Arvada voters overwhelmingly approved a bond issue which will fund $79.8 million in improvements to Ralston Road and W. 72nd Ave. As of the time of printing, the unofficial election results were as follows:

Yes: 39,408
No: 20,165

W. 72nd Ave. Project: $64.5 Million
W. 72nd Ave. between Kipling St. and Simms St. will be widened to match the width east of Kipling St., and an underpass will be constructed at the current at-grade Union Pacific Railroad crossing near Oak St. In addition to adding capacity, the project will add bike lanes for cyclists and sidewalks for pedestrians to safely travel along the corridor. The project will also provide an opportunity to upgrade signalized intersections with the latest traffic signal equipment and technology to better coordinate the movement of people and goods.

Ralston Road Project: $15.3 Million
Improvements to Ralston Road between Wadsworth Bypass and Kipling St. have long been a priority of the City Council and citizens. An extensive planning process established a vision for the corridor; transportation, land-use, and transit issues were studied in a public process and a conceptual engineering plan was developed. Several sections of the project have already been completed or are in progress:

- Garrison St. to Kipling St. are completed through the Arvada Urban Renewal Authority’s redevelopment of the Ralston Creek North area (formerly the Arvada Plaza).
- Wadsworth Bypass to Yukon St. will be completed with grant funds.
- The passage of 3F will allow for the final phase of improvements between Yukon and Garrison Streets.
  
  In total, the Ralston Road Project will improve this historic thoroughfare for pedestrians, drivers, and transit.
  
  Between Olde Town and the new Ralston Creek shopping areas, the project will widen Ralston Road travel lanes and rebuild sidewalks to standard widths to improve driver and pedestrian safety. It also provides some additional space for drivers needing to use the center turn lane to access businesses. The project will add aesthetic improvements, enhance pedestrian crossing locations, add medians and landscaping, and improve neighborhood connectivity to businesses and services along Ralston Road.

Significant engineering, design, and right-of-way acquisition work must be completed on both projects prior to beginning construction. It is anticipated that construction will not begin on either project until late 2020. In the meantime, updates will be provided on www.arvada.org. You can also contact the City’s Engineering Division at 720-898-7640.
The Arvada Report is a newsletter published by the Arvada City Manager’s Office, 720-898-7000, City of Arvada, 8101 Ralston Road, Arvada, Colorado 80002. It is distributed to all residences and businesses in the City. The City of Arvada holds the ownership rights and copyrights in the design and articles contained in The Arvada Report. Articles may only be reproduced with the express permission of the City of Arvada. Editor: Maria VanderKolk. Graphic Design: Steve Milke. Photography: Arvada Media Services.
For 50 years, Arvada has supported a vision for a regional road at the west edge of the community. That commitment has been articulated in successive Comprehensive Plans adopted over the decades, in how utility and drainage systems have been developed, in open space land acquisitions, and in various land use and annexation approvals. That regional road is now known as the Jefferson Parkway.

The genesis for the Jefferson Parkway was an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process initiated by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) in 2003. The EIS began with 73 different alternatives on how best to connect the terminus of the Northwest Parkway to the terminus of C-470—approximately 20 miles. CDOT did exhaustive analysis, held dozens of public meetings and listening sessions, and eventually identified a preferred alignment in 2008 at the draft EIS stage. For several reasons, CDOT did not proceed to the final EIS stage. Instead, it released its research and findings, inviting others to use its work to undertake some or all of the contemplated work.

In response, the Jefferson Parkway Public Highway Authority or JPPHA (composed of Arvada, Jefferson County, and Broomfield) was created in May 2008 to construct the last un-built portion of the metro Denver beltway – a stretch of 9.2 miles that will connect to State Highway 128 on the north and State Highway 93 on the south.

After ten years of pursuing the required permits, acquiring right-of-way, developing conceptual engineering, and other preparatory work, the Jefferson Parkway is entering into the final stages. The Parkway will be a high-speed limited-access road developed through a public-private partnership without the need for Federal funds.

Recently, the Parkway Authority released a Request for Qualifications to design, build, operate, maintain, and finance the Parkway. Responses are due December 6, 2018. Before the end of the year, the Authority Board of Directors will short-list up to three of the responders. Those finalists will then have about eight months to describe in detail their own specific proposals on how they will develop and operate the Parkway. After a thorough review of all proposals, based on published criteria a finalist will be identified.

Between August and October 2019, the finalist team and JPPHA will negotiate the terms for a long-term lease of the roadway, sometimes known as a concession agreement. The concession will lay out the specifics of if, how, and when tolls can be raised, maintenance schedules; snowplowing standards; courtesy patrols; and a host of other items related to operating and maintaining the Jefferson Parkway.

Following financial close at the end of 2019, construction will proceed and take around two years to complete. Once constructed, the Parkway will be owned by JPPHA.

Completion of the Jefferson Parkway will allow motorists, for the first time, to fully utilize the ring road system envisioned by Congress in 1968, taking regional traffic off of our local streets and providing additional transportation choices for Arvada citizens.

To learn more about this project, visit www.jppha.org.
Boards and Commissions are established for the purpose of acquiring and studying information in order to make recommendations to the City Council on issues within the board’s area of expertise. These groups are the community’s voice that influence public policy and decisions impacting Arvada.

In 2019 we anticipate having one or more vacancies on nine boards. To apply for consideration for any of the boards or commissions with vacancies, you will need to complete the general application form and then the supplemental questions for the boards or commissions to which you are applying. You may request consideration for up to three boards or commissions; however, you may only serve on one at a time.

