A season for giving

Growing up, Corina Garcia experienced first-hand the kindness of community through Boulder’s Youth Services Initiative. The program wasn’t as expansive as it is now, but she still remembers the group trips up to the mountains to go skiing or the days spent creating arts and crafts projects.

This holiday season, as she has done for the past 12 years, Garcia will give back to the same effort that offered her so much as a child. “YSI has had a big impact on my life, and it’s really cool to be able to work here and help knowing how much it meant to me,” said Garcia, who is a youth services leader with YSI.
After more than a year of construction, the Diagonal Highway Transportation Improvements Project is scheduled to conclude by the end of December. A ribbon-cutting celebration is planned for noon Monday, Jan. 23, in conjunction with Winter Bike Week, to highlight the safety and multimodal features provided by the project.

Work began in August 2015 to transform a section of the Diagonal Highway, between 28th Street and Independence Road, into a corridor and gateway to and from Boulder. The goal was to provide a safer and more efficient travel experience for drivers, transit users, pedestrians and cyclists. Improvements include a new, smoother roadway surface, a multi-use path, off-street protected bicycle lanes upgraded transit stops, rain gardens, improved landscaping, a plaza and public art.

The Diagonal Project project is part of the Regional Transportation Improvements Program and is an example of successful collaborative funding by the City of Boulder, the Federal Highway Administration and the Colorado Department of Transportation. The project team sought to balance noise and congestion impacts to those who live near or travel along the corridor with efforts to support travel, including restricting lane closures to off-peak hours, providing pedestrian/bike detours, working with RTD to support transit riders and maintaining access to area businesses.

The project improvements also support the city’s Toward Vision Zero safety goal of reducing the number of fatal and serious injuries caused by collisions by providing dedicated and protected travel options for all travelers.

As part of the project, 390 trees and more than 6,000 shrubs and plants will be planted, and this spring, the city will install public art within the median and at the new plaza southeast of the intersection of 28th Street and the Diagonal Highway.

Learn more at bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/diagonal-highway-28th-to-30th-streets-reconstruction-project.
One of the most compelling reasons to love Boulder is our willingness to address the most challenging issues – and 2016 has been no exception: Affordable and cooperative housing; short-term rentals; development impact fees; design guidelines for new buildings; balancing recreational and conservation needs on open space; homelessness; marijuana policies; inclusivity and civil rights; energy system transformation, to name just a few.

Not surprisingly, council meeting agendas have been packed. There’s been significant public participation at these sessions and at city engagement events – and a steady stream of emails from community members who have perspectives to share. While these types of discussions can be consuming and difficult, they are also a huge part of what makes me so proud to be the city manager for the City of Boulder.

We do not shy away from critical conversations. We welcome diverse perspectives. And we strive to find solutions that are rooted in best practices, common ground and shared values. Sometimes we get it right the first time – so much so that other communities seek to replicate what Boulder has done. Other times, we need more discussion and the benefit of time and data to capture important lessons and adjust accordingly.

In this year-end edition of the community newsletter, you’ll find four pages (pgs. 9 to 12) dedicated to reminding us about how many of these topics we have taken on together, and how much we have accomplished since last January.

As you can see, there are achievements in every one of our seven Sustainability Framework areas. As a reminder, the city has adopted a framework that spells out the attributes of a successful and well-balanced community. City and departmental work plans focus on continuous improvement in each area. All the items listed were intended to make Boulder even stronger and more special, and I’m particularly proud of those that have been achieved through passionate and meaningful community engagement.

Thanks to you, we hired additional public safety and code enforcement staff. We put Community, Culture and Safety tax dollars to good use, breaking ground in the $8.7 million Civic Area transformation effort, restoring the Eben G. Fine Park, installing pedestrian lighting on University Hill, and working with arts and cultural assets, like the Dairy Center and the Museum of Boulder, to complete or start significant improvement projects.

We developed a North Area Trail Study plan that respects the open space we all cherish and created a comprehensive strategy to enhance our community’s resilience. We worked with transit partners to improve bus service and continued to pursue the creation of a local electric utility that will help us meet ambitious, but necessary, energy goals. We began strengthening our connections with neighborhoods, and our library – with its exciting new makerspace – earned the coveted award of the state’s best library.

Unfortunately, there isn’t enough space to recognize all the milestones of 2016 – and I am very aware that this list is not comprehensive. Please don’t forget the importance of the day-to-day work that goes into keeping the city running and supporting our residents, businesses and visitors. Thank you to my fellow city employees who come to work every day determined to hear you, serve you and meet your needs.

