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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.

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City of Golden Department Managers

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**HEADS UP: Important Upcoming Items**

**DISEASE INFECTS BLACK WALNUT TREES**

The city of Boulder has recently had to remove at least 300 black walnut trees due to the presence of a fatal disease complex known as the “thousand canker” disease. This infection has now been identified in Golden and can be expected to kill a large percentage of black walnuts in the city. The disease involves a small beetle called the walnut twig beetle in association with two fungi: geosmithia and fusarium solani. After a tree has been infected the crown of the tree will begin to thin and smaller branches will have yellow leaves. Shortly after this large portions of the canopy will wilt and die. The entire process may result in the death of the tree within three years. Currently there are no preventative treatments recommended and no effective means to stop the infection once present. If a successful treatment is discovered we will advise the community of that development immediately. For up-to-date information please contact the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension office in Golden or at www.ext.colostate.edu.

**FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET NOV. 13**

The City’s Biennial Budget document is one of City Council’s strongest policy-making tools. Golden City Council is currently in the midst of reviewing the 2009-2010 Budget and will take public comment on the proposed document. Council is scheduled to review the Budget draft at each meeting in October and would like citizen input at the Oct. 9 and Oct. 23 business meetings. Council will review the Budget draft at its Nov. 6 study session and will hold a final public hearing at its Nov. 13 regular meeting. Following public comment, Council is expected to amend and adopt the 2009 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan and set the Mill Levy for 2009. City Council meets in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St. The meetings begin at 7 p.m. and public comment is taken shortly thereafter. For more information on the Budget, contact Finance Director Jeff Hansen at 303-384-8020 or jhansen@cityofgolden.net.

**CORRECTION:**

Parade applications for the 150th Anniversary celebration are due by Nov. 15, 2008, not Sept. 15. Applicants will be notified if they were selected by January 2009. More details and an application are available online at www.150GoldenYears.com.

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 at 7 p.m. Thursdays in Council Chambers at City Hall, 911 10th St., unless otherwise noted. Council does not normally meet on the fifth Thursday in any month.

**Oct. 2**
Regular study session

**Oct. 9**
Regular business meeting

**Oct. 16**
Regular study session

**Oct. 23**
Regular business meeting

**Oct. 30**
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 welcomed and on the agenda at all regular business meetings.
Elections involve lots of hype and hoopla, and presidential election years seem to up the ante by an order of magnitude every time. By now many folks are sick of the television ads, weary of the phone calls and mailers, and tired of the attacks. It’s easy to start tuning out, but I want to put in a plug for staying engaged and thoughtfully digging through the ballot despite its length and despite all the negative campaigning of recent months.

Elections really are at the heart of the democratic process, and voting is among our most important civic responsibilities. Why bother? As a result of extraordinary and countless sacrifices over the past two centuries, voting is a right enjoyed by Americans but from which millions of people around the world are excluded. Even here in the United States, the right to vote for women, African Americans, and others was hard-fought and hard-won. While it might be easy to take this fundamental right for granted, we shouldn’t.

The presidential race obviously draws most of the attention, especially with one of the major party conventions in Denver back in August and now multiple visits to Golden by candidates on the presidential and vice-presidential tickets. But there are also plenty of other races that matter to Golden and Colorado, including an open seat in the U.S. Senate and elections for our Congressional representative, our County Commissioners, our State House representative, Colorado State Board of Education, and University of Colorado Regent.

Finally, don’t forget the long list of state ballot initiatives, ranging from questions about labor laws to the definition of personhood to state funding for schools. We’ve also got at least one local measure, a Jefferson County school funding proposal. Most of these measures will affect us in Golden, and I hope that everyone will take the time to read the ballot carefully, consider the issues, and participate in this most fundamental of democratic obligations.

Aside from voting there are plenty of other ways to make civic contributions. You can volunteer on a campaign for someone (or for ballot measures) you support, you can make campaign contributions, you can participate on a community board or task force, and you can watch City Council meetings and weigh in on issues you care about. Golden residents have always been active, but it’s been especially gratifying over the past couple of years to see so many new folks attend town hall meetings and open houses, participate on boards, volunteer with our service organizations and non-profits, and contribute to our community in so many other ways.

As President Abraham Lincoln famously said in his Gettysburg Address, our democratic government is of the people, by the people, and for the people. I am proud to be part of a community that takes these words seriously.
The Golden Cemetery celebrates its 135th Anniversary this year, as it was founded in 1873. It is one of the oldest burial sites in Colorado. A burial site for the community had previously been located on a hill, known as Cemetery Hill, between current Washington Avenue, Ford Street, 2nd Street, and 5th Street. This piece of land was purchased by William Loveland and Levi Harsh, creating a need for the cemetery to be relocated. The town board decided to take action toward a more permanent burial ground. It was agreed that the current site of the Golden Cemetery would be the best location, and it has remained there ever since. Most of the graves on the hill were relocated to the new cemetery when it opened in 1873.

