

City council votes to put TABOR question on November ballot

On a 5-2 vote, the Littleton City Council approved a resolution at its September 5 meeting requesting voter approval for the city to retain and spend surplus revenue, if any, over the limit established by the TABOR Amendment. Council Members Clark and Mulvey voted against the question and Council Members Conklin, Cronenberger, Kast, Ostermiller and Taylor voted to support it.

If approved by voters November 7, no new tax would be created, nor would any existing tax be increased. Voters would still retain the right to vote on any future tax increases. If the question is turned down, the city may have to refund any revenues over the limit. The city council would have to determine how a refund is made since TABOR does not address the issue.

“Sales tax revenues have dropped over a million dollars since 2001. There are a lot of new developments coming on line that will require more city services. But if we don’t remove the limit, we won’t be able to keep the revenues the new projects will generate,” said Council Member John Ostermiller.

In opposing the resolution, Council Member Doug Clark questioned the timing. “I think it is a shame we are doing this now when there is no excess revenue and we don’t know if there will be next year,” Clark said.

With voter approval of the Arapahoe County Open Space Tax in 2004, Littleton receives an annual “share back” payment from the county. The 2006 amount is \$784,000 which can only be used to purchase or improve parks and open space. There is a chance these funds could cause the city to exceed the revenue limit. A refund would then have to be paid from the general fund, so the city, in effect, would be penalized for receiving the open space funds.

TABOR is an amendment to the Colorado Constitution approved in

1992. It established a revenue limit for the State of Colorado and all other governments. The revenue limit is set by a formula which is a blended rate of the Consumer Price Index and property valuation growth based on data supplied by county assessors. Revenue which exceeds the limit must either be refunded by the municipality or voters must give approval to the municipality to retain and spend the surplus funds.

Littleton has exceeded the revenue limit several times. Voters gave approval for a temporary removal of the limit in 1995, 1999, 2000 and 2002. Most of these funds were used to help pay for capital projects such as: almost \$2 million for the Santa Fe Drive Safety Improvement Project, \$1 million to purchase the land for the Douglas Buck Recreation Center, \$1.2 million to purchase the Central Construction property as an open space buffer for South Platte Park, almost \$350,000 for mini-parks, more than \$3 million toward the cost of the Littleton Historical Museum, and more than

\$500,000 for the rehabilitation of Ketring Lake.

Proponents of the revenue limit removal say it gives a city more flexibility to plan for future projects. Opponents say that the revenue limit should not be removed for any reason and surplus revenue should be refunded.

At least 16 cities in the Front Range, along with Littleton Public Schools and South Suburban Parks and Recreation, have removed the revenue limit.

The election will be coordinated by the Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson County clerks. Registered electors can cast their ballot at county polling places throughout the community. Voters may register at the Littleton City Clerk’s office at 2255 West Berry Avenue. The last day to register is October 10. Early voting begins October 23. Contact the county clerks for locations. October 31 is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot. For further information, contact the city clerk at 303-795-3753.

Police management study completed

On Tuesday, September 12, the Littleton City Council discussed the findings and recommendations of the Littleton Police Department (LPD) Management Study. The report was prepared by Organizational Effectiveness Consulting (OEC) from Ojai, California. OEC has assisted more than 100 law enforcement agencies throughout the country including the Commerce City, Colorado and Los Angeles Police Departments.

OEC was asked to develop a framework to better evaluate the community’s priorities and the way the police department allocates resources in light of limited finances typical of a mature community. There are more than 25 specific recommendations in the

report with implementation times ranging from six to 18 months. Some of the findings are:

- The LPD, along with other city services, has been increasingly impacted by a widening gap between service expectations and available resources.
- The LPD space is woefully insufficient for current needs, and offers absolutely no space for any additional future expansion.
- If the LPD reduced training time by 80 hours per officer annually, the equivalent of 1.5 full time police officer positions could be added to patrol.
- “Power shifts” should be implemented to bring some officers in earlier or later than a normal

Remembering a fallen soldier...



Littleton Mayor Jim Taylor (left) and the parents and sister of Navy SEAL Danny Dietz, unveil the sign on Littleton Boulevard temporarily renaming the street Danny Dietz Drive September 18. Born and raised in Littleton, Danny Dietz was killed in action in Afghanistan in June of 2005.

- shift to help balance staffing and workload at peak periods.
- Modifications should be made to the CAD system and dispatch policies in order to determine accurate response times to high, mid, and low priority citizen calls.
- The alarm calls policy should be modified.
- Mail-in and web-based reporting should be considered for low-grade incidents and some calls could be shifted to the neighborhood resource officer.

- Civilian “para police” should be hired to take reports, handle calls and direct traffic.
- LPD’s turnover rate from 2000 to 2006 of 10 percent is twice the rate that OEC considers excessive.
- The turnover rate has had an impact on morale and excessive overtime.
- Detectives closed 27 percent of the cases assigned to them, a range which OEC considers

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City of Littleton

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Mayor Taylor's Message



Dear Citizens:

The seasons are changing and that's not all. Just look around the city and you can see many signs of transformation. Properties are being developed and redeveloped all over town. These investments in our community are important to our economy and in some cases, help stimulate and revitalize neighborhoods.

The Lowe's home improvement store at the northwest corner of Bellevue and Santa Fe Drive is rapidly rising from the ground. The 135,000 square-foot store is expected to open in December. This project was a tremendous challenge for the developer as the site was controlled by six different property owners and is located in two municipalities. The site encompasses the old city sewer treatment plant and the former Hugh M. Woods store, which was owned by the Denver Water Board. Besides the much needed sales tax revenue it will create, this new development will be a great visual improvement to the northern entrance to the city.

Riverside at Centennial Downs, located on the west side of the Platte River between Bellevue and Prince Street, is a proposal for 92,000 square-feet of office and retail space. The vacant land is being developed by Littleton Capital Partners, the same group who put together the Littleton Station project on Littleton Boulevard just east of downtown.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation is preparing to develop an off-leash dog park, picnic shelter, trails and playground at Wynetka Ponds Park, at the northwest corner of Lowell and Bowles. A public hearing before the planning commission will be scheduled this fall to plat the property for these improvements.

Ice Ranch is a proposal for a two-story, 51,800 square-foot recreational facility and ice skating rinks in the Ridge at SouthPark. The developers have submitted their conceptual site development plan to the city. The city's Development Review Committee will discuss the project October 12.

The Residences at Nevada Place is a proposal for 68 residential units on the former site of the St. Mary's Elementary School on Nevada Street just north of downtown. City staff has completed the review of the conceptual plan. The next step will be a public hearing before the Planning Commission that has yet to be scheduled.

