Preparing for winter (pgs. 11-13)
Because we know it’s coming.
We just don’t know when.
Voting information

The Nov. 2 general election is right around the corner. In order to receive a mail ballot, make sure your address is up-to-date on your voter registration, as ballots are not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service. Update your voter registration or register to vote online at GoVoteColorado.com.

Candidate Forums
You can watch recordings of candidate forums on the City's Channel 8 (Comcast/TDS 8/HD880) and at our YouTube channel (youtube.com/cityofarvada).

Important Dates
- Oct. 8: The date eligible/registered voters will begin to receive mail ballots.
- Oct. 25: The last day to register to receive a mail ballot.
- Nov. 2, 7 p.m.: The day/time all completed mail ballots must be received by mail or at a ballot drop-off box.

In-person Voting Options
In-person voting options are available through election day at voter service and polling centers. At the centers, you will also be able to update your address, request or replace a ballot, vote in-person, use accessible voting equipment, or register to vote.

Candidates for Arvada City Council

Councilmember At-Large
FOUR-YEAR TERM, VOTE FOR ONE
Lisa Smith
Michael P. Griffith

Councilmember District 1
FOUR-YEAR TERM, VOTE FOR ONE
Chelsea Canda
Randy Moorman

Councilmember District 3
FOUR-YEAR TERM, VOTE FOR ONE
Suzie Schuckman
John Marriott

For information on the 2021 candidates and other election information, visit arvada.org/2021-candidates-and-election-forms.

Ballot Drop Box Locations
For a list of ballot drop box and voting locations in Jefferson County, visit VoteJeffco.com or call 303-271-8168.
For a list of ballot drop box and voting locations in Adams County, visit adamsvotes.com or call 720-523-6500.

Get ready to vote on Charter changes
Earlier this year, the City Council appointed a citizen committee to conduct a required 10-year review of the City Charter, our most important legal document. After holding several public meetings throughout the spring, the committee recommended changes to the Council, which placed several of them related to the following Charter sections on the Nov. 2 ballot for voter approval:

- Council Member Employment Prohibition (Section 4.3)
- Initiative and Referendum (Section 5.13 and 5.14)
- Council Vacancies (Section 4.6)

Review the ballot language and learn more at arvada.org/city-charter-review or call 720-898-7550.

The Arvada Report | 3 | October - November 2021
The 2021 Arvada Report survey

The Arvada Report is one of the most important ways we can connect with you. For example, in the bi-annual community survey, respondents consistently say the Arvada Report is a preferred way to receive information about the City. We are committed to continually improving the Arvada Report to make it the best resource possible, but we need your help. Please answer the following questions about your level of satisfaction with the Arvada Report. Your feedback will help us update future editions to help keep this popular publication fresh and useful for the entire community.

**You can provide your feedback in 4 ways:**

1. **Email your answers or a scan of this page to Cindy Javelet (cjavelet@arvada.org).**
2. **Tear out, complete and mail this page to Arvada City Hall (8101 Ralston Rd, Arvada, CO 80002), att: Ben Irwin.**
3. **Complete the survey online at Speakup.arvada.org. Look for “Arvada Report Survey.”**
4. **Call the Engagement Hotline at 720-898-7654 and leave a message.**

1. **How would you rate the content of the Arvada Report?**
   - Excellent
   - Satisfactory
   - Poor

2. **What would make the Arvada Report better?**
   - More articles shorter in length
   - Fewer articles longer in length
   - Larger font size
   - More images/photos

3. **What types of information do you most want to read about? Pick your top 4.**
   - City projects
   - Public Safety
   - Construction impacts
   - Neighborhood activities
   - Event Information
   - City Council actions
   - Community/Economic Development news
   - Other: ____________________________________________

4. **Would you like to suggest a feature for the Arvada Report?**
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

**COVID update**

As the highly transmissible Delta variant continues to spread in our community, especially among unvaccinated residents, Jefferson County and Tri-County public health agencies recommend the following actions:

- Get vaccinated. Vaccination is the best path to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, and everyone ages 12+ should get a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Wear a mask indoors. CDC recommends that everyone ages 2+ wear a mask in indoor public settings, regardless of vaccination status.
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed, get tested.
- Add other layers of protection when possible. Social distancing, avoiding large crowds, gathering outdoors rather than indoors, improving ventilation (air flow) and regular handwashing are additional ways to prevent COVID-19.

**Reliable sources of information:**

- JCPH jeffco.us/3999/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19
- Tri-County Health Dept. tchd.org/818/Coronavirus-COVID-19
- CDPHE covid19.colorado.gov
Throughout the year, our teams are encouraged to recognize colleagues for outstanding job performance demonstrated by being innovative and passionate and seizing opportunities to better serve the organization and our community. Nominations are made in the following categories: Service to the Community (team member who makes contributions directly to the public). Service to the Organization (team member who makes contributions internally to City of Arvada team, departments or operations). The following employees were selected for their outstanding performance during the first two quarters of 2021.

**Jennifer Valdez**  
*Information Technology*  
*Service to the Organization*

Web Systems Administrator Jennifer Valdez was nominated by her colleagues for being an enthusiastic team player, always willing to partner on projects, helping find solutions when problems arise and taking the lead on projects that need leadership. During the pandemic, Jennifer spearheaded and completed a rebuild of the organization's intranet for employees, something vital to the organization at any time, but critical during the remote-work environment of the pandemic, and one that continues to be of great value.

