IN THIS ISSUE

Cover Photo: file photo

Heads Up: Important Upcoming Items ................................................................. Page 3
Council’s Corner .................................................................................................. Page 3
Councillor’s Message: Gardening Golden.......................................................... Page 4
A Note from City Manager Jason Slowinski ..................................................... Page 5
A Digital Map to Navigating History................................................................. Page 5
“Check Out” Golden’s Bike Library .................................................................. Page 6
Weekend Closure of US 6 Planned This Month ............................................... Page 7
How to Live with the Golden Super Cruise ...................................................... Page 8
Never Ever EVER Leave a Dog in a Hot Car .................................................. Page 9
Don’t Be a Poop Head ........................................................................................ Page 9
Golden Community Calendar ......................................................................... Pages 10-11
Grow the Rainbow ............................................................................................ Page 11
Golden Sustainability: Social, Economic & Environmental Issues ............... Page 12
Golden’s Young Entrepreneurs ....................................................................... Page 13
Golden Community Center Activities Calendar .......................................... Page 14
Front Porch News ............................................................................................. Page 15
Important Reminder on Flood Protection ....................................................... Page 16
Expanded Library Hours .................................................................................. Page 17
Youth Citizens’ Academy – Sign up before May 16 ....................................... Page 17
Golden History Museums ................................................................................ Page 18
Beautify Your Landscape with Garden In A Box ............................................ Page 19
Help Stamp Out Hunger .................................................................................. Page 19

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

Graphic Designer Sarah Yongprakit

The Golden Informer is the proud winner of the City/County Communications and Marketing Association’s prestigious 2005 and 2007 first place Savvy and 2006 second place Silver Circle national awards for city- and county-produced external printed newsletters in communities of up to 45,000 people nationwide.

City of Golden Department Managers
NEW PERMIT PARKING PROCESS COMING SOON

The City of Golden will be transitioning to a new, fully on-line permit parking process for the upcoming school year. Coming soon, citizens living in a residential permitted area will have the ability to go online, register their vehicles and upload documentation for proof of residency and vehicle ownership, in order to get their permits.

Permitted areas include Colorado School of Mines, Golden High School, 9th Street and 9th Street – East end.

The process is still being finalized, so look for more information in upcoming Informer issues as well as our City website for details once they are available.

WATER METER REPLACEMENT UNDERWAY

If you haven’t already had your water meter replaced recently, you can likely expect a visit soon from Keystone Utility Systems, the City’s contractor for replacing all of the water meters in Golden.

If your water meter is located outside, you will get a knock on the door and the workers will alert you that they are switching it out. Please make sure the water pit is clear of obstructions such as bushes, plantings and landscape materials. If you have an indoor water meter, you will need to schedule an appointment. Do not call until you’ve received a notice in your water bill, since crews are working on certain areas at a time. This project is expected to be completed by the end of this year. For questions or concerns, contact either Les Major at 303-384-8170 or lmajor@cityofgolden.net or Keith Mehls at 303-384-8171 or kmehls@cityofgolden.net.

MONEY AVAILABLE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

City Council is continuing the Community Betterment Grants program. These grants cover citizen-initiated neighborhood improvement projects (less than $750) and very small Neighborhood Block Party first time assistance grants of no more than $250. The goal is to make neighborhoods self-sufficient in holding their block parties.

If you have an idea for a project that your neighborhood feels will make an improvement for everyone, you can apply for the Neighborhood Improvement Grant.

All of these small grants will be submitted to the City Clerk’s office for initial review and then to the City Manager for final determination.

For more information and new forms, visit www.cityofgolden.net/Grants or contact City Clerk Susan Brooks at sbrooks@cityofgolden.net or 303-384-8014.

LIVING LANDMARKS DINNER

Golden Landmarks Association (GLA) is proud to announce the Living Landmark honorees for 2016. Three honorees will be recognized for their dedication to improving the community. This is the 15th year GLA has held this event to recognize individuals or organizations whose actions have had a positive impact on Golden and the greater community.

This year the honorees are Ed Dorsey, Jerry Hodgden and The Golden Transcript. Honorees will be recognized at a dinner on Friday, May 20 in the Canyon Room at Mount Vernon Country Club, 24933 Club House Circle. For details and ticket info call 303-279-1236, email gold@goldenlandmarks.com or visit http://goldenlandmarks.com/.

HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items

Below is Golden City Council’s monthly calendar. Meetings are held on Thursdays and begin at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted.

May 5
No meeting

May 12
Regular business meeting

May 19
Study session

May 26
Regular business meeting

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

Public comment is welcome on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
With the coming of spring, Golden gardens are waking up and waiting for gardeners to plan, maintain, and improve on their beauty and productiveness. On a recent sunny Saturday, Golden’s city councilors and city manager participated in a retreat. Metaphorically speaking, they were working on “gardening Golden.”

Councilors stepped back from day-to-day concerns and devoted a concentrated session to discussing key concepts for Golden. In terms of the gardening analogy, the strategic conversation included topics such as sharing a vision; evaluating past successes; selecting and planting seeds; recognizing the need for patience and care as the seeds sprout; acknowledging the possibility of unforeseen conditions; and committing to work with community members, staff, and each other to make Golden bloom and bear fruit in accordance with the vision.