Since then, the Golden Cemetery has seen many improvements, including the office, which was built out of stone from Clear Creek, the wrought iron fence which encloses the grounds, a modern maintenance facility, street signs, a tree nursery, and an automatic sprinkler system. These improvements have helped to greatly improve the appearance of the cemetery, and made a place people feel comfortable visiting rather than a forgotten graveyard.

The Golden Cemetery has also become the resting place of several well-known individuals in Colorado history. George West, the founder of Golden and of the Transcript newspaper, is one of the most notable. Other explorers who founded towns nearby and are buried in the cemetery include George Morrison and E.L. Berthoud. Also at rest there is Seth Lake, who opened the Astor House in 1867 as the first stone hotel west of the Mississippi River. Another notable is John C. Vivian, who was Governor of Colorado from 1943 to 1947. There is a professional baseball player, Roy Hartzell, who was born in Jefferson County and played for the St. Louis Browns and the New York Highlanders in the early 1900’s.

The cemetery offers some events each year including a Memorial Service held by the VFW and the American Legion in the Veteran’s section, and the Avenue of Flags which consists of over 300 American flags honoring deceased veterans on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veteran’s Day. The cemetery also gives guided historical tours upon request, and in October hosts Historic Walking Tours, during which guides dress in costumes to reflect the famous people whose graves they are showing. These walking tours are a wonderful way to celebrate the Golden Cemetery’s history. The one-hours tours will start every half hour from 1 to 5 p.m. on Oct. 18 and 19. Contact 303-278-7151 for more information.
In approximately 1880, Golden residents waited in a line that reached into the street to enter the Astor House, the lodging house located at 822 12th St., to pay twenty five cents to enjoy the first modern amenity of its kind in Golden. The modern amenity? A bathtub offering hot running water. It was said that the owner of the Astor House at the time, Ida Goetz, made more money from that bathtub than from the rest of the hotel.

In 1900, Golden residents became fed up with Astor House visitors spitting tobacco from the second story balcony to the street below because unsuspecting pedestrians were falling victim to the wayward tobacco. In response, the city legislature passed a law banning all second story balconies over public sidewalks. The Astor House removed its balcony, but left the door that led to where the balcony once stood.

Shortly thereafter, a boarder returned to the Astor House after a night of heavy drinking. Hoping to have a bit of tobacco on the balcony, he opened the second story door and tumbled in a heap onto the street. Legend says that the only thing that was hurt was his pride.

The Astor House, a lodging house continuously operated for more than 100 years, has served as a place for weary travelers during the Gold Rush, a dormitory for Colorado School of Mines students, and is rumored to have served as a brothel named “Mon Pleasure.”

In 1972, the Astor House was scheduled for demolition to make way for a parking lot that would have provided six parking spots to Golden residents. Concerned citizens rallied and helped create a movement to preserve the Astor House and the City of Golden purchased it. With help from Golden residents, the Astor House was lovingly restored, including the recent rebuilding of the second story balcony.

Today, the Astor House serves as a museum exhibiting both its own history and the history of Golden. In conjunction with the Clear Creek History Park, it provides fun history programs for all ages. For example, group visitors can reenact the Gold Rush by packing a wagon, making butter and panning for gold. Other visitors can enjoy high tea with programs such as “The Seamy Side of Early Denver” about saloon keepers, gold prospectors and other unsavory characters.

Next time you drive to downtown Golden and are looking for a parking spot, know that instead of six additional parking spots, we have a lovely piece of Golden’s history.

About the Golden Historic Preservation Board: The Golden Historic Preservation Board is an advisory board made up of community members appointed by the Mayor who provide guidance to residents on how improvements to properties affect the preservation of historic Golden.
On Sept. 11, City Council came to a decision about the future operations of the three city-owned museums, selecting the Friends of the Astor House and Clear Creek History Park to continue operating both of those facilities as well take over operations of the museum currently known as the Golden Pioneer Museum.

On Aug. 21, City Council listened to three proposals for the operations of the city-owned museums, all of which sought to unify the three facilities, although the Golden Pioneer Museum’s proposal also offered to maintain their current set up. The evening began with a fair amount of public comment on the museums, with varying support for each of the proposals.

Executive Director of the Astor House Museum and Clear Creek History Park, Shannon Voirol presented her proposal to operate all three of the city-owned facilities, with the support of her current Board President, Bill McKee. This proposal had the support of three of the technical review committee members, as well as high scores from most of the technical review committee.

Ms. Voirol was followed by the Director of the Golden Pioneer Museum, Barbara Mills, who was supported by their accountant, Suzie Benz. This proposal highlighted some of the improvements the Golden Pioneer Museum has made over the last few years, and clarified the relationship between the museum and the Mount Lookout Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Ms. Mills also pointed out that the Golden Pioneer Museum Board would keep their name even if they were not selected for operations. The proposal received high scores from one member of the review committee.

Finally, the City of Golden Director of Parks and Recreation, Rod Tarullo presented the City’s proposal. Rod highlighted his ability to oversee unique operations and previous experience in other municipalities with museums and historic preservation. Rod also pointed out that these museums really belong to the citizens of Golden, and the city staff is always accountable to Golden’s citizens. This proposal was also supported by three members of the technical review committee, but received slightly lower scores because the City did not already have proven experience with museums.

