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

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2012 Golden City Council

The Golden Informer
HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

GET INVOLVED!
The Economic Development Commission has a board opening for a three-year position. The Commission provides leadership, education, and the tools necessary for the Golden community to optimize appropriate economic opportunities. Members meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall, 911 10th St.

Applications will be taken until 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 10. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for the City Council Study Session on Thursday, May 17 in City Hall. Applicants must be a resident of the city, a property owner within the city, or own a business in the City of Golden. People with expertise in finance, advertising, retail and economic development are encouraged to apply.

Applications are available from the City Clerk or on the city’s website, www.cityofgolden.net under Boards and Commissions. They will be accepted by the City Clerk at City Hall, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401 or by email to clerks@cityofgolden.net.

For more information contact Steve Glueck at 303-384-8095 or sglueck@cityofgolden.net.

NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS STILL AVAILABLE
Take advantage of the summer months to celebrate with neighbors and improve your neighborhoods. The i-Golden Neighborhood Grant program can help you fund your efforts.

Small grants up to $500 are intended for block parties, neighborhood clean-up days and other small events and projects. These grants do not require a match but must benefit the neighborhood community. You may apply anytime during the year, until funds run out.

Matching grants up to $2,500 are for larger projects and a match by the neighborhood is required. These will be evaluated by staff with recommendations forwarded to the City Council for final approval. These projects should help build a more vibrant neighborhood and benefit the community. City Council will consider matching grants submitted by June 29, at the July 12 council meeting.

Both types of grants need to support the Golden Vision 2030 neighborhood values, and take into consideration Golden’s sustainability goals. Golden businesses should be used for professional services and materials.

For detailed information go to the City’s website, www.cityofgolden.net, or contact City Clerk Susan Brooks at sbrooks@cityofgolden.net or 303-384-8014.

VISIT GOLDEN MARKETING STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE
In late 2011, the Visit Golden Marketing Stakeholder Committee was created to manage the city's community marketing program.

The City Council is looking to appoint one individual to this Committee, who represents a merchant business or attraction, or who has demonstrated marketing experience. The other members come from various Golden business organizations and committees.

The appointment is for four years, and the Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. Applications are available from the City Clerk or on the city’s website, www.cityofgolden.net under Boards and Commissions. They will be accepted by the City Clerk at City Hall, 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401 or by email to clerks@cityofgolden.net until 5 p.m. on May 10.

For more information, contact Steve Glueck at 303-384-8095 or sglueck@cityofgolden.net.

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 3
Regular Study Session

May 10
Regular Business Meeting

May 17
Rescheduled Regular Business Meeting

May 24
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.
Golden Pride Days were featured in last month's Informer. This annual event helps Golden residents with their spring cleaning, clearing out unwanted items and debris from their homes and neighborhoods. After the hard work is over, residents feel a distinct sense of pride in the upkeep of their surroundings. Their efforts add shine to our community's image.

Golden pride, however, does not end with the close of clean-up days. Year around, we have innumerable reasons to be proud of our town. Here's a quick, noninclusive, and random listing.

- Golden has a unique foothills location, which we protect through planning, community spirit, regulation, open-space purchases, and sustainability initiatives.
- Historic downtown Golden is a magnet for residents and visitors alike. It was recently described in a Washington Post travel article as a "cozy mountain town, just west of Denver, brimming with museums."
- Golden is an integral part of the Denver metropolitan area. Our regional connections will be bolstered in May 2013 with the beginning of scheduled light-rail.
- Since 1874, we've been the home of the Colorado School of Mines, a world-class teaching and research institution. More recently, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory settled close to us.
- Accelerated economic development efforts have brought innovative businesses to Golden and supported our existing employers.
- Jefferson County Public Schools, the largest school district in Colorado, is dedicated to ensuring a promising future for every Golden child. Golden High School is the oldest school in Colorado and is now located in a state-of-the-art facility.
- Our city government is competent, accessible, and transparent. Staff, elected officials, and appointed board members are dedicated to communicating with residents and responding to their ideas.
- Golden's award-winning parks and recreation department and board oversee city recreational opportunities. Our town can suit everyone's wellness and fitness preferences: 253 acres of park land, 24 miles of trails, a golf course, an outdoor aquatic park, a community center, a whitewater course, a history-museum complex, a summer farmers market, and community gardens.
- Daily, Golden's accredited police department and outstanding volunteer fire department preserve the safety and security of residents and their property.
- For decades, Golden has managed, protected, and maintained its infrastructure.
- Golden continues to spend your tax dollars carefully, maintain a solid financial position, and deliver quality services. A volunteer panel is investigating Golden's financial future and will report their findings and ideas in late summer.
- Active volunteerism is a way of life in Golden. Members of faith-based groups, service clubs, foundations, homeowners' associations, youth organizations, non-profits, cultural alliances, families and individuals all provide invaluable support in our community.

