February 22, 2005

TO: Mayor Stuart and the Broomfield City Council

FROM: George Di Ciero, City and County Manager

In Review



The dog park is open! Councilmembers helped Mayor Karen Stuart officially open Broomfield's first dog park at the Broomfield County Commons on Saturday, Feb. 5. From left are Councilmembers Steve Kaverman and Vince Buzek, Mary Jane Ahrens and Councilmember Randy Ahrens, Mayor Stuart, Councilmembers Linda Reynolds and Clark Griep, Larry Reynolds, and Councilmembers Lori Cox, Gary Brosz and Ralph Johnson. The dog park is temporarily placed on property designated for future athletic fields. It will be re-sited in a permanent location when the area is ready to be developed for athletic uses.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

As a part of the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), Pam Thompson, supervisor of financial assistance programs, and two TANF interns met with residents at Cimarron Village mobile home community in Broomfield. The manager had contacted Health and Human Services (HHS) about a need for services for residents in Cimarron Village who might be reluctant to ask for services.

The LEAP Outreach presentation was well received by the residents. There continues to be some

confusion among residents of Cimarron Village about which county processes their requests. All of the residents seemed pleased that they are now a part of the City and County of Broomfield. The manager was pleased that HHS staff was responsive to the residents and willing to come to their community.

New Extension Agent

Holli Bowman has joined HHS as the new Colorado State University Extension Agent. Bowman comes from Georgia with a Masters degree in agricultural education. She has had experience with the National FFA program (Future Farmers of America). Bowman will recruit Broomfield residents for the Master Gardener and Wildlife Master programs. She is also looking forward to developing youth programs and introducing 4H programs in the schools.

Currently, she can be found at 6 Garden Center, but will be moving to the office next to the Broomfield Workforce Center in the near future.

Flu vaccine

HHS still has 100 doses of flu vaccine for children. The children's doses were funded by the government and until the Center for Disease Control mandates a change in distribution, the 100 doses will be available only for children between the ages of 6 months and two years. For information or to schedule an immunization, call 720-887-2220.

For adults. Public Health staff hosted flu clinics.

worked with the Senior Center, the North Metro Fire District, a local nursing home and local home health agency to provide vaccines to adults in the high risk category.

Workforce Center

Staff from the Workforce Center has been meeting with employees from Rocky Flats, Lord & Taylor and Light Bridge to give them information on employment opportunities and how to sign up for unemployment after losing their jobs.

Health Promotions Unit

The Health Promotions Unit is recruiting women, age 18-65, for the Hearts on Target - Choose to Move program. This new program is designed to help women work on controlling risk factors of heart disease in a 12-week, independent learning program that focuses on sound nutrition tips and increasing physical activity. The program kicks off on Monday, Feb. 28, at HHS. Staff will provide motivation, support and incentives along the way.

Earned Income Tax Credit

HHS has received information on the Earned Income Tax Credit which will be shared with clients. Anyone wishing additional information can call 720-887-2200.

Food Stamp Assurance Award

The Elderly, Disabled and Medical Services division earned an award from the Food Stamp Quality Assurance Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services. The award recognized that Broomfield had no food stamp errors in federal fiscal year 2004. In a letter from the state, staff was commended for dedication and the hard work it took to achieve this level of payment accuracy in the food stamp program.

Annual Spring Garden Fair

Fifty people attended the third annual Spring Garden Fair presented by the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners in Broomfield on Saturday, Feb. 5, at the Broomfield Senior Center. Information booths were set up and managed by 12 volunteer Master Gardeners. The booths covered topics from vegetable gardening, soil, and retrofitting, garden

tips through the year, Xeriscape, and the Wildlife Master Program.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Commercial Federal bank robbery

Through the successful efforts of the Police Department, a recent bank robbery has been solved, and a suspect is in custody. The suspect,



Michael Lee Lauer, was the topic of news casts when a surveillance camera caught the robbery-in-progress February 9 at Commercial Federal Bank in Broomfield.

Broomfield Police detectives and the FBI received information from citizens who had viewed the news casts, and learned that Lauer was en route to California via train. He was arrested by the FBI on February 17 when he arrived in California.

The initial call on the robbery came in on Wednesday, Feb. 9, when, at 10:18 a.m., Broomfield Police responded to a robbery at Commercial Federal Bank, 1000 East First Avenue.

Responding officers learned that a man had entered the bank, displayed a silver colored handgun and demanded money. He was described as a white male, 19-25 years old, 5'6", clean-shaven. He was wearing a blue baseball cap turned backwards and a black wrap-around type of backpack. The male left with an undisclosed amount of money and was last seen traveling eastbound on foot.