Applications are due in the City Clerk’s Office by noon on Monday, January 14, 2019. Your application materials can be submitted by either of the following methods:

Complete the online application form and supplemental questions at www.arvada.org/2019boards.

Download the application form and supplemental questions at www.arvada.org/2019boards. The completed forms can then be emailed to arvadaboards@arvada.org, faxed to 720-898-7515, brought or mailed to the City Clerk’s Office at 8101 Ralston Road, Arvada, CO 80002.

If you would like the forms mailed or emailed to you, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at 720-898-7550.

Tentatively, interviews with City Council will be scheduled for the week of February 25, 2019. Selections will be made in early March and actual appointments made in April. Please note that for the majority of these boards, you need to be a resident of the City of Arvada.

Background checks are also required to serve on select boards and committees.

To learn more about the functions of these boards and commissions, please visit www.arvada.org.

- Arvada Arts and Culture Commission
- Arvada Festivals Commission
- Arvada Golf Advisory Committee
- Arvada Park Advisory Committee
- Arvada Sustainability Advisory Committee
- Arvada Urban Renewal Authority
- Board of Adjustment
- Human Services Advisory Committee
- Transportation Committee
Employees of the Quarter

Cody Henry

Cody Henry with the Streets Division was the Employee of the Quarter for Service to the Community.

In mid-August, a resident contacted the City regarding a street sweeping issue at W. 69th Pl. and Wadsworth Blvd. Cody Henry was assigned to investigate this matter. He responded to the location with a street sweeper and swept the area, then spoke with the resident in order to understand the cause of the problem. He discovered that, because the intersection is on a hill, when there is significant rainfall there is subsequent run-off into that intersection due to the placement of a curb and fire hydrant. In order to prevent the problem from reoccurring, Cody realized the curb would need to be built up. The next day, Cody and other staff from the Streets Division completed an improvement, effectively raising the curb in order to prevent the “wash out” condition from occurring again.

Within two days the resident sent an email stating, “I would like to thank everyone for taking care of this situation in such a quick and timely manner. Everything was cleaned up and the street looks great.”

Kelley Hartman

Kelley Hartman, Performance Manager with the City Manager’s Office, was the Employee of the Quarter for Service to the Organization.

Kelley has a passion for pursuing excellence on a daily basis, ensuring that Arvada is a data-driven organization. She works with departments across the City to ensure that all are meeting high standards of performance. She has also created a Process Improvement team to infuse innovation throughout the organization. To date, nine Process Improvement efforts have resulted in important efficiencies saving taxpayer dollars and staff time. She works with other municipalities to provide guidance on how to start their own continuous improvement journey. Kelley is dedicated to delivering quality results for the citizens of Arvada.

Colorado Parks and Recreation Association Recognizes City Parks Manager

In September, Arvada Parks Manager Mike McDonnell received the Fellow Award from the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA). It is the highest honor bestowed on CPRA members. Fellow Award criteria requires that the nominees must have worked a minimum of eight years in a leadership capacity, with a minimum of five years full-time service in Colorado. The Award is given to individuals that embody leadership, strategic thinking, collaboration, innovation, and service.

What made receiving the Fellow Award even more special for Mike is that his father, Gary McDonnell, won the Fellow Award in 1976 while Director of the City of Lakewood Parks and Recreation.
**Winter Crime Prevention**

**Puffers**

Winter is here . . . and so are the auto thieves. Although auto theft is always an issue, there are increases in theft reports during the winter months. Leave your vehicle running and you may see your vehicle running away!

Around 40 – 50% of vehicle theft is due to driver error, including leaving your vehicle unlocked and leaving your vehicle unattended with the keys in the ignition. In 2017, there were 441 vehicles stolen in Arvada. When your vehicle is stolen, it is typically being used in the commission of another crime and could potentially be damaged. DO NOT become a motor vehicle theft statistic. Always stay with your vehicle if it is running and report any suspicious vehicles or persons in your neighborhood to the Arvada Police Department at 720-898-6900.

**Porch Pirates**

While you are busy buying gifts for friends and family during this holiday season, criminals are lurking in your neighborhood attempting to steal them. The Arvada Police Department wants to help protect you from becoming a victim of package theft. Here are a few helpful tips:

- Require a signature for your package.
- Insure your packages.
- Place a hold on your package if you are out of town.
- Have the package delivered to your workplace or a trustworthy friend.
- Track your package.
- If your package is eligible, reroute or reschedule your package for a time when you will be home.
- Leave instructions for the carrier on where the package should be left.
- Install a security camera to act as a deterrent for criminals.

If you do fall victim to package theft during the holidays, please do not hesitate to make a report with the Arvada Police Department at 720-898-6900.
Board Members Needed for Walter Michael Northey Foundation

The Walter Michael Northey Foundation is looking for citizens interested in supporting the community by participating on the Board of Directors.

The Foundation, named after an Arvada police officer killed in the line of duty, provides scholarship money for Arvada high school students who wish to pursue a degree in higher education. The Foundation also supports the families of officers injured or killed in the line of duty. Board members participate in the selection of scholarship recipients.

Citizen appointments to the Board are for a two-year term and require participation in quarterly board meetings as well as the coordination of the Foundation’s two major fundraising events: the Northey Drug Take Back (second Saturday in April) and the Northey Shred-a-Thon (second Saturday in October).

To apply to the Walter Michael Northey Memorial Foundation Board, contact Bridgette Roberts at 720-898-6653 or email broberts@arvada.org.

Arvada Police Find Justice for Mother of Two

William Nathan Hale, DOB: 7-17-81, was sentenced to four years in prison for leaving his friend, 25-year-old Natasha Rowley, as she died of a methamphetamine overdose on drugs, which he brought with him to her house.