As we enter 2017, it will be even more important to find ways to address our community’s emerging and complex needs, to include an even wider range of viewpoints, to confront fears and concerns, and to find opportunities where others see only problems. We’ve built a strong foundation, and I know, together, we can do even better.

In the meantime, I wish you and your family all the best during this holiday season.
What you told us about climate

Climate change is an issue that affects us all. To understand various community perspectives, values and ideas around climate action, the City of Boulder conducted a series of community outreach efforts over the past 18 months.

The goals of the engagement were threefold: 1) gather varied community perspectives around climate change; 2) provide useful and relevant climate-related information; and 3) inspire and mobilize community leadership and action.

In 2015 and throughout 2016, community members were invited to participate in presentations, surveys, dialogue meetings and focus groups to explore what it will take to get to the next generation of climate action. The input and ideas from these interactions were incorporated into a proposed Climate Commitment strategy document, which will be considered by City Council this month.

Throughout the various mechanisms for community outreach, there was strong alignment across the community in terms of values and beliefs regarding climate change, priority solutions and preferred implementation actions. While some differences existed among participants, particularly regarding equitable access to information and financial incentives, some key themes emerged from the feedback:

- **Climate change is occurring.** The majority of Boulder residents and workers surveyed believe that climate change is happening.
- **Well-being is a strong motivator.** Concern for individual well-being and that of others, especially future generations, is a primary motivator.
- **Some action steps are clear.** There was agreement that actions in the following areas are likely to be most meaningful: 1) increasing renewable energy; 2) enhancing public transportation and biking/walking options (in a way that equitably benefits Latino and low-income populations); and 3) exploring new land use policies to reduce in-commuting and promote low greenhouse gas modes of transportation.
- **Action is already happening.** Nearly 91 percent of Boulder residents and workers surveyed are already taking action to address climate change.
- **Increased resources will lead to further action.** With greater financial incentives and information, Boulder residents and workers are prepared to take more action to address climate change.

A final theme that emerged – worth examining on its own – is the importance of this being a communitywide effort. Participants repeatedly emphasized the power of collective action and the need to feel like when they take action, they are not on their own. Future climate action efforts – both those led by the city and those that stem from committed individuals and groups – will be most effective if we can share each other’s stories and celebrate successes.

We can’t wait to share your story!

The City of Boulder is asking for you to provide us with a lead on the climate heroes you know in your lives. Maybe it is someone in your family. Or a neighbor. Or a co-worker. We’d love for you to fill out a story card telling us who is taking action, what this person is doing and why you think it is important: bouldercolorado.gov/pages/climate-stories.

Then, click on boulderclimateaction.com, a new shared space the city and community partners have created to highlight areas of action and individual stories that could inspire others. Over the next few months, we’ll be posting short videos that demonstrate all the ways Boulder is already stepping up, as well as ideas for other ways you can make a difference.
On the heels of the Thanksgiving dinner for hundreds of families from underrepresented communities come two more big holiday celebrations. With a major helping hand from the Boulder Fire Department’s IAFF Local 900 union, more than 400 kids and teens will get to tear open a gift or two while surrounded by family and friends at holiday dinners on Dec. 8 and 15.

“It’s awesome to see a child that may not normally have the same opportunity others do during the holidays be able to interact with their friends and enjoy a meal and a gift,” said Scott Falconer, an engineer with Boulder Fire.

YSI, part of Boulder’s Parks and Recreation Department, doesn’t just swoop in over the holidays like Santa Claus. It is a year-round effort that exposes diverse parts of the Boulder community to art, good nutrition, the benefits of academic achievement and higher education, a healthy culture and support system. There are the ski trips that Garcia remembers so fondly, opportunities to go horseback riding or engage in cultural events, and much more.

“YSI is proud to help participants build skills that allow them to further themselves. It’s a passion everybody here shares, and it is really gratifying to be a part of this program,” said Alexis Moreno, YSI supervisor for youth and families. “We are able to provide transportation, scholarships and help with financial needs. And to have a holiday celebration where we can meet with the families, laugh, smile, dance and eat some good food together makes it that much better.”

Moreno, Garcia and Brad Lautenschlager, YSI program coordinator, are all quick to point out that the holiday program wouldn’t be able to do what it does without assistance. The Boulder Fire Department union raises and contributes more than $4,000 to the holiday effort – as it has for more than a decade – and firefighters will chip in to shop or wrap gifts as needed. And well before the gifts are handed out, Boulder Housing Partners helps to identify and place community members into the program. There are also plenty of opportunities for community members to donate money or time.

