



# City & County Manager's Report

October 24, 2006

**TO: Mayor Stuart and the Broomfield City Council**

**FROM: George Di Ciero, City and County Manager**

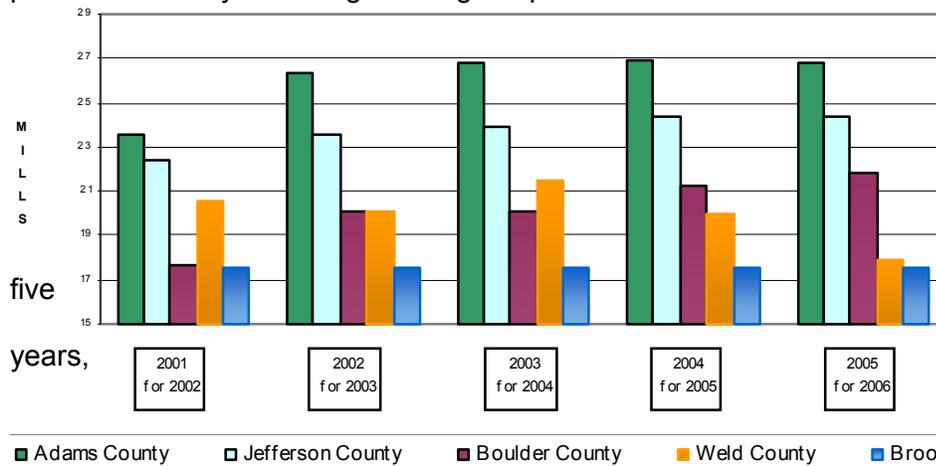


**Happy Birthday!**

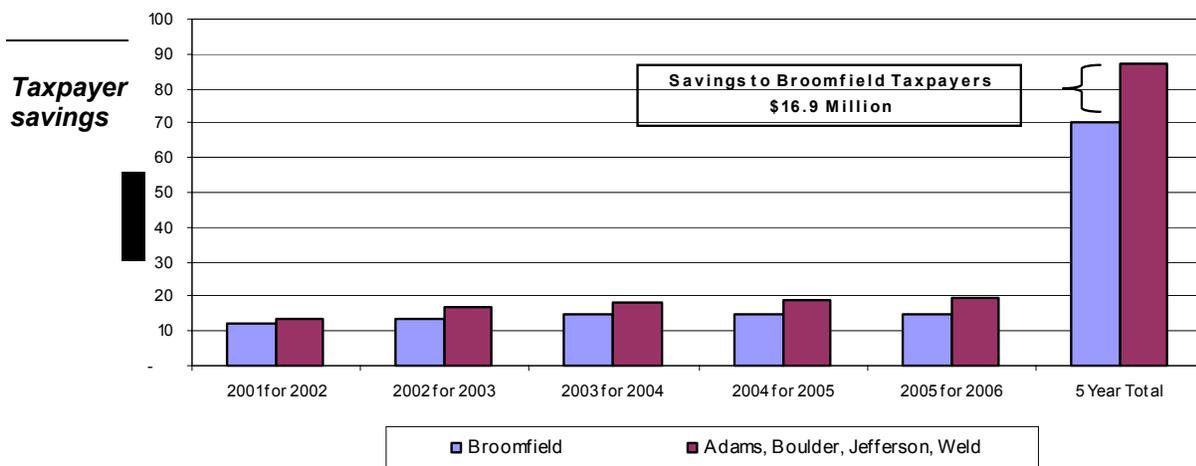
**Calculations show residents saved \$16+ million in taxes since 2001**

A recent analysis of the tax structures of Broomfield's predecessor counties since November 15, 2001, when Broomfield became its own combined city and county, proved to be very revealing. During the past

residents of Broomfield saved nearly \$17 million in tax dollars that would otherwise have been collected by the predecessor counties.



These charts show a comparison of Broomfield's mill levy as compared to the predecessor counties, and the tax dollars saved.