On June 2, 2017, Hale drove five hours from his home in Nebraska to his friend’s Arvada home to help her move. He brought 14 grams of methamphetamine with him. Hale and Natasha used methamphetamine together for several hours that night.

Evidence showed that in the early morning hours Natasha began to exhibit dangerous symptoms as a result of her methamphetamine consumption. There was a three-hour time lapse during which she was clearly in medical distress, but Hale did nothing. At 7:30 a.m. she was in the throes of a fatal overdose, moaning and gasping for air, yet Hale gathered his belongings and left the house.

He made no attempt to render aid or call for assistance.

Hale told police that “he panicked and left.” He admitted to police that she was “in bad shape” and said that was why he left. Hale was arrested in Nebraska in December, 2017.

“This was a heartless act. It is not as if Mr. Hale wasn’t aware of what was happening. She was clearly dying of a drug overdose,” said DA Pete Weir. “If he had contacted emergency responders, Natasha might be alive today.”

Hale pled guilty to Reckless Manslaughter (F4) and Distribution of a Schedule II Controlled Substance (DF2) on May 14, 2018. 
Every Voice Matters: The Importance of Child Advocacy Centers

When you donate to support your local child advocacy center, you are setting the example that a child’s voice matters. Advocacy can occur individually, collectively, or a combination of both. Ralston House is a local advocacy center that creates a safe space for families to start on the path of healing.

Ralston House works in partnership with law enforcement, social services, and the district attorney’s office to protect child victims of crime who have experienced physical or sexual abuse or who have witnessed violent crimes. Children have a friendly place to tell their story of abuse - to begin healing from almost unspeakable trauma and to give important evidence for police to investigate these heinous crimes and hold offenders accountable.

Dine and Donate
Support Ralston House on Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, Dec. 4 at participating restaurants. Experience this community night together with family and friends. Each online donation receives an extra bonus donation from FirstBank and Community First Foundation.

Bad Daddy’s Burger Bar (three locations from 5 – 10 p.m.)
- Arvada Centerplace Shopping Center - 7450 B West 52nd Ave. in Arvada
- FlatIron Crossing – 1 W. FlatIron Crossing Dr. in Broomfield
- Northglenn – 100 E. 120th Ave.

Rusty Bucket Restaurant and Tavern (all day)
- The Orchard Town Center – 14613 Orchard Pkwy in Westminster

Bar Louie (5 – 9 p.m.)
- Belmar Shopping Center – 7111 W. Alaska Dr. in Lakewood

Gift Giving
Making a donation in a person’s name is one of the best rewards you can give this holiday season. Honor a family member or friend by making a donation to Ralston House in their name. Ralston House will send them a recognition letter and special thank you.

As a nonprofit organization, all services at Ralston House are free of charge to families and investigative agencies. Each dollar donated impacts the safety and healing for a child. YOU make a difference. Your commitment and contribution can help children who have an important story to tell.

Make a financial contribution today at RalstonHouse.org. The power of one caring donor, when multiplied by many caring individuals and groups, helps Ralston House to help others.

Thank you to our 2018 Corporate Sponsors: New West Physicians, Metco Landscape Inc., Russell’s Convenience, Foothills Credit Union, APEX Park and Recreation District, Arvada Economic Development Association, Doris Stipech Insurance, FirstBank, Saunders Construction Inc., and Sooper Credit Union

Letter from an Arvada Resident
Recently, the Arvada Police Department received a letter from a resident named Carol who wrote,

We have always realized how privileged we are to reside in Arvada, but this fact was confirmed as Fire and Police personnel responded to my 911 call. When I arrived to share coffee with a dear friend, I found that he had passed away during the night.

The Fire Department EMTs were highly professional and treated everything with respectful dignity. The police officers provided factual information, guidance, and emotional solace by staying with me until the coroner arrived.

All concerned should be very proud of the genuinely kind and empathetic support I received at this stressful and painful time. Each Arvada city employee with whom I had contact epitomized the Police Department’s mission of ‘Respect, Dedication, Responsibility, and Excellence.’

My grateful appreciation to all of you who serve our community so very well.
LICENSE TO PARTY

Microchipping and licensing your pets gives you and your furry friends lots of reasons to celebrate. For starters, it makes it easier for lost pets to return home. Plus, licensing fees go directly to the shelter to continue our mission of helping animals in need. Get the party started by registering your pet at:

FOOTHILLSANIMALSHELTER.ORG
Arvada Receives Gold Leaf Award

The Parks Division was honored with the Gold Leaf Award for Arbor Day Activities from the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISARMC). This Award acknowledges projects that have had a significant impact upon a community or region, usually over several years, in the promotion of Arbor Day projects and observances.

Arvada’s commitment to Arbor Day started during the winter of 1987 when Dudley Weiland, a sixth-grade teacher at Peck Elementary School, and Craig Hillegass, an Arvada parks supervisor, met to plan an Arbor Day event for the following spring. This year Peck Elementary and Arvada Parks celebrated 32 consecutive Arbor Day tree planting events. Each year, fifth and sixth graders from Peck come together with City Parks employees to plant trees throughout Arvada. Two to three weeks before Arbor Day, forestry staff visit the school to provide information about the trees, and the students make informational posters which they bring to the Arbor Day celebration.

In the past 32 years, over 1,700 students have planted 470 trees with Arvada park employees in parks across the community and students go home with their own Arbor Day seedling.

Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

The City of Arvada is offering three convenient drop-sites for residents to recycle Christmas trees free of charge. Your tree will be turned into valuable mulch and soil builder to nourish future trees.