And finally, there's a lot of talk around town about a proposed Wal Mart store at 6775 South Santa Fe Drive. In order to move forward, a rezoning of the 23-acre site will be required for the 187,000 square-foot store. Staff completed the conceptual review of the project and just recently received a final plan for another staff review. This proposal will then move to a public hearing before the planning commission, and then be considered at a public hearing before the city council. None of these public hearings has been scheduled although Wal Mart has held a couple of neighborhood meetings to present the project to the community.

What I've discussed here is only a thumb nail sketch of some of the projects that may come to Littleton. There are many others but not enough room to discuss them all here. For up to date information on all projects that have been submitted to the Community Development Department, visit the city's web page at www.littletongov.org/comdev and check the Project Activity List.

Sincerely,

Jim Taylor

Historic district grant program a success

For property owners, restoring or maintaining a historic building can be an expense, especially if the building is in the Main Street Historic District. Within the district, guidelines are established to ensure that the historic character of the buildings is maintained or enhanced, which often requires high-quality materials that can add to the expense.

To encourage re-investment and preservation downtown, the city set up a fund known as the Main Street Historic District Grant Program. The idea came from property owners who suggested that funds be made available for various preservation projects in exchange for historic designation of their property. Now in its second year, the grant program is funded at \$50,000 in 2006. Individual grants are awarded a maximum of \$10,000.

By all accounts, the program has been a success. Since its inception in September, 2005, the city has received 20 applications from both property owners and tenants. To date, all applicants have received funds for their projects and many of them are now complete.

The office building at 5711 South Nevada Street was one of the first completed projects. This Art Moderne building was constructed in 1951 and was the office of Dr. Richard Wells. Over the years the original storefront windows had been reconfigured and the façade had aged. Littleton Capital Partners (LCP) purchased the building in 2005 with plans to relocate its offices to the building. With a \$5,000 grant from the fund to assist with the cost of the façade restoration, LCP completed the project and moved in. The completed project has brought a fresh look to the 5700 block of Nevada Street and has preserved one of Littleton's few Moderne architectural treasures.

Other completed projects include improvements to the Curcice Street façade of 2629 West Main Street (Main Street Centre), new windows and door for 2399 West Main Street (Tres Jolie), chimney repair for 5738 South Rapp Street (Natural Surroundings), and façade improvements for 2516 West Main Street (Ancient Arts Healing).



The Littleton City Council honored Jan Andrus as Guest Citizen August 1 for her service as director of Meals on Wheels for more than 25 years. Mayor Jim Taylor also presented Andrus with a box of City of Littleton information and giveaways to send to her grandson stationed in Iraq.

Littleton finalist in awards for municipal excellence

The National League of Cities (NLC) and CH2M Hill announced that Littleton is a finalist for the 2006 Awards for Municipal Excellence. The awards recognize outstanding programs that have significantly contributed to the quality of life in the recipient's city. Cities and towns from 38 states and Washington, D.C. sent in nominations.

"Littleton has demonstrated its leadership and creativity and is being recognized as a finalist for the Awards for Municipal Excellence," said NLC Executive Director Don Borut. "The Greater Littleton

Youth Initiative is illustrative of the type of projects that are improving the lives of residents in cities and towns across the country."

Nominated programs have been judged on the following criteria: successful public-private partnership ventures; productive citizen and community collaborations; effective management of municipal resources (public or private); innovative government policies; project implementation with tangible results; and/or the ability to replicate the project in other cities.

"As an active member of four

NLC committees, I couldn't be more pleased that Littleton is a finalist for this prestigious award," said Littleton Mayor Jim Taylor.

The winners of the 2006 Awards for Municipal Excellence will be announced at the National League of Cities' Congress of Cities and Exposition in Reno, Nevada, December 5-9, 2006.

Detailed information about the Awards for Municipal Excellence can be found on the NLC website at www.nlc.org and future features in *Nation's Cities Weekly*.

Citizen committee identifies top community issues

The 23-member Littleton 2030 Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) held its sixth meeting August 3. At that meeting, the CAC reviewed the issues identified by the public, city council, and the CAC and finalized the assignment of priorities to those issues.

Strengths: The five highest community strengths, according to the priorities assigned by the CAC, are: 1) the Littleton Public Schools and Arapahoe Community College; 2) history, including historic downtown; 3) light rail; and 4) parks, open space, trails, recreation facilities, and mature landscaping. There was a tie for fifth between cultural facilities and activities and the South Platte River corridor.

Weaknesses: The top five community weaknesses are: 1) lost revenues and opportunities; 2) aging demographics; 3) problems with housing stock; 4) areas that are not pedestrian-friendly; and 5) limits to marketing.

Opportunities: The top five community opportunities are: 1) light rail; 2) the potential for new development and redevelopment; 3) historic downtown; and 4) transportation options and the potential to be pedestrian-friendly. There was a tie for fifth between

Arapahoe Community College and marketability.

Threats: The top five community threats are: 1) a failure to grow; 2) development done poorly; 3) competition with other communities; 4) deterioration; and 5) fear of change.

Following the assignment of priorities to the issues, the members of the CAC combined their knowledge of the community with the

the intent and details of the collective vision for the city.

The next public meeting, which will be in early to mid-October, will focus on getting the public involved in reviewing the draft vision statement and helping to produce the visioning map.

City council, planning commission, and the CAC all believe that it is essential that as many citizens as possible be involved in the planning process. To that end, everyone involved in the process is committed to providing as many opportunities as possible

for citizen involvement. If you know of an organization that would like a presentation on the planning process and the progress to date or would like an opportunity to discuss the issues in more detail, contact the city's Long Range Planner, Dennis Swain, to arrange a presentation by a member of the CAC and/or city staff. Dennis can be reached by email at dswain@littletongov.org or by phone at 303-795-3775.

All meetings of the CAC are open to the public and time is provided at the beginning of each for public comment. The date for CAC and other meetings for the Littleton 2030 planning process can be found on the city's website: www.littletongov.org.

Littleton 2030

insight provided through the issue identification process to develop a draft vision statement for the future of Littleton. The CAC will set the draft vision aside as it completes the next steps in the planning process and then later will return to that draft vision so that it can be reviewed and revised to reflect new information and ideas.

The next step will be a two-dimensional visioning process through which the CAC and the public will produce a map that reflects identified issues and the key physical elements of the community vision. The map will help clarify both issues and the vision statement, help check for missing elements, and help communicate

Littleton Historical Museum presents three educational programs

Museum's First Thursday Lecture Series

The Art of the Stamp

7 p.m. Thursday, November 2
Friends Lecture Hall
303-795-3950

Limited seating, free tickets
may be obtained at the museum beginning
Oct. 1 during regular hours.



Presented by Terry McCaffrey, manager, Stamp Development, Stamp Services, U.S. Postal Service.

McCaffrey has served as guest curator for the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum.