<b>Comparison of Broomfield Property Taxes to Predecessor Counties Residential Example</b>						
<b>County Property Taxes Levied</b>						
County	Total	2001 for 2002	2002 for 2003	2003 for 2004	2004 for 2005	2005 for 2006
Market Value	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Residential Assessment Factor		9.150%	9.150%	7.960%	7.960%	7.960%
Assessed Value		27,450	27,450	23,880	23,880	23,880
<b>Savings due to lower Broomfield Mill Levy</b>						
Adams County	\$ 1,076	\$ 66	\$ 43	\$ 21	\$ 24	\$ 22
Boulder County	\$ 29	\$ 3	\$ 71	\$ 62	\$ 90	\$ 104
Weld County	\$ 316	\$ 84	\$ 70	\$ 95	\$ 58	\$ 9
Jefferson County	\$ 778	\$ 135	\$ 165	\$ 152	\$ 163	\$ 163

For a home with a market value of \$300,000, the chart to the left illustrates the savings to taxpayers attributable to Broomfield's consistently lower mill levy.

This is something to celebrate on our fifth anniversary!

## FYI

### ***Police take precautions on school safety after recent events***

The cases of school violence recently captured in the headlines have prompted several questions concerning the safety of Broomfield's schools.

Identifying the need for a safe learning environment for all Broomfield students, the Police Department conducted a thorough review of the 2001 Columbine Commission recommendations for school safety. Working closely with each of the school districts, the department has implemented all of the law enforcement recommendations.

As part of the preparedness plan for schools located in Broomfield, "lockdown" drills are conducted in all public schools except for Holy Family High School, which has recently contacted the Broomfield Police Department about establishing these procedures. These drills have become routine practice for all schools and include participation of both students and staff.

The Police Department also annually selects a school to conduct RAID (Rapid and Immediate Deployment) training during the summer months. The training has occurred at

Westlake Middle School, Legacy High School, and Broomfield High School.

While there is not a specified response plan for the schools, the RAID training that the Police Department has instructed since September of 2000 teaches a fluid and flexible method of response that can be applied to any facility.

This training has also allowed police officers to become familiar with the actual building plans and provides realistic training for the tactics applied, which directs police officers to immediately enter a school and confront an active shooter.

During the 2005-2006 school year, police officers completed PIP (Pre-Incident Planning) programs on all public schools. PIP identifies all electrical, fire suppression, and security systems, as well as internal communications systems. The information is available on CD and hard copy maps, which are located in the supervisors' vehicles, the Police Department's SWAT van, and the mobile command post.

**Broomfield's ahead on vote security in compliance with court ruling**

There have been reports in the media lately regarding additional county expenses, some very large, to meet the new security measures. Some counties reportedly feel they will not be able to implement all of the changes in time for the November election.

Russ Ragsdale, Broomfield Clerk and Recorder, reports that Broomfield will be able to meet all of the new requirements, on time, and within current budget.

Much of the credit for being able to quickly adapt to the new requirements lies with the City Council's approval of the use of vote centers this year. Vote centers allow for far better management of polling locations than the precinct polling places. For example, ballots and voting equipment will never leave the control of Broomfield staff.

On September 26 of this year, the Colorado Secretary of State issued new election security requirements for Colorado counties to implement before the November 7 General Election. These new requirements were the result of a lawsuit, filed by 13 Colorado voters against nine Colorado counties, including Broomfield, and the Secretary of State.

means for disabled voters to vote independently. The equipment that Broomfield has purchased, using funds made available by HAVA, meets this requirement.

The court found that, while no evidence was presented that would justify barring the use of the voting

devices, additional security measures were warranted. Among the new measures was continuous video surveillance and controlled access of election work areas, chain of custody procedures for ballot and election equipment handling, and additional internal controls for election hardware and software.

**Absentee ballot requests**  
As of October 13, Broomfield has 26,197 active voters on its rolls and 8,710 have applied for absentee ballots.