The City Parks Maintenance Shop at 7800 W. 62nd Ave. will accept trees from December 26, 2018 through January 18, 2019, Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and Friday from 7 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lake Arbor Lake Park at 6400 Pomona Drive and the Stenger Soccer Complex at W. 58th Ave. and Oak St. will accept trees from December 26, 2018 through January 20, 2019 with no restricted days or times.

**PLEASE make sure the tree is free of nails, wire, and all decorations to ensure safety of the City staff handling the trees. Remember, only Christmas trees are accepted - no garlands, wreaths, or yard waste - and no business or commercial use.**

Mulch will be available free-of-charge at all drop-site locations; residents will be responsible for loading and hauling. For more information on the Christmas tree mulching program or how to use mulch in your landscape, call the Parks Department at 720-898-7410.
As part of the 2019 - 2020 budget, the Arvada City Council approved increases for some water services. These rates will become effective on January 1, 2019.

The City bills every two months for water and sewer service. The Arvada Water and Wastewater Utilities are funded through rates and new tap fees, not taxes. The City does not make a profit on these services or use the funds for anything other than providing water and sewer services. The rates are designed to cover the costs of providing reliable, high-quality water service and to efficiently remove, treat, and dispose of sewage generated by our customers.

Water rates will increase by 3.4% to a base rate of $3.96 per 1,000 gallons.

Sewer rates will increase by 3.0% to a base rate of $4.88 per 1,000 gallons.

Stormwater rates will NOT increase and remain at a base rate of $0.00304 per square foot of impervious surface located on the property.

The effects of the proposed changes on a customer’s bill will vary depending upon the amount of water the customer uses. For more information on Water and Sewer Rates, please visit www.arvadawater.org or call 720-898-7070.

Did you know you can pay your water bill online? Visit arvada.org/paymywaterbill and click on the big green Pay Online button to register.

Why use the online payment portal?

• The online payment portal has a “wallet feature” which enables users to save their choice of payment type for future payments.

• The online payment portal makes it easy to pay by text and email links.

Other Payment Options

• Payments can also be made by phone, by direct debit, by mail, or in person.

• Pay by phone using a credit card; call 720-898-7852.

• Enroll in Direct Debit Payment service. Visit arvada.org/paymywaterbill to download the form.

• Mail a check payable to City of Arvada, 8101 Ralston Road, Arvada, CO 80002.

• Pay in person at City Hall, 8101 Ralston Road, first floor. Billing for water, sewer and storm water services are sent on a bi-monthly basis.
Olde Town Public Restroom Opens

On October 16, the Olde Town Portland Loo officially opened for business. Members of the City Council cut the “ribbon” (toilet paper!). A public restroom in Olde Town Arvada has long been a request of merchants and visitors, and has been a strategic goal of the City Council. The facility is located in the plaza by the Olde Town Station due to its proximity to transit, high pedestrian and vehicular traffic, security, and proximity to utility lines.

The Portland Loo is constructed of stainless steel with a graffiti resistant finish, has louvered panels at the top and bottom to prevent crime, and has solar-powered, motion-sensing LEDs for lighting.

Parks Advisory Committee Member “Covers” the City

With the goal of expanding his connection to the community, Arvada native Cliff Jurgens recently participated in the “Covering Arvada Initiative” (CAI) as a volunteer for the Arvada Parks Advisory Committee (APAC). In the process, Jurgens realized there are many areas within the City limits that he had never seen.

From May through August, Jurgens covered all of Arvada, bicycling over 800 miles and running over 200 miles of City streets, paths, trails, and parks. He used an App on his phone for each outing, recording the entire project on a City of Arvada map.

“Most citizens of Arvada likely don’t know that we enjoy one of the finer cities in America, with an ever-growing community, expansive trail system connecting neighborhoods, and over 90 parks that include special purpose parks, historic sites, and multiple sports complexes,” Jurgens stated. Some of the best aspects of the project were its physical and logistical challenges, meeting great people, seeing amazing homes and yards, interesting mailboxes and yard art, Little Free Libraries, and of course, Arvada’s beautiful parks.

Jurgens stated that some key themes emerged from his journey. “Arvada residents have varying priorities on home and yard maintenance and upkeep. Arvada streets are rough and in need of major repair in pretty much every neighborhood I traveled. Finally, there is a boom in remodeling and home improvements, as evidenced by the roll-off dumpsters in driveways across the city.”

He concluded, “It was wonderful sharing this experience with people I have known for many years as well as new friends I met along the way. I encourage everyone to get out and see all that Arvada has to offer!”

Miles of Roadway

- Highway 17.9 miles
- Arterial 42.8 miles
- Collector 67.7 miles
- Local 356.5 miles
- Private 30.4 miles
- Off-street trails (paved, soft surface, or soft surface equestrian) 164.7 miles

Parks:

- 86 neighborhood parks
- 5 community parks
- 1 regional park
- 1 urban park
- 8 special purpose parks
- 3 historic sites
- 7 sports complexes
Beginning in April of 2019, volunteer park rangers will be cruising the Ralston Creek Trail from the Arvada Reservoir to Ward Road. This pilot program is an extension of the existing Volunteer Reservoir Rangers program, providing assistance and education to park users. It is hoped that eventually the program will extend throughout Arvada’s extensive parks and trails system.

While the Arvada Reservoir Ranger program has been in place since 1987, the idea to expand it to Arvada’s parks and trails has been a long-term vision of the Arvada Parks Advisory Committee. These volunteer Rangers will enhance park visitors’ experience to provide education, emergency assistance, resource protection, and service and information. They will alleviate conflict in our parks through peer education and patrol on Arvada’s trails and parks.