**Tyler McCune**  
*Department of Public Safety*  
*Service to the Community*

Police Officer Tyler McCune was nominated by his colleagues for being the “hardest worker” in the department. According to his fellow officers, Tyler always steps up and supports his partners and teammates and is always willing to go above and beyond, all the while maintaining a pleasant and enthusiastic attitude in his role as a police officer for the Arvada Police Department.

**Aaron Pimentel**  
*Department of Utilities*  
*Service to the Organization*

Electro Mechanical Technician Aaron Pimentel was nominated by his colleagues for his diligence in seeking and finding an improved pump operation process for the City's various drinking water pump stations. Aaron's solution potentially prevents costly repairs to the pipelines and pumps in the system. He is eager to share his technical knowledge with co-workers and continually educates himself on the City's control systems and the industry's technology. Aaron is described as “humble” and a “true team player.”

**Remembering Joe Herrin**

The City team continues to mourn the loss of our colleague Joe Herrin who passed away following injuries sustained during an accident. Joe was an extraordinary person and led a life of kindness, compassion and service. The City has initiated a process to learn from the accident and help ensure it does not happen again. We thank the Arvada community for its support during a difficult time.
Know your flood risk

Just a few inches of water can cause tens of thousands of dollars in property damage. Flood insurance is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your property from financial loss. Flood insurance is available to anyone who wants to purchase it through the National Flood Insurance Program. As of 2021, Arvada residents may receive up to a 25 percent discount on their flood insurance premiums. This federal program provides flood insurance to property owners in exchange for the careful management of flood-prone areas by local communities. Costs vary depending on how much insurance you buy, what it covers and what your individual property’s flood risk is. Regular homeowner's insurance does not cover damage caused by floods.

Learn more about Arvada's floodplain at arvada.org/floods.

Access Arvada - ADA Transition Plan Update

The City, including our services, facilities and other infrastructure, is for everyone, and we are committed to ensuring the city is inclusive and accessible. In 2020 and 2021, the City worked with a consultant to evaluate, record and prioritize improvements that need to be made to bring City services, facilities and public infrastructure to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This process included a public comment period in March 2021 where we heard from residents and stakeholders about their priorities for the ADA Transition Plan.

To view the ADA Transition Plan, grievance process and updates on our progress, visit arvada.org/access-arvada.

In September 2021, the Public Works Department welcomed Ed Neuberg as full time ADA Coordinator. The purpose of this position is to coordinate implementation of the City’s ADA Transition Plan. Mr. Neuberg was the ADA Manager for Denver’s Regional Transportation District. He also worked for the City of Denver as Director of the Denver Office of Disability Rights and Denver’s ADA Coordinator. Ed has been involved with the ADA for over 20 years. He has experience implementing ADA Titles I, II and III, along with Department of Transportation and Federal Transportation Administration requirements for transportation.

Ed is a member of numerous boards and commissions which focus on the ADA, disability rights, and community acknowledgment/awards. Ed is a certified ADA Coordinator and has been a presenter at the 2010 -2021 National ADA symposiums. He is a Member of the Rocky Mt. ADA Leadership Network, Board member National ADA Coordinators, Certified ADA Trainer and has a B.S. degree in Education from Colorado State University.
Did you know that foam packaging is one of the most used packing materials in our community? And yet, it is one of the least recycled materials. This fall, SustainAbility Recycling, the City’s partner in hard-to-recycle items, aims to change that. SustainAbility will amp up its collection capacity for packing foam, otherwise known as Styrofoam, or expanded polystyrene (EPS), with an innovative new Styrofoam densifier machine.

Densifiers compact foam by removing the air from the material, allowing it to be more efficiently stored and shipped to manufacturers who can make it into new products. For the new densifier, SustainAbility will partner with Foam Cycle, which has invented a system that allows packing foam/EPS to be densified on site. The Foam Cycle system reduces EPS in size at a ratio of 90:1 by removing 98 percent of the air that makes up foam packaging. The leftover two percent residual material from this process is pure polystyrene plastic. The purchase of the machine is made possible through the receipt of grant funding by the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) grant program. SustainAbility is building on more than $19 million in RREO grant funds that have gone to projects that promote economic development and help divert waste from Colorado’s landfills. Visit colorado.gov/cdphe/recyclinggrantrebates for more info.

For only a $3 entrance fee, residential and business customers can bring up to 60 pieces of packing foam (per customer, per visit) to the SustainAbility Zero Waste Center (6240 W. 54th Ave.), ensuring that this important material is kept out of the landfill. Currently, SustainAbility accepts block foam with plans to expand to other types in the future.

SustainAbility strives to act as a community hub where residents and businesses can easily and affordably bring 20+ hard-to-recycle materials to be ethically recycled. In addition to packing foam, SustainAbility also specializes in recycling electronics, which provides valuable work for their employees which include individuals who have intellectual/developmental disabilities. Visit sustainability-recycling.com/hard-to-recycle for a comprehensive list of hard-to-recycle items.

If you’re looking for resources regarding the City’s recycling curbside pick up program, visit recycling.arvada.org.
In a previous Arvada Report, we described the goals of Arvada Community Policing (also known as sector policing). It’s one aspect of our police department’s progressive approach toward public safety. Community Policing divides Arvada into sectors, assigning a commander and police officers to a specific sector on a full-time basis, enabling them to become familiar with the residents and any problem areas in their sector. For this edition, we’re spotlighting Commander Bob VanderVeen and Adam ‘A’ Sector. For additional information about Adam Sector, visit arvada.org/adam-sector.

