

# the VILLAGE CRIER

April 2020 Newsletter



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FIND US ON THE WEB!

[CHERRYHILLSVILLAGE.COM](http://CHERRYHILLSVILLAGE.COM)

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## UNION INTERCHANGE

Over the last decade, the Interchange at I-25 and Bellevue has become overly congested and often gridlocked during peak commuter hours. This interchange is anticipated to worsen with the ambient growth of the region as well as with the full build out of the 51-acre development in the City and County of Denver known as the "Bellevue Station." The Bellevue Station development is located at the northwest corner of the interchange and will ultimately include 1,800 residential units, 2.2 million square feet of office space, 300,000 square feet of retail space and two hotels.

The City of Greenwood Village, the City of Denver, Arapahoe County and the Southeast Public Improvement Metropolitan District (SPIMD) have been working with a traffic consultant, Wilson & Company, to review potential solutions for the current and future deficiencies at the interchange. The group made a presentation to the Cherry Hills Village City Council on February 18th.

Two preferred alternatives were presented with Greenwood

Village's top choice known as a "Split Diamond Interchange." The split diamond involves new on and off ramps at Union Avenue. The presentation suggested that the split diamond will allow commuters to enter and exit I-25 at Union with the bulk of those commuters going to the Bellevue Station. It was stated that by adding the new ramps, traffic on Bellevue would lessen and the Levels of Service (grades from an "A" down to a "F") would greatly improve.

City Council expressed serious apprehension for this alternative and identified they were most concerned about the possibility of vehicles using Union to access South Monaco Street, then on to Happy Canyon Road and then cut through Cherry Hills Village by using Quincy Avenue. The consultant expressed that without the improvements, it was much more likely that the City would see more traffic cutting through the City as Bellevue vehicles would look for alternative routes when the roadway was heavily congested.

City Council did not endorse or reject the proposed solution, but instead asked the consultants to conduct more outreach and host community meetings to help educate our residents on the possible solutions and impacts to them.

CHLP Spring Speaker and Social

## HOW ARE MOUNTAIN FOREST FIRES AFFECTING DENVER AND THE FRONT RANGE?



CHLP is postponing our Spring Speaker and Social event. We will send out an email with the rescheduled date when it is considered safe to resume community gatherings.



Cherry Hills Land Preserve

[www.cherryhillslandpreserve.org](http://www.cherryhillslandpreserve.org)

*“Blossom  
by blossom  
the spring  
begins.” ...*

## WARMER WEATHER IS AROUND THE CORNER

*— GRAB YOUR HIGH LINE CANAL MAP AND HIT THE TRAIL WITH US!*

**We are lucky Front Rangers.** There is so much beauty and recreation to be found right here in our backyards and it's now easier than ever to discover more of our region with the new Map and Guide to the High Line Canal. Featuring 235 colorful pages, navigational tips and fun facts on history and nature, the map and guide will help you venture out and explore the outdoors. To order your guide today, visit [highlinecanal.org/guide](http://highlinecanal.org/guide). You can also pick up your copy at REI (Downtown, Lakewood and Greenwood Village), Tattered Cover Bookstore (Downtown, Colfax Ave. and Aspen Grove) or the Littleton Museum.

In addition, you can join us all summer long for programs to help preserve, protect and enhance our cherished Canal! Keep an eye on our website for details at [highlinecanal.org](http://highlinecanal.org).





# Cherry Hills Village

## EXOTIC CAR SHOW

**Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARKING LOT – 2400 E. QUINCY AVENUE

*Join us for the annual Cherry Hills Village Car Show  
Check out truly unique cars, enjoy live music, and stay for a free BBQ.*

Event proceeds from the registration donation are tax deductible and 100% of proceeds will benefit the Cat Anderson Fund for the preservation and acquisition of open space in our community. There is no fee for spectators.

**Please submit registration form and attach a photo. Registration form can also be completed online at [www.cherryhillsvillage.com](http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com) under 2020 Car Show information.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Vehicle: Year \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Vehicle: Year \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

I will be bringing a tent or canopy no larger than 10 x 10

**REGISTRATION FEE:** **\$25** donation per car, checks payable to Cherry Hills Village

*Registrations will not be considered until payment has been received. You will receive confirmation if your registration is accepted. If your registration is not accepted your payment will be returned.*

Return completed forms with donation to:

City of Cherry Hills Village, Car Show  
2450 E. Quincy Avenue, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