Do You Have What It Takes to be a Ranger?

The City’s Parks Department is seeking volunteers for the pilot Park Ranger program. Does the following speak to you?

To be an Arvada Ranger is to be our city’s leader in guest courtesy, striving to make every interaction with every guest the best experience we can give. We do this every day by dedicating ourselves to enhancing their experience through outstanding service and education that exceeds their expectations.

Courtesy, Education, Passion for our Natural Resources is what we value.

Volunteers will receive training in first aid, conflict management, emergency response, outdoor safety, resource protection, and animal control. Park Rangers will be asked to serve 6 – 8 hours per week, although there are no set requirements.

For more information about becoming a City of Arvada Park Ranger, please contact Clay Takara, Ranger Program Coordinator, at 720-990-1954 or ctakara@arvada.org.

City Website Security Upgrade

In October, the City of Arvada disabled Transport Layer Security (TLS) v1.0 on our website. While this will have no impact on most people visiting the City’s website, if you are using an outdated browser you may get an error message such as “Stronger security required.” If so, in order to browse www.arvada.org, you will need to enable TLS 1.1 or 1.2 in your browser.

Furnace, Insulation, and Water Heater Rebates

Xcel Energy offers up to $1,900 in rebates on high-efficiency furnaces, insulation upgrades, and water heaters. The same things that keep you warm and comfortable this winter can keep cash in your pockets for winters to come. To learn more and find a participating contractor, visit www.xcelenergy.com/staywarm.

Arvada Historical Society Holiday Open House

December 8, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
McIlvoy House
7307 Grandview Ave.

Please bring canned goods for those less fortunate. For more information call 303-431-1261.
The Arvada Fire Protection District has a long-standing commitment to honor our military troops who have been deployed around the world. Every Friday, we proudly wear red for all those who have served and/or are currently serving in our military.

As I sit here in my red shirt on a Friday writing this, I received a letter from one of our new firefighters who was deployed to Afghanistan shortly after being offered a job with us. It reminds me of how proud we should be to be an American and a member of Arvada Fire.

By way of background, in February the AFPD conducted a hiring process to hire two firefighters. We made job offers to the top two candidates; one informed us that he was being deployed to Afghanistan for a year as part of the National Guard. We of course told him we would hold a position for him until he came home.

The following is part of the message we received from him, along with an American Flag:

To my future brothers and sisters of Arvada Fire,

Please accept the enclosed flag as a humble but sincere gesture of gratitude to all the men and women within your great department. This flag was flown on September 11, 2018, over the southern province of Kandahar, Afghanistan. It was flown on a UH-60 Black hawk under the call sign “DUSTOFF Three - Three (33).” This flag was flown on a combat medical mission, in the face of a fierce and dedicated enemy. I am sending this flag to express my deepest thanks for the opportunity to be a member of Arvada Fire.

This flag will be displayed at the 911 Memorial currently being constructed at our Fire Station two at Ridge Road and Oak St. Completion of the memorial is expected in early 2019.

We are very proud of our firefighter and look forward to him joining us on a full-time basis.
Arvada Fire is always looking for ways to save the District money. One of the ways we are able to do that is by putting our apparatus through a process known as remounting.

Recently we completed this process with Medic 54 out of Station 4. The box portion of the ambulance was removed from its previous cab and chassis and placed onto a new one. The interior and exterior of the box were completely overhauled, and the new cab and chassis was painted to match.

Each remount is custom. Here are some of the specific details:

- Disconnect wiring, remove/disassemble box.
- Remove the interior of the box.
  - Thoroughly clean.
  - Reupholster.
  - Replace plexiglass cabinet doors.
  - Replace door latches and hardware as needed.
  - Install new flooring.
  - Install protective panels on the walls.
  - Replace all oxygen lines/hoses.
  - Reassemble/reinstall.
- Sand the exterior of the box, repair any body damage, repaint the exterior, affix new decals, replace lights and lenses as needed.
- Reconfigure the entire wiring system.
- Direct wire in the radios, computers, and center console in the cab.
- Upgrade suspension system to a liquid spring rear suspension.
  - A study that Arvada Fire participated in with Children’s Hospital of Colorado found a significant reduction in G forces with liquid spring suspension systems.
- This system significantly increases patient comfort, as well as aiding in loading/unloading patients.
- The glycerin in the liquid springs cannot freeze, unlike airbags which can harden and even freeze in cold weather.
- A box can be remounted onto a new cab and chassis several times.
- Finally, our mechanics put the final touches on and it goes into service!

Fun Fact: Doing an ambulance remount like this saves roughly $80,000 compared to purchasing a new ambulance.
On November 30, three new recruits for Arvada Fire graduated from the fire academy. While sometimes we choose to hold academies ourselves, other times it makes more sense for us to collaborate with neighboring agencies and hold a combined academy. This was the case with the most recent academy which was run by West Metro Fire. This helps us build relationships with our partners throughout Colorado and can assist us in getting a smaller number of recruits ready for duty. This graduating class consisted of 20 firefighters: 14 from West Metro Fire, two from Castle Rock, one from Upper Pine Fire Protection District, and three from Arvada Fire. The recruits already come with experience in the field and our District is looking forward to the amazing work they will do for our community.

In an effort to get to know them a little better we asked them a few questions:

**Elise Guidry**
Where did you grow up? Cheyenne, Wyoming
When you’re not working, how do you like to spend your time? I enjoy hiking with my dogs, Lulu and Huxley.
What superpower would you like to have? I would like to be able to read people's minds. This could help me know how to help my patients.
What are you looking forward to most with the new job? I'm excited about running calls and being out and helping people but one thing that really drew me to the fire service is the feeling of a fire family, the traditions and the culture. I like that I know we are all looking out for each other.

