



City & County Manager's Report

January 27, 2009

TO: Mayor Patrick Quinn and the Broomfield City Council

FROM: George Di Ciero, City and County Manager

FYI

Another successful Winter Frostacular at Broomfield Event Center

The post-holiday Winter Frostacular at the Broomfield Event Center in December drew about 1500 participants who had a choice of carnival games, inflatables to jump in, a DJ, ice skating, badge making activities, and free movies featuring Frosty the Snowman. Refreshments included hot cocoa or apple cider in both lounges.

A new feature was "Ice Fishing" where kids could fling a fishing line over a barrier and receive a prize. There was also face painting, and one of Santa's elves and a real live reindeer for that holiday photo. Kids (and parents too) had a great time petting the reindeer and taking pictures while they were waiting in line to ice skate.

The DJ asked attendees trivia questions about Broomfield, and whoever came forward first with the answer won a prize. There were \$25 gift cards from numerous Broomfield merchants, goods and services from Colorado Physical Therapy, items from the Broomfield Store and other miscellaneous items.

Comments about the event were very positive. Attendees enjoyed having more room - the complete corridor instead of just half. The ice skating logistics were better, allowing for great fun on the ice. Volunteers commented that the event was well-organized and they had a good time sharing in the community spirit of the event.

Many complimented Broomfield, on the many quality community events available to the residents of Broomfield, saying that many of their extended family members were impressed by the community activities provided here, and adding that they had nothing of the sort in their cities in and out of state.



Health and Human Services programs see substantial increases

Broomfield Health and Human Services (HHS) is responding to significant growth in the demand for services, primarily in the public assistance programs and at the Workforce Center.

Broomfield's public assistance programs have income guidelines based on varying levels of the Federal Poverty Level and varying resource guidelines. The number of applications and the number of households approved for Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) benefits are approximately 50 percent higher for November and December of last year compared to the same two months in 2007. LEAP provides short-term, temporary financial assistance to low income households to help cover a portion of winter home heating costs.

Food Stamps and Medicaid have also seen tremendous growth. Comparing September through December of 2008 to the same period in 2007, households approved for food stamps increased 18 percent and applications increased 20 percent. Food Stamps provide low income households with resources that can be used to purchase food. Thirty percent more families and 13 percent more adults received Medicaid in 2008 compared to 2007. Medicaid is a program for low income persons without health insurance, and uninsured workers.

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program, which provides nutrition and health education, healthy food and other health services to low income families, has experienced a 50 percent increase in clients September through November of 2008 over the same period in 2007. Applications for child care subsidies to low income families through the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) have also increased significantly, quadrupling in the first three quarters of 2008 compared to the same period in 2007.

The Broomfield Workforce Center is experiencing increases in demand for services. The Workforce Center provides a variety of free services to assist both employers and job seekers. Services for job-seekers include job listings, computer and internet access, career counseling and training, and resume assistance. Services for businesses include worker recruitment through hiring events and other methods, and pre-screening and referral services for employers. From September through December, 2008, client contacts in the Workforce

Center were 32 percent higher than the same period in 2007.

For additional information about these and other services offered by the Broomfield Health and Human Services Department, visit www.broomfield.org/hhs or call 720.887.2200.

HHS, FISH participate in statewide homeless survey

FISH of Broomfield and HHS participated in a statewide homeless count on Jan. 26 and 27 in Broomfield.

Volunteers at FISH accepted calls and conducted the survey by phone to those homeless Broomfield residents who called. All individuals residing in Broomfield who meet the HUD definition of "homeless" were asked to participate in this anonymous survey to insure accurate counts.

Homelessness includes individuals who:

- live in transitional housing,
- were being evicted within seven days with no other place to go,
- were homeless prior to short term hospital or institutional stays,
- were incarcerated to be discharged within 30 days with no place to live;
- were fleeing domestic violence with no place to go, or
- were staying, temporarily, with friends, family, in a car, shelter, outside, receiving hotel vouchers, etc., because there was no other place for them to stay.

The results of the January 2007 homelessness count for the City and County of Broomfield reflected a minimum of 206 homeless individuals and families. The January 2009 survey will update and compare the baseline established in 2007 for winter homeless trends, identify various subsets of the homeless population, and help better define trends and shifts in the nature and characteristics of homelessness.

Additionally, the Point-in-Time survey is mandated by HUD for communities receiving HUD funds. Broomfield residents directly benefit from receipt of HUD HOME funds to operate the two-year-old Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program.

Looking ahead

Annual garden fair

The CSU Extension Master Gardeners will be hosting the sixth annual Garden Fair on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009 in the lobby of the Broomfield Auditorium. Details will be posted in the Broomfield Enterprise, in utility bills, and on the Channel 8 calendar.

