The Golden Informer
The Official City of Golden Newsletter

May 2009
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2009 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

GOLDEN VISION 2030 IS COMING TO A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR YOU!

What do you love about Golden? What qualities about Golden should be preserved? The Local Advisory Committee for the Golden Vision 2030 Plan is bringing the party to you! The first of eight neighborhood block parties throughout the City will be held on Saturday, May 2nd and Saturday, May 16th in the north areas of the City to gather input for the Golden Vision 2030 effort. We want to hear about your favorite places in Golden and what you like best about your neighborhood. This will not be your average neighborhood get-together, as you can expect BBQs grilling up tasty food, drinks, prize giveaways, and fun for the kids and adults alike. Come meet with your neighbors, tell us your story, and talk about what makes Golden home for you! Additional details are available on the Golden Vision 2030 webpage at www.cityofgolden.net/goldenvision2030. Or, for more information, call the Golden Planning Department at (303) 384-8097.

ALL-WARD MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR MAY 5

The Golden City Council has rescheduled the All-Ward meeting for May 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. The meeting will be held at Golden High School, located at 701 24th Street.

The meeting will begin with an opening session led by Mayor Jacob Smith who will update the community on the status of City finances, the Beltway, the Vision 2030 project, and City sustainability efforts. The opening session will be held in the library and will be followed by “break-out” sessions lead by each Ward councilor in separate classrooms. District representatives and City staff will be on-hand to answer any questions you may have.

The All-Ward meeting was originally scheduled for April 8, the first night of Passover, and was postponed in an effort to accommodate all members of our community.

JOHNSON ROAD CLOSED THROUGH JUNE 15

Johnson Road will be closed between W. 6th Ave. and W. 10th Ave. from April 16 until June 15 as Jefferson County continues preparations for the RTD West Corridor light rail extension.

To help accommodate the expected traffic from the light rail station, a second roadway will be constructed to connect Jefferson County Parkway to Johnson Road. This new roadway will be located near the south side of the county jail.

Johnson Road will be raised in some areas and lowered in others to properly connect to the new extension. The current access from Johnson Road through the roundabout will remain open during and after construction.

Although Johnson Road will be shut down, visitors and employees can still access the courthouse from U.S. 6 and Johnson Road through the roundabout.

For more information, log on to www.jeffco.us/highways.

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.

May 7
Study session

May 14
Regular business meeting

May 21
Study Session

May 28
Regular business meeting

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

Public comment is welcomed and on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Golden Focused On Stability and Accessibility

By Mayor Jacob Smith

The state of the economy continues to dominate the news in Colorado and around the country. The City and City Council have a three-pronged approach to sustaining the health of our economy here in Golden.

First, we are committed to protecting the city’s financial health. As a result of years of steady, prudent management, the City of Golden is in excellent financial shape and we are doing a good job of weathering the storm. We adopted a very conservative budget, we froze most hiring, and we cut expenses in many areas. We are also maintaining very strong cash reserves, Golden’s infrastructure (including our roads, water and wastewater systems, and our parks and trails) are in good shape and improving every year, and we have maintained a conservative debt policy, borrowing money for major capital projects only where doing so saves the community money and only within tight limits.

Second, we are supporting our local merchants in Historic Downtown Golden and in our other business districts through the Golden Urban Renewal Authority, the Economic Development Commission, and other programs. We continue to invest in and improve parking, sidewalks, the aesthetics, and our marketing efforts. The City supports numerous community and cultural events through the year – including Buffalo Bill Days, the Wild West Auto Roundup, the Candlelight Parade, and the Farmer’s Market – that bring people into our business districts. In addition, in late April I convened the Summit on Sustaining Golden’s Retail Economy to generate new ideas for keeping our stores and restaurants healthy.

Third, jobs are the foundation of a healthy economy, and our third priority is to focus on retaining and growing jobs in Golden. City staff and I have been visiting with many of our primary employers in recent months to better understand their businesses and their needs. Golden is home to a remarkable assemblage of very cool companies doing very cool things and providing good jobs to a lot of our residents at the same time, and we’ll continue working to maintain and grow our job base.

On a separate note, another high priority for the city is ensuring that folks with disabilities can get around town easily and safely. We recently appointed an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and are currently in the process of appointing a citizen ADA advisory committee. In some cases, especially where the terrain is too steep or the city's right-of-way is too narrow, it won't be feasible to make a particular trail wheelchair-accessible, but on most projects in Golden we are able to do this. The City of Golden always complies with the ADA, in any case, and we've also arranged for an independent audit by an ADA expert later this year to help us identify any problems we don't know about. Some of the same concerns are true for our older residents, and especially as our population of aging Baby Boomers continues to grow we want to make sure we are meeting everyone's mobility needs.