**Leaf, pumpkin compost collection continues through November**

The fall Special Collection for leaves and pumpkins continues at the Broomfield Recycling Center, 225 Commerce St.

Residents should empty these items into the special drop-off bin labeled "Leaves and Pumpkins." This material will be composted at the Rock Creek Farm, so be sure to remove any plastic bags and ties and take them home to reuse.

The special collection bin will be available Monday, Oct. 30 through Thursday, Nov. 30.

**Ferraro, Wallace recognized by state recreation association**

John Ferraro, Recreation Services director, and Brian Wallace, athletics coordinator, were recognized recently by the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) at its annual conference in Keystone.

Each year, CPRA gives out a series of awards at a banquet that is the culmination of its annual convention in the fall. Ferraro was



**A new requirement is a sign in and out sheet at every Vote Center.**

The suit against the counties was dismissed in July and the suit against the secretary concluded on September 25.

The basis of this suit was a distrust of electronic voting devices, specifically those acquired to meet the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirements.

HAVA requires that in 2006, every polling

location in America must have available the

given the prestigious Fellow Award, and Wallace received the President's Award.

Ferraro received the Fellow Award for his demonstrated leadership and contributions to



**Brian Wallace (l.) and John Ferraro after the CPRA Awards Banquet.**

the association. Awardees also have to be a member of CPRA for at least 10 years. Ferraro has been a member of CPRA since the 1970s. He has been active with the Colorado

Association of Recreation Athletics (CARA), and served as section chair. He was CPRA president in 2001, part of a three-year leadership commitment. During this tenure, CPRA hosted the national recreation association convention in Denver. He was nominated for the award by Joyce Manwaring of Wheatridge.

The Presidents Award recognizes Wallace's involvement in CARA and his work as the state chair for the Hershey Track Meet for eight years.

### ***Arista streets open***

The Arista development's intersections of Wadsworth Parkway (Colorado 121) and the new Uptown Avenue, and Wadsworth and the new Arista Place opened to traffic on October 13.

### ***Fall hazardous waste collection day: another successful event***

Broomfield's fall Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, Oct. 14, was a success by any calculation. There were 194 households that were served.

Broomfield staff was aided by 21 volunteers from North Metro Fire Rescue, Broomfield High School National Honor Society, and Broomfield employees. The majority of the

household items included paints, pesticides, aerosol cans, and batteries.

Anyone with hazardous waste to get rid of could make an appointment to bring the items in for proper disposal. The event was advertised in the Broomfield Enterprise, on Channel 8 and on the city's Web site.

### ***Broomfield advises residents of proper prescription medication disposal***

Broomfield cannot accept prescription medications for disposal. They are controlled substances and to accept them is illegal. The city's Environmental Services Division offers suggestions for disposal of prescriptions.

Prescription medications should never be flushed down the toilet as they will upset or possibly even kill the bacteria that process the wastewater at the Wastewater Plant. The first thing residents should do is contact the dispensing pharmacy to see if it will take the back what remains of the prescription. If the pharmacy won't take it back, the safest way to dispose of them is as follows:

- For Pills: Keep pills in their original container, remove labels, especially name and prescription number, which should be destroyed. Then, fill the container with glue (i.e. Elmer's school glue). Let it harden to a solid. When completely solid put the lid on and throw it in the regular trash.
- For Liquids: Pour in a Ziploc bag. Add flour and mix to a very stiff paste. Allow to air dry and harden in the Ziploc. When completely solid, zip closed and throw in the regular trash.

### ***Fall tips, reminders from Public Works***

Fall is in the air. The days are getting shorter and the nights are getting cooler. It's time to harden off the lawn and let it go dormant, and time to put the garden to bed for the winter. Lawn watering should be cut back gradually, with a goal of no outdoor watering after October 31. Winter tree watering may continue monthly as needed.

