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Cover photo: Andrew Terrill

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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

BOARD OPENINGS
Four Historic Preservation Board appointments expire in April. Applicants must be residents of the City of Golden and fill out an application form available on the City’s website, www.cityofgolden.net, under Boards and Commissions, Historic Preservation Board. You can also contact the City Clerk’s Office at clerks@cityofgolden.net or call 303-384-8014. Applications are due to the City Clerk no later than March 4 at 5 p.m. Interviews are tentatively scheduled to be held prior to the March 11 Regular City Council meeting. Terms are four years.

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS
The City will be completing a small pedestrian improvement project on Washington Avenue between the Highway 58 bridge and 6th Street. The project will improve sidewalks on both sides of Washington along with some lighting and access improvements. The project will begin in March as the weather improves and should take three to four weeks. Traffic will not be detoured but there could be some minor delays.

DRUG DISPOSAL
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is managing the Colorado Medication Take-Back Pilot Project. This is an opportunity to dispose of unused and unwanted household medications in a secure, convenient and environmentally sound way. The nearest drop-off location is at King Soopers, 3400 Youngfield St., Wheat Ridge. For more information, call 303-692-2903 or visit www.coloradomedtakeback.info.

VICTIM ADVOCATES NEEDED
Applications are being accepted for the April training class to become a victim advocate. Victim Outreach Information (VOI) offers opportunities to work directly with crime victims, offering support and access to resources during a critical stage of trauma. Volunteer Victim Advocates carry a pager and are called out by law enforcement on evenings and weekends to respond on scene, to ensure victims’ rights are upheld and needs are met. The application process is selective and applicants must be at least 21 years old, submit to a background check and attend a 40-hour training class. No experience is necessary. Contact Volunteer Recruiter Shawna at 303-202-2196 or email langevoi@aol.com.

GOLDEN PUBLIC WORKS TWEETS
Have you ever been upset when the water suddenly goes off at your home or when you’re on your favorite route to work and get detoured? Starting March 1, the Public Works Department will use Twitter to reach out to residents. When there is a road closure, water break, blizzard or other issue that can interrupt your day, Public Works will send out a tweet to anyone signed up for the service. These will be short notices like “Snowing and all equipment is deployed” or “Water break on Crestview, homes in the area will see water outages that could last five hours.” To get the latest info 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/GoldenPW and sign up for free.

COUNCIL’S CORNER
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.

March 4
Rescheduled regular business meeting

March 11
Regular business meeting

March 18
No meeting

March 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 welcome on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
In January City Council held an all-day retreat to take stock of the past couple of years and set our priorities for the next two. We started by acknowledging a few facts about where we stand today:

- Even if the economy recovers over the next several years, we expect the impacts of the recession to linger for some time.
- The city is in solid shape financially and we enjoy a very high quality of life, but we probably won’t be able to invest as much in new or expanded amenities over the next several years as we have in recent years.
- The Denver Metro region will experience substantial population growth, and the proportion of people in their retirement years will grow a great deal as well.
- Colorado School of Mines will continue to grow.
- Golden is blessed with an incredible community, a skilled city staff, and a strong City Council.

One key outcome of our retreat was reaffirming the five basic goals we adopted two years ago:

1. Preserve Golden’s friendly, historical, and small-town character.
2. Maintain Golden’s safe, attractive, clean, and healthy environment.
3. Provide multiple options for safe and accessible transportation throughout Golden.
4. Ensure Golden’s continued economic vitality and well-being.
5. Sustain Golden’s high quality of life.

Early this month, City Council will formally update and refine our “Governing Policies,” including specific objectives, metrics, and work plan priorities for each of these goals. This document spells out all of our specific expectations of city staff and is the basis of our evaluation of the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the Municipal Judge. If you want to know how we will evaluate each of these individuals at the end of the year, and our own expectations for City Council action, you’ll find it in our Governing Policies.

Our work plan includes a great deal on each of the five goals, but in 2010 we are going to especially focus on completing and adopting our new Golden Vision 2030 (answering the question: “What do we want Golden to be like in 2030?”) and on ensuring Golden’s continued economic vitality. That means supporting our merchants and our business districts, retaining and attracting primary jobs in the Golden area, managing the city’s own finances carefully and thoughtfully, and helping Golden residents weather the ongoing economic challenges.

In 2011, we plan to turn our attention to strengthening our neighborhoods, which really are at the heart of our community. That coincides with updating our Comprehensive Plan to reflect the new Golden Vision 2030. We will complete additional neighborhood plans, continue implementing the plans we have already adopted, and we’ll strengthen our tools for supporting our neighborhoods.

Through it all, we will maintain our commitment to accountability, fairness, and effective government, and everyone on City Council welcomes your ideas, thoughts, and feedback.
Toll Road Opposition Loses a Battle, but Not the War

The proposed Jefferson Parkway addition to the metro-area beltway overcame one barrier in January but the ill-advised toll road plan still faces an uncertain future.

The board of directors of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) voted 35-17 to add the Jefferson Parkway to its regional transportation plan. DRCOG is the metro-area’s regional planning organization and its board consists of representatives from local governments.