Justifiable pride of place has inspired a robust network of residents and organizations working together to enrich the quality of life in our town.
On Saturday, May 12, your postal carriers will be picking up more than just your mail. They will be collecting donated food to give to needy families. For 20 years, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) has held its Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. This is a nation-wide effort, but what you may not know is the food you donate stays right here in Golden.

Last year Golden’s food bank received only about half of the food that they got in previous years. Although there are many food drives throughout the year, the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has always been the biggest. And the need has never been greater. NALC President Fredric Rolando says the needs this year are particularly sad, even staggering.

“Sixteen percent of all Americans are at risk of hunger – uncertain where their next meal may be coming from. That includes 1 in 5 children under the age of 18, plus 4 million seniors who are forced every day to choose between paying a utility bill and buying food.”

The Golden community is no exception. “In the past year, the number of people receiving food from our food bank has doubled,” said Kay Furtak, the food bank coordinator for the Christian Action Guild in Golden. “We have made many trips to Food Bank of the Rockies to buy food. However, food donated locally provides many more choices for our clients.”

Here’s how it works. Put a sack full of non-perishable food items out by your mailbox on Saturday, May 12. The Golden Postal Carriers will take the donated food back to the Golden Post Office where members of the Golden Lions Club will collect it and take it to the Christian Action Guild. It will then be sorted and distributed to those in need right here in our community.

The Christian Action Guild is a non-denominational, all volunteer group that is supported by many local businesses, churches, schools and civic groups. It is located at 1401 Ford St. For more information, call the Christian Action Guild at 303-279-5674.

For the past few months, the City of Golden and Golden History Museums have been collecting designs from our creative residents and neighbors for a new city flag, which will fly above Golden for years to come.

Now it’s your chance to pick the best of the bunch. Go to www.cityofgolden.net/links/CityFlag to vote. The three flags with the most votes will go before City Council on June 7, where they will pick a winner. The winning flag will fly outside City Hall and will also be featured in this year’s Buffalo Bill Days Parade on Saturday, July 28. In addition, the winner will forever be a part of Golden’s incredible history!

You can vote any time this month. Voting will end at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. Only one vote per person, please. You can also vote at the Golden History Center, 923 10th St. The flag designs will be on display there for you to see, along with the museum’s latest exhibits. For more information, email Nathan Richie at nrichie@GoldenHistory.org.
Instead of snow during Colorado’s snowiest month, March brought summer-like temperatures and hardly a drop of moisture. Because of this unusually dry start to spring, the City of Golden wants to make sure you understand what happens in our city during dry times, what we do to conserve water, and what you can do to use water wisely. This does not mean you need to turn your green lawn into a rock garden. In fact, the trees and plants in our city help our environment. We will explain all of this on the next few pages.

Experts predict the snow pack this year will be below average, possibly significantly. In Golden we have always planned our growth and water supply around severe drought. This means that we have not grown beyond our ability to supply residents with sufficient water in drought years. The City has also worked hard to educate and provide opportunities for outdoor water conservation. Wasting water is never a good thing. In Golden you will see that we not only provide residents with opportunities to conserve, we also practice what we preach with state-of-the-art water and irrigation systems in our parks and at Fossil Trace Golf Course. We take not wasting water seriously and have learned how to only use the water needed.

Despite what you may think, the sustainability of the community depends on having and USING water… even in drought situations. Planting, growing and maintaining our community’s trees provide shade which reduces heat, and helps cool our homes and businesses. Gardens and lawns do not absorb and radiate heat the way rock, paved surfaces or exposed dirt areas do. Maintaining grass, gardens and trees is important to avoiding urban heat island effects that can occur in our cities. The City is also committed to planting trees which are appropriate for our climate. We have a list of those trees at www.cityofgolden.net/links/forestry.

Water is never lost when used, just moved to different places, or states in the hydrologic cycle. Water is taken up by plants, but given back to the atmosphere through transpiration. Precipitation replenishes ground water tables or returns to the stream as runoff. Water is often simply evaporated to the atmosphere where it, with water that arrived there through transpiration, eventually becomes either rain or snow. How available water is, of course, depends on where it is in the cycle. This is why storage has always been a critical component of Golden’s water supply plan.

Throughout this issue you will find many opportunities to help use water wisely. We believe this is a more prudent approach than simply imposing use restrictions, which are often not effective, and can damage the effectiveness of our community’s plant life and overall conservation goals. Take advantage of the information and programs found in this edition, and all of us in Golden will benefit.
In early March it looked as if our watershed could end up with near normal snowpack, but by the end of the month the Statewide Snowpack was only about 49 percent of normal. In the drought of 2002 the snowpack at the same time was about 50 percent of normal so our statewide situation is about as severe as the last major drought. But when planning for water supply operations we need to look at other factors as well... including reservoir storage, facility capacity and efficiency, and forecasts of summer water demand. We also need to look closely at our specific watershed because in Colorado, due to our mountains, there can be a big difference between drainage basins even though they may be separated by only a few miles.