It was an important— and packed – day, with a skilled organizer and facilitator who kindly but firmly kept the group on task. No decisions were made, no votes taken, and no dais or rolling cameras impeded the flow of ideas. Instead, councilors shared their thoughts in an informal setting and identified a wide range of issues deserving of further data, analysis, and public discussion.

- **Growth in the Denver Metropolitan Area.** This item prompted a discussion about maintaining Golden’s small-town character and identity in the midst of explosive regional expansion.
- **Availability of Housing.** The focus here was on the accessibility of homes for the diverse households long welcomed in the Golden community. A major emphasis was on a potential role for the city in attracting or assisting workforce housing.
- **Convenience of Transportation, Transit, and Parking.** Council’s expenditure of time on these issues will be of no surprise to residents or business owners, no matter how long or short their involvement with Golden. In a spirited debate, councilors raised topics such as the future implementation and financing of Golden Plan projects, parking opportunities in the heart of Golden, and additional transit options.
- **Relationship with the Colorado School of Mines.** The City of Golden and the School of Mines are two enduring institutions that share a goal of making our town attractive, inviting, thriving, and protective of both the resident and student population. City Council is invested in reaching a negotiated solution for instances in which the entities’ positions diverge.
- **City Budget.** Although there is no concern about the stability of Golden’s financial position, there were expressions of interest in encouraging a more robust community discussion of the municipal budget. Budgeting decisions can be clearer and more transparent, perhaps by making budget documents themselves more understandable.
- **Community Communication and Engagement.** Council has an ongoing commitment to engage residents on important issues in a timely manner. In the upcoming year, council will investigate what present communication methods are working and what additional practices would better reach the community as a whole.

This is how the many lessons of spring gardening are applicable to council’s efforts and discussions. The outcome of the retreat demonstrates councilors’ awareness that cooperation and perseverance pay off in the long term, that hard work does not result in immediate blossoms or fruit, that varying opinions lead to better outcomes, and that outside circumstances can require modification of even the most thoughtful plans.

Enjoy Golden’s beautiful spring gardens—and please keep in touch with Golden’s elected officials and professional staff.
On April 12, I had the opportunity to speak to over 100 enthusiastic residents and business leaders at the Golden Hotel regarding the State of our City. Many thanks to the Chamber of Commerce for putting together this annual event.

The State of the City gives me an opportunity to report on successes from the past year as well as talk about the agenda for the upcoming year. Indeed, we’ve had some significant accomplishments in the past year. We kicked off the most significant construction project in recent memory—the interchange construction project at US 6 and 19th Street, also known as “Linking Lookout.” We completed improvements on Heritage Road. We started a Police Citizen’s Safety Academy, developed and implemented a new special events policy, and have engaged the community in neighborhood planning efforts.

But, I’m most excited about what lies ahead for the City. For certain, there will be much discussion around how to best provide for parking management in and around downtown. Future plans include infrastructure work on Washington Avenue north of Hwy 58, with planning to occur in 2016 and work anticipated in 2017. We want to tackle affordable housing in our city, ensuring viable housing options for new generations of Goldenites. Most important of all, we want to work on these priorities with meaningful input from the public, so that the residents of our community can help shape the future of it. What a great time to be in Golden!

A DIGITAL MAP TO NAVIGATING HISTORY

Thanks to the internet, the history of our world is at our fingertips. Now, so are the burial records at the Golden Cemetery. The City’s GIS (geographic information system) Department worked with the City Clerk’s Office and Cemetery staff, to take information from hand-written records kept by the City Clerk’s Office, the Cemetery’s database and a wall map, and put it into a digital format online. It can be found at www.cityofgolden.net/CemeteryMap.

It has taken a year of hard work to get to this point. This was no small job, because the Golden Cemetery has quite a history. On May 23, 1873 the Town Trustees voted to spend $425 to purchase the land for the Golden Cemetery. The Cemetery has been owned and operated by the City since that time and so have the records. There are 12,000 plus burials in the seven different sections of the cemetery. In the first phase of this project, the application was built and the largest section, called the City Section, was digitally plotted. Now staff is working on the next phase which will soon give users access to the rest of the sections: I.O.O.F., Masonic, Baby, Veteran, County and Cremation Garden.

Another goal is to eventually add photos of headstones to individual records and other enhancements to the app. It is a work in progress, and you can check out the map at www.cityofgolden.net/CemeteryMap. If you need information on using the map, contact the City Clerk’s Office at 303-384-8015 or 303-384-8014.

This project would not have been possible without the handwritten book of Cemetery records that has been meticulously kept by the City Clerk’s Office since the 1800’s.
One of the best ways to get around Golden is on a bike. With 24 miles of interconnected trails and bike lanes throughout town, getting from point A to point B can be a breeze on two wheels. And starting June 22, it will be even easier with the launch of the new Golden Bike Library. Now instead of jumping in your car for a quick trip in Golden, you have the option of using a bike. You’ll save on gas, help our air and experience Golden in a whole new way!

What is a bike library, you ask? It’s a bike share program, where visitors, residents, local employees and students can “check-out” a bike for a limited time period for local use in Golden. What makes a bike library different than a traditional bike share program like “B-cycle” in Denver, is that the “library” has a variety of bikes available for different ages and abilities including road bikes, mountain bikes, children’s bikes and light-weight geared bikes to address Golden’s hills. Users will be able to check-out bikes for local trips, employment meetings, and recreation or to link to local public transportation.