Don't forget that the Fleet Division recycles waste motor oil all year long. Waste oil can be dropped off year-round at the Norman Smith Service Center, 3001 W. 124<sup>th</sup> Ave. The waste oil-drop-off hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month (unless it's a holiday week-end, then it's the second Saturday)!

## Looking ahead

### ***Drive-through, walk-in flu shot clinics for residents set for Oct. 29***

Health and Human Services will host its second annual Drive-through Flu Shot Clinic on Sunday, Oct. 29, at Broomfield County Commons Park starting at 8 a.m. It will conclude when all vaccine has been dispensed.

Residents should enter the park off of Lowell Blvd. at the Paul Derda Recreation Center, 13201 Lowell Blvd.

There will also be a Walk-In Clinic at the Broomfield Community Center in the gym for families with children 12 and younger. Pregnant and nursing women are also encouraged to go to this site. Family members who come to the Community Center will also be vaccinated.

There is no cost for vaccinations at both locations. It is injectable only (no nasal mist). Additional walk-in clinics may be available at a later date, depending on availability of the vaccine.

### ***Free tax class for businesses***

Attention retailers, vendors and accountants!

Broomfield's Sales Tax Administration Division invites you to attend a free class designed to assist with filings of sales tax collections and personal property taxes. The class is scheduled Thursday, Nov. 2, from 9 to 11 a.m.

Classes include information on Broomfield's conversion to self-collect its sales tax. It will also cover sales tax procedures and requirements, identification of taxable

property, documentation procedures, filing requirements, and record keeping.

The Broomfield Assessor's Office will give an overview on personal property tax filings and valuation procedures.

Classes are in the Zang's Spur conference room in the lower level of the City and County Building at One DesCombes Dr, Broomfield.

To register for these classes, send business name, address and type of business, names of those attending, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address, if available, to the Sales Tax Division, 1 DesCombes Dr., Broomfield, CO 80020.

The information may also be faxed to 720.294.9825, or e-mailed to [salestax@ci.broomfield.co.us](mailto:salestax@ci.broomfield.co.us). These classes are offered at no charge as part of Broomfield's customer service outreach.

### ***HHS joins in Adoption Day celebration***

Broomfield HHS will join with counties across the nation to celebrate National Adoption Day on Saturday, Nov. 18, by finalizing three pending adoptions for waiting children.

The final adoptions will be followed by a reception for all families who have adopted children through the efforts of Broomfield staff and programs.

Research funded by the National Adoption Day Coalition found that more than 90 percent of states reported difficulty in identifying adoptive families for children in foster care. According to the most recent federal data, there are approximately 523,000

foster care children in the United States, and 118,000 of them are available for adoption.

Because of an increase in the number of years children are spending in foster care, approximately 20,000 children will age out of the system without ever having a permanent family.

Anyone interested in fostering or adopting children in the community, or who know of someone who is interested, may contact Sherry Bethurum at 720-887-2266.

## Capital projects ...

With the construction season winding down, the following are some of the capital projects that are finishing up:

- **Broomfield Event Center:** Broomfield Sports and Entertainment staff moved into their new offices on the second floor of the Event Center the first weekend in October. The ticket offices opened on Saturday, Oct. 7, to sell tickets for the opening concert, Bonnie Raitt, scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 9.

Tickets are still available, for this concert, and the other upcoming events, at the ticket office at the Event Center and on-line at [www.broomfieldeventcenter.com](http://www.broomfieldeventcenter.com).

- **Entry monument signs:** The lettering has been installed on the signs. The stone columns should be installed in the next couple of weeks. Landscaping and irrigation will follow with the work expected to be complete by the end of the month.
- **Brunner House landscaping:** The contractor has started work on the landscaping at the Brunner House. Some Colorado Spruce trees will be relocated from Dr. Brunner's veterinary office to the south side of the Brunner House. The contractor is expected to complete the work by the end of October.

- **Library landscaping:** Additional landscaping is being installed around the parking lot of the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library. This includes concrete curb and gutter, crusher fines paths, and sod with the associated irrigation system. The work should be completed by late October but inclement weather may cause delays.