City Council spent a considerable amount of time carefully weighing each of the proposals before coming to their decision on Sept. 11. Council members discussed some of the pros and cons of each, and momentarily explored possible other options, such as forming a new non-profit organization, but felt that it might already be too late for that. Mayor Pro-Tem Karen Oxman motioned for the contract to be awarded to the Friends organization, which Council approved 6-1. Councilor Mary Weaver voted against it, and had recommended that operations remain the same, with more specified goals in the future. The new contract for all three facilities to be operated by the Friends of the Astor House and Clear Creek History Park will begin Jan. 1, 2009.
Gateway Station Earns Governor's Award for Downtown Excellence

Gateway Station, the new development on the north east corner of 13th Street and Washington Avenue, has earned the Governor’s Award for Downtown Excellence. Mark Heller, the executive director of Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA), will accept the award on behalf of GURA and the city of Golden at the Colorado Community Revitalization Association (CCRA) conference, on Thursday, Sept. 18 in Steamboat Springs. Heller will also be speaking at the conference about the community effort behind the project, as well as its financing, environmental remediation and design components.

The Gateway Station redevelopment of the former Hested’s Department Store had been a priority for decades. NexCore Group, LLC and GURA led this project to its successful completion. Thanks to the valuable design feedback from the City Council, Planning Commission, Historical Preservation Board, Golden Civic Foundation, Chamber of Commerce, and many private citizens, downtown Golden now has a new, award-winning landmark building featuring residences, shops and offices.

“Receiving recognition for this project from the Governor’s Office and from CCRA confirms that the Golden community did a great job in solving a tough issue. So many people wanted to redevelop the Hested’s site, but we had nearly as many different opinions on what should take its place and what it should look like,” said Heller. “We thank Governor Ritter, Lt. Governor O’Brien, and CCRA for honoring our work with this award.”

The Governor’s Awards for Downtown Excellence is an annual awards program that recognizes the progress being made in revitalizing Colorado’s historic downtown and neighborhood business districts and the contributions these districts are making to Colorado’s quality of life and economy.

Projects are selected according to the following criteria:

- **Impact:** Achieves maximum impact on a downtown or neighborhood commercial district revitalization effort.
- **Innovation:** Offers an innovative or unique approach to a downtown or neighborhood business district development or management challenge.
- **Complements Local Assets:** Reinforces and capitalizes on the unique assets of the local community.
- **Replication:** Projects that represent an idea, process or solution that may be replicated in other communities are especially desirable.
- **Use of Local Resources:** Demonstrates efficient use of local resources, including people power, partnerships and funding.
Down Payment Assistance for Homebuyers

The city of Golden’s Housing Affordability Task Force wrapped up their work and presented their findings and recommendations to Council on Sept. 18. Among their many recommendations to Council was more public education on current options available to homebuyers. There are currently a few programs available in Golden for down payment assistance.

One of these programs is the Metro Mayors assistance program. This program offers first-time homebuyers a 4% down payment assistance grant and a 5.95% 30-year fixed rate mortgage. This type of assistance provides first time buyers with a steady mortgage payment which protects them from rising interest rates and helps them start building equity early on.

The Colorado Housing and Finance Authority also offers a variety of options to homebuyers. The CHFA Homestretch is a 40-year fixed interest conventional loan program, which can be used for refinance or the initial purchase of a home. CHFA also offers 30-year fixed rate mortgages, optional second mortgages for down payments or closing costs, and free homebuyer education classes.

The Colorado Housing Assistance Corporation is another option which provides down payment assistance to first time homebuyers in the form of a second mortgage. CHAC also has a special program to provide assistance for people with disabilities. The program provides a $6,000 loan at a 1.5% interest rate over 30 years. In some cases an additional grant may also be available through this program. CHAC loans can be used in conjunction with CHFA loans.

For more information on any of these programs you may view the following websites: www.metromayors.org/Housing.html, www.chfainfo.com, and www.coloradohousingassistance.org.

FREE
Sales and Use Tax Workshop

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.

Oct. 14, 2008 ...............8 to 10 a.m.
Dec. 3, 2008 .................8 to 10 a.m.
Jan. 7, 2009 .................8 to 10 a.m.
March 4, 2009 .............8 to 10 a.m.
April 1, 2009 ...............8 to 10 a.m.
June 3, 2009 ...............8 to 10 a.m.
July 1, 2009 ...............8 to 10 a.m.

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

FREE
Building Use Tax Workshop

The City of Golden is hosting FREE Building Use Tax workshops taught by our professional staff of auditors. These 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.

Nov. 5, 2008 ...............8 to 10 a.m.
Feb. 4, 2009 ...............8 to 10 a.m.
May 6, 2009 ...............8 to 10 a.m.

Classes are free, but space is limited. Please call 303-384-8024 for your reservation.
GOLDEN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Through Oct. 26
“Summertree”
at Miners Alley Playhouse

“Summertree” begins with a young man dreaming in his backyard by a tree. “I have to remember!” the man exclaims, as he recalls his family and past relationships. As the play progresses, we learn that this tree is not in his backyard, but in fact a much less friendly environment. “Summertree” shows at Miner’s Alley Playhouse, upstairs in the historic Foss Building on 13th and Washington. Tickets are $20 through 303-935-3044 or www.minersalley.com.