On Monday, Feb. 14, 2005, a Broomfield Police patrol officer developed information concerning the identification of the bank robber. This information was further developed as part of a joint investigation by Broomfield Police detectives and the FBI. Lauer was identified and it was learned that he was a former resident of Broomfield. A search warrant was executed at Lauer's home in northwest Denver. Also that day, a federal arrest warrant was issued for him.

The arrest of this suspect will result in the clearance of two bank robberies in Boulder, one bank robbery in Westminster, and the one in Broomfield, and will bring to justice an individual

who posed a significant threat to the safety of residents in Broomfield and throughout the metropolitan area.

FlatIron Crossing arrests

The Police Department reports that, during the holidays, six juveniles and 20 adults were arrested at FlatIron Crossing. Police estimate that there were 1,548,479 visitors to the mall during the holiday season.

Fraud and forgery calls

The department staff is working on new procedures for fraud and forgery calls to simplify the process. Ideas include having a phone line established for fraud/forgery complaints, downloadable forms on the Web, and e-mailing or mailing forms to complainants as necessary to expedite the investigation process.

Detention Center

The daily population count for the Detention Center was 55 on Feb. 8, and was 71 over the weekend with 17 weekenders, 11 of whom were women. The reported average daily population on Feb. 14 was 56 (48 male, 8 female).

In the first week of February, a pre-trial inmate's

daughter was involved in what ended as a fatal accident. The inmate was allowed to make phone calls to stay in contact with hospital staff and remain updated on his daughter's status. Staff was then able to perform a special transport to take him to the hospital in time for his daughter to be taken off of life support. The family was able to bond him out during the transport and he was able to be released to stay with family at the hospital.

Chief Tom Deland and Commander Tom Hartmann commended all of the sergeants and officers involved in the situation. The coordinated efforts of many made it possible for the inmate to be with his family at a critical time.

In-service training

The third 40-hour in-service training took place the second week of this month. In January, police staff logged 3,203 training hours.

Preparedness seminar for Chamber

On Thursday, Feb. 10, an Emergency Preparedness Seminar was presented to the Chamber of Commerce. The presentation began in Roll Call at 11:30 a.m. and included a tour of the Communications Center.

Department info Did you know?

♦ Community Development

<u>Building Division:</u> With the legislature back in session, the division is tracking legislation which could affect our building code enforcement program. Among the items being tracked are changes to laws regulating plumbers and electricians, continuation of the fire suppression program of the Division of Fire Safety, and Energy Efficiency Standards for Specified Devices.

At the request of the North Metro Fire Department, the Building Division was called to inspect two homes where fires occurred in January to determine whether or not the homes could be occupied and the extent of damage.

Field inspections for January were up 27 percent over last year.

Community Resources

The Silver Sneakers program in Recreation Services is growing.

Year	Community Center	Visits	Derda Center	Visits
2003	\$14,416.25	4,749	\$1,140.00*	368*
2004	\$25,678.00	7,201	\$33,368.50	12,049
TOTAL	\$40,094.25	11,950	\$34,508.50	12,417

*This reflects only the month of Dec. The center opened in November of 2003.

Total of both centers' revenue for both years is:

2003	2004	TOTAL
\$15,56.25	\$59,046.50	\$74,602.75

Assessor

Vicki Krening has assumed the Assessor's post for Broomfield. She has been with Broomfield since 2001 as Deputy Assessor, and assumed her new duties and title in November, 2004.

A Colorado native born and raised in Fort Morgan, Krening lived there until recently when she tired of the commute and decided to become a Broomfield resident. She now resides at the new Stonegate apartments in the western part of town.

Krening has been in the appraising and assessing business since 1989. She was a deputy assessor and chief appraiser for Morgan County where she learned the responsibilities of a county assessor's office.

She also worked for Colorado's Division of Property Taxation, providing administrative and appraisal assistance and education for Colorado assessors. She specialized in providing assistance with abstract and certification, legislation, education courses and answered calls from the public and county employees around the state.

Krening has a Certified Residential Appraiser License and took courses through the Division of Property Taxation and International Association of Assessing Officers to gain the knowledge required for that level of licensure. She served as a board member of the Colorado Association of Tax Appraisers (CATA) from 1996 through 1997 and was elected president, serving from 1997 through 1998.

♦ Public Works

If you ever wondered how Broomfield's crews know when to "show up" to clear snow and ice from streets and trails in the winter, here's the 4-1-1. This Snow and Ice Control call-out procedure kicks into gear at the start of the snow season.