**LIABILITY RELEASE:** In consideration of the right to participate in the Cherry Hills Village Exotic Cart Show (the Event), I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Cherry Hills Village, Cherry Hills Village Elementary School, the Cherry Creek School District, their employees, agents, volunteers and anyone else connected with the management or presentation of the Event from and against all liability, claims and demands brought by myself or any other participants, or visitors to the Event arising from, or in any manner connected with my involvement in the Event. I further certify that my vehicle is properly licensed and insured to meet all legal requirements of liability. Please Note: Unless there is a specific request not to, images and video taken at this event may be used by Cherry Hills Village for future promotional purposes.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information or questions, please contact: Pamela Broyles \* 303-783-2744 \* [pbroyles@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:pbroyles@cherryhillsvillage.com)

# Soil Testing: A Good Start to a Successful Garden Season

By: Donnetta Wilhelm, Colorado Master Gardener, Arapahoe County

**N**othing says spring like the kaleidoscope of tulips, the golden yellow of daffodils and...a soil test? Healthy soil supports healthy plant growth and CSU recommends a soil test every four to eight years with spring being the optimal time.

There are many reasons why plants suffer and struggle. Nearly 80% of all problems in home landscapes are soil related: fertility, drainage, organic content, pH and compaction being the most common. Obtaining a soil test helps homeowners better understand their soil.

Plants need 17 elements for normal growth. Carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen come from the air and water while soil is the source of the other 14 nutrients. A fertile soil contains all the major nutrients to sustain basic plant nutrition. A soil test indicates which nutrients are lacking so homeowners can determine the best fertilization regimen for the growing season.

Poor drainage is a common problem in many Colorado soils. Both dry and waterlogged soils impact plant growth.

Soil 'tilth' gauges how well the soil, comprised of sand, silt and clay particles, supports root growth. Soil 'texture' is the size and type of the particles which have their own distinctive feel. Soil 'structure' is how the particles fit together which affects air and water movement, as well as, how well the soil can hold water and nutrients. A soil test provides a texture estimate with possible drainage issues.

It's important to feed the organisms that feed the soil. Organic matter in the soil supports the organisms (bacteria, fungi, protozoa, nematodes, arthropods, and earthworms) which improve soil tilth and makes nutrients available to plants. Colorado soils are naturally low in organic matter (less than 1 percent). The optimum soil has 45 percent mineral, 25 percent air, 25 percent water and 5 percent organic matter. A soil test determines the organic matter level so homeowners can amend if needed.

Colorado Master Gardeners are commonly asked 'why can't I grow blueberries or azaleas here?' Most of these questions are posed from

newcomers who have relocated from east of the Mississippi River where the soils are in a pH acid range of below 7.0. While Colorado tends to be in the moderate to high alkalinity range, most landscape plants tolerate a pH of 7.5 to 7.8. However, if a persistent problem occurs with a plant or planting area, attain a soil test to learn the pH level.

Finally, compaction squeezes the air from the soil which causes oxygen starvation of a plant's root system. This is commonly seen in high traffic lawns, around trees and vegetable gardens. Although a soil test will not return results for soil compaction, aerating lawns, adding organic matter, using mulches and restricting traffic will all help improve air movement.

While gardeners often focus their attention on either insect and disease problems or more fertilization, begin this spring with a CSU soil test to get a good start on the growing year. The basic garden and landscape soil test is \$35. Instructions and forms found at <http://www.soiltestinglab.colostate.edu/>

# MAYOR'S REPORT

***This month: news on video streaming of Council meetings; the search for a new City Manager, the High Line Canal Hampden Underpass, and coronavirus.***

## ***City Council Meetings Live Stream and Video Recordings***

On December 11, 2019 Cherry Hills Village City Council began video recording its meetings. Regular 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening Council meetings are now livestreamed and archived as the official record of Council actions. To view past meetings visit <http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/501/Council-Videos-Agendas-Packets-Minutes>.

Last year the Village issued requests for proposals and received interest from four companies to record Council meetings. Following an analysis of the competing proposals, Council selected and retained Open Media, Inc., a local nonprofit organization. The company provides video streaming services to neighboring municipalities and operates the video recording system used by the Colorado State Senate.

The total cost for the audiovisual system in the first year, including four cameras, recording equipment, and production services, is less than \$35,000. The annual recurring cost after the first year will be about \$13,000. This includes a comprehensive management system that organizes the videos, agendas, and packet materials for easy access by citizens. Open Media also provides closed captioning and translations.

The principal challenge to a municipal video system is coordinating cameras so that viewers can follow and understand presenters and speakers. Open Media operates cameras from a remote production facility in Denver, reducing cost and the burden on the Village staff. As the system becomes routine, the need for written summary minutes is reduced, allowing the Council at a future date the option of moving to

written action minutes (recording in writing Council actions, only).

The audio and video recordings are now the official record of proceedings of the City Council of Cherry Hills Village. Council. Staff will review the system throughout the year and welcome citizen comments, thoughts, and suggestions for improvement.

