

Mayor's Matters June 2017



Mayor's Matters is your connection to learn about what is new, important, and interesting in the City of Wheat Ridge! Feel free to share this newsletter with any friends or family who may wish to know more about our great city.



Mayor Joyce Jay

Mayor's Coffee will not be held in July, but look for fresh coffee and conversation on August 5, 2017.

May Storm Update

The May storm damage to roofs and buildings is being called one of the worst ever. The consequential demand for re-roofing permits and inspections has been over the top. In addition to hiring additional permit technicians, as well as using contract help for both technicians and inspectors, the City has reached out to other cities both locally and regionally hoping to find assistance—with no additional personnel available. The City asks patience of homeowners and their contractors as the building department works diligently to move through volumes of requests. *Please note mid-roof inspections are conducted for the protection of the homeowner and to ensure roofs are repaired properly in order to extend the life of the roof.* For information www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/buildingpermits

Summer Happenings in Wheat Ridge

Here are a few of the events happening this summer in Wheat Ridge: don't miss out on the fun! Performances in the Park are every Wednesday all summer long at Anderson Park with children's events from 10-10:45 a.m. and live music from 8:30 – 8 p.m. Check out details on Facebook @WRAndersonPark. Localworks is holding their Friday Night Live at the Ridge at 38, July 21 and August 18, starting at 7 p.m. with live music followed by a family-friendly movie. <https://www.localworks.org>. FB: @LocalworksWR. Carnation Festival is August 11-13 at Anderson Park. Register to build a float and find more information about the festival. <https://www.carnationfestival.com/>. FB: @WheatRidgeCarnationFestival. TLC Clean Up Days are July 8 at Glory of God Church, and August 19 at St. Peter and Paul Church. Recycling, trash and green waste will be accepted from 8 a.m. – noon or until bins are full. The Colorado Classic Bike Race rolls through Wheat Ridge on August 12. Watch the cyclists fly by from the viewing stands at Wheat Ridge High School. <http://bit.ly/CCClass>. FB: @ColoradoClassicPro

Traffic Update

If traffic seems extraordinarily high this summer, we have learned that Denver surpassed a 30-million-visitor count in 2016 a combination of daytime and overnight visitors and remains just as strong in 2017. According to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, "Denver has seen tourism grow nearly three times the pace of the national average, 62 percent for Denver, compared to 22 percent nationally."

Wheat Ridge Reads – Book Selection for 2017



The Ringier, a novel by Boulder author Jenny Shank, is the choice for the year's Wheat Ridge Reads community reading program. Set in Denver and its suburbs, The Ringier tells the story of a shooting during a no-knock raid from the viewpoint of the family of the victim, as well as the viewpoint of the cop that fired the gun and his middle-class suburban family.

Now in its sixth year, Wheat Ridge Reads promotes literacy through a common reading experience among community members and culminates with three author-orientations in September. Program partners Wheat Ridge High School and Wheat Ridge Public Library will host a presentation by author Jenny Shank on Thursday, September 21, 2017. The Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission will host a Books and Breads event with Shank on Saturday, September 23, 2017. More information on locations and times will be released later this summer. Teenagers and adults are encouraged to read the book and join the discussion at one of these events. Copies of *The Ringier* are available at Jefferson County Public Libraries and BookBae, 4200 Tenipson St., Denver.

Visit Jefferson County Library

Speaking of books, have you visited any of the Jefferson County Libraries lately? New funding from last year's ballot question has enabled the purchase of 200 new computers and enlarged bandwidth for faster internet speed. Extended hours, more books added—actually more popular books plus picture books for children—story time and teen job information has been accomplished, as well as, basic building maintenance.



National Night Out in Wheat Ridge on August 1, 2017

Mark your calendar and come out to meet your WRPD officers at the National Night Out event in Hayward Park. Vehicles will be on display, crime prevention information will be available and there will be lots of fun for kids and families. WRPD is also launching a special new program for those who walk dogs in the community called WRPD Dog Walker Watch. It is a way for dogs and their humans to lend their ears and eyes to help the Police Department identify and report suspicious behavior. The first class is Tuesday, July 11 from 6-7 p.m. Register at www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/nationalnightout. FB: @NationalNightOut

Enjoy the July Fourth Holiday Safely

As the July Fourth holiday approaches, the Wheat Ridge Police Department wants to make residents aware that all fireworks, including fountains and sparklers, are illegal within city limits.

Section 5-86 of the Wheat Ridge Code of Laws prohibits fireworks and establishes punishment for violators in the form of fines, jail time or both. Anyone in possession of fireworks in the City of Wheat Ridge will be cited into Municipal Court, and may face a fine of up to \$999, up to a year in jail, or both. If the illegal use of fireworks causes serious bodily injury or damages property, more serious felony charges could be applied.

Historically the Wheat Ridge Police Department receives a high volume of calls related to complaints concerning the use of illegal fireworks. The increase in call load can impact the response time for more urgent calls involving human safety. As in year's past, the department will have extra officers on duty specifically for fireworks enforcement the weekend prior as well as on July Fourth.



WHEAT RIDGE CALLS FOR BUSINESS APPRECIATION NOMINATIONS

The City of Wheat Ridge Economic Development division is requesting nominations for the best in business awards as it prepares for the 14th Annual Business Appreciation Awards Breakfast on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center. Deadline for nominations is Monday, August 7, and winners will be announced at the breakfast.

"It's an easy process to nominate any Wheat Ridge-based business for one of two awards: the Business of the Year and the Reinvestment Award given to a business that has made improvements to their business site," stated Steve Art, Economic Development manager. "We have a history of great winners, from small mom-and-pop businesses to larger companies, providing great service to our community and the greater Denver region."

This program honors the best in business for the City of Wheat Ridge. "We've had some amazing past nominees and winners," says Mayor Joyce Jay, Mistress of Ceremonies for the event. "We have such a diverse business community and we're honored to be able to recognize them for their service and commitment to Wheat Ridge."

Wheat Ridge-based businesses can be nominated in the following categories:

- Business of the Year - A business that exemplifies the Best in Business representing the values of the Wheat Ridge community
- Reinvestment Award - A business that has demonstrated one or more of the following:
 - Made a significant investment in its property
 - Improved the overall appearance of the site
 - Maintained property at the highest standards
 - Updated their building in a manner to make it more marketable

To nominate a Wheat Ridge business for an award this year, go to the Economic Development page of the City's website and print the [nomination form](#). Forms are also available at City Hall, the Recreation Center and Active Adult Center.

City Floodplain Program Achieves a Significant Milestone

The City just received a Class 5 Community designation from the Community Rating System (CRS), a voluntary program for communities who participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This means that most Wheat Ridge residents with flood insurance will now receive an additional 5% discount on their premiums. The total discount is 25%.

All communities start out with a Class 10 rating which provides no discount. In 2010, Wheat Ridge had a Class 7 rating, and City Staff has worked hard to move up to the Class 5 rating by making improvements to the program. The City gets points for improvements which include activities associated with public information, mapping and regulations, flood damage reduction, and flood preparedness.

Only around 10% of all CRS communities are Class 5 or above, and in Colorado, there are only five other communities who have been designated Class 5 or above.

Congratulations to staff on the new designation and for lowering insurance rates for our residents living in flood plains.

Check out the new Top of the Hour video featuring: Police Department Support Services Recruitment

https://youtu.be/9L4X2Bp_uB4



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