Start the new year right by recycling

If you are looking for a New Year’s resolution that you can keep, start with recycling more. It’s a resolution that can have a positive impact in your community, and there are a variety of resources available including through the City that can help.

Lakewood has a wealth of information covering home recycling resources, recycling centers, hard-to-recycle items and more at Lakewood.org/Recycling.

**Curbside recycling**

The easiest step to recycling more is to use curbside recycling, which is typically provided by your trash service. Contacting your trash hauler to set up curbside recycling allows you to simply haul your recyclable items to the curb for pickup on a regular basis. If you live in an apartment or town home complex that doesn’t yet have recycling, you can talk with the property manager to request that the complex create an opportunity to recycle.

**Recycling centers**

You also have the option of using Lakewood’s Quail Street Recycling Center located at 1068 Quail St. The center is free and open seven days a week during the day, and weekdays are typically less busy. Sort your glass, paper, plastic bottles, cardboard, aluminum cans and scrap metal into the labeled bins at the center. An attendant is available to answer questions, and the center offers special recycling events during the year such as holiday lights and cooking oil recycling. Information about the center including a detailed list of what’s accepted is available by calling 303-987-7974 or visiting Lakewood.org/Recycling.

Recycling can also involve more than just paper, plastic, glass and cans. Rooney Road Recycling Center is available to Lakewood residents through a cooperative effort of several local governments in Jefferson County. It accepts household hazardous chemicals and wastes that shouldn’t be put in the trash or down the drain:

- Automotive products such as antifreeze, gasoline, used motor oil
- Cleaning products for ovens, rugs, bathrooms as well as solvents and aerosol cans
- Rodent poison, weed killer, insecticides, fertilizer
- Fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, fire extinguishers
- Paint and electronics including TVs, computers

**Lakewood history**

Before Lakewood became a city, the area supported farms and dairies such as the one operated by the Peterson family. Art Peterson, far right, was a descendant of the pioneer family from Sweden. Agriculture eventually gave way to commerce, and Lane’s Tavern on West Colfax Avenue was once a favorite hangout. Learn about Lakewood’s history on page 4.

Mayor’s Lakewood Linked spurs community projects including new pen pals

Sparking connections between young children and adults in their 70s and 80s might not be as hard as it seems, especially when Rose Stein Elementary students listened to the story of one of the first female Harley Davidson riders.

The motorcycle was a purple Harley, and it was ridden by a woman who was also a pilot, teacher and coach. It was a story told by a senior who lives at the Village at Belmar in Lakewood when her pen pal student asked about the adventures she had in her life.

“The seniors at the Village at Belmar just love their time with their pen pals,” said Cher Cruz, a member of the Lakewood Service Organizations Coalition (LSOC).

“This has been an exceptional experience for the kids” as well.

The service clubs “Dear Friend Pal” program between Lakewood’s Rose Stein and the Village at Belmar began this school year, and it will culminate in a face-to-face reception in May. Students write to ask their pals intriguing questions such as, “Tell me a time when you were courageous,” or even, “What is the one big unanswered question you have about life?”

The questions nudge the seniors to reflect on their lives, providing bits of wisdom for the students to absorb. The students, meanwhile, are working on their literacy skills in writing to the seniors.

The LSOC and members of the school district collaborated to develop the questions that incorporate Rose Stein’s International Baccalaureate learner profile traits as well as Superintendent Jason Glass’ new vision and strategic plan called Jeffco Generations that includes students taking an active role in the community. Along the way, the pen pals create meaningful relationships that began with a Halloween trick-or-treat event at the Village at Belmar. Currently 37 fifth-graders at Rose Stein are pen pals.

The coalition is spearheading this pen pal program between the students and seniors as part of its work to improve the lives of Lakewood residents through cooperation and coordination of service clubs such as the Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimist and Lions. Started two years ago, the coalition is part of Mayor Adam Paul’s Lakewood Linked initiative to engage community groups and organizations to increase the impact of the work they are already doing.

By joining forces, the clubs can be creative in their projects, reach more residents and bring more resources to the projects. The service club coalition has been modeled after the Lakewood Faith Coalition (LFC), which came together under the Lakewood Linked initiative several years ago to focus efforts on supporting schools with high numbers of low-income students. Now both coalitions are working together to continue to provide resources and volunteer support across Lakewood.