Oct. 2, 3, 4, 5
Third Annual Colorado Environmental Film Festival

Sponsored by the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education, the Colorado Environmental Film Festival (CEFF) is an exciting, inspiring, and energizing event that includes world-class environmental films, an engaging exhibition hall with representatives from local and national organizations and companies, topical forums and discussions, and a children’s environmental film program. Event times are 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 2 and 3; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4; and 1:30 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5, at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. Tickets are $5. For more information, visit www.caee.org.

Oct. 3
“Knock Your Boots Off” Chili Cook-off

Are you looking for a kick? Come to the 1st Annual “Knock Your Boots Off” Chili Cook-off right here in Historic Downtown Golden. Chili lovers are invited to taste a variety of chilis from professional and homemade cooks as they compete for prizes and the People’s Choice Award. Tickets are available in advance at the Golden Chamber of Commerce for $8 or available for $10 the day of the cook-off.

Chili cooks will be starting their work at 11 a.m., with tasting beginning at 5 p.m. in the Foss Building Parking lot between 12th and 13th Streets.

This event is in conjunction with Golden’s First Fridays, a monthly celebration on the first Friday where the stores stay open late and entertainment, horse-drawn carriage rides, and many more activities are available free of charge. Proceeds from the event will go to support Olde Golden Christmas activities. Visit www.goldencochamber.org/chili.htm or call 303-279-3113 for more information.

Let’s Talk Trash

The effort to conserve natural resources and reduce our impact on the environment is an important element of the City’s sustainability goals. The current system of how trash is collected and how the City’s recycling site is maintained are key parts of those goals, as well. The City is interested in ways we can improve the current system of trash and recycling and thinks that there may be better methods of collection out there to consider. We invite you to “talk trash” with us at an open house from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3 and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4 at City Hall, 911 10th St. Come walk through a tour of what happens now and look at ideas of how the current trash system could be better. Most of all, we want to hear your ideas of how we all can reduce waste, recycle more, and perhaps even pay less. For questions about the open house, contact Sustainability Coordinator Theresa Worsham at 303-384-8117 or Environmental coordinator Chris Naber at 303-384-8183.

Oct. 4
Golden Farmers Market

Don’t miss the last day of the Golden Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Located in the parking lot just west of the Golden Public Library at 1019 10th St., the market features live music, free horse-drawn carriage rides, an antique John Deere tractor, garden décor, specialty treats, flowers and plants, and other hard-to-find items. Enjoy and purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, frozen fish and meats, fresh breads, canned condiments and sweets, locally-made wines, plus wonderful pasta and unique cooking ingredients.

Golden Super Cruise

The Golden Super Cruise brings several hundred car enthusiasts with cars of all types to South Golden Road for one final Saturday evening this year. Cruisers meet at 6 p.m., park, eat, socialize and listen to tunes by DJ Van Jeffries before cruising as a group at 7:30 p.m. down Washington Avenue in historic downtown Golden. Spectators are encouraged. Visit www.goldensupercruise.com.
Oct. 12
"All That’s Golden" at the Jefferson Symphony Orchestra
The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra will open its 2008-2009 classical concert season, “All That’s Golden,” celebrating Golden’s 150th anniversary, with A Symphonic Celebration of Scotland at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Green Center, located at 16th and Cheyenne streets on the Colorado School of Mines campus. The season continues through May 2009. Call 303-278-4237 or visit www.jeffersonsymphonyorchestra.org for ticket prices and more information.

Oct. 18
SCFD Free Day
Come and enjoy free admission all day at the Golden Pioneer Museum.

Oct. 18
The Seamy Side of Early Denver
Jack Stone presents a portrait of early Denver from a gambler’s point of view. Hear about the lives of saloon keepers, gold prospectors, and other unsavory characters. Learn the surprising real history of the Denver we know today. Enjoy a dramatic performance and luncheon meal of scones, finger sandwiches, salads and desserts at 11:30 a.m. for $25. The 3 p.m. performance with tea, scones and desserts from Just Desserts is $15. Tea served at the Astor House Museum, 822 12th St. Members receive a discount. Paid reservations required. Call 303-278-3557 for more information.

Oct. 18 & 19
Golden Cemetery Tour
Tour the Golden Cemetery where a guide will introduce you to some “ghosts” from Golden’s past. Refreshments are included. The tour is not recommended for young children. Tours start every half-hour and last for one hour. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. each day. Golden Cemetery is located at Hwy 6 and Ulysses Street. The cost is $15 per person or $12 for Golden Pioneer Museum members. Paid reservations preferred due to limited space per tour. Contact 303-278-7151 for more information.