Golden, as you will read below is sitting in a very good water supply position. Our community’s residents need not fear having sufficient water, even in times of drought, as looks like the case this year.

RESERVOIR STORAGE
Our storage reservoirs are currently full and we have four times more capacity than we did in 2002. With the addition of Guanella Reservoir we have increased storage capability from about 700 Acre Feet to about 2900 Acre Feet today (1 Acre Foot = 325,851 Gallons). In 2002 we used all 700 Acre feet of stored water but if the same scenario happened this year we would only use about 500 acre feet from storage due to improved efficiency and increased capacity of our system.

EVALUATING OUR SPECIFIC SUPPLY
We need to evaluate water supply conditions that are unique to Golden. While the South Platte basin is hovering around 59 percent of normal, snowpack in the Clear Creek basin is at about 58 percent, the Colorado River basin is at 45 percent. All in all it appears that Golden will have an adequate supply for normal operation but we will keep evaluating the situation throughout the season and beyond.

DEMAND SIDE: EFFICIENT USE OF OUR RESOURCES
The overall use of water for the City has dropped from a 2006 high of 4,272 Acre Feet to 3,824 Acre Feet in 2011, reducing water by 11 percent while the City’s population has increased by nearly five percent. Through public education, sustainable planning, and by promoting responsible use of our water, we expect to continue that use up to 40 percent less water than neighboring communities (see page 8 for more details).

THE BIG PICTURE
Golden is a forward thinking community that has long been improving and protecting its water supply. It is years like this that help us appreciate the value of the planning and sacrifice we have made so that we can operate without depleting our storage or imposing mandatory lawn watering restrictions. As long as we continue to be smart about our use of water, we can avoid the pains that so many other communities experience, even with snowpack considerably below average for an extended period of time.
Our mountain desert climate gives us an added challenge to creating a green, lush and water-smart urban environment. We all know Mother Nature is unpredictable. So we have to supplement her whims with man-made water cycles like irrigation systems, which we can control and predict. These systems are a big investment. But when the natural water supply shuts off, this is how City-managed facilities can turn the water back on in a cost-efficient way so that the benefit of urban landscapes are not lost for our residents.

It’s probably no surprise that the biggest expense for Golden’s Park, Forestry and Cemetery Division is water. It accounts for nearly one third of that division’s budget. And in times of drought, the expense is even greater. To control those expenses, the City has invested in technologies which help to provide modern and efficient irrigation systems at City managed facilities. In other words, the City made a significant investment up front so that we can save money well into the future.

For example, a separate water line system has been put into place so that raw water can be used in Golden’s parks and the Cemetery. Raw water is far less expensive than treated water. Also, all Parks and Cemetery irrigation controllers are remotely controlled and monitored from a single location. This allows staff to monitor water usage, watch for leaks, use what’s needed to keep things green in the dry times and turn off the water when Mother Nature turns it back on.

The Fossil Trace Golf Course also has a state-of-the-art irrigation system that allows crews to apply the precise amount of water on any given irrigation cycle. Each irrigation head or “station” is individually controlled in a central computer, which tells each station how long to run or how much water to apply based on readings from on-site weather stations. This means you won’t see the sprinklers going when it’s raining outside, and you won’t see the pavement being watered… only the grass.

The grass itself was chosen for Fossil Trace specifically for its heat and drought tolerant qualities as well as its playable attributes. It requires less water and nutrients to stay healthy, which are definitely welcome qualities in this age of sustainability.

Golden continues to study and apply water conservation efforts whenever possible. It is an ongoing goal for the City to sustain and improve the urban landscape at a reasonable cost.

**FREE SPRINKLER INSPECTION**

The city is partnering with the Center for ReSource Conservation to offer Golden water customers a free sprinkler inspection.

**Why should I participate?**
- Save money on your water bill
- Improve the appearance of your landscape
- Receive a customized watering schedule

**How long will it take?**
The entire process will take about 2 hours. Larger commercial or HOA properties may take longer.