McCaffrey was charged with the task of identifying philatelic artwork contained in the Postal Service archives for inclusion in the exhibit "Art of the Stamp." He also oversaw the exhibition design and accompanying written materials and promotional items. "Art of the Stamp" was first exhibited at the National Postal Museum and, under McCaffrey's guidance, was reconfigured as a traveling exhibition now shown nationwide.

McCaffrey has personally designed several U.S. postage stamps, and has received numerous professional awards from local and regional organizations.

Brown Bag Lunch Program

The Women's Land Army—by Ginny Fraser

12 – 1 p.m. November 14
Friends Lecture Hall
303-795-3950



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The Women's Land Army (WLA) during World War II is an overlooked piece of history. We usually think of "Rosie the Riveter" as women's contribution to the work of the nation during 1943-1945, and know little about the three million women who worked on farms across the country where assistance was urgently needed because of men being drafted. The WLA was a government program under the U.S. Crop Corps.

While many women were eager to participate in the war effort, many farmers, ranchers, and their wives, initially opposed urban women working on their land. After the first year, however, Colorado farmers and others changed their attitudes, thus making a permanent change in how women were accepted in farming.

Ginny Fraser will tell more, based on her research of the history of this unique program. Fraser was part of the Women's Land Army in Ohio in 1945, picking cherries and detasseling corn along with German prisoners of war and migratory labor.

The Littleton Fine Arts Committee Presents:

From Pompeii to Picasso, Understanding Art

Lecture by Sally L. Perisho
Adjunct Professor of Art History
Arapahoe Community College

7 p.m. Wednesday, November 8
Friends Lecture Hall
303-795-3950

Limited seating, free tickets may be obtained at the museum beginning Oct. 1 during regular hours.



Utilizing important and recognized works in the history of art, Perisho's slide lecture is intended to stimulate thought about art, past and present by providing a broad overview of the history of art. Key art appreciation terminology or the "language of art" will be emphasized. A broad survey of periods, styles and media will be provided.

Perisho founded the Colorado Gallery of the Arts at Arapahoe Community College (ACC) in 1979 and served as its director until 1985. She is currently an adjunct professor of art history at ACC and director of business development for Greenfield Architects.

LITTLETON ECONOMIC NOTES



Janet and Mike Johnston opened their second Savory Spice Shop in September at 2560 West Main Street. The shop features more than 300 herbs, spices and seasonings that are ground weekly at its sister store in Denver. Customers can have custom blends made and are encouraged to sample products and have packaged only the amounts they need, as little as half an ounce. Joining Janet, second from right, at the recent ribbon-cutting are: Mayor Jim Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Kast, Council Member John Ostermiller, and Store Manager Erin Teuber.



The Lunchbox at 3625 West Bowles Avenue (Columbine Valley Shopping Center) celebrated its new ownership, style, and menu in August with a ribbon cutting celebration. Brothers Jeff and Mark Holland have worked in restaurants for years and are dedicated to great customer service. They offer breakfast through dinner items with fast service, a child-friendly menu section, call-ahead ordering, delivery, and catering services for any meal. In addition, they have easy-to-serve box lunches. Mayor Jim Taylor joined Jeff and Mark for the celebration.



Café Terracotta held a ribbon cutting in September to celebrate its grand opening in the renovated Louthan House at 5649 South Curtice Street. The restaurant serves breakfast and lunch Tuesday through Sunday. Owners Sheri and David Svenson were surrounded by friends, Council Member Pat Cronenberger (front row, far left), South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce President John Brackney, (left, behind Cronenberger), Council Member John Ostermiller (front row, far right) and Mayor Jim Taylor (center, with ribbon).

GENERAL NEWS

Recycle your leaves November 4 and 11

Littleton residents will again have an environmentally responsible alternative to sending their leaves to a landfill. The Cities of Littleton and Englewood are sponsoring a leaf-recycling program in cooperation with Eagle Waste Services and Jensen Sales Company. In the previous 13 years of the program, more than 9,000 cubic yards of leaves and 1,600 tires have been recycled.

Leaves will be collected from 8 a.m. until noon on two Saturdays: November 4 and November 11.

The new collection point is the parking lot at Cornerstone Park at the southeast corner of West Belleview Avenue and South Windermere Street, two blocks east of Santa Fe Drive. The parking lot entrance is 100 yards south of

Belleview Avenue on the east side of Windermere Street. Volunteers at the site will accept leaves and tires only. No grass clippings, tree branches or other refuse will be accepted. The leaves will be recycled by grinding and mixing them into soil amendment products. Citizens are welcome to stop by and take leaves home to compost.

Tires will also be collected for recycling at a cost of \$1.50 each and \$3 for those mounted on rims. No oversized tractor or truck tires permitted. This collection site is open for residential recycling and no materials will be accepted from lawn service companies or other commercial ventures.

For more information call 303-795-3863.



Lt. Miles Kubly from the Englewood Fire Department empties a bottle of old antifreeze into a disposal tank. The cities of Littleton and Englewood sponsor the Household Hazardous Waste Roundup every year so dangerous chemicals such as this can be dropped off at the Englewood Service Center for proper disposal instead of ending up in a landfill. This year's event was held September 9 and 16.

Summer Cleanup Program wraps up successful year



The 2006 City of Littleton Summer Cleanup program ended August 11. The program runs each year from the first week of June through the middle of August and has been successful in helping residents keep their properties clean. This year the program was a great success. There were 715 requests for pickups and 706 total pickups were made. The total weight of electronics recycled was 6,538 lbs. For more information contact Rebecca Thompson at 303-795-3831.

Littleton Fire Rescue Wildland Team had a busy summer



The Littleton Fire Rescue (LFR) wildland team is comprised of 30 members who have specialized training in wildland firefighting. Each member must undergo rigorous physical testing and over 60 hours of additional training each year. The team is fully staffed by firefighters who express a keen

desire to work in the wildland firefighting arena.

This season saw the team deployed to eight different states. LFR provided the team members as well as two different wildland trucks to various jurisdictions who requested their help.

Littleton's team was deployed

to New Mexico at the request of Governor Bill Richardson. This detail involved working with local forest service authorities who requested additional resources to help mitigate fire potential due to extreme drought conditions. This assignment lasted a total of six weeks and included the involvement of nine different team members serving 14-day assignments.

Wyoming also requested team members when a fire broke out near Devil's Tower National Monument. Named the Thorn Divide fire, it encompassed over 12,000 acres and threatened more than 130 private residences. The LFR team found themselves on the front lines protecting structures and

buildings inside the monument. Nine team members were deployed over two weeks and provided staffing for three different vehicles.

In addition to New Mexico and Wyoming, the team was requested and sent to South Dakota, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and Nebraska. This provided excellent experience and training for several fires in Colorado and even within Littleton. The team recently returned from the Red Apple fire which was burning outside of Rifle, Colorado and burned nearly 900 acres and threatened 50 homes. Again, the LFR wildland team was instrumental in fighting this fire and protecting properties.

