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## RTD COMMUTER RAIL

### Train to Wheat Ridge strides towards completion

Scheduled to open this fall, the Gold Line (G Line) is drawing closer to the finish line. Soon community members in Wheat Ridge will have a connection to downtown in 25 minutes.

The G Line is 11.2 miles of electric commuter rail and will connect Denver's Union Station to Wheat Ridge, passing through northwest Denver, Adams County and Arvada. The line will feature seven new Park-n-Ride stations: 41st • Fox, Pecos Junction, Clear Creek • Federal, 60th & Sheridan • Arvada Gold Strike, Olde Town Arvada, Arvada Ridge, and Wheat Ridge • Ward. It will travel every 15 minutes during peak hours (6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.) and every 30 minutes during off peak hours (4 a.m. to 6 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.).

As finishing touches begin at each station, the line is looking less like a construction site and more like an esteemed commuter rail service. The City of Wheat Ridge will benefit from the Wheat Ridge • Ward Station, the end station to the west, located at 50th Place and Taft Court. It will feature a total of 290 parking spaces, 10 bicycle racks and five bicycle lockers to allow an easier, multi-modal commute for the community. Final construction includes electrical work, installation of platform signage, handrails, benches and trash receptacles and improvement of curb, gutter and sidewalk along the line.

Testing and commissioning is also underway. Current activities include crossing tests, integrative testing, operator training and train tests which will be followed by the final testing phase - a full system performance demonstration along the entirety of the G Line. Thorough testing of all mechanisms along the alignment is required by RTD, the Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Railroad Administration before the rail line will open to the public.



Photo looking west from the platform.

With testing comes train horns at the 17 crossings along the line, as required by the Federal Railroad Administration. The good news is that Adams County and the City of Arvada have submitted applications for quiet zones along the entire line, which means trains cannot sound their horn unless there is an emergency or maintenance workers are near the tracks. Until quiet zones are in place, the use of train horns is important for the safety of vehicles and pedestrians.

The G Line will be a huge milestone for the region. For more information, visit <http://www.rtd-denver.com/g-line>

Plans for the opening grand celebration are underway. RTD has not released an opening date, but check the City website for the latest updates. [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/G-line](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/G-line)

**For information about the City's involvement in the process, read the City Manager's column on page 4.**



Michael Clapper's *Anchored by Place* was installed at the station last month. The artist used the station's theme of connectivity and the City's rich farming history as inspiration for the modernist stalks of wheat. RTD provided \$125,000 to fund the art.

Aerial photo of the station under construction and potential redevelopment area surrounding the station. Photos courtesy of RTD



## Mayor Joyce Jay



# The Task of Bringing the City to its Full Potential is Ours

We cannot rely on others to bring the City to its full potential. We cannot “kick it down the road” any further. It’s time for all of us, as a community, to step up to the plate. Recently, the citizen D.I.R.T (drainage, infrastructure, roadways, and trails) task force reviewed and prioritized a list of 23 unfunded infrastructure projects with a cost of over \$150 million dollars. Some of the projects included were infrastructure for the Gold Line station development area, City roadway and streetscapes, economic expansion, and renovation of our trails, parks and recreation facilities.

Next, City Council sorted through the citizen-lead recommendations with financial sustainability in mind. Development projects that can produce a future income stream were favored - especially if they also improve aesthetics, mobility, desirability and can provide help for recreational shortcomings so that we remain a first class City designed for all ages—and for a lot less than \$150M!

On July 11th, City Council reached a consensus to request a 1/2 of one cent sales tax increase to sunset in 10 years. It would be dedicated to a selection of key D.I.R.T. task force recommended projects, including the Gold Line development area, the Wadsworth widening project, infrastructure needed to develop Clear Creek Crossing (formerly Cabela’s) and a needed park and recreation project.

The 38th Ave. streetscape project was also very high on the task force list and City Council is anticipating placing it within its own ballot question. If both of these measures passed it would be a 3/4 of one cent increase, which keeps Wheat Ridge in the low sales tax arena and allows the City to enjoy a tiny property tax rate compared to other cities. (See page 8 for City Revenue Quick Facts.)

In reaching consensus on the sales tax increase, City Council considered the following tax scenarios for generating new revenue. The table reflects different tax rates over different time frames:

Tax Rate Increase	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years	20 Years
.25	\$8,965,000	\$17,930,000	\$26,895,000	\$35,860,000
<b>.50</b>	\$17,927,000	<b>\$35,860,000</b>	\$53,791,000	\$71,721,000
.74	\$26,895,000	\$53,791,000	\$80,686,000	\$107,582,000
1.0	\$35,860,000	\$71,721,000	\$107,582,000	\$143,442,000

I talk a lot about creating “place” by encouraging growth and increasing desirability of our City. We do this by both creating a downtown main street as well as adding to or re-charging our existing development areas. We must adapt. We cannot put off or push our responsibilities further into the future. We have to take care of the infrastructure as well as provide it where it is missing. As stated at the beginning, we cannot shift responsibility, we ARE Wheat Ridge and the task of bringing our City to its full potential is ours.

## Mayor Jay Helps Break Ground for Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital

Mayor Joyce Jay joined the owners, staff and partners of Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital for its June groundbreaking ceremony at their new site near the corner of Kipling and 44th Avenue. The new location is about one mile north of the existing facility.

Mayor Jay complimented the quality of care provided by the facility. “I recently had a substantial house fire that required finding an emergency location for my diabetic cat. I took him to WR Animal Hospital and they provided him professional and compassionate care—including a smoke-reducing bath. Knowing he was well cared for allowed me to concentrate on more pressing matters.” Jay continued, “It is a wonderful business and has been serving our area for generations. I am happy they decided to expand in Wheat Ridge and I look forward to the day we cut the ribbon on the new facility.”

Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital was founded in 1955 as a one-person general



Steve Art, Mayor Jay, and Dr. Oswald, owner of Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital.

practice operating in a small facility not far from the new project. This year they partnered with Ethos Veterinary Health, a national provider of specialty and emergency care for pets.

“We have been providing the most advanced and compassionate care for pets and their owners for more than 60 years,” said Donald Ostwald Jr., Senior Vice President of hospital operations

for Ethos Veterinary Health. “The new hospital will allow our dedicated staff to continue providing leading edge medical care in a contemporary facility that gives us the space and technological advances to serve our clients even better for years to come.”

In 1994 WR Animal Hospital moved into their current facility just south of W. 38th Avenue. As staff and services have expanded, they have outgrown the facility. Their site selector has been working with Economic Development Manager Steve Art for more than two years to find a Wheat Ridge site that meets both current and future needs. “We’ve looked at many options,” Art said, “and this site had an existing building that could be retrofitted to meet their needs.”

It is anticipated that renovations to the new 37,000 square-foot facility will be complete by spring of 2017. For more information on starting or expanding your business in Wheat Ridge, contact Steve Art at 303-235-2806.