**Sean Quinn**
Where did you grow up? In Michigan and Iowa.
When you’re not working, how do you like to spend your time? I enjoy playing music, especially the guitar. I even do a little bit of recording.
What superpower would you like to have? I would like to be able to read people's minds. This could help me know how to help my patients.
What are you looking forward to most with the new job? Getting back out to running calls, being active in the community and meeting new people.

**T.J. Avischious**
Where did you grow up? Louisville, CO
When you’re not working, how do you like to spend your time? I like to play and hang out with my 6 and 8 year old kids.
What superpower would you like to have? I would like to be able to fly.
What are you looking forward to most with the new job? Working hard and serving people.

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**Accreditation**

In August of 2014 the Arvada Fire Protection District was designated as an accredited agency by the Center of Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). By choosing to become an accredited agency the AFPD demonstrates its commitment to provide effective and efficient fire and emergency medical services in a manner that is community focused; and with a service delivery model that is aligned with proven best practices as identified and promoted by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) a branch of CPSE.

Accreditation is awarded for a five-year period and AFPD is currently preparing for re-accreditation. The accreditation model consists of 252 performance indicators in 10 categories by which a fire and emergency services agency is evaluated by the CFAI. The accreditation process consists of three overarching elements that include a self-assessment process, a comprehensive peer team review and on-site assessment, and review and approval by the CFAI. A primary tenant of this process is the practice of continuous improvement in delivery of our services.

Two other significant components that the accreditation model requires of an agency are a strategic plan and a Community Risk Assessment/Standard of Cover (CRA/SOC) document. We are actively updating our CRA/SOC document, which provides a detailed account of the hazards and risks unique to our service area and how we deploy our resources to address and mitigate incidents that stem from those risks.

We will be creating a new strategic plan during the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2019. As part of the strategic planning process, AFPD will be seeking input from not only our internal stakeholders but also external stakeholders. Keep an eye on our website for information on how to provide input and feedback specific to the strategic plan update in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, our current strategic plan, CRA/SOC documents can be found on our website at www.arvadafire.com in the “about us” section under “district documents.”
Decorate Your Tree with Your Kids in Mind

Kids are curious and will want to play with the ornaments on the tree, so you might as well prepare. Move the ornaments that are breakable or have metal hooks towards the top of the tree. That makes room at the bottom for the ones that are safer for young kids.

Water the Tree Regularly

Natural trees look beautiful and smell great, but if they’re not watered regularly, needles can dry out and pose a potential fire hazard. Make sure your tree has plenty of water by checking it regularly.

Check the Lights

Lights are one of the best parts of holiday decorating. Take a look at the ones on your tree and in and around your home for exposed or frayed wires, loose connections or broken sockets.

Blow Out Candles and Store Matches Out of Reach

Make a habit of placing matches and lighters in a safe place, out of children's reach. Avoid novelty lighters or lighters that look like toys.

Keep Harmful Plants Out of Reach

Plants can spruce up your holiday decorating but keep those that may be poisonous out of reach of children or pets. This includes mistletoe berries, holly berry, and Jerusalem cherry. In a poison emergency, call the national Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

Find the Perfect Toy for the Right Age

Consider your child’s age when purchasing a toy or game this holiday season. It’s worth a second to read the instructions and warning labels to make sure the gift is just right. Before you’ve settled on the perfect toy, check to make sure there aren’t any small parts or other potential choking hazards.

Keep Button Batteries Away from Young Kids

Keep a special eye on small pieces, including button batteries that may be included in electronic toys. While these kinds of games are great for older kids, they can pose a potential danger for younger, curious siblings.

Don’t Forget a Helmet for New Bikes or Other Toys

If your child’s heart is set on a bike, skateboard or scooter this holiday season, be sure to include a helmet to keep them safe while they’re having fun.

Prevent Spills with Pot Handles

Kids love to reach, so to prevent burns from hot holiday food or liquid spills, simply use the back burner of your stove and turn pot handles away from the edge.

Avoid Placing Foods on an Open Oven Door

Your oven door may not be as strong as you think. To prevent oven tip-overs, place heavy foods or other items on a counter top out of the reach of young children, and not on an open oven door. An anti-tip bracket is a valuable tool to prevent oven tip-overs. If you have one, simply follow the manufacturer’s instructions to install and use properly.

Engage Older Kids in Cooking

Teach older responsible kids how to cook safely. Teach them never to leave the kitchen while they’re using the stove or oven. Instruct older kids to use oven mitts or potholders to remove items from the oven or stove and teach them how to use a microwave safely.
The Arvada Report December 2018/January 2019

Second Annual Winterfest
February 23, 2019
McIlvoy Park – W. 58th Ave. and Teller St. in Olde Town
Looking for community vendors - arvadafestivals.regfox.com/winterfest-2019
www.ArvadaFestivals.com

High Tea for Seniors 90+ Years
Saturday, March 9, 2019
2 – 4 p.m.
Apex Community Recreation Center
6842 Wadsworth Blvd.
RSVP to Brenda Berg by March 1, 2019 720-898-7403
Each senior is allowed one additional guest, of any age, to accompany them.

The City of Arvada Festivals Commission would like to thank its 2018 Sponsors.
If you are interested in being a 2019 sponsor, please visit www.ArvidaFestivals.com/for-sponsors/.
Open Year Round
Current Public Hours
Monday through Thursday and Saturday
October-May: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
June-September 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Located in 80-acre Majestic View Park, offering public, school, scout, home school and community group programs, and rentals.