**When are inspections available?**
Inspections are scheduled from June until August. Call now to reserve a spot!

**How do I schedule an inspection?**
If you receive water from the city of Golden AND you have an operating underground irrigation system, complete the request form online at www.ConservationCenter.org or call 303-999-3820 x217.
SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION GUIDELINES

• This yard waste collection service is available to City’s Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) trash and recycling customers only.
• Yard waste may be placed in the same place your trash is collected on your designated day for the service, in a container of your choice.
• Yard waste should be placed for collection by 8 a.m. on your designated collection day.
• Acceptable items for this collection are grass clippings, pine needles, leaves, weeds and branches that are no longer than 4 feet and no larger than 4 inches in diameter, sawdust, ground or chipped wood.
• Branches may be bundled with string, yarn or rope - please do not use wire for bundling. Bundles should be 4 feet in length and no more than 2 feet in diameter.
• Yard waste will be limited to 3 cubic yards per resident which is equivalent to:
  - an area that is approximately 4 feet x 4 feet x 4 feet; or
  - 21 compostable 30 gallon bags
• This yard waste will be recycled. Please do not contaminate this material with any of the following:
  - NO food waste (fruits, vegetables, etc.), plastic, dirt, cactus, tree stumps, branches greater than 4 inches in diameter, ashes, animal waste, treated lumber, logs, old garden hoses or broken flower pots.

  - No construction material is allowed for this service. Plastic bags are not allowed.
  - 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.

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

Remember – Avoid extra expenses while keeping large amounts of yard waste from going into the landfill by subscribing to EDS’ subscription Green Waste program. The Green Waste Program will be available beginning in May through October 2012, which includes every other week pick up of your yard waste cart at your curb. It’s cheap, efficient and convenient! Call EDS today at 303-278-8600 to enroll!
Water You Doing To Conserve?

As part of the overall sustainability goals adopted by City Council in 2007, the City aims to reduce Golden’s per capita water use by 15 percent within five years. These water recommendations, which were created by a community working group, are also supported and endorsed by the Community Sustainability Advisory Board (CSAB) through the City of Golden Sustainability Strategic Plan. The specific strategies include:

1. Encouraging water conservation landscape practices through efficient irrigation, smart gardening practices and xeriscaping.
2. Reducing indoor water use through incentives and water-wise education.
3. Increasing our understanding of the impact of state water laws limiting the use of gray water and rainwater collection and seek opportunities for pilot projects.
4. Evaluating landscaping codes and policies to promote the most efficient and cost effective technologies for outdoor irrigation.

With these efforts, the City hopes to provide residents and businesses with the tools and resources to make smart water decisions.

Why Should Landscaping Materials be Recycled?

Yard wastes are highly recyclable materials that are often overlooked or ignored when discussing recycling programs. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, yard wastes often make up approximately 10 to 30 percent of municipal solid waste. These materials take up valuable space in landfills and contribute to the formation of methane gas which can cause significant problems many years after a landfill closes.

Besides helping boost overall recycling rates, composted and mulched materials are very useful in Colorado’s arid climate. Both compost and mulch help to retain soil moisture, conserve water through reduced watering and assist in the stabilization of soils which reduces erosion.

Recycling yard waste also keeps organic materials like grass clippings and leaves out of the City’s storm sewer system and Clear Creek. These nutrient-rich materials can harm local water sources by removing oxygen from the water and killing critical aquatic life. Using compost and mulching grass clippings helps reduce the amount of chemical fertilizer needed for healthy lawns and helps retain critical moisture in our extremely dry environment. With so many benefits, it only makes sense to recycle yard wastes.

As the City’s contractor for the Pay-As-You-Throw trash and recycling program, EDS Waste Solutions’ Green Waste Program will be starting up for the summer season in May and will continue through October. See page 9 for details.
Through May 20
The Two of Us
A delightfully touching compilation of four vignette comedies, exploring the complexities of love and marriage in the modern world. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For tickets and information call 303-935-3044 or visit www.minersalley.com.

Through July 30
Dale Chihuly Glass Exhibit
This exhibition, the first by Chihuly to be shown in the Denver Metro region, can be seen at the Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. For more information call 303-279-3922 or visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.

May 5 Cinco de Mayo

Coffee with a Councilor
Chat with a City Council representative about Golden. 9 a.m. at Read, Write and Brew, 720 Golden Ridge Rd., Unit D. For more information contact Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-709-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

May 6 JSO Season Finale Concert
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will perform Mahler’s Symphony No. 2, the Resurrection Symphony. 3 p.m. at the Green Center, Colorado School of Mines Campus, 924 16th St. For tickets and information call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffsymphony.org.

May 12 CCHP Blacksmith Day
Join skilled blacksmiths at the Clear Creek History Park and watch them craft metal into useful, everyday items. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 11th and Arapahoe streets. For more information call 303-278-3557 or visit www.GoldenHistory.org.

May 13 Mother’s Day

May 14 One Book One Golden
Discussion group for One Book One Golden’s book of the year, Growing Up True: Lessons of a Western Boyhood. 6:30 p.m. at the Golden Library, 1019 10th St. Visit www.jeffcolibrary.org/onebookonegolden for details.

May 19 CCHP Opening Day
New contests each hour at the Clear Creek History Park’s opening day. Test your skills in all sorts of fun competitions, including a pie-baking contest. To submit a pie, call Golden History Museums at 303-278-3557 or visit www.GoldenHistory.org for more information.