- **Sheridan Boulevard Underpass at Highland Park:** DeFalco Construction is focusing on the west side retaining walls, which are nearing completion. Meanwhile, the landscape contractor is starting irrigation system installation for both the east and west side of the underpass.

Communication lines have been relayed by Qwest Communications along the west side of Sheridan. Qwest workers will be splicing the new lines over the next several weeks. The project is proceeding on schedule.

- The **2006 Street Reconstruction Project** is complete. Daphne Street north of Miramonte Boulevard was paved on October 4 and 5. The contractor will be working on final cleanup and punch list items in the next few weeks.

## Departmental updates ...

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)**

- **Walk to School Day** - To assist in supporting better health through physical activity, the HHS Thriving Communities Initiative helped sponsor the October 4 International Walk to School Day in Broomfield.

Students in 24 schools across Boulder and Broomfield participated. HHS partnered with the Boulder Valley School District Transportation Department to encourage students at Kohl, Birch, and Emerald elementary schools, and Aspen Creek K-\*8 to walk to school.

The student walkers, bikers, skateboarders, and scooters received a healthy treat and an incentive blinker light. HHS staff assisted with the early morning walk to school at Emerald and surveyed adults escorting their students to school.

The initiative continues to try to increase the awareness of the importance of regular physical activity for children. HHS is also looking forward to extending a partnership with all Broomfield schools this fall to promote a healthy eating and active living logo contest.

- **Colorado Society for Public Health Education:** HHS staff members Mary Thatcher and Michelle Liebig have been elected members of the society's board.

The organization is committed to excellence in health education by providing leadership to the profession, advancing health education, and advocating for public health policies.

Liebig will serve as a national delegate for a two-year term to the national Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) and Mary will serve as a member-at-large.

Goals of the Colorado organization are: to identify and influence priority health issues and policies; to enhance the quality of health education by offering trainings, workshops, and programs to increase knowledge and skills; and to develop a communication system that will promote the organization and the profession, disseminate information, educate members, increase visibility and enhance credibility.

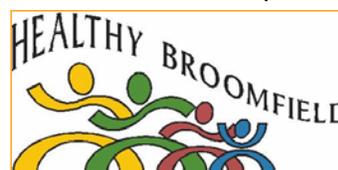
- According to the Public Health and Environment Division at HHS, as of September 27, the number of cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Broomfield had increased to five. These cases were reported during late August and September – later than the majority of cases are typically seen.

The official season for WNV is May through October. Confirmed cases are those with positive spinal fluid tests and probable cases are those with positive blood tests.

Interestingly, Boulder County has the most verified WNV cases in Colorado (53) followed by Weld County (48).

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Human Resources sponsored an Employee Wellness Fair in September. Employees



could have their blood drawn, participate in a core screening (includes height, weight, body fat

percentage, body mass index, and blood pressure), and complete a health risk assessment questionnaire that touched on many health and wellness topics.

The assessment questions asked about coronary risk, cancer risk, and stress levels,

and based on these assessments, employees will receive personalized Wellness Profiles later this month.

Approximately 145 employees took the assessments, with others taking advantage of the blood draw only.

Other departments and divisions helped to make this fair successful. Health and Human Services, the Police Department, Recreation Division, Senior Services, Library Services, Open Space and Trails, Cultural Affairs, and Environmental Services all had informational booths. Facility Maintenance, Utility Maintenance, and Senior Services staff all assisted in preparation and set up for the event.

Booths that provided additional screenings and information were:

- Hearing Screening
- Lung Function Testing
- Derma-View Face Analyzer
- Osteoporosis Screening
- Posture and Flexibility Screening
- Arch Scans
- Gait Analysis
- Nutritional Information
- West Nile Information
- Chair Massage and Foot Reflexology

Employee response was positive. The event was designed to help employees take charge of their health. As part of the Healthy Broomfield Initiative, the tools and resources were available for employees to adopt healthy habits and make positive changes for their health.

