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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.

Please write to: City of Golden, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, Attn: Karlyn Tilley; call 303-384-8132; or e-mail ktilley@cityofgolden.net.

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2011 Golden City Council

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HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION
During recent wildfire activity near Golden, an emergency notification was sent out to residents of one neighborhood, informing them that they may need to evacuate. But many people did not receive the notification because they don’t have traditional home phones. Don’t wait until the next emergency to make sure you can receive notifications. Go to to www.your911.org to register both your cell and VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) phones. VOIP phone users do have to register their phones just like wireless users do in order to receive emergency notification calls. It can take up to a week for the registration to kick in, so sign up now to make sure your family is informed.

SHAPING GOLDEN’S FUTURE
Following the successful completion of Golden Vision 2030, the City of Golden’s Planning Commission and City staff are working to update the Comprehensive Plan, which can be thought of as a guide for shaping Golden’s future. This draft plan is based on the community values that came out of the two-year Golden Vision 2030 outreach process. Now it's time to hear from citizens about this draft plan, so that a true community plan can be presented to the City Council.

The City encourages citizens to read the draft Comprehensive Plan and send in your comments right away. You can also bring your thoughts and comments to the public hearings, which will take place in May and June. The dates and locations will be announced soon.

Download the draft plan at www.cityofgolden.net/planning or call the Planning Department at 303-384-8097 for a hard copy, and let us know what you think!

HONORING GOLDEN VOLUNTEERS
The Golden Landmarks Association is hosting its 10th annual Living Landmarks Dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, May 20 at the Mount Vernon Country Club, 24933 Club House Circle. The event honors local volunteers who have made a large commitment to Golden. This year’s honorees are John Tracy of The Golden Transcript, Lynda Wentworth, and Chief John Bales and the Golden Fire Department. Seating is limited. The cost is $55 per person. Please mail checks to Golden Landmarks Association, P.O. Box 1136, Golden, CO 80402. Checks must be received by May 17. For additional information and tickets contact 303-279-1236.

PASSPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE
The City of Golden is an official Acceptance Facility for passport applications. That means we process passport applications, review the required documentation and identification, and forward applications to the federal passport services office for issuance. Services are available Monday thru Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the City of Golden City Hall, 911 10th St.

When applying, you will need to bring:
• Completed form (available on-line or in the lobby of City Hall)
• Valid identification (Drivers License)
• Proof of citizenship (Certified Birth Certificate, previously issued passport or naturalization certificate)
• 1 passport photo
• 2 separate checks to pay the appropriate fees

For application forms and passport information, visit www.travel.state.gov. Call 303-384-8000 with questions or to set an appointment with the City.

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.

May 5
Regular Study Session

May 12
Regular Business Meeting

May 19
Regular Business Meeting

May 27
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.
Just a couple of months ago I wrote a column lauding Golden’s phenomenal public safety crews. Little did I know that so soon afterward I would be writing again about the folks that keep Golden safe. On March 20, a fire began in the hills west of town that posed the most significant natural disaster threat Golden has faced in many years. Through a combination of exceptional firefighting skills, strong leadership, hard work, and a solid dose of good luck, not a single home was lost to the Indian Gulch Fire nor a single person injured.

The City takes emergency preparedness seriously. Two months earlier, we completed a thorough update of our emergency operations plan, and less than a month before the fire we conducted a large-scale, multi-jurisdiction emergency operations exercise to test and refine our responses. All of this work, as well as frequent training, our continued investments in equipment and facilities, and strong leadership by the Jefferson County Sheriff, the federal team that took over during the fire, and across our own public safety departments paid off.

The Indian Gulch Fire was a powerful validation of the effort we’ve put in over the years to be prepared for any sort of emergency, large or small. It was also a vivid reminder that “fire season” in Colorado is less a season and more a year-round situation. Fire is a critical ecological process, and just as we witnessed after the North Table Mountain fire, we’ll see a remarkable regrowth of grass, shrubs, and eventually trees over the next few years. But fire can also pose a serious hazard, and it’s critical that we respect fire bans and that homeowners near open space use a defensible space to protect their homes. Over the next couple of months we’ll tell you all about The City of Golden Community Wildfire Protection Plan and provide information to homeowners and HOAs that want to reduce fuels near houses.

Golden Fire Chief John Bales said to me recently that in forty years of service he’s never seen a perfect response to a fire, and this wasn’t perfect, but we did an awfully good job. Still, we always want to do better, and we’ve already been thinking through everything we did, identifying the hiccups, and figuring out how to up our response even more.