The service club coalition currently consists of nine organizations, and the faith coalition has grown to more than 50 churches and faith communities. The two coalitions work to connect with local businesses, government leaders, schools and other nonprofits to collaborate to address community needs.

Lakewood Linked also now includes the Council to End Hunger in Lakewood, and it consists of representatives from nonprofits, faith-based groups, schools, care facilities, local organizations.

See Recycling page 6

See Lakewood Linked page 8
Join the celebration of Lakewood's 50th anniversary

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2019, an important year for our great City where we will be celebrating our 50th birthday. While a young city by most standards, we are a community with a rich history that dates well beyond 1969. You could say we are wise beyond our years.

Here is a tidbit from our early history with the facts and portions taken from “76 Centennial Stories of Lakewood.”

The name “Lakewood” first entered Jefferson County records July 1, 1889, designating a proposed subdivision reaching from West Colfax Avenue south to West 10th Avenue and from South Pearl Street west through present day Teller Street. The developers were Colorado Gold Rush pioneers: William Austin Hamilton Loveland, his wife, Miranda Ann Montgomery Loveland, and Charles Welch. These entrepreneurs also had interests in mining, railroading, education, manufacturing and government.

In the following two years, what newspapers called “The New Town of Lakewood” received hopeful headlines. The Denver Republican told readers on Jan. 15, 1891, that “If promises of the owners be carried out, Lakewood will be transformed from a collection of ordinary houses and attractions into an extremely pretty place.” Loveland and Welch’s railroad, the Denver, Lakewood and Golden railway, and their railroad suburb died in an economic depression called the Panic of 1893. Loveland died 1894, leaving the name “Lakewood” dead until 75 years later.

For its first 100 years from the Gold Rush era until 1969, the area known as Lakewood was part of the largest unincorporated area in the United States. Its growth was topsy-turvy. The vast farms of its early years gradually dwindled into smaller acreages; population booms particularly after World War II brought countless problems. Outhouses were still very much a part of life here until the late 1940s. The 1950s began the era of planning and zoning, seeking to bring orderly development.

It’s important to know where we came from to know where we are going. The life of a city sees many phases and cycles, which create their own unique challenges. When we examine our history, we see times of growth. In fact, the 1990s saw our population grow at its fastest. We have also seen times where the population has stalled or decreased. While the future is hard to predict, we can look to the past and see a constant: Lakewood is a great city, a safe city, a prosperous city, and by working together we can carry these traits forward for another 50 years.

Building off the momentum of last year, City Council has had its first opportunity to review proposed changes to development. Many of the recommendations have come directly from the community, and over the next few months council will hopefully adopt measures that will help balance growth through smart development while minimizing the impacts to our residents and infrastructure. Please stay engaged in the process and share your feedback.

Council will have its annual planning retreat at the end of January. This is the time of year where we develop our work plan based on long-term community plans, current issues, projects and input from you. It’s important that we not only focus on the now but seek to plan for the future. Stay tuned for updates, and please reach out with your input.

I would love to hear from you. Please call or email me if you would like to have coffee or have me meet with your neighbors, and I will make it happen.

Trivia Question: Upon incorporation, what was the name of our city? Email or mail me your answer, and I will send you a special gift to help you celebrate Lakewood’s 50th.

Adam Paul
303-987-7040
APE@Lakewood.org

Ramey Johnson     Charley Able

Parks, drainage improvements coming to Ward 1

The new year is just a few weeks old, and there is a lot on the horizon for Ward 1. But we also want to look back at the past few months for an update of recent events and community accomplishments.

Our summer was punctuated by a boom: The Big Boom Bash that became our community’s Fourth of July celebration at Jeffco Stadium in Ward 1. More than 8,500 folks attended the 20-minute pyrotechnic show and the preliminary community gathering, which featured food trucks and a beer garden. The show, which received rave reviews on NextDoor and other social media sites, was choreographed to music and was broadcast on Mix 100.3 FM to residents within view of the fireworks could tune in.

The success of the event was the result of months of hard work by Lakewood’s Community Resources staff. Planning for the 2019 event is underway.