# ANDERSON PARK • 44TH AVENUE & FIELD STREET

## 47TH ANNUAL Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival



### Friday, August 12, 2016

3:30 pm FREE SHUTTLES begin

**Zeppe Circus Performances**  
4 - 5:45 pm (OPENING SHOW!)  
7 - 8:45 pm

4 - 10 pm Wheat Ridge Art League Membership Show, Live music by Karl Ziedins 5:30 - 7:30 pm Anderson Building Gym

4 - 11 pm Opening of Beer Garden, Food Court & Vendors, Jackalope Art & Craft Fair and Carnival rides and games

4 - 8 pm Spaghetti Dinner in Food Court featuring live music by Rick Chinisci & Tom Allan Grengs, Student Picnic Table Silent Auction (located in front of circus tent)

6 - 7:30 pm Silver Foxes vs. WRPD Softball Game (Baseball Field)

9 - 9:15 pm Announcements/Sponsor Recognition

9:15 pm **FIREWORKS**

**Live Music on the Main Stage**

4:40 - 5:40 pm - Jim Hyatt Band

6:05 - 7:20 pm - Cowboy Dave

7:45 - 9 pm - Premium Diesel

9:30 - 11 pm - BUCKSTEIN

11:30 pm LAST SHUTTLE back to parking lots

### Saturday, August 13, 2016

7 - 9 am Grange Pancake Breakfast 3850 High Ct. (Behind Wheat Ridge Cyclery)

9:30 - 11:30 am 47th Annual Carnation Festival Parade 38th Ave between Ames and Upham Streets

11:30 am FREE SHUTTLES begin

Noon - The following events open  
Zeppe' Circus Box Office  
Beer Garden, Food Court & Vendors  
Jackalope Art & Craft Fair  
Carnival rides, and games

Noon - 10:00 pm Wheat Ridge Art League Membership Show Anderson Building Gym

**Live Music on the Main Stage**

12:10 - 1:10 pm - Gregg Green

1:35 - 2:35 pm - Tin Brother Duo

3 - 4 pm - Facing West

4:25 - 5:40 pm - Rachel & the Ruckus

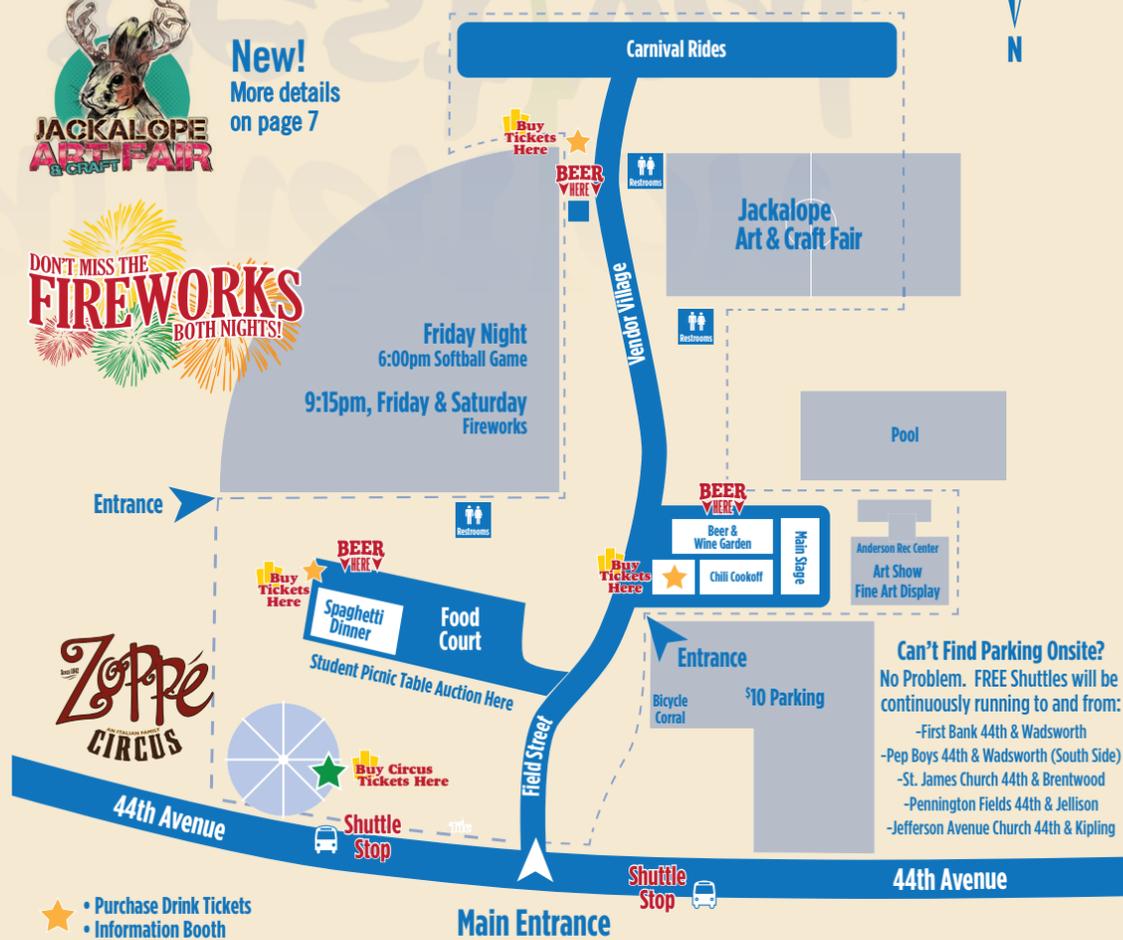
6:05 - 7:20 pm - My Blue Sky

7:45 - 9 pm - The Burroughs

9:30 - 11 pm - Chris Daniels & the Kings with Freddi Gowdy & Sheryl Renee



**New!**  
More details on page 7



- ★ Purchase Drink Tickets
- ★ Information Booth
- ★ Purchase Circus Tickets at the Big Top

**Zeppe Circus Performances**

1 - 2:45 pm - **SOLD OUT!**

4 - 5:45 pm

7 - 8:45 pm

4:30 - 8 pm Spaghetti Dinner in Food Court, live music by Rick Chinisci & Peggy Fasing, Student Picnic Table Silent Auction (located in front of circus tent)

5 - 7 pm Chili Cook Off Located in the Main Stage Beer Garden

7:20 - 7:45 pm Parade Awards - Main Stage

9 - 9:15 pm Announcements / Sponsor Recognition and Chili Cook Off Awards

9:15 pm **FIREWORKS**

11:30 pm LAST SHUTTLE back to parking lots

### Sunday, August 14, 2016

9 am - 1 pm Automezzi XXVI Italian Exotic Car & Motorcycle Show (\$5 donation at the gate benefits the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation)

10:30 am - 1:30 pm Live Music by Sal Martorano & Swing Shift

**Zeppe Circus Performances**

1 - 2:45 pm

4 - 5:45 pm (LAST SHOW!)

For more information, please visit [www.thecarnationfestival.com](http://www.thecarnationfestival.com)



## CITY MANAGER'S Column

# The Train is a Comin!

The RTD Gold Line is scheduled to start service this fall and we are excited to have the Wheat Ridge • Ward Station located in our City! But it didn't happen overnight. There has been a tremendous amount of public and behind-the-scenes effort to prepare for its arrival and the future development of the site. Following are just a few of the actions that the City has undertaken since 2006.

