



Mayor's Matters

Issue: # 14

August 2009

Greetings!

Mayor's Matters is your monthly connection to learning about the great things happening in the City of Wheat Ridge! I encourage you to share this monthly e-newsletter with any friends or family who may wish to know more about Wheat Ridge. Feel free to use the "Forward" link at the bottom of the page to send a copy of this e-newsletter to others.

Mayor Jerry DiTullio



Greenbelt Closure

Clear Creek Trail Closed West of McIntyre

Jefferson County Open Space has implemented an immediate trail closure for the safety of trail users along Clear Creek west of McIntyre street to Ford Street in the City of Golden due to construction activity adjacent to the Clear Creek Trail. Signage and barriers are being placed to direct users onto a detour via 44th Avenue from McIntyre to approx. 1/4 mile west of the trail overpass/bridge site where a residence driveway crosses the trail.

For more information, click [here](#).

Free Mulch and Firewood

A limited amount of free firewood and wood mulch will be made available only to Wheat Ridge residents as follows:

July 20th Storm Update

On July 20th, Wheat Ridge was hit hard by an unexpected storm, particularly, the northwest area of the City. I am very proud of the City's response to the storm. I have received many compliments from citizens throughout the City and I appreciate hearing from each of you.

On Monday, August 3rd the City Council passed an emergency ordinance that established a 50 percent rebate on all building permits as a result of storm damage. I broke the tie vote on this emergency ordinance and believe it is helpful and appropriate to provide this assistance to citizens of the community. Property owners will be required to submit an application in order to receive a rebate. The application is currently being developed and will be posted on the City's Website when finalized. The eligibility period is July 21st through October 16th. Please note that the rebate program is contingent upon Council approval of funding.

Also, on August 3rd the City officially thanked local agencies who assisted us in the storm clean up with a proclamation recognizing their tremendous efforts. These agencies include:

- City of Golden
- Local Chapter of the International Code Council
- Comcast
- Xcel
- Local Fire and EMS agencies
- Friday-Sunday, August 7-9 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; (while material lasts)

While the storm was significant it did not rise to the level of a declaration of disaster based on state and federal guidelines. Therefore, the storm did not exceed or impact Wheat Ridge's ability to respond to the incident. As a result, the City continuing to work with the Colorado Department of Emergency Management and Department of Local Affairs to identify possible dollars to recover our costs and possible aid to citizens without insurance.

We will continue to provide updates in response to the storm on our City [Website](#).

Protect Your Property

Following the major storm July 20th, repairs to private property may be needed which would require a building permit from the Wheat Ridge Building Division. The types of work requiring permits are as follows:

- Fences (repair or replacement)
- Roofs (shingle replacement)
- Exterior Siding (repair and replacement)
- Windows (repair or replacement)
- Structural building repair

All work must be done by licensed contractors. (All contractors conducting business in the City of Wheat Ridge are required to be licensed by the City of Wheat Ridge, insured, and to have a valid building permit issued prior to the start of work.)

Visit the Wheat Ridge [Website](#) for more information or contact the Building Division at 303-235-2855 to verify licensed contractors.

Committed to the Community

Karen Ruiz, Recreation Supervisor Awarded Outstanding Professional Award from the Colorado Association of Senior Centers

Congratulations Karen on being recognized by the Colorado Association of Senior Centers with the Outstanding Professional - Marianne Logan Award.

Karen received this award for her leadership and commitment to providing the creative senior programming at the Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center; thereby, positioning the Center as one of the best in the state!

Karen's leadership has been demonstrated by being one of the

- Location: Pierson St. & W. 43rd Ave.

For more information, click [here](#).

Comprehensive Plan Tip

In looking at Wheat Ridge housing characteristics, 54% of homes are owned in Wheat Ridge versus 68% in the Denver metro area.

The median year houses were built in Wheat Ridge is 1963 versus 1980 for the Denver metro area.

Wheat Ridge has a larger proportion of smaller homes and a smaller proportion of larger homes compare to Jefferson County has a whole.

All of these factors contribute to creating a challenging situation for the City of Wheat Ridge in revitalizing the City's neighborhoods.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Comprehensive Plan Update Project.

November 3rd Election

The Municipal Election will be held Tuesday, November 3rd, 2009.

This is an all Mail-Ballot Election - there will be no Polling Places on Election Day.

Early and Absentee Voting information may be obtained on the Elections page on the City's [Website](#).