The Golden Bike Library will be centrally located at the Golden Visitors Center at 1010 Washington Avenue, and bikes must be returned to that location. The Golden Bike Library will be open Thursday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A key-drop box at the Visitors Center will allow users to return bikes after hours. Riders will be required to sign a waiver and those under 18 must have a parent signature. A valid ID and credit card will also be required for rentals. Rides under two hours will be free, while daily rentals will be a nominal fee. Check the website www.goldenbikelibrary.com for up-to-date pricing.

Each bike will come equipped with a lock and helmet. Riders will also receive a Golden Ticket with each bike rental, to get discounts in participating stores around town. Passes for the Golden Circulator Bus will also be available if riders plan to access public transportation and need a ride back to the Visitors Center.

Reservations will not be required, but please note there will be a limited number of bikes in any preferred style and size. The library will have a total of 40 bikes. Golden information, maps and self-guided tours will also be available if needed.

The program will expand in 2017 to offer two additional “branch” locations, additional bikes (up to 60) and be open seven days a week. For more information about the Golden Bike Library visit www.goldenbikelibrary.com or for general Golden biking information go online to VisitGolden.com.
Weekend Closure of US 6 Planned This Month

This month there will be a weekend closure of US 6, scheduled to start the night of Friday, May 20 and then open back up on the morning of Monday, May 23. The detour will be SH 58 and I-70 for through traffic. This is the only full closure expected for the remainder of the Linking Lookout project. Please keep in mind, however, that weather and other factors can cause delays. At the bottom of this article, you will find all of the ways to stay up to date on what’s happening at the US 6 and 19th Street interchange.

The reason for the full weekend closure is so that crews can install the main stormwater line across the highway. The water that will fall on the highway ramps and the US 6 roadway is collected and carried by that pipe to a water quality pond.

Runoff from roadways has dirt, oils, rubber and other pollutants that we don’t want getting into our creek.

You may also notice work far to the northeast of the project in the field where the hang gliders land, and where the Chimney Gulch Trail crosses. This is where the water quality pond is being constructed and where that runoff will go. The pond captures, controls and then filters the stormwater.

Linking Lookout has been underway for nearly three months and is expected to take a total of 18 months. The soil nail retaining walls that we talked about in last month’s Informer are near completion in all four quadrants of the project. You can find a video about how the soil nail walls were built on our website, www.LinkingLookout.com.

You will begin to see ramps in all quadrants as we get late into May and early June. The ramps will then become the temporary roadway as the bridge in the middle is constructed. Safety remains the most important goal of the project. Please drive carefully in the area. Also, a reminder that US 6 is closed to bicycles. Cyclists must use the trail detours.

To stay up to date on all of the latest information regarding this project, go to www.LinkingLookout.com, follow us on Twitter @LinkingLookout and look for the giant messaging boards along the road which will alert you of upcoming detours and closures. If you have any questions, call our Hotline at 303-277-8777 and leave us a message. We will respond to each call within 24 business hours.
If you are a resident of the City of Golden, you have at some point in time found yourself trying to maneuver around South Golden Road or Washington Avenue on a Saturday afternoon during the Super Cruise. You may have had feelings of frustration, or if you are a car fan, found great joy in the event.

The Super Cruise has been a Golden staple for over 10 years and brings in car admirers from far and wide. The event occurs on the first Saturday of the month beginning formally in May and ending in October. However, small gatherings of car enthusiasts can be found in the area in April and November if the weather is good.

In the fall of 2015, the Golden Police Department began a comprehensive evaluation of the impacts of the Super Cruise upon the community. This included a survey which was sent out to residents and businesses in the area surrounding these two main roadways. The returns were excellent and the information has been used to formulate and implement some positive adjustments to the event. A group of residents, business owners, Super Cruise leadership, Golden Police and City Council created a partnership to focus on improvements in noise, pollution, traffic congestion, accessibility and the event hours.

Let’s talk traffic. If you live in the area to the north and east of South Golden Road, take Rimrock Drive to Utah Street and back to West 16th Avenue to avoid the Johnson Road roundabout. If you live in that area, you can take West 16th Avenue to Golden Hills Road. Turn west onto Quaker Street and it will take you right back to South Golden Road.

Another route is Johnson Road which will take you to West 10th Avenue. Take West 10th Avenue to Ulysses Street, turn east and back to South Golden Road (across the street from King Soopers).

The key to success… avoid left hand turns onto South Golden Road. They are what create back-up and increase frustration as you watch the long line of cars go by without many opportunities to turn left.

Super Cruise leadership will encourage cruisers to travel north in the left lane on Ford Street when they leave South Golden Road. The route will turn west down 19th Street to Washington Avenue, north to 10th Street, east to Ford Street and then south back to South Golden Road. This will improve viewing for the car enthusiasts who will have a front row seat to see the cars as they pass on 19th Street, Washington Avenue or even heading south on Ford/Jackson Street. Cruisers will also be encouraged to limit their driving activities to two circuits through the area.

Additional changes include no more live music and DJ, stricter enforcement of traffic violations including revving of engines, squealing of tires and other equipment violations such as illegal pipes which cause undue noise. Cruising cars which are not “street legal” will be prohibited from driving on the roadway.

Super Cruise hours will be published as 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. That’s a half hour earlier than in the past. You will also see an increased police presence until 10 p.m. to discourage poor behavior as people are leaving the city.