In Littleton, there has been

an increase in wildland fire activity similar to the rest of the Western U.S. The Rockbridge fire in Highlands Ranch, the C-470/Santa Fe fire and the Chatfield State Park fire were all mitigated successfully thanks to the dedication and training of the wildland team.

The deployments enable the team members to gain valuable experience by working with other outside agencies in different capacities. These lessons are brought back home to Littleton and shared with others to keep the team and the entire fire department on the cutting edge of wildland firefighting. LFR's wildland team is reimbursed for all of its costs by the agency that requests its assistance.

Littleton Firefighter deployed to Iraq



Littleton Firefighter Jens Pietrzyk, a sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve, has been dispatched to Iraq to serve as a medic for one of eight special teams of 200 Iraqi and ten American soldiers. The team is carrying out classified operations as part of the war effort in Iraq. We wish Jens well and hope for his safe return.

Fire Prevention Week beginning October 8



Fire Prevention Week begins Saturday, October 8 and runs through Sunday October 15. Littleton Fire Rescue would like to encourage everyone to concentrate and focus on kitchen safety during the month of October. The majority of fires in the United States start in the kitchen. Some of the contributing factors include unattended cooking, children cooking and improper cooking technique. Littleton Fire

Rescue will be out and about all month to remind people to "Watch What You Heat."

Littleton Fire Rescue will host an "open house" Saturday, October 14 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Fire Station #12, 6539 South Broadway. For further information or to schedule a fire safety tour, contact Littleton Fire Rescue at 303-795-3701 or via email at mbalzer@littletongov.org.

Water Rescue Team educates Chatfield visitors



Littleton Fire Rescue's Water Rescue Team worked shoulder to shoulder with multiple agencies Saturday, August 12 to educate visitors to Chatfield State Park on boating and water safety. The group included Chatfield State Park Rangers, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Safe Kids Metro Denver, South Metro Fire Rescue, and West Metro Fire Rescue.

Park visitors participated in

water safety trivia games, a water safety iron-on coloring activity, life vest fittings and giveaways, and a *Stewie the Duck Learns to Swim* read along. Activities for all ages were focused on educating the safe behaviors and available safety devices for enjoying a day on the lake.

The day was a fun-filled success. Visitors enjoyed chatting with firefighters and touring fire apparatus. Participants walked away with a variety of free water safety gear. All agencies involved are looking forward to the next event.



For the first time in 26 years it rained on the parade. However, a little rain did not dampen the spirit or enthusiasm of the 126 participants in the 2006 Western Welcome Week (WWW) Children's Parade. This year's theme was "Embracing Volunteerism." Children ages 13 and under competed in three categories; pedestrians, bikes and floats. There were candy stripe nurses, cowboys, construction workers and of course firefighters. In all, 66 entries braved the rain and walked or rode the parade route. The WWW Children's Parade is sponsored annually by Littleton Firefighters Local 2086 and the Littleton Firefighters Foundation.

what's new

online

www.littletongov.org

Some old friends have returned to Littleton. To Littleton's Web site, that is.

For the first time since 2004, Littleton citizens can once again view broadcasts of recent Littleton City Council meetings. The online meetings are "indexed" so viewers can select just the portions of the meeting in which they have an interest, or choose to watch the entire broadcast online. Naturally, viewers with slower Internet connections will see choppy video quality, but sound quality should not be affected. Meetings are also recorded on DVD and VHS, and a copy of each is available to check out at Bemis Public Library a few days after each meeting. Visit the Council Agendas and Minutes page for links to the broadcasts: www.littletongov.org/council/agenmin.asp.

Another popular feature which has returned to the city's Web site is Cupola Cam, the Web cam which provides a live view of historic downtown Littleton and the surrounding area. Camera failure, upgrade difficulties, software glitches and even winter weather kept the camera out of commission for six months, but everything was resolved in July and the camera went back online. Visit the Cupola Cam Web page to see live streaming video of Main Street and several other Littleton landmarks again: www.littletongov.org/littleton8/streamingcouncilmtgs.asp.

New musical entertainment highlights 2006 Carousel of Music

On August 16, a Carousel of Music, the popular musical event for the whole family, wrapped up its 27th year. Featured at this year's event were: a gold panning station sponsored by Reinke Bros., Inc.; the Littleton Fire Rescue Smokehouse, canoe rides from South Suburban Parks and Recreation, costumed characters, face painting, Jolly-Jump air-filled bounce houses, McGruff the Crime Dog and Child I.D. kits from the Littleton Police Department, and a temporary tattoo station. The musical entertainment consisted of the Colorado Honor Band, the Colorado Wind Ensemble, and the Littleton Chorale. Picnic items for sale included hot dogs, chips, soft drinks and ice cream sandwiches for only 50 cents each. A Carousel of Music is one of the many events held during the 10-day long Western Welcome Week celebration.

Thank you sponsors!



City of Littleton



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LITTLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police chief announces retirement



Littleton Police Chief Gary Maas announced his retirement September 18 effective December 31, 2006. Maas's last day in the office will be November 16, 2006. He will utilize accumulated vacation through the end of the year.

"I have enjoyed my tenure with the City of Littleton. However, I feel it is time for a change; both for the Littleton Police Department, and for me and my family," Maas said.

Maas has been Littleton's chief of police since 1996. He came to Littleton after serving almost six years as the chief of police in Sioux City, Iowa. During his ten year tenure, Maas is credited with introducing a number of progressive initiatives for the department, including:

- Redesigning the promotional process to eliminate prior allegations of bias.
- Working with the Littleton Police Officers Association and the city manager to implement a Master Police Officer Program.
- Introducing, and later expanding, the School Resource Officer program in Littleton Public Schools.

- Instituting Community Resource Officers in each patrol district, including the use of bicycles on patrol.
 - Initiating the first use of a community survey to sample citizen priorities for the department.
 - Introducing a citizen's police academy as a means of improving public understanding and support for the agency.
 - Achieving accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in March, 2006 making Littleton one of only ten law enforcement agencies in Colorado to meet the highest standards in law enforcement.
- "Gary was very innovative in establishing a number of new programs in the city that will continue to be of tremendous benefit to our citizens," said City Manager Jim Woods. "I appreciate his service to our community and wish him and his family the best in his retirement," Woods added.

Woods plans to conduct a nationwide search to hire a new chief, a process expected to take approximately six months. An interim chief will be named prior to November 16.

STUDY: City council to discuss findings

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- acceptable.
- Consider a 9/80 work schedule for detectives, allowing them to be available to witnesses and victims more hours of the day.
- The commander position that oversees the detective division should be converted to a lieutenant position at some point in the future.

Finally, OEC found that the organizational climate is not healthy.

"There is widespread distrust and fear of the top leadership in the organization. Employees indicated they have lost confidence, trust and respect of their top leaders," the report stated. "Whether the examples are accurate, exaggerated or misperceived, this is the number one issue confronting the department," according to the report.