One important lesson had to do with how people kept informed. Conventional media outlets (newspapers, radio, and television news) and key web sites were clearly important, and we’ll always work hard to keep reporters up-to-date. But a surprising number of people focused instead on email updates like the ones Councilor Bill Fisher and I distribute on Facebook and on Twitter.

The Indian Gulch Fire highlighted the qualities that make Golden such an exceptional community: people watching out for each other, the highest caliber city staffers performing under difficult circumstances, and a deep sense of volunteerism and civic participation. I am proud of our response as a community to this threat, and while I hope we don’t face anything like it again I know that we’ll step up again anytime we need to.
Dear Citizens of Golden:

On behalf of the Golden Fire Department, the Golden Police Department and all the City of Golden employees who responded to the Indian Gulch Fire, I want to express my deep appreciation for your cooperation and support.

You demonstrated why Golden is such a great place to be and you made our jobs so much easier. You also thoroughly impressed the emergency responders who came to help from all over the state and from many places in this country.

You did a great job in dealing with this stressful situation and are very deserving of our thanks, our praise and our respect.

Sincerely,

Mike Bestor, City Manager

The Indian Gulch Fire burned 1,570 acres above Golden. During the wildfire, firefighters were stationed in the Mountain Ridge community to make sure the flames never reached any homes.

Golden Lands Funding for Two Major Community Projects

The City of Golden will soon see big improvements in transportation. Grant funding for two major projects was approved at the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Board meeting on March 16. The projects are based on Golden’s sustainability and walkability efforts.

The first project is the establishment of a circulator-type bus to improve mobility in the community. Implementing the bus now allows for connections between downtown Golden, the Colorado School of Mines (CSM) and the light rail station coming in 2013 to the Jefferson County Administration Building.

One of the citizens committees that helped create Golden’s community sustainability goals in 2007 was a transportation group that proposed the establishment of this type of bus. In 2009, the City secured a feasibility report, and in 2010 created a partnership with RTD and CSM to seek funding for a flexible route circulator bus system to improve local transportation options. City Council was able to secure a federal transportation grant of $1,237,000 to match local funds from RTD, Golden, and CSM to operate the service for a three year trial period. If the system is successful, it is expected that RTD will continue the service.

The second project is a pedestrian bridge over US 6, but could not fund the entire bridge in the West Corridor project. DRCOG approved $1,220,000 in federal transportation funds to match $750,000 from RTD and $300,000 from Golden for this companion project. This important connection is expected to be in place by the end of 2013.

This DRCOG grant application process was successful because of the efforts of Golden’s representatives on the DRCOG Board, Mayor Jacob Smith and Councilor Marjorie Sloan, working in cooperation with their fellow board members from political jurisdictions across the metropolitan area. For more information about these projects, contact Planning and Development Director Steve Glueck at 303-384-8095.
Changing Signs of the Times

You may notice that city street name signs are beginning to get larger, and now do not use all capital letters. The changes are part of a federal directive to address the needs of our aging population across the country.

Street name signs must now use six inch lettering instead of the old four inch lettering. And only the first letter in each word is capitalized. Studies have shown that the upper and lower case combination is more recognizable than using all upper case letters. About half of all city street signs were replaced last year and the other half will be replaced this year in order to meet the deadline of Jan. 1, 2012.

In addition, the City has to complete routine inspections of all signs and make sure the letters have the right amount of reflectivity in order to see them well at night. The City has nearly 6,000 signs which must be inspected annually so making this an efficient process is important.

As a result, the City began using wireless hand held devises that can take pictures and provide GPS locations of each sign, as well as maintain a thorough database of inspection information and history. By eliminating paper and streamlining the process, the City managed to cut the cost of sign inspection from $5, to $1.50 per sign.

Acting Neighborly

As residents of a community, we all have questions and concerns from time to time about the things happening around us. For example, you may get a call or a knock on your door that seemed to be a scam, but you’re not sure. Or you noticed some suspicious activity and want someone to know about it. The Golden Police Department is now utilizing an online tool called i-Neighbors, which provides a laid back, easy to use and inviting spot for neighbors to communicate with each other and with police on a regular basis.