All of these modifications are designed to help enhance the quality of life for the community while maintaining the Cruise experience for participants. Please remember the “Golden Rule” and be patient as it will take some time for these modifications to become the new standard of operation. The strategic partnership coalition plans to meet again in July and October to evaluate its progress.
When the weather outside is warm, the inside of a car acts like an oven. On a 68-degree day, the temperature inside your vehicle can reach 115-degrees in just 60 minutes. This is extremely dangerous for dogs because they do not sweat like humans, they can only pant. When a dog overheats, they can suffer irreparable damage or die very quickly.

Since March 2012, City of Golden Animal Management has responded to almost 350 complaints of animals being left in hot vehicles. In some instances, dogs had to be removed from vehicles due to the extreme heat and the owners were cited for animal cruelty. Our goal is to avoid citing owners but more importantly, we want to prevent the needless injury or death of any dog.

High risk factors for dogs are age (very young or very old), obesity or pre-existing conditions. Dogs with flat faces or shorter snouts and ones with thicker coats are also more susceptible.

Symptoms of heat stroke in dogs include excessive panting, lethargy, weakness, increased salivation, dark red gums, warm skin and vomiting. If an animal goes into seizure, collapses, or becomes unresponsive, it may be too late to save them.

Ideally, leave your pet at home. If you can’t do that, have a family member or friend stay with the animal in your vehicle with the air conditioning running or have them take your dog for a walk. If this is not feasible, only run pet-friendly errands when your dog is with you (to places where dogs are allowed).

If you have questions or see an animal in distress, call Golden Police Dispatch at 303-384-8045. In the event of an emergency, call 911. And be sure to have the license plate on the vehicle ready for the dispatcher.

DON’T BE A POOP HEAD

It is estimated that 40 percent of dog owners do not pick up after their pets when in our City Parks and on our beautiful trails. Some pet owners believe dog waste will break down like wild animal waste. This is not true, mainly because there are many more domesticated animals, and piles of poop, in urban settings than there are wild animals in wilderness areas. Our natural ecosystem can handle just two dogs per square mile. In urban areas, there could be as many as 125 dogs per square mile.

And all feces are not created equal. Dog waste carries many more dangerous pathogens and harmful organisms than wild animal poop: E. coli (23 million E. coli bacteria per gram!), giardia and salmonella to name a few which leach into the soil and eventually into groundwater and our waterways. Ever hear of waterways and beaches having to close due to E. coli? This is one way it happens. Clear Creek Trail runs right next to Clear Creek. People swim, kayak, tube and wade in the creek. And, dog owners leave piles of poop on the ground to seep into the water. Yuck! Who wants to swim in that?

This year, City employees from many different departments are working together to help educate citizens about the public health and environmental risks caused by dog owners not picking up after their pets.

It is a stinky job, but dog owners, YOU must do it. No excuses. There are plenty of bag dispensers and trash cans along the trails and in the parks. More than just being the responsible thing to do, it’s also the law. A first time offense is $50 and that increases with subsequent violations.

Don’t be a poop head. Pick up after your dog! Do it for clean water. Do it for the beauty and enjoyment of our beautiful outdoor areas. Do it for everyone’s health and the health of your pet.
April 30 & May 1  
**Community Pride Days**  
Clear out your garages, basements and yards and bring your junk to the Golden City Shops at 1300 Catamount Drive for free disposal. 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. both days. This is open only to residents living within City limits. Details on the event, including what you can bring, is on the City website, [www.cityofgolden.net](http://www.cityofgolden.net). For questions call Paul Burkholder at 303-384-8142 or pburkholder@cityofgolden.net.

May 4  
**Free Legal Advice**  
Meet with an attorney about your legal issue for a free 15-minute consultation, courtesy of the First Judicial District. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jefferson County Courthouse, 100 Jefferson County Pkwy. For more information call 720-772-2501 or email 01selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us.

May 5  
**Cinco de Mayo**

May 7  
**Coffee with a Councilor – South Neighborhoods**  
Chat with your District One City Councilor at 10 a.m. at Bean Fosters, 720 Golden Ridge Rd. For details call Councilor Saoirse Charis-Graves at 303-279-7529 or scharisgraves@cityofgolden.net.

May 8  
**Mother’s Day**

May 14  
**Postal Food Drive**  
Put non-perishable food in a sack next to your mailbox to help fellow Golden residents in need. See p. 19 for details.

May 16  
**Greener Golden Event**  
Join the City of Golden to kick off the growing season. Get tips from master gardeners, pick up free compost, learn about programs and pick up your Garden In A Box kits. (Details on p.12.) 9 a.m. to noon at the Public Works building and Golden Community Garden. Parking available at 1445 10th St. For more info contact Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or tworsham@cityofgolden.net.

May 20 to June 26  
**Biloxi Blues**  
The comedic story of a young army recruit during WWII, going through basic training and learning about love and life while stationed at boot camp in Biloxi, Mississippi in 1943. Miners Alley Playhouse, 1224 Washington Ave. For details and tickets call 303-935-3044 or visit [www.minersalley.com](http://www.minersalley.com).

May 22  
**Coffee with a Councilor – North Neighborhoods**  
Chat with your District Two City Councilor at 10 a.m. at Natural Grocers, 2401 Ford St. For details call Councilor Casey Brown at 303-900-2003 or email cbrown@cityofgolden.net.