"Littleton has a very good police department that is providing

great service to our citizens," said City Manager Jim Woods. "Our goal for this process is to be as open and productive as possible. We will look at the leadership and management issues raised in the report very carefully, just as we will the recommendations for more effective use of police resources," Woods added.

The full report can be viewed at www.littletongov.org/police.

Families and neighborhoods celebrate National Night Out



The Littleton Police Community Outreach Unit kicked off National Night Out Tuesday, August 1.

National Night Out (NNO) is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;

Strenghen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and

- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Thirty-one parties were held which was up from 25 last year. It is estimated that more than 1,500 residents were part of block parties, ice cream socials and other neighborly get-togethers during the evening. Several hundred more residents of Littleton showed their support by turning on their porch lights.

Littleton Fire Rescue participated by bringing fire trucks and rescue vehicles to the parties. The Littleton Police SWAT Team members displayed their armored vehicle. In 2005, the Littleton Police Department received an award for Outstanding Participation from the National Association of Town Watch. Many thanks go to the officers, fire rescue personnel, residents and volunteers for making this national event so successful this year.

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Volunteers needed for drain marking



In July, students of the Thorne Ecological Institute installed storm drain inlet markers adjacent to the Aspen Grove Lifestyle Center. The blue inlet markers in the shape of a fish display the message, "no dumping—only rain down the drain." This volunteer project is part of the city's ongoing public information effort to emphasize that storm sewers do not lead to a water treatment facility—storm water is discharged

directly to streams and lakes.

The Thorne Ecological Institute offers hands-on environmental education courses in Littleton and Boulder. They can be contacted at 303-499-3647 or at www.thorne-eco.org.

If individuals or groups would like to volunteer to help place the markers elsewhere in the city, contact the Public Services Department at 303-795-3863.

Police department assists with Western Welcome Week



During Western Welcome Week in August, the Littleton Police Department (LPD) mobilized to assist with the parade and downtown events. The Littleton Police Citizen Academy Alumni Association (LPCAAA) volunteered to assist during parade day doing many tasks to help LPD as well as parade organizers. The LPCAAA also set up their Dunk Tank to provide many people with a chance to laugh and dunk a cop. The proceeds of the Dunk Tank allow the LPCAAA to provide support for their programs like the Helping Other People (HOP) program. Thanks to the many officer volunteers who gave up their time to get dunked.

awards and milestones

WWW announces parade winners

- **Mayor's Trophy Best of Parade and Richard Little Parade Chair Award:**
Arapahoe Douglas Mental Health
- **Houstoun Waring Trophy Best Theme:**
Sertoma Promotion Club
- **Edwin Bernis Trophy Parade Chair Award:**
Panther Youth Sports
- **1st Place Floats—Club, Civic, Religious, Non-Profit:**
American Legion Post #103
- **1st Place Floats—Government:**
Littleton Housing Authority
- **1st Place Floats—Business:**
Downtown Littleton Pumpkin Follies and Goat Show
- **1st Place—Marching Groups—Schools:**
Colorado Center for the Blind
- **1st Place Marching Groups—Non-School:**
American Legion Post #103
- **1st Place—Equestrian Mounted Groups:**
Westernaires
- **1st Place—Equestrian Horse Drawn:**
Dish Network
- **1st Place—Clowns:**
Ronald McDonald-Care Mobile
- **1st Place—Vehicles Individual:**
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
- **1st place—Vehicles Commercial:**
Gobe Divers Scuba
- **1st Place—Marching Bands:**
Englewood High School
- **1st Place—Pipe Bands:**
Colorado Isle of Mull, St. Andrew's Society

Changes at the Littleton Center

Beginning this fall, access into the Littleton Center during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) will be restricted to the front door (southeast entrance) of the building. Thank you for your consideration as we make our facility a safer environment for city employees and visitors.



Littleton City Council members weathered the storm (the rain-storm that is!) on their float in the Western Welcome Week Parade. Designed and built by Littleton's own Reinke Brothers, the float depicted a 1950s era drive-in theater.

Mortgage assistance available

First-time homebuyers in the Denver metro area can now get a four percent down payment assistance grant and 6.2 percent mortgage rate through the Metro Mortgage Assistance program led by the City and County of Denver and the Metro Mayors Caucus. Cities throughout the Denver metro area contributed a total of \$25 million in 2006 bond capacity to fund this program, which provides first-time homebuyers with access to 6.2 percent 30-year fixed rate mortgage loans (FHA, VA, RHS, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac eligible conventional) accompanied by a grant for down payment and closing cost assistance equal to

four percent of the original loan amount. To be eligible for the Metro Mortgage Assistance program, annual family income cannot exceed \$71,700 for families of one or two persons and \$82,455 for families of three or more. The maximum home cost under the program is \$365,175. Eligible prospective homebuyers cannot have owned a home in the last three years, except in specified targeted areas. Higher income and purchase price areas are also available in those targeted areas. A list of the targeted areas and more information on the program is available at www.milehigh.com/housing.



The Wild on Littleton Block Party Committee met throughout the summer to plan the successful September 9 event. Pictured top row, left to right: Charlie Blosten, Captain Randy Glanville, Greg Reinke, John Brackney, Lieutenant Ed Tardy, Steve Sadecki, Sarah Klobnak, Alexandra Dilley, Mike Brendenberg, and Cathy Weaver. Front row, left to right: Pete Vincelet, Jim Campbell, Kelli Narde, Ruth Graham, Sue Santori, Korri Stainbrook, and Peggy Cooper.

SSPR discounts recreation center passes

South Suburban Parks and Recreation will be offering all recreation center passes at a 10 percent discount November 26 through December 25. Customers who purchase a multiple-use pass or punch card have access to all facility amenities and drop-in fitness classes at South Suburban's Lone Tree, Goodson and Buck Recreation Centers. Obtain a 30-punch card during this special and reduce daily admission to under \$3 per visit. Additionally, all personal training packages will be 10 percent off during the same time. South Suburban offers an auto-debit service for annual

passes. Customers make an initial down payment and the remainder of the annual pass cost will then be automatically debited monthly out of their checking or credit card account for the next eleven months. For those who utilize the recreation centers three times per week or more, the auto-debit plan will save the most money. For those who utilize the recreation centers two times per week or less and their schedule requires maximum flexibility, punch cards are a great cost-saving option and are available at all recreation centers. For more information visit www.sspr.org.