Oct. 18
4th annual Mountain Fest
The Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) will host a day of activities for all mountain enthusiasts, with something for everyone, from beginners to experts. The Mountain Fest runs from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and includes clinics, art exhibit, food, displays, indoor rock climbing, a silent auction, and a dinner presentation with keynote speaker Erik Weihenmayer. The cost for all activities is $65 CMC members, $70 non-members; dinner and presentation only, $50 CMC members, $60 non-members; clinics and exhibits from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. only, $3 members, 10 non-members; Erik Weihenmayer presentation only, $20 per person which includes an autographed copy of his book Touch the Top of the World. All proceeds from Mountain Fest help disadvantaged youth experience and learn about the mountains through CMC’s Youth Education Program. Visit www.cmc.org/mtfest or call 303-279-3080 ext. 2 for more information.

Oct. 26
U.S. Marine Corp Memorial 5K Run/Walk
The Women Marines Association’s Colorado Columbine - WM History Chapter will host the 3rd annual United States Marine Corps Memorial 5K Run/Walk October 26 at 9 a.m. The event will begin at the Jefferson County Courthouse, at 100 Jefferson County Parkway, and follow the bike path. There will also be a children’s 1K fun run immediately preceding the 5K.

Tell them you read about them in the Golden Informer!
Agressive driving continues to be a leading cause of accidents in the Golden area. To combat the problem, the Golden Police Department now has a new vehicle in its Traffic Unit that uses the latest technology to stop aggressive drivers before they hurt someone else.

The vehicle, a 2008 Chevrolet Impala, is completely unmarked, but with strategically placed emergency lighting and equipment which enables the vehicle to both mix with traffic and effectively make traffic stops. The car is also equipped with the latest radar unit, which has the ability to determine the speed on cars in all directions.

According to Officer J.D. Kreutzer, the primary officer assigned to the vehicle, drivers become more aware of their surroundings and are more attentive to the driving task when marked police cars are present. The new vehicle will allow officers to observe aggressive driving-related violations and take immediate law enforcement action to crack down on improper driving and reduce accidents.

“I have seen unsafe lane changes made in front of me to a point of almost colliding with the car, as well as speeding past me and then cutting in and out of traffic,” said Ofc. Kreutzer. “While on the highway, I have also witnessed cars passing on the shoulders as well as tailgating me while driving the unmarked car.”

Another important function of this car will be to address additional traffic violations including school related offenses such as speeding in school zones and passing school buses with red lights flashing for crossing children.

The car will compliment the department’s two motorcycle units currently assigned to the Traffic Unit. The car will also aid in the achievement of the Traffic Unit’s goal which is to lower traffic collisions and provide a safe and secure driving environment within the city of Golden.

The Golden Police Department reminds you to think twice before deciding to drive aggressively.

To report an aggressive driver in the city of Golden, call 303-384-8045 or 911 if it is an emergency.
Halloween can be an exciting time for children. Following some simple safety tips can ensure that it is both a fun and safe holiday for them. Consider alternative to trick-or-treating at night, such as Halloween Crazy Days in downtown Golden. Merchants give out candy to children from 3 to 6 p.m. (or until they run out of candy!).

From the Police Department

**Children should:**
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street
- Look both ways before crossing the street and always cross only at intersections – NEVER cross between parked cars
- Follow a route set by parents
- Accept treats only at the door – NEVER go inside a stranger’s home
- Not eat candy before it has been inspected by parents or if the package has been opened

**Parents should:**
- Go with younger children
- Equip children with a flashlight so they can see and be seen
- Use face paint with your child’s costume instead of a mask that may block vision
- Discuss safety tips with your child before sending them out on their own

**Drivers should:**
- Take extra care when driving in neighborhoods
- Be on the look out for children crossing between cars
- Be extra careful when backing out of driveways

**From the Golden Fire Department**

**Here’s what you can do to have a fun and safe Halloween:**
- Purchase only costumes, wigs and props labeled flame-resistant or flame-retardant. When creating a costume, choose material that won’t easily ignite if it comes in contact with heat or flame and avoid billowing or long trailing features.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable. Keep these and other decorations well away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs, heaters, candle-lit Jack-O-Lanterns, etc.
- Use extreme caution when decorating with candles, and supervise children at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside Jack-O-Lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches and be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn. Pumpkins can also be illuminated with small, inexpensive flashlights or battery operated candles.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, ensuring nothing blocks escape routes.
- Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer than candle-lit luminaries for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.
- Instruct children to stay away from open flames or other heat sources. Be sure children know how to STOP, DROP and ROLL in the event their clothing catches fire. (Stop immediately, drop to the ground, covering your face with your hands, and roll over and over to extinguish flames.) Cool the burn.
- Instruct children who are attending parties at others’ homes to locate the exits and plan how they would get out in an emergency.
- Provide children with lightweight flashlights to carry for lighting or as part of their costumes.

From 2000 through 2004, decorations for special events accounted for an estimated 1,610 home fires, most often involving candles, and causing 7 civilian deaths, 60 civilian injuries and $24.9 million in direct property damage.
West Meets East in Rotary Exchange Program

Each year, the Rotary Club of Golden sponsors foreign exchange students from around the world. This year, Rotary is hosting Anita Slana from Zagreb, Croatia. She attended Golden High School during 2007-08, and had three host families during her stay here. Being made to feel a part of each of these families was a very rewarding experience for her.