### **RECREATION SERVICES**

***Athletics:*** During September, three teams participated in the Gold Crown Volleyball program, and there were 54 participants in volleyball camps. There are 11 Adult Volleyball teams.

Youth Inline Hockey had two teams participating in a multi-city recreation league during September. They held eight practices and 20 games. There were 35 participants in

the lacrosse camp in September, and Youth Competitive Basketball had 16 participants.

In gymnastics, total participations in September numbered 4,074. The Flyers Gymnastics Team supplied mini-tramp and tumbling demonstrations, and three dance performances at Broomfield Days. The cheerleading team marched in the parade.

For a little upgrade to the gymnastics cubby

***A fun little side note:*** Don Claps, who coached the Broomfield High School Gymnastics Team with Diane Clark, gymnastics coordinator, was on the "Regis and Kelli" show, on Wednesday, Sept. 13, attempting to break his own record of continuous cartwheels. He was successful!

room where participants store their shoes and belongings during class, sealed corkboard has been put on the wall to display announcements.

Gymnastics coordinators attended the CARA Gymnastics meeting to discuss the outcome of summer events. Full-time

gymnastics staff also attended two training sessions in September, to improve their teaching skills.

***Broomfield Days wrap up:*** The Broomfield Days "David James Memorial" Golf Tournament Friday, Sept. 15, had 84 players, 21 sponsors, two cart sponsors, and raised \$3,600. The Lions Club pancake breakfast was successful in trying the "zero waste" program so everything used for the breakfast that is normally thrown away was recycled or composted instead.

The race had about 150 participants. The vendors all came early and were prepared, making for successful set-up in the early morning. Wind and rain came later in the day, so at about 3 p.m., vendors were asked to lower or take down canopies due to the high winds. Many vendors were still appreciative and had a great day.

Dog Daze at the Bay in September was again successful, with 483 dogs and about 2,000 people.

Fishing at the Bay in September was also successful with 164 children fishing and about 300 adults watching. The day was fun, but the fish were not biting! Only a few of the 250 rainbow trout were caught. The remaining fish went to Josh's Pond.

**Youth and teens:** The September Babysitter Training Course was full with 22 participants. Tae Kwon Do had 39 participants in September. The first "School's Out" program of the year had 16 participants. The Youth Advisory Committee met. New applications for the committee were accepted from students at Broomfield High School, Legacy High School, and Holy Family High School. Youth Pottery had 32 participants.

**Senior programs:** In September, 15 active adults went to the Boulder Dinner Theatre. A Tibetan progressive dinner began in Broomfield and progressed on to Louisville, then Lafayette with 19 local participants. There were 18 who went to Rocky Mountain National Park for a cookout and elk viewing. A casino trip to Bronco Billy's in Cripple Creek had 55 participants, and 18 enjoyed "Supper Club" at the Flagstaff House in Boulder during September.

The SilverSneakers® coffee hour had 64 participants, and there were two new member meetings. Between the Paul Derda Recreation Center and the Broomfield Community Center, there were 3,516 drop-in participations during September.

In the Senior Arts and Crafts program, there were 28 participants in adult pottery activities. Senior fitness activities included Foot Reflexology with seven participants, and Tai Chi with 28. Senior drop-in activities had 97 participations. There were 85 who came to Dancing at Lakeshore, five who took in Show Time, and five who came for Coffee Talk.

In September, Recreation Services staff collected 102 pounds of food and school

supplies for FISH of Broomfield to be distributed to those in need of assistance.

**Aquatics:** Six new lifeguards were hired in September. The Parent-Tot swim classes were split into an older-child and younger-child session, at the request of patrons. There were 2,094 visits for swim lessons in September!

The Community Center pool finally re-opened in September. The old pool liner was removed and the new one installed. Newly purchased removable pool stairs were installed.

Other work performed during the down time included painting the walls in the pool area, the skylight, and guard office, and touch-up painting on the ceiling rafters. Decorative kites were hung.