Accidents down on three major arterials

Vehicle miles traveled have increased, while accident rates have decreased on three major arterial corridors: Santa Fe Drive, Mineral Avenue and Broadway, from 2001 to 2005. Stated in terms of Accidents per Million Vehicle Miles Traveled, the accident rate on Santa Fe Drive dropped from 3.65 (2001) to 2.88 (2005); on Mineral Avenue, the accident rate dropped from 3.5 (2001) to 1.92 (2005) and on Broadway, the accident rate dropped from 6.03 (2001) to 4.54 (2005). There are several reasons for this dramatic decrease: the \$13 million in improvements on Santa Fe Drive in 2003 by the Colorado Department of Transportation and the city, including lane widening, flush medians, street lighting, etc.; improved traffic enforcement by the city's police department, including extensive truck enforcement on Santa Fe Drive; and better traffic signal coordination along the city's main thoroughfares.

“Buck Blitz For Youth” coming soon

South Suburban Parks and Recreation hosts Buck Blitz, an evening activity program for youth ages 10-14 at the Buck Community Recreation Center, 2004 West Powers Avenue, one block north of Littleton Boulevard. Buck Blitz is held on the second Friday of each month, from 7-11 p.m. Every Buck Blitz evening includes swimming, goofy contests, activities in the gym, DJ with dancing and a concession area. Additionally, each month has a featured theme. On October 13, South Suburban

will celebrate Blitz Challenge Night with team and individual physical and intellectual games of skill. November 10 will be Wild & Out Night, improvisational competition for the fun and entertainment of all. Join South Suburban December 8 and receive top treatment on Red Carpet Night. Watch a film and provide your critique for fun awards. For \$6, youth can enjoy Buck Blitz, a secure, supervised program. For more information call 303-483-7064 or visit www.sspr.org.

Harvest Festival and pumpkin sale returning Oct. 14

The museum's 13th Annual Harvest Festival returns Saturday, October 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the late 1860s, families gathered together to help with the fall harvest and to share in the celebration of a successful crop. This year the museum has a great crop of pumpkins, planted by the historic site interpreters, for sale during the festival. Neighbors are bringing their mules for wagon rides.

Historic site interpreters and volunteers will press apples for cider. Children's games in the schoolhouse field will add to the festivities. Historic site interpreters and volunteers will be harvest cooking on the 1860s farm. There is no admission fee to the museum, although wagon rides, cider, and other refreshments will be available for purchase. A food concessionaire will sell frankfurters and other tasty treats as well as beverages

outside the east entrance to the main museum building. The Highline Silver Cornet Band will entertain from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with instruments and music of the late 19th century. Cornet bands played the popular tunes of the time. Other neighbors will make music from 1-3 p.m. The museum is located at 6028 South Gallup Street. Call 303-795-3950 for additional information.

Insights on Al Qaeda among fall programs at Bemis Library

Mansions of Denver

October 10 at 7 p.m., hear the fascinating stories behind the building of Denver’s historic mansions from author James Bretz. Bretz will also give a glimpse into the lives of those who owned the mansions, including Senator Lawrence Phipps, mining king Horace Tabor, Molly Brown, newspaperman Frederick Bonfils, the Boettcher family, the Humphries family, and others. Copies of Bretz’s book, *Mansions of Denver*, will be available for purchase.

Insights on Al Qaeda

On October 17 at 7 p.m., attend an in-depth look at the Al Qaeda terrorist organization. The historical origins of the group will be explored and how it has evolved and changed over time. The role of Osama Bin Ladin and other leaders will also be discussed. The complex organizational structure of this organization will be unraveled and you will learn how Al Qaeda operates and has been impacted by the war on terror. At the conclusion of the presentation, an assessment will be given of our safety now versus the days immediately following 9/11. Educators from the Active Minds organization will present the program.

Musical Moments in Sophie’s Place

Enjoy a hot cup of coffee or tea while listening to music in Sophie’s Place. Monthly performances feature a variety of musical talent from Littleton and the Denver metro area. October 18 from 2-3 p.m., celebrate Oktoberfest with authentic German music performed by Cliff Spratt. Native American Heritage Month will be celebrated November 26 at 2 p.m. with a performance by Calvin Standing Bear, a talented flute player and singer of traditional and contemporary Lakota music. Harpist Hannah Jackson entertains with popular holiday melodies and classical favorites for the harp December 20 from 3-4 p.m.

Frightful Night of Fun: Haunted Houses

Enjoy an evening of spooky fun Friday, October 20 from 7-10 p.m. See the Eddie Murphy film *The Haunted Mansion*, featuring fantastic special effects, and visit some ghostly characters in our haunted rooms. This event is for all ages and refreshments will be served.

Family Film Event: Wallace and Gromit

Bring the family for an afternoon of fun with Wallace and Gromit November 4 at 2 p.m. Did you thrill to the daring duo in *The Curse of the Were Rabbit*? Then you must see them in their first three adventures! Wallace and Gromit debuted in *A Grand Day Out* (1990). Nominated for an Academy Award, this 24-minute film introduced the world to Wallace’s insatiable appetite for cheese and Gromit’s never ending ingenuity in getting Wallace out of trouble. Their next adventure was the Academy Award winning *The Wrong Trousers* (1993). Wallace’s wacky inventions and a notorious penguin thief push Gromit to unseen levels of heroism in the 30-minute masterpiece. Wallace continues to test Gromit’s pluck in *A Close Shave*, another 30-minute Academy Award winner from 1995. A dastardly dog, sheep-napping, the Knit-O-Matic, and Wallace’s first onscreen romance provide a thrilling conclusion to the incredible adventures of Wallace and Gromit.

English Conversation Sessions

If you are learning to speak English, practice your English and learn about American culture in an informal group that meets Fridays from 9-10:30 a.m. No registration is required. For additional information, call the library at 303-795-3961.

Polar Express

Reserve a free ticket on *The Polar Express* and enjoy a delightful winter train ride with hot chocolate, a story, and a special memento to keep. This imaginary train will depart December 7 at 7 p.m. (kids may wear pajamas) and again December 9 at 3 p.m. Reserve a ticket by calling the library at 303-795-3961. For families with children three years and older.

Mile High Baking

If your cakes flop and your muffins resemble rocks at our mile high elevation, learn to prevent baking disasters November 7 at 7 p.m. Professional baker Amy Hoyt will teach the tips and tricks to make everything you bake turn out pastry-shop

perfect every time. Hoyt is an instructor at the Seasoned Chef Cooking School in Denver.

Food for Fines

In cooperation with Interfaith Community Services, the library will sponsor the annual Food for Fines program from November 20 through December 22. Simply bring in a non-perishable food item and have a late book fine removed from your record. This offer does not apply to lost books. Interfaith Community Services helps people living in western Arapahoe County and northern Douglas County, as well as unincorporated areas of Arapahoe County.

Make a Miniature Christmas Tree

Learn how easy and fun it is to make a miniature Christmas tree with beads, stars and other small items. Expert crafter Pat Vick will present two identical workshops November 25 from 10 a.m. to noon and 2-4 p.m. These classes are open to adults and children age eight and older, accompanied by an adult. Participants pay \$2.50 for materials. Call the library at 303-795-3961 to register for one of the workshops.