The first thing that happens is a review of the Snow and ice Control Plan and call-out procedure by Street Division and Police Department personnel. This year, the after hours call-out procedure is as follows:

When snow is predicted after-hours, the Street Division's designated on-call employee routinely checks with police dispatch to ask about road and weather conditions.

If the response from the dispatcher, after checking road conditions with patrol officers in the field, is that roads are dry and no sign of snow, then the on-call employee will check back with the dispatcher again in two hours to see if conditions have changed.

If the response is that it has started to snow or the roads are becoming wet, the on-call employee will come in to assess the road conditions. He will stay in the field until conditions change enough to either call in the snow crews or the snow quits and the roads become dry. He also stays in contact with the police dispatcher.

The goal is to have the snow and ice control crews on their routes within one hour after being called.

Capital improvement projects

The Sheridan Boulevard project

What's happening?

The contractor has been installing major utilities (including storm sewer pipes and inlets and sanitary sewer manholes) at the E. 13th Avenue intersection at Sheridan Boulevard. Traffic entering and exiting the Northmoor area has been detoured to E. 14th Avenue during the intersection closure. Main-line Sheridan

Boulevard traffic and traffic entering and exiting the Broomfield County Commons is not affected.

What's next?

When the utility work is complete in the E. 13th Avenue intersection, the contractor will begin work in the west half of the E. 18th Avenue intersection with

Sheridan Boulevard. The work will also require a temporary street closure and detour.

What else?

After the intersection work is complete, the contractor will begin installing water and sewer lines in the future southbound lanes.

Channel Work in South Midway Park

Work began on the project Friday, Feb. 4, 2005, and is proceeding smoothly. We expect work will be completed by the middle of May.

Regional transportation projects

The Northwest Corridor project (to connect the Northwest Parkway to C-470) continues. The 74 transportation alternatives first identified will be reduced to a small group of alternatives for study in the comprehensive Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS is expected to be completed late this year.

Public input from the 10 meetings in 2004, the project telephone hotline, emails and letters fell into common themes:

- ⇒ Consider the quality of life and integrity of corridor neighborhoods
- ⇒ Thoroughly evaluate noise, air quality and the water supply for negative impacts
- ⇒ Balance the interests of people and the environment
- ⇒ Carefully evaluate safety and tolling issues along certain alignments

These are being considered during the screening process. Every comment is entered into the

Northwest Corridor database, and all are being tracked, with the project team's subject-matter experts responding as appropriate.

Specific timeline for the project is:

- ⇒ March 2005: Completion of Level 3 Screening, which compares and reduces the number of alternatives based on 2030 traffic forecasts, technical data such as noise and air quality standards and consideration of transportation versus environmental impacts.
- ⇒ April 2005: A small group of alternatives moves forward for comprehensive study in the DEIS.

- ⇒ April/May 2005: Fourth round of public meetings to present remaining alternatives and gather public feedback.
- ⇒ May/June 2005: Project team meets with the Citizen Working Groups to explore in-depth specific issues affecting the study.
- ⇒ Late 2005: DEIS is completed and distributed for public and agency review.
- ⇒ Late 2005: Formal public hearings are scheduled to collect public comments on the DEIS.
- ⇒ Mid 2006: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) is completed and distributed for public and agency review.
- ⇒ Mid 2006: Formal public hearings are scheduled to collect public feedback on the FEIS.
- ⇒ Late 2006: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval of the Record of Decision on the recommended alternative, whether it is a specific solution or no action at all. Final design and construction may be scheduled depending on funding and other issues.

Public comment is welcome throughout the project. Call the Project Hotline: 303-220-2545. Write to: Northwest Corridor EIS, CDOT Region 6, 2000 S. Holly Street, Denver, CO 80222.

Residents will be notified by mail, email, flyers, information distribution through cities within the corridor, and ads in community and major newspapers before the next public meetings.

In the meantime, check the Web site for the most upto-date information on the project. Go to www.NWCorridorEIS.com.

Economic news

I thought Council would find the following information regarding retail activity interesting.

Predictions for evolving retail in the *Kiplinger Letter* of Feb. 4, 2005, are cautionary:

"As retail sales growth slows this year to about a 3% pace after a 5% gain in 2004 ... a dramatic shakeout is getting started. It will significantly thin the ranks of store chains over the next five years or so. Change will rumble through the economy forcing thousands of retail suppliers to adapt and pushing consumer products makers to merge. Landowners will redevelop malls for new uses, and good space for small merchants will vanish. Hardest hit: Mid-tier department stores squeezed out by discounters and luxury chains. The Sears-Kmart merger and a probable marriage of May and Federated are two recent examples.