I-Neighbors.com is a website that gives the community a forum to get questions answered, share information and form relationships. Golden Police quickly realized the effectiveness of this tool and now use it to reach out to neighborhoods. On i-Neighbors.com, Golden officers monitor your neighborhood posts and also post any current issues or concerns related to your area. They will also answer your questions and distribute information about modern scams or crime patterns to watch out for.

Through i-Neighbors, police have been able to put together neighborhood meetings and watch programs. It also establishes a comfortable dialogue between residents and police, to quickly and easily address local concerns and provide feedback. All of this has resulted in very positive changes to make the City safer while still maintaining its true character.

If you would like more information or assistance with this powerful modern day police communication tool, contact Officer Dan Hyde at 303-384-8045 or dhyde@cityofgolden.net. You can also log onto www.i-neighbors.com to sign up or register your neighborhood. Police monitor i-Neighbors frequently, but please remember if you need immediate police assistance or have an emergency, do not post on the web site. Call 911 or the Golden Police non-emergency line at 303-384-8045.
Get ready for the ride! May is National Bike Month, a time to dust off the bike and ride for health, enjoyment, and to protect the environment. Many cyclists will share the road with vehicles during Bike to Work Week, May 16 through 20, and on Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 20.

Then on Sunday, August 28, Golden will host the start of the last leg of the inaugural USA Pro Cycling Challenge professional bike race. A spectator in Golden will have multiple opportunities to see 128 elite cyclists at arm’s length, including many American favorites. The route announcement is coming soon, but we can look forward to Golden being featured prominently. Another exciting element is that NBC will provide live coverage for part of this last day. The final day is a must see as the cyclists make an all-out effort to win the overall race.

Community events during the weekend leading up to race day promise fun for families and all ages, cyclists and non-cyclists alike. Learn about bike safety at the kids’ bike rodeo, enjoy a cycling-themed movie, meet friends at the block party, stroll the Health/Wellness/Sustainability Expo, or compete in a Lookout Mountain hill climb.

Initiated by Lance Armstrong, the USA Pro Cycling Challenge will follow 600 miles of mountain and front range Colorado roads over seven days. The local race website, www.procyclinggolden.com, will feature information on the Golden route and road closures, community events, volunteering, and sponsorship. For other questions, call the Golden Urban Renewal Authority at 303-279-4162.
Free Spring Yard Waste Collections

Free Spring Yard Waste Collections for the City of Golden's Pay As You Throw (PAYT) Program will be May 7, 14 and 21. Please see the map for your collection date.

For more information, please contact EDS directly at 303-278-8600 or visit the City’s website at www.cityofgolden.net/trash.

TWICE ANNUAL YARD WASTE SERVICE GUIDELINES

• Available to residents covered by the City’s PAYT trash and recycling program.

• Yard waste for this collection includes grass clippings, pine needles, leaves, weeds and branches that are no longer than four feet and no larger than four inches in diameter; untreated and unpainted lumber, sawdust, ground or chipped wood.

• Yard Waste is recyclable. Do not contaminate with any of the following:
  - NO food waste (including fruits and vegetables), plastic, dirt, cactus, tree stumps, branches greater than four inches in diameter, street sweepings, ashes, animal waste, treated lumber, logs, large tree limbs, old garden hoses or broken flower pots.
  - No Construction material is allowed for this service. Plastic bags are not allowed.
  - Yard Waste may be placed where your trash is collected from on your designated day for the service in a container of your choice.

• Yard Waste should be placed for collection by 7 a.m. on your collection day.

• Branches may be bundled with string, yarn or rope. Do not use wire for bundling. Bundles should be four feet in length and no more than two feet in diameter.

• Yard waste will be limited to 3 cubic yards per resident which is equivalent to:
  - an area that is approx. 4 feet x 4 feet x 4 feet.; or
  - 21 compostable 30 gallon bags

• Material that is not bundled, not in reusable containers or in non-compostable plastic bags will not be picked up.

• Compostable bags can be purchased at Meyers Hardware, The Home Depot and EDS Waste Solutions, Inc.
**Sustainability Annual Report Now Online**

Now that the City is four years into our ten-year Sustainability Goals, how does Golden stack up? In measuring the community’s progress toward improvement of our energy, water, waste, transportation and green building efforts, a new annual report is now available for review on the City website. Please visit www.cityofgolden.net/sustainability to view the document.