Buy a Gift Book at the Library!

Looking for that special book for a holiday gift this year? The Friends of the Library and Museum are offering “like new” used books for sale at low prices from Monday, November 20 through Saturday, December 23. Choose from bestsellers, classics, non-fiction, children’s books and more. Bring the whole family in to find great gifts.

English as a Second Language Classes

Learn English at the library! Beginning English classes are held from 9-10:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday, and 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. Intermediate classes take place from 10:30 to noon, Monday through Thursday, and 7-8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. These classes are open to adults and teens age 16 and over who want to learn or improve their English. There is a registration fee of \$20 for adults 21 and older. This fee covers testing and course materials and is due at the first class. You may register for the classes at the main floor reference desk anytime during the year. The ESL classes are held in conjunction with Littleton Public Schools and an instructor is provided by the district. For more information, call Phyllis Larison at the library, 303-795-3961, or Patsy Jaynes, literacy coordinator for the Littleton Public Schools, 303-347-3448.

Computer Classes

The following free computer classes will be offered in the computer training lab on the lower level of the library. Call 303-795-3961 to register for a class, or stop by the reference desk.

- Internet Explorer: 9-10:30 a.m. October 14, November 4 and December 9
- How to Search the Internet: 9-10:30 a.m. November 11 and December 13
- How to Search the Library, 9-10:30 a.m. December 2
- Introduction to Windows: 9-10:30 a.m. October 7 and November 8
- Introduction to Excel: 9-10:30 a.m. October 21
- Introduction to Word: 9-10:30 a.m. November 18
- Computer Comfort: 9-10:30 a.m. October 11

Monday Evening Book Discussion Group

If you enjoy talking about books, join the Evening Book Group that meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. The following will be discussed in upcoming sessions:

- October 16: *Fear and Trembling* by Amelia Nothomb. A young Western woman spends a year in a Japanese company where she makes one cultural blunder after another as she struggles to survive.
- November 20: *Paradise* by Toni Morrison. This acclaimed novel tells the story of an all



Black town in Oklahoma and the women at a nearby shelter who anger the men of the town.

December 11: Dinner and discussion of titles to be selected for the book group in 2007. Contact Librarian Pam Child for more information.

Ask Colorado: 24-Hour Reference Service

Want to know where to vote in the upcoming election? Curious about the first school in Littleton? AskColorado! AskColorado is a free online information service provided by over 40 Colorado libraries, including Bemis. The service allows anyone in Colorado to use the Internet to communicate live with a librarian 24 hours a day, seven days a week. When the librarian finds the answer to a question, the information is sent directly to the user’s browser. The online service can be accessed by going to www.askcolorado.org or through the Bemis website at Bemis.sirsi.net.

Volunteers Needed to Provide Tax Assistance

Each year the library provides free tax preparation assistance for low-income residents through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. If you would like to help others in preparing their tax returns in 2007, contact Tax Assistance Coordinator Bob Vick at 303-697-0954. No prior experience is necessary and training is provided.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Senior Book Club

The senior book club meets the first Monday of each month at 2 p.m. These books will be discussed in upcoming meetings:

November 6: *Deck the Halls* by Mary and Carol Higgins Clark. A light-hearted holiday mystery involving a kidnapping.

December 4: *The Four Agreements: A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom* by Don Miguel Ruiz. Presents a simple code of personal conduct learned from the author’s Toltec ancestors.

Afternoon Programs

Join us for monthly programs geared toward seniors. All programs start at 2 p.m. and include:

- October 23: *Outhouses of Colorado* presented by the Colorado Historical Society and *Corsets and Cravats: Victorian Dress and Manners* presented by Jack Stone.
- November 20: Native American dance performance featuring Jessica Bordeaux Chavez.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Summer Film School Movies Online

See six short films created by Littleton teens! The films can be viewed on the City of Littleton Web site at www.littletongov.org/bemis/teen/movies.asp. Over the summer, more than 40 Littleton teens between 6th and 12th grade attended the Bemis Teen Summer

Film School at the Binning Family Foundation Travis Center. The teens learned all aspects of movie-making. At the end of the summer, the library hosted a premiere where each movie won a special award. The gala evening was attended by more than 170 people!

Art Club

- One Tuesday per month at 3:30 p.m.
- October 24: Sand art
- November 28: Light or sun catchers
- December 19: Pop-up holiday cards

Bemis Anime Team (BAT)

- Held one Tuesday each month; all movies start at 3:30 p.m.
- October 10: *Blue Gender Volume 1*
- November 14: *Negima: Magic 101: The Basics of Magic*
- December 12: *Galaxy Railways: Ahead Full!*

Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) and Video Games

Learn and practice DDR and play video games October 19 at 2 p.m., November 16 at 3:30 p.m., and December 21 at 2 p.m.

Youth Advisory Council

Teens discuss future programming and activities offered by the library. On October 27, we’ll continue the discussion of fall programming; November 17 will be holiday activities and the library’s Food for Fines program, and December 15, next year’s activities. All meetings start at 3:30 p.m.

Teen Read Week

- Vote for the Top Ten Teen Books of 2006 throughout Teen Read Week, October 16-20, and join us for these activities:
- October 16: Pizza and Pens (eat pizza and get a maze pen), from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- October 17: Get a free book and bookmark, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- October 18: Paint and decorate Native American gourds, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- October 19: Learn and practice Dance Dance Revolution and play video games, 2-3 p.m.
- October 20: Frightful Friday of Fun. See the film *The Haunted Mansion* and visit the library’s haunted rooms.

Drop-In Programs

- November 15: Open mic (act, read a poem, sing, or whatever you would like to perform), 3:30 p.m.
- November 24: Runescape Tutorial. With teens as your teachers, learn how to play one of the most popular on-line games available. Enjoy free pizza and beverages.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

Magic, Juggling and Comedy Show

Get ready for Halloween with kooky, spooky Ann Lincoln as the Mad Scientist, who just might produce a live bunny from a giant test tube! October 14 at 3:30 p.m., for children age three and up; those under eight must attend with an adult.

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Children’s Book Week

November 13-19 is Children’s Book Week, and the library is celebrating with these activities:

November 15 at 4 p.m. A craft activity for grades 3-5. Choose to make a journal, book or diary for safekeeping these treasures. Call to register, 303-795-3961.

November 16 and 17, special preschool story times featuring local author Caroline Stutson (see times below).

November 18 at 2 p.m. What will all of the dinosaurs do when the dastardly “Keeper of Darkness” will

no longer let them have their books? A presentation by the Cosmic Circle Puppets.

The Nutcracker Ballet

Children can enjoy the magic of one of the holiday season’s most beloved traditions, The Nutcracker ballet. Littleton Dance Academy presents a dance showcase featuring excerpts from this tale December 2 at 3 p.m.