[Signature]

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For a number of years, the City of Golden has been trying to find solutions to what appears to be a growing goose population. As more and more geese call Golden home, the damage done to parks and open areas becomes more difficult to repair. City Council will discuss some of the options available to the City on May 7.

The Parks and Recreation Department has been working closely with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) to ensure that all efforts to haze geese are in compliance with federal regulations outlined in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. The City has tried numerous methods to discourage migratory birds from taking up permanent residence including the use of coyote decoys.

In 2007, the DOW issued a permit which allows the oiling of eggs on City property to prevent them from hatching. While the oiling of eggs on City property has been successful, the numbers of geese inhabiting our parks and open spaces has not been affected. The City continues to receive numerous complaints about the waste left behind and aggressive geese that do not appear to fear humans. The DOW considers their lack of fear and willingness to approach people as unnatural behavior for a wild animal.

At a recent meeting with the DOW, officers cited some of the reasons for the growing geese problems. First and foremost was the geography and landscape of Golden. Well maintained parks, trails, water features and open spaces provide perfect habitat for the geese. Parfet and Lions Park are perfect habitat because of the flat, wide-open space and easy access to food and water. The second issue raised was the likelihood that people are feeding them. This is a practice that negates their natural fear of humans and leads the geese to seek out people looking a free meal.

Golden is not the only Colorado community dealing with these issues. Lakewood and Arvada have adopted city ordinances banning the feeding of wildlife.

While geese are protected by federal law, the DOW understands that many of these animals are not displaying natural behaviors and that people have the right to feel comfortable in parks and open spaces. If you find yourself in a situation where wildlife is making you uncomfortable, you have the right to haze that animal. Some of the recommended methods are to create a loud noise, stomp your feet and clap your hands, move quickly in the direction of the animal (not recommended for potentially dangerous animals), or throw something in the direction of the animal.

The City is considering options including landscape changes to parks and water features, adding more decoys and dogs, and using staff to actively disturb geese in parks and open space. Under extreme circumstances communities can request permission from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to hunt the geese. Discussion of the options available will take place at the City Council study session on May 7 at 7 p.m.
City of Golden Code Enforcement Officers are concerned about a possible outbreak of distemper in the raccoon population. Since March, officers have had to euthanize more than a dozen raccoons with suspected distemper. In an average season, officers euthanize three to five raccoons. Outbreaks of this type are cyclical and tend to follow a mild winter.

All of the raccoons euthanized were found exhibiting unusual behavior; primarily they were active during daylight hours. Raccoons are nocturnal by nature. In each case, residents reported the animal to the City based on concerns about the unnatural activity.

Distemper is easily spread through contact with the bodily fluids such as nasal discharge, feces and urine. It may also be contracted from food and water contaminated with infected fluids.

Dogs infected with Distemper develop a fever within three to six days. A second fever develops 11-12 days after infection. Increased nasal and tear-duct discharge are also common.

As the infection worsens, an infected dog may exhibit vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, and unusual weight loss. Neurological signs may also develop including muscle group twitching and seizures. Puppies and older dogs are susceptible to developing pneumonia and encephalitis.

Survivability is dependent on how quickly the infection is identified and treatment initiated.

The City of Golden would like to remind all pet owners to maintain their pet’s vaccinations and to report any unusual wildlife behavior. While we understand that there may be concern about the animal being euthanized, this is really the only option to try and slow the spread of this potentially fatal virus.

Licensing Your Pets Helps Keep Them Safe

Spring is a great time to take your dog out for a walk or to play in some of Golden’s fantastic parks. It is also a great time to make sure your dog is kept safe and is properly licensed.

In 2007, the communities of Arvada, Golden, Lakewood, Wheatridge, and Westminster joined together to promote responsible pet ownership. Part of that effort includes public education about licensing requirements. Every city and Jefferson County require dogs more than 4-months old to be licensed and all dogs are required to have a current rabies vaccination. If your dog is spayed or neutered, you will receive a discount on the cost of licensing.

Licensing helps ensure that pets are returned home if they are found by Animal Control which in turn reduces crowding at the Table Mountain Animal Center (TMAC). It also allows the county to keep updated information about problem or dangerous animals. Licensing fees help cover the cost of the program and a portion goes towards construction costs for a new TMAC facility near the Jefferson County Fairground.

The Golden Police Department would like to remind pet owners about some common warm weather dangers. Vehicles heat up very quickly and for pets whose only means of cooling themselves is panting, the two can be a deadly combination. While cracking a window may seem like a reasonable solution, there simply is not enough air flowing through the vehicle to allow for effective cooling. Never leave your pet alone in the car. It only takes a few minutes for the conditions to become life-threatening.

