



Mayor's Matters

Issue: # 16

October 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.



This Halloween, keep you and your family safe with the following [safety tips](#) from the Police Department.

Mayor Jerry DiTullio

A Farewell from Dema Brianza ~

After serving the City of Wheat Ridge and its many businesses for more than 33 years, I will be retiring this month. I'd like to take this opportunity to say farewell to those who have made my experience here so memorable. Thank you to all my colleagues and to all the wonderful businesses in Wheat Ridge with whom I've had the privilege of working with over the many years. I will miss you greatly!

Demetrius Brianza, Tax Technician

Thank you Dema for your service to Wheat Ridge!

3rd Annual Halloween Pumpkin Glow

Friday, October 30, 6:30 - 8 p.m.
Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center

Celebrate Halloween by winding your way down a trail of glowing pumpkins at the Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center. It is truly an amazing sight! All ages are welcome and there will be games and trick-or-treating for children. After you have been completely dazzled by the Pumpkin Glow, join your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors in Prospect Hall for free refreshments!

To display your very own



Community Services Team Hosts Local Animal Vaccine Clinic

In partnership with the Table Mountain Animal Center, the WRPD Community Services Team is co-hosting a second animal vaccine clinic on **October 24, 2009.**

Dog and cat owners are encouraged to participate in this community service event at a substantial cost savings. The mobile clinic will be located in front of City Hall on **October 24 from 2 - 4 p.m.**, and will be staffed by a certified veterinarian and technician.

Participants are welcome to call the WRPD Community Services Team message line at 303-235-2926 with questions. Reservations are not required, and please plan to pay with cash or a check. No credit cards will be accepted.

For more information see the current issue of [Connections](#).

The Buck Stops Here Business Seminar

Take advantage of this local business training opportunity to help your business stay successful in Wheat Ridge.

carved pumpkin at the Pumpkin Glow, just bring a carved Jack-o-Lantern to the Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center on either Thursday, October 29 between 12 - 3:45 p.m. or Friday, October 30 between 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Individuals who display a pumpkin in the Pumpkin Glow will be entered in a prize drawing. Jack-o-Lanterns can be reclaimed by their carvers between 8 - 8:30 p.m. on October 30. All unclaimed pumpkins will be discarded.

Pumpkin Carving Event

Bring your friends and family to our pumpkin carving event for the Annual Pumpkin Glow! Bring your own pumpkin or carve one of ours on either Thursday, October 29 from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Senior/Community Center or Friday, October 30 from 12 - 4 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Your pumpkin will be displayed at the Pumpkin Glow! We will have volunteers available to help hollow out pumpkins. You can get ideas from our idea books, samples and other carvers. Enjoy a delicious cup of hot apple cider after the work is done.

City Receives Prestigious National Awards from 3CMA

Savvy and Silver Circle Awards Bestowed on City for Excellence in WRTV8 Programming

The City-County Communications Marketing Association (3CMA) has awarded the City's Channel 8 program with a prestigious first place Savvy Award for the WRTV8 Top of the Hour: Comprehensive Plan program in the category of *Regularly Scheduled Programming*, as well as a second place Silver Circle Award for the Top of the Hour: Coffee with a Cop program in the category of *Promotional Video*.

WRTV8 programming is available to subscribers of Comcast Cable on Channel 8. Non-cable subscribers may access WRTV8 programming on demand, online at the City's [Website](#), click on the video streaming button on the left side of the homepage.

Congratulations to Wheat Ridge Channel 8 programming for this impressive honor!

Wheat Ridge Economic Development Underway

Wheat Ridge Welcomes New Denny's Location

On September 22, Wheat Ridge Mayor Jerry DiTullio, along with members of City Council, helped Denny's Restaurant open a new location with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 3291 Youngfield

The Buck Stops Here will discuss business finance expectations, as well as incentive and efficiency programs as a way to save money in your business.

The seminar is free to attend and will take place on **November 5 from 7:30 - 9 a.m.** at the Lakewood City Council Chambers. To register, call Joyce Wayman at 303-987-7730 or E-mail ed@lakewood.org.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Envision Wheat Ridge Comprehensive Plan was unanimously adopted by the City Council at the final public hearing on October 12th. An implementation work program will begin later this year. The Comprehensive Plan is available on the Community Development page of the City's [Website](#).

For more information contact Sally Payne, Senior Planner, at 303-235-2852 or via E-mail at spayne@ci.wheatridge.co.us

November 3 Election

The Municipal Election will be held Tuesday, November 3, 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](#).

Service Road in Wheat Ridge.