KBC (Kid’s Book Club)

Independent chapter book readers in grades 4-5. Register in the Children’s Room. *Gregor the Overlander* by Suzanne Collins on October 21 at 3 p.m.

Note: The regular story times listed below will not be held during Thanksgiving Week.

Story Box

For ages infant through 36 months on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. A 30-minute session for children and a caring adult to introduce the joy of rhythm, rhyme and reading. Space is limited; free tickets are available one week in advance.

Preschool Story Time

For children ages three through kindergarten on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Features 30 minutes of

activities. No tickets or registration required.

On October 26 and 27, march in a costume parade through the library. Younger siblings are invited to dress up and participate too.

On November 16 and 17, celebrate Children’s Book Week featuring local author Caroline Stutson.

Night Tales

Story time geared to children three and older, which parents or caregivers attend with their child. Includes stories, songs, and crafts. On Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.

October 19, see the movie *Over the Hedge*.

On October 26, march in the costume parade through the library.

A Barrel of Fun Productions presents a special night tales with their Fall Festival Puppet Show November 9 at 7 p.m.

Paws To Read

Presented in cooperation with R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs) and Denver Pet Partners, children in grades 1-5 can practice reading with a special doggie pal. Space is limited, so call the library to register for a 20-minute spot between 10 a.m. and noon October 21 and November 18. For more information call 303-795-3961.

Candlelight Walk returns to Main Street November 24

Mark your calendar for the 2006 Candlelight Walk and Tree Lighting Friday, November 24 in historic downtown Littleton.

The 23rd edition of this Littleton tradition will feature a magical evening of holiday festivities, culminating in the illumination of the trees on Main Street. Santa Claus will make his way down Main Street in a sleigh followed by thousands of carolers holding candles and flashlights. Enjoy merchant open houses and bring your camera for a photo with Santa or his reindeer

at Town Hall Arts Center, 2659 West Main Street. The reindeer are sponsored by Bradford Auto Body, Inc. and Western Welcome Week.

Gather at Town Hall Arts Center, Bega Park, or Bradford Auto Body for free hot cider and music from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Candles will be available for 50 cents. Donations of non perishable food for Interfaith Community Services will be accepted, as well as toys for the Arapahoe Santa Claus Shop. The Littleton Chorus, Arapahoe Brass, Leewood

Elementary School Choir, and Mission Hills Church Choir will provide entertainment at various Main Street locations while the crowd waits for Santa’s arrival.

Main Street will be closed to traffic shortly after 5 p.m. and Santa will begin his march down the street starting at the courthouse at 6:30 p.m. The event culminates at the west end of Main Street where one lucky child’s name will be drawn to help Santa throw the switch on the huge live trees. Free parking is available at Arapahoe Community College.

GENERAL NEWS

LHA “packs the backpacks”



Littleton Housing Authority (LHA) recently provided 59 backpacks to children of family subsidized housing units with their new “Pack the Backpacks” program.

LHA designed the program to assist low and moderate income families with the high cost of school supplies. In June, donation boxes were placed at Alyson Court, Amity Plaza, Bradley House, Libby Bortz Assisted Living Center, Geneva Village, the City of Littleton offices, Bemis Library and First Community Bank. Donations of school supplies

including paper, crayons, rulers, scissors, glue and notebooks were requested.

The Sneaker Fund, which was begun by LHA to assist with school related expenses, provided the funds to purchase the backpacks. Staff and the community donated the supplies to “pack the backpacks.”

Executive Director Dan Burnham said, “it is so gratifying to see the kids faces when they open their new backpack. The backpacks were packed according to age groups, so we had special things for elementary, middle and high school kids.”

A barbecue was held August 9 at the Bradley House and was attended by more than 75 people including the kids and their families. Staff provided hot dogs, chips, drinks and dessert. Kathie Covell-Larson, resident services coordinator, directed the new program.

Snow Squad volunteers needed

Snow Squad is a volunteer program administered by the City of Littleton to provide snow removal for city residents who are physically unable to shovel their sidewalks themselves. Snow Squad has many citizens who have been unsuccessful in enlisting the help of a family member,

friend or neighbor to perform this service. If you can spare an hour to help whenever there is measurable snow, and are looking for a way to give back to your community, contact Mark Barons, City of Littleton Neighborhood Resources Coordinator, at 303-795-3778.

SOUTH PLATTE PARK

South Platte Park offering a variety of fall programs

All programs meet at the Solar House Classroom next to the Carson Nature Center in the park. South Suburban offers many outdoor recreation activities through the South Platte Park base program. Check www.sspr.org or look in the Fall/Winter *Connections* catalog for youth and adult horsemanship, bike repair, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and much more. Youth 16 and under must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 303-730-1022 with questions about any outdoor recreation program.

SUNSET CANOEING

Explore Cooley Lake’s shoreline, moving silently past herons, ducks and beaver, as the sun slips behind the mountains. All levels of experience welcome. Ages 8 to adult.
#673561 Oct 13 F 5-7:30 p.m.
Fee: \$13 (\$10 district rate)

BIKE REPAIR, Small hands-on classes!

Bring your bike and learn how to repair flat tires, lube your bike, adjust brakes and gears, and what tools to carry. Ages 8 and up.
#681131 Oct 14 Sa 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Fee: \$24 (\$19 district rate)
Family Rate: 1 adult + 1 child + 1 bike: \$45 (\$35 district rate)

THERE ARE BEAVER HERE?

Search for these fascinating animals with a naturalist at sunset. Visit several active beaver lodges on a trailer hayride. Ages 6* to adult.
#675021 Oct 12 Th 5:30-7 p.m.
Fee: \$9 adults, \$7 youth* (\$6 adults, \$5 youth* district rate)

FAMILY FUN WALKS

All ages welcome on the third Saturday of each month. Adventures of a Mountain Man. Meet a fur trapper from the 1830s and join his crew. Set camp along the river, and watch for the beaver he’s after.
#672811 Oct 21 Sa 2-3:30 p.m.
Fee each class: \$9 adults \$7 youth (\$6 adults, \$5 youth district rate). Family rates each class: \$25 (\$17 district rate) for family members with same last name or address.

Littleton City Council



Doug Clark
303-798-3594
At Large



Amy Conklin
303-795-5925
At Large



Pat Cronenberger
303-734-8313
District II



Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Kast
303-730-2639
District IV



Tom Mulvey
303-730-7369
District III



John Ostermiller
303-798-9665
At Large



Mayor Jim Taylor
303-795-6161
District I

City Council Accommodations

The public is invited to attend all regular meetings or study sessions of the Littleton City Council or any city board, commission or public program.
Please call 303-795-3857 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or program if you will need special assistance or any reasonable accommodation in order to be in attendance at or participate in any such meeting or program.
For any additional information concerning the city’s compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, please call 303-795-3857.
Additional city government information can now be accessed via the Internet at www.littletongov.org.

Littleton Report credits

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