"Supermarket chains are getting pounded by discount food sellers such as Wal-Mart and Costco. Wal-Mart food sales are some 10 times higher than those of many food chains ...

"Also on the endangered list: All types of specialty outlets...consumer electronics, linens, cosmetics, toys, auto parts, furniture. Discounters are extending their reach in these areas at a fast clip."

The letter also says "The number of shopping centers faces a thorough winnowing," estimating that up to a quarter of the current 47,000 centers may fall by the wayside. The good news Kiplinger predicts is that total retail space will "hold steady," adding, "Discounters will plan to open more mega-stores and small urban outlets to lure city dwellers."

All is not lost, though. Kiplinger predicts that "defunct" malls will morph into residential projects or office complexes with small retail – which calls to mind Englewood's redevelopment of the Cinderella City complex.

Kiplinger says that strong internet sales are reinforcing the retail consolidation picture, and predicts that cybersales will increase about 20 percent annually through the decade's end, accounting for at least 10 percent of total retail sales.

Looking ahead

- Colorado Senator Ken Salazar is meeting with elected officials in the region to help him define legislative priorities at the federal level. He has requested a meeting with Broomfield City Council on Thursday, Feb. 24 from 2 to 3:30.
- State Sen. Shawn Mitchell and Rep. Bill Berens will host a joint Town Hall meeting in the City Council Chambers at 1 DesCombes Dr. on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- A Sallie Mae seminar is also scheduled February 26 beginning at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium.
 Congressman Mark Udall will have opening remarks for this seminar, and organizers said it was his decision to use the Audi (versus a local

- high school) for this community event. Local school officials will be among the invitees.
- Broomfield joins cities all over the world in celebrating Earth Day 2005. Many local activities organized by the Public Works Environmental Services and Parks divisions have been scheduled to commemorate this occasion.

Some of the activities include three Spring Cleanup Days, Arbor Day Tree Plantings, a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, a series of Xeriscape Landscape Lectures, and a West Nile Virus/Mosquito Control Seminar.

An Earth Day 2005 Calendar of Events lists the dates, times and locations for all the events.

Advertising for these events is currently going to Broomfield residents on a flyer in the February/March water bills, in the *Broomfield Enterprise*, on the local cable channel, and on the city's Web page. All of the city-sponsored events are free to Broomfield residents.

Master Gardeners will host Informational lectures and a gardening series next month. The classes in the series will take place at the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library. Cost for the series is \$5 for each lecture or \$12 for the series to cover the cost of materials.

The first lecture, Introduction to Xeriscape, is Tuesday March 8, from 7-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 12, from 9-10:30 a.m.

Other topics are Low-Water-Use Trees and Shrubs for the Xeric Landscape on March 15, Color in the Xeric Landscape: Low-water-use Annuals and Perennials on March 22, and Retrofitting for Xeriscape, on March 29. All begin at 7 p.m.

Anyone interested in details or to sign-up may call the Broomfield office of Colorado State University Cooperative Extension at 720-887-2286.

• Coming soon: Ducks will be swimming across

Broomfield and coming soon to a storm sewer inlet near you.
Broomfield is



participating in a state-wide water quality campaign to spread important messages about our Storm Water Management Program and what we can be done to protect water quality. Part of the program includes signage, and the swimming ducks decorate the new storm drain markers.

The storm drain marking program is important because storm water runoff that flows over impervious surfaces, like driveways, sidewalks and streets, can pick up pollutants along the way which are discharged into ditches, creeks, ponds, wetlands or streams untreated.

Clean water is necessary for drinking, recreation, agriculture and aquatic animals. By reducing the pollutants that enter the storm sewer system, water quality is enhanced.

As part of this effort, Broomfield staff is offering an opportunity for organizations (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church groups, school groups) to learn more about storm water by helping to install storm drain markers.

More information about the storm water management program and its volunteer opportunities is available by calling (303) 464-5648.

 Detailed Calendar: For more calendar items on upcoming meetings and activities, check the city Events Calendar on the Web site at http://www.ci.broomfield.co.us/events.

At the Audi . . .

 CU in Broomfield piano series continues into March. Admission is free.

On Wed., March 2, at 7:30 p.m., jazz pianist, Patrick Bianchi, performs jazz standards with featured guestsGreg Gisbert, Paul Romaine,

Mark Simon and others.

 To get more details on the activities at the Audi, visit http://www.ci.broomfield.co. us/cultural/eventsindex.shtml.