## ***City Manager Search***

Our Village Charter delegates to the City Manager the responsibility to enforce City Ordinances; hire and fire all employees; appoint department heads based on executive ability; prepare a proposed annual budget; prepare an annual report on finances and administrative activities of the City; keep the Council advised of the current and future financial needs and make recommendations to Council; supervise all administrative departments (Public Works (Streets and Parks and Trails), Administration and Finance, Police, and Community Development); enforce terms and conditions in franchise agreements (like Xcel and CenturyLink); establish a system of accounting and auditing; act as purchasing agent; secure engineering, architectural, maintenance, construction and work equipment services; and perform other duties prescribed by the Charter, Ordinances, or the Council.

As we reported previously, City Manager James Thorsen announced last year that he planned to retire effective May 1, 2020. Over the last several months your Council solicited, reviewed and evaluated about five dozen replacement candidates. As a personnel matter under Colorado law, information related to applicants remains confidential until finalists are selected. Fourteen days after the finalists are announced, the Council may enter into an agreement with a new City Manager.

## ***High Line Canal Hampden Underpass/Traffic Advisory***

Arapahoe County, the City and County of Denver, and Cherry Hills Village are partnering on a major project to construct one High Line Canal trail



underpass at Hampden Avenue. Denver is also installing a second underpass at Colorado Boulevard. When completed, pedestrians and cyclists traveling north from the Village on the High Line Canal trail will traverse under Hampden,

continue along a newly constructed trail on the south property line of Wellshire Golf Course, and then traverse under Colorado where they can proceed along the sidewalk to Eisenhower Park and the rejoin the Canal trail.

Construction will begin mid-April and will involve temporary but significant traffic delays. **On at least two full weekends in April or May when the preconstructed tunnel boxes are set in place, Hampden and Colorado will be completely closed to traffic.** As soon as the contractor provides its final construction schedule, the Colorado Department of Transportation will use sign boards to warn drivers of the closing dates. Plan to avoid Hampden and Colorado on weekends and use Belview or Dartmouth while construction is underway. Churches along Hampden have been advised to suggest that parishioners use westbound Hampden from I-25 to access Sunday services.

## ***Coronavirus***

As I write this, City staff are evaluating options and developing plans to manage the challenges to residents and employees caused by COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus. While police, fire and other essential operations will remain fully staffed, other operations and meetings may be rescheduled or performed, by conference call, or from home. Important information and notifications will be distributed through NotifyMe and posted to the City website.

**MAYOR MONDAYS.** I keep regular drop-in office hours on Mondays from 9 to 11 a.m. at City Hall. To reserve a time, schedule a different date or just talk, contact me at: [rstewart@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:rstewart@cherryhillsvillage.com) or 303-607-3688.

Russell

# Crier Classifieds

The Village Crier advertisements will be provided for a fee to both Village residents and advertisers outside the Village. Ads should be limited to 40 words and may be purchased for the entire year. Publication of the ad in The Village Crier does not imply endorsement. The Village Crier reserves the right to reject ads. To inquire about placing an ad call (303) 783-2730 or email [jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com).

## Categories

**Contract Work/Handyman**  
**Education**  
**Events**  
**Gardening/Landscaping**  
**Health and Wellness**  
**Music/Instrument/**  
    Education/Repair  
**Pet Services/Accessories**  
**Professional Services**  
**Tech Help/Services**  
**Wildlife Service/Removal**  
**FOR RENT**  
**FOR SALE**  
**WANTED**

## ADVERTISE in the next Crier Classifieds

Email your information to Jessica Sager  
[jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com)

Deadline: April 15

## Contract Work/Handyman

**A+ RATED BBB ROOFER** - High Impact Roofing & Exteriors, 720-515-4672 or [info@highimpactco.com](mailto:info@highimpactco.com). Free estimates on asphalt, shake or more. [highimpactco.com](http://highimpactco.com)

**BLUE SKY PLUMBING, HEATING, COOLING AND ELECTRICAL** - 4th generation, family owned and operated, licensed and insured. AC tune-up, swamp cooler start-up, water filtration. All electrical work, plumbing repair/installation. Mention this ad and we will waive your dispatch fee 720-253-1716 <https://blueskyplumbing.com/>

**CLEARVIEW WINDOW WASHING** is an insured, owner-operated company that has been in business since 1996. References available. Call or email today for a free estimate. Pat Gerlits 303-692-0620 or [pgerlits@comcast.net](mailto:pgerlits@comcast.net)

**EXPERIENCED CONTRACTOR** - specializing in small remodels. One job at a time. Fast, clean and organized with your family's comfort and convenience in mind. Pets no problem. Cherry Hills references

available upon request. Contact Mark at Longleaf Construction 303-868-5856.