Another common sight is pets riding the open bed of a pickup truck. Not only is this dangerous to your pet and other drivers, it is illegal. If you need to transport a pet and do not want them in the cab of the truck, you must provide a suitable crate that is secured in the bed.

For more information about licensing your pet, please go to http://animalcontrol.jeffco.us or contact the City of Golden at 303-384-8045.
TRASH SERVICE OPTIONS UNDER REVIEW

Conserving natural resources and reducing Golden’s impact on the environment are important elements of the City’s sustainability goals. One area the City is focusing on is improving residential recycling services. In October, the City Council hosted an open house entitled “Let’s Talk Trash” to get citizen feedback and input. While many attendees supported the Pay-As-You-Throw concept, details such as the cost to residents were not yet known.

To obtain accurate pricing information, the City Council issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in December 2008. The City also compiled pricing scenarios for all of the options presented at the open house. The options to be considered by City Council include the following:

1. **Make Zero Changes**
   - This option keeps the current system of collecting trash

2. **Make Changes/Improvements to the Existing Recycling Drop-Off Center**
   - This option could include an expansion of the current drop off site off of Golden Gate Canyon Road or it could include adding additional sites.
   - Estimated $130,000 for improvements

3. **City Responsibility for Collection of Residential Trash and Recyclables**
   - This option would create a new city department and add employees and waste collection trucks.

4. **City Contracts with a Single Hauler to Provide Collection of Trash and Recyclables**
   - To view the results of the RFP and submit comments, visit the City’s website at: www.cityofgolden.net/solidwasteandrecycling.

Additional events will be scheduled where residents can view the results of the RFP and cost estimates for other options. All information and materials presented at events will be available on the City’s website. For additional information or to provide comments, please contact Chris Naber at 303-384-8183.

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**SUSTAINABILITY: Environmental Issues**

Don’t Miss the Upcoming Energy Efficiency Workshop!

On April 18th, volunteers delivered energy efficiency kits to over 300 homes in the Golden Hills and Golden Heights neighborhoods. Each kit contained 6 compact fluorescent light bulbs, 2 sink aerators, a low-flow showerhead, and information on how residents could save energy in their homes. The kits were provided by Xcel Energy, who chose Golden for the Earth Day project because of the community’s commitment to sustainability and energy reduction goals. As part of this project, the Community Sustainability Advisory Board (CSAB) in conjunction with Xcel Energy is also hosting a free workshop for all city residents to find out how they can increase the energy efficiency of their homes. The workshop will be held on Thursday, May 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Foss building, 1224 Washington Avenue. Xcel Energy’s own home energy audit experts will be on hand to describe low-cost improvements that can save energy and reduce your monthly utility bills. Residents will also learn about current rebate programs and energy efficiency products available in local Golden stores. For more information, please visit www.cityofgolden.net/energy or call Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117.
Golden Community Pride Days are here! The City of Golden is proud to provide this opportunity for citizens to dispose of unwanted items and debris by taking them to a free drop-off location.

As part of Community Pride Days, the City provides coupons (see Page 9) for free curbside pickup of unusable appliances and scrap metal. There is also free hazardous waste drop-off for household chemicals, old paint, batteries, etc.

This year, Golden Community Pride Days are scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3 at the City Shops facility at 1300 Catamount Drive.

Golden residents may dispose of rubbish, construction materials, scrap metal, tires (maximum of 4 per household) and electronics at this location for free. The City will accept computers and electronics, including PCs, TVs, monitors, printers, fax machines, scanners, copiers, cell phones, PDAs, stereo equipment, typewriters, keyboards, mice, VCRs, circuit boards and hard drives at the City Shops location.

On-site paper shredding is also back by popular demand to help citizens prevent identity theft. Citizens can also bring untreated lumber, tree limbs and brush for on-site grinding. This is a great way to clean up yards that back to open space and to get rid of items that pose a potential wildfire danger.

Appliances and hazardous materials will not be accepted at the City Shops site. Instead, please use the appliance pickup and hazardous chemical drop off coupons found on Page 9. Details and reservation telephone numbers are listed on the coupons.

All services are for Golden residents only. Proof of Golden residency (a current driver’s license of your most recent Golden water bill will serve as proof) is required in order to participate in this community event. Remember that many Golden mailing addresses are not within Golden city limits. To determine if you are a Golden resident, visit the Jefferson County address wizard at http://ww14.co.jefferson.co.us/awiz/.

GOLDEN’S 1ST PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG ROUND UP IS MAY 2 FROM 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

We WILL accept: Prescription Drugs (including Controlled Substances) and Non-Prescription Drugs & Over the Counter Medications in all forms.

We WILL NOT accept aerosols or sharps (syringes or needles) of any kind.

Drop off will take place in conjunction with Pride Days at the City Shops located at 1300 Catamount Drive.