Before returning home in early July, Anita shared what she has learned by spending a year in a foreign country with complete strangers. Prior to arriving in Golden, Anita was quite apprehensive about making new friends here. She admitted that her first semester at Golden High School was a little stressful trying to fit in, but as she became involved in school activities, things got to be more fun. She was especially pleased to have joined the girls’ tennis team, particularly since she had never played tennis before. And as her English improved, she also started to feel more a part of the group. In fact, she now proudly boasts, “I can really act and talk like a true American teenager.”

While missing home, family and friends, the experiences Anita had during a year in the United States made her visit very satisfying. “I certainly love my country, but having the experience of living with American families and participating in the host family activities, Rotary activities, and getting to know the people here has made it the best year of my life,” she said. “The most fun I had was having Christmas with my host family. It was so cold, but it was so much fun to do things as a family.”

One major difference she discovered between Zagreb and Golden is how dependent we are on cars to get around. “In Croatia, everybody travels by bus. It takes me one and a half hours to get to my school by bus. Gas is $8 per gallon, and everybody takes the bus everywhere,” she said.

“Another thing that really surprised me is that everybody eats out all the time,” she said. “We never eat out. We always cook and eat at home as a family.”

Anita would love to come back to visit someday, but she plans to spend her life in Croatia.

“I love my country and want to stay there. What I have learned from this year in the USA will be with me my whole life. I am very grateful to all my host families, the fun I’ve had with the Golden Rotarians, and especially for the opportunity to meet other kids here. We will always keep in touch. Thank you, everybody!”

If you are interested in helping contribute to the Rotary Club of Golden’s foreign exchange program, contact them at www.rotaryclubofgolden.org.

Changes at the Golden Recycling Center

The city is excited to announce that a new recycling company will be servicing the Golden Recycling Center. The city now has a contracts with Altogether Recycling, a division of Alpine Waste and Recycling. The change is expected to improve customer service and operation of the recycling center. Altogether Recycling accepts more materials for recycling and provides expanded pick-up services. Drivers that service the site will re-fill and empty the bins to make sure all materials have been removed and the site is clean with each service visit. The Golden Recycling Center accepts aluminum, cardboard, bottles, cans, newspaper, office paper and most plastics. Recyclable materials may be commingled and placed into any of the bins. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY PLASTIC BAGS as they interfere with the sorting process.

The site is open for use from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Altogether Recycling will service the site daily Monday through Friday, hauling the materials back to the Altogether Recycling plant in North Denver for processing. This recycling facility is made possible and provided through the partnership and financial support of MillerCoors and Ball Container Corp. Please visit the city’s website at www.cityofgolden.net or call Chris Naber at 303-384-8183 for additional information.
The City of Golden has been selected for 3CMA Savvy Awards in three different categories. 3CMA is the City-County Communications and Marketing Association, which works with local governments on finding innovative new ways of communicating with their citizens.

3CMA has sponsored the Savvy Awards for 20 years, recognizing local government communicators and marketers. The goal of the Savvy Awards is for local governments to be able to share their successes and innovations with one another. The Savvy program awards city, county or agency professionals who have creatively planned and carried out successful innovations in marketing.

The City of Golden is proud to be a finalist in three Savvy Award categories, Service Delivery, Printed Publications – External Newsletter, and Community Visioning. Final placement in each of the categories will be announced at the Annual 3CMA Conference in Lake Tahoe, October 22-24.

The finalist in the Service Delivery category, population group 18,000 to 113,000, is the Silence is Golden Community Partnership, which began earlier this year, and was put together by Community Resource Officer Glenn Moore. The City partners with four organizations in town to discourage improper use of illegal exhaust systems.

In the category of Printed Publications – External Newsletter, population group 10,000 to 39,400, the Golden Informer is a finalist for the 4th year in a row. The Informer won the Savvy Award in 2005 and 2007 and received the Silver Circle Award (2nd Place) in 2006.

Finally, the Golden Sustainability Initiative is a finalist in the Community Visioning category, population group 18,000 to 989,000. The Golden Sustainability Initiative had a high level of citizen involvement throughout the entire process of putting it together.

The Silence is Golden Community Partnership includes the City of Golden, the Buffalo Rose, Susie’s Bar and Grill, the Golden Super Cruise, and Scotty Dawgs. The partnership is intended to help reduce noise from illegal exhaust systems through education before enforcement. It involves having drink coasters and informational pamphlets along with signage available in all of the locations listed above. There are also informational sessions called, “T.A.M.E. I.T.” which stands for Ticket Avoidance Motor-vehicle Exhaust Informational Training.

The project, which was put together by Community Resource Officer Glenn Moore, kicked off in May, and has been well-received by the community and the participating partners. For more information on this Community Partnership you may contact Glenn Moore, Community Resource Officer of the Golden Police Department at 303-384-8080 or at gemoore@cityofgolden.net.
Yoga with Mommy
Yoga with Mommy highlights the pleasure of practicing yoga with your baby. Babies enjoy stimulation while mom tones and strengthens.