### ▶ NORTHWEST SUBAREA PLAN APPROVED

In 2006, the Northwest Subarea Plan was approved by City Council to establish a vision for future development around the commuter rail station. The plan was originally adopted to provide input to RTD for the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) to address desirable development patterns related to the rail line. It also included recommendations relative to transportation, infrastructure, bike and pedestrian facilities, economic development and urban design, calling for mixed use, pedestrian-friendly development.

Based on the completion of the environmental impact statement, finalized station and roadway designs and other changes in the surrounding area, the plan was updated and approved by City Council in 2013. The vision in the new plan is consistent with the 2006 plan, but refines goals and strategies related to land use, urban design, and infrastructure.

### ▶ CITY ADOPTED ENVISION WHEAT RIDGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

During the development of Envision Wheat Ridge, the City's comprehensive land use plan (adopted in 2009), a detailed economic analysis was undertaken to identify target locations for redevelopment and to determine what



City Manager Patrick Goff

would be the highest and best type of land uses in these areas. The Northwest Subarea was one of five target areas for redevelopment in the City.

### ▶ NORTHWEST SUBAREA INCLUDED IN NEW URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AREA

In 2009 the Kipling/I-70 Corridors Urban Renewal Plan was approved; it includes the properties in the Northwest Subarea. Also in 2009, a ballot measure passed exempting this and other urban renewal areas in the City from the height and density restrictions found in the City Charter.

### ▶ CITY INITIATED REZONING OF THE NORTHWEST SUBAREA TO MIXED USED

To address density and height in these areas, a new mixed use zone district (MUZ) was adopted in 2010. The MUZ identifies the appropriate building height for various types of mixed use districts. One of the specific mixed use districts is the Mixed Use – TOD (transit-orientated development), intended for areas within ½ mile of rail stations. It allows densities that support transit ridership and encourage land uses and buildings

that enhance connections to transit. The MUZ – TOD sets maximum building heights of eight stories for mixed use buildings and six stories for single use buildings located in TOD areas.

In 2010, after the adoption of the new MUZ zone district, City staff met with property owners in the Northwest Subarea to discuss City-initiated rezoning of properties to the MUZ district. The former Jolly Rancher site has been rezoned to MUZ-TOD, so the property can be developed in a way that is supportive of the new rail line. In addition, a metropolitan district was created and approved for this 14-acre parcel as a financing tool to pay for future infrastructure improvements.

### ▶ CITY ENTERS INTO AGREEMENT WITH RTD FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE GOLD LINE

In 2010 the City entered into an agreement with RTD concerning the construction and local financial assistance of the Gold Line. The agreement required the City to construct a storm sewer system adjacent to the Wheat Ridge Ward Station in the amount of \$1.5 million. The City received a grant from the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District in the amount of \$750,000 for this project.

### ▶ CITY RECEIVES SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT

The Wheat Ridge • Ward Road station was chosen as a catalytic project site, to be used as an example and to provide valuable lessons for other transit station areas regarding redevelopment around these sites. The grant also provided specific design recommendations for multi-modal improvements to Ridge Road between Miller Street and Ward Road.

### ▶ RTD AND DRCOG TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT (TIP)

The City received a grant in the amount of \$740,228 from the Federal Highway Administration and the City

contributed an additional \$165,785 for improvements to Tabor Street. These street improvements will provide better access to the station from existing and future development immediately south of the rail line and the nearby area. Tabor Street will be upgraded to accommodate all modes of transportation to the station. The project will provide new bike lanes, continuous sidewalks and lighting.

### ▶ CITY PARTNERS WITH ULI

In 2015, the City partnered with the Colorado Chapter of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to host a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) for the area surrounding the rail station. TAPs provide a way to brainstorm with experienced professionals and generate ideas surrounding real estate challenges, like the development of the area surrounding the station. The panel's recommendations included maintaining and building out a street grid to promote good principles of urban design and walkability; encouraging multifamily development to generate the necessary number of people to make the area feel like a neighborhood, and attracting industrial/office/innovation hub development since attracting retail in the short term is more difficult.

### ▶ MARKET-BASE TOD VISION AND ACTIVATION STRATEGIES

The City recently contracted with a firm to assist the City with the next steps to catalyze TOD development at the Wheat Ridge • Ward Station. This work is designed to build upon the previous effort undertaken by the ULI Technical Advisory Panel to help the City define a vision for the station area and help deliver that vision.

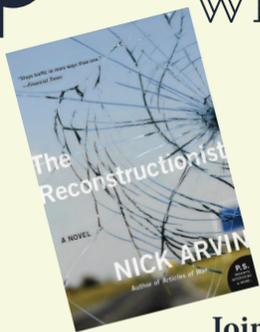
### ▶ AND FINALLY, THE CITY CELEBRATES!

And the new station will be celebrated with grand opening event featuring food, fun and free rides! RTD has not released an opening date, but check the City website for details on the fall event. [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us)

## WHEAT RIDGE READS 2016

Adult and teen readers are invited to immerse themselves in the 2016 selection *The Reconstructionist* by Nick Arvin

Join a Community Discussion and Meet the Author



**BOOKS AND BREWS**  
TUESDAY, SEPT. 13,  
6:30 P.M.  
IRON RAIL TAVERN,  
4111 KIPLING ST.



**THURSDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB**  
THURSDAY, SEPT. 15, 9 A.M.  
WHEAT RIDGE LIBRARY  
5475 W. 32ND AVE.

For more information, contact Gay Porter DeNileon, [gpdnileon@gmail.com](mailto:gpdnileon@gmail.com)

## Wheat Ridge Author Chosen for Annual Reading Event

Local author Nick Arvin and his novel of secrets and survival, *The Reconstructionist*, have been selected for this year's Wheat Ridge Reads. Now in its fifth year, the program encourages the public to read books by Colorado authors and engage with the community and the author in a discussion about the work.

The book tells the story of the collision between a budding forensic investigator, his tormented mentor and the haunted woman who emerges from the wreckage of his past.

Arvin has lived in Colorado since 2001 and in Wheat Ridge since 2014. In addition to *The Reconstructionist*, Arvin is the author of *In the Electric Eden* and *Articles of War*.

For more information about the event, contact Gay Porter DeNileon, [gpdnileon@gmail.com](mailto:gpdnileon@gmail.com).

# Fruitdale Lofts Progress

A major milestone was recently achieved toward the reuse and redevelopment of the historic Fruitdale School on W. 44th Avenue. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which requires it to be restored and maintained in compliance with federal standards for historic preservation, as regulated by the National Park Service (NPS), if its renovation will utilize state and federal historic preservation tax credits.

History Colorado and NPS approved the plans for the restoration of the building in June, making the project eligible for the tax credits. This approval was a critical milestone, as the tax credits are a major component of the public/private financing plan.

The Fruitdale School building is currently owned by the Wheat Ridge Housing Authority (WRHA). The property was deeded to the Jefferson County School District in 1883, and the first school was built on the site in 1884. This original building was destroyed by fire in the 1920s, after which noted Denver architect and developer Temple Buell designed the existing red brick school building in 1927. Additions on both sides of the building were constructed in the 1950s. The facility served as a public school until 2007 at which time Norma Anderson Preschool was constructed next door, and Jeffco Schools decommissioned Fruitdale.