All Drugs should come in their original containers that identify the medication but we recommend that you remove or scratch out any personal information. Waste collected on this day will be disposed of properly by the Golden Police Dept.
COMMUNITY PRIDE DAYS
Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3

As part of the City of Golden’s Community Pride Days event, Golden residents may use the following coupons, good for one free hazardous chemical drop at the Rooney Road Recycling Center, and one free curbside appliance pick up from Complete Recycling. Use the City Shops drop-off site at 1300 Catamount Drive for other rubbish. See article on Page 8 for details and a map.

2009 City of Golden

FREE HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL DROP
Good for one FREE household hazardous chemical drop. Value of $20 for up to 10 gallons of latex, 25 gallons of oil, 5 car batteries, or 75 pounds of other material. A per-pound fee will be charged depending on material type and amount for all items over 75 pounds total – call for more information or pricing.

You can bring:
- Antifreeze
- Automotive batteries
- Batteries
- Drain cleaner
- Furniture polish
- Floor cleaner/wax
- Lacquers/paint
- Oven cleaner
- Paint thinner/ remover
- Radiator flushes
- Rodent poison
- Waste oil

Rooney Road Recycling Center, 151 S. Rooney Road
www.rooneyroadrecycling.org

NO DROP OFFS WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT • Wed. & Sat. only
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED Call 303-316-6262

DROPOFF THROUGH MAY 30, 2009

2009 City of Golden

FREE APPLIANCE PICKUP
Good for one FREE curbside appliance pickup and recycling.

Appliances accepted include:
- Washers
- Grills
- Scrap metal
- Call Complete Recycling
- Dryers
- Refrigerators
- Barbeques
- at 720-219-9604
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Stoves
- (You may have to leave a message.)
- Compactors
- Air conditioners
- Ovens
- Microwaves
- Water heaters

PICKUP MUST TAKE PLACE BY MAY 16, 2009

Golden residents only

Golden residents only
May 2, 16, & 30
Blacksmith Demo Days
Join Matt O’Callaghan and other guest blacksmiths in our blacksmith shop, and watch them craft metal into useful, everyday items. At Clear Creek History Park, free admission. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information please contact Carol Happ at 303-278-3557 or email Golden History Museums at frontdesk@goldenhistorymuseums.org.

May 4 thru June 14
Celebrating Golden in the Foothills
In honor of Golden's 150th Anniversary this exhibit will showcase art work from resident artists of Jefferson County. Come and view the many visions of Golden from the foothills to the Front Range and the past to the present. One artwork from this exhibit will be used in a banner displayed in downtown Golden. The show will take place at the Foothills Art Center, located at 809 15th Street, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are $5. For more information please contact Esther Papenfus at 303-279-3922 or via email at esther@foothillsartcenter.org.

May 7
Ladies Only Sample Tour
41 Historic Downtown Golden Businesses will take part in an open house, neighborhood stroll and a raucous evening out all rolled up into one big night. Bring your mother, daughter or girlfriends, have a girl’s night out or just do something you have always wanted to do, shop. Participants will receive a bagful of free samples, snacks and drinks, coupon book that includes all four of the ORIGINAL SHOPPING DISTRICTS: Olde Town Arvada, South Pearl Street, Historic Downtown Littleton and Historic Downtown Golden. An open house, neighborhood stroll and a raucous evening out all rolled up into one big night. Ladies must purchase a wristband for $12.50 at participating merchants, and it’s suggested to purchase in advance, as they will go fast. There is a limited number available. Call the Chamber at 303-279-3113 or visit www.LadiesOnlySampleTour.com for more information.

May 9 & 10
Mother’s Day Goosefest
It’s the Mother’s Day Goosefest at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Mom gets free admission, of course, to a day full of railroad fun. The whole family will enjoy rides on the famous Galloping Geese, those historic vehicles on wheels that rode the rails over 50 years ago. Mother’s Day Goosefest, features the real Mother Goose with activities for the whole flock, like Mother Goose story time, The Wild Goose Chase and “Goose Egg” Hunts. The museum us open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information please e-mail: info@ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org or call 303.279.4591. The Colorado Railroad Museum is located at 17155 W. 44th Avenue.

May 15
A Suitcase Full Of Pop-Up Books
Enjoy Art? Enjoy books? Join us to hear book artist Paul Johnson from London, England. Paul began the Book Arts Project, aimed to encourage and advance writing and visual communication skills thought the book arts and at all levels of education by providing courses, lectures and publications for teachers and workshops for children. Four one-day workshops
will be held in conjunction with this presentation. The event is free and begins at 6 p.m. at the Foothills Art Center, located at 809 15th St. Please contact Esther Papenfus at 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org for more information.

