



City Line

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City Council Agendas
are printed each
Monday in the
Daily Times-Call

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Stop-N-Drop is Back; Limb Pickup Scheduled

STOP-N-DROP

The first Stop-N-Drop of 2007 was cancelled in January due to the Holiday Blizzards, but Public Works Solid Waste Operations is ready to host the second Stop-N-Drop Program of 2007 on Saturday, April 14, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Public Works Maintenance Facility, 375 Airport Road.

Customers can bring large and bulky household items or other debris for disposal at no charge. Please bring a utility bill to the Stop-N-Drop, as the program is only available to City refuse collection customers.

Residents are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the OUR Center. The following items will not be accepted during the Stop-N-Drop program: household waste, dirt, rock, sod, concrete, shingles, chemicals, limbs, yard waste, tires, auto parts, hazardous waste or refrigerators.

For recommendations on how to dispose of these items, call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416.



TREE LIMB COLLECTION

It's time to trim those trees on your streets and alleys! Public Works Street Operations will be picking up limbs and branches for residents at no charge.

Limbs must be placed in the gutter of the street on Monday, April 16, for residents living north of 9th Avenue and Monday, April 23, for residents living south of 9th Avenue.

Do not block access to refuse or recycling containers. Crews will pick up limbs during the entire week.

Limbs and branches must be no more than six feet long, no larger than six inches in diameter and must be placed in bundles no more than three feet in diameter.

Residents may place more than one bundle out for collection. No commercial properties will be collected.

Tree limbs can also be dropped off year-around at the Tree Limb Diversion Center, 140 Martin Street, Monday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mayor to Deliver "State of City" Speech

Longmont Mayor Julia Pirnack is scheduled to deliver the "State of the City" speech on Thursday, April 19 at New Frontier Bank, 2315 Main St.

The speech is being delivered in conjunction with the Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce's monthly "Business After Hours" event. This popular event offers Chamber members an opportunity to network with business and community leaders throughout Longmont and the surrounding area.

"Business After Hours" is a members-only event and takes place from 5-7 p.m. Chamber members may attend free of charge with RSVP by April 18. For more information or reservations, contact 303-776-5295 or e-mail rsvp@longmontchamber.org.



A Message from

Mayor Julia Pirnack



Mayor's Book Club Encourages Reading

Often in my *City Line* column I write about the variety of ways all of us can make a difference in our community. Whether it's having fun as a volunteer in the arts community or challenging teenagers to stay out of gangs, there is a wide variety of important work to be done in Longmont.

However, there is one very special effort that I hold near to my heart because it involves helping children, specifically pre-kindergarten children, while they are at an absolutely critical state in their development.

This initiative is called Bright EYES (Early Years Education Stewards). It is a local collaboration of representatives

from the City of Longmont, the St. Vrain Valley School District and many Longmont health, human service and children's service agencies that is focused on ways the Longmont community can work together to help all our young children be ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. The goals for this effort include:

- 1) increase the availability of comprehensive school readiness programs,
- 2) enhance community awareness around the importance of early care and education,
- 3) provide enrichment activities for families and their young children,
- 4) provide opportunities for parental and community engagement,
- 5) enhance awareness and opportunities for children to develop cognitive and language skills, and
- 6) improve the social/emotional development and health of young children so they are ready to learn when entering school.

On April 23, Bright EYES will launch the Mayor's Book Club, which promotes literacy by encouraging 3 and 4-year-olds and their parents to read a new book together each month. The purpose of this free book club is to encourage a love for reading and to develop basic literacy in children before beginning kindergarten. While other programs provide reading literacy to young children through story times and parent interaction, the Mayor's Book Club provides books to young

children so that they can own and read their very own books regularly and repeatedly. Ownership of books and having books in the home is a proven indicator of reading success for children. Statistically, for every dollar spent on a child in their early years, seven dollars is saved in future community and educational costs.

Children enrolled in the Mayor's Book Club will receive a backpack loaded with items to encourage literacy and a love of reading. These items include

the first month's book, a blanket, puppet, pencil, coloring book and crayons. Each month after joining the club, a new book can be picked up at the Longmont Public Library.