WRHA has owned Fruitdale School since April 2011, and has explored a variety of redevelopment options; but after several market studies they

ultimately determined that no reuse option would be financially feasible. In March 2013, Fruitdale was approved to be included on the National Register of Historic Places, and WRHA began seeking a private developer partner.

After negotiations with a charter school were unsuccessful in 2014, the WRHA entered into an exclusive negotiation period with Hartman Ely Investments (HEI) in February 2015. HEI is an established local development firm with extensive experience in redeveloping and repurposing historic properties, including Hangar 2 and the Steam Plant Lofts, both at Lowry. Over the past year and half, HEI has considered several redevelopment scenarios for Fruitdale.

The current proposal includes 16 rental apartments ranging from 550 to just over 1,000 square feet and including one-, two-, and three-bedroom floorplans. Five of the apartments will be income-restricted units, and all apartments will receive benefits from the renovated property's sustainable features (reduced electricity costs due to a large solar power system, energy/water efficiency features and a free electric vehicle charging system). The existing parking lot will be transformed into a heavily-landscaped parking area with many fruit trees recalling Fruitdale's legacy. HEI will also offer periodic public education tours highlighting the property's sustainable features.

The interior of the school has deteriorated and the roof leaks. Given that a reuse of the building needs to address deferred maintenance, preserve

HEI and the Housing Authority will host a community meeting to share the redevelopment plans  
**Tuesday, August 16th**  
**Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, 4005 Kipling**

For more information, contact Lauren Mikulak at 303-235-2845

HEI has leveraged several funding sources over the last year. City Council and WRHA entered into a redevelopment agreement with HEI committing loan and grant funds. Jefferson County Community Development has conditionally committed to supporting the project with \$680,000 in federal HOME funds. About \$150,000 in solar power production subsidies over 20 years have been approved by Xcel Energy. The building's solar power system also qualifies the property for approximately \$100,000 in solar tax credits. The recently approved historic preservation tax credits include \$1,000,000 in state credits and about \$750,000 in federal credits. HEI has applied for a grant from Colorado's State Historical Fund, is seeking a traditional bank loan, and continues to explore grant opportunities.

HEI anticipates closing on the property at the end of 2016 with construction beginning in 2017.

historic features, and adapt the structure for a new use, it has long been understood that a project would require creative financing strategies and likely a public/private partnership.

## City Of Wheat Ridge Directors



Patrick Goff  
City Manager  
303-235-2819



Ken Johnstone  
Community Development Director  
303-235-2846



Joyce Manwaring  
Parks & Recreation Director  
303-231-1307



Scott Brink  
Public Works Director  
303-235-2861



Dan Brennan  
Chief of Police  
303-235-2913



Heather Geyer  
Administrative Services Director  
303-235-2826

**FESTIVAL ADMISSION IS FREE! FREE SHUTTLES TO & FROM LOCAL LOTS!**

**47TH ANNUAL**  
**Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival**

**ANDERSON PARK • 44TH AVENUE & FIELD STREET**

**DON'T MISS THE FIREWORKS BOTH NIGHTS!**

**Friday, August 12th: 4:00pm - 11:00pm**  
**Saturday, August 13th: Noon - 11:00pm**  
**Sunday, August 14th: Automezzi 9:00am-1:00pm**  
**Circus 1:00pm & 4:00pm**

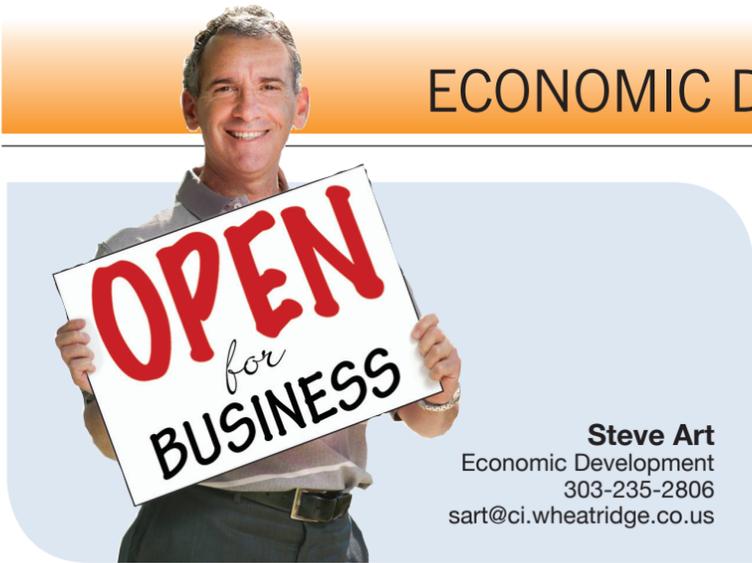
**Zoppé CIRCUS**  
**JACKALOPE ART FAIR & CRAFT**  
**Automezzi COLORADO**

**LIVE MUSIC - 12 BANDS!**  
**Carnival, Zoppé Circus, Parade, Fine Art Show,**  
**200+ Artisan & Craft Vendors, Food, Beer & Wine Offerings**

City of Wheat Ridge  
 noble energy  
 GET TO KNOW US AT noblecolorado.com  
 FIRESTORM PYROTECHNICS INC.  
 GET CONNECTED EVENTS  
 Colorado Community Media  
 Xcel Energy®  
 TBANK

Visit [www.thecarnationfestival.com](http://www.thecarnationfestival.com) for more information & circus tickets.  
 Enter code: NINO to save \$5 on General Admission Circus Ticket.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT in Wheat Ridge



**Steve Art**  
Economic Development  
303-235-2806  
sart@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### Metro Frame Works Relocates to Ridge at 38



Melanie Lunsford, Adrienne Lapp and Emily Bardwell enjoying their new location on 38th Avenue

Metro Frame Works, 5310 W. 38th Avenue, is one of the many new businesses relocating to Wheat Ridge. Owner Melanie Lunsford decided to move from their original location of 17 years on Tennyson Street to the corner of 38th and Ames which offers easy access and ample parking. “This new location fits our needs and our customer’s needs perfectly,” says Lunsford. She and her staff, Adrienne Lapp and Emily Bardwell, are truly loving this new space, which was completely gutted and redesigned to accommodate the needs of an upscale frame shop. “The space is perfect for showcasing artwork and frames.”

The new location opened April 1st and staff has been busy with new and long-time customers, as well as getting involved in City events. “We love what’s happening on 38th Avenue and the energy that’s being created in Wheat Ridge,” Lunsford continued. Metro Frame Works considers themselves a neighborhood shop specializing in custom framing, but they also offer a variety of original artwork. “Our 2,700-square-foot space provides a great venue for featuring artists from around the country. We provide the framing for the artwork we display so people can see the quality and creativity of our work. We love to feature up-and-coming artists,” says Lunsford, whose love of art and passion for framing prompted her to open her business in 1999.