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Limiting waste at multi-family units

If you’re like many of us, the start of the new year is a time to take stock of what we have, what we need and what simply isn’t serving us anymore. Old belongings are thrown out to make room for new ones – and in smaller living spaces, like our community’s many multi-family residences, this can be even more challenging.

Boulder is working to become a zero waste community that reuses, recycles and composts at least 85 percent of what we throw away. Sending waste to the landfill is expensive and contributes to climate change. Boulder’s Universal Zero Waste rules are helping by requiring compost and recycling options everywhere you go in the city, whether that’s at work, at home or anywhere else in the community.

Now the city, in a unique partnership with Eco-Cycle, is helping to provide compliance assistance and working with property managers at multi-family complexes, such as apartment buildings, to support this goal.

Historically, these types of residences have had lower rates of recycling and composting than others. Over the past five years, the amount of recyclables and compostables collected from multi-family complexes has remained relatively stagnant, with the amount of waste kept out of the landfill hovering around 20 percent. This is dramatically different than single-family residences, which are generally keeping over half of what they throw away out of the landfill.

Multi-family units, which tend to have higher resident turnover, may experience more challenges with recycling and composting in part because of the educational challenges associated with what goes into which bin and where the collection bins are located. Also, many multi-family complexes do not yet have access to recycling and composting collection services. The city has been reaching out to multi-family property owners, managers and residents to tackle some of these barriers.

The first step in working with a multi-family complex looks at dumpster and bin sizes, waste enclosures and their locations, and volumes of waste and contamination levels. This information helps identify where improvements can be made.

The city helps property owners and managers make sure recycling and compost collection service is set up and identifies possible improvements. These may include expanding waste enclosures – the city has grant money available for this – or adding signs next to all trash, recycling and compost containers. All residents also receive educational materials in both Spanish and English and, if desired, can get free, countertop compost buckets for compostables and bags for recycling to help make the new service convenient, easy and understandable.

With the help of an on-site champion and coordination with waste haulers, participation can be dramatically increased. New residents should also receive information at move-in time about the location of collection containers and what material goes in which container.

If you are a property manager or resident of a multi-family unit that does not currently have service, please contact the Zero Waste Team for assistance at 303-441-1931 or email ZeroWaste@bouldercolorado.gov.
Use the Boulder Public Library digital services

The Boulder Public Library has much more to offer than paper books. Digital offerings include:

- **Audiobooks**
- **e-books**
- **Music**
- **Videos**
- **e-magazines**

### Media Services Available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OverDrive</strong></td>
<td>Most popular service. Great for recreational reading of e-books and audiobooks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>hoopla</strong></td>
<td>Perfect for movies, audiobooks, e-books and music.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ebrary</strong></td>
<td>Best for study and research.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RB Digital Mags</strong></td>
<td>Free popular magazines of all kinds.</td>
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Download and streaming is available on a variety of devices:

- Android phones and tablets
- iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch
- Windows Phone
- Kindle and Kindle Fire
- Windows PC and Mac
- Nook and Kobo

However, not all services work on all devices. Contact the library for more information.

### About Digital Checkout

Digital services are not unlimited. Note these rules:

- In OverDrive, materials may be checked out to one patron at a time.
- In hoopla, only six items per person per month may be checked out.
- Most services require use of free proprietary apps and software.

Technical help is available for free at the main library:

- **Tuesdays**
  - 6 to 7 p.m.
- **Saturdays**
  - 10 to 11 a.m.

#### Don't ignore your updates!

Be sure to keep all apps and software up to date.

#### And remember...

Not everything available in print at the library is available digitally.

For more information: **Call:** 303-441-3100. **Text:** 303-351-1955. **Visit:** ask.boulderlibrary.org

bouldercolorado.gov
Seeking advisory panel members

The Boulder Police Department is committed to a philosophy of community policing. This involves building partnerships with the community to share information and work together to prevent and address crime and crime-related issues. In mid-December, the police department will begin accepting applications for a new community advisory panel.

The panel will be a venue for open discussion regarding trends in law enforcement and other significant community issues, dialogue on community policing strategies and increasing public awareness about the department.

The panel will not be a review board of any specific police action, whether internal or external, and will not provide input or discuss specific employee personnel issues. A separate panel called the Professional Standards Review Panel reviews allegations of serious misconduct filed against department members and provides recommendