

A City of Greeley Community Bulletin ~ November 2010

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2010 Festival of Trees

Celebrate the holidays at the Union Colony Civic Center as it hosts the 24th annual **Festival of Trees, November 27-December 4** presented by the City of Greeley and the Greeley Philharmonic Guild. Enjoy choirs, musicians, Santa visits, gingerbread house decorating demonstrations, vintage fire truck and carriage rides, kid's crafts, door prizes, a silent auction and the **Whoville Holiday Seuss-ebraction!** Admission: \$1 for children ages 1012 and senior age 65

Post-election News from the City Manager

by Roy H. Otto, Greeley City Manager

The ads are gone, the election is over . . . and here at City hall and in our other city facilities we are all breathing a huge sigh of relief that the three statewide tax cutting and debt limitation ballot measures failed. My opinion on this statewide outcome is that Colorado voters understood the damage that would be done to their quality of life, to private and public sector employment, and local government services—and residents soundly rejected that route. This is truly the good news of the election as any cuts made now would be on top of the 93 City positions we've eliminated since 2007.

The failure of Proposition 101 and Amendments 60 and 61 means that for now, the City of Greeley will not have to balance the 2011 budget with additional cutbacks of over \$5 million. That being said, Greeley voters extended the Food Tax, but did not approve the dedicated sales tax for road maintenance. The City Council is now faced with the challenge of making budget decisions about how to maintain roads without that new revenue.

To learn more about what residents want and what they meant by their vote, we'll be reaching back out to the community soon to

and older; \$2 for adults. Purchase tickets at the UCCC ticket office or call 356-5000.



In conjunction with the festival, the **Silver Bells Social** for seniors will be December 1 from 1-3 p.m., the **Snowflakes and Satin Fashion Show & Luncheon** takes place December 2 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and the **Teddy Bear Bash** is scheduled for December 4 from 9-11 a.m. Additional charges apply for these three events. Limited tickets are available, so call today, 356-5000. Visit www.greeleyfestivaloftrees.com for more info. Proceeds benefit the Civic Center and the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra.



1501 65th Avenue • 350-9401
www.familyfunplex.com

Family FunPlex Turkey Toss

November 20 • 4:30pm
Best of 15 free throws wins a turkey! Six age groups; \$3 per person.



Family FunPlex • 1501 65th Avenue



900 8th Avenue • 350-9402
www.greeleyicehaus.com

Skate Your Turkey Off at the Ice Haus

November 26 • Noon-5pm
Too much turkey on Thanksgiving? Skate it off! Admission \$3 and skate rental free with donation of two non-perishable food items. (\$2 w/out donation)

learn why they did not approve that funding. From that information, we will have a better idea of how to proceed.

Aside from these challenges, Greeley is a bright spot in the state with JBS, Leprino and King Soopers facilities under construction. These major companies will bring additional employment along with local spending and tax revenue - long term this will help our residents directly and overall economic growth in Greeley.

City Budget 2011-2012 Cutbacks

City staff, working with City Council members, have prepared the 2011 and 2012 draft City budgets. Due to the recession, these budgets include 27 fewer positions than in 2010 as well as other cutbacks such as reduced park maintenance and elimination of the neighborhood traffic calming program. These adjustments are needed as revenue continues to lag and because the City is required, by law, to operate with a balanced budget. There will be two public hearings where residents can speak directly to the council about the proposed budgets: 6:30 p.m. at 919 7th Street.

- November 16 - Public Hearing & First Reading
- December 7 - Public Hearing & Final Reading

If you would like to review the draft budget on-line, go to www.greeleygov.com and select the "City Budget Ready for Review" link in the News & Updates section of the homepage.



Real or Rumor? Greeley's Mayor and City Council members put in 40 hours per week plus they attend various meetings while getting paid huge salaries.

Rumors! Rumors! Rumors! Cheryl Aragon, Greeley's Deputy City Clerk, tells us that the Mayor and Council are elected by Greeley's registered voters to set policy for the City. That policy is then carried out by the City Manager through the professional city staff. Although, the Mayor and City Council can easily spend up to 20 hours per week on City business such as preparation for and participation

Ice Haus 5th Annual Historic Skate

November 27 • 7:15-10pm
Lincoln Park's vintage pond is recreated inside the Ice Haus for cool skating fun. Admission \$4; ages 4 & under \$1. Free admission with \$2 toy donation; \$2 skate rental.

Holiday Ice Showcase at the Ice Haus

December 3 • 6-8pm &
December 4 • 2-3pm
See Skate School classes and Mountain View Skating Club performances. Admission \$7; children ages 7 and under \$5.



Help Greeley Cops Become Santa Cops

For many families, especially families with children, the holidays can be bleak due to financial hardships. Santa Cops is a Greeley and Weld County program that provides a Christmas gift to children who otherwise may not receive one. Law enforcement officers, teachers, Weld County Social Services and Probation Department staff refer families with children up to age 17 to Santa Cops for some special gift assistance. In 2009, Santa Cops helped over 2,970 children in Greeley and Weld County have a much merrier Christmas. Wrapping all those presents is a big job! If you're interested in volunteering, contact Officer Jim Henkel at 350-9622 or jim.henkel@greeleypd.com.