And the move has inspired her to spearhead a new event, 3rd Friday on 38th. Similar to Denver’s First Friday Art Walk, 3rd Friday will be hosted every month on the corner of 38th and Ames. Bardwell explained, “Since we moved here we wanted to put on an event similar to one we were part of on Tennyson.” The event will run from 6 – 9 pm and feature live local music, food trucks, and of course, art. “We want to kick-start something here,” said Bardwell, “and we invite the entire community to join us. We’ll start small and build it up to a Wheat Ridge community tradition - not just an art event, but a cultural event.”

Metro Frame Works is open from 10 am to 7 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 4 pm Saturday, Sunday and Monday. For more information call, 303-433-1073 and visit their website, [www.metroframeworks.com](http://www.metroframeworks.com).

### Wheat Ridge Artist Studio Tour

Eleven local artists and a frame business will display their workspaces during the second Wheat Ridge Studio Tour on Saturday, August 27. Organized by the Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission, the tour will provide an opportunity for the public to view professional artists in their realm—a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to create fine art.

The artists’ studios range from homes that are literal museums of the artist’s work to a professional co-op where multiple artists share a common room. This year’s event also includes demos on proper care and framing of artwork at Metro Frame Works.

The artists chosen are Shamanic artist Antonio Arguello; clay and mixed media artist Marie E.v.B. Gibbons; oil painter and water colorist Juanita Gutierrez; children’s book artist Katie Hartkopp;

representational painter Sina March; mixed-media sculptor Lisa Bonilla Panter; multi-media artist Maria Sands; fabric artist Karin Soderholm; painter Sherry Veltkamp; collage artist Laurie Waalkes; and performance painter Terry Womble.

The self-guided tour will begin at 9 a.m. on August 27, with the studios closing at 2 p.m. Maps to tour locations will be available the day of the tour for \$5 at the Teller Street Gallery, 7190 West 38th Ave.

The Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission, with nine members appointed by the City Council, was created to promote cultural arts in Wheat Ridge and foster cultural enrichment and education opportunities for the community. For more information, contact Milly Nadler, 303.319.0690, [Cultural@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:Cultural@ci.wheatridge.co.us)

### TIF Dollars at Work on 38th Avenue

In 2007, Renewal Wheat Ridge (RWR) entered into a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement with Wheat Ridge Cyclery to expand their business. The agreement reimbursed Wheat Ridge Cyclery for public-related improvements for the expansion through increased sales and property taxes generated by the expansion. The project was such a success that Wheat Ridge Cyclery was paid back in only five years, allowing the increased sales and property taxes to now be used for other urban renewal projects along the 38th Avenue corridor.

The RWR Board approved a policy authorizing the use of these funds for matching grants to businesses within the 38th Avenue urban renewal area for physical improvements to their businesses. Recently, these funds were used to repair and maintain the outdoor seating areas between Teller Street and High Court. These pop-up-cafes were purchased by the City of Wheat Ridge in 2013 and placed in front of Right Coast Pizza, Teller Street



Adam Thrower, an employee of FrontRange Services, staining the Pop-Up-Cafe

Gallery, and just west of Posey Girl Flowers for the use and enjoyment of shoppers and visitors to the corridor.

“This is what’s great about TIF,” said RWR Chair Tim Rogers, “these dollars are put right back into the community to enhance the quality of life for our residents.”

### Bench Guides Patrons to 29th Avenue Marketplace

One of the merchants of the West 29th Marketplace noticed an available advertising space on a bus bench near City Hall at Wadsworth and West 29th. He thought it would be a good way to direct patrons to the shops along the corridor, which runs along 29th Avenue from Harlan Street to Sheridan Boulevard and features the West 29th Restaurant, Twisted Smoothie, Wheat Ridge Poultry, Stat Automotive, TJ Wine & Liquor, Styles Hair and Nails, West Highlands Auto Repair, and other small businesses.

Working with City’s Economic Development Manager Steve Art, a directional sign was added to the bench pointing the way to the restaurants and shops. Art said “We’re trying to work with all the shopping districts in Wheat Ridge to showcase the quality of business opportunities we have for our residents and visitors.”



To learn more about the West 29th Marketplace, like them on Facebook at [facebook.com/shopwest29th](https://facebook.com/shopwest29th).

# Making Wadsworth Work

Work is underway to improve one of the City's busiest streets, Wadsworth Boulevard. Wheat Ridge city planners, engineers and representatives from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have been investigating opportunities to improve transportation and safety on the roadway. In 2015 the City concluded a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study that gathered public input and examined improvements for the corridor. This spring, the project reached a new milestone with the kickoff of the Wadsworth Widening Environmental Assessment and Access Management study.

In April 2016, the City of Wheat Ridge initiated the study to review environmental impacts associated with transportation improvements planned for Wadsworth between 35th Avenue and I-70. The environmental assessment is the first phase of the project to prepare for the widening of Wadsworth Boulevard, with construction projected to begin in 2019. The major improvements include the widening of the roadway, adding traffic signals and making changes to key intersections,



Project team members review proposed design changes near 4800 Wadsworth Blvd.

improving bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities, reviewing roadway access, and enhancing amenities between west 38th and west 44th Avenues.

In May the project team held its first public meeting to gather input on the study scope and public comments on the proposed improvements. Then in June and July project representatives

met with citizens through community group meetings and targeted block-by-block meetings with property owners on Wadsworth. These meetings allowed property owners to review and provide feedback on proposed designs and changes to access for their properties. The project team has also surveyed the corridor, and completed preliminary field

visits to assess environmental resources within the project area. Another public open house is scheduled for mid-August to share project updates including possible property access changes and intersection design layouts.

To learn more or to provide comments, please visit the project website [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/Wadsworth](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/Wadsworth) or contact Mark Westberg, Projects Supervisor, by phone (303) 235-2863 or email [mwestberg@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:mwestberg@ci.wheatridge.co.us)

## Upcoming Wadsworth Widening Public Open House

Residents are invited to hear project updates, learn about new intersection designs and access plans, and provide their input.

**August 10th, 2016**  
**5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**  
**Wheat Ridge City Hall**  
**7500 W. 29th Ave.**

# Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Gets Update



Bikers and pedestrians are enjoying the new Kipling bridge that connects the east side of Kipling to the new spur of the western portion of the Clear Creek Trail and other nearby major destinations.

The City will be updating its Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan over the next several months. The plan serves as guidance to construct, enhance and improve bicycle and pedestrian routes and connections throughout the City. The plan was last addressed in 2010 and needs to be updated as a result of an increasing variety of travel modes. Gaps in the existing plan need to be identified and changing community needs and priorities assessed. Public input is strongly encouraged as part of this updating process. More information regarding the plan and notifications of upcoming public meetings and opportunities for input will be posted on [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us) as they are available. Or you can contact Scott Brink, Director of Public Works at [sbrink@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:sbrink@ci.wheatridge.co.us), or 303-235-2860.

# New Carnation Festival Attraction



contact Sara Vausbinder or visit the website [www.jackalopeartfair.com](http://www.jackalopeartfair.com)

The Jackalope Art & Craft Fair highlights more than 150 trendsetting artisans from the "handmade" community, and this year they will join forces with the Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival on August 12th & 13th, 2016.