Adam Sector Commander Bob VanderVeen

Hello, I am Commander Bob VanderVeen, and I have been working at the Lake Arbor Community Station for more than two years. I have always enjoyed the basics of police work, keeping the community safe and getting bad actors off the street. My new role as a community liaison and a point of contact for my sector is both very interesting and sometimes very challenging.

My goal as a commander is to integrate the community with components of the Police Department to form a cohesive group in identifying, eliminating and solving issues. With a multitude of available resources, I have the ability to learn what’s going on in Sector A. This awareness allows me to directly address suspicious activity complaints. I am able to research the call, look at the specifics of the problem, and potentially be able to address them by knocking on doors and talking to the residents where suspicious activity has been reported. Being able to speak directly to residents and learn what is going on sometimes solves a problem before it impacts the larger community.

The lieutenants, sergeants and officers that work in Adam Sector are also dedicated to being part of the community. We take pride in working in our sector and experience a comfort level knowing our community. We view the community as an asset in dealing with problems. We recognize we cannot address the issues alone and have taken a strategic approach to partner with community members, knowing they are the eyes and ears for what is occurring in their areas. Building relationships and a partnership with them enables us to do our job more effectively. This style of policing opens up communications between community members and the police department and makes for a positive working environment for the police officers and for community members. I continue to learn how to be a better commander and welcome the challenge every day.

The Arvada Police Department’s section of the Arvada Report is published by the City of Arvada with content provided by the Arvada Police Department as a service to the citizens of Arvada.
In addition to Community Policing, the Arvada Police Department employs other innovative approaches to keep our community safe, including the use of crime scene vehicles. Arvada’s Crime Scene Investigator detectives use this vehicle in crime scenes ranging from recovered stolen vehicles to homicides.

**Learn what’s inside** (NOTE: most equipment is not kept inside the vehicle when not in use):

- Customized equipment is available depending on the type of call detectives are going to.
- FARO technologies (the leading global source for 3D measurement, imaging and realization technology) allows detectives to scan an area to reconstruct a crime scene.
- Unmanned Aircraft System (Drones) are used for overhead photographs and various high-tech cameras.
- The vehicle can house DNA kits, fingerprint kits, trace evidence kits (including blood reagents to locate blood at an older or cleaned crime scene).
- Cones, evidence placards, crime scene tape and evidence packaging are available.
- The vehicle includes personal protective equipment and gas mask storage.
- A generator powers lighting used to illuminate crime scenes at night.

More than 1,300 child victims will come to Ralston House this year to tell their stories of the abuse they have experienced. When an outcry of abuse is made, law enforcement or child protective services reaches out to Ralston House to provide a forensic interview and victim advocacy in a safe and comfortable environment. When children are able to tell their stories, their healing journey can begin.

In an effort to support the forensic interview program at Ralston House and to continue to provide victim advocacy to each child victim and their family, Ralston House is participating in this year’s Colorado Gives Day event on Tuesday, Dec. 7. This single day of giving engages community members to give where they live and to make a direct impact on their community.

Please join our team and make a profound impact on the life of a child victim. Make your donation on Colorado Gives Day in December or schedule your Colorado Gives Day donation starting Nov. 1, and help us reach our goal of $50,000. Visit coloradogives.org/RalstonHouse to donate today or to schedule your donation. You can make the difference in the life of a child victim.

“Being here is the best part of my life. It’s the best place I’ve ever seen.”

From a teen who came to Ralston House for a forensic interview
Managing a changing Police Department

The past year and a half has been among the most challenging periods for law enforcement and for the Arvada Police Department (APD), and we continue to see related challenges to our ability to hire and retain employees at all levels. Over the last several months, the APD has experienced many resignations including both sworn and civilian professionals.

The Arvada Police Department is not alone in this alarming trend. Police departments across America are seeing a concerning number of police officers leave the profession. In a recent survey by the Police Executive Research Forum, many police officers are retiring and resigning, and recruiting is a challenge, as illustrated in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Size</th>
<th>Hiring Rate Change</th>
<th>Resignation Rate Change</th>
<th>Retirement Rate Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 49</td>
<td>3% (10.09 to 10.42)</td>
<td>11% (5.15 to 5.70)</td>
<td>49% (2.48 to 3.69)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 - 249</td>
<td>8% (7.51 to 8.08)</td>
<td>28% (3.69 to 4.73)</td>
<td>59% (2.87 to 4.55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 - 499</td>
<td>-29% (8.10 to 5.77)</td>
<td>22% (2.81 to 3.42)</td>
<td>19% (3.23 to 3.85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500+</td>
<td>-36% (8.65 to 5.52)</td>
<td>21% (3.93 to 4.76)</td>
<td>27% (3.43 to 4.35)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Arvada Police Department has an authorized staff of 191 certified police officers. As of December 2020, APD was fully staffed. 2020 was a challenging year with the pandemic and the negative national narrative on policing. While there is no one specific reason police officers leave the profession, some departing officers have stated that they no longer feel appreciated in their current career, even though they put their lives on the line every time they go to work. Local protests questioning the integrity of the APD’s officers and ascribing negative aspects of the national narrative regarding race and other issues to our local department has caused some to consider a career change. In addition, recent state legislation has been perceived by some officers as punitive and has provided an added incentive to leave the profession altogether.