May 16
Golden Junior Baseball Pancake Breakfast
Join us for an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast with sausage, juice and coffee for $7. Proceeds go towards equipment costs and tournament fees for our 10-year-old AAA team the Golden Eagles. The event runs from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar 10625 W. Colfax Ave Westland Towne Center in Lakewood. For more information, Valerie Villanueva 303-918-6171, valrv@comcast.net.

May 20
Sisters Crazy Quilts
RMQM owns an amazing double-sided crazy quilt from Maine made around the turn of the century. Quilt research enthusiast, Scotti McCarthy researched the quilt’s history and located another bearing the same signatures found years apart. Can you believe it? Come hear the story! The event will run from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1111 Washington Ave. Tickets are $8 - 10. For more information contact the Kay Hefner at 303-277-0377 or visit their website at rmqm@rmqm.org.

May 21
Golden Chamber 150th Anniversary Luncheon
This is a very special luncheon as there will be a preview of the 150 GOLDEN YEARS CELEBRATION of the founding of our great city of GOLDEN. Plus there will be a preview of some of the new 2009 benefits the Golden Chamber, YOUR CHAMBER, will be rolling out such as the Golden Chamber Video, Chamber Master (our new member management program) plus many others. A presentation of the aforementioned will be the highlight of this sit-down luncheon. Cost will be $25 members and $30 non members. Luncheon is scheduled from 11:15am to 1:00pm at the newly remodeled GOLDEN HOTEL, 11th Street and Washington Ave.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!

For more up to date information or other things to do in Golden, visit www.2HourVacation.com.
Construction Costs Highlight of State of the City

While the City of Golden is not immune to the current economic downturn, City Manager Mike Bestor is confident the City is well positioned to weather financial challenges. Bestor updated more than 100 citizens during his State of the City address which was delivered on March 19 during a luncheon at the Three Tomatoes restaurant at the Fossil Trace Golf Club.

Bestor gave credit to the vision of current and former City Council members for the City’s ability to weather these challenging conditions. “An awful lot of intelligent design went into building the City of Golden as it is now,” said Bestor in referencing the decision to increase the City sales tax from two to three percent. The extra funding is used for capital projects such as street improvements.

One benefit of the difficult economy has been a significant decrease in construction costs. Bids for several previously planned projects have come in well under budget, some by as much as 43%. One project that was highlighted was safety improvements that are planned for the intersection of U.S. 6 and 19th Street. Construction is expected to begin in early May and is expected to be complete by July.

One benefit of the difficult economy has been a significant decrease in construction costs. Bids for several previously planned projects have come in well under budget, some by as much as 43%. One project that was highlighted was safety improvements that are planned for the intersection of U.S. 6 and 19th Street. Construction is expected to begin in early May and is expected to be complete by July.

The City is now faced with the question of whether or not to start other projects earlier than planned to take advantage of the savings. “What other projects can we accelerate because, one, we’re getting work done pretty cheap and two, we’re putting people back to work,” said Bestor.

Take Part in Golden’s 150th Celebration

The City of Golden will celebrate its 150th birthday on Friday, June 12th. In honor of this historic day, the 150 Golden Years Committee is planning a party that will include a parade down Washington Avenue, a Jefferson Symphony Orchestra performance, and a laser light show in Lions Park.

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

All volunteers will receive a special 150 Golden Years t-shirt.

The committee is also looking for Golden High School alumni from the class of 1937 or earlier who would like to be in the parade. If you are interested please contact Sue Young at 303-271-0249.

For more information about the event or if you are interested in helping honor Golden on its 150th birthday, please go to www.150goldenyears.com and fill out an application.
Visiting downtown you may have noticed construction at the intersection of Ford and 13th Streets and wondered what’s being built. Golden is getting a second arch! Known as the Gateway Arch, the new arch is designed to try and entice Coors Brewery visitors to extend their visit into downtown Golden.

Roughly 225,000 people visit the Coors Brewery each year, but not enough of them find their way to Golden’s charming downtown. Through the years, numerous strategies have been used to try and entice brewery visitors to shop and dine in Golden after their tour. While the “Golden Greeters” and the “Golden Ticket” programs have had some recent success, the Gateway Arch is the next step in trying to solve this challenge.

The idea for the arch came from a citizen who made the suggestion during a Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) open house held last year to review streetscape improvement designs for the two blocks of 13th Street between Ford and Washington Avenue. This “Coors Corridor” should be a busy link between downtown and the Coors brewery tourists, but aesthetic improvements are needed for this to happen. The Gateway Arch will be the first phase in what GURA hopes will be a comprehensive upgrade to these blocks.

The design of the Gateway Arch is based on the design of the bridge being built over Highway 58. By repeating design elements in this way, the unique identity of the downtown district gets reinforced in the minds of visitors and residents. A strong identity will help sustain downtown’s vitality through good times and bad.