Golden joined with the City of Boulder, Boulder County and many others in arguing against including the proposed toll road in the transportation plan. Of 350 public comments submitted to DRCOG, 219 opposed the Jefferson Parkway, 130 supported it, and one was neutral. While Golden was disappointed by the vote, the city remains committed to continue the fight against this toll road plan, which still faces a number of hurdles.

Among various challenges, the Jefferson Parkway’s promoters must convince private investors to fund the construction of the toll road. That may be difficult given that the other tolled segments of the beltway – the Northwest Parkway and E-470 – fell far short of the initial revenue and traffic projections used to lure investors.

Golden, along with Boulder County, the City of Boulder, and the Town of Superior, is promoting much-needed improvements to Highway 93 and U.S. 6 between C-470 and Boulder as an alternative to the Jefferson Parkway plan.

The Jefferson Parkway would not connect the beltway around the metro area, as many citizens have been led to believe. Instead, it would dump an additional 38% more traffic onto Highway 93 and require hundreds of millions of dollars in surrounding road improvements, which the Jefferson Parkway’s backers do not plan to fund.

For more information on Golden’s proposed plan for road improvements, visit Fix93.org.

If I Were Mayor...

7th grade students from Golden have a unique opportunity to get their voices heard in municipal government. The Colorado Municipal League (CML) is hosting an essay contest for 7th graders in Colorado with a winning prize of a $500 savings bond and the opportunity to attend a CML conference in Breckenridge in June to accept their award.

Here is the topic of the essay: Many youth are not aware of the valuable services that their municipalities (cities and towns) provide: bike paths, recreation centers, police officers, street lights and crosswalks are all provided by municipal government. If you were mayor, how would you explain the importance of municipal government to kids in your community?

The essay should be a minimum of 400 words and a maximum of 600 words. Essays will be judged based on creativity, displayed knowledge about the role of a mayor, relation to the contest topic, legibility and proper use of grammar. All entries are due to CML by Tuesday, April 13. For a complete list of contest rules and entry forms, visit www.cml.org/info/cities/mayor.aspx.

The Colorado Municipal League is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that has served and represented Colorado’s cities and towns since 1923. CML encourages involvement in municipal government so people can help shape the policies that impact their lives, families, homes and environment in the belief that community issues and needs should be addressed at the local level.
Tracking Golden’s Transit Possibilities

For the past year, the City of Golden has been conducting a Transit Feasibility Study to help communities discover ways to reduce their reliance on the private automobile. The idea of a circulator bus is supported by the Walkability and Bike Task Forces, City Council’s sustainability goals, the Community Sustainability Advisory Board, the City’s Comprehensive Plan, and Colorado School of Mines. The purpose of the study was to determine whether or not a circulator bus that would link the future West Corridor light rail station (estimated for completion in 2013) to other areas of Golden, would be a successful service. The results of the study show that a circulator bus could be feasible in Golden under the right conditions.

While two potential routes are shown to be feasible, it is important to note that this is a feasibility study and not a transit plan in itself. Residents will get many opportunities to make their voices heard during this process through City Council discussions, hearings and meetings. Public input will be needed to answer questions about such things as funding and partnerships, routing decisions, bus stop locations, bus type and design and frequency of service. Ultimately, the City Council will decide if Golden moves forward with any version of a transit circulator.

The Transit Feasibility Study is a technical document that is the result of months of data gathering and analysis. Though it has been determined that a circulator bus is a viable option under certain conditions, what happens next is up to the citizens of Golden.

You can view the entire document by visiting www.goldentransitproject.com. The website has a link for citizens to provide their feedback. You are also invited to attend any of the following gatherings:

- **March 2 - Open House:**
  Council Chambers,
  911 10th St. at 6 p.m.

- **April 14 - All Ward Meeting:**
  Golden High School,
  710 24th St. at 6 p.m.

- **April 15 - Council Meeting:**
  Council Chambers,
  911 10th St. at 7 p.m.

Look In Your Yard

Somewhere in your yard, you have either a meter pit or a curb stop or both. Some may see them as an eye sore and others may not have ever seen them at all. But they are extremely important access points for water crews, if you should ever have a leak or a pipe break. Finding these access points quickly could mean the difference between an inch of water getting into your home… or a foot of water.

So if your meter pit or curb stop is buried in snow, vegetation or landscaping, you are putting your home in danger. Per City ordinance 13.04.006, these access points should be ground level and exposed at all times. Meter pits are usually found at homes that are 20-years or older. They are 10 to 12 inches in diameter. Meter pits are also the location of the water meter, which is read by City crews every three months. Curb stops are found on relatively newer homes and some older homes. They are four inches in diameter and serve only as the water shut-off point for a home.

Homes with curb stops and no meter pit have meters inside the residence and meter read-outs located on the side or front of the home.

There are 5,700 active water accounts in the City of Golden. As a result, utility crews spend hundreds of hours every year clearing off the water shutoff points for homeowners. So we ask that you take a few minutes to find the access point in your yard and make sure it is cleared off. If you have any problems finding your meter pit or curb stop, City crews will be happy to come to your home and help locate it. For more information, contact the Water Meter Shop at 303-384-8171 or email Chad Helmke at chelmke@cityofgolden.net.
Mark your calendars for the Golden Vision 2030 Community Summit on March 23 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Golden High School, 701 24th St.

