11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. - $27 (van, parking, admission)

Manor House Events Center - #25032
This beautifully restored mansion, built in 1914, is nestled in the Ken-Caryl Valley, and has a history of entertaining presidents, celebrities and industrial chieftains.
Tuesday, June 22 - Register/Cancel by June 17
4 to 10 p.m. - $40 (van, dinner)

USAFA Cadet Chapel & Visitor Center, Colorado Springs - #25035
Lunch at the Visitors Center (Subway), or bring a picnic lunch. Visitors subject to search, and large bags or backpacks are NOT allowed. Please bring only what you need.
Monday, June 28 - Register/Cancel by June 21
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
$15 (van, admission, bring $$ for lunch)
The Splash at Fossil Trace is a great place for all ages! There are slides and water features galore. We even have a full concession stand in case you forget your snacks.

On Saturday, June 5, The Splash and Radio Disney team up for fun, music, games and prizes. Come to The Splash from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for a fun-filled experience.

Planning a party? Have it at The Splash! Group discounts and party packages are available! The Splash can also be rented for private parties such as corporate events and family reunions. Dates are filling up fast, so call today!

Looking for more incentive to visit The Splash this summer? The Splash will be offering twilight hours for those who want a quick dip after work or entertainment for the kids before dinner. Twilight hours are Monday through Friday, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. These hours will feature a reduced admission price for all ages: Adults $3, Youth $2, and Tots $1.

The Splash at Fossil Trace is easily accessible from all major highways. Travel time takes approximately 10 to 20 minutes from the Denver metro area and surrounding communities. For more information, rates and hours of operation, call 303-277-8700 or visit www.splashingolden.com.

Tipper’s Summer Safety Tips

✓ Drink lots of water
✓ Take breaks from the sun and seek shade
✓ Use sunscreen and apply it 30 minutes before going outdoors. Re-apply every 2 hours.
✓ Swim in supervised areas only- like Splash Water Park!
✓ Use insect repellants containing Deet to fight against ticks and mosquito bites
✓ Be safe, and have fun!
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.