Cultural Affairs continues 'Enlightenment Journeys'

"Enlightenment Journeys," hosted by the Cultural Affairs Division in the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library, continue. The free presentations, inspired by the One Book, One Broomfield choice of *Breakfast with Buddha* by Roland Merullo, pick up in 2009 with presentations Saturdays at 2 p.m. in the Eisenhower Room.

On Feb. 14, the presentation is "*Having Love by Being Love*" with author Naomi Horii.

On March 14, Dr. Onslow Willson will discuss "*Metaphysiology - Healing from the Inside Out*" and May 9 will feature "*Soul of the Wild*" with author Barbara Shor.

In a special evening performance on April 11, 2009, at 7 PM, JoAn Segal will present her one woman show "*One Old Broad Talks About Life and Death*" in the Broomfield Auditorium as part of this free series.

In honor of this series, the Broomfield Auditorium Gallery will exhibit an art show featuring works that celebrate spirituality by local artists Tim Hogan, Beverly Schiller and Chandra Bezjak. This free exhibit will open from May 1 to May 15, 2009.

For more information call 303.464.5835.

Workforce plans youth job fair

The Broomfield Workforce Center is planning its annual youth career and job fair on Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009.

Those between 15 and 21 years old and looking for a career opportunity, part time work or a full

time job will be able to visit with over 40 participating businesses.

The event is at the Paul Derda Recreation Center, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 18, and is free. It is part of the Governor's Summer Job Hunt, and is sponsored in part by Channel 9 News.

Call the Broomfield Workforce Center at 303.464.5855 for more information.

A matter of heart health

In honor of American Heart Month, Cultural Affairs will present a one-woman show called *A Matter of Heart* on Friday, Feb. 27, at the Broomfield Auditorium.

A Matter of Heart is a one-woman theater piece based on the life experiences of Boulder resident Jan Snooks. Living a full life of eating right, exercising daily, working, and spending time with her family, it was quite a shock to her and her loved ones when she had a heart attack at the age of 48.

Local performer Len Barron, best known for his one man show about Einstein called "Walking Lightly", read about Snooks' experience in a magazine and after contacting her, suggested that she create a theater piece about her experience. The result is a moving and entertaining performance that includes song and spoken word.

A Matter of Heart depicts the story of how Snooks dealt with the discovery of her heart disease, her by-pass surgery and the aftermath. It is more than a theater piece. People will learn about the heart and how to minimize the possibility of heart attack.

It is the story of how everyone faces challenges and can live with joy, humor and hope even during times of uncertainty.

The American Heart Association will have a table in the lobby prior to the performance to share important information regarding heart health. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors and students. For more information, call 303,464.5835 or 5829.

Coming to the Event Center:

Jan. 29 – 31 - Skaters from California to Ohio will converge on the Broomfield Event Center and Ice Centre at the Promenade in January for one of the US Figure Skating Association's major figure skating championship event.

The US Figure Skating Association awarded the hosting of the 2009 Pacific Coast and Midwestern Synchronized Team Skating Sectional Championships to the Rocky Mountain Figure Skating Club, which expects about 5,000 skaters, coaches and family members to attend the competition from Jan. 29 through Jan. 31.

Feb. 4 – Colorado 14ers vs. Austin Torros, 7 p.m.

Feb. 7 – Playhouse Disney Live! Shows at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 8 – Playhouse Disney Live! 11 a.m.

Feb. 11 – Colorado 14ers vs. Tulsa 66ers, 7 p.m.

Feb. 15 – Rocky Mountain Rage vs. Mississippi River Kings, 3:05 p.m.

Feb. 21-28 – Olympic Team Trials for Curling

April 25 and 26 – World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions. Two shows on April 25, one on April 26.

Also visit www.BroomfieldEventCenter.com for more information on upcoming events and ticket information.

Capital projects ...

Crystal Pines to Country Estates Trail

The contractor, Arrow J. Landscape and Design, Inc., has been working on this project for the last month. Approximately half of the crusher fines trail has been placed. The drainage crossing has been completed except for the handrail, which is



currently being fabricated. The bridge over Community Ditch was lifted into place on Jan. 8, and the concrete approaches will be poured as weather allows.

Staff anticipates that the trail may be open by the beginning of February. The following work will be completed when the weather is warmer, potentially in late March 2009: concrete replacement along

the trail from Himalaya Ave to Aspen Street; fine grading adjacent to the trail; and native seeding.

North Midway Park Stairway Improvement

The 2008 budget included funding of improvements to the area directly to the east of the Girl Scout Shelter, which was too steep to mow or landscape. A new stairway was proposed with terraced landscaping beds to provide direct access from the Garden Center to the shelter. The drainage problem in the area will also be corrected.



Staff worked with Frank Miltenberger to complete design documents. The project was bid by three

landscaping and site contractors and Coloco, Inc. was the selected to do the work.