Denny's owners, Ali and Beverly Khodabash, redeveloped the location formerly known as Marie's County Café and were able to utilize the \$14,000 Wheat Ridge Business District Grant Program, administered by Wheat Ridge 2020, to help with the building new design, facades, awnings and signage.

The Rehabilitation Center at Sandalwood Celebrates 50 Years

On October 10, The Rehabilitation Center at Sandalwood (formerly the Sandalwood Manor), located at 3835 Harlan St. in Wheat Ridge celebrated its 50th anniversary.

In 2009, Sandalwood added more than 15,000 square feet of guest space to their existing building, expanding The Rehabilitation Center at Sandalwood which can accommodate 30 guests in 14 private and eight semi-private rooms.

Sandalwood has been an integral part of the Wheat Ridge community for 50 years, providing seniors with an atmosphere that promotes comfort in care, safe healing and a dedication to maintaining the individuality and pride of their residents. Join the celebration of Sandalwood's long legacy of excellence in rehabilitative therapy and long-term care in Wheat Ridge.

Register Your Dog at the WRPD

Citizens can now purchase mandatory dog licenses at the Wheat Ridge Police Department, 7500 W. 29th Ave., from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. All dogs more than four months old and residing in the City of Wheat Ridge are required by law to be licensed. Licenses must be renewed annually, and applications must be accompanied by proof of vaccination by a licensed veterinarian.

The annual license fee for a spayed/neutered dog is \$15, and the fee for an unaltered dog is \$30. Credit or debit card payments are not accepted, and checks should be made out to the City of Wheat Ridge. License application may also be made online at www.ci.wheatridge.co.us. Proceeds from the sale of the licenses go to Jefferson County and the Table Mountain Animal Shelter. If you have questions please contact the Wheat Ridge Community Services Team at 303-235-2926.

Building Permit Rebate Program to Aide Residents in Storm Repairs

Homeowners continue to make repairs to their property after the July 20 storm that hit Wheat Ridge. To aid residents, City Council passed an emergency ordinance on August 3 to establish a 50 percent rebate on all building permit fees as a result of storm damage. Property owners will be required to submit an application in order to receive a rebate. The application form and additional information is available on the City's [Website](#) or at the City's

You must have been registered to vote by October 5, 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.

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

Upcoming dates:

Monday, November 9
9 to 11 a.m.

Save the Date: Holiday Lighting Ceremony

Celebrate the holidays with Wheat Ridge this year on Thursday, December 3 at the Wheat Ridge Municipal Building for the Holiday Lighting Ceremony! Join us for caroling, refreshments, horse drawn hayrides and even Santa and his Elves!

Building Division on the second floor of City Hall. **Storm related building permits issued by October 16 are eligible for rebate.** Rebate applications must be submitted by May 31, 2010. Please note that the rebate program is subject to the availability of funds.

Additional information on the rebate program, as well as details on permit requirements, can be found in the current issue of the [Connections](#) newsletter.

For more information contact Melissa Mackey, Permit Technician in the Building Division at 303-235-2855 or email her directly at mmackey@ci.wheatridge.co.us.



Citizen Concerns Bring Change to Off-Street Parking Surface Requirements

Due to concerns expressed by citizens to City Officials, City Council adopted revisions to the Wheat Ridge City Code of Laws, Section 26-501, which prohibits the parking of a motor vehicle on

Sponsored by Enterprise Wheat Ridge. For more information call 303-231-1300 or visit www.ewheatridge.com.

Green Tip

The weather is turning colder so remember this tip for keeping warm in your vehicle and saving energy.

The best way to warm up a vehicle is to drive it. No more than 30 seconds of idling on winter days is needed. Anything more simply wastes fuel and increases emissions. Idling your car will get you zero miles per gallon.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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*!

Quick Links

[City of Wheat Ridge](#)

[Wheat Ridge 2020](#)

[Mayor's Office](#)

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[Wheat Ridge Channel 8](#)

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

[WRTV 8 Live and On](#)

landscaping and other un-improved surfaces. The amendments became effective on August 31, 2009.

[Demand Videos](#)

Citizens have expressed concerns regarding the unsightly practice of vehicles being parked on lawns and compacted dirt surfaces. They were concerned that properties that have vehicles parked in the front yard or on weeded or dirt areas diminished the aesthetics and property values of their neighborhood, and negatively affected community image. Additionally, utilizing lawns or soft surfaces for the purpose of parking or storage of vehicles has a negative effect on storm water quality when dirt and debris from yards is tracked onto the streets.