Citizen Volunteers Make a

in meetings and worksessions, communicating with constituents, attending community events, and working on local, state, and regional committees. Office space is not provided at City Hall.

The Mayor earns \$1,200 per month, while Council members earn \$800 per month - all can participate in the same fringe benefit program available to City employees at their own expense. The Greeley Municipal Code requires that the Mayor and Council review this compensation at least once every four years and cannot increase or decrease the compensation of any member of the Council during their term.



Sixty-five Participate in Speak Up Session

Although you may not ride the bus, Greeley's public transit system will provide over 600,000 rides to Greeley and Evans residents this year. That number has grown by 40% percent over the last eight years. To learn more about residents' perspectives on public transit, the Council hosted a Speak Up session on October 26. The session opened with a report from a citizen committee that began meeting in May. Committee members reported on their recommendations and several of the 65 residents in attendance voiced their opinions about how *GET-Greeley Evans Transit* services could be improved over the coming years. Council members were appreciative of the input and will use those recommendations and requests as they consider upcoming City budgets. You can read the committee's recommendations at www.greeleyevanstransit.com.

Issue Talk Continues with New Topics

Greeley Mayor Tom Norton's monthly 30-minute talk show continues with new topics every month. Upcoming discussions and guests include interviews with representatives from Leprino Foods regarding their new facility under construction in Greeley as well as City officials who will update viewers about the 2002-2022 Quality of Life projects approved by voters in 2002. Tune to GTV8-Comcast channel 8 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. See the entire GTV8 schedule at www.greeleygov.com/gtv8.



Greeley Supports Schools Forum Report

Difference

Greeley's volunteer boards and commissions are seeking new members to help city government provide the most appropriate and efficient services to taxpayers. Applications will be accepted for the following boards or commissions: Upstate Colorado Economic Development, Citizen Transportation Advisory Board, Human Relations Commission, and Youth Commission (youth positions and one adult ex-officio position). For more information regarding these and additional opportunities, visit the City's website, www.greeleygov.com, or contact Russell at 360-9741, russ.lenhart@greeleygov.com.



Union Colony

Civic Center Shows

356-5000 ~ www.ucstars.com

Travel Film: The Best of Bavaria

November 21 • 2:00pm

The Lowe Family

November 26 •
7:30pm



Christmas with the King

November 27 • 7:30pm
November 28 • 2:00pm



On September 16 the Greeley City Council heard from residents who are passionate about improving student performance in Greeley's schools. The forum, facilitated by staff and students from the UNC Center for Engaged Research & Civic Action, included two hours of open dialogue for residents and community leaders. The UNC report summarizing public input is now available on-line at www.greeleygov.com along with a list of all the ways in which City government currently supports schools. Council members made the following observations at the forum and from the report:

- Many residents are not aware of School District, City of Greeley, Chamber of Commerce and other existing programs in the community that help students.
- The City of Greeley already provides over 60 individual forms of support to students via existing City services.
- Poverty in Greeley affects the ability of children to succeed in school.
- Cultural differences and a family's perceived importance of education plays a role in motivating students.
- Some of the factors that keep students from achieving may never be eliminated, but may be mitigated.
- There are many students who excel in District 6 schools and these students are a testimony to the efforts of School District administrators and teachers.
- Greeley's image is in many ways a reflection of student success.
- Student performance and school ratings play an important role in business success and economic development for the community.
- Recognition of student achievement can have a positive affect on students.
- A nurturing environment within the community will have a positive impact on student success.

The Council will be meeting with School District 6 leadership soon to discuss possible next steps.

Conserve Water - Lower Your Energy Costs

Did you know that conserving water can reduce energy costs? Here are five tips to help save hot water:

1. Only run full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
2. Install low-flow showerheads. They have improved over the years and maintain high water pressure. Choose a model that uses 2 gallons or less per minute.



REGISTER TODAY

During a local emergency everyone wants to know the *who, what, when* and *where* of the situation and *what* to do. With the proliferation of wireless communications, it has become more difficult for public safety agencies to communicate with everyone in the affected area. However, that is changing. Now you can opt-in for emergency notifications over your wireless services. A one-page Q&A with a link to the Opt-in registration form is now available. Once registered, you will receive voice notifications when the area is impacted by a disaster or emergency.

[Get connected!](#)

3. Save by reducing shower times by a minute or two. You can also save water by turning off the shower when soaping up and then back on to rinse.
4. Fix leaky faucets, a hot water leak wastes both water and energy. Tightly turn off faucets to stop unnecessary drips.
5. Add aerators that use 1.5 gallons or less to all household sinks to increase water pressure and use less water.



Get more water efficiency tips at www.greeleygov.com/wc.

Quality of Life Project Updates Available On-line

In 2002, Greeley voters approved a multi-million dollar package of community improvements funded by a sales tax increase. The 20-year package included the Ice Haus, Family FunPlex, Twin Rivers Park, Greeley History Museum, Island Grove soccer fields, the Rodarte Center expansion, additional parks, plus ongoing neighborhood and entryway improvements. The Quality of Life project status has been available at the City's website for some time, but not many people knew about it. You can view the Quality of Life project status info at www.greeleygov.com.



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Forward this email to family, friends and neighbors today!

Our mailing address is:
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