An encore to its successful first summer fair last July, this fair features juried artisans selling their specialty handmade items, bringing high-quality shopping to the event. The Jackalope exhibition will be on the soccer fields at Anderson Park. For more information,

## WE'RE UPGRADING!

On top of the deep cleaning we do every year, some other major upgrades will be:

**RECREATION CENTER**  
 NEW registration software  
 NEW fitness equipment  
 Replacing frog slide in leisure pool

**ACTIVE ADULT CENTER**  
 NEW registration software  
 Refinishing all interior woodwork  
 New interior paint  
 Repainting parking lot



Wheat Ridge Recreation Center & Active Adult Center will be **CLOSED** **AUG. 22-26**



# Tax-code Changes, Rounding and Financial Reports



per transaction. Ongoing sales in storefronts operated by non-profits are not included in the exemption.

For-profit participants in City-sponsored special events or Parks and Recreation special events that last a day or less will no longer need a license for the event nor will they have to submit a tax deposit to the City, but will still be required to collect taxes and remit them on a one-time basis.

Participants who operate for-profit at multi-day, City-sponsored special events will be exempt from licensing fees, but must register, place a \$50 tax deposit, and collect taxes on the sale of goods at the 3% rate. Admission charges and adult ride experiences are taxed at 4%.

All other temporary sales, which, by Code, are limited to produce, plants, trees, and mobile food trucks, will still be required to obtain a temporary business license at \$20, prove landowner permission, and submit a \$100 tax deposit. Please contact Kathy Franklin, Sales Tax Supervisor, at 303-235-2825 or Don Edens, Sales Tax Auditor, at 303-235-2818 with any questions.

City Treasurer Jerry DiTullio signed a resolution effective July 15, 2016, calling for rounding of amounts to the nearest dollar on all tax returns. How it works: For an amount that ends in .50 or higher you will round up to the next dollar (\$99.50 becomes \$100). For an amount that ends in .49 or less, you will round down to the previous dollar (\$99.49 becomes \$99). DiTullio created the new regulation in response to feedback from taxpayers seeking to speed up and simplify online filing. If tax returns are filed without rounding dollar amounts, the software will apply rounding during input.

In an effort to bring the City of Wheat Ridge's tax code and policies in line with state and national best practices, City Council passed Ordinance 1597 on June 13, 2016. The Ordinance, supported by City Treasurer Jerry DiTullio, caps the interest on delinquent taxes at 18% and permits the City Treasurer or a designee to waive interest down to 6%.

Ordinance 1597 also simplifies requirements for special events and fundraising events in the City. Non-profits and charities that hold a Wheat Ridge license will be exempt from licensing and tax on fundraising sales that they make themselves, such as at bazaars, holiday sales, or fairs. The tax exemption applies to \$25,000 in sales or services per year but is limited to \$5,000

## Live in a Floodplain? Have Flood Insurance?



### EVERYONE IS AT RISK

Did you know that everyone is at risk of flooding no matter where their house is? For most of us the risk is low. However, for those that live in a floodplain the risk is very real. If you live in one of our regulatory floodplains, also known as the 100-year floodplain or the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), your chance of being flooded in any given year is at least 1%. For a typical 30-year mortgage, there is a 23% change of being flooded.

### WHAT IF I DO NOT LIVE IN A FLOODPLAIN

Even if you do not live near Clear Creek or Lena Gulch, you may still be at risk from flooding; 60% of the flood claims for Wheat Ridge have been for properties outside the SFHA.

### FLOOD INSURANCE

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) makes federally-backed flood insurance available to property owners in communities that adopt and enforce floodplain regulations. Because Wheat Ridge actively participates in NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS), most policies receive an automatic 20% reduction in their insurance rates.

Flood insurance policies are sold through licensed insurance agents and require a 30-day waiting period for coverage to take effect. Don't wait for a flooding forecast to purchase flood insurance. Losses due to flooding are typically not covered. So contact a licensed insurance agent today. For more information about flood insurance go to the NFIP website at [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

### WHAT CAN I DO?

There are several easy and inexpensive things you can to reduce your risk.

- Inventory your items, and take pictures
- Keep valuable items out of basements or elevate them
- Raise appliances and HVAC equipment
- Add a battery back-up to your sump pump
- Obtain flood insurance

You can also consult a professional and find out if there are changes you can make to your property that will reduce the risk of flooding.

### IMPROVEMENTS IN A FLOODPLAIN

If you have property in the SFHA, be aware that most improvements require a floodplain permit. The permit is required for the construction of new structures, additions, fences, storage sheds, the placement of fill, or storage of materials.

### HOW THE CITY HELPS

The City has an early warning system (EWS). Sirens are used to provide notification throughout the entire City. These sirens issue messages that provide specific information about the emergency situation and instructions about the precautions or actions everyone should follow. Wheat Ridge also uses emergency telephone notification using reverse 911 and local radio and television stations to provide important warnings.

For additional information about construction in the SFHA, or to determine the floodplain status of your property, visit the City's floodplain webpage at [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/flood](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/flood) or contact Mark Westberg, the Floodplain Administrator, at 303-235-2863 or [mwestberg@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:mwestberg@ci.wheatridge.co.us). For information about the EWS sirens, contact Commander Mark Cooney, WRPD Emergency Manager, at 303-235-2931.

## City Revenue Quick Facts

This chart shows how Wheat Ridge compares to Denver metro cities for sales tax and property tax mill levy rates. The City of Wheat Ridge sales tax rate is at 3% which is below the metro area average of 3.48%. The property tax mill levy in Wheat Ridge is only 1.830 mills, which is well below the metro area average of 7.272 mills. The City of Wheat Ridge has one of the lowest tax burdens in the Denver metro area.

City	Sales Tax	Mill Levy
Arvada	3.46	4.310
Aurora	3.75	10.290
Boulder	3.56	11.981
Broomfield	4.15	11.457
Centennial	2.50	5.073
Commerce City	4.50	3.280
Denver	3.62	13.185
Edgewater	3.50	5.030
Englewood	3.50	8.124
Federal Heights	4.00	0.680
Golden	3.00	12.340
Lakewood	3.00	4.711
Littleton	3.00	6.662
Lone Tree	1.81	0.00
Louisville	3.50	6.710
Morrison	3.75	6.746
Northglenn	4.00	11.597
Superior	3.46	9.430
Thornton	3.75	10.210
Westminster	3.85	3.650
<b>Average</b>	<b>3.48</b>	<b>7.273</b>
<b>Wheat Ridge</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>1.830</b>

Chart is from 2014 August edition of Connections newsletter

# STEAM Sculpture Depicts Hope

Students at Wheat Ridge High School certainly don't shy away from thinking big. The school's first Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) class wrapped up its inaugural year by building an 11-foot tall aluminum sculpture designed to inspire hope in cancer patients and their families.

The sculpture, *Rooted in Hope*, was dedicated by Lutheran Medical Center as part of the hospital's Leaves of Hope, Jefferson County's largest National Cancer Survivors Day celebration. The tree depicts the tree of life growing from the palm of the hand of hope, which is meant to represent strength and the ability of cancer survivors and their loved ones to persevere through tough times.

