



# Mayor's Matters

JUNE 2011

## Greetings!

Mayor's Matters is your monthly connection to learn about the great things happening in the City of Wheat Ridge! I encourage you to share this newsletter with any friends or family who may wish to know more about Wheat Ridge. Feel free to forward this newsletter on to others. Have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday!

*Mayor Jerry DiTullio*



## Strict Enforcement Policy for Illegal Use of Fireworks

The Wheat Ridge Police Department would like to remind citizens that **ALL** fireworks, including sparklers and fountains, are illegal within the City limits. Click here to view the [Community Notification Press Release](#).

## Wheat Ridge Garden Tour

Discover the beauty of Wheat Ridge's neighborhoods at the Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission's first-ever garden tour. Garden sizes range from small-scale urban gardens to larger country gardens with a wide variety of styles. The Garden Tour will take place on Sunday, June 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., beginning at the Richards-Hart Estate, W. 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Benton Street. Tickets in the form of a map/brochure can be purchased throughout the day for \$10 each. There are no advanced ticket sales and the tour will be held rain or shine. [Click here for more information.](#)

## Reminders:

The Lakewood Library is closed for construction until Sept. 5.

Tabor Lake is closed to all boating until Aug. 1.

The Wheat Ridge Farmers Market runs until Oct. 27. The market will take place every Thursday at 4252 Wadsworth Blvd. from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

## Swearing-In Ceremony

On June 20<sup>th</sup> Chief Brennan held a swearing in ceremony for the City's new officers. Welcome to Officer Nellie Gisonda and Officer Tom Schoonover.

## Save the Dates!

### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual E-Waste Recycling Day**

Sept. 10, 2011

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Organized by Sustainable WR  
(Details to follow)

### **42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival**

Aug. 19 & 20

## Tree Planting Project

City volunteers and staff planted up to 385 native trees along the Greenbelt on June 21, which was made possible thru a grant from the Colorado Tree Coalition and Xcel Energy. You can support the tree planting by adopting trees which includes providing water and monitoring the newly planted trees once a week



this summer. Materials and supplies will be provided. For additional information about tree adoption contact Margaret Paget, Forestry and Open Space Supervisor, at 303-205-7554 or email [mpaget@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:mpaget@ci.wheatridge.co.us).

## Wheat Ridge Middle School Peer Leadership Seminar

Students from Wheat Ridge Middle School participated in the Peer Leadership Program visited the City on June 16. Nathan Mosley, Management Analyst, coordinated their visit. Council Member Davis Reinhart, City Manager Patrick Goff and I,



participated in team building and critical thinking activities with the students as it pertains to local government. The Peer Leadership summer curriculum is focused around life skills, peer mentoring, team building and leadership.



Click [here](#) to learn more about the exciting change taking place at Wheat Ridge Middle School.

## Produce & Health Fair

Free Fruits & Vegetables,  
Cooking Demonstrations &  
Health Resources  
Friday, July 15 and August 12  
9 – 11:30 a.m.  
Healing Waters Family  
Center, 6475 W. 29<sup>th</sup> Ave.

## QUICK LINKS

[City of Wheat Ridge](#)

[Mayor's Office](#)

[Quarterly Connections  
Newsletter](#)

[Wheat Ridge Channel 8](#)

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

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

[Jefferson County](#)

[Wheat Ridge 2020](#)

[Enterprise Wheat Ridge](#)

## Wheat Ridge Business District Revitalization Incentive Grant Program

At the June 13 City Council meeting, Council approved a supplemental Budget appropriation ([Resolution 16-2011](#)) for \$55,000 for the Wheat Ridge Business District (WRBD) Revitalization



Incentive Grant Program. The Grant Program provides grant opportunities through the WRBD for businesses to make sign and façade improvements. For further information regarding the Grant Program visit the Wheat Ridge Business District [Website](#).

## 2011 Candidate Education Forum

Wheat Ridge 2020 (WR2020) and the Jefferson County Association of Realtors (JCAR) are proud to announce a special Candidate Forum for all citizens interested in running for office. Michael Snow, Wheat Ridge City Clerk, will present on the process for individuals interested in running for office in Wheat Ridge. WR2020 and JCAR will discuss real estate and revitalization efforts in Wheat Ridge. Representatives from The White



House Project will be on hand to provide tips for running a good campaign and how to be a successful candidate.