Pre-registration required for all classes.
Full class descriptions and program registration available at www.arvada.org/nature

Geminid Meteor Shower
Watch Party
Thursday, Dec 13, 5 – 8 p.m., All ages, Free
Meet at Standley Lake Library to enjoy hot chocolate and shooting stars with Jeffco County Open Space.

Tai Chi at Majestic View
Mondays, Jan 7 – Feb 25
Beginning: 6:35 – 7:15 p.m.
Continuing: 5 – 6 p.m.
Adults, $30 for 8-week session.

Hands Dirty Feet Wet-Outdoor Nature Playdates
Tuesday, Jan 8, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., All ages, Free

Volunteer Open House
Saturday, Jan 12, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Ages 13+, Free
Want to learn more about nature? Want to help educate our community? Join the Majestic View volunteer family!

Volunteer Open House
Saturday, Jan 12, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Ages 13+, Free
Want to learn more about nature? Want to help educate our community? Join the Majestic View volunteer family!

Animal Adventures: Art Club
Wednesday, Jan 16 – Mar 20, 4 – 5:30 p.m.
Ages 6-14, $50 for 10-weeks

Get Your Art on!
Wednesdays, Jan 16-30, 6-7:30 p.m.
Adults, $40 for 3-weeks
Explore nature themes and learn a few tricks!

Russian Story Time
Saturday, Jan 19, 10:30-11:15 a.m., Ages 3-5., Free

Voyage to Antarctica: MVNC Travel Series
Tuesday, Jan 22, 7- 8:30 p.m., Ages 10+, $5
By the time you get back from this armchair voyage, you will be checking your calendar for a chunk of vacation days!

Selfie with Bears?
Saturday, Jan 26, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Test your safety and survival knowledge, and then take a short hike with a naturalist.

Conversation Corner
Living with Wildlife
Did you know a Black Bear is a species, not only a color, of bear? They may be colors from blonde to brown. Although many people are wary of black bears, they are also very wary of people. Many wildlife species that can wander into the city limits, such as bears, coyotes or even raccoons are wary of humans. We can live peacefully with wildlife as long as we stay aware and respect that wildlife is wild. Learn more on how to avoid conflict with wildlife at cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Living withWildlife.aspx or arvada.org/living-with-wildlife.

Drop in Discovery
First Thursday and Third Monday at 10 a.m. All ages, Free. No registration necessary for this program.
Jeffco Commissioners Take Historic Vote to Eliminate the County’s Portion of Business Personal Property Tax

The Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation (Jeffco EDC), in collaboration with Jefferson County Commissioners Libby Szabo and Tina Francone, spearheaded a highly anticipated tax elimination for businesses on September 18 during the Commissioners hearing. The vote eliminates the County’s portion of its business personal property tax (BPPT) payable to its general fund*, making Jefferson County the first county in Colorado to eliminate the tax.

“Today is a monumental day for Jefferson County. Jeffco EDC has been working for decades to eliminate this unfair tax on businesses. We are pleased that the Jefferson County Commissioners view themselves as partners with the business community by understanding that their investment will yield a greater return by eliminating this tax,” stated Kristi Pollard, Jeffco EDC’s President and CEO.

The BPPT is a burden for businesses and is an expense that must be paid, regardless of any profits they bring in. On average, large capital-intensive operations such as manufacturing and R&D pay more BPPT than businesses in other industries.

“I am thrilled to have been a champion of businesses. The business personal property tax is a bad tax that discourages businesses from growing and locating in Jefferson County. I have advocated for years to eliminate this job killing measure, and I am pleased to have been able to lead the charge at eliminating it in Jefferson County,” said Jefferson County Commissioner Libby Szabo.

Jeffco EDC asserts that the elimination of the tax will increase the County’s competitive advantage in attracting and expanding primary employers, encourage economic growth, and strengthen the County’s business-friendly environment. More importantly, it supports the retention of the businesses that have already chosen Jefferson County as home.

“As a small business owner, and an advocate for business-friendly policies, I am elated to be part of this historical time in Jefferson County,” said Jefferson County Commissioner Tina Francone. “This tax unfairly burdens small businesses - folks who labor by the sweat of their brow to provide us everyday services. Eliminating this hated tax is a way to honor these unsung heroes of our local economy.”

The reduction of the overall tax is vital to the support of the county’s competitiveness for future projects, ultimately providing more revenue to Jefferson County.

* The elimination only applies to the County’s portion of its BPPT (general fund), and does not apply to other funds, including the development disability, library, R1 school district, urban renewal, and other special district funds.

Arvada Economic Development Association Launches New Website

Arvada Economic Development Association (AEDA) launched a new website: arvadaeconomicdevelopment.org. AEDA’s objective is to create a visually appealing site, as well as provide users the opportunity to experience all of AEDA’s products and services in a quick and efficient fashion.

“AEDA needed a website that reflects its friendly and helpful personality while also providing great information and resources,” said Allison Trembly, Marketing Manager for AEDA. “I am pleased with the finished project and how easily it connects the AEDA audience to resources. In my mind, we accomplished our vision with this new website.”

AEDA is no stranger to digital media. In the mid-1990s, AEDA was one of the first regional economic development organizations to design and implement a website.
Nominate Outstanding Businesses and Community Leaders Today

The Arvada Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that we are now accepting nominations for a variety of local awards that recognize businesses and community members for their efforts to make Arvada an incredible place to live, work, and play. The winners will be recognized at the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner in January or the Annual Awards Luncheon in April based on the award they are receiving.