The Wheat Ridge Police Department, through the Community Services Team, will begin an educational campaign to help residents understand the changes in the ordinance and provide direction on how to comply with the new requirements. To read more, see the current issue of the [Connections](#) newsletter. Look for more information on the City's [Website](#) or on local Wheat Ridge Channel 8 programming.

Building Permit Fees Reduced

City Council recently adopted two amendments to the previously-adopted 2003 editions of the International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code (IRC). The amendments achieve two things: (1) a reduction in the building permit fees applicable to several small-scale home improvement projects; and (2) the elimination of the requirement (Appendix J) that small-scale remodeling and renovation projects require a homeowner to bring other areas of the home (not being worked on) into compliance with all applicable codes. The intent of both of these amendments is to reduce the burden on homeowners who wish to perform home renovation and remodeling projects.

For a list of the new building permit fees, click [here](#) to view the full article in the Connections newsletter.

For more information about the changes to the building permit fees, please contact Melissa Mackey, Permit Technician, in the Building Division at 303-235-2855 or email her directly at mmackey@ci.wheatridge.co.us.

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 in the spring to enhance the accessibility of Channel 8 programming to citizens who may not have access to WRTV8.

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

Upcoming Events at the Wheat Ridge Library

Story Times

Every Tuesday through December 8

11 a.m. Baby Time for ages up to two years

11:30 a.m. Story Time for all ages

Thursday Morning Book Group - 9 a.m.

October 15 - "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy

November 19 - "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch

December 3 - "Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World" by Vicki Myron

Baby Sign and Song

11:15 a.m., Thursday, October 22 and 29

Come learn to sign with your baby in this four-week class. Learn simple sign language with fun wiggle rhymes and singing. This program is a series; please plan to attend all four sessions. For babies up to 18 months and one parent. Space is limited. Registration is required.

Globeology: Biome Bonanza

4 p.m., Wednesday, October 14

The Wildlife Experience will talk about the earth's biomes followed by hands-on activities. Ages six and up. Tickets are required and can be picked up two weeks before the program.

Native American Pottery Class (teens)

1 p.m., Saturday, November 14 and 22

Learn about the pottery of Maria Martinez of San Ildefonso and create your own Native American pottery pieces. This program is a series; please plan to attend both sessions. Ages 11 to 18. Space is limited. Registration is required.

For more information, visit the Wheat Ridge Library online at www.jefferson.lib.co.us.

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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- NOTIFY ME
- CLASS REGISTRATION



News & Announcements

Karen Ruiz Wins Outstanding Professionals Award
Senior/Community Center supervisor wins prestigious award. [\[Read More...\]](#) [\[view all\]](#)

2010 Proposed Budget available for public review.
The budget can be reviewed online or at the following locations, City Hall, Wheat Ridge Senior/Community Center, Wheat Recreation Center, and Wheat Ridge Library. The 2010 Budget is scheduled to be adopted at the October 12th City Council meeting. [\[Read on...\]](#)

Building Permit Rebate Program
City Council passed an emergency ordinance on Aug 3 to establish a 50% rebate on all building permit fees as a result of storm damage. [\[Read on...\]](#)

Notice of Application for Utility Franchise
is hereby given by the Public Service Company of Colorado of its intent to apply to the City Council of the City of Wheat Ridge, Colorado for the right to provide utility service to the City and to its residents [\[Read on...\]](#)

Swine Flu Awareness
The [City of Wheat Ridge](#) is encouraging all residents to be prepared and educate themselves on how to prevent the spread of influenza. [\[More...\]](#)

Wheat Ridge Farmers' Market Is Back!
Wheat Ridge Farmers' Market is back for another year located in the parking lot at 4252 Wadsworth Boulevard (in front to Ross Dress for Less) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m every Thursday. [\[Read on...\]](#)

CALENDAR [\[view all\]](#)

- Oct. 15 Planning Commission Canceled
- Oct. 15 Wheat Ridge Farmers' Market
- Oct. 19 City Council Study Session-Canceled
- Oct. 20 City Tax Returns Due
- Oct. 20 Wheat Ridge Urban Renewal Authority
- Oct. 22 Board of Adjustment
- Oct. 22 Liquor Authority Meeting

QUICK LINKS [\[view all\]](#)

- [Mayor's Office](#)
- [Boards & Commissions](#)
- [Agendas and Minutes](#)
- [Recreation Activity Guides](#)
- [November 2009 Election Information](#)
- [Police Department](#)
- [NLC Prescription Drug Discount Program](#)



Deep Roots. Short Commutes.

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