Find the answers to these questions:

• What is the essence of the heart and soul of Golden?
• How will the values you hold dear serve your community for decades to come?

These questions were asked of Golden residents over the last year. Everything from what makes the Golden community special to what residents want to see preserved or changed. Now it’s time to boil down the collective answers and identify what’s most important to the community. This phase of the Golden Vision 2030 project will help organizers understand how the City can maintain its heart and soul and keep Golden a unique place. The 2030 group is eager to begin working on the next steps of the project, but the Community Summit is also a time to celebrate and get a sense of how much has been accomplished.

Come hungry to the Community Summit and sample a variety of foods from some of Golden’s best restaurants. This will be the first of two Community Summits; the second will take place in June. For more information on Golden Vision 2030 visit www.cityofgolden.net/goldenvision2030.

HEALTH ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

While much of the health care debate is happening in Washington D.C., there has been plenty going on at the state level. Senator Moe Keller, who represents Golden in the State Senate, says legislators are working to develop policies, agencies or partnerships with the non-profit sector to aid citizens in their need for health and prescription drug availability and costs.

With more than 800,000 uninsured Coloradans, chances are high that someone you know and care about may be struggling for access to affordable health care. Here are some healthcare resources for the uninsured and underinsured.

Prescription Assistance: www.colorado.gov/coloradocaresrx

Colorado PEAK: a self-service website that allows individuals to see if they may be eligible for food assistance, Colorado Works, Medicaid or the Child Health Plan. Prospective clients can anonymously answer some basic questions to find out if they may be eligible. www.colorado.gov/benefits/

Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+): keeps Colorado kids healthy by offering low-cost health insurance for Colorado’s uninsured children and pregnant women who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford private health insurance. www.echp.org/

Senior Health Care Assistance: helps people enrolled in Medicare with questions about health insurance. www.dora.state.co.us/insurance/senior/senior.htm

Colorado 2-1-1: a free and confidential service to help you find health and human services in your community. Dial 2-1-1 or 1-888-217-1215.

Golden History Center Features Unique Show & Tell

Come see 80 hand-picked items from the decades-old City of Golden collection of 15,000 artifacts. Each piece tells a unique story about Golden history. Some of the feature items include the 18-foot sign from Foss Drug, tools from Golden’s first dentist and a video, chronicling interesting local characters from the first half of the 20th century. The opening reception is on Thursday, March 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Golden History Center, 923 10th St. Listen to live music, and enjoy free food and drink. An RSVP is appreciated. For more information, call 303-278-3557 or visit www.GoldenHistoryMuseums.org.
For nearly two decades, the City of Golden has offered residents an opportunity to buy small trees at cost. The City wanted to encourage residents to plant trees and thought the best way to accomplish that was to make it practical to both purchase and handle them. This year, the tradition continues.

The 2010 sale will offer a diverse mix of 10 deciduous trees and four conifers. The small deciduous trees will have trunk diameters of approximately 1 ¼ inches and range in height from four to eight feet. The conifers are three to four feet tall.

Quantities are limited and orders will only be accepted for five trees or less. Orders will be taken beginning March 1 through April 5, either on the City of Golden website www.cityofgolden.net or at the front desk of the Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. The sale is restricted to City of Golden residents, who must show proof of residency.

Trees will be distributed during the last two weeks of April. For details please contact City Forester Dave High at 303-384-8141 or dhigh@cityofgolden.net or Parks and Recreation Coordinator Amber Speedy at 303-384-8191 or aspeedy@cityofgolden.net.

The City of Golden has partnered with the Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC) to offer Garden-in-a-Box to Golden residents wanting to create or expand a water wise landscape. CRC has done the planning and design process for you, to make establishing your own xeriscape a breeze. The three designs being offered were created by professional landscape designers with the do-it-yourselfer in mind. They thrive in our arid climate and prefer full sun.

GARDEN DESIGNS:

Personal Farmers Market: This productive, edible garden design is anchored with perennial and biennial herbs that will provide both beauty and food for your home.

Sunset Garden: This garden includes some of the Front Ranges' most reliable perennials. They are hearty, drought tolerant and can withstand some of the poorest soils.

Heavenly Hell: The narrow strip that runs between the sidewalk and the street is referred to by landscaping professionals as the “Hell Strip” because of the typical lack of water and especially hot temperatures. This garden stands up to these adverse conditions.

Our 2010 Gardens go on sale March 1. Pricing is yet to be determined, but is in the range of $60 to $160 and well below retail cost. For additional information and garden details visit the City’s Sustainability page at www.cityofgolden.net/sustainability or www.conservationcenter.org.