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**FREE-CYCLE YOUR USED ITEMS**

Each year, Americans generate about a ton of waste per person. Goldenites recycle about ¼ of that waste, but we also throw out usable goods like furniture, appliances, obsolete technology and household items that others may find useful. Most residents know about the local thrift stores in Golden such as Goodwill or the Christian Action Guild that accept these items. But, there may be another solution just around the corner. Check out www.i-neighbors.org to post your free items on your local electronic bulletin board. There are more than ten Golden neighborhoods chatting with each other on the i-Neighbors site and you’ll find everything from free furniture to free landscape materials. There’s also www.freecycle.org and www.craigslist.org to connect you with those in need. Before you throw it, free-cycle it.

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**Steps to Sustainability**

Using a laundry rack or clothesline instead of a dryer will not only save you $200 per year, but it’s also a quick process in our arid climate.

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**Golden Community Garden**

Interested in gardening and/or learning about gardening in Colorado? Interested in making new friends in our community? Garden plots are still available for this Spring/Summer at the Golden Community Garden! Please visit www.goldencommunitygarden.org, mail us at P.O. Box 17481 Golden, CO 80402, or email suzannemorrisett@hotmail.com.

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**CSAB Welcomes New Board Member**

In March, City Council appointed Whitney Painter to the Community Sustainability Advisory Board. Whitney and her husband Bart have lived in Golden for six years and are the owners of Buglet Solar Electric Installation. Whitney brings an affinity for energy conservation, renewable energy technology, and an interest in what motivates people to live a sustainable lifestyle. Whitney will serve the remainder of a four-year term that runs until March 2012 and is looking forward to assisting the Board with sustainability policy and program recommendations to City Council.

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**Environmental Issues**
Through May 22
Buffalo Bill & Annie Oakley
This comedy will tell a part of the story of William F. Cody, the legendary western figure who founded the world famous Wild West Show, and one of the most popular stars of that show, Annie Oakley. Plays Wednesday through Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons at Heritage Square Music Hall, 18301 W. Colfax Ave. Ticket prices vary. For tickets and information call 303-279-7800 or visit www.hsmusichall.com.

May 3 through July 30
Frontiers: Colorado Inspirations and Fiber Art Innovations
Enjoy new pieces by the Front Range Contemporary Quilters, inspired by the many ways living in Colorado captures the artist’s imagination. Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1213 Washington Ave. For more information, call 303-277-0377 or visit www.rmqm.org.

May 5
Cinco de Mayo
One Act Plays
Golden High School’s Stage Right Productions will present One Act Plays at 7 p.m. in the Golden High School auditorium, 701 24th St. Tickets are $10 at the door, $9 in advance, $5 for thespian students or school groups and teachers are free. For tickets and information, call Mr. Scott Hasbrouck at 303-982-2813 or shasbrou@jeffco.k12.co.us.

May 6
Fireworks Show Rescheduled
Due to a temporary fire ban in Golden, the Colorado School of Mines rescheduled its April "Engineering Days" fireworks show to 9 p.m. on May 6 on the North IM Field on the CSM campus. The rescheduled date will hold as long as the fire ban has been lifted by then. For more information visit www.minesactivitiescouncil.com.

Golden’s First Friday
Enjoy extended shopping hours with Golden’s downtown merchants. 5 to 8 p.m.

May 6 through June 19
Rose Colored Glass
A play about the beginning of the holocaust from our side of the ocean and how two remarkable women struggle with American apathy, immigration and prejudice. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 6 p.m. For tickets and information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

May 8
Mother’s Day

May 11 and 12
Spring Pops Concert
Golden High School’s Music Department will present its Spring Pops Concert at 7 p.m. in the Golden High School Auditorium, 701 24th St. Tickets are $3 at the door. For more information, contact Ms. Angela Becker at aabecker@jeffco.k12.co.us or Dr. William Graves at wgraves@jeffco.k12.co.us.
May 18
Pie Baking Contest Deadline
Last day to register for Clear Creek History Park’s Opening Day pie baking contest. To register call 303-278-3557 for a chance to win great prizes, including tickets to Summer Solstice Music Festival. For more information visit www.GoldenHistoryMuseums.org.

May 21
Clear Creek History Park Opening Event
A day of fantastic outdoor fun from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to celebrate the seasonal opening of Clear Creek History Park, 11th and Arapahoe streets. Activities include blacksmiths demonstrating the tools and techniques of the trade, woodstove cooking, an egg toss competition and much more. For more information call 303-278-3557 or visit www.GoldenHistoryMuseums.org.