Trend will continue
On June 21 of this year, Arvada Police Officer Gordon Beesley was directly targeted and murdered by an individual expressing a deep hatred of police. This horrific crime is also expected to have an impact on the retention of our current officers. The Arvada Police Department expects to see more departures in the following weeks and months as employee families consider the cost and impact of this job on their loved ones.

Community impact
With decreased staffing, the department is adjusting internal resources to focus on maintaining responsiveness to calls for service. Arvada may see longer wait times for officers to respond to non-priority calls such as thefts, criminal mischief and neighbor disputes. As always, our priorities will be the safety of community members and our officers.

Solving the problem
A shortage of good police officers is occurring around the country and there is not one, all-inclusive answer to the issue. Chief Link Strate has formed an internal committee to look at all the viable options. This group, which includes representatives from across the City team, will examine a host of factors, from benefits to recruiting. A consistent theme will be our commitment to maintaining a professional culture within the department, even if that means waiting for the appropriate candidates to be hired. “Our standards are the reason we have such a great culture as a police department,” said Chief Strate. “We will maintain our high hiring standards and bring only top candidates into our organization.”
Here’s a winter weather prep checklist from Manager of Parks and Urban Design Darin Delay.

Winterizing your landscape and outdoor space

- **Aerate**
  
  Aerate your turf to allow water, oxygen and fertilizer access to roots deep within the ground and add soil conditioners to improve soil health.

- **Fertilize/apply weed control**
  
  - **Turf**: Fertilization is a key component in ensuring your turf is prepared for the winter season.
  - **Weeds**: Fall weed control kills perennial weeds, such as dandelions and thistles more effectively than spraying in the summer.
  - **Trees/shrubs**: As soils cool down and become more uniformly moist, tree and shrub growth resumes, making fall the perfect time to fertilize. Trees and shrubs with a healthy productive root system are far more likely to overwinter with fewer dead branches and increased spring growth.

- **Seed and plant**
  
  - **Overseed your lawn in the fall to fill in bare spots.**
  - **Plant cover crops** (vetch, clover, beans and peas, rye-grass, oats, winter wheat/rye) in your garden. Later, turn them into the soil to provide organic matter and nutrients.
  - **Plant bulbs** by mid-October and trees and shrubs by the end of October.

- **Prune/clean up**
  
  Both deciduous and evergreen shrubs/trees that bloom on new growth are best pruned during their dormant season of winter and spring in order to prevent the start of diseases such as fireblight, which can be prevalent along the Front Range.
  - **Evergreen shrubs** might include holly, boxwood, yew.
  - **Evergreen trees** include spruce and fir species.
  - **Deciduous trees** include oak, maple, birch.

- **Winterize your irrigation system**
  
  Winterizing your sprinkler system before the first freeze helps prevent costly repairs to your system and home. Use compressed air to remove all water and moisture from your system, to prevent freezing and damage to lines. Cover the backflow preventer to defend against hard freezes that can lead to busted pipes. Many landscape companies offer this service for minimal fees.

- **Be alert when snow falls early**
  
  If leaves have not yet fallen, knock the snow off branches to avoid weighted-down branches from snapping off. Also, knock the snow off the branches of young trees whenever heavy snow falls.

Visit us on Facebook during the month of October for more tips on preparing your landscape for winter. For tips on winterizing your trees, visit, arvada.org/trees.
Keeping Arvada StormReady®

Greg Hanson, the Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service (NWS) in Boulder and an Arvada resident, recently shared insights about his job and living in Arvada.

**How do you work with municipal partners like the City of Arvada?**
Messaging is crucial so municipalities can take the proper proactive actions. The best forecast in the world does no good if it is not communicated effectively. Our collaboration with municipalities begins several days in advance of a big storm with a "heads up" email that lets emergency managers and other city and county partners such as schools and hospitals know that we're in for a big one. As a storm progresses, we provide a stream of information by email, conference calls and social media to help convey potential impacts.

**What are some of the lessons the NWS Boulder office learned during the March 2021 winter storm?**
Recently part of our communications has centered around managing expectations, which is challenging given the potential of social media to convey misleading information that can take over the message that the NWS is trying to convey. For example, someone can post a graphic from the one computer model that is forecasting way too much snow, and if it gains traction can take over the narrative. We spend a lot of effort counteracting the rumor mill with measured, consistent and correct forecasts.

**How can residents stay informed about the NWS?**
Our main information portal, weather.gov/bou, contains a wealth of information! For hazardous weather, check our weather story on that website, and read the Hazardous Weather Outlook at weather.gov/bou/hwo. For the weather junkie, you can read the forecaster’s thoughts behind the forecast in our forecast discussion at weather.gov/bou/afd. And follow us on social media on Twitter (@NWSBoulder) and Facebook (NWSBoulder).

**Tell us about the process of forecasting a winter storm for the NWS Boulder office.**
While our forecasts look out seven days, we are always checking conditions further into the future. We look at forecast parameters such as how much vertical motion or lift will there be with the storm system, which is important for cooling and condensation of water vapor. We’re also answering forecast questions such as:

- How much moisture content is in the atmosphere that is available to make snow?
- Is it cold enough for snow?
- Will snow generation higher in the atmosphere occur in temperatures that favor dendritic snow flakes and maximum snow production?
- How long will these conditions last?
- Other factors such as jet stream locations, surface wind and upslope flow conditions also come into play.