All gardens must be pre-ordered. To order, please call 303-999-3820 ext. 217 or email Water@conservationcenter.org. Gardens will be available for pick-up on Saturday, May 15. Stay tuned for details – a community event to kick off the gardening season is in the works!
D o you know someone who stands out as a supporter of sustainability? A die-hard energy conserver or hard-core recycler? The Community Sustainability Advisory Board is soliciting nominations for outstanding individuals and groups who have committed their efforts toward achieving a more sustainable city. We are looking for nominations for the following categories:

- Student
- Individual
- Business
- Community Group

Nominations will be accepted through March 31, 2010 and applications can be downloaded from the sustainability page of the city website at www.cityofgolden.net/sustainability. For more information, please contact Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or tworsham@cityofgolden.net.

If you are considering switching to solar energy for your home, here’s an added incentive. The City of Golden is waiving building permit fees for homeowners who install a solar photovoltaic or solar thermal system before May 21, 2010. Finding out the costs and benefits of a solar system is easy and free and local solar experts can help you decide what’s best for you.

Even if you are not considering a new solar installation, you can still invest in renewable energy through wind power. Xcel Energy’s WindSource program allows you to choose how much of your power you want supplied by wind, by selecting a number of blocks of energy or by choosing the 100 percent Windsource option. A typical home uses between 600 and 1,000 kWh of electricity per month and it will cost you less than $25 per month to power your home with 100 percent Windsource. For more information, call the customer service number provided on your Xcel Energy bill.

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

The workshops will be held in the Golden City Hall Conference Room, City Hall, 911 10th St.

April 7, 2010 ............. 8 to 10 a.m.
June 2, 2010 ............ 8 to 10 a.m.
July 7, 2010 .............. 8 to 10 a.m.

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

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

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

May 6, 2010 .............. 8 to 10 a.m.
Aug. 4, 2010 ............. 8 to 10 a.m.

Classes are free, but space is limited.
Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.
Through May 16
Relay For Life of Golden
The Relay For Life of Golden Planning Committee is in search of volunteers interested in helping to chair or co-chair any part of the event, which takes place May 15 and 16. The Planning Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Utility Notification Center of Colorado, 16361 Table Mountain Pkwy. at 5:30 p.m. For more information contact Carla Maniscalco at 303-431-0424 or carla.maniscalco@gmail.com.

Through May 31
Thin Air: An Exhibit on Altitude and Oxygen
American Mountaineering Museum, 710 10th St. Whenever you go higher, you lose more and more of that crucial fuel: oxygen. Come explore the relationship between altitude, oxygen, energy and endurance. Also, discover how your body reacts to altitude! Visit www.mountaineeringmuseum.org for admission and ticket information.

March 4
GHS Jazz Concert
Golden High School’s Jazz Combos and Jazz Choir perform at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria, 701 24th St. For more information, contact Angela Becker at 303-982-6306 or Dr. William Graves at wgraves@jeffco.k12.co.us

March 6
Legal Seminars
The Education Nonprofit Corporation is hosting a series of one-hour long legal seminars for $15 each, beginning at 9 a.m. American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. A portion of the proceeds go to the school of your choice. For more information call 800-978-4290 or visit www.educationnonprofitcorp.com.

March 13 through May 2
Colorado Clay
The exhibit will feature a body of work by some of Colorado’s premier ceramic artists. Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. Visit www.foothillsartcenter.org for more information.

March 14
Daylight Savings Time
Set your clocks ahead one hour.

March 15 through April 23
Boot Camp Challenge
A six week fitness program designed for all levels of fitness. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:45 to 6:45 a.m. at the Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St. Cost is $240. Contact Kim Cragg at 720-628-2901 or kim@bootcamp-challenge.com

March 17
St. Patrick’s Day
March 18
Golden Community Garden Meeting
The Golden Community Garden encourages any new gardeners to participate. The meeting is at 7:30 p.m. at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. For more information email goldencommunitygarden@gmail.com.

March 19 through April 25
Grace & Glorie
A play about a sophisticated urbanite who gains new perspectives on life’s highs and lows from a feisty 90-year-old lady. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 6 p.m. Tickets are $20. Senior, student and group rates available. For more information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

March 20
Spring Begins
Mountain Fest
Free outdoor skills clinics, indoor rock climbing and an expo featuring popular hiking and mountaineering schools, adventure travel, conservation and more. Free happy hour following the event. Doors open at 1 p.m. at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. For more information, visit www.cmc.org/fest.

March 25 through 27
Anything Goes
Golden High School’s Stage Right Productions presents “Anything Goes” at the school theatre, 701 24th St. Show times are Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are $9. For more information contact Scott Hasbrouck at 303-982-4229 or shasbrou@jeffco.k12.co.us.
March 28

**JSO Young Artist Concert**
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra features its first place winner of the Young Artist Competition in a concert with the full 90-member orchestra. The concert is at 3 p.m. at The Green Center, Colorado School of Mines, 924 16th St. Tickets are $17 with discounts for seniors and students. For more information, call 303-278-4236 or visit www.jeffersonsymphonyorchestra.org.

Looking to April

**Donate Your Homemade Artwork**
Art donations are currently being accepted for a silent auction fundraiser for Golden High School students. Donations from all ages and abilities are encouraged. Money raised will go toward providing booklets to help build self-esteem and self-image in students. Donated artwork will be placed throughout downtown Golden for viewing and bidding. For more information call Colinda de Groen at 720-882-1677.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!