You must be registered to

first Center's in the state to have a computer lab. She is also recognized for hosting a quality outdoor recreation program that continues to attract new participants in addition to the popular Silver Sneakers fitness and wellness program. Karen was recognized by CASC for her true love for seniors and her commitment to the profession.

Thank you for your commitment to Wheat Ridge!

Wheat Ridge Volunteer Honored with the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police Volunteer of the Year Award 2009

The **Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award 2009** was presented to **Tim Zimmerman** of the Wheat Ridge Police Department SWAT team at the **Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP)** Annual Conference in Steamboat Springs on June 10, 2009. His fellow SWAT members nominated Tim for his unselfish commitment to being the team medic for the last 18 years.

6th Annual Business Awards & Appreciation Luncheon

The 2009 Business Award Recipients will be recognized today by the Mayor, City Council, and business community at 11:30 a.m. during the 6th Annual Business Appreciation & Awards Luncheon at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center. Please join us in congratulating this year's award winners.

For more information, click [here](#).

Local Business Networking Opportunity

Enterprise Wheat Ridge is proud to present Congressman Ed Perlmutter as their special guest speaker. Congressman Perlmutter will be speaking during Enterprise Wheat Ridge's August 11th Breakfast meeting. If you would like to attend please RSVP no later than noon on August 10th.

Time: 7:00am - 8:45am

Where: Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, 4005 Kipling Street,

vote by October 5th, 2009 in order to participate in this Election.

On this year's Municipal Ballot:

- Election of one Council Member in each of the City's four districts
- Election of Mayor
- Voter approval of a Franchise with the Public Service Company of Colorado to provide utility services in the City of Wheat Ridge
- Voter approval of two proposed City Charter Amendments

Coffee with a Cop

Meet and visit with members of the Wheat Ridge Police Department over coffee! Ask questions about the department, special programs or law enforcement in general.

Due to the popularity of Coffee with a Cop, we've added additional dates and locations!

On Mondays, Coffee with a Cop takes place at the Starbucks located at 3450 Youngfield Street in Wheat Ridge.

Upcoming dates:

Monday, August 10
9 to 11 a.m.

Monday, September 7
9 to 11 a.m.

On Fridays, Coffee with a Cop takes place at Big Sky

Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

Registration: www.ewheatridge.com or RSVP to secretary@wheatridge.biz and pay at the door.

Cost: Enterprise Wheat Ridge Members and their guests \$12 ea. Non-members are welcome and can register via the EW Website. Cost to non-members \$15 each. Please note that this is not a fundraiser for Congressman Perlmutter. The cost of the meeting simply covers expenses for the meeting, including breakfast.

Carnation Festival

Come and Celebrate with Wheat Ridge! The 40th Annual Carnation Festival is August 13 - 15th at Anderson Park located at 44th and Field Street. Visit the Carnation Festival [Website](#) for more information.

Happy Birthday Wheat Ridge!



On Saturday, August 15th the City will honor past elected officials and citizens who were instrumental in the incorporation of the City of Wheat Ridge beginning at 6 p.m. on the main stage. All are invited to celebrate the City's 40th Birthday and to recognize those citizens who helped lay the foundation for this great

community.

Don't forget the annual Carnation Festival Jefferson Symphony Concert

On the lawn south of the Emergency Department at Lutheran Medical Center - Wednesday, August 12, 6:30 p.m.

Exempla Lutheran Medical Center is proud to provide this event to you and our community, as we join in Wheat Ridge's annual community celebration, the Carnation Festival.

Baugh House Celebration

The Baugh House on 44th and Robb is the only original cabin in the State still on the same property in the same community as it was built. The Wheat Ridge Historical Society is planning a huge celebration on Saturday of the Carnation Festival and is advertising all up and down the Front Range with ANFRM Association of Northern Front Range Museums. They will be holding their meeting at the Historic Park on the Monday after the Carnation Festival and will be touring the Baugh Property over 100 people come to this meeting.

For more information please visit www.wheatridgehistoricalsociety.org

Espresso Cafe located at 7300 West 38th Avenue in Wheat Ridge.

Upcoming dates:

Friday, August 14
9 to 11 a.m.

Friday, September 11
9 to 11 a.m.

Budget

Do not miss the opportunity to provide your input on the budget at regular City Council meetings beginning at 7 p.m. on Aug 10. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for Sep 28th. Please refer to the City Council Agenda for this meeting date to confirm this agenda item. For more information about the 2010 City Budget, contact Patrick Goff, Deputy City Manager at (303) 235-2819 or e-mail: pgoff@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

Cultural Commission Artistic Community Directory

The Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission is putting together a directory for the city's artistic community.