May 20 Kyffin Elementary Cougar Tracks Fundraiser
Cougar Tracks is a 1K kids race and a timed 5K fun run. 8 a.m. at Kyffin Elementary, 205 Flora Way. To register visit www.active.com/running/golden-co/kyffin-cougar-tracks-2012. Registration is $20, students are $15. Registration closing date is May 15. For more information contact Christie at cpsearls@yahoo.com.

May 24 Risk & Reward: A Mountain Rescue Exhibit
The American Mountaineering Museum launches a six-month exhibition on the history, tools, people and culture of mountain rescue. Opening night festivities from 6 to 8:30 p.m.. For more information, visit www.mountaineeringmuseum.org or call 303-996-2755.

May 28 Memorial Day

June 1 11th Annual Living Landmarks Dinner
The Golden Landmarks Association celebrates its 40th anniversary and honors individuals and businesses in Golden for their passion, vision and efforts for the community. Tickets are $65, cash bar opens at 5:30 p.m. Mount Vernon Country Club, 24933 Club House Circle. For details call 303-279-1236 or email Gold@GoldenLandmarks.com.

Information is subject to change. Please use contact information to confirm the details of an event. To list a community event happening in Golden here, please send your listing to: Golden City Hall, Communications Dept., 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, or by e-mail to killey@cityofgolden.net. Listings should include the date(s), the event name and a brief description of the event, which may include cost, location and contact information. Submissions must be received by the first of the month prior to the issue you would like them printed in (i.e., Jan. 1 for the February issue). Call 303-384-8132 with questions or for more information.
By now you’ve probably seen the brand new housing complex on the corner of 22nd and Jackson streets. This complex is Golden’s newest option for affordable housing for seniors. Resident applications are currently being accepted and the first residents will begin moving in starting in July.

What developers have discovered, however, is that the need for senior housing far exceeds the supply. The new facility, called Lewis Court Apartments, is a 50 unit complex. So far, the list of prospective residents is more than 300. So the property management company, Pillar Property Services, will select residents based on a list of criteria. For people already in Golden, this is good news.

Selection Process Underway for New Senior Living Facility

There are a certain number of units available for various income groups. Within those groups, residents will be chosen based on when they submitted their information, when they want to move in, and priority will be given to people already living in Golden or Jefferson County. This is the next step in addressing the housing needs for seniors in and around Golden.

If you would like more information on the Lewis Court Apartments or would like to apply for residency, call 303-380-5103. You will be asked to leave your name and address and an application will be mailed to you.

Selection Process Underway for New Senior Living Facility

Each year the Rotary Club of Golden honors businesses and non-profit organizations for leading the way in business ethics. The organizations honored, demonstrate the highest standards of ethical business practice, integrity, and civic and social responsibility.

At the annual Ethics in Business Awards luncheon in April, the following organizations were honored:

For-Profit Winner: My Pie
www.welovemypie.com

Non-Profit Winner: Belize Education Project
www.belizeeducationproject.com

The winners are selected by the Ethics Class at the Colorado School of Mines, under the direction of Professor Sandy Woodson. Judges overwhelmingly chose My Pie for their For-Profit winner. According to the judges, they won “For their recognition of community, responsibility, environmental stewardship and commitment to happy and humorous food.” Other comments included, “My Pie is a young business and could probably use every penny they make, but they still donate money” and “They try to set themselves apart by doing ‘business as unusual.’”

The Non-Profit Winner, Belize Education Project, was a runner-up for this award two years ago. This year they won over the judges with the high percentage of donated funds that go directly to children in Belize. Among the judge’s comments, “They are making an ethical difference” and “The volunteer base also helps ensure money is being directed as it should be.”

The Key Note Speaker for the awards ceremony was Jake Jabs, President and CEO of American Furniture Warehouse. Master of Ceremonies was CBS4 News Weather Anchor Ed Greene. The Rotary Club of Golden presents these awards along with the Greater Golden and West Chambers of Commerce. According to Golden Rotary President Kevin Nichols, “The Ethics in Business luncheon is the region’s premier event for recognizing those businesses and organizations who hold the highest ethical standards. Rotary strongly believes in promoting ethical business practices and is pleased to honor those who epitomize high ethical standards.” The City of Golden congratulates this year’s winners.
Ever drive around aimlessly looking for a particular address, and frustrated that you can’t find specific numbers on any of the buildings? Imagine now that you are an emergency worker trying to get to someone in crisis and you are faced with that same problem.

Many don’t realize that it is a fire code requirement within the City of Golden for all buildings to display proper address numbers. Obviously, for your fire, police and ambulance services to be able to help you where you live, work or play in town; they first need to be able to find you.