May 30  
**Memorial Day**

May 31  
**Golden Bicycle Cruise**  
Last Tuesday of every month from May thru October. Gather at 5:30 p.m. in the parking lot adjacent to the Golden Library. Ride begins at 7 p.m. Sponsored by Golden Civic Foundation and St. Anthony’s. For more information visit [www.GoldenCivicFoundation.org](http://www.GoldenCivicFoundation.org).

Through June 12  
**Mountain Standard Clay**  
Check out 39 works of clay art by 23 different artists who all live in the Mountain Standard time zone. Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St. For details and tickets call 303-279-3922 or visit [www.foothillsartcenter.org](http://www.foothillsartcenter.org).

Through July 26  
**Australia Uncovered**  
Information is subject to change. Please use contact information to confirm the details of an event. To list a community event happening in Golden here, please send your listing to:

Golden City Hall, Communications Dept., 911 10th St., Golden, CO 80401, or by e-mail to ktilley@cityofgolden.net. Listings should include the date(s), the event name and a brief description of the event, which may include cost, location and contact information. Submissions must be received by the first of the month prior to the issue you would like them printed in (i.e., Jan. 1 for the February issue). Call 303-384-8132 with questions or for more information.
The City of Golden has joined Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4C), a local government coalition advocating for effective climate action policies. “By joining CC4C we can more effectively advocate for local interests between the City and its utility providers, including negotiation of energy efficient street lighting, incentivizing demand-side management and increasing investment in local solar development,” said Theresa Worsham, Sustainability Manager for the City of Golden. “We also believe that participation in the early development of statewide and utility energy policies is critical to meeting our sustainability goals.”

At a recent City Council meeting, Council members approved the request to join CC4C at a base membership level of $5,000 for three years. Membership funds will be allocated from Golden City Council’s discretionary general fund.

CC4C offers an opportunity for local governments to join forces on climate policy and work for state and federal actions supporting and complementing local climate-protection actions. CC4C is Colorado’s first consortium to represent local governments and provide the tools, funding, flexibility and authority necessary to adopt effective climate protection strategies. Other members include Eagle County, City of Boulder, Boulder County, City of Fort Collins and San Miguel County.

Please join the City of Golden for our 7th Annual Greener Golden celebration to kick-off the growing season!

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. to noon

**WHERE:** The City of Golden Public Works Administrative building and the Golden Community Garden. Parking is available at 1445 10th St.

**WHAT:**
- Pick up your pre-ordered Garden In A Box. Water-wise products will also be available for sale.
- Tour the Golden Community Garden and learn about opportunities to participate.
- Have your questions answered by CSU Extension Master Gardeners and Master Composter experts.
- Learn about the City’s Environmental Services programs, including water conservation and free sprinkler inspections.
- Find out how to deal with your green waste and how best to divert these materials from the landfill.
- Pick up free compost to amend your garden soil. Bring your own container to fill – buckets, trash cans, old potting mix bags, etc.

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Please join the City of Golden for our 7th Annual Greener Golden celebration to kick-off the growing season!

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. to noon

**WHERE:** The City of Golden Public Works Administrative building and the Golden Community Garden. Parking is available at 1445 10th St.

**WHAT:**
- Pick up your pre-ordered Garden In A Box. Water-wise products will also be available for sale.
- Tour the Golden Community Garden and learn about opportunities to participate.
- Have your questions answered by CSU Extension Master Gardeners and Master Composter experts.
- Learn about the City’s Environmental Services programs, including water conservation and free sprinkler inspections.
- Find out how to deal with your green waste and how best to divert these materials from the landfill.
- Pick up free compost to amend your garden soil. Bring your own container to fill – buckets, trash cans, old potting mix bags, etc.

**Golden Joins Colorado Communities for Climate Action**

The City of Golden has joined Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4C), a local government coalition advocating for effective climate action policies. “By joining CC4C we can more effectively advocate for local interests between the City and its utility providers, including negotiation of energy efficient street lighting, incentivizing demand-side management and increasing investment in local solar development,” said Theresa Worsham, Sustainability Manager for the City of Golden. “We also believe that participation in the early development of statewide and utility energy policies is critical to meeting our sustainability goals.”

At a recent City Council meeting, Council members approved the request to join CC4C at a base membership level of $5,000 for three years. Membership funds will be allocated from Golden City Council’s discretionary general fund.

CC4C offers an opportunity for local governments to join forces on climate policy and work for state and federal actions supporting and complementing local climate-protection actions. CC4C is Colorado’s first consortium to represent local governments and provide the tools, funding, flexibility and authority necessary to adopt effective climate protection strategies. Other members include Eagle County, City of Boulder, Boulder County, City of Fort Collins and San Miguel County.
What were you doing when you were 11? For most of us, our world revolved around friends, school and sleepovers. But not for RJ Duarte. At the age of 11 he started his own one-man landscaping business. And now, at the ripe old age of 15, his business is not only thriving… it’s helping to employ several other young men who are working hard at achieving a bright future.