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**2010 Jefferson Symphony Orchestra (JSO) Young Artists Music Competition Winners:** First place winner, Brandon Garbot; Second place winner, Ian Buckspan and Third place winner, Hans Kristian Goldstein. Garbot will perform with the 90-member JSO at their March 28 concert.

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**PUBLIC WORKS ACCOLADES**

Congratulations to Public Works Director Dan Hartman who recently won a prestigious award given by his peers. The Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) awarded its William E. Korbitz award for 2009 to Hartman. The Korbitz award was named after the first president and one of the founders of APWA’s Colorado Chapter, which was established in 1961. This annual award is presented to a member of the Public Works profession in Colorado who demonstrates exceptional leadership, who contributes time and expertise to the APWA Colorado Chapter and for extensive involvement in their own community.

Hartman has been in the public works industry for 32 years and served as the Director of Public Works in Golden for the past 20 years. During his tenure, the Golden Public Works Department received 16 state and national awards for projects and programs and became only the thirteenth department in North America to achieve American Public Works Association national accreditation.

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Information is subject to change. Please use contact information to confirm the details of an event. To list a community event happening in Golden here, please send your listing to:

Golden City Hall, Communications Dept., 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401,
or by e-mail to ktilley@cityofgolden.net. Listings should include the date(s), the event name and a brief description of the event, which may include cost, location and contact information. Submissions must be received by the first of the month prior to the issue you would like them printed in (i.e., Jan. 1 for the February issue).

Call 303-384-8132 with questions or for more information.
Day Off Becomes Day of Giving

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day means a lot of things to a lot of people. For students in Jefferson County, it meant a day off from school in January. But many of the students at Mitchell Elementary went to school anyway. More than 100 kids were joined by their parents, teachers and administrators for their second annual Day of Giving Back.

The program was started by parent Rebecca Archer, who wanted to inspire and educate children on the power of service and commitment to community. “You don’t have to be overwhelmed by the big problems in the world,” said Archer. “You can start small and make a difference right in your own neighborhood.”

Each grade level takes on a service organization a week prior to the event to gather items needed by the organization. The day of the event is filled with hands-on activities for all of the volunteers. Tasks included making cards for soldiers overseas, bake sales, food drives and making heart-shaped pillows for heart patients at Children’s Hospital, just to name a few.

Students are not required to take part in the Day of Giving Back. But a good portion of them do, because they get invested in the project and want to see their hard work pay off. Teachers also volunteer to come in on their day off for the event. “I’d been wanting to do something on MLK Day, but I never knew what to do,” said 5th grade teacher Colleen Knight, who proudly supports the event. “The students don’t just show up, they do all of the work. This teaches them so much about giving back and it’s a better lesson than anything they could learn in the classroom.”

Mitchell’s Day of Giving Back was one of thousands that took place on MLK Day nationwide. Initiated by Congress in 1994, the King Day of Service transforms the federal holiday into a national day of community service grounded in Dr. King’s teachings of nonviolence and social justice. Mitchell Elementary is proving to be a great role model for the community. “It’s unbelievable how caring this community is, it just never ceases to amaze me,” said Mitchell Principal Ryan West. “It’s definitely one of the highlights of the year.”

Students, teachers and parents work on Valentine cards for soldiers at the 2nd annual “Day of Giving Back”.

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ORPHANED STREETS GET ADOPTED

A big thank you goes out to all of the individuals and groups who volunteered to adopt a street or a spot in Golden. The Adopt-A-Street program began about 12 years ago and has become a very popular program. Residents within the community pick up roadside or trail litter within our City limits. There are currently 11 streets and three trails that have been adopted. This program has a significant impact on community involvement while keeping Golden a cleaner community. For more information or to get on the waiting list to adopt, call Street Superintendent Ron Reavis at 303-384-8155 or email rreavis@cityofgolden.net.

Thank you to the following 2009 volunteers:

**Adopt-A-Street:**
- Corbinator Family
- Evergreen Disposal Service
- Golden Elks Lodge 2740
- Jefferson County Justice Service Department
- Knights of Columbus
- Lookout Mountain Youth Services
- Realtors on Bikes.com
- Rocky Mountain Metal Container
- Rotary Club of Golden
- Stockton Bail Bonds
- Sue Hartwell

**Adopt-A-Spot:**
- Bob Nelson
- David Johnson & Kim Hag
- Gene Raymond
- Susan Rhea
Brandon Garbot is the first place winner in The Jefferson Symphony Young Artists Competition. The youngest finalist in this year’s competition, Garbot is a 16-year old sophomore at South Ridge High School in Portland, Oregon. He performed Max Bruch’s Violin Concerto No. 1. Garbot will be performing solo and with the 90-member Jefferson Symphony Orchestra (JSO) at their March 28 concert.

The Jefferson Symphony Young Artists Competition is a 51-year tradition. This event attracts young musicians locally and from around the world. 12 finalists were selected for the live competition which was held Jan. 9, and the three finalists performed a recital for the public. The first place finalist receives a $2,000 cash prize, a $5,000 scholarship and the opportunity to play with the Symphony. The competition alternates yearly between piano and all other orchestral instruments.