**RODGER THE WINDOW WASHER**  
You won't find anyone better. Someone your friends and neighbors trust. Policy information for liability, medical, disability and auto insurance supplied with all bids. Call Rodger with any questions or just to say "hello" 303-474-4494 or email [rodgerboggs@outlook.com](mailto:rodgerboggs@outlook.com)

**SILVER SERVICE WINDOWS** - Residential window washer in business for twenty-one years. Owner operated, insured and references available. Free in person estimate. I return calls in 10 minutes or less. 10% discount for new customers. Rick Otto at 303-613-0727.

## Education

**FIRST PLYMOUTH LEARNING CENTER** opened registration for the 2020-21 school year and for our summer camps. We accept children 15 months-5 years old. We have added many new options! We are located on the corner of Hampden and Colorado. Call 303-762-9355 for information.

**MATH TUTORING** - Premium online instruction for high school, middle school, and college calculus. Schoolwork and SAT & ACT preparation. Ph.D. Harvard, B.S. MIT, 30+ years of experience. Please visit [perdocere.com](http://perdocere.com) to read hundreds of detailed parent and student testimonials, 781-278-0084.

## Gardening/Landscaping

**ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL, LOW COST PERENNIAL FLOWER GARDENS**. Our natural landscaping combines wildflowers with other beautiful xeriscape plants that grow all over Colorado. So many beautiful flowers are a magnet for hummingbirds, butterflies and people. Jerry's Wildflowers 720-275-5599 or [jerryswildflowers.com](http://jerryswildflowers.com)

**BALES CUSTOM GARDENING SERVICES** - Proudly tending CHV gardens since 2004. Now offering 2020 garden care contracts- including weekly/bi-weekly maintenance, seasonal clean ups, perennial/shrub plantings, food crops management. Local references. Insured. Member BBB. Free Consultations, Amy & Clint Bales 303-507-2586. [BalesCustomGardening.com](http://BalesCustomGardening.com)

**COLORADO TREES** - Full-Service Tree Company. We are a locally owned, licensed and fully insured team of Arborists. We specialize in trimming, treatments and removals. Protect your trees from Fire Blight and Ash Borers! Call Mark for a free assessment 303-856-4285 [coloradotreertrimming.com](http://coloradotreertrimming.com)

**FAIRBAIRN TREE & LANDSCAPE SPECIALISTS** - Designing, building & maintaining landscapes in CHV since 1993. Call for a free consultation 303-722-5043.

**MAPLE LEAF LANDSCAPING, INC.** - Full Service Landscape Company: lawn care, garden maintenance, irrigation installation & repair. Hardscape & Design Construction Projects. Free estimates, call Darwin Wasend at 720-290-8292. Serving CHV since 1999. ALCC & BBB MEMBER.

## Health and Wellness

**9ROUND 30-MINUTE KICKBOXING & FITNESS** - total body workout that changes every day! No class times! Trainer always included! Don't wait... sign up now to lock in your pre-opening charter membership rate of \$98/month at <https://www.9round.com/fitness/littleton-co-s-broadway>.

**CLUB GREENWOOD** - Save up to \$500 per year when you join. Greenwood is one of the entities eligible to participate in the Cherry Hills Village Recreation Reimbursement Program. Call the Membership Department for more information 720-838-2527.

## Music/Instrument

### Education/Repair

**PIANO TUNING AND REPAIR**. CHV resident with many years of piano tuning experience. Tuning performed with the ears of a musician. Repairs performed with the hands of a surgeon. Registered Piano Technician – Piano Technicians Guild. Call Art Heller 303-947-8834.

## Pet Services/Accessories

**ANIMALS LIKE ME - ENERGETIC DOGS AT HOME?** Do your pets need exercise? I can help! Pet walking, pet sitting or housesitting. Insured, bonded and first aid certified. CHV references available. Call Lana 303-898-0479 or [lksppear@comcast.net](mailto:lksppear@comcast.net)

## DOG GROOMING - MOBILE - I COME TO YOU - THE POOCH

**MOBILE DOG WASH** - All breeds, large or small, welcomed and loved. Pooch Mobile is fantastic, low stress for both you and your dog(s). You'll love it! Please call Robert anytime at 720-480-1560.