May 22
Cougar Tracks Fun Run
Join Kyffin Elementary School for a morning of fun and fitness to benefit the students. Cougar Tracks is a 1K Kids Cougar Chase and a timed 5K Fun Run, followed by food, music, vendor booths and silent auction. The run begins at 8 a.m. at Kyffin Elementary School, 205 Flora Way. To register, visit www.active.com/running/golden-co/kyffin-cougar-tracks-2011?int=29-6 or in person at Kyffin Elementary School office. Register by May 19. For more information email lcallaha@miranda.com.

May 30
Memorial Day
Special Service at Cemetery
To honor the men and women who have served our country. Organized by the local V.F.W. and American Legion. 11 a.m. at the Veterans Section in the northwest corner of the Golden Cemetery, 755 Ulysses St. For more information call 303-279-1435.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!
**Hands-On Police Training for Youth**

The Golden Police Department is now accepting applications for the 2011 Youth Citizens Academy. The Academy will take place during the week of June 13 through 17 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a special graduation ceremony in the evening of June 17.

This free academy is designed to allow youth between the ages of 13 and 17 the opportunity for an inside view of law enforcement as a potential career while learning about teamwork, leadership and personal responsibility. Academy topics include criminal law, crime scene investigations, patrol procedures, accident investigation, firearms safety and use, career and volunteer opportunities and much more. The academy is interactive with team building exercises and hands-on activities.

**APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:**
- 13 to 17 years of age
- Pass a criminal background check
- 500-700 word essay explaining why they would like to attend and how they will apply the skills they learn
- Written recommendation from a school resource officer, principal or community leader
- Completed application and signed liability waiver
- Ability to attend all five days of classes

There is no residency requirement or cost to participate. Applications are available at the Golden Police Department, local school offices and on the police department’s webpage at www.cityofgolden.net. Applications must be received at the police department, 911 10th St., by May 23. For additional information, contact Sergeant Ryan Custer at 303-384-8193 or a local Golden school resource officer.

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**Memorial Day at Golden Cemetery**

In May of each year the Golden Cemetery staff spends the month preparing for Memorial Day. Old flowers and decorations are removed to make room for new ones, winter burials are sodded, flowers are planted and the grounds undergo general spring maintenance, all in an effort to make Memorial Day a special day for visitors to the Cemetery.

Every year, a special service is held to honor the men and women who have served our nation. This service is organized by the local V.F.W. and American Legion at the Veterans Section located in the northwest corner of the Cemetery. Services begin at 11 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to come and watch this short service.

If you are unable to attend the service on May 30, you are welcome to take a short drive through the Cemetery to witness The Avenue of Flags. This program honors local veterans who have passed on, by displaying a large American flag in their name. The Avenue of Flags program began in 1987 with 8 flags but now boasts hundreds on display throughout the Cemetery.

The Golden Cemetery opened for burial in 1873 and was recorded in the book of town plats on November 3, 1874. The cemetery has approximately 26,600 burial plots, 9000 current burials, 14,100 plots sold and approximately 12,500 available grave spaces.

The original Cemetery office was built in 1936 as a Depression Era work project. All the rock used on this unique stone building was hauled to the Cemetery from Clear Creek. The office is currently undergoing a major remodel. The completed building will be fully handicapped accessible, with improved energy efficiency and hopefully an improved environment for customer service, while retaining the historical feel and architecture. The remodel will be complete and ready for business and visitors by Memorial Day.
Imagine this situation: you are driving down the road and the vehicle in front of you is driving erratically; it is weaving, slowing down and speeding up, and occasionally driving on the shoulder. You believe the driver is intoxicated. What do you do? Is this a situation in which it would be okay to call 911?

As a 911 dispatcher, it always amazes me how many calls I receive where a caller was either in an emergency situation and did not choose to call 911, or a caller is not in an emergency situation and did choose to call 911. What is the definition of an emergency? When should a citizen call 911?

I give people three criteria to follow when determining if a 911 call is necessary. Will your call:
1. Save a life?
2. Report a crime about to occur, occurring now or that just occurred (within the last 10-15 minutes)?
3. Report a fire or need for an ambulance?

If we apply these rules to our scenario, the situation certainly warrants a call to 911. Not only would a caller be acting as a witness to a crime in progress, but they would also potentially be saving a life. With these three rules in mind, it’s relatively easy to determine if you should make an emergency call.