The Young Artist Concert is Sunday, March 28th, at the Green Center, 924 16th St. at 3 p.m. In addition to Garbot’s solo, the Symphony will be performing Enesco Rumanian Rhapsody no.1 op.11 in A minor and Beethoven Symphony no.3 in Eb Major.

For more information, to buy tickets, to make a donation, or receive an application for next year’s competition call 303-278-4237 or visit the JSO website at www.jeffersonsymphonyorchestra.org.

Pack Your Pantry With Chemical Free Food and Do Your Part For The Environment

That two-year-old can of chili in your pantry is still safe to eat, according to the manufacturer. To ensure that food lasts so long it must be protected from bacteria, sunlight and air. This is done using chemicals, some of which are Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs). Other CECs are found in plastic and cardboard food containers, such as jars of mustard and boxes of breakfast cereal. By eating less processed and packaged foods you can lower your exposure to these contaminants.

Many CECs enter the water supply through our toilets and drains. These additives are detectable in our water even after it has been treated and sent downstream, many accumulating in the environment and possibly in humans. Avoiding CECs can be as simple as checking food labels and changing some of your shopping habits:

- Buy fruits and vegetables when they are in season as much as possible. Use frozen vegetables rather than canned. To save time, cook a little extra and freeze it for another day.
- Read labels. Avoid products which contain butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and methylparabens, which can disrupt hormone balances.
- Use your Golden tap water for drinking and cooking, and avoid bottled water. Fill a reusable steel bottle for drinking water on-the-go. Some water bottles and the linings of metal cans contain bisphenol A (BPA). The FDA has expressed concern about “the potential effects of BPA on the brain, behavior, and prostate gland of fetuses, infants, and children.”
- Buy non-perishable food such as beans, pastas, and soup mixes in bulk. They are safer, cheaper and easy to prepare.

Reducing the synthetic chemicals that we ingest has the added benefit of reducing water pollution and protecting wildlife. A smaller “chemical footprint” means protecting your health, protecting the environment and saving money.
The Golden Police Department honored 25 officers and citizens for going above and beyond the regular call of duty in 2009. For police officers, this means they’ve performed their duties in such a way that it brings exceptional credit or honor to themselves, the department and the City. Citizens are recognized when their actions contribute to the apprehension of criminals, the prevention of crime, the safety of the community or who provide significant assistance to the department in carrying out its mission. The awards were given out at a ceremony in February. Congratulations to these outstanding men and women.

**Employee of the Year:** Amanda Montaño

**Meritorious Service Medals:** Chris Cain, Ofc. Jamie Segal

**Professional Conduct Awards:** Det. Guy Garner, Ofc. James Mershon and Chaplains Kevin Shive, Dan Thoemke, Bethany Thomas and John Wengrovious


**Certificate of Commendation:** Officer Jamie Guess and Jack Hayden

**Citizen Commendation:** Roger Tapia, Creekside Jewelers

**Years of Service Award:** Rachael Hudson, 12 years

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**NEW COPS ON THE BLOCK**

It takes an incredible amount of skill, an intense background check and the right attitude to become a Golden Police Officer. Two new recruits rose above 400 other applicants to join the ranks.

Officer Jeff Jones comes to us from the private business world. Jones is a doctor of chiropractic medicine and owned his own clinic in Arvada. He also served as a member of the national ski patrol at Loveland Ski Area for 25 years. Jones was the top ranked recruit in his police academy class.

Mike Gutke owned and operated his own landscaping business before joining the force. Gutke comes from a police family and his father is with the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office. Gutke graduated from nearby Ralston Valley High School and he has been a part of the Golden community his entire life. He was in the top third of his police academy class.

Both of these officers went through a 21-week police academy, which they paid for themselves. Once hired, they had to go through a mini skills academy. In the classroom, they studied subjects such as ethics, anti-bias policing, Taser operation, pepper spray use and Laser speed measurement. They also had to qualify with their handguns, shotgun and rifle; qualify at the driving track; and go through several hours of arrest control tactics and self defense techniques. Once that was completed in early February, the new officers hit the streets for 18 weeks of field training before they go out on their own.

The Golden Police Department is fortunate to have found Officers Jones and Gutke, and looks forward to having them work with our community for years to come.
Creating with Clay

People have been creating with clay for a millennia. From simple bowls to elaborate, decorative and practical items, ceramics are used to create objects used in nearly every stage and activity in life. With instruction and a little practice, anyone can create their own masterpiece.

The Golden Community Center (GCC) offers an extensive pottery and clay program. The program is lead by Carla Thorpe, who took up pottery in the 1970s and became a full-time potter in the early 1990s.

“Clay is a combination of form, surface, firing and glazing, each an art form in itself,” says Thorpe. “Most people are very good at one of these techniques and may struggle with another. My job is to teach the techniques of clay so potters can achieve their art vision.”

The Beginning Pottery class at the GCC introduces the beginner to wheel-throwing. After the first class the potter will come home with art, have a comfort level with clay, and learn ideas to work surfaces and the skills to hand build. They will also get to try the wheel if they choose. The potter will know the project they would like to complete, whether throwing or hand-building.

