This edition of *The Golden Informer* is a celebration of some recent additions that make Golden more attractive than ever as the best place in Colorado to live, work, and play. We hope you will send this photo album to your family and friends around the world and use it to brag a little about the wonderful place you call home.

During last year’s drought, your City Council directed that the long-planned Guanella Reservoir should be built immediately, and if you drive up Highway 40 just past the town of Empire, you will see the dam and reservoir taking shape. It will start filling this winter from the West Fork of Clear Creek and will hold over 1,800 acre feet of water – enough to insure that Golden can weather any drought, for many years. Even with this new resource we must continue to practice smart water use and conservation. See the story on page 8 for details on how our dedicated City employees will help you in that effort.

Most improvements to this City happen because individual citizens band together to make something happen. The Public Art Program is a great example where City staff plays only a supportive role to the Movers and Shakers who cause good things to happen. Today we enjoy the Fossil Trace Golf Course and The Splash only because our citizens, by the hundreds, made this happen. Not only are golf courses and aquatic parks wonderful attractions by themselves, but they provide summer and part time jobs for Golden’s teenagers and retired citizens.

The kayak course is providing an attraction for many people who never have, and never will, sit in a kayak, but do enjoy tubing, fishing, and panning for gold. The kayak course joins our Clear Creek Trail and the new and exciting Washington Avenue Bridge to provide a vital and exciting outdoor gathering place – joining our unique downtown with the sights and sounds of Colorado.

I hope you enjoy this change of pace issue. I know you appreciate the *Informer* and join me in reluctantly saying goodbye to Tami Johnson, who made this newsletter what it is and who now moves on to new adventures. We will all miss her but we will work hard to continue her tradition of constantly improving *The Golden Informer*.

Sincerely,

Mike Bestor
City Manager
The City of Golden can only provide you with the highest level of service if you maintain contact with City Council members and city staff. Please feel free to contact them at any time by calling or writing to 911 10th Street, Golden, 80401.

City Council meets at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of each month and welcomes comments from the public.

Know the Issues – Vote Wisely!

The Leadership Golden Alumni Association and the Golden Transcript with support of the City of Golden, will be conducting a Candidate’s Forum on Tuesday, October 21st from 6:30 to 9:30 pm in the Foss Auditorium at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. The forum will feature debates by representatives of political groups on both the pro and con sides of ballot initiatives. In addition, the candidates for district council seats and mayoral candidates will be invited to outline their positions and respond to questions developed by the sponsors. Anyone with suggestions for candidate questions can send them by mail to the Golden Transcript, attention of Joe Ross or email them to newsroom@jeffconews.com. For more information call Ed Dorsey at (303) 384-9923.

Election Day—it’s not that far away!

This year Golden will participate in the November 4th coordinated election with Jefferson County and that means mail ballots. This year’s election will include the two district seats, election of the Mayor and three charter amendments.

Mark you calendars:

- Last day to register to vote: October 6, 2003.
- Mail Ballots will be mailed no later than October 22, 2003.
- Election Day November 4, 2003. All mail ballots must be returned to Jefferson County Clerk by 7 pm.
- Not sure you are registered? Contact the Jefferson County election department at (303) 271-8111.

If you need to register or change your address within Golden, you may do so at the Golden City Clerk’s office, 911 10th Street from 8 – 5, Monday – Friday. Or at the Jefferson County Election Department at 100 Jefferson County Parkway. For more information call (303) 371-8111.
Guanella Reservoir

Congressman Udall and Mayor Charles Baroch
Around Golden

Public Art in Golden

- Helping Hands
- Return of the Cutthroat
- Winter Wind on the Mesa
- Buffalo Bill Cody
- Cowboy’s Day Off
- The Cowboy

Washington Avenue Bridge

Trail along Clear Creek Square & Commons
Golden Recreation

For tee times call (303) 277-8750.
Golden Recreation

the Splash at Fossil Trace
Golden FUN!

Kayaking, rafting, tubing and canoeing in Clear Creek

Concerts In The Park

Police Chief Bill Kilpatrick and Libby
Water Conservation Efforts Take the Form of Green Thumb

When it comes to water conservation in the city of Golden, education is key, says Fran Phillips, environmental specialist. Knowing that outdoor water conservation gives residents “the most bang for their buck,” she focuses much of her energy on garden design, plant selection, and disease control. In addition to conserving water it connects people to their city in unique and rewarding ways.

The secret to success, she says, is recognizing the gardening realities of Colorado and adapting your style accordingly. “Luckily most residents really like the natural beauty of Colorado and they’re attracted to what’s native here,” says Phillips. “I’ve seen garden design give people such a sense of satisfaction, a real sense of what they’re capable of, and also Mother Nature really got people’s attention last year.”

To help residents create and maintain water-smart or Xeriscape gardens the city’s Public Works department, where Phillips works, offers classes on garden design, schedules “Sleeping” and “Waking” garden tours to illustrate how gardens appear during different seasons, and distributes free materials such as water meter probes, rain gauges, and free mulch to help residents know when to water.