We look at a number of different computer models, both from the US and other countries, that give us a spread of possible outcomes. If there is a high level of consistency across the models we have higher confidence in the forecast. And to provide context to the public, we track how the forecast compares to normal. If the forecast lands on the high side we know we’re in for a bigger event.

**Snow response update: preparing for winter storms**
In March 2021, we experienced a historic winter storm that accumulated about two feet of snow. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, here are some actions the City will take for future weather emergencies.

- We will continue to share information on City communication channels in advance of potential storms to help prepare the community.
- We have updated our Snow and Ice Control webpage (arvada.org/snow-and-ice-control-services) to provide additional updates during the storm. This page will provide updates throughout the storm. Bookmark arvada.org/urgent-events before a storm hits.
- We have refined our internal communication process to provide additional updates during the storm.
- Look for future opportunities to share feedback on our snow response on Speak Up Arvada, on our engagement hotline (720-898-7654) and elsewhere.

**Snow Buddies**
Make a winter morning magical for a resident in need. Become a snow buddy! Visit arvada.org/snowbuddies to learn more and apply.

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**Snow Buddies**
This phenomenon cools and moistens the air, which in turn creates clouds that produce snow.

1. When winds blow against the Colorado Front Range, the air is forced to rise creating upslope orographic lifting.
2. This phenomenon cools and moistens the air, which in turn creates clouds that produce snow.
3. When upslope is present, western Arvada experiences higher snow accumulations than eastern Arvada due to the city’s east/west elevation increase (nearly 1,000 ft.).
Arvada appreciates businesses

In July, the Arvada Economic Development Association (AEDA), in partnership with The Arvada Center, launched a Business Appreciation Summer Program to celebrate Arvada business owners and say "Thank you!" for their investment in the community. As a result of pandemic-related restrictions, AEDA’s annual business appreciation event was not held in 2020. With the 2021 summer program, AEDA and the City of Arvada saw an opportunity to show gratitude for all that Arvada’s businesses had endured in 2020. To make programming flexible for Arvada-based businesses, each licensed business was offered two complimentary tickets to an event of their choosing from the Arvada Center’s summer and fall concert series. A special thank you to Arvada President and CEO Philip Sneed and the entire Arvada Center team for making this possible.

Arvada’s Economic Development Survey results are in

The results of the 2019 Community Survey highlighted a need to better understand residents’ expectations regarding long-range planning, especially with regard to economic development.

In 2020, the City team developed a specific survey addressing these topics, with a goal to make sure residents’ ideas and feedback are included in the planning process. A total of 5,000 Arvada residents were selected at random to participate in the survey (1,250 from each of the City’s four Council Districts). If you were selected, thank you for participating in the survey.

Many of the residents surveyed did not know that only three percent of City revenue comes from property taxes. The majority of revenue are from sales tax and fees from services (such as water usage, stormwater and wastewater). The survey results are available to review at arvadaeconomicdevelopment.org/services/economic-development-survey.

We are in the process of reviewing the results and plan to follow up every other year, continuing to survey residents on these issues as well as new ones that arise in this area of interest. If you have a question, or would like to learn more, contact the Arvada Economic Development Staff at 720-898-7010.

Sub-area plan update

The City team continues the development of sub-area plans for New Town, Northwest Arvada and Square Lake (in collaboration with Adams County). These areas are important for future redevelopment and economic stability. Sub-area planning is a type of long-range planning for...
specific geographic areas within the city. These plans focus on topics including land use, urban design, architectural design and transportation.

The City hosted several public meetings where the community provided comments and feedback on draft elements to further the development of the plans. For the New Town area, which includes the areas along Wadsworth Boulevard and Bypass between the G Line tracks on the north and Interstate 70 on the south, the open house focused on architecture and design, parking, pedestrian/bike connectivity and potential character areas. The Northwest Arvada area includes east of State Highway 93 to Gladiola Street, including the Indiana Street corridor, and between the railroad tracks on the south and the city boundary on the north. The open house included land uses, potential commercial and community spaces and connectivity. The Square Lake area is located east of Sheridan Boulevard to Tennyson Street between 52nd Avenue on the south and 60th Avenue on the north. The open house included elements of land use, transportation and connectivity.

The open house information, along with informational videos and a sign-up option to receive emails and provide comments, are available at AdvanceArvada.org. You may email the team at advance@arvada.org.

New Arvada Businesses

The following are new businesses that have opened, are under new ownership or plan to open soon in Arvada. For a directory of Arvada businesses, go to www.arvadaeconomicdevelopment.org – Business Directory.

7 Steps Learning Academy - 7798 Vance Dr.
AJ's Deli - 8566 Five Parks Dr.
Boba Boba Arvada (bubble tea shop) - 6474 Ward Rd.
Cass Chiropractic Inc - 10219 W. 58th Ave.
Cochino Taco Yukon - 7702 Ralston Rd.
Elizabeth's Grooming and Splash and Dash Self Serve Pet Wash - 7560 Grant Pl.
Heavenly Bombshell Studio and Extensions - 5220 Wadsworth Blvd.
Mountain Sports Therapy - 7310 W. 52nd Ave.
Renegade Burrito - 8770 Wadsworth Blvd.
Tie The Knot Bridal Creations - 10050 Ralston Rd.

Arvada Chamber launches “Work-Based Learning Toolkit”

The Arvada Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with an action team of community partners, introduced a Work-Based Learning Toolkit to guide businesses through the terminology, data, roles, benefits and action steps of work-based learning. It’s an approach that connects students of all ages with businesses to engage in real-world work experiences, such as industry tours, internships, job shadowing, and event apprenticeships and certifications. Work-based learning helps local employers upskill the community’s talent pipeline to directly serve the needs of our local economy.