Coloco began the preliminary site work in November. The stairway and retaining wall were completed in December and the handrail will be completed in January.

Coloco will work on the irrigation for the project as weather allows through the winter until planting can start in the spring. The park and playground remain open during construction.

Departmental updates ...

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Public Health - The Vital Statistics office received a "Perfection Club" award from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for passing three audits conducted by the state office of Vital Records. The audits were conducted three times in 2008 and Broomfield was found compliant in all three of the major areas, including the application process, acceptance of valid and verifiable identification, and eligibility and proof of relationship. The audit also serves to measure the consistency of offices throughout Colorado in following state rules and regulations.

Workforce Center - In response to the rising unemployment figures the Broomfield Workforce Center is partnering with Adams County Workforce and Business Center and Jefferson County Workforce Center in a resource fair for dislocated workers. The fair will bring a variety of resources together that can assist people weather their unemployment status as they seek new employment in these hard times. Resources include: free tax help, consumer credit counseling, continuing health insurance coverage (COBRA), financial planning, food banks, prescription assistance, veteran services, and services for people with disabilities. The resource fair is

targeted to happen in the last week of March or first part of April. The exact date will be announced later.

RECREATION SERVICES

Gymnastics: The Holiday Gymnastics show on Dec. 18 was a glitzy success. Mainly to let the gymnasts show their parents what they have been working on, the show has evolved over the years into a great holiday event. The coaches put on a skit for the audience that made the gymnasts laugh throughout the entire show. Gymnasts performed dances, routines, and special event performances to holiday music. It was a great way to kick off the holidays.

15 coaches worked with the gymnasts to present two shows, each with about 140 people involved, 103 of whom were the gymnasts.

Santa (thanks to Joe Garneau) was a surprise to all the gymnasts and spectators. The gymnasts were told to point up to the running track as the very last part of their choreographed finale and Santa then appeared, bringing much excitement to the kids. It was a great night for the gymnasts and parents.

At the Audi ...

In the gallery

Westminster Paletteers winter display – "Life in Full Color" is on display Fridays from 2 to 5 p.m. and during Broomfield Auditorium events through March 6.

Auditorium Events:

Feb. 4, 7 p.m. Free - Roots Music Series continues with Big Jim Adams. With sound that's

genuine delta pluck to twang slidin' contemporary blues, Big Jim is acoustically grounded with touches of soul. His best instrument is his rich baritone voice.
Wednesday February 4, 7 pm
FREE!

Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. - Boulder Chamber Orchestra presents *The Nationalists* featuring guest Conductor Silas Huff. Music Selections include Nikos Skalkottas' Five Greek Dances; Ralph

Vaughn Williams' Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis and Josef Suk's-Serenade for Strings in E Major, Op.6. Tickets: \$20 general admission, \$10 students/seniors. Children 12 and under are free.

Feb. 7, 9 to 11:30 a.m. Free. - CSU Extension Garden Fair. Master Gardeners answer gardening questions, and help attendees get started planning for the upcoming season. Displays feature information with brochures and handouts. Door prizes will be given away throughout the event and guest speakers will give presentations.

Feb. 12, 4 to 7 p.m. Free. - Broomfield Civic Orchestra presents its youth concerto competition and an instrument petting zoo. This outreach program is an informative display and an opportunity for all ages to get hands on experience with orchestral instruments. The Concerto Audition is open to school age piano or orchestral instrument players. (Note: you must register to audition for this event.) The winners perform one movement of their Concerto in concert Saturday, May 2. For contact and audition registration, call 303.438.1542 or visit www.broomfieldcivicorchestra.org

Feb. 14 to 16, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Sierra Retreats presents a “Mindfulness Meditation” weekend with Shinzen Young. Shinzen combines insights and practices from science and Buddhist meditation to help acquire a clear conceptual model of mindfulness and how it relates to other spiritual and psychological growth modalities as well as experience in practicing “Focus In” techniques, and how to apply it all to life issues. Cost is \$100. For contact and registration information, visit www.SierraRetreats.org or call Chip or Linda at 303.274.8790.

Feb. 19, 7 p.m. Free – The Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library presents “Science Sights and Sounds.” This program provides quality arts, science, and cultural entertainment to the whole family. Each month a different live performance is offered. This month, Len Barron performs the Life and Times of Einstein.

Feb. 21, 4 to 5 p.m. Free – Marvelous Musicales presents a Community Music Recital for musical performers of all ages, shapes, and sizes presenting music of all styles played on all types of instruments.

For more information on events at the Audi, call the **Events Hotline** at 303.469.3301, ext. 7999, or visit www.broomfieldauditorium.com

Auditorium ticket sales

The auditorium now sells tickets to all events at the Broomfield Auditorium on Fridays from 2 to 5 p.m. and during some events when staff is available.