## Professional Services

**SENIOR PLACEMENT** - We help families through the entire process to find the most suitable senior living community. Independent Living, Assisted Living, or Memory Care. Our services are free to families. Please contact Betsy Huguez. 303-886-6749. [Betsy@hoyerseniorplacement.com](mailto:Betsy@hoyerseniorplacement.com)

**THE ANTIQUE TRADER** - since 1965. Residents of Southmoor Vista since 1983. Low cost appraisals, fair market value, insurance appraisals, updates, estate appraisals & estate sales conducted. Personal property valuations. Purchasing: silver, jewelry, art, objects of virtue. [lack.wartell@gmail.com](mailto:lack.wartell@gmail.com) 303-722-6098 & 303-919-5673 [antiquetraderappraisals.com](http://antiquetraderappraisals.com)

## Wildlife Service/Removal

**ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL** for wildlife problems of all sizes. Licensed and insured. We have been servicing Cherry Hills Village for over 28 years. Professional, ethical and humane, we don't use gasses, poisons or pesticides. 303-884-9100, [wildlifedamage.com](http://wildlifedamage.com) or [odcwildlifespécialist@gmail.com](mailto:odcwildlifespécialist@gmail.com)

## COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The City is currently accepting applications for the Quincy Farm Committee (QFC). Quincy Farm is a 17.5-acre property donated to the City by Catherine Anderson for preservation and education about nature and history. Committee members provide recommendations about the future of the property and are currently developing a long-term Master Plan for Quincy Farm. The QFC meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 8:15am-10am at City Hall. A background or interest in historic preservation/planning, agriculture, nature or art education would be especially valuable.

The Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission (PTRC) advises City Council on matters related to parks, trails, recreation and open space within the community. Meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month beginning at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

If you would like to apply to serve on the QFC or PTRC please complete an application and return it to City Clerk Laura Gillespie. The application can be found on the City's website at: <http://cherryhillsvillage.com/DocumentCenter/View/158/Balls-and-Commissions-Application-PDF?bidId=>

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATION SUBMITTALS IS FRIDAY, MAY 1ST.

For more information regarding vacancies or to submit your application, you can email [lgillespie@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:lgillespie@cherryhillsvillage.com) or call (303) 783-2732.

**CHVAC**  
CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE ART COMMISSION

**COLORADO  
THROUGH THE LENS  
(Faces, Places and Loves)**  
A Photographic Exhibit

# DON'T BE THE DEALER

**STOLEN**

**MISUSED**

Keep them safe. Clean them out.

Take them back.

**APRIL 25, 2020**

**10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

**2460 E. QUINCY AVE**

**CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE**



Visit [DEATakeBack.com](http://DEATakeBack.com) for a collection site near you.

Photographers of all ages, both professionals and amateurs, are invited to submit their photos of Colorado, faces, places and loves, for the first ever Cherry Hills Village Photographic Art Exhibit sponsored by the Cherry Hills Village Art Commission. This premier exhibit will be juried and on display later this summer until December.

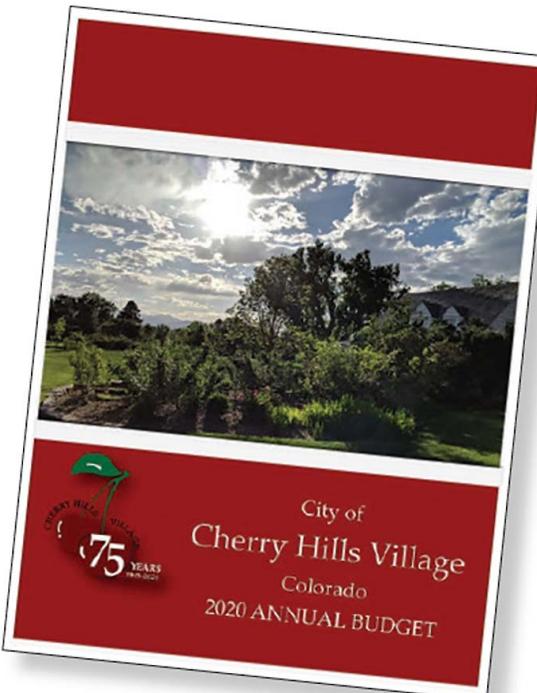
Once the photo(s) have been selected and are ready for display, they will hang in the entry hall at City Hall. Photographers can also decide if they want their photo(s) sold during the exhibit.

All interested photographers need to submit a sample of their photographs in jpeg form. The photos can be emailed to Jessica Sager at [jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com). All submittals need to be received no later than June 5, 2020.

# BUDGET DOCUMENT SUBMITTED FOR AWARD

The Cherry Hills Village Finance Department has submitted the 2020 budget document to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration of their Distinguished Budget Presentation Award program. The City of Cherry Hills Village has been recognized for this award in recognition of the Finance Department's budget preparation since 2015. This program encourages state and local governments to prepare documents of the highest quality that reflect guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting. The GFOA will announce their decision for the City's 2020 budget document by the end of September.

THE 2020 BUDGET DOCUMENT  
IS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS TO VIEW  
ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT  
[www.cherryhillsvillage.com/budget](http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/budget).



## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP

The 2020 Spring Cleanup will be held on May 14th, May 15th and May 16th. The Spring Cleanup event will be held at 2101 W Quincy Avenue, Sheridan, CO 80110 (the new Public Works location in Sheridan).