If you are an artist or if you or your organization provides services for artists or performs in Wheat Ridge, please send your contact information to Elizabeth Clark at:

eclark131@yahoo.com,

or care of Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission, Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, 4005 Kipling, Wheat Ridge CO, 80033.

People with Physical Disabilities to Learn about Parks and Recreation Services Accessible to Them in One-day Session

The People with physical disabilities can now learn how to access and use Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation facilities and services during its Adapted Recreation Awareness Day, scheduled for 9:00 a.m. - 12 p.m., Saturday, September 12, 2009, at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, located at 4005 Kipling St. Cost of the event is free.

People of all ages having any level of disability are invited to participate. Young veterans with war injuries to senior citizens recovering from surgical procedures will benefit from learning what Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation has to offer them during this one-day, interactive session.

Scheduled hands-on clinics will include hand cycling, aqua therapy, Kettlebell, and Z-Health. Kettlebell and Z-Health are two of the fastest growing fitness trends in the country and both programs have proven to be popular with people with physical disabilities. Anyone interested in participating in the aqua therapy clinic should bring a swim suit.

RSVP required by September 10, 2009. For more information or to RSVP, call 303-231-1342.

Wheat Ridge Police Community Services Team Hosts Local Animal Vaccine Clinic

A The Wheat Ridge Police Department (WRPD) Community Services Team, in partnership with Table Mountain Animal Center (TMAC), is co-hosting another animal vaccine clinic in 2009 for the convenience of area residents.

All area residents are invited to participate in this community service event at a substantial cost savings. The clinic will be staffed by a certified veterinarian and a technician assistant utilizing one of TMAC's mobile clinic vehicles.

We also encourage all resident dog owners to obtain their initial Jefferson County dog license at the clinic.

An animal control representative will be available at the clinic to answer any questions and to assist you regarding most domestic/wildlife issues.

Wines and Dines Event

WR2020 presents the Wines and Dines event on September 24th from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Copper Fields Event Chateau.

Come out and enjoy an evening of great food and wine provided by local Wheat Ridge restaurants and businesses.

Buy your tickets online [here](#) or contact WR2020 at 720-259-1030.

Mayor's Matters available online

Did you know past issues of the *Mayor's Matters* e-newsletter are available online? Click [here](#) to access the City's Website and download past issues of *Mayor's Matters*!

Green Tip

This time of year could be a good time for you to upgrade your thermostat to save energy.

Modern thermostats are much more efficient when it comes to heating and cooling your home. They are more accurate and many new ones are also programmable which can save your wallet and the environment.

Replacing your thermostat is an easy way to make a difference.

Source: *DailyEco Tips*, September 9, 2008

Quick Links

We look forward to meeting and greeting our local animal community. Come join us at the clinic!

WHAT: Animal Vaccine Clinic
WHEN: October 24th , 2009
TIME: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: Wheat Ridge Police Department
7500 W 29th Avenue
PRICING: \$35 Rabies/Distemper, \$10 Bordetella
Licensing: \$15 Altered, \$35 Unaltered

Cash & Checks ONLY

* Bring proof of previous rabies vaccine

* Proof of Spay or Neuter

Participants are welcome to call the WRPD Community Services Team message line at 303-235-2926 with questions or concerns. Reservations are not required - first come, first served!

[City of Wheat Ridge](#)

[Wheat Ridge 2020](#)

[Mayor's Office](#)

[Quarterly Connections
Newsletter](#)

[Wheat Ridge Channel 8](#)

[Mayor's Matters E-
Newsletter](#)

[WRTV 8 Live and On
Demand Videos](#)

Stay Connected with Live and On Demand Videos

Wheat Ridge residents are now able to watch local City meetings broadcast live over the internet! Users can also instantly replay all or part of those meetings at their convenience through a link on the City's Website. The City launched the new videostreaming technology last month to enhance the accessibility of Channel 8 programming to citizens who may not have access to WRTV 8.

Click [here](#) to view the live and on demand videos!

For More Information

If you would like more information about the City of Wheat Ridge's E-Newsletters, please feel free to contact Heather Geyer, Assistant to the City Manager/Public Information Officer at 303-235-2826 or via E-mail at: hgeyer@ci.wheatridge.co.us

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