And students at Lakewood High School rocketed to new heights when the school’s HUNCH program (High schools United with NASA to Create Hardware) built a hydroponic plant chamber that is being tested aboard the International Space Station. The chamber could eventually lead to a way of producing food for astronauts aboard the Space Station and its successors.

HUNCH is an effort to “bring high school students new educational experiences with NASA projects,” according to the program’s website.

In November, Lakewood voters granted the City a nine-year exemption from revenue limitations imposed by the Colorado Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) as well as a mandate to retain the 2017 overage, some $12.5 million, for specific uses: police, infrastructure such as sidewalks and traffic control, as well as parks and open space. The revenues from the exemption and the overage will be accounted for in a special budgetary section to ensure accountability.

We both intend to lobby for equity in our ward’s lagging inventory of open space (Wards 1 and 2 have the least dedicated open space in the city). And the folks near West Bayaud and Cody Street will see the Meadowlark Cottages, former early childhood education classrooms, demolished and the parcel converted to a park during the 2019-2020 time frame. The current city budget allocated money to fund the project. An open house and other neighborhood outreach plans will determine the park’s amenities and use.

A significant drainage project in Ward 1 will be tackled over the coming months at McIntyre Gulch under Holland Street between West Second and West Fourth avenues. The project, a cooperative effort between the City of Lakewood and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, is expected to continue for five months, according to Lakewood’s Public Works Department.

And our ward is saying goodbye to a pair of longtime friends. Purvis Jewelers and Sears. Purvis, a 44-year fixture in the city’s retail community, is closing with the retirement of John and Pam Purvis. The pair not only have been strong contributors to Lakewood’s economy, they are also active and valuable members and benefactors of the community as a whole. Sears closed at Westland as its parent company struggles to reorganize to avoid liquidation.

City Manager
Kathy Hodgson
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Lakewood.org
New Year’s resolutions and the economy

It’s that time of year again. The holidays are over and goal-setting season has begun. As the new year begins, people tend to reflect on their previous 12 months and make goals to improve their lives. New Year’s resolutions are a tradition, and the two most common are to eat healthier and to get more exercise. But what do these resolutions mean for the local economy?

Colorado is a state with one of the fittest population by most national measures. Our population enjoys an active lifestyle with ample access to outdoor activities. People who attend one of the many private gyms here in Lakewood know that January each year sometimes feels like a crowded event. The rarely used treadmill in December now has a waiting list, and the morning yoga class — sparsely attended just before the holidays — is now a class of 54 people.

The difference, of course, is the New Year’s resolutionists, people who commit to better fitness and take advantage of longer term commitment membership prices in hopes of bettering themselves throughout the new year. While this provides a welcome infusion of capital to the fitness industry in January, it’s better for long-term economic sustainability (not to mention individual health) to have people committed financially and time-wise to a more fit lifestyle throughout the year.

It seems many people have trouble staying committed to their fitness resolutions, according to a recent study of local private gym chains in America. More than half of the members never return after the initial January sign-up date.

The entire private fitness industry, including gyms, fitness clubs and health clubs, is valued around $30 billion in the United States. Health clubs, alone, brought in a great deal of that revenue last year, and it’s no secret that fitness studios and private gyms receive a windfall from members who pay and then don’t take advantage of the facilities’ services. A recent study shows nearly 50 percent of Americans ditch their gym memberships by the end of January. Overall, only 22 percent of those who joined a gym in January made it through the whole year. Sure, smart fitness facilities manage both their finances and their demand for services, taking into account even these fitness dropouts; however, a more sustainable economic model lies in enrollees continuing their relationship with fitness throughout the year.

It’s also no secret that the more one goes to the gym, the less the cost per visit. For the individual, it makes better economic sense to keep going to the gym.

Other industries tie into this habit of people making New Year’s resolutions including eating healthier. Many grocery stores prepare by having coupons that are geared toward healthier choices. Some local grocery stores in Lakewood also have nutritional classes that help consumers make better choices when it comes to the food they purchase and eat. Resolutionists also look for dining out options with healthier menu choices available, and some local restaurants offer lighter fare in the first and second quarters of the year.