Ages 4 weeks to crawling  
8 to 9 a.m. Wednesdays  
Oct. 15 to Nov. 19  
Fee: $36 Resident,  
$41 Non-resident,  
$10 Drop-in fee

Kids Yoga
Kids will learn the basics of yoga while just being a kid. Learn animal poses and play games. Kids will improve posture, balance and strength while having fun.  
Ages: 3 to 8 years suggested – exceptions can be made.

3:45 to 4:15 p.m. Tuesdays  
Oct. 28 to Dec. 2  
Ages: 9 to 12 years suggested – exceptions can be made  
4:30 to 5:15 p.m. Tuesdays  
Oct. 28 to Dec. 2  
Fee: $30 Resident,  
$35 Non-resident

2008 Turkey Bowl  
Softball Tournament
Play in the city of Golden’s 11th Annual Turkey Bowl Coed Softball Tournament. The tournament will be held Saturday, Nov. 15. This is a one-pitch tournament where all base runners run the bases backwards (3rd, 2nd, 1st and home). There are divisions for competitive and recreational co-ed teams. All teams are guaranteed a minimum of 3 games. Team fee of $195 covers all fees. Call 303-384-8194 for more details or visit www.cityofgolden.net/turkeybowl.

Registration is now open.  
Registration deadline is 5 p.m.  
Wednesday, Nov. 12

Fall/Winter Adult Basketball Leagues
Teams will play a 10-game schedule under current CARA and high school rules. The top four teams advance to playoffs. Leagues start the week of Oct. 13, 2008. All games are played at the Tony Grampsas Memorial Sports Complex. Call Becky Richmond at 303-384-8194 or visit www.cityofgolden.net/adultsports for more information.

Registration closes Oct. 6 at 5 p.m..  
6 to 10 p.m. Mondays  
Men’s Open League  
6 to 10 p.m. Thursdays  
Men’s 50 and over  
Fee: $450 per team (includes all fees)

Flower and Herb Candles
Learn how to make your own beautiful and unique candles, design a long burning botanical glass votive with pressed flowers, handmade papers and herbs. Participants will take home one of each project and refreshments are provided.  
Age: 14 years and older  
7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays  
Oct. 9  
Fee: $15 Resident,  
$20 Non-resident  
Additional $12 material fee payable to instructor

Basic Computer Applications
Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point. Create a document, edit, spell check and print; create a list, budget or inventory; and make a slide show. (Knowledge of MS- Windows is a pre-requisite for this class.)  
Age: 18 years and older  
10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursdays  
Oct. 2 to Oct. 30 (5 classes)  
Fee: $70 Resident,  
$75 Non-resident*

*Bring your own Windows-based computer: deduct $20

Golden Jr. Engineers Club  
(JFLL Prep)
Work in groups to create from LEGO Dacta™ kits and design and build moving mini-fig-sized models to solve challenges. You can also form your own Jr. FIRST LEGO League Team™ and compete in future events! Teams can be formed with schools, scout troops or friends. Competitions are an additional fee.  
Age: 7- to 14-years  
5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays  
Oct. 7 to Oct. 28  
Fee: $50 Resident,  
$55 Non-resident

Rockin’ Rockets Workshops
Build and launch different kinds of rockets in the workshop. Learn about the science, craft your own SpaceTime Cosmic Cruiser and explore the challenges of space travel by building and launching different kinds of rockets.  
Age: 6- to 12-years  
4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays  
Oct. 23  
Fee: $18 Resident,  
$21 Non-resident

Space Explorers Workshops
In this workshop you can experience what it’s like to explore the cosmos through a virtual journey to an alien world, taking an anti-gravity boot planet hike, making alien space slime and driving remote-controlled robots and rovers.  
Age: 6- to 12-years  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturdays  
Oct. 11  
Fee: $18 Resident,  
$21 Non-Resident
You don’t have to give up your cycling routine when the cold weather hits. As the seasons change, the Golden Community Center offers multiple classes to keep cycling enthusiasts’ wheels spinning all year in the comfort of a controlled climate.

The Community Center offers excellent instructors, a motivating environment and a group setting that will power you up hills that once seemed too steep to climb. Instructors will take you through the rigors of an all-terrain workout with music that begs your legs to pedal. Getting in the best shape of your life has never been more fun!

Spinning burns as many as 500 calories per 40 minute ride and is one of the most popular group fitness classes. A spinning program is a great way to make your fitness goals a reality. Many class times are available to meet the needs of busy spinners. Classes will suit all levels ages 16 and older, run one hour and are offered daily Monday through Saturday.

“I first began spinning during the winter season while residing in New York where I discovered it was a great compliment to cycling outdoors,” said Wendy Jenkins, a Golden Community Center Spinning Instructor.

Wendy teaches spinning on Thursday mornings. She is originally from Wyoming and has been an avid cyclist for many years. She has cycled in countries such as South Africa, Holland and France, but enjoys the road challenges that Colorado offers.

Also an avid cyclist, Spinning Instructor Whitney Painter has been leading group cycling classes for a decade. She started teaching fitness classes at age 16 and hasn’t stopped since. Whitney’s inspiration springs from the communal energy enjoyed by class participants and she encourages everyone—from beginners to experienced cyclists—to join her Tuesday morning class.