RJ comes from a family of master carpenters, including his dad, who has taught him his entire life about using tools, strong work ethic and dedication. His older brother is who first introduced him to landscaping. When his brother got a “payroll job” as RJ puts it, he gave RJ all of his equipment to get him started. “I’ll be honest,” said RJ, “I originally started the business because I wanted money for candy.” But now, this Golden High School sophomore has purchased his own phone, TV and mountain bike, which he races on the school team. “I’m really proud of him,” said RJ’s dad, Robert Duarte. “I might have to get rid of my business and go work for him! I believe that is how successful he will be.”

RJ has two employees, longtime childhood friend Owen Johnson, 16, and the newest member of the team, 15 year-old Mats Moreau. “My mom and dad really like that I am involved with this company,” said Owen, “because it’s very professional and gives me a strong work ethic. Plus, we have a lot of fun working together.” All three have a similar short term goal… to get enough money to buy their own trucks. And there’s no doubt they will.

The company, Green Worx Landscaping, has over 60 clients, both commercial and residential, and mostly in north Golden. But now that they are all getting to the age they can drive, they hope to expand and cover all of Golden. In addition to his family, RJ has a powerful mentor on his side. When RJ won the grand prize in a contest called the Celebration for Young Entrepreneurs, he won a year-long mentorship with Jeremy Ostermiller, owner of Altitude Digital, who is helping to teach him the best ways to grow a business.

So what will happen to Green Worx when these three graduate from high school? RJ says he will continue to hire high school students and keep the company youth-based. “Hiring adults is too expensive,” he jokes. He also plans to go to college and get a civil engineering degree. Mats hopes to study engineering at CU Boulder and possibly expand Green Worx up there. As for Owen, he was accepted into the Denver School of the Arts and is attending high school there. He ultimately wants to be a filmmaker. For now, he’s making videos to help promote their landscaping business and maintaining their website, www.greenworxlandscaping.com.

These teens are driven, committed, enthusiastic, well-spoken and mindful. They are what will make this world a better place. Until then, they are focused on making Golden a more beautiful place, one blade of grass at a time.
Space Mission Mars Workshop - #24235
With SpaceTime’s Space Mission Mars Workshop kids get to go on a virtual space mission to Earth’s next door neighbor exploring the challenges of a 6-month rocket ride through space. Once they get to Mars they will get to test out their piloting skills and they will also be challenged to figure out how to eat, drink, breathe and survive on the red planet for a full year.
Age: 5 - 12 years, Min/Max: 6/16 Friday, May 6
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Children will need to bring a sack lunch to the 8-hour workshop.
$92 Resident, $97 Non-resident

Gravity Blast Workshop - #14215
SpaceTime’s Gravity Blast Workshop takes kids on a hands-on, minds-on ride through the science of getting rockets and astronauts into space and beyond. Kids will design their own rocket missions, try out their planet walking skills in our Micro Gravity Boots, experience a simulated gravity slingshot, launch spacecraft on interstellar missions and much more.
Age: 5 - 12 years, Min/Max: 6/16 Saturday, May 14, 9 - 11 a.m.
$24 Resident, $29 Non-resident

Alice 3.1 - #13056
Using Alice, an innovative 3D programming software, you’ll design animation for an interactive game, movie or story. This object-oriented program is fun and challenging, as you discover the worlds of computer science and programming using 3D graphics in a virtual world. Let your imagination soar...if you can dream-up a concept, you can design it!
Age: 9 - 12 years, Min/Max: 8/14 Saturday, May 14
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
$120 Resident, $125 Non-resident

Kid Pix 3D - #13051
Create a 3D animated adventure and turn it into a movie to share! Using cool characters like clown fish, mermaids and pirates at sea or elephants and giraffes in the jungle, your 3D adventure begins with this super fun class! You bring your imagination and we’ll provide the 3D glasses for an eye-popping time!
Age: 4 - 6 years, Min/Max: 6/10 Tuesdays, May 3 - 24
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
$65 Resident, $70 Non-resident

Clay Creations - #28025
This class will give the younger generation an opportunity to experience the tactile qualities of clay. Students will learn how to hand build with clay through pinch, coil and slab construction. The finished products will be fired in an electric kiln and then the students will decorate them with glaze which is non-toxic and food safe. All materials will be provided. A parent may need to help the child depending on the child’s ability. This is a 4-week class.
Age: 6 - 12 years, Min/Max: 5/8 Tuesdays, May 31 - June 21
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
$50 Resident, $55 Non-resident

Home Alone with First Aid - #24226
Students learn how to stay safe through interactive lessons, role play and hands-on training. They will learn about their responsibilities when they are home alone. For example, how to respond safely to phone calls, unexpected visitors, how to keep constructively occupied and how to respond to an emergency.
No refunds for no shows.
Age: 10 - 13 years
Min/Max: 6/25 Saturday, May 28
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
$40 Resident, $45 Non-resident

Small Group TRX - #42005
Revolutionary suspension training that uses your body weight for resistance to add more toning, upper body, and core strength in a timed interval format. TRX is low impact with a high intensity approach to fitness training as a healthy way to work your body rather than traditional weight lifting. Great for all fitness levels, especially rock climbers. Meets in the East Gym.
Age: 12 years and older
Min/Max: 2/4 Wednesdays, May 4 - 25
6:45 - 7:30 p.m.
$48 Resident, $53 Non-resident
Instructor: Whitney Vestal
- No drop-ins.