So, if resolutionists are working out and eating well, what’s next? Well, many support their goal of a healthier lifestyle with the purchase of some new workout attire. According to the concept of “enclothed cognition,” one’s attire affects the cognitive process, which can lead to buying new workout apparel. In other words, the process means new workout clothes can help create a mindset for achieving fitness goals. On average, Americans spend $34.34 per month on gym clothing, which can add up to more than $24,000 over a lifetime.

It’s up to each individual to defy the odds and remain committed to achieving a healthier lifestyle in the new year. And for those resolutionists who are trying to buck the dropout trend, perhaps an additional source of motivation will help: Do it to boost the local economy.
Forty thousand. That is the number of historical objects held in the public trust at the Lakewood Heritage Center. These 20th century books, postcards, photographs, clothing, farm implements and much more donated by Lakewood and metro area residents make up the museum’s collection. Only about 5 percent of the collection is on display at any one time as items are used to tell the story, for example, of the Streer dairy farm, the Gomez salon and beauty shop and the evolution of technology, transportation and the changing landscape of the city.

The Heritage Center wants to ensure that more of these artifacts can be seen and researched by the community because each week members of the public inquire about historic house photographs, mid-century toys or West Colfax Avenue motel postcards. People are searching for information to create exhibits, photographs to include in presentations or evidence of an ancestor living in Lakewood.

To accommodate these needs, the museum has been fully documenting the objects by describing, measuring, assessing their condition and photographing or scanning items appropriate for this during the last five years. About half the collection has been catalogued in this way, and the 50th anniversary provides an opportunity to do more. Enter the 50 objects for Lakewood’s 50th anniversary project. A committee, led by Collections Assistant Jacey Bonavia, has been charged with choosing 50 objects from the permanent collection to make accessible online, allowing the public access to the items when it’s inconvenient or impossible to visit the museum.

These items are significant to Lakewood’s history and relate to the museum’s interpretive themes such as agriculture, commercial growth, community culture, the Denver Federal Center, the incorporation of Lakewood as a city and other topics.

Visit Lakewood.org/HeritageCenter to access the database of objects such as a photograph of the 1937 Lakewood-Mountain fire truck and a 1969 Jefferson City road sign. Additional artifacts will be added to the online database every month this year.

Share your story: 20th century Lakewood
Help the museum add context to these objects and artifacts. If you see an item in the online database that you recognize or a person you know in a photograph, please contact us at CaiLew@Lakewood.org or 303-987-7878 to add more information to the entry. Your information will bring Lakewood’s 20th century history into the 21st century.

Do you have a personal story from the 20th century that is specific to Lakewood and relates to agriculture, commercial growth, community culture, education, transportation or water? Let the museum staff interview you by using the contact information above. The audio or video recording along with a transcript will be added to the museum’s current collection of more than 200 oral histories, and many of these will become available in the online database.

50 Objects for Lakewood’s 50th Anniversary

Juke Box (circa 1960)

Lakewood.org/50
#Lakewood50

50th anniversary turns into an amazing race

Participating in Lakewood’s 50th anniversary historic scavenger hunt spanned the generations for one Lakewood family and highlighted their special connection to the city. Steve and Donna DeVisser and Donna’s parents, LaVonne and Darrell Gretz, turned the hunt into a family activity and named their quest, “Amazing Race Lakewood, CO.” Everyone in the family played an important role in the adventure. Steve drove while Darrell navigated, and LaVonne and Donna were responsible for what they called “nag-ivating.”

Lakewood’s 50th anniversary historic scavenger hunt challenges residents to discover Lakewood by unfolding the past through nine clues available at Lakewood.org/50. Residents are encouraged to travel through the city and take a photo at each of the sites that provide the answer to the clues.

Together the foursome completed eight of the nine clues and solved the ninth after the fact. They successfully visited historic homes, farms, a restaurant (still in business 50 years later), a cemetery, a school and more.

“We had a successful adventure and a good time doing it together,” Donna said of their amazing race. LaVonne and Darrell are 85 years old, and their scavenger hunt marked the couple’s 50th anniversary of moving to Colorado when Darrell was transferred here for work in 1969.

Get involved in Lakewood’s 50th Anniversary Celebration with a new version of the scavenger hunt coming soon and other activities by visiting Lakewood.org/50.
Lakewood Cultural Center is celebrating the city’s 50th anniversary with a live request concert featuring tunes from the most beloved band making music in the 1960s. This April 12 and 13, catch Beatlemania all over again with “Yesterday and Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience.”