*Rooted in Hope* resides in a park on Lutheran's campus, near the hospital's Cancer Infusion Center. Lutheran supported the project by providing \$20,000 to cover material costs. Students in the STEAM class raised the additional \$7,000 needed to construct the sculpture through private donors and also received some funding from the Wheat Ridge Community Foundation STEM/STEAM gala.

"I am continually impressed by students at Wheat Ridge High and their ability to reach such lofty goals in their pursuit of learning," said Wheat Ridge Mayor Joyce Jay, who attended the dedication. "More than just a school

project, this stunning sculpture stands as an enduring symbol of inspiration and will provide hope for Lutheran patients and their families for years to come."

The roots of the sculpture took hold even before the school year kicked off, when the 15 students enrolled in the STEAM classes gathered to brainstorm about a project that would allow them to blend science and math with art. (STEAM is an offshoot of the original STEM program, but with the addition of art.) The students found inspiration in Wheat Ridge alumnus Freddie Steinmark, who led the Farmers to their first state championship and became a football star at the University of Texas. He was diagnosed with bone cancer his junior year and his courageous battle against the disease inspired President Nixon to launch the War on Cancer.

The students became more familiar with Steinmark's life thanks to a new book, "Freddie Steinmark: Faith, Family, Football" and movie, "My All American," that were released last fall. To recognize Steinmark's contributions, the City declared November 7, 2015, Freddie Steinmark Remembrance Day and dedicated the driveway in front of Wheat Ridge High School, "Freddie Steinmark Way."

*Rooted in Hope* also serves as a tribute to Steinmark's legacy, using art to bring strength to the Wheat Ridge community.



The sculpture is located on the Exempla Lutheran campus behind the Infusion Center next to the ponds.

## Public Officials

### MAYOR



Joyce Jay  
303-420-8533  
jjay@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### CITY TREASURER



Jerry DiTullio  
303-231-1392  
jeditullio@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### DISTRICT I



Monica Duran  
720-312-0583  
mduran@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### DISTRICT II



Kristi Davis  
303-757-8488  
kdavis@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### DISTRICT III



George Pond  
303-880-8729  
gpond@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### DISTRICT IV



Larry Mathews  
303-396-5201  
lmathews@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### JUDGE



Judge Christopher Randall  
303-235-2835  
crandall@ci.wheatridge.co.us

### CITY CLERK



Janelle Shaver  
303-235-2823  
jshaver@ci.wheatridge.co.us



Janeece Hoppe  
720-556-9425  
jhoppe@ci.wheatridge.co.us



Zachary Urban  
720-252-5930  
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Tim Fitzgerald  
720-360-0871  
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Genevieve Wooden  
303-204-9504  
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*Exceptional  
People  
Providing  
Exceptional  
Service!*

## Officer Honored with Optimist Safety Appreciation Award

Wheat Ridge Police Officer Barry Malloy was recently honored by the combined Wheat Ridge and Westminster Optimist Clubs for the 2016 Optimist Safety Appreciation Award. Each year, the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club requests nominations from the police department for a deserving team member. This year, the management team of the Wheat Ridge Police Department unanimously nominated Officer Malloy for this award.

"Barry is an outstanding representative of the Department. He is engaged with the community, serves as a mentor for younger officers and is an inspiration for our entire organization," said Division Chief Jim Lorentz. "He also does a tremendous job as School Resource Officer at Wheat Ridge High School."

Officer Malloy has been in law enforcement for 36 years, but only the last 10 have been at Wheat Ridge. "I wish I



*Officer Barry Malloy with one of his favorite youth, granddaughter Fiona.*

had started my career at Wheat Ridge PD," he said. "This is a great community to represent and an incredible police department."

As a School Resource Officer, Barry works with youth and has received numerous commendations from students, parents, and faculty for the exemplary work he performs. Described as a counselor, role model, friend, and authority figure, Barry's intuition and close working relationship with the community youth has allowed him to recognize the need to take early intervention steps on occasions when students begin struggling with issues.

In addition to the work Barry does in the schools, he is an active member of the Wheat Ridge Police Honor Guard, and has represented the department at a variety of functions, ranging from police funerals to professional sporting events.

"We are, of course, proud of Barry and the work he does every day. We want to thank the Wheat Ridge and Westminster Optimist Clubs for recognizing him for this award," said Lorentz.

## Wheat Ridge Police are Issuing Tickets to Kids This Summer!

During the course of his duties, Crime Prevention Officer Steve Berkowitz had a meeting with staff from Lutheran Medical Center. At that meeting, he learned that there was a significant nationwide rise in children's head trauma cases because kids were not wearing helmets when riding bicycles.

Steve wanted to come up with a simple plan for the police department to encourage kids to wear a helmet while bicycling, skateboarding, riding scooters, or any activity involving wheels. Steve came up with a "ticket" that police officers could issue to kids when they see them wearing their helmets during wheeled activities. This "ticket" entitles the bearer to free ice cream at participating Dairy Queen locations in Wheat Ridge – 6790 W. 38th Avenue and 9720 W. 44th Avenue.

"We really appreciate the community partnership with Dairy Queen to help us promote safety. It's a great way to reward kids with free ice cream for being safe and for using their heads, literally," said Officer Berkowitz



*Officer Brian Cook issues ice-cream "tickets" to local youth for helmet safety!*



## Citizens Police Academy Accepting Applications

The Wheat Ridge Police Department (WRPD) will conduct its 13th annual Citizens Police Academy this month. The academy provides an opportunity for Wheat Ridge residents, and those affiliated with the City to get to know the Police Department, its employees and how they operate. Participants will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of law enforcement-related training, with hands on experience and an optional ride along with a police officer.

Applications are due by August 10th, and the academy runs from August 17 to November 2, 2016. Applicants are subject to a background check, and felony convictions and serious misdemeanors will exclude participation. Please call Sgt. Brian Wilkinson at 303-235-2951 or Officer Steve Berkowitz at 303-235-2910 to apply.

The Citizen Police Academy is not designed to train citizens as police officers, or to give citizens police authority of any kind.

*Thank  
you*

The recent tragic events involving law enforcement officers has evoked an outpouring of community support for our Wheat Ridge Police Department. Calls, cards, signs, balloons, and even baked goods have been presented to the department over the past few weeks. The officers and staff would like to express their thanks and let the residents of Wheat Ridge know how much it is sincerely appreciated.