Volunteer Opportunity!
Do you have a teen ages 13-15 years who is interested in working with youth? If you do, we have a Volunteer Jr. Day Camp Aide position open online at www.cityofgolden.net. Volunteer hours are flexible and will be offered between May 3 through Aug. 19. Have your teen apply online today!
APRIL TRIPS & EVENTS

The Denver Zoo
#352200-1
Tuesday, May 10
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$25 (Transportation included. Bring money for lunch and souvenirs.)
Exertion Level 3

Home to more than 4,200 animals and host to over two million visitors each year, Denver Zoo is teeming with life. Thanks to community giving, it has become one of the nation’s most popular zoos.

Denver Botanical Gardens - Chatfield Farms
#352300-1
Tuesday, May 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
$10 (Transportation and admission included. Bring money for lunch.)
Exertion Level 3

Facilities include the Earl J. Sinnamon Visitor Center, the historical Hildebrand Ranch, a restored 1918 dairy barn and silo, the 1874 Deer Creek Schoolhouse, 2.5 miles of nature trails, the Deer Creek Discovery children’s play area and numerous wildflower gardens. Bring your binoculars and wander the many trails. The area is known for exceptional bird watching. (Formerly known as Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield.)

Celebrate Health!
Friday, May 6, 10:30 a.m.
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 healthy refreshments and presentations on a variety of wellness topics. For more information or to make an appointment for one of our services, please call 303-384-8130.

Chair Massages.............$13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology Sessions-------$13 for 15 minutes

Golden Book Club
This group meets in the Front Porch the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The book list that has been announced is as follows:
May - The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
If you are interested in joining, please email Jan Bradbury at bobjanbradbury@comcast.net.

AARP Driver’s Safety Program #15118-1
Sign up at the front desk. Payment is due to the instructor the day of the class.
May 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Min/Max 10/25
Class is $15 for AARP members and $20 for non-AARP members.
Several severe floods have been recorded in Golden since 1864, the most recent of which occurred on June 27, 2004. The most serious flooding around here resulted from cloudbursts occurring from May through September.

Floods are 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. For reference, the 100-year flood on Clear Creek at Ford Street could flow as fast as 11 feet per second.

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.

Before you begin any construction (new development, additions, remodels, filling, grading, etc.) on your property, contact the City of Golden’s Engineering Division at 303-384-8115 for specific floodplain requirements.

Flood maps and flood protection references are available at the Golden Public Library. You can also visit the Engineering or Building Divisions at 1445 10th St. 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.

Flood protection information is posted on the Engineering page of the City’s website, www.cityofgolden.net, and is also available at www.floodsmart.gov or www.fema.gov.

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**BEFORE A FLOOD**

- Know the sources of potential flooding at your home.
- Inventory and photograph the contents of your home.
- Put important documents and insurance policies in a safe place.
- Ensure all members of the household understand what to do in the event of a flood, especially children.
- Minimize the impact of localized flooding by ensuring that the ground is sloped away from your home and down spouts are directed away from your home.
- Preserve the natural function of streams and floodplains. Do not dump debris into the storm inlets or natural drainage ways.
- Call the City at 303-384-8115 to request removal of large debris.

**DURING A FLOOD**

- Do not walk through flowing water
- Do not drive through a flooded area. TURN AROUND – DON’T DROWN!
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.
- Report downed power lines to Xcel Energy or City of Golden Police Department at 303-384-8045.
- Have your electricity turned off.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes.
- Look before you step.
- Stay clear of unstable stream banks.
- Be alert for gas leaks.

**AFTER A FLOOD**

- Listen for news reports to learn whether the community’s water supply is safe to drink.
- Avoid floodwaters
- Avoid moving water
- Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded. Roads may have weakened and could collapse under the weight of a car.
- Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe.
- Stay out of any building if it is surrounded by floodwaters.
- Avoid damaged sewage systems, they are serious health hazards.
The hours of operation at the Golden Library have expanded! In fact, all ten of the Jefferson County Public Libraries (JCPL) are now open longer to serve patrons. The larger libraries which include Golden, Arvada, Belmar, Columbine, Evergreen, Lakewood and Standley Lake are open 65 hours a week. That’s 14 more hours than they’ve been open in the past.

The smaller libraries, Conifer, Edgewater and Wheat Ridge, are now open 48 hours per week. That’s about 8 hours more than before.

“Restoring hours is just the first of many enhancements Jeffco residents will see,” said JCPL Executive Director Pam Nissler. “Thanks to a successful mill levy initiative in 2015, we can now begin to restore library services, better meet the needs of our residents and put JCPL back on a path to excellence.”

Library patrons can also expect to see more books and materials, more story times, more bilingual staff and updated technology. There are also free meeting rooms that can be reserved by residents of the county. In a day and age when many libraries are cutting back on services, Nissler says the JCPL is excited to give residents of Golden and Jefferson County even more than ever before.

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<th>GOLDEN LIBRARY NEW HOURS</th>
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<td>Sunday: 12 noon - 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Monday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Tuesday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.</td>
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Youth Citizens’ Academy – Sign up before May 16

Do you know a young adult who is considering a career in law enforcement, or would be interested to learn how and why police do what they do? For one week in June, young adults between the ages of 13 to 17 will have the opportunity to experience what Golden Police officers and Police employees do in an action-filled hands-on environment.

The Youth Citizens’ Academy is packed full of fun including searching a building for suspects, touring a jail, learning about SWAT operations, investigating a traffic accident and collecting evidence from a mock crime scene. This is a very entertaining way to learn about your local law enforcers and the laws that guide them.