The target date for completion of the Gateway Arch is June 1.

PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES RECEIVE NATIONAL HONORS

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is recognizing two City of Golden employees with national honors. Public Works Director Dan Hartman has been selected as one of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year for 2009 and Storm Water Supervisor David Ackley has been named Management Innovator of the Year.

Hartman, who has worked for the City for more than 20-years, was nominated by Abel Moreno who is the president of the APWA Colorado Chapter. The top ten list is designed to recognize outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals and officials in both the public and private sectors. It has been in existence since 1960.

Ackley, who has worked for the City since 1997, was nominated by the Deputy Director of Public Works, Vince Auriemma. In his nomination application, Ackley was commended for several stormwater programs he has developed since 1999. Most recently, he developed an initiative to involve privately-owned drainage facilities in the stormwater inspection and enforcement program. The goal of the program is to ensure that all aspects of the drainage system are working properly, not just the elements maintained by the City.

The City of Golden congratulates them on their achievements and thanks them for their dedication to making Golden a wonderful place to live.
In 1927, someone lit the abandoned dance hall atop South Table Mountain aflame. Local legend has it that the volunteer firefighters in Golden were so fed up with the Ku Klux Klan using South Table Mountain as a meeting place, they watched the building burn rather than attempt to save it.

The building atop South Table Mountain started as an attempt to lure tourists to Golden. According to a local Golden newspaper, the Colorado Transcript, in 1906 local businessmen sought a liquor license for a new resort atop South Table Mountain. The citizens of Golden vehemently fought the license and the City Council voted against it ensuring “tourists and others…. will not have to face a liquor saloon on that beautiful spot.” Despite the liquor license opposition, the Castle Rock Resort opened as a café where visitors rode a donkey to the restaurant.

In 1913, a casino and funicular railway opened to a large crowd. The Colorado Transcript reported that a local woman chosen as “Queen of Light” flipped a switch lighting the casino and the lights along South Table Mountain’s incline and it “presented a very beautiful sight. Dancing and a musical program made the event a most enjoyable one.” The railway cost 25 cents to ride in an open car. The funicular railway had two railcars, one on each side of the mountain. As one car descended, it pulled the other railcar up the mountain.

By the 1920s the casino had turned into the Lava Lane, a whites only dance hall offering jazz music and a place to congregate during Prohibition. Business faded and the building was taken over by Ku Klux Klan members as a meeting place. In 1923, almost a thousand white-robed members of the Ku Klux Klan met at the summit of South Table Mountain, known as Castle Rock at the time. The Colorado Transcript described the meeting as “the largest meeting ever conducted by the organization in the state.” It was believed over 150 men were initiated that night. Members arrived by car and more than 100 cars were parked near the road to the summit by dusk. Each car was met by five Klansmen mounted on horse who checked the credentials of each visitor before allowing them into the event. According to the Colorado Transcript, “A large fiery cross had been erected on the highest point of Castle Rock and it burned throughout the ceremonies, visible for several miles.”

In 1927 when the building atop South Table Mountain burned to the ground in a fiery blaze, local legend has it that Golden residents celebrated. The building was never rebuilt and today the scar from the railcar and a few concrete remnants are all that remain.

**About the Golden Historic Preservation Board:** The Golden Historic Preservation Board is an advisory board made up of community members who provide guidance to residents on how improvements to properties affect the preservation of historic Golden.
Not All Outdoor Fires Are Illegal

Each year the spring and summer months bring an increase in the number of calls to the Golden Fire Department (GFD) for illegal outdoor fires. Not all outdoor fires are illegal in the City of Golden. However, even legal outdoor burning is regulated by the 2006 International Fire Code which has been adopted as the fire code for the City of Golden.

The fire code defines three types of outdoor fires. They are identified as bonfires, recreational fires and open burning. Open burning is defined as the burning of materials outside of an enclosed chamber or appliance that has a chimney, such as an outdoor fireplace. Recreational fires are a smaller version of open burning where the fuel pile is three feet or less in diameter and two feet or less in height before burning. They can be used for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. Bonfires are fires larger than a recreational fire and used only for ceremonial purposes.

GFD permits are required for bonfires and open burning used for vegetation or wildfire mitigation. GFD will not issue a permit until the responsible party has received a permit or prior approval from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment Air Pollution Program which regulates open burning from an air quality point of view.

Recreational fires used for cooking are exempt from the Air Pollution Program regulations. Likewise recreational fires do not require GFD permits; however, recreational fires are subject to fire code requirements including the following:

1. Recreational fires are not to be conducted within 25-feet of a structure or other combustible material. Fire in approved containers such as outdoor fireplaces, chimineas and in-ground pits with mesh screen require 15-feet of clearance.