Work-based learning is critical to the local economy as employers typically lean heavily on education and non-profit systems to define expectations around workforce readiness. This outdated model leads to inconsistent training and essential skill development. In a much-needed systems shift, businesses lead the definition of skill requirements and demand, and most importantly, they must give career guidance and preparation opportunities. With the guidance of expert industry and education leaders, the Work-Based Learning Toolkit was developed as a missing guide for businesses to take the first step in this skill-development shift.

In Arvada, and nationwide, businesses are struggling to find candidates with the necessary skills. For the third straight year, “Finding Skilled Employees” is the top challenge for local businesses, according to the Chamber’s annual survey. Work-based learning is a key to achieving true systems change with workforce development that the Arvada Works program sets out to achieve.

Visit arvadachamber.org/WBLtoolkit to review the toolkit. Business leaders should take the workforce engagement survey at arvadachamber.org/WBLsurvey to get started with WBL opportunities in Arvada.

The Arvada Report | 15 | October - November 2021
It’s been an active year for lightning in Colorado, a state that receives nearly half a million lightning strikes per year. Not only does lightning pose an obvious safety and health risk, but it also poses substantial fire risk.

Local fire departments in the U.S. respond to more than 4,500 fires per year that were started by lightning. These fires cause nearly $90 million in annual property damage. Additionally, lightning has triggered nearly 44% of wildfires according to the U.S. Forest Service.

In a state with frequent lightning and an active outdoors population, what can we do to keep ourselves and our homes safe?

- If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Look for shelter inside a home, large building, or a hard-topped vehicle right away.
- Do not go under trees for shelter. There is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm. Keep moving until you find shelter.
- If you are caught in a storm with lightning, never lie flat on the ground and don’t shelter under an isolated tree.
- If you’re inside your home, stay away from windows and doors and stay off corded phones, computers and other equipment that can put you in direct contact with electricity.

Lightning-sparked fires that occur at night can be difficult to detect, particularly if the fire originates in the attic, basement, or electrical panel. Lightning protection systems with strike termination devices can save your home from lightning-caused fire and thousands in repair costs!

When thunder roars, go indoors!

Arvada Fire crews responding to a structure fire in 2020 that was started when lightning struck the roof of a home.
I am pleased to report that the construction of our new fire Station 3 is nearing completion. The new building standing at 7300 Kipling St. replaced our previous fire station which was built in 1962.

The nostalgic exterior appearance of the building was designed to honor fire service traditions and our 110-year history of serving our community. All other aspects of the building were designed to serve the needs of a modern fire department while remaining fiscally responsible.

Some exciting design aspects of the fire station include:

- Features are incorporated into the design that allow firefighters to practice rescue techniques and deploy ladders for training purposes on the interior of the building.
- Photovoltaic (PV) panels and energy-efficient windows are provided to lower energy bills and reduce pollution.
- Rather than a large dormitory, the modern fire station has private sleeping rooms while still featuring collaborative group areas.
- The station was designed with specific areas for cleaning and disinfecting contaminated tools and equipment to minimize exposure to harmful carcinogens and pathogens.
- Other design features such as specialized air handling and exhaust systems also help ensure firefighter health and safety while living and working in the building.
- A firehouse gym is provided to encourage firefighter fitness and wellness. The gym provides a balance of equipment to improve strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular fitness.
- As you might imagine, the new fire station is equipped with smoke alarms and an automatic fire sprinkler system because fire safety is so important.

When we broke ground on this facility in January of 2021, we envisioned a fire station that embraced modern features and safety improvements, honored tradition, and met the current and future needs of Arvada Fire. We’re excited to see that vision come to fruition.

On behalf of our firefighters, I would like to thank the community for funding the construction of this new fire station with your tax dollars. Our promise is to continue providing exceptional public safety services to our community from this new facility while also remaining fiscally responsible.

Please know that you are welcome to drop by and visit YOUR new fire station when it opens in late December or early January!
What’s a firefighter’s favorite holiday? It’s Fire Prevention Week of course! After all, Arvada Fire doesn’t just fight fires — we help you prevent them, too.

This annual campaign is a time for us all to come together and keep our homes, families, and friends safe from fire and other hazards. In the United States, the first Presidential proclamation of Fire Prevention Week was made in 1925 by President Calvin Coolidge. Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during October in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which destroyed more than 17,400 structures in 1871.

The theme of Fire Prevention Week this year is “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety” and works to educate everyone about the different sounds that smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make. Knowing what to do when an alarm sounds will keep you and your family safe. When an alarm makes noises – a beeping sound or a chirping sound – you must take action!

What is your alarm telling you?

Smoke alarms should be installed inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms meet the needs of everyone in your home, including those with sensory or physical disabilities. When your alarm sounds, be prepared to act promptly.

SMOKE ALARMS

- A continued set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.

- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS

- A continuous set of four loud beeps—beep, beep, beep, beep—means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call 9-1-1 and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it’s time to get a new CO alarm.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

Remember, fire prevention isn’t one week long – it’s a year-round activity! If you need help installing smoke alarms or staying up with the latest information to prevent fires in your home, visit arvadafire.com.

Celebrate Fire Prevention Week with us!