As part of this program, I and other

public officials and community leaders will appear on Channel 3 to read the book of the month to children who have not had the opportunity to read with their parents and/or to reinforce reading of the book on multiple occasions.

The program will air on Channel 3 multiple times each month so that kids and their parents and caregivers can read along. Public reading times will also be scheduled at other community events or venues, such as the Longmont Public Library or at one of our local fire stations. Children will be able to join the club throughout the year.

The Mayor's Book Club kick-off event will be held at the newly renovated Meeker Neighborhood Center, located at 839 Meeker Street on Monday, April 23 at 3:30 p.m. From 4 - 6 p.m. the community will also celebrate the grand re-opening of this facility as a center for comprehensive school readiness activities and a family resource center for the surrounding neighborhood.

To register your child for the Mayor's Book Club or for more information on how to participate or assist with this initiative, contact Karen Roney, Community Services Director at 303-651-8633.

Please join me in enriching the lives of our children one-hundred fold by granting them the opportunity to learn how reading can open the world to them.

Julia Pirnack

On April 23, Bright EYES will launch the Mayor's Book Club, which promotes literacy by encouraging 3 and 4-year-olds and their parents to read a new book together each month.

Annual Clean-up Green-up Campaign Begins April 7

The City's annual "Clean-up Green-up" campaign begins on April 7, 2007 and runs through April 28. This is an opportunity for community members to volunteer for the City's community-wide effort to clean up Longmont.

The goal is to generate participation from businesses, civic groups, schools, neighborhoods, families and individuals to help spruce up the City. Volunteers can pick a park, greenway, alley or open space to cleanup or an area can be assigned to you.

The kick-off for the month-long campaign is April 8, 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Izaak Walton Clubhouse, 18 So. Sunset St.

Again this year the City will offer coffee, donuts, and juice, and of course, the famous 35-gallon orange garbage bags to get you going.

For those who cannot come on the kick-off day, the spring "Clean-up Green-up" will run through April 28.

Participants will have their names printed in the Daily Times-Call after the clean up effort ends.

"Clean-up Green-up" Calendar:

April 7 - Campaign kicks-off at 18 South Sunset, 7:30 a.m.

April 11 - Downtown Alley-Sweep, between 2nd Ave. and Longs Peak Ave. Merchants sweep between 7 a.m. - noon (into the alley) and City sweepers will begin their sweep at noon.

April 14 - Large Item Stop-N-Drop, Public Works Maintenance Facility, 375 Airport Rd., 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. (See story on page 1)

April 16 & 23 - Tree Limb Pick Up, Public Works, Street Operations, will be picking up limbs and branches for residents at no charge. See page 1 for more information or call Public Works Operations at 303-651-8416.

April 21 - Arbor Day Celebration, Thompson Park, 11 a.m to 3 p.m., Come climb a tree, take a bucket truck ride, challenge yourself with some rope activities and have some fun with an obstacle course. Again this year there will be \$1 lunch, balloons and tree and rose bush sale. Also this year there will be an Art in Public Places dedication. (Rain date is Saturday, April 28) . Contact Ken Wicklund at 303-651-8449 for more information.



The Times-Call and the City of Longmont have sponsored this great event for many years.

Call Lore Blattner at 303-651-8446 for more information.

Tax Help Offered at Senior Center and Community College

Low-income seniors (less than \$39,000) and disabled persons can find free help with their tax returns at Front Range Community College (FRCC) and the Longmont Senior Center.

FRCC accounting students have completed Internal Revenue Service (IRS) training sessions and will help prepare and file tax returns for those who are eligible. The service is part of the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program sponsored by the IRS.

Tax preparation services are available on a first-come, first-served basis (no appointments) at FRCC near the entrance to Door 7. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays through April 14. No session will be held on March 24 or 31 due to the college's spring break. The campus is located at 2121 Miller Dr., Longmont. Free parking is available.