For indoor conservation, the city offers free toilet dams and diverters, available through the Utilities Department along with new water conservation brochures. Golden annually distributes about 500 packages of these free goodies to help residents conserve water, though Phillips says she often feels like she’s “preaching to the choir” to residents who are already committed to the conservation of water.

It’s a great little city. There are so many wonderful people who live here and work here,” says Phillips who has worked for the city for the last nine years. During that tenure she has hosted annual Xeriscape seminars to sold-out audiences. This year she organized seven consecutive classes that were co-hosted by local specialists and ran January 29-March 12.

Topics for the series titled Golden Panoramas: A Resident’s Guide to Water Conservation in the Landscape ranged from “Garden Design” and “Plant Matter” to “Drought-Tolerant Trees” and “Hard Scapes” for people who want options for patios and paths. Local landscape architects, garden designers, and water conservation experts taught the courses, and more than 760 people registered. “Using nature as our guide we taught people how to incorporate those designs at home,” says Phillips. The seminars attracted an average of 100 people per night, despite blizzard conditions. Phillips taped the sessions and will loan tapes out from her office.

Phillips also serves on The Lawn Watering Group, a group of community members that drafted a drought plan for the Front Range. Working with Westminster, Aurora, Denver, Loveland, Greeley, and other cities, the group has created a uniform approach to help eliminate the confusion that occurred last summer with varying water restrictions.

Gardening in Golden

The subtle and sustained beauty of Xeriscape gardens has become more accepted and popular across the state and the city’s three demonstration gardens – that feature water-conservative plants – generate weekly calls. “People will pass a garden, like a plant, and want to know the name. They want to know where they can buy it,” says Phillips, who worked with students and parents to design a Xeriscape garden at Shelton Elementary School in 2000.

Recently receiving her Master Gardener designation at Colorado State University, Phillips enjoys learning new things every week that she can convey to Golden residents through the myriad of programs her department offers. “I really appreciate the opportunities I’ve been given here,” says Phillips. She works directly for Dan Hartman, director of Public Works who is “so supportive of the staff,” says Phillips. “He lets people do what they do well.”

So far that approach has paid off in spades.
Did you know that the Golden Urban Renewal Authority funds and supports the following service projects?

- The festive holiday lights on Washington Avenue that provide the seasonal ambiance to the downtown.
- Regularly scheduled power washings of the downtown sidewalks to support the hard work of our merchants in keeping the sidewalks clean and the downtown looking fresh and appealing to residents, downtown employees, and visitors.
- The costs to hang, change and replace the attractive seasonal and special happenings lamp post banners.
- The popular Saturdays Farmer Market arose out of the Urban Renewal Board's partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and many other people.
- Regular maintenance of the public restroom on 12th Street.

These and many more service projects by the Urban Renewal Board contribute to making a beautiful, clean and appealing downtown Golden and are in addition to physical improvements like Clear Creek Square, new creek trails and the Washington Avenue bridge project.

What are your thoughts?

Over the past 15 years many new residents have moved into the Golden community bringing different interest and expectations of what Golden’s downtown should offer to residents and visitors. Even long-time residents’ tastes and expectations have changed over time. Strengthening small town vitality is a continuous process. Members of the GURA board would very much like your ideas and input.

The question is: What additional retail stores, or restaurants, or beverage places would you like to see in the downtown?

Golden Downtown “IDEA COUPON” for building Small Town Vitality

My ideas for retail stores or restaurants or beverage places are:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Name (optional) ____________________  Contact information (Optional)

Mail to: Golden Urban Renewal Board, 1111 Washington Ave., Suite 115, Golden, CO 80401 or fax to: (303) 279-4162 or e-mail to: wheatley@gura.com
incidence of an often unnoticed nuisance - the obstruction of sidewalks and streets by overgrown vegetation.

We should all be aware that City of Golden ordinance prohibits any property owner’s vegetation from creating an impassible or hazardous obstruction to either pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Any growth which infringes upon a public sidewalk must be removed. Any growth which impedes the passing or parking of passenger vehicles and/or commercial/maintenance traffic must be removed. And finally, any vegetation that unsafely obstructs the vision of motorists at an intersection also must be removed. These guidelines usually translate into the following specifics:

- The space along a public walk shall be kept clear to a height of 8 feet.
- Any trees or large shrubs which hang over into the space of a public street shall be kept clear to a height of 14 feet.
- At intersections, any shrubbery, flowers, or hedges shall be maintained at a height of 3 feet or less, and any trees shall be kept clear of limbs to no less than 8 feet above the ground.

It should be noted that specific situations may require a more or less strict interpretation of these measurements.