Changes to Safety Day

Arvada Fire’s annual Safety Day will now be held remotely at participating fire stations on Saturday, Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join our scavenger hunt to discover safety tips, prizes, and a chance to win a free pizza dinner delivered from our fire truck! Visit arvadafire.com for more information.
Explore the time period between 1924 and 1953 as we celebrate the history of Arvada Fire. This exciting era began with more reorganization, new fire apparatus, and culminated with the official formation of the Arvada Fire Protection District after local elections.

In 1924, the department faced yet another reorganization. The reorganized department operated under Chief Ira “Dutch” Winger for the next 14 years. Winger and many other Arvada firefighters were employed by the Arvada Electric Company. During Winger’s term, the department evolved from hand-drawn to motorized fire apparatus.

Arvada’s first motorized fire engine was a 1923 Graham Brothers chemical engine purchased in Denver from the Julius Pearce Fire Supply Company. The “Old Dodge”, as it has been dubbed by firefighters, can still be seen traveling the streets of Arvada, although its use is restricted to parades and other special events.

Arvada’s first ambulance began operating in 1939 under the jurisdiction of the Wilmore-Richter American Legion Post No. 161. The fire department acquired the ambulance in 1947 and began providing first-aid and rescue services to the Arvada community.

Two years later, local citizens went to the polls and approved the formation of the Arvada Fire Protection District. The formation transferred control and financing of the department from the Arvada City Council to a board of directors consisting of five elected officials. The first members of the board were Thomas C. Lively, Alvin E. Stout, Paul Harkness, Benton G. Kinkel and Albert Jeronimus. The board’s first meeting was held on May 24, 1949.

Five men served as fire chief between the end of Dutch Winger’s term in 1938 and the beginning of Fred “Fritz” Sedlmayr’s term in 1951. The five men were Benton Kinkel, Sr. (1938-39 and 1944-45), Ed Doane (1939-1940), Bill Richter (1940-41), Nick Skinner, Sr. (1941-44 and 1948-51), and W.H. “Nick” Nicholas (1945-48). These milestones and members set Arvada Fire on its path to become what it is today.
**G.O. Time (Get Outdoors)**
Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 to 11 a.m. Ages 4-9 yrs, free.
Anything can happen when you spend an hour out in nature!

**Nature Playdate**
Wednesday, Oct. 6 and Thursday, Nov. 4, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Geared toward ages 2-12 yrs, free.

**Fun with Fossils Art Club**
Wednesdays, Oct. 20 to Dec. 1, 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Ages 6-14 yrs. $80/9 weeks.
The art club is digging deep, using fossils for artistic inspiration.

**Wacky Weather**
Saturday, Oct. 16, 10 to 11 a.m. Ages 6-10, $5.

**The Games that Connect Us**
Saturday, Nov. 13, 10 to 11 a.m. Ages 6-12 yrs, $5.
Come learn Native American childrens' games and make your own to take home!

**Artistic Unwind Time**
Wednesdays, Oct. 6 to Nov. 24, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Adults, $70/8 weeks.
Come unwind in nature with an evening of art. Beginners and experienced welcome.

**Wildlife Safety Tips and Tricks**
Tuesday, Oct. 12, 6 to 7 p.m., free.

**Feed the Birds**
Tuesday, Nov. 16, 6 to 7:30 p.m., $10
Learn about winter birds and build your own feeder. Includes all material.

**Majestic Gardens Tai Chi**
Mondays, Nov. 1 to 29, various times. $50/5 weeks.

**Sunset Nature Walk**
Saturday, Oct. 9 & Saturday, Nov. 6, all ages, free.
Mayor’s Monarch Pledge

You may have heard that the City of Arvada is participating in the 2021 Mayor’s Monarch Pledge! This National Wildlife Foundation program aims to support the declining populations of Monarch Butterflies through a variety of action items like monitoring, hosting events and educating others. To help support the City’s goals, members of the Majestic View Nature Center team and volunteers have spent more than 100 hours maintaining a Certified Habitat, hosting a workshop and event to spread awareness and working to spread milkweed seeds (which help support Monarch habitats) throughout the city through a seed swap. In addition, we have joined two kinds of citizen science projects: an estimated 20 hours of data collection for the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project and a pollinator BioBlitz! See the final report at majesticviewnc.org/monarch.

Share your thoughts about public art in Arvada

Speak Up Arvada

The Arvada Arts and Culture Commission invites your feedback to help guide future public art projects in Arvada. Please join us on Speak Up Arvada, our community engagement platform, and vote on what types of public art you like best! Thank you for participating and helping make Arvada artful! Cast your vote at speakup.arvada.org/public-art.

Babe Walls brings “Artfulness” to Arvada!

In mid-July, the Babe Walls Mural Festival was held along the east side of Ralston Creek Trail under the Lamar Street underpass. Twenty-six artists worked collaboratively over a 4-day period painting 13 brightly colored murals along the underpass walls. Passersby were able to speak with the artists about their work and watch their artistry in action.

Part of Arvada’s Parks Master Plan is to have something artful within a 10-minute walk of every residence in Arvada. Members of the Arvada Arts and Culture Commission (AACC) worked in partnership with various City teams, including the Bike and Pedestrian and Parks teams, to make Babe Walls possible. Babe Walls is one of several public art projects brought to Arvada by the AACC since 2018. For more information on Babe Walls, visit babewalls.com. For more information on public art in Arvada, visit arvada.org/public-art.