Please note the following schedule:

### THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

(May 14th, 15th and 16th).

Dumpsters will be available all three days from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PAINT AND ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED ALL THREE DAYS FROM 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, MAY 16TH ONLY

from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

– Community Shred Event

THE COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT IS FOR HOUSEHOLD USE ONLY.

**NO BUSINESS SHREDDING WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

This program is for residents only and City staff will be checking ID's. Please be prepared to show your driver's license with a Cherry Hills Village address. Appliances, televisions (up to 19 inches only) will be accepted; unfortunately, larger items will not be accepted as the cost is too substantial for the City to accept. If you have any questions regarding this event, please visit the City's website at [www.cherryhillsvillage.com](http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com) or call (303) 783-2744.

## THE 2020 CITY OF CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

The City is now accepting tree reservations!!! The types of trees still available for purchase at publication time are:

- Northern Catalpa
- Turkish Filbert
- Chanticleer Pear
- Swamp White Oak
- Chinkapin Oak
- Lacebark Elm

Trees are offered on a first come first served basis – SO REGISTER EARLY!

All tree descriptions and prices are posted on the City's website:

[www.cherryhillsvillage.com/TreePlantingProgram](http://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/TreePlantingProgram).

For more information, please call (303) 783-2744 or email Pamela Broyles at [pbroyles@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:pbroyles@cherryhillsvillage.com).

PLEASE NOTE: This program is for Cherry Hills Village residents only.

# REPLACING CHV'S CITY BUILDINGS BROUGHT CHALLENGES

By Klasina VanderWerf author of "High on Country"

Last month's issue of the Crier told the story of how the City approached building its first Village Center and the events leading up to the decision that the City needed new facilities.

The first undertaking had been the construction of the Joint Public Safety Facility. This had gone off without a hitch. Replacing the Public Works offices and yard would not prove as easy.

Part of the reason was that Public Works was a different animal. Like the fire station, Public Works used and housed large vehicles. But over the years, Public Works had more than doubled in size. The new Parks Division following CHV's exclusion from South Suburban Parks and Recreation District eventually added seven employees and became part of the Public Works Department.

The number of Public Works employees grew as well to keep up with an increased workload. The Public Works Department brought building maintenance and janitorial services in house. They also began to perform more road maintenance work, such as crack seal, minor asphalt repair and some concrete replacement. As traffic on the City's roadways increased, so did the maintenance. Material storage also increased with park maintenance that required keeping topsoil, wood chips, and crusher fine on hand.

A privacy fence kept most of the Public Works operation from public view, but it was clear to everyone that public works needed a good-sized property from which to operate. Also, the Meade Lane neighbors were beginning to come to the conclusion that the yard no longer fit with the area's residential character.

In 2014, the City hired Norris Design to develop the Public Works design and also to handle the public outreach for the project. THK, another consultant, was hired to work on the John Meade Park design.

All THK designs incorporated a Village Center on the campus. Citizens indicated they liked having a small amphitheater or performance area and they did not necessarily want to see Meade Lane closed off with a roundabout. Not surprisingly, the plans that emphasized keeping the parks natural and open met with the most favor by community members in attendance.

What followed the completion of JPSF was a good faith effort by the City to find a location for Public Works that was outside of the Village, yet close enough to provide good service to Villagers.

Jay Goldie, CHV's Deputy City Manager and Public Works Director, recounted some of the possible locations that had initially looked promising and which the City pursued. One of the early possibilities was the property owned by Denver Water off Happy Canyon known as the Hillcrest site which Denver Water used for water storage. When Cherry Hills Village initially began conversations with Tom Roode, Denver Water's then Director of Operations and Maintenance, Denver Water was willing to look at leasing some of the property to Cherry Hills Village for a Public Works facility. In fact, conversations got far enough along that



The above photo shows 2101 West Quincy prior to CHV's purchase of the property and prior to the removal of the vehicles.

Denver Water identified the corner of their property where CHV's public works would sit.

Unfortunately, talks got no further. Denver Water determined that their future expansion on the Hillcrest site would require more property than originally thought. Further, when it came down to it, Denver Water just didn't want a fueling station on the same property where water was stored.

Another possibility the City pursued was leasing a property from Englewood next to their Maintenance Facility on South Platte River Drive. These negotiations also fell apart when Englewood insisted upon keeping the lease to CHV to a maximum length of 20 years. City leaders determined the investment the City would have to make in their buildings and yard would be too great for that short a lease.

So, now the City was back at square one. At about this time, it was brought to the City's attention, that the Church of the Nazarene owned a property right off Colorado Boulevard that they might be willing to sell to the City for city purposes. It was a two-acre lot immediately surrounded by parking lots or other church property. The churches would primarily be using their properties on the weekend compared with Public Works operations that took place during the week.