The Longmont Senior Center 910 Longs Peak Ave., hosts free tax preparation for low-income or disabled seniors, conducted by trained AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) volunteers on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. through April 12. Customers are encouraged to call 303-774-4722 to schedule an appointment. Customers without an appointment are seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Meet with City Council Members on March 27

Do you have a question or comment for City Council? Talk to two of them face-to-face on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

These informal meetings are scheduled at 6:30 p.m., prior to the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting,

This gives individuals an opportunity to speak directly with local representatives in a relaxed, casual manner.

The next opportunity to chat with Council Members will be on **Tuesday, March 27 from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Study Session Room** in the Civic Center at 350 Kimbark Street. Another meeting is scheduled April 24, 2007

For a complete schedule call the City Clerk's Office at 303-651-8649.

City Offers Free Irrigation System Efficiency Audits

City of Longmont Water Utility customers are encouraged to take advantage of free inspections of their underground irrigation systems being offered this summer.

Residents will receive customized recommendations to increase their irrigation system efficiency. The inspections will be conducted by trained interns who will evaluate system efficiency including clock settings, run time, soil type, root depth, precipitation rate and distribution uniformity.



A visual inspection of the system will also be conducted to pin-point repair items and offer suggestions for system improvements. Inspections will be conducted June - August 3 on a first come-first serve basis and are intended for turf areas only.

The irrigation inspection program is provided in partnership with the Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC). Participants will be asked to authorize the City to release their water use history to CRC for analyses purposes. To schedule an inspection, call the CRC at 303-441-3278, extension 17, or visit www.conservacioncenter.org.

Discover Longmont's Hidden Treasure

Come out to Sandstone Ranch this spring, and discover Longmont's hidden treasure!

South of the Sandstone Ranch Community Park lies the District Park, which includes the Sandstone Ranch Visitor Center - a nature and history museum housed in the Morse Coffin homestead. The Visitor Center is open free of charge to the public every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to Noon, and on the second and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (March-October).

In addition, take advantage of these free public programs in April:

Saturday, April 14, 12:30 p.m.—Wildlife Rehabilitation, presented by Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary. What do you do if you find an injured bird or mammal? Learn how we can help take care of wildlife in an urban setting. All ages.

Saturday, April 28, 10:30 a.m.—Behind the Scenes Tour. Did you ever want to go upstairs at the Visitor Center?

Or learn more about the transition of the house through the years? Or maybe some



juicy historical tidbits? Join us for an inside look at the 1880s homestead house and some of its secrets. Recommended for adults and accompanied children ages 8 and older.

Tuesday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 24, 10 a.m.—Nature Nuggets Preschool Program, This interactive program for children ages 3-6 and their parents will center on the topic of "Animal Homes" in April. Includes stories, hands-on activities and an easy craft. Choose which date is best for you.

The Sandstone Ranch Visitor Center can be reached by driving east on 119, past the intersection with Weld County Road 1. Take the second (easternmost) entrance to Sandstone Ranch (next to the Chevrolet dealer) and follow the signs to the Visitor Center/

Trailhead parking lot. A walking path takes you down to the Visitor Center. For more detailed directions or more information, call 303-774-4692.

City to Test Outdoor Warning System

The City of Longmont's Outdoor Warning System will be tested the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m, April through August. Longmont's system will sound Westminster chimes. Residents can tell it apart from the siren used in Hygiene that calls emergency workers into service. Hygiene's siren is never followed by a message.

Longmont's Outdoor Warning System is in place to provide a warning for people who are outside and may need to take cover during an emergency situation. In case of a real emergency, a siren will sound followed by a message pertaining to the emergency. If you cannot hear or understand the message, access your local media. The system will be tested for the first time on Monday, May 7. For more information, please call the Longmont Fire Department at 303-651-8437.



City Line

City Line is a monthly informational newsletter published by the City of Longmont for its residents. For questions about this publication call 303-651-8840



¿Le gustaría a usted recibir las noticias de Ciudad de Longmont *City Line* en español? Llame a la oficina del Administrador de la Ciudad al número 303-651-8601.