The fire code simply indicates that the address numbers be placed so that they are legible and visible from the street or road that is in front of the property, usually the street of address. The fire code gets a little more specific in requiring that:

- The numbers contrast with their background
- Numbers are Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters
- A minimum of 4” high by ½” stoke numbers or letters

The minimum size is noted; however, there may be instances where larger numbers are required such as numbers or letters on buildings set relatively far back from the street or road and do not have a monument sign at the main entry to the property.

Inspections of properties can be requested, but emergency responders rely on you, the owner or resident, to make sure clearly visible address signs are provided and maintained so that they can find you in an emergency. For more information or to request an inspection of your property numbers, call the Golden Fire Department at 303-384-8094.

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**COUNCILORS, KIDS AND DR. SEUSS**

(From left to right) Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves, Mayor Marjorie Sloan and Councilor Marcie Miller entertain kids at Shelton Elementary while promoting literacy.

*Read Across America Day* was on March 2, coinciding with Colorado Literacy Week. Mayors across the state were asked to take time that day to go and read to children in a local school.

Mayor Marjorie Sloan jumped on the opportunity and reached out to Shelton Elementary to see what she could do. Earlier this year, the City Council identified support of Golden schools as a key priority during the next two-year period. As it turns out, Shelton’s principal was already planning to have her own *Read Across America Day* featuring Dr. Seuss. So Mayor Sloan and Councilors Marcie Miller and Saoirse Charis-Graves all joined in on the fun. Shelton’s first and second graders were treated to many different Dr. Seuss stories, and the Councilors even dressed in Dr. Seuss-style hats while they read.

*Read Across America* is an annual reading motivation and awareness program sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA). It calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children’s author Dr. Seuss.
Important Notice to Residents

You may have recently received a letter either in the mail or via email from American Water Resources informing you of your responsibilities as a homeowner for your water and sewer lines. It then tells you about programs the company offers to protect yourself from potential problems. The letter goes on to say that if you participate in this particular program, the City of Golden could benefit financially.

We want you to know that the City of Golden does not support, endorse or condone this program, and we are in no way affiliated with American Water Resources. We want to take this opportunity to tell you that there are many options for you.

Here are the facts. It is true that property owners are responsible for service lines leading to, and inside, homes or businesses. This includes all pipes, fitting and valves, but does not include the water meter which is maintained by the city. If you are concerned about repair on those lines, you can talk to your insurance company about additional insurance related to this. There are also companies that specialize in utility line service plans or warranty programs.

Before you commit to the fees associated with such coverage, please keep in mind that you may never need to replace or repair your service line. If you live in an older neighborhood, you may be able to gauge your risk by talking to neighbors to see if they ever had to make repairs. Or, you can pay to get a video of your sewer service line (but not your water service line) to evaluate its condition. Also keep in mind that the coverage you purchase may have exclusions based on pre-existing conditions, caps on coverage or limit your choice of contractors to complete repairs. Do your homework before deciding to purchase insurance or warranty coverage.

Preparing and Protecting Yourself from Floods

It’s hard to think about flooding when we’re facing a drought, but the fact is, floods can happen in any weather conditions and can be very dangerous. Even though they appear to move slowly, floodwaters only six inches deep moving at three feet per second can knock a person off their feet. If a 100-year flood happened on Clear Creek at Ford Street, water would be moving as fast as 11 feet per second.

Several severe floods have been recorded in Golden since 1864, the most recent of which occurred on June 27, 2004. The most serious flooding in Golden has resulted from cloudbursts that happen between May and September.

Your property may not have flooded in the past but the next flood could be worse, as not all storms are the same. If you are in the floodplain, the odds are that someday your property will be damaged. If your property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, there is a 26 percent chance that you will experience flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage.

Homeowner’s insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. However, because Golden participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy at a 15 percent discount. This insurance is backed by the Federal Government and is available to everyone, even for properties that have been flooded, and no matter where they are located. Remember that there is a 30-day waiting period before the flood policy becomes effective. Contact your insurance agent for details.

Flood maps and flood protection references are available at the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th St. You can also visit the city Engineering or Building Divisions at 1445 10th Street, to see if you are in a mapped floodplain. If so, they can give you more information, such as flood zone, depth of flooding, etc. The Engineering Division will review flood information on file and produce a FREE written Floodplain Determination for your property upon request. For information, call the City’s Engineering Division at 303-384-8115 or visit www.cityofgolden.net/links/FloodInfo. Flood protection information is also available at www.floodsmart.gov or www.fema.gov.
Celebrate Health!
Fridays, May 4 & June 1
Celebrate Health! is held upstairs at the Front Porch of the Golden Community Center. For more information, please call 303-384-8130.
Chair massages.................$13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions ..........$13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce .......$20 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/links/FrontPorch or email frontporchnews@cityofgolden.net to get on the email list.