In the Intermediate Pottery class the potter will choose one subject such as a pitcher, bowl, or lidded jar and explore the possibilities of that form by adding different feet, rims, lids and surfaces.

The GCC gives potters the option to purchase clay from their instructors, build pieces at home and bring them in for firing. Fees vary depending on the size of the piece.

Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are welcome to arrange a time with Carla to complete badge work. The fee is approximately $20 per student depending on the badge requirements.

The GCC also offers pottery classes for participants, ages 50-plus, family and friends classes and youth classes beginning at age three. For more information on pottery at the Golden Community Center, contact Tracy Hagelund at thagelund@cityofgolden.net or visit www.goldenrec.com.

New Golden Area Running/Cycling Club

Enthusiasts of the sports are working on organizing a running and cycling club in the Golden area. They are looking for anyone interested in joining, participating and/or getting involved to make it happen. The idea is to find local running and/or cycling partners with whom to train, recreate, race and socialize. All levels and ages are welcome. An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18 in the back room of the Old Capitol Grill beginning at 5:30 p.m. The initial meeting will be a discovery session to discuss interests, direction and to name the club. Food and beverages are available at your own expense. For more information contact Dan Dwyer at 303-884-2208 or dwyer1245@comcast.net.

Making The Difference

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

Team RV Park – David Turk, David Johnson and Marie Schmidt

These three individuals have been loyal, dependable and hard working customer service representatives for the City of Golden and the Clear Creek RV Park. Consistently, we receive comments on the Park surveys that these three individuals go beyond their job descriptions to provide a quality camping experience for the customers. They have worked late, cleaned restrooms and attended to all of the guests needs. We would like to thank all three for being great ambassadors for our City.
**Summer Adventure Camp**
Summer Adventure Camp registration information is now available at [www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec](http://www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec). Choose Recreation under the Quick Links. Registration deadline for residents is Monday, March 15 and non-residents is Monday, March 22.

**Coconut Camp**
Coconut Camp is a full day camp with drop-off between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. and pick-up between 4 and 6 p.m. Camp will include a great line-up of activities such as climbing, sports, crafts, swimming, tour of Krispy Kreme and a trip to the Thornton Pool.
- **Age:** 5 to 12 years
- **Daily, March 29 to April 2**
- $30 Residents, $35 Non-residents

**Rockin’ Rockets Camp**
New 2010 elements are included in Rockin’ Rockets along with some previous class favorites. This is a hands-on class incorporating the science behind rocket flight, building and launching rockets (kids will keep their rockets) and exploring space missions going on now and in the future.
- **Age:** 5 to 12 years
- **Daily, March 29 to April 1**
- 9 a.m. to noon
- $98 Residents, $103 Non-residents

**Free Workshop:**
**Toxic-Free Beauty Products**
March 23, 6 to 7:15 p.m.
Learn about making your own natural beauty products and what commonly used chemicals in some products could be contaminating the water supply. Make your own skin care lotion from non-toxic ingredients.

**Jump Rope Mini Camp**
Jump Rope Mini Camp will focus on breaking down the areas of jump roping. Your child will be exposed to a variety of jump styles and choreography.
- **Age:** 7 to 16 years
- **Tuesday, March 30**
- 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- $22 Residents, $25 Non-residents

**Intro to Robotics I: Pico Crickets**
Includes a whirlwind of merry-go-rounds, speeding cars and snapping dragons! Design your machine using Pico Cricket®.
- **Age:** 9 to 13 years
- **Mondays, March 1 to March 22**
- 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.
- $65 Residents, $70 Non-residents

**Morning Yoga**
Start your Wednesdays with yoga and your day will flow.
- **Age:** 16 years and older
- **Wednesdays**
- **Feb. 17 to March 24**
- April 7 to May 12
- 6 to 6:55 a.m.
- $41 Residents, $45 Non-residents

**Storytime Yoga**
Childhood is the perfect time to develop a lifetime of healthy skills. Readily flexible in mind and body, children are naturally receptive to yoga and stories. In Storytime Yoga, children become storytellers as they learn about their bodies, feelings and relationships and develop self-confidence, self-worth and self-reliance. All are part of a rich life that yoga, meditation and story connect.
- **Age:** suggested 3 to 8 years, (Exceptions can be made.)
- **Tuesdays, 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.**
- Feb. 16 to March 23
- April 6 to May 11
- $35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

Located at the base of the foothills, the Golden Community Center is a venue with a view!

Perfect for weddings, graduations and other events, put your mind at ease with the support of professional staff members and the convenience of an adjoining caterer’s kitchen.

Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates.

Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
Celebrate Health!
*Fridays, March 5 and April 9*
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
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. www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334 or email dvandyke@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

**MARCH EVENTS**

**3rd Annual St. Patrick’s Day Potluck - #15130**
*Friday, March 12 - Register/Cancel by March 10 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.*
Free - Please sign up at the Front Porch, so we know what food to expect:
A-E: veggie, F-K: main dish; L-P: dessert; Q-Z: salad.
Celtic music, fun, prizes!