2. Recreational fires are to be constantly attended by a competent person until extinguished. A competent person is an adult who is not under the influence of alcohol to the extent it would be unlawful for them to drive a motor vehicle.

3. The person attending the fire must have readily available one of the following means to extinguish or control the fire: a portable fire extinguisher with a minimum of a 4A rating, an attached and turned on garden hose, a 5-gallon bucket of water, dirt or sand and a shovel. Readily available generally means within 30-feet of the fire.

While recreational fires do not require a permit, a GFD officer may order a fire extinguished if they feel wind or weather conditions are too dangerous for burning, or if the atmospheric conditions make the smoke emissions objectionable or offensive to the neighborhood, or if the fire is not in compliance with fire code requirements.

It is strongly recommended that anyone planning a recreational fire contact the GFD dispatch at 303-384-8045 prior to starting a fire to let them know your address and your plans for burning. Contacting dispatch reduces the likelihood of an emergency response when someone reports a possible fire in the area.
The Golden Police Department is currently accepting applications for the 2009 Youth Citizens Academy. The academy will run from June 15-19 and is designed to provide teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17 with an inside view of law enforcement. The five-day program combines classroom lectures with hands-on training in the areas of criminal law, self-defense, arrest control, crime scene investigation, K-9 operations, fire arms safety, and much more. In addition to learning about basic law enforcement, participants learn important lessons about team work and dedication.

To take part in the academy participants must be between the ages of 13 and 17, submit a completed application packet, pass a criminal background check, submit a written recommendation from their School Resource Officer, and write a 500-700 word essay explaining why they are interested in attending the academy. Anyone accepted into the academy must be able to attend all five days. The deadline for applications is May 29. Additional information can be found on the City’s website www.cityofgolden.net on the Police Department page or contact Officer Denise Mehnert 303-384-8114.

Curious About Your Community; Join Leadership Golden

Are you new to Golden, lived here for a while or all your life, ready to get involved with your city, interested in meeting new people, wondering why things are accomplished in the manner they are, have questions about the arts, recreation and justice systems in your city or have other questions on your mind? If you answered yes to any of these or are curious about your city… then Leadership Golden is for you!!!

The Leadership Golden Program is offered once a year and runs from August to May. Anyone who lives in Golden, has a Golden address or works or has a business within the city limits is eligible to participate in the program and it is tuition free.

Leadership Golden is designed to create more informed citizens and to develop a network of information resources for participants. The Leadership Golden program consists of a series of seminars spanning a 10-month period. The seminars provide the participants with knowledge of the relationship between government, education, business and the community of Golden.

The seminar series includes a Leadership Retreat & City Facilities Tour, presentations on Golden History, Government, Education, Arts & Recreation, Participating in the Community, Justice, Public Finance, Growth & Development, and An Experience in Governing (Mock City Council Meeting). The emphasis is on these areas as they function within Golden. The series culminates with a Graduation dinner.

The presenters for the sessions are city and county officials, county school officials and other members of the community, depending on the subject of the session. The class size is limited to 15-20, in order to provide a better opportunity for group interaction with the presenters.

Brochures and applications are available from any Steering Committee member and will be located at the following locations: Creekside Jewelers, Avenue Gifts, the Golden Community Center and the Golden Visitors Center. The deadline for applications is August 1 of each year.

For further information about the program: call 303-279-7243 or 303-886-5795 or visit our website at www.leadershipgolden.org, where you can find an application form.
Summer Swimming Lessons
Learning to swim is a lifelong skill that is fun, enjoyable and can be accomplished year-round. The Golden Community Center offers lessons for all ages and abilities. There is always time to improve your stroke and become more efficient in the water. See page 19 in the Summer Re•create Activity Guide at www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec for the new lesson format beginning this summer.

PiYo
PiYo class is an athletic blend of Pilates and Yoga and a complete strength conditioning workout that will increase flexibility, tone core muscles and improve posture.

* Ages 16 years and older
* Thursdays, 9 to 9:55 a.m.
  1) May 7 - June 11
  2) June 18 - July 23
  3) July 30 - Sept 3

$41 Resident, $45 Non-resident
$10 drop-in fee if minimums are met for registration

Continuing Yoga
Continuing Yoga is for all levels except beginner. To enjoy Continuing Yoga, you should have had exposure to Yoga. For those who are experienced, the class will bring you fulfillment.

* Ages 16 years and older
* Saturdays, 7:15 to 8:15 a.m.
  1) June 6 - July 18 (No class July 4)
  2) Aug 1 - Sept 5

$41 Resident, $45 Non-resident
$10 drop-in fee if minimums are met for registration

JumpNrope
Join other jumpers in this new, exciting jump rope class taught by world renowned and certified jump rope specialists. This energetic class will get your heart pumping while enjoying a “fun” challenging environment. You will learn the fundamentals of jump rope, including single rope skills, double dutch and Chinese wheel. With over 10,000 tricks, your kids are guaranteed to never have a dull moment. Free jump rope included.