**When:** June 28th, Tuesday, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Where:** JCAR Offices, 950 Wadsworth Boulevard

One City Council seat in each of the four districts as well as the positions of City Clerk and City Treasurer are up for election. To view announced

candidates profiles, click [here](#).

The City Clerk will also host an additional candidate information session on July 19 for an in-depth discussion regarding legal campaign requirements. For information contact Michael Snow at [msnow@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:msnow@ci.wheatridge.co.us).

## City of Wheat Ridge Promotes Urban Agriculture with Code Amendments

City Council approved changes to the City Code that will further support and encourage urban agricultural uses and activities in the City. The code changes updated the City's regulations and established three main uses for urban agriculture: community gardens (under the category of "urban gardens"), farmers markets and produce stands, which are now allowed in any zone district. A summary of the three uses permitted in each zone district may be found on the City [website](#).



### **Leaves of Hope Update**

The City of Wheat Ridge was a corporate sponsor for the 4th annual *Leaves of Hope* and National Cancer Survivors Day at Exempla Lutheran. Council Member Tracy Langworthy and Heather Geyer, PIO, were among the 500 runners/walkers who crossed the finish line. Former Mr. America, Tom Terwilliger, was on hand to generate added excitement.

Said Carol Salzmann, Vice President and Executive Director, Exempla Lutheran Medical Center Foundation and Community Development, "Through *Leaves of Hope* and National Cancer Survivors Day, we are creating a wonderful Exempla Lutheran tradition that truly honors, supports and celebrates cancer survivors and those living with cancer in our community. Our thanks to the City of Wheat Ridge Police and Planning Departments for their efforts and to the City of Wheat Ridge for their gift of support."

### **Colorado's Summer Food Service Program**

The City is promoting the *Campaign to End Childhood Hunger* which was launched in 2009 with the goal to end childhood hunger by 2015 by



serving nutritious meals to kids and teens during the summer months. Hunger Free Colorado is the lead local non-profit spearheading this effort. For information on

the sites in Wheat Ridge, as well as the Jefferson County sites, please follow this [link](#). For further information visit [www.summerfoodcolorado.org](http://www.summerfoodcolorado.org) which will provide a useful tool for our growing coalition of partner organizations including school districts,

community and faith-based organizations, local and state government, corporations, foundations and other organizations whose collective efforts are making a difference with hunger in our communities.

Please join the City of Wheat Ridge, LiveWell Wheat Ridge, and the Metro Mayor's Caucus in spreading the word about this great program.

### **When Sirens Sound**

#### *Guidelines for the Outdoor Early Warning System*

The City of Wheat Ridge has activated our Early Warning Systems (EWS) sirens several times over the last two years, including several testing processes. When residents hear the sirens, they should follow the guidelines below.

- ❑ Turn on the radio to 850 KOA AM (the designated emergency broadcast station for the Denver area) or turn on your TV and find a news station for information about what is happening.
- ❑ Do NOT telephone the police or fire departments. This ties up the phone lines, making them unavailable for emergency calls.
- ❑ If residents have reason to believe the sirens are being activated for a tornado, take shelter immediately.
  - At home, take cover in the basement if one is available. If no basement is available, take shelter in a room in the center part of the house away from windows. Do NOT remain in a trailer or mobile home.
  - At work or school, go to the interior hallways on the lowest floor or to the designated shelter area away from windows.
- ❑ Continue to listen to the radio or television for developments on the emergency and for information on when it is safe to leave shelter.

Sirens are primarily used to warn residents who are **outdoors** when dangerous weather or a flash flood is approaching. The system can also be used to alert residents and motorists of chemical spills and other emergency situations occurring in the City. Often times in a situation such as this, the City web site will contain pertinent information.

[www.ci.wheatridge.co.us](http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us) For more information or questions about the City's Early Warning System, please call Lt. Mark Cooney at 303.235.2931.

**For more information**

If you would like more information about the Mayor's Matters e-newsletter, please feel free to contact Heather Geyer, Administrative Services Director, at 303-235-2826 or via e-mail at:

[hgeyer@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:hgeyer@ci.wheatridge.co.us).