Does the second criteria timeframe mean if a crime occurred more than 15 minutes ago that a citizen shouldn’t report it? Absolutely not. All crime needs to be reported; however if the crime occurred more than 15 minutes ago, it would not necessitate an emergency call, UNLESS it involves saving a life. For example, if someone was stabbed 30 minutes ago, a citizen would still want to call 911 to save a life. As a citizen, your best option is to always report a crime as it is happening or as soon as possible. Time-delayed calls to 911 decrease an officer’s chance of saving lives or catching suspects.

What situation does not constitute an emergency? The Golden 911 Communications Center frequently receives 911 calls that are not emergency situations. Please do NOT call 911 for directions, phone numbers, barking dogs (unless the dog is barking due to a suspicious person or crime occurring in the area), or any other situation that is absolutely not an emergency. Keep in mind that these types of calls to 911 tie up emergency lines that are critical to other callers in crisis situations.

As citizens in any situation, use your best judgment. If you need us, call us. If you’re in doubt about whether you’re situation is an emergency, it’s better to be safe and call 911. If you’re not in an emergency situation, please don’t hesitate to call the non-emergency number, 303-384-8045. A benefit of having a municipal dispatch and communications center is that our staff is extremely knowledgeable about municipal events, ordinances, functions, and services. We are community oriented and always available.

HELP PUT THE POWER OF COMMUNITY IN YOUR HANDS!

Let’s face it, our residents - you - are the eyes of our community. You see the potholes in the street, the graffiti on the wall, the damaged or fading sign and the street light that is out. The City of Golden has an easy way for you to report these issues so that we can take care of them promptly. YourGOV is an application that allows you to report non-emergency issues to the City via the web or your smart phone, and then track its progress from submittal to completion. Issues are brought directly into the City’s Work Management solution where they can be quickly and efficiently forwarded to the appropriate department.

YourGOV is available for both the iPhone and Android smart phones, and an application for Blackberry is in development. Since the launch of YourGOV in October 2010, 77 percent of the submittals have come from smart phones and we want that number to increase.

By using your smart phone to submit an issue to YourGOV, a picture can be attached to assist in determining the proper course of action. Help the City create a more responsive, more sustainable and more collaborative community. It’s quick. It’s easy. It’s efficient.

To learn more about YourGOV, please visit www.cityofgolden.net/YourGOV.
Chickens have been the subject of more conversations in Golden lately due to a recent City Council ruling to change the cost of a small animal permit. The price went from $450 to $45 for a Special Use Permit (SUP) for small animals, which includes the keeping of hens, bees, rabbits and other small species. As a result of the permit fee change, the City has seen a sudden surge of inquiries as well as applications.

Backyard chickens, in particular, have grown in popularity in urban and suburban communities across the country, and City Council responded to residents who sought permits for small animals but found the $450 permit cost to be prohibitive. Applicants often cite the desire for fresh, locally produced eggs, and that hens make good and quiet pets (absent roosters). Critics have mainly expressed concerns about predators and odors if not properly secured and maintained.

It should be noted, however, that the only change was to the price of the permit, and that the permitting process remains the same.

These small animal SUPs first require notification letters to go out to neighbors, as well as a neighborhood meeting. Following the neighborhood meeting, if the applicant chooses to proceed, they must get on the agenda for a Planning Commission hearing, which are held the first Wednesday of each month. Applicants should allow six to eight weeks for this process due to notification requirements and the public hearing schedule, and the Planning Commission may choose to deny a permit, approve it, or approve it with conditions.

Contact the Planning and Development Department for more information at 303-384-8097, or go to the Planning Department web page at www.cityofgolden.net/planning to view the brochure.

### A GREENER GOLDEN

Please join us for the second annual kick-off to the garden season!

**Saturday May 21, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

1465 10th St. – just west of the Community Center

- Pick up your pre-ordered Garden-in-a-Box
- Purchase water conserving garden essentials - drip irrigation kits and battery operated control clocks
- Get free mulch – bring your own shovel and container or truck
- Tour the Golden Community Garden
- Meet members of the Table Mountain Garden Club
- Learn about Backflow Preventers and your irrigation system
- Talk with CSU Master Gardeners
- Learn about conservation programs from the Center for ReSource Conservation
- Tour the Water Treatment Plant and Water Quality Laboratory

A Greener Golden is brought to you by the Golden Sustainability Initiative and the City of Golden Environmental Services Division.
Celebrate Health!