Senior Tap Beginners - #24875-01
This class will go at a slower pace and is a great class for those that want to swing with the best of them. We are looking for at least three students to keep this class going each month. Fee is $35 per month (4 classes). Other adult dance classes also available. Tap shoes required. Need shoes, call Ms. Joy at 303-795-3183.
Tuesdays, 2:50 to 3:50 p.m.

Cooking with Herbs
This FREE program will provide you with enough information to get you started on your way to healthier cooking and come away with some great recipes too!
Min/Max: 6/15
Tuesday, May 15, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS
History Colorado Center - #25028-1
www.historycolorado.org
This new museum and hub for civic engagement creates a rich experience for visitors through exhibits and programs that will blend technology, media, environments and artifacts. We will stop for lunch.
Monday, May 7, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
$9 (van included; bring money for museum admission and lunch)
Exertion Level: 3
Register/Cancel by May 4.

Active Minds- Women of Denver History - #25029-1
www.activeminds.com
The city of Denver was shaped by the efforts of many great people. Join this Active Minds lecture that focuses on the women of Denver and their contributions to the city and the state. We will stop for lunch before the 1 p.m. lecture.
Wednesday, May 16, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
$9 (van included; bring money for lunch)
Exertion Level: 1
Register/Cancel by May 14.

The Great Stupa, Shambhala Mountain Center - #25030-1
www.shambhalamountain.org
Enjoy the scenic drive to Red Feather Lakes, lunch and take a tour. Bring water, wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for a change in weather. The Center requests an $8 donation for entry.
Wednesday, May 23, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
$30 (van included; bring lunch or money for the café)
Exertion Level: 5
Register/Cancel by May 18.

Check out the Golden Community Center’s Front Porch - designed specifically for people 50 and older.
The Front Porch offers respite and entertainment, coffee, healthy snacks and cookies. There is a full schedule of games, sports, social events, trips and volunteer activities. Shoot some pool, surf the internet, work on a puzzle, or just relax before you hit your next fitness class.

For more information:
•  Stop by The Front Porch, upstairs at the Community Center, 1470 10th St.;
•  Call 303-384-8130;
•  Subscribe to the Front Porch Newsletter ($8/year);
•  Check out the Recreation brochure; or
•  Visit www.cityofgolden.net/frontporch

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

Here’s what’s happening this month:
Summer Swim Lesson
Registration Dates
Residents: Monday, May 7
Non-Residents: Tuesday, May 8
Lessons will fill up fast, visit https://rec.cityofgolden.net to review session dates, times and availability. Registration is available online or in person at the Golden Community Center.

Advanced Care
Babysitting Courses
This course is designed for the pre-teen (11-13 year olds) and helps prepare for babysitting opportunities. Students will learn to identify their responsibilities including routine child care duties (feeding, bathing and diapering). Students will also learn basic child development and be able to provide activities for the developmental stages. The class will cover home and fire safety, infant and child CPR, rescue breathing and choking procedures. Certification is provided.

Age: 11 years and older
Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(1) May 12
(2) June 2
(3) July 14
(4) Aug. 18
$65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

My First Abrakadoodle Art Class
This class introduces new art experiences to the youngest of doodlers with a focus on exploration. A special series of “My Firsts” includes collage, 3D art, hand printing, beginning paper cutting and musical art. Activities are designed to provide opportunities to touch, feel, hear, see and explore while building fine motor, language, creativity and cognitive skills. An adult must attend with child.

Age: 1½ - 4 years
Wednesdays, 9 - 9:45 a.m.
(1) May 9 - 30
(2) June 20 - July 18
- No class July 4.
(3) Aug. 1 - 29
- No class Aug. 22.
$55 Resident, $59 Non-resident

JumpNrope
Join other jumpers in this exciting jump rope class taught by world renowned and certified jump rope specialists. The energetic class will get jumpers’ heart pumping while enjoying a fun, challenging environment. Learn the fundamentals of jump rope, including single rope skills, double dutch and Chinese wheel. A free jump rope is included for new students.

Age: 7 - 16 years (Beginners)
Tuesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
(1) May 1 - 22
(2) June 5 - 26
(3) July 10 - 31
$35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

Jump Prep Team
Jump Prep Team is an intermediate jump rope class taught by world renowned and certified jump rope specialists. The class will take jumpers to the next level and start preparing for performance and competition. Jumper must have mastered all tricks in the beginner class before joining. A free jump rope is included for new students.

Age: 7 - 16 years (Intermediate)
Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
(1) May 2 - 23
(2) June 6 - 27
(3) July 11 - Aug. 1
$35 Resident, $40 Non-resident

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

Call Larry Rock at 303-384-8133 for availability, facility tours and rates. Make your event special – have it at the Golden Community Center.
Looking for a good time this summer? The Splash at Fossil Trace opens for the season on Saturday, May 26 with a new look to celebrate its 10th season of providing fun in the sun!