Hurry, online applications close at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 16. To apply, you must be between the ages of 13 and 17 (13 year olds must have completed 7th grade). The academy is one week long; June 13 to 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You must be able to attend all five days. It is preferred applicants are enrolled in schools within the city limits of Golden. To apply, visit www.cityofgolden.net/Links/Volunteer.
An upcoming lecture at Golden History Museums will explore a dark chapter in the City’s history.

In the 1920s the Ku Klux Klan regularly held meetings on South Table Mountain, their burning crosses visible from Washington Avenue. A road leading to the top of South Table Mountain was established in 1908 and was used by the KKK for their weekly rallies near Castle Rock. Cars filled with Klan members drove from Denver up Colfax Avenue and would pass the Jewish enclave called “Little Israel” between Sheridan and Wadsworth. Since most Klansmen hated Jews, the drivers would intimidate the residents by honking their horns as they drove through this area.

During meetings, KKK guards were posted at the bottom of the road leading to the top of South Table Mountain. Their guards would check membership cards to keep “undesirables” from attending their secret meetings. Up to 10,000 KKK members attended these rallies which were usually conducted on Monday nights. Dr. Galen Locke, the Grand Dragon of Colorado and leader of the Klan in the state, was often the featured speaker. At these rallies, new members would be initiated or “naturalized” and the group would sing patriotic songs.

It has been estimated that a staggering 10 percent of Colorado’s male population were card-carrying Klan members in the 1920s. Members of the Klan believed they were joining a fraternal organization aimed at restoring Protestant Christian values. They believed these values were under attack from immigrants to the United States, particularly Catholics and Jews. They also thought of African Americans as “outsiders” who were attacking their values and stealing their jobs. This message resonated because of labor unrest and an economic downturn in Colorado, problems the Klan promised to fix.

The Klan recruited new members on college campuses, including at the Colorado School of Mines where there was an active KKK chapter. Golden resident and lawyer William Boatright was a member of the Klan and was elected Colorado attorney general with their backing. Clarence Morley, another Klan member, was elected governor on the same slate.

The Klan lost its impetus in 1926 due to corruption of KKK officials. Morley only served as governor for two years. Coloradans quickly grew tired of his ineffective government and the direction he received from Locke. Morley eventually ended up in Leavenworth Prison and Locke was convicted on charges of tax evasion and forced to resign as leader of Colorado’s Ku Klux Klan.

In 1927, a mysterious fire on Castle Rock consumed the old dance hall used for Klan gatherings. The spectacular fire destroyed the structure to the delight of many a Golden resident. The building was never rebuilt and the sinister Klan gatherings in Golden were never seen again.

Join presenter Ed Weising from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 12 at the Golden History Center, 923 10th St., to learn more about the history of the Ku Klux Klan in Golden and Colorado. For tickets visit GoldenHistory.org/events. Space is limited.
Garden In A Box, a selection of professionally designed perennial gardens that use Xeric (low water) plants, offers residents a simple approach to an eye-catching yard. These do-it-yourself garden kits come with 15 to 30 starter plants, a comprehensive Plant and Care Guide, and one to three plant-by-number maps. Regardless of expertise, you can save water and beautify your landscape with these affordable gardens. Gardens are offered by the City of Golden in partnership with the Center for ReSource Conservation in support of our community’s commitment to water conservation. Garden kits sold out in record time this year, but check out the full garden collection at ConservationCenter.org/gardens.

- CRC will have eight different gardens (six Xeric and two veggie) with options for sun, shade, and high altitudes.
- Gardens range in size from 18 to 96 sq. ft.
- Gardens range in price from $74 to $144.
- Gardens contain 14 to 30 plants (hardened off, starter plants that come in 2.5 or 4” pots).
- All Xeric gardens (except the Greatest Hits of Xeriscape) are eligible for the $25 discount.

Help Stamp Out Hunger

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) is holding its annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive on May 14. Put a sack full of non-perishable food items out by your mailbox on Saturday, May 14. The Golden Postal Carriers will take the donated food back to the post office, where members of the Golden Lions Club will collect it and take it to the Christian Action Guild (the food bank in Golden). The food will then be given 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 details, call CAG at 303-279-5674. And don’t forget to put your donated food out on May 14!
With two body tube water slides, a leisure pool complete with play structure, small water slides, spray fountains, and a 500 gallon dump-bucket, Splash is the largest water park in Jefferson County and 4th largest in Colorado! Enjoy a beach-like sand area or a gentle spray fountain play area for young children ages 1-100. Also included is a lap pool with diving board. Stay the day with our lounge chairs, picnic tables and shaded structures that surround the pool area.

Entrance Fees

- **Infants under 2 are free**
- **Tots 2-5 years:**
  - $3.50 Golden resident, $4 Jeffco resident,
  - $4.50 Non-resident
- **Youth 6-18 years:**
  - $5.50 Golden resident, $6.50 Jeffco resident,
  - $7.50 Non-resident
- **Adults 19-59 years:**
  - $7 Golden resident, $8 Jeffco resident,
  - $9 Non-resident
- **Senior 60+:**
  - $5 Golden resident, $6 Jeffco resident,
  - $7 Non-resident

*Seniors are free when accompanied by a paying guest*