* Age: 7 - 16 years, Min/Max: 5/12
* Tue 4 to 5:15 p.m.
  1) Jun 9 - Jun 30
  2) Jul 7 - Jul 28
  3) Aug 4 - Aug 25

$32 Resident, $37 Non-resident

Deeper Yoga
In Deeper Yoga postures are broken down to the fundamental level. Deeper Yoga will take your yoga practice into a deeper level of awareness for your body. You will become stronger both mentally and physically.

* Ages 16 years and older
* Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
  1) May 12 - June 16
  2) June 23 - July 28

$41 Resident, $45 Non-resident
$10 drop-in fee if minimums are met for registration

Located at the base of the foothills, the Golden Community Center is a venue with a view! Perfect for weddings, graduations and other events, put your mind at ease with the support of professional staff members and the convenience of an adjoining caterer’s kitchen.

Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates. Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
Check out the Golden Community Center’s Front Porch - designed specifically for people 50 and older.

Here’s what’s happening this month:

**Celebrate Health!**  
**Fridays, May 1 and June 5**  
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

**The Front Porch Potluck Favorites – Another 50+ Success Story!**  
Inspired by the fabulous food that people bring to our potlucks, we have put together a wonderful compilation of our favorite recipes into a certified cookbook!  
This unique project has involved the help of everyone who wanted to participate. Since November 2008, we have worked through the process of gathering recipes, and several of our patrons have volunteered time to type the recipes using online software, and offer proof-reading and editing skills. It’s definitely a community-based project, with local contributions of time and energy.  
We have pre-sold more than 100 copies, and have a few books in reserve. For those who are interested in buying a cookbook, we have limited copies left, for $8 each. Call 303-384-8130 for more information.

**National Senior Health & Fitness Day**  
**Wednesday, May 27 2009**  
The Golden Community Center will allow FREE general admission for anyone over 65, between 6 a.m to 8 p.m. (SilverSneakers still swipe please! Thank you!)

**TRIPS & TOURS**  
**Bald Eagle Watch, Barr Lake - #25002**  
Thursday, May 7 - 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
$18 (van, admission)  
The Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory’s program takes us to the wildlife refuge at the south end to see adult eagles and eaglets at their nests.  
**Register/Cancel by May 5**

**Lunch & Learn, “Angels Everywhere” - #25003**  
Monday, May 11 - 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
$3 - Registration required.  
Come to hear and share about how angels are helping us all the time. Sandwiches will be provided. SilverSneakers® free w/swipe in.  
**Register/Cancel by May 7**

**The Psychedelic Experience, Denver Art Museum - #25004**  
Thursday, May 21 - 10 a.m. to 3 p.m  
$18 (van, admission, parking)  
Take a trip back in time to view Rock Posters from the San Francisco Bay Area, 1965–71.  
**Register/Cancel by May 19**

**Balistreri Vineyards Tour & Lunch - #25005**  
Wednesday, May 27 - 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
$12 (van, admission; bring $$ for lunch)  
A vineyard in the middle of Denver? After a short tour, lunch on the patio (weather permitting).  
**Register/Cancel by May 22**

**Receive the Front Porch News Online!**  
Stay up-to-date about Games, Classes & Clubs, Volunteer Activities, Wellness, Trips & Events.  
http://www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334 or sign up for email!
Looking for a good time this summer? Splash Water Park at Fossil Trace opens for the season on Saturday, May 23rd from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The largest water park in Jefferson County, Splash is a slide-filled park located on Illinois Street next to the Fossil Trace Golf Club in Golden. Splash has 180 foot and 150 foot twisty, tube-riding water slides, a sand box, ap 25-meter lap pool, bustling activity pool complete with fountains, wading areas and a spectacular 500-gallon dump bucket. Splash was awarded Best Places for Families by Kids Pages Magazine!

Admission to Splash is free for seniors and tots under two when they are accompanied by a paid admission. Golden Community Center Annual Pass Holders are eligible for reduced price season passes and Splash offers great rates on private rentals and birthday party packages.

Looking for more incentive to visit Splash this summer? New in 2009, 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.

Splash is easily accessible from all major highways. Travel time takes approximately 10 - 20 minutes from the Denver-metro area and surrounding communities. For more information, rates, and hours of operation, visit www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec.
Lucky you, you’re living smack dab in someone else’s vacation. People from all over the state come to your neck of the woods to hike, bike, parasail, or hang out at one of our unique events. So why not do the same? Sneak away for a couple hours of pure enjoyment. There’s two hours of fun, two minutes from home. Visit 2HourVacation.com for more great ideas.