The Golden Community Center offers a variety of instructors to suit the different cycling styles and fitness goals of spinners. In addition to Wendy and Whitney, there are spinning classes offered by instructors Ella, Kelli, Deb and Susan.

A Golden Community Center fitness schedule is available online at www.cityofgolden.net/parksandrec. Choose the Fitness and Wellness link and then Fitness Classes. Spinning classes are offered for a $10 drop-in fee or with Fitcard admission. For more information, contact Angela Shea, Wellness Coordinator, at ashea@cityofgolden.net.

Get vaccinated against influenza at the Golden Community Center on Wednesday, Oct. 1 in the Windy Saddle Room from 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 6 p.m. Open to the public, and the cost for flu shots is $26. Minimum age 4. Pneumonia shots will also be available for $48, and Tetanus shots are $50. We accept Medicare Part B, Secure Horizons and Rocky Mountain Health Plan upon presentation of insurance card. Please wear a short sleeved shirt on “shot day”.

Participants pedal through a Golden Community Center spin class.
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, including bridge, dominoes and mah jongg. 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:

Celebrate Health!
Friday, October 3
Free blood pressure checks and healthy goodies!
Chair massages, $13 for 15 minutes
Reflexology sessions, $13 for 15 minutes
Footcare with Chalyce, $15 per pedicure

Athletics & Wellness
For a complete schedule of exercise programs, stop in at the Front Desk for information. You can also check classes online at www.goldenrec.com.

Games, Classes & Clubs
All week long, everything from Book Club, Bridge, Pinochle, Dominoes, Mah Jongg, Billiards, Quilting, Pottery and lots more.

Volunteer Activities
Whether you want to sew, collect cans, provide administrative duties, or converse with International School of Mines students – we have people who could use your help!

Receive the Front Porch News online!
The Front Porch News is now available on our website, and you can also receive the newsletter via email! Or you can subscribe for $7 per year and receive it at home. http://www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334

For more information:
• stop by The Front Porch, upstairs at the Community Center, 1470 10th St.,
• call 303-384-8130,
• sign up for the Front Porch Newsletter,
• check out the Recreation brochure, or
• visit www.cityofgolden.net/page.asp?navid=334

TRIPS & TOURS

Potluck and Tunes
A potluck with a twist! Guitarist Dave Greenwald and Fiddler Bruce Baker will be playing Blues, Jazz and more. Please bring food as follows: A-E - veggie; F-K - dessert; L-P - salad; Q-Z - main dish.
12:30 to 2:30 pm Thursday, October 9; Class registration #35025 - Free – Bring food and your singing voice Register/Cancel by October 7

Grand Lake Day Out
Consider this a day to escape to a peaceful and serene mountain setting. Wear sturdy shoes and plan for cool temperatures.
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, October 13; Class registration #35030 - $15.00 van (bring $$ for lunch, shopping) Register/Cancel by October 11

Colorado Symphony Orchestra Masterworks
Mozart’s classic Overture to The Magic Flute, Vaughn William’s historic “Symphony No. 5,” and Brahms’s beautiful “Violin Concerto.”
1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, October 26; Class registration #35040 - $47.00 (van, admission) Register/Cancel by October 24
The City of Golden honors its exceptional employees with “You Make The Difference” awards handed out at quarterly employee meetings. Employees are nominated by their coworkers for consistent demonstration of higher productivity in their daily work performance; willingness to go above and beyond to provide extra assistance to fellow employees and/or citizens; ability to think “outside” the parameters of their daily duties for creative solutions to issues; commitment to their regular duties and willingness to work with other departments to achieve the best results for all; genuine enthusiasm for day-to-day tasks and special projects; ability to motivate others and encourage a positive work environment; and consistent demonstration of higher productivity. Five employees were recently honored with the award.

Jeremy Reichert, Public Works Inspector

Public Works Inspector Jeremy Reichert received the award for bringing the Golden High School roundabout project to a “traffic ready” condition before school started on Aug. 12. He worked long days and even weekends while maintaining a strong attention to detail. Additionally, he had to get contractors and other city departments working together to complete the project in time.

Marylynn Skala, Cashier

Cashier Marylynn Skala received her award for her outstanding customer service and assistance to other employees while working at the front desk at City Hall. When she is not providing prompt and caring assistance to the citizens of Golden, she is often seen helping other employees with their tasks, whether it be to help them meet a deadline or just to learn something new.

One group also received the award. Sustainability Coordinator Theresa Worsham, City Planner Rick Muriby, and the Deputy Director for Public Works Vince Auriemma received their award for their coordination of the task forces on walkability and the bicycle master plan. For nearly five months, the three have worked with citizens to establish recommendations for Council on walkability for the community and to update the bicycle master plan for the city – all in addition to the work generated by their regular jobs.
Lucky you, you’re living smack dab in someone else’s vacation. People from all over the state come to your neck of the woods to hike, bike, parasail, or hang out at one of our unique events. So why not do the same? Sneak away for a couple hours of pure enjoyment. There’s two hours of fun, two minutes from home. Visit 2HourVacation.com for more great ideas.