**Maintain Your Brain:**
**How to Live a Brain Healthy Lifestyle - #15140**
*Wednesday, March 31 - Register/Cancel by March 30 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*
FREE – Registration required. Call 303-384-8100
Take steps toward a brain-healthy future.
This interactive workshop gives you the tools to make brain health part of your overall wellness goals.

**PLANNING AHEAD**

**AARP Driver’s Safety Program - #15118**
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
April 19 and 20 (must attend both days)
$12 Resident, $14 Non-Resident
- Checks payable to AARP
This class is co-sponsored by AARP and the Golden Community Center. Pre-registration is required and accepted at the Front Desk to secure your spot. If you do not register, we may have to turn you away due to room capacity restrictions. **Must be 55 or older to participate.**

**50+ Senior Softball**
We need male and female players for the spring and summer leagues (April to mid-August). Play is held at Ulysses Ball Park. Registration is required with waiver and payment as season begins. For more detailed information please call Bill Breithaupt at 303-279-0913 or Bill Law at 303-278-8568.

**Tosca, Ellie Caulkins Opera House - #15145**
*Sunday, May 2 - Register/Cancel by March 31 1 to 6 p.m.*
$62 (van, parking, admission)
Tickets are non-refundable, as this show will sell out.
Central Balcony seating.
Set among the historical landmarks of Rome, this opulent production of Puccini’s drama represents the best opera has to offer. Tosca is sung in Italian with English and Spanish subtitles.
Minimum of 10 required.

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 ($8/year);
- Check out the Recreation brochure; or
- Visit www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334

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.

Here’s what’s happening this month:
The sales tax refund is limited to senior, low-income or disabled individuals who have lived within the city limits of Golden for at least 90 consecutive days in 2009 and cannot be claimed as a dependent on any other person’s tax return.

The refund amount for 2009 is $50. This will be adjusted for partial year residency in Golden.

Please check one box only:

- **Senior Refund** (must be 65 years or older)
- **Low Income Refund**
  - Proof required. Attach a photocopy of one of the following:
    - State of Colorado Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate approval notification
    - Proof of Medicaid benefits
    - Proof of LEAP eligibility
    - Proof of eligibility for food stamps
- **Disabled Refund**
  - Proof required. Attach a photocopy of one of the following:
    - State of Colorado Property Tax/Rent/Heat Rebate approval notification
    - Proof of full benefits from Social Security Disability Income, SSI or the Department of Human Services
    - Proof of total disability from a public or private insurance plan

Please print or type:

- **Name:** Mr(s).
- **Age:** ____________  
- **Date of Birth:** ____________
- **Name:** Mr(s).
- **Age:** ____________  
- **Date of Birth:** ____________
- **Address:** ______________________ Golden, CO  ZIP: __________
- **Phone:** ______________________

How many months did you reside in the city limits of Golden during 2009? _______ months

Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person’s income tax form?  

- yes  
- no

Signature: ______________________  

This form must be submitted by no later than April 15, 2010.

Refund Donation Option:
You have the option to donate your refund to a City of Golden program or department by checking one of the boxes below:

- Golden Volunteer Fire Department  
- Golden Cemetery  
- Golden Senior Front Porch  
- Other City program or department (please identify): ______________________

Office Use Only:
Account #013031-6190  
STR  
Vendor # __________  
Received __________  
Payable __________
Later this year, there will be a brand new animal shelter to service Golden and the surrounding communities. The 33-year old Table Mountain Animal Center (TMAC) will move into a new 30,000 square foot facility, which will more than double the size of the existing building. TMAC is the metro area’s second largest animal shelter, taking in 10,000 homeless animals each year; because of the hard work of employees and volunteers, 82 percent of those animals get homes. As an open admissions facility, the Center never turns away any animal in need. Over the years the need has grown, but the facility has not. Thanks to many generous donations, that is about to change.

The new facility will also come with a new name. TMAC will become Foothills Animal Shelter. It is currently under construction on three acres of land just west of 6th Avenue and Indiana near Colorado Mills Mall and the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. The facility will be larger, have more comfortable “holding” areas for all animals, a better design for more efficient cleaning of animal spaces, extensive ventilation systems to minimize the spread of illness, sound-proofing to minimize animal stress and a community room for education, training and public gatherings. New medical facilities will allow the shelter to provide more on-site, cost-effective medical care and increase the number of spays, neuters and vaccinations.

The new Foothills Animal Shelter will cost $9.7 million to complete. Approximately 85 percent of the funds needed for the new Center are provided by Jefferson County and by fees from a county-wide dog licensing program. In addition to financial support, licensing helps ensure that pets are returned home if they are found by Animal Control, which in turn reduces crowding at the Center. In Golden and Jefferson County, dogs more than four months old are required to be licensed and all dogs are required to have a current rabies vaccination.

Making sure your dog is licensed is one of the best ways for you to donate to the new shelter. If you would like to do more, there are several opportunities. Even though the shelter is under construction, donations are far short of the final $3 million needed for its completion and operation. To help, you can make a financial contribution, adopt an animal, volunteer your time or serve as a foster care family. For more information, visit www.tablemountainanimals.org.
2010 Summer Employment Opportunities

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

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

OR

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