City Council became interested enough that members asked to see whether two acres was enough land to buffer and screen the Public Works building and yard. Immediate neighbors were then approached to see how they would feel about living close to a new Public Works building. Based on negotiations between the City and the Church of the Nazarene, the City got an option to purchase the site for \$1.8 million, contingent on whether the zoning of the property could be changed to C-1.

Not only were immediate neighbors unhappy with the possibility of being next to the Public Works facility, residents up and down Colorado Boulevard flocked to Council meetings to make their displeasure known. At the August 16, 2016 Council meeting, the crowd overflowed the Council Chambers and stretched out into the halls, demonstrating, at the very least, that the City had outgrown its Village Center. One issue of *The Villager* had a headline referring to the meeting as a "Maintenance Facility Melee."

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City Manager Jim Thorsen gave a full analysis of what Cherry Hills Village was dealing with. The City had considered nearly 30 alternative sites, none of which had panned out for myriad reasons such as size, cost, or zoning. The upshot of the presentation showed that a current City Campus location for Public Works could not be made to work.

For their part, residents had many plausible complaints: that a Public Works facility would change the character of the neighborhood, devalue residential properties in the area and increase traffic and noise. One neighbor summed it up: "While I understand how this can look like a good solution from 50,000 feet up, when you drill down, there are so many reasons why it isn't."

After hearing from residents who lived in a wide area around the Colorado Boulevard location, Council members knew it would be an uphill battle no matter where in the Village they might look for a property to house Public Works. In the end, it was a Villager who helped the City find a way out. Meade Lane resident Richard Diecidue offered to take another look at properties outside of CHV that could accommodate the City's Public Works function at a price the City could afford.

As luck would have it, one was found. This property was 2101 West Quincy, a block west of Santa Fe Drive in Sheridan and three miles from the Village. The price tag was \$2.2 million for the property.

The Sheridan property lent itself well to Public Works operations. The West Quincy property had been a salvage yard full of old cars during the years where car parts were harvested, re-built, and placed into cars that were still on the roads. But the huge transfer from parts that run off an analogue system to the digital systems in today's motor vehicles, sounded the death knell for these kinds of businesses.

Of course, an initial worry when purchasing a property like this in industrial zones is that the buyer might purchase something that would prove to be very expensive because it would need a lot of soil remediation. This fear proved unfounded. All of the soil samples taken came back negative for contaminants. Even better, there were some metal buildings on the property the City could continue to use to house Public Works vehicles.

With the question of Public Works' location settled, the City took the next large step forward at the end of 2015. City Council had been studying the possibility of using Certificates of Participation (COPs) to finance the remaining stages of replacing buildings and renovating parks. The City's excellent credit rating and the low interest rates made the decision to take this action that much easier so Council approved the issuance of COPs in the amount of \$11.8 million: \$4.5 million to go toward a new Village Center, \$4.7 for the Public Works facility in Sheridan; and \$2.6 million for the City's Campus parks. (The \$2.6 million allocated to parks reflected an amount Council members had reduced from an original amount of \$3.7 million. This was done in order to keep the total amount of the COPs under \$12 million.)

Construction of the Public Works facility began in the fall of 2017 and the ribbon cutting was held on May 19, 2018. The City ultimately constructed a 2,000-square-foot building for staff and a

covered area for material storage and the project came in under budget at \$4.2 million.

Jay Goldie confirms Public Works employees do like their new digs. But, as would be expected, employees have had to make some changes

to accommodate the distance between the facility, the repairs or work they perform within CHV and adjustments to their vehicle fleet. They now carry tools, signs, etc. with them so that they do not have to return to the W. Quincy property to pick up something

they might end up needing in the course of a project.

With Public Works now moved to their new site, the old South Metro Station No. 38 building was available for use. By adding some partitions and counters, it proved capable of handling the City's administration functions while a new City Center building was constructed. So, City staff packed up their desks for the move, knowing that the next time they packed things up, it would be to move into a brand-new building.

There were two parts to the final stage of the City Campus makeover: constructing a new Village Center and renovating parks. Planning for both projects simultaneously allowed for an elegant solution to the floodplain dilemma. Mitigation for the building site could be accomplished by creating more wetlands that could accommodate additional water during a flood and some remediation could take place by adding soil to lift the city center building site out of the floodplain. Now, all city buildings would be compliant with the required floodplain development standards.



May 1, 2018 was the groundbreaking ceremony for the Village Center. Current and former City mayors and current and former City Council members, who had helped work to move the construction projects forward over nearly two decades, placed their shovels in the ground and posed for a photograph some thought might never happen.