Beatlemania returns to Lakewood for city’s 50th anniversary

Lakewood Cultural Center forgoes accents and wigs and emphasizes your requests instead. “But it’s not your typical request show. Along with your request, we ask for the reason behind it, and we chat a little with the person who made it, which makes the show interesting and interactive,” said the show’s creator and band front man Billy McGuigan. What’s your favorite memory connected to a Beatles song? Share it on a request card just prior to the show and enjoy a one-of-a-kind experience with a setlist unique to your stories.

Advance purchase is recommended.
Projects underway for the year

Work to start transportation improvements and purchase important safety and protective gear for the Police Department has started as a result of Lakewood voters approving spending $12.5 million on those and other items.

In November, residents approved a ballot question to lift the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) limits on the City’s budget to allow Lakewood to spend those funds on police protective gear and safety-related needs, transportation improvements and open space and parkland purchases. The outline of the items those funds will pay for are listed below along with the status of the item.

**Police: $2 million**
- Police agent ballistic equipment: in process
- Taser replacements: delivered
- Patrol car light bar replacements: ordered
- Drone camera: delivered
- License plate readers for stolen auto enforcement: design work underway
- SWAT vehicle: ordered
- Police agent health and wellness assessment: assessments to occur this year

**Transportation improvements: $2 million**
- Second right turn lane for northbound Union Boulevard to eastbound West Sixth Avenue: design work to start this year
- Pedestrian crossing on Union at Sere Lane: design work to start this year
- Traffic signal at West Florida and Union: design work to start this year
- Shared-use path on east side of Wadsworth Boulevard south of Mansfield Avenue: design work to start this year

**Open space and parkland purchases: $8.5 million**
- To be determined

Recycling from page 1

TVs and computers
A small copay is required for household chemical recycling. Paint recycling is free, with the exception of aerosol cans, and electronic recycling includes a fee per item. Simply make an appointment by calling 303-316-6262 or visiting RooneyRoadRecycling.org. Materials can be taken to the facility during your appointment, or you can arrange for a pickup at your residence.

Hard-to-recycle items
What about all those other items that end up cluttering our homes when we no longer use them such as eyeglasses, mattresses, bicycles, appliances, old cassette and video tapes? Lakewood.org/Recycling has a list of companies that can handle hard-to-recycle items. The list is extensive, but these private companies might charge a fee and could discontinue services at any time, so call ahead to confirm their recycling services.

Zero waste
For the most dedicated recyclers, Lakewood.org/Recycling has a toolkit for learning how to create zero waste from your household. Zero waste refers to diverting all nonhazardous waste from the trash that goes to the landfill by recycling, composting, reducing and reusing items.

Lakewood’s Sustainability Division can help with questions about how to get started recycling more in 2019 by calling 303-987-7515 or emailing Sustainability@Lakewood.org.
New city entrance signs
Residents and visitors will begin to see new “Welcome to Lakewood” signs at the city’s entrances along major roadways that will incorporate Lakewood’s tree logo as a way to create an identifiable image and sense of civic pride for the city. Installation at 12 locations will begin this year, which is the 50th anniversary of Lakewood’s incorporation as a city. The new signs will highlight that anniversary and replace dated versions of the welcome sign, and they are one component of an overall program to bolster Lakewood’s identity and improve people’s ability to find their way around the city. Additional signs will be installed to help guide people to civic and business districts within Lakewood. Highway bridge overpass items, wayfinding elements and features to help guide people to civic and business districts within Lakewood. Additional signs will be installed to help guide people to civic and business districts within Lakewood.

New utility billing system coming
Lakewood is launching a new online system for paying City utility bills that will make it easier to pay water, sewer and stormwater utility bills. The new system will allow customers to set up online bill payments, e-checks, recurring or one-time payments as well as enroll in paperless statements and online review of bills and account activity. Bills starting in January will provide the website address for online payments and a new address for mailing payments. Online payments are strongly encouraged because credit card payments will no longer be accepted over the phone, and this change helps protect private information such as credit card numbers. For additional information, please call 303-987-7615 or visit Lakewood.org/RequestLakewood.