The Business of the Year Award recognizes a business that has established a reputation of providing a superior level of customer service while using ingenuity and innovation to overcome challenges. Not only does this business excel internally, but it continues to support the community by participating in local activities and partnering with non-profit organizations. Due December 14 by 5 p.m.

The Non-Profit of the Year is recognized for their support of Arvada and its citizens through impactful programs, services and overall involvement within the community. Nominees will also be evaluated on local partnerships and collaboration. Recipients of non-profit of the year receive a $500 award. Due December 14 by 5 p.m.

The Man and Woman of the Year Awards are a long standing tradition in Arvada recognizing outstanding men and women in the community for their involvement, generosity and overall impact on Arvada. Nominations for this award are reviewed by a selection committee made up of previous winners. Due January 31 by 5 p.m.

The Arvada Young Professional Leadership Award is for leaders in Arvada under the age of 40. Honorees will be judged on their innovation, entrepreneurship, professional accomplishments and/or community leadership. Nominees could be leaders in their local industries or in the community. Due January 31 by 5 p.m.

For additional details on the nomination process, deadlines and previous winners please visit www.arvadachamber.org or call 303-424-0313.

New Arvada Businesses

The following are several new businesses that have either opened or plan to open soon in Arvada. For a complete listing of Arvada businesses, go to arvadaeconomicdevelopment.org – Business Directory.

Children’s Music Academy of Arvada
7735 Wadsworth Blvd.

Chuck & Don’s Pet Food & Supplies
14947 Candelas Pkwy.

Kaleidoscope Spa and Wellness
16205 W. 64th Ave.

Lyle Chiropractic
10050 Ralston Road

MOD Pizza
9515 Ralston Road

Preservation Solutions LLC
6893 Joyce St.

Xtreme Wireless Inc.
8295 Ralston Road

Winter 2019 Workshops

For a complete list of classes visit www.NorthMetroSBDC.com/training/workshops
Newly Remodeled Lake Arbor Clubhouse Opens to the Public

In October, the City dedicated the newly-renovated Lake Arbor Clubhouse at 8600 Wadsworth Blvd.

The Lake Arbor Clubhouse uses natural materials -- masonry, wood, and metal -- all configured for a contemporary and updated appearance. Large areas of glass provide views from the bar and restaurant, with a warm glow of light identifying the entrance.

Other improvements include:

• The Golf Shop features an improved entrance for golfers, expanded customer service areas, and new/remodeled offices. The new counter is the focal point and has attributes of the design elements that are seen throughout the clubhouse.

• The newly renovated restaurant seats 94 guests, with an additional 63 guests seated at the enclosed dining patio. The new bar features new TVs and cocktail seating with views of the 9th Green, along with a new sound! system.

• A new “Club Room” has been added for use by the Lake Arbor Women and Men’s Club.

• Remodeled bathrooms.

• A resurfaced parking lot.

• A brand new fleet of electric Club Car golf cars.

• A new Point of Sale System integrating credit card processing, shared customer/inventory databases, touch screen monitors, and mobile access for improved on course service.

Parks Employees Speak for the Bees!

In October, while cutting down a dead tree in Memorial Park, City Forestry staff was surprised by a sudden swarming of bees. Upon further—and careful!—investigation, they found a huge beehive in the trunk of the tree. They immediately called in a local beekeeper who determined that, although it was a huge hive, it did not contain enough honey to sustain the bees over winter. Staff and the beekeeper worked carefully to remove the bees so they could be transported to a managed hive that has plenty of honey to sustain the bees, which can eventually form a new colony.
December

4 Lagniappe/Tree Lighting
Olde Town Square
W. 57th Ave and Olde Wadsworth Blvd.
5:30 – 8 p.m.
303-420-6100

4 Colorado Gives Day
Initiative to increase philanthropy by online giving.
Check coloradogives.org for local businesses supporting this day

7 First Fridays Artwalk
6 – 8 p.m.
Variety of Olde Town businesses participating
Visitavada.org

8 Santa Visits the Apex Center
10 a.m. - noon
13150 W. 72nd Ave.
303-424-2739

8 Historical Society Open House
McIlvoy House
7307 Grandview Ave.
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
303-431-1261

1, 8, 15 Saturdays with Santa and Holiday Market Chili Cook-Off
12 – 3 p.m.
Olde Town Square
Your FREE chance to visit with the main man in RED!
Bring your cameras!

Holiday Fun in Olde Town
Check visitavada.org for details on holiday happenings throughout the month of December

January

1 Resolute Runner 5K
Memorial Park
ResolutionRunner.com
15% off with code ARVREPORT19

25 Arvada Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner
Arvada Center
6901 Wadsworth Blvd.
6 p.m.
303-424-0313

The Arvada Visitors Center is a one-stop-shop resource for the residents of Arvada and guests visiting the area. The Visitors Center is located in Historic Olde Town Arvada at 7305 Grandview Avenue. Summer Hours: June – August, Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Sunday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Winter Hours: September – May, Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, contact Jean Gordon at 720-898-3380 or jean@visitarvada.org. Online at visitavada.org.
Discover the true meaning of Christmas and embrace your inner Elf!

The Musical

Book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin
Music by Matthew Sklar
Lyrics by Chad Beguelin
Based on the New Line Cinema film written by David Berenbaum
Directed by Rachel Rockwell

November 20 - December 23
Main Stage Theatre

32nd Annual Fine Art Market Show & Sale
November 29 - December 16
Sale hours: Fridays & Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Sundays & Mondays 11:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays - Thursdays 12:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Opening reception: Thursday, November 29 - 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Winter Classes
Education in the Arts for All Ages
Winter Session: January - March, 2019
Registration begins December 1, 2018