The architect for the new Village Center was Cannon Design and W. E. O'Neil Construction would construct the building. Their bid of \$4.35 million was the low bid and included completion of the building's adjacent patio, enlarged parking lot, and landscaping. Once underway, the construction moved quickly and, at the ribbon cutting on April 14, 2019, Villagers could now say that their Village Center was ADA compliant, that it boasted modern security features, had a Council Chambers large enough to seat all comers and also doubles as a community meeting room. The building is functional in ways the former building could never have been. For example, in the evenings, the administrative parts of the building can be closed off so that the rest of the building can be used for public functions.

The new Village Center complemented the JPSF building across the way, its proximity to one of the John Meade Park ponds and large door opening to the outside integrates the building with the outdoors. Materials like the "blue stain" wood (beetle kill) inside and the stone and wood outside give it a natural feel.

At this juncture, all that remains of the City Campus projects is the completion of the renovation of John Meade Park and Alan Hutto Memorial Commons. The firm Mundus Bishop of Denver worked on the design for the parks, again seeking public input over a two-year period.

The small amphitheater will remain in Alan Hutto Memorial

Commons. There will be a central picnic shelter and a playground with natural features for youngsters to climb on like logs and large rocks. Visitors will be able to pass through the wetlands on a boardwalk or fish on the fishing piers.

The City has addressed the anticipated shortfall for the cost of the project. HPM Contracting, Inc. is completing the project for \$3,456,700. The City was also able to obtain two generous grants, a \$200,000 grant from Urban Drainage Flood Control and a \$500,000 grant from Arapahoe County Open Spaces. Further, part of the cost of the parks' renovation is the result of not including the dredging of John Meade pond in the original estimate of the project costs.

As Jay Goldie and I sat in his hard-earned new office and looked out his windows to where the park renovation was clearly visible now that the South Metro Station No. 38 had been torn down in January, it seemed the time between when the City first acknowledged it needed new City buildings and the culmination of all the work it had taken to make that a reality was both brief and interminable.

Jay diplomatically calls the process that took place over these years as "interesting." He chalks the two steps forward and one step back that often characterized the process as the result of a lot of things, including the changes that happen in city governments as a matter of course: the people change. With every City Council election, new members would need to be given the background and brought up to speed.

Jay's musings end on a philosophical note. He wonders what we have paid to consultants over the last two decades to study the issues, to create the designs and the possibilities, to legitimize the process. And he speculates what might have been if those funds were used for something else.



## CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE ART COMMISSION RECOMMENDS NEW SCULPTURE FOR CITY HALL

The Cherry Hills Village Art Commission is excited to announce they will be recommending approval for a new sculpture in front of City Hall at the City Council meeting on April 21, 2020. After spending months reviewing art of various styles, materials and artists, the CHVAC



has selected artist Gilberto Romero's sculpture, *Gusto*.

Gilberto Romero works primarily with metal and stone. Through his shape, line, color and use of negative and positive space, viewers can experience freedom, flow and playful wonderment. He is an avid

outdoorsman and finds the majority of his inspiration from nature. "I see shapes everywhere," he stated during his interview with the CHVAC, his patient nature helps him listen as the stones "speak" with the possibility of becoming part of a future piece.

*Gusto* will be mounted on a 2-inch stainless steel bearing that allows the sculpture to turn and will be made from fabricated bronze. A rendering of the sculpture in front of City Hall is below. The piece is part of Gilberto's existing collection and will be installed within weeks if approved at the April 21st City Council meeting.

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APRIL 2020 Newsletter

## Cherry Hills Village WELCOMES A NEW PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER



**Jameson Mountfort** joined the City of Cherry Hills Village Parks Department in February. Jameson was born and raised in Colorado where he attended ThunderRidge High School. He has previous experience working as a crew leader on various construction and landscape design projects; which gave him a strong background in landscape maintenance and upkeep. Jameson is an avid fly fisherman and enjoys working outdoors. He is excited to be part of the Cherry Hills Village Parks Crew and to serve the City and its residents.

## GRADUATE INFORMATION NEEDED

If your son or daughter will graduate this summer and you would like to announce it, please send the information to The Village Crier so we can share the good news with the community. You can submit graduate information by email to Jessica Sager at: [jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com](mailto:jsager@cherryhillsvillage.com) or mail it to City Hall at 2450 East Quincy Avenue, Cherry Hills Village 80113.

**Please include:**

- Graduate's name
- Parent's name(s)
- School student graduated from  
(if college or graduate school, include degree information)
- School student is planning to attend  
(if student was a high school graduate going on to college)
- Student's plans after graduation (if known)

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION BY MAY 15TH.**  
The graduate information will be published in the JUNE edition of the Village Crier.

2020