Generative Writing: Saturday, February 23, 2019
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m Lakewood Campus
Lost your writing mojo? This generative workshop with Amy Braziller and Elyse Marsh will help you fulfill your New Year’s resolution to restart your creativity and find your writing self.

Poetry: Saturday, March 16, 2019
1:00-4:00 p.m. Lakewood Campus
Whether you’re just starting out or returning to writing, jumpstart your poetic practice with Sandra Sajbel and Paul Gallagher.

$25 for each 3-hour workshop.
To register, email: sandra.sajbel@rrcc.edu

Agents receive top awards
Two Lakewood Police agents recently received awards naming them as the top in their field and recognizing their outstanding work. Agent Jaime Cardenas was named the Patrol Officer of the Year at District Attorney Pete Weir’s 2018 First Judicial District Attorney’s Award. The First Judicial District consists of Jefferson and Gilpin counties and has 13 law enforcement agencies, including 11 police departments and two sheriffs’ offices, with more than 1,000 officers. Lakewood Detective Paul Geiger received the 2018 School Resource Officer of the Year award from Jeffco Public Schools. The detective is the school resource officer at Lakewood High School.

ArtLine honored by business arts group
The 40 West ArtLine has been named one of the 2019 Business for the Arts Awards recipients by the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts. The awards are the only statewide award honoring companies and individuals demonstrating the power of arts to advance the state’s economy and strengthen community vitality. The ArtLine is a collaboration between Lakewood and the 40 West Arts District to create the four-mile walking and bicycling arts experience along the ArtLine, which creatively connects parks, neighborhoods, creative businesses and others in northeast Lakewood. The ArtLine opened last June and includes more than 70 pieces of artwork. Learn more at 40WestArtLine.org.

Nominate your sustainable story
Who inspired you to save energy? Take the bus? Recycle more? Tell us by submitting that person for Lakewood’s annual Sustainability Awards. If you know a neighbor, youth, local business or group that deserves to join Lakewood’s sustainability hall of fame, please nominate them for the 12th annual awards.

Awards are given in the categories of community sustainability, youth leadership, and City of Lakewood employees. Projects must have been completed in 2018 or 2019, and nominations are due by March 18. For more information and to submit a nomination online, visit Lakewood.org/SustainabilityAwards.

Past awards have recognized zero waste events, innovative and energy-efficient building developments, student energy conservation and recycling efforts, neighborhood garden programs and many more. Learn about the past winners on the sustainability website and see what inspires you.

To register, email: sandra.sajbel@rrcc.edu
The on-demand culture for watching movies, TV shows and other programs isn’t just for pop culture any more. It’s now available for government, and Lakewood is leading the way with a website for participating in City Council meetings and decisions without needing to attend a meeting or public hearing.

Welcome to Lakewood Speaks, which provides residents and community members the opportunity to review council agenda items and comment on-demand when it’s convenient to them. Material for the Feb. 11 Regular City Council Meeting will be available for review and comment at LakewoodSpeaks.org.

How it works

Residents care about what happens in Lakewood, but they don’t often have the time to participate in person. Now they can participate much like they would in person but with more options to educate themselves.

Lakewood Speaks offers the following options:

- Watch recorded videos of staff and other presentations.
- Read staff reports and other documents.
- Review any maps and other materials related to an agenda item.
- Ask questions of and receive responses from staff — and applicants for cases involving development in the city.
- Submit comments to City Council to be included in the public record.
- Use mobile phones, tablets or computers for all these options.

Agenda items for Regular City Council Meetings are posted 10 days prior to each meeting at Lakewood.org, and materials for public hearings will be posted on LakewoodSpeaks.org 10 days prior to the meeting. Residents will be able to make comments online until 24 hours prior to a meeting.

Lakewood Speaks has been used since August 2017 for the Planning Commission, which reviews land-use and development projects in the city. The effectiveness of the website for those cases led to expanding Lakewood Speaks for use with Regular City Council Meetings.

Public participation in the Planning Commission cases increased, and those who participated online more accurately reflected the demographic makeup of the city’s population. This means that residents from a broader age range reviewed documents and provided comments than occurs at in-person meetings. The online participation also happened most frequently during times of the day other than at 7 p.m. when the commission meets.

For more information or questions, please call 303-987-7505.