**Friday, May 6 and June 3**

Celebrate Health! is a monthly wellness program featuring a variety of healthy living opportunities for adults of all ages. The first Friday of each month we offer free blood pressure screenings and wellness services for nominal fees. Celebrate Health! is held upstairs at the Front Porch of the Golden Community Center. For more information or to make an appointment, call 303-384-8130.

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

**Receive the Front Porch News online!**

Stay up-to-date about Games, Classes & Clubs, Volunteer Activities, Wellness, Trips & Events. Visit us online at [www.cityofgolden.net](http://www.cityofgolden.net) (Active Older Adults) or email frontporchnews@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

**Understanding Long Term Care Services**

If you’d like to know more about Long Term Care or are concerned about the cost and delivery of Long Term Care Services, then this free educational seminar is a “must attend.” Your host for this session is Malcolm Aylett, a long time member of the Golden Community Center, Golden resident and Financial Advisor for Edward Jones. Attendance is limited to 20 people for this free seminar and will be held at the Golden Community Center.

- **#27001-01 Min/Max: 10/20**
  - **Tuesday, May 10**
  - **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS**

**Lunch at the Highlands Garden Cafe - #25003-01**

Located in historic Northwest Denver, the Highlands Garden Café is situated in two restored Victorian homes and features lush gardens. Come enjoy a four-course lunch with friends while taking in the beautiful landscape. Lunch is included in the price of this trip.

- **Thursday, May 12 – Register/Cancel by May 9**
  - **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
  - **$24 (van and lunch included)**
  - **Exertion Level: 2**

**Colorado History Lecture - #25004-01**

The Espinosa Controversy: A Legacy of Conflict. Join History Colorado’s Rick Manzanares, director of the Fort Garland Museum, as he presents different perspectives on the story of the Espinosa family of southern Colorado. He will present differing viewpoints of a family regarded as both serial killers and heroes.

- **Tuesday, May 17 – Register/Cancel by May 12**
  - **11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**
  - **$10 (van; bring $8.50 for admission and money for lunch)**
  - **Exertion Level: 1**

**Golden Pacers Hiking Trip - #15220-4**

Cheyenne Mountain State Park: Colorado’s newest state park that inspired the song, “America the Beautiful.”

- **Tuesday, May 31 – Register/Cancel by May 27**
  - **9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
  - **$9 (van provided; bring a sack lunch, plenty of water plus money for refreshment stops)**
  - **Exertion Level: 5**
Spring Golf Clinics at Fossil Trace

The Professional Staff at Fossil Trace have over 50 combined years of working with golfers of all ages and skill levels. From beginners to accomplished golfers, Fossil Trace offers programs and instructors that will provide you the tools to have more fun and play better golf!

To sign up for golf camps and clinics, visit rec.cityofgolden.net.

Adult Golf Clinic
May 10, 12, 17, 19
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Women Only Golf Clinic
May 9, 11, 16, 18
Mondays and Wednesdays 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Junior Golf Clinics
Ages: 4-7 years
April 30, May 7, 14, 21
All Saturdays, 8 to 9 a.m.

Junior Golf Clinics
Ages: 8-12 years
April 30, May 7, 14, 21
All Saturdays. 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Summer Swimming Lessons
Summer Swim Lesson Registration for residents is May 2 and non-residents May 3. For more information, to view the schedule or register, visit rec.cityofgolden.net.

Spanish for Travelers
If you are planning a trip and would like to learn Spanish basics to communicate, this is the class for you. All instructors are native Spanish speakers with years of experience teaching Spanish as a second language. The Hablo Español curriculum will be utilized.

Age: 15 years and older
Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
May 5 - July 21 (12 weeks)
$180 Resident,
$185 Non-resident

Spanish Beyond Basics
If you already know Spanish basics and would like to take it a step further, this class is for you. All instructors are native Spanish speakers with years of experience teaching Spanish as a second language. The Hablo Español curriculum will be utilized.

Age: 15 years and older
Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
May 5 - July 21 (12 weeks)
$180 Resident,
$185 Non-resident

Fit Kids
For kids who have a lot of energy and like to play! Class will include tumbling, hoops, jumping, balancing, sports, parachute play and much more.

Age: 4 to 6 years
Thursdays, 5 to 5:45 pm.
(1) May 5 - 26
(2) June 2 - 23
(3) July 14 - Aug. 4
$35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

JumpNrope
You will learn the fundamentals of jump rope, including single rope skills, double dutch and Chinese wheel. A free jump rope is included.