“This location was in need of improvement. Great choice. The artists were amazing to watch and open to talking with us about their work. Well done, #BabeWalls and Arvada!”

Marla

“Thank you City of Arvada Government!! I enjoyed attending the festival and will enjoy seeing the artwork for years to come.”

Emily

“These are great to see and a wonderful addition to the path!”

John
Community bike rides conclude this fall

Saturday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m. Pizza Ride: Starting from Van Bibber Park, followed by pizza and soft drinks at the end of the ride compliments of BFA. (10-mile ride)

Saturday, Oct. 16, 10 a.m. Highest Point Ride: This ride starts from the lowest elevation point in central Arvada and goes to the highest elevation point in central Arvada. (12-mile ride)

Sunday, Oct. 24, 1 p.m. Hot Chocolate Family Ride: Go on a guided ride on trails and bike friendly streets. Followed by FREE hot chocolate (or coffee) at Bluegrass. (5 mile ride)

Saturday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m. Arvada Graveyard Ride: This ride will visit three historic graveyards in Arvada—Belgin, Ralston and Arvada. (15-mile ride)

For more information, visit meetup.com/BikeFriendlyArvada-Community-Bike-Rides.

Arvada Reservoir to close for the season Oct. 31

The 2021 Arvada Reservoir has been experiencing a great fishing season! As of Sept. 1, more than 2,500 fish have been caught and kept; and our rangers have logged 4618 volunteer hours. Sunday, Oct. 31, will be the last day the reservoir is open for fishing; but it will reopen on April 1, 2022! For more information on the Arvada Reservoir, visit arvada.org/arvada-blunn-reservoir.

The Olde Town Arvada Business Improvement District will be hosting Trick-or-Treat Street in late October (date/time TBA) and the annual tree lighting ceremony in late November (date/time TBA). Updates will be provided at oldetownarvada.org/events-

Rake up and recycle

In an effort to keep leaves out of the landfill and off of City streets where they can block storm drains, free residential leaf recycling will be available the first three Saturdays in November (Nov. 6, 13 and 20), from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following locations:

- **Permagreen Organics** (5520 Harlan St.)
- **Stenger Soccer Complex** (5675 Oak St., east entrance)

This event is for leaves only; no branches, woody brush or tree stumps will be accepted. No materials from commercial businesses, please. For more info, visit arvada.org/leaf-recycling.

Events in Olde Town Arvada

Mark your calendar, and plan to shop till you drop the Saturday after Thanksgiving (Nov. 27), known as Small Business Saturday. Small businesses create jobs, boost Arvada’s economy and preserve neighborhoods. By shopping in Arvada first, you are investing in the community. More than three percent of each purchase made in Arvada pays for City services such as police, parks and street maintenance. Keeping dollars in Arvada helps create and retain quality jobs. Small businesses are the nation’s largest employer and account for the majority of job growth. Next time you make a purchase, remember Shop Smart. Shop Small. Shop Arvada!

#ShopSmallArvada on Saturday, Nov. 27
Devynne Marshall
LUKI

Devynne Marshall will be the smiling face greeting you at Arvada’s newest brewery, LUKI, in west Arvada. Devynne has been with the brewery since they opened in July of 2020. She was recently promoted to Taproom Supervisor.

Devynne grew up in Arvada but moved away for about eight years; she has thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with familiar faces and getting to know so many new members of the community. Devynne says the “obvious perk of copious amounts of quality craft beer at her fingertips” is definitely a perk of working at LUKI. She credits the “overwhelming” support of the community to helping them get through their first year.

If you have not been to LUKI, Devynne suggests you try the Hop Spinning Hazy, their New England IPA and Rocinante, their Mexican Lager.

Devynne believes great customer service means “making customers feel welcome and comfortable in the environment. A smile, with or without the masks, goes a long way.”

Hospitality is defined as “the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.”

We like to think that we have an abundance of hospitality in our community - from the baristas at our coffee shops to the baggers at our grocery stores. A simple and pleasant exchange or warm smile from one of these people that we see routinely can make a big difference in someone’s day.

We wanted to start recognizing a few of the amazing hospitality ambassadors in Arvada and thank them for making our city a place that has a reputation for amazing hospitality for residents and tourists alike.

Do you know of a Hospitality Hero in Arvada that deserves some special recognition? Please email jean@visitarvada.org to nominate them. Each Hero that is recognized will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Arvada Report and receive a $250 Olde Town Arvada gift card.

The Arvada Visitors Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that works to inspire travel to our community and provides key information to people considering a visit or relocation to Arvada. They have proudly welcomed thousands of guests from around the world since their doors opened on 7305 Grandview Ave. in November 2012.

An investment in visitors is an investment in community. Visitors to Arvada generate sales tax revenue. One quarter of the City’s total revenue comes from sales tax dollars. This revenue helps pay for police services, city parks, improvements to infrastructure, and many other services that benefit the entire Arvada community.
Sylvia

by A.R. Gurney

OCT 1 - NOV 7, 2021
ARVADA CENTER BLACK BOX THEATRE

The world of a middle-aged New York couple is turned upside down when Greg brings a girl home: Sylvia, a Labradoodle he finds in Central Park. Sylvia becomes a major bone of contention between husband and wife in this modern romantic comedy about a marriage, and a dog.

ROLAND BERNIER
IN OTHER WORDS

word | play

ON VIEW UNTIL
NOVEMBER 14, 2021

Don’t miss two exhibitions in our galleries that examine the art of words, text, and characters.