WHEAT RIDGE 2020 IS NOW



WWW.WEARELOCALWORKS.ORG

## upcoming EVENTS



**Sat, Aug 6, 9:30-10:30 am**  
Localworks Active Yoga in the Park at the Green on Ridge at 38 (7101 W 38th Ave.)  
Yoga for all ages, including kids, taught by Santosha Yoga

**Thur, Aug 11, 5-7 pm**  
Localworks Dines at Large Marge's Philly Cheesesteaks  
3890 Kipling Street

**Thur, Aug 11, 6-9 pm**  
(and EVERY Thursday from 6-9 pm thru August locations TBD)  
Wheat Ridge Cruiser Crawl  
Riding bikes together to establishments for specials and community  
Large Marge's Philly Cheesesteaks  
3890 Kipling Street

**Wed, Aug 24, 6-8 pm**  
Localworks Harvest Canning Class, Location: TBD

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Fri, Aug 26, 7-11 pm**  
Friday Night Live – Ride your bike night!  
Ride your bike and make this a "ride-in movie" at the park  
*Pee-Wee's Big Adventure*, live music, food trucks, games and more  
In partnership with the Wheat Ridge Active Transportation Advisory Team  
The Green on Ridge at 38

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Sat, Sep 10, 3 pm – 8:30 pm**  
RidgeFest  
Live music, car show, artisan market, home brew contest, cottage foods contests, and more.  
The Green on Ridge at 38

**Sat, Sep 24**  
Bee Class at Honey Festival  
Four Seasons Farmers and Artisan Market  
7043 W. 38th Ave.

**Thur, Oct 6, 2 – 4 pm**  
Localworks Dines, High Tea at Swiss Flower and Gift Cottage  
YOU MUST RSVP for tickets to COBrien@WeAreLocalworks.org  
Wear your best tea hat to win a prize.  
9840 W. 44th Ave.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Sat, Oct 29, 4- 6 pm**  
Trunk or Treat-A safe trick or treating event  
The Green on Ridge at 38



# RIDGEFEST

**Saturday, September 10th, 3 to 8:30 pm**

This free, all-ages event is an opportunity for Wheat Ridge residents to celebrate the Ridge at 38. RidgeFest is an event highlighting the agricultural heritage and handmade/homemade appeal of the community. The event aims to satisfy enthusiasts

of all kinds through diverse offerings including a classic car show, an artisan marketplace, local home brew tasting, cottage food contests, kids' activities, and local Bluegrass music.



## Another Successful CRITERIUM

Over 6,000 people attended the 2016 Ridge at 38 Criterium and Brewfest hosted on 38th Avenue between Pierce and Teller Streets. The June event added a Brewfest this year featuring 12 local breweries. The state Criterium Championship is a short loop bike race that is growing in popularity. Racers complimented Wheat Ridge on having one of the best courses on the Colorado racing circuit.

Localworks would like to thank all the partners, businesses, sponsors and volunteers who made the 2016 Ridge at 38 Criterium and Brewfest a resounding success. Special thanks to the City of Wheat Ridge Public Works Department and Police Department for a safe environment for the racers and community. Thanks to local sponsors who stepped up to support this event including Wheat Ridge Cyclery, Colorado Plus Brew Pub, Clancy's Irish Pub, Right Coast Pizza, Vitruvian Fitness, Vinyl Works, Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers, Re/Max Professionals – City Properties, KTCL 93.3, and several in-kind sponsors. Thanks to the Ridge at 38 businesses for their leadership and to the residents and businesses impacted by road closures. Deep gratitude is also extended to over 100 volunteers who contributed their time and energy to the event, which was managed by Localworks. To see more pictures or information go to RidgeAt38.com or follow the conversation on Facebook on the Ridge at 38 page.

# TRUNK OR TREAT

**Saturday, October 29th, 4 to 6 pm**

Trunk or Treat is a safe trick or treat event for kids and their families with participation from firefighters, police officers, and community members. Participants distribute candy and decorate their cars and trucks with creative disguises to the delight of the trick-or-treaters. This event features a haunted house, carnival games, a costume parade, a trunk decorating contest with prizes for the winner, and "Thriller" zombie dancers to kick off the costume parade. "Trunks" will be parked in the lot at 38th and Upham and other activities will be conducted on the Green.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for both events. For information contact Carolyn at 720-259-1030 or CDoran@WeAreLocalworks.org



# OOOPS

## CODY SAYS:

### You May Not Know...

Wheat Ridge City facilities, parks, and open spaces are now smoke and vapor free!

The City of Wheat Ridge defines smoking as inhaling, exhaling, or carrying any burning tobacco or other plant matter or inhaling vapor containing nicotine, THC, or other chemicals. This includes but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chew, pipes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, and other vapor devices.

Wheat Ridge joins cities with similar laws, including Edgewater, Lakewood, and Golden, that also added the use of vaporizing devices to smoke free laws. Donna Viverette, Health Promotion Supervisor of Jefferson County Public Health says “smoke-free policies can help tobacco users quit and prevent youth from starting”. City Ordinance #1584 makes the following areas smoke and vapor free:

- Outdoor parks, trails, open space, sports fields and other recreation areas
- The 15-foot perimeter around main building and facility entrances
- Public transit waiting areas, bus stops, shelters, light rail platforms, etc.
- Indoor areas of businesses and other facilities open to the public

City staff will be handing out educational cards and flyers to remind patrons of the smoke and vapor free ordinance and the Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department will be posting additional smoke-free signage at parks, trails, playgrounds and ballfields.

The ordinance was adopted in October 2015 by City Council, based on the growing medical and scientific evidence showing the detrimental effects of smoking. It is not intended to infringe upon the personal right and decision of a person to smoke or use tobacco products. Tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure take the lives of more than 5,100 Coloradans every year. Reducing exposure to second hand smoke helps reduce the risk for heart attack, asthma, chronic bronchitis, lung disease, and certain types of cancers.

Quitting can be hard. Colorado’s free quit line is available to help at 1-800-QUIT NOW. Thank you for respecting the health of fellow Wheat Ridge residents, visitors, pets, and environment.

For more information on Ordinance #1584 visit [ci.wheatridge.co.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3329](http://ci.wheatridge.co.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3329).

## BENEFITS OF A PET LICENSE



- Immediate notification if your missing pet is found. In many cases, animal control or a good Samaritan can bring your pet directly home.
- Your pet licensing fee helps support Foothills Animal Shelter—where thousands of homeless pets are cared for each year.
- It’s easy! License online, by mail or in person.



**A license, renewed annually, is required for all dogs 4 months and older living within the city limits of Wheat Ridge.**

For more information visit [FoothillsAnimalShelter.org/License](http://FoothillsAnimalShelter.org/License) or call 303.278.7577



Brought to you in partnership with the City of Wheat Ridge and Wheat Ridge Police Department’s Community Services Team

## Garage Sale Reminders

Are you planning a garage sale this spring or summer?

Cody the Code Ranger would like to remind folks that all garage sales require a permit from the City of Wheat Ridge. Permits are available at City Hall, 7500 W. 29th Avenue or you can complete an online application on the City website at [www.ci.wheatridge.co.us](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us).

### How many garage sales can I have during the year?

Residents may have only four garage sales per year. Each sale is limited to a maximum of three consecutive days.

### Where can I advertise my garage sale?

Signs can only be posted on private property, away from the public rights-of-way. Signs are not allowed on any public utility pole, stop sign or speed limit sign, as they are a violation of the City littering codes. Signs posted on private property must be removed after the sale. Signs posted in the public rights-of-way will be removed and disposed of by the Community Services Team.

If you have questions about a garage sale permits you can call the Front Desk Team at 303-235-2895 or the Community Services Team at 303-235-2926.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### AUGUST

- 08 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall
- 10 Wadsworth Environmental Assessment Open House, 5:30 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall
- 22 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall

### SEPTEMBER

- 05 City Administrative facilities will be closed for Labor Day
- 12 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall
- 26 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall

### OCTOBER

- 10 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall
- 24 Wheat Ridge City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. Wheat Ridge City Hall