For more information, visit www.jumpNrope.com.

Age: 7 to 16 years (Beginners)
Tuesdays, 4 to 5 p.m.
(1) May 3 - 31
(2) June 7 - 28
(3) July 12 - Aug. 2
$35 Resident, $39 Non-resident

Jump Prep Team
This class will take jumpers to the next level and start preparing for performance and competition. Jumper must have mastered all tricks in the beginning class before joining. Free jump rope included.

For more information, please visit www.jumpNrope.com.

Age: 7 to 16 years (Intermediate)
Tuesdays, 4 to 5 p.m.
(1) May 3 - 31
(2) June 7 - 28
(3) July 12 - Aug. 2
$29 Resident, $35 Non-resident
Opening daily at 10 a.m., The Splash at Fossil Trace is a great place for all ages! There are slides and water features galore. We even have a full concession stand in case you forgot your snacks.

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

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

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

Tipper’s Summer Safety Tips
✓ Drink lots of water
✓ Take breaks from the sun and seek shade
✓ Use sunscreen and apply it 30 minutes before going outdoors. Re-apply every 2 hours.
✓ Swim in supervised areas only- like Splash Water Park!
✓ Use insect repellants containing Deet to fight against ticks and mosquito bites
✓ Be safe, and have fun!
Whether it’s tearful ballads, driving bluegrass, or loud and celebratory marches, it’s been said that music is what life sounds like. If this is true, then Golden marches to the unique beat of its own drummer. The new exhibit at the Golden History Center, “Turn it Up: Golden’s Musical Memories,” will explore this idea with a multisensory experience chronicling the ways that music intersects our lives.

Starting June 3 and running through 2012, visitors will experience the sights and sounds of some of Golden’s musically inclined characters. In one display, viewers will select video clips from an interactive multimedia menu featuring local performances and original interviews.

From Pastor Ross playing Johann Sebastian Bach’s “Toccata and Fugue in D minor” on the custom-built pipe organ at Golden’s United Methodist Church to the local bluegrass sensation Adam Kinghorn of Head for the Hills, the videos will cover a diverse range of subjects.

And what would a music exhibit be without some actual instruments? Four different historic pianos dating back to the 1800s will be on view. Each piano and melodeon on display has a unique connection to a Golden resident that you can only learn about by visiting the Golden History Center.

One of the instruments on view, a J.M. Pelton square grand piano, has been painstakingly restored to its original auditory glory with comprehensive work donated by the exhibit’s main sponsor, Dan’s Piano Service of Arvada.

An exclusive concert using the historic instruments, along with a special in-depth preview of the exhibit will be held on Thursday, June 2. Tickets are limited and start at $30 (GHM members pay only $25), including hors d’oeuvres and beverages. Call 303-278-3557 for ticket information. Visit GoldenHistoryMuseums.org for more details.
Foothills Art Center is proud to present the international-acclaimed exhibition *PostSecret*, and encourages Goldenites to participate by sharing their own secrets. This unique exhibit showcases secrets submitted from ordinary people around the world—some humorous, some heartwrenching, some shocking—through visual art. *PostSecret* became an international phenomenon in 2004 when artist Frank Warren distributed 3,000 blank postcards to strangers, inviting them to anonymously mail him a true and never-before-told secret. To date, over 500,000 secrets have been submitted, and this “little art project” has turned into a national bestselling book and international art exhibit.

Foothills Art Center lobbied Warren to extend his sold-out exhibition to include Golden, and is thrilled to present the creator for a one-night-only lecture event at the Colorado School of Mines Green Center. Normally lecturing to audiences of 10,000, Warren has agreed to speak in the intimate 1,100 seat venue for a lecture and book signing.

Become part of this legendary show by sharing a secret for the *PostSecret Community Corner*, to be shown within the exhibition. Using a postcard as your canvas, send your secrets to: *PostSecret c/o Foothills Art Center, 809 15th Street, Golden CO 80401.

*PostSecret* runs through June 26. Foothills Art Center is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

*PostSecret* exhibition tour was organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC, in cooperation with Frank Warren. Images courtesy of Frank Warren.
When you live in Golden, there's two hours of fun, two minutes from home. So we suggest getting away by staying right here. Get a double scoop of ice cream and meander down Washington Avenue. Stroll through our amazing art galleries or museums. Shop in one of our unique stores. You’ll be surprised at all there is to do right here under your nose. Visit 2HourVacation.com for more great ideas.