

To serve the off-shoots of this project. There may be regret in the morning .

## **City Paternalism**

[This from a few years ago illustrates some city councilors' attitude toward citizens.]

To: Goldenco

### **The City of Golden would like to set the record straight on the recent resignations of six city employees.**

State law prohibits the City from divulging information related to employee personnel files. The courts have ruled that the employee's right to privacy supercedes open records laws in such cases. City actions are public business and open to the public, however, there are a few exceptions, including personnel files. For that legal reason, the City is prohibited from discussing details of employee resignations.

We are aware this may create speculation and rumor, but must comply with state law, which unequivocally prohibits us from confirming or denying them due to the protections afforded all employees' rights to privacy.

Here's what we can confirm:

There were six resignations: two from the Public Works Department and four from the Parks and Recreation Department. Below are their names, titles and lengths of service:

David Anderson - Golf Maintenance Superintendent, 2 years, 10 months

Brandon Benedict - Recreation Supervisor, 9 years

Charlie Fagan - Parks, Recreation & Golf Director, 16 years, one month

Matt Hess - Recreation Supervisor, 9 years

Scot Lewis - City Engineer, 15 years, 2 months

Terry Tilkes - Utilities Superintendent, 8 years, 5 months

While six employee resignations in the span of a week is more than any employer would like, the City does employ 172 full-time and more than 425 part-time and seasonal employees. The City would like to stress that it would be wrong to assume that all of the recent resignations are related to each other. No current or recently resigned City employee is under any criminal investigation whatsoever.

The City will begin its regular hiring process soon and is confident the six positions will be filled with equally talented and dedicated professionals. The City will conduct a national search for its new Parks and Recreation Director. Former city manager of Grand Junction and interim city manager of Centennial, Mark Achen, will fill the position while the search is conducted.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have related to this issue and I will do what I can within the limitations of the law.

Sabrina Henderson

City of Golden Communications Manager/PIO

Office: 303-384-8132

From: Then Councilor

Sent: 4/20/2004

To: goldenco@yahoogroups.com

**Subject: [goldenco] RE: City staff resignations**

The only thing I can add as a member of city council is that :

1) I am not aware and do not suspect there is any tie in between the allegations mentioned on the "jeffco exposed" web site and any city employees or activities. The city is waiting for the county to complete its work and getting the certification of the old land fill site so that the city can build athletic fields on the city's surface leasehold at the site. The work to build the fields has been bid by the city and all funds to build are accounted for in the city budget.

2) I have no reason to believe any conditions exist which would suggest that there is a public interest or need to know anything regarding the recent resignations or any other recent personnel matters. This means there is nothing going on which is illegal, criminal or otherwise "going on" which would invoke the "whistle blower" laws or induce a judge to decide that these personnel matters should be open to the public. State law is clear on this and while members of council are sometimes privy to confidential matters, we are also obligated to respect the law and privacy of city employees.

3) I have heard much speculation and rumor and most of what I have heard is just that - speculation and rumor. All I can do is assure you that there is nothing illegal or criminal going on and that there is nothing more that needs to be made public at this time. I ask that you trust me and the other members of council to make this judgement as your elected representatives.

David Ketchum ...

[Former] Councilor - Ward 1 City of Golden

City of Golden

--- **In goldenco@yahoogroups.com**, I hope you will recognize Dave Ketchum's message for what it is, especially the last line which states "I ask that you trust me...to make this judgement as your elected representative". What a bunch of know-it-all paternalism. He should be asking, not telling, us.

Laura

**Subject: [goldenco] Re: City staff resignations**

Date: Apr 23, 2004

Once again, Laura McCall has chosen exactly the right word: paternalism, i.e., treating citizens like children. Once this way of dealing with the community takes hold, abusiveness follows like wet follows rain. Citizens start asking questions about...whatever, and the good civic mommies and daddies say, "How dare you! And after all we've done for you!" (Slap! "Get over it!") Legal obligation to the voters segues into "helpfulness" ("Look at all the wonderful volunteer activities we sponsor!") which then morphs into heavy-handed control and righteous indignation at the desire for accountability and movement for reform ("Who are these people? Did they attend Leadership Golden?"). Ketchum has been on the job two years and seems to have learned the lesson well. Way to go, Dave. You'll have the full Schenck down in no time. [Recall former mayor Schenck, "I will tolerate no dissent on this council."]

There is a robust and longstanding tradition of this sort of thing in Golden. The Coors family has modeled it for years. In particular, I remember back in the '70's (before the strike) when Coors hosted Christmas parties for Golden residents. They'd pour a few beers, show a ski movie, and send their guests home with personal hygiene products: combs, mirrors, and nail clippers stamped with the Coors logo: a pretty good indication of how they saw us.

Welcome to the Golden mindf\*ck. If you don't get how it works...you've already kissed the Heinie.  
--Bill Simpson

## **FRAUD ALERT!**

**From the Office of Jefferson/Gilpin Counties District Attorney  
Scott Storey**

## **Computer Caution**

On June 16, 2007, the FBI announced that they had discovered and were going to inform over 1 million home computer users that their computer had been hijacked to become a **botnet**. Botnets are created by hackers and malware writers who infect computers with viruses and Trojans that let them remotely control and take over a computer. They amass untold numbers of zombie computers from which they launch massive waves of spam, malware, 'phishing' attacks, denial-of-service attacks, identity theft, and to hide images of child pornography. Owners of these zombie computers generally have no awareness or sign that their computer is infected and controlled, at will, by someone else. The computer will typically operate normally; sometimes it will operate considerably slower when infected.

There is an insidious Post Script to this problem. The FBI warns that there will most likely be scam campaigns where con artists pose as FBI agents asking for information about you and your 'infected' computer so they can assist to cure your problem.

**A few suggestions:**

- ✓ **If you have a high-speed Internet connection, turn off your computer when not in use;**
- ✓ **The FBI will not contact victims online concerning this issue. Remember that a government agency, your bank and/or credit card company will not contact you by E-mail concerning financial or personal issues;**
- ✓ **Make sure you have a good firewall installed and that it is turned on. Personal Computer magazine ([www.pcmag.com](http://www.pcmag.com)) may be a source to evaluate firewall programs. Additionally, the Website for the Kim Komando National Radio Computer Program ([www.komando.com](http://www.komando.com)) will compare computer products and offer free downloads;**
- ✓ **Trend Micro, a computer software company, will provide a free analysis of your computer (they ask for a donation to a charity). Go to [www.trendmicro.com](http://www.trendmicro.com) and click on the 'Housecalls' icon. They will remotely scan your computer for viruses and other damaging infections.**

For more assistance, call the Fraud Hotline: 303-271-6980