We all know how quickly vegetation can grow out of control and how we don’t even notice that the street or walk has become less accessible. That is why you will often see City of Golden employees stopped alongside the road removing obstructions to sight and safe passage. We receive many calls to mitigate obstructions every year. Please do your best to assist the community in keeping the sidewalks and streets free of infringements and hazards. It is a task all property owners should pay a bit more attention to. There is just too much vegetation out there for City of Golden staff to handle alone.
Calendar of Events

Astor House Museum
www.AstorHouseMuseum.org
Through September 27
“From Traveler to Plow Chaser: Women Who Shaped the West”

Through October
“Ida’s Garden”: Visit our favorite exhibit – take in the lovely sights and fragrances of an 1800s Victorian garden.

October 11 and October 18, 2003
Halloween Cemetery Tours
On the half hour from 3 pm – 5 pm
Tickets are $15 per person or $12 for members. Reservations required.
Call for reservations (303) 278-3557.

Golden Pioneer Museum
Through October 31
Women Who Shaped the West
Featured women include: Margaret “Molly” Brown, “China” Polly Bemis, Annie Oakley, and photographer Laura Gilpin.

October 11 and 18
Golden Cemetery Tours
Tickets $15 for non-members, $12 for museum members. 90-minute walking tours begin every half-hour from 3 pm to 5 pm. Reservations required.
Not appropriate for young children.
Call for information (303) 278-7151.

Clear Creek History Park
www.ClearCreekHistoryPark.org
September 6
“BBQ at the Homestead” Fundraiser
You won’t want to miss this event! We will have a BBQ, 19th century dancing, music, and a silent auction. Tickets are $25 per person. Call for reservations.
October 24 & 25 5 pm – 9 pm
Halloween Harvest Festival
Our annual “non-scary” event features friendly spooks from Colorado’s past, games and crafts for the little ones, trick-or-treating, hot cider, and ghost stories around the campfire. Come in costume if you like! Admission charged.
Call (303) 278-3557 for more information.

The Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum
www.RMQM.org
Through October 11
Gallery I: Inspirations from Lakota Legends: Quilts and Paintings
Gallery II: Checkmate: Art Quilts

October 25 – January 3, 2004
Gallery I: The Fabric of Their Lives: Quilts by Men
Gallery II: Colors of Guatemala:

For more information, visit our web site or call (303) 277-0377.

Miners Alley Playhouse
www.MinersAlley.org
September 6 & 7
Final Weekend: One Act Festival
September 12 – October 18
Original Production of “Poof!” A play with magic

October 24
Opens Italian American Reconciliation
1224 Washington Avenue, Suite 200, Golden, CO. (Above Foss Drug Store)
Call for details (303) 935-3044.

September/October

American Mountaineering Center (CMC)
www.cmc.org
October 9 6 – 9 pm
CMC is sponsoring the 2nd Annual art exhibition and sale “Where the Mountains Meet the Sky,” Mountain Festival featuring the works of 27 artists, both painters and sculptors, renowned for their interpretation of the landscape and its wild inhabitants. The Mountain Festival kicks off with a Gala Opening on October 9 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The show runs through October 19. Tickets for the Gala are $65 for CMC members, $70 for all others. Call (303) 279-3080 x 193.

The Jefferson Symphony Orchestra
October 26 7 pm
Season Premier Concert
Mahler’s gigantic musical examination of the Human heart and soul, performed with the lilt of Enesco’s Rhapsody and the romantic poem of Griffes, with flute soloist Liz Hicks-Kimmey.

Green Center, Colorado School of Mines Campus. 16th & Cheyenne.
Pre-concert activities begin at 6:30 pm
Call (303) 278-4237 for details/tickets.

Golden Public Library
http://jefferson.lib.co.us
Library closed Mon. Sept. 1 for Labor Day
◆ For Kids - After School Fun
4 pm Sept. 24
◆ The Visual World of the Deaf
7 pm Sept. 24
◆ Literacy Volunteer Fair
12:30-2:30 pm Sept. 8
◆ Elderhostel - 11 am Oct. 11
Call for details (303) 279-4585.
HOLY GUACAMOLE, BATMAN!

Guess what’s coming to Golden?

Golden City:
Tastes and Traditions, that’s what!

This fabulous new book, arriving on local shelves November 1, 2003, is the latest creation from the Golden Cultural Alliance, those terrific people that bring you February's Heart & Soul of Golden celebration. The cookbook, now on the presses, can be pre-ordered for the suggested retail price of $19.95.

Golden City: Tastes and Traditions is filled with recipes gathered from volunteers and staff members of Golden-area nonprofits, including museums, the theater, the symphony, the Visitors Center, the Library and many more. This Golden treasure includes interesting anecdotes from Golden, as well as history, arts, culture, and incredible photography.

Proceeds from sales of Golden City: Tastes and Traditions benefit Golden-area nonprofit organizations. What a bonus!

This thoughtful and elegant gift is far more than a cookbook. You will discover a Golden souvenir filled with local pride and warmed with fun and friendly charm. Your purchase supports Golden-area non-profit organizations. Pre-order your copies of Golden City: Tastes and Traditions today for only $19.95, plus tax, at www.goldencookbook.com or visit your local Golden Cultural Alliance member. This project was sponsored by the Golden Civic Foundation.

Visit Our WEB SITE
www.cityofgolden.net