The largest water park in Jefferson County, The Splash is a slide-filled park located on Illinois Street next to the Fossil Trace Golf Club in Golden. The Splash has 180 foot and 150 foot twisty, tube-riding water slides, a sand play area, a 25-meter lap pool, bustling activity pool complete with fountains, wading areas and a spectacular 500-gallon dump bucket. The Splash was awarded 2011 Top Five Best Places for Families by Kids Pages Magazine!

Admission to The 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 The Splash offers great rates on private rentals and birthday party packages.

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

The Splash at Fossil Trace has the opportunity to host the Colorado State Summer Club Swimming Championships once again this year. The Swimming Championships will be held July 27-29, bringing approximately 1,500 swimmers and 2,500 spectators to enjoy The Splash and the beautiful City of Golden. The Splash will be closed to the public to accommodate the event on Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29.

The 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.splashingolden.com.

FREE Sales and Use Tax Workshops

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

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

June 6, 2012.................... 9 to 10 a.m.
July 11, 2012..................... 9 to 10 a.m.

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

FREE Building Use Tax Workshops

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

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

May 2, 2012.................... 9 to 10 a.m.

Classes are free, but space is limited.
Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.
Clear Creek History Park (CCHP) has been a part of the Golden community since 1999. Most of the buildings in the park were relocated from Golden Gate Canyon in the 1990s in an effort to save the historic structures from demolition. They were rebuilt, log by log, along Clear Creek in a configuration that recreates life on a canyon homestead in the late 1800s.

For the past few years, Golden History Museums offered a number of programs and events at the park to showcase the historic structures and the stories of the people who called them home. Last year, museum leadership decided to step up the offerings and expand the hours of operation for CCHP in an effort to increase access and value for visitors. As such, we knew that we needed to discover more about the people and places of Golden Gate Canyon during the late 1800s.

Part of our planning resulted in adding more activities at CCHP for families and other visitors. We are excited to showcase historic breeds of sheep and chickens, as well as heirloom vegetables as a way to help guests put themselves in the shoes of the folks who lived in the canyon in the late 1800s. Money from the sale of sheep, cattle, chickens and hogs was the primary source of income for most ranchers in the canyon. Of course, they also grew vegetables and fruit for themselves and for their animals.

Guy Hill Schoolhouse is a key stop along the way.

No matter how guests choose to jump in, we hope that they walk away with a greater appreciation for the differences (and similarities) between the people of the past and their lives today. In the words of Irma Wyhs, an early key advocate for CCHP, we want to conjure for our guests, “the special twilight reserved for our mountains, stands of lost summer grasses and hay stubble turn to dull amber... The light changes and then everything in the landscape shifts. The most substantial things are those memories of the souls of people both living and passed.”

Make your own memories this summer at CCHP, which will feature new staff-guided experiences beginning May 1 and running through October. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4:30 p.m. Visit www.GoldenHistory.org for more details on special programs and activities throughout the summer.
Since the April 7th opening of Chihuly Venetians: From the George R. Stroemple Collection at Foothills Art Center (FAC), glass lovers from throughout the region have flocked to Golden to take in the sights. And a dazzling sight it is. 47 glass sculptures from Chihuly’s unique and intriguing Venetians series have been the focus of attention by large opening-week crowds. Part of the allure is also the unique setting that FAC’s 1872 Gothic-style church architecture brings to the large glass installations. The stained glass windows have been covered so that the artwork can be lit dramatically and the building’s soaring ceiling creates an unforgettable backdrop for the 5-part Laguna Murano chandelier.

Wherever Chihuly goes, throngs of people follow. Ninety-seven exhibitions by the artist in seven countries during the last decade have been enjoyed by more than 10 million visitors. FAC estimates that this exhibition will break attendance records and introduce new audiences to our city’s cultural attributes. It will also bring increased foot traffic, restaurant visits and hotel stays to Golden.

The exhibition has already generated significant community interest. The VIP preview party on the evening of April 6 sold out within a week of its announcement and over 150 people enjoyed drinks (including a special “Chihulytini” created by the Golden Hotel), hors d’oeuvres and special tours of the exhibition. Each guest also received a special glass candy memento hand-blown in Murano, Italy. “We have been amazed by the interest this exhibition has generated,” say FAC executive director Reilly Sanborn. “And we hope people will make repeat visits!” For more information, visit www.foothillsartcenter.org.
When you live in Golden, there's two hours of fun, two minutes from home. So we suggest getting away by staying right here. Get a double scoop of ice cream and meander down Washington Avenue. Stroll through our amazing art galleries or museums. Shop in one of our unique stores. You'll be surprised at all there is to do right here under your nose. For more great ideas, [www.VisitGolden.com](http://www.VisitGolden.com).