New grout was applied to the floor and wall tiles in the showers, and rust was scrubbed away in the bathrooms. Dressing stalls were rebuilt and paint in the women's locker room was touched up. A leak in the pool pump room was repaired, and a switch was made to a safer form of chlorine.

**Fitness:** There were 125 Personal Trainer visits in September. The new "Boot Camp" class, begun during the summer, finished in September since it is an outdoor workout class. There were 120 participants, equating to 1,357 visits.

Fitness participation remained strong at the Derda Center and the Community Center:

**September Fitness Activity 2004-06**

	2004	2005	2006
Derda Center	2110	2925	3549
Community Center	1425	1399	1474*

*\* this would have been slightly higher, but the MWF 9 a.m. Jazzercise class was cancelled for two weeks, while the instructor was on vacation.*

## At the Audi ...

### **Lobby Gallery art show features Arvada Fine Arts Guild show continues**

The Arvada Fine Arts Guild Fall Show in the Audi's Lobby Gallery continues to November 3, and is open on Fridays from 2 to 5 p.m. and during scheduled events.

### **'CU in Broomfield' continues**

"CU in Broomfield" is in its third season of collaboration for CU-Boulder's College of Music and Broomfield's Cultural Affairs Division. These performances are free and family-friendly.

The next performance is Nov. 1 at 7 p.m., with "Art of the Jazz Trio," a retrospective of the significant developments and styles of the jazz trio during the past century. Pat Bianchi will perform on piano, Paul Romaine on drums, and Mark Simon on bass.

The next CU in Broomfield performance is Dec. 6, "Hard Bop Tribute."

### **Quilters returns to the Audi**

The Aster Women's Choir will present the musical *Quilters* on Nov. 17 and 18 at the Broomfield Auditorium. Antique and contemporary quilts will be displayed in the lobby prior to the show, with a reception for the performers and quilters following the performance on Friday.

### **Broomfield Library Friends used book sale Nov. 3 in Library, Audi lobbies**

Library volunteers have been collecting book donations since April and will conduct the Library Friends used book sale on Friday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Broomfield Auditorium Lobby and the shared Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library.

### **Broomfield HHS presents 'Food Safety in the Home' on Nov. 8**

A free and timely public awareness event will feature HHS Environmental Health Specialist Gary Hague in a discussion of holiday food cooking and food handling safety. There will be time for questions.

The discussion is Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m.

### **Veterans' Memorial Museum presents 'Salute!'**

The Broomfield Veterans Memorial Museum presents a "Veterans Salute" featuring the Broomfield Civic Chorus and members of the Rocky Mountain Brassworks at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 10, to celebrate the Veterans' Day holiday.

### **Rocky Mountain Brassworks sets annual holiday concert**

The Rocky Mountain Brassworks annual holiday concert is Friday, Nov. 10 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Rocky Mountain Brassworks is a band in the finest tradition of British Brass Bands, with instrumentation true to the British style. Founded in 1978, and sponsored in part by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, this band calls Broomfield "home."

### **Broomfield Artists Guild schedules holiday show and sale**

During the first week of December, Artist Guild members will be selling jewelry, cards, and gifts, in addition to their displayed work. The show begins Monday, Nov. 20.

**One Book, One Broomfield**

Mayor Karen Stuart recently selected "The Meadow" by James Galvin for residents to read during this inaugural citywide reading and discussion project that encourages people to read the same book at the same time and create a shared sense of community through literature.

"Galvin's book describes the history of a meadow...on the Colorado-Wyoming border over a 100 year period. His words paint vivid

pictures of the land and ...characters ... who homesteaded and ranched the land."

Meet the author and hear him read his work on Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. .

For more information on events at the Audi, call the **Events Hotline** at 303.469.3301, ext. 7999.

Information on tickets, directions to the Audi and year-round event information are also available at [www.broomfieldauditorium.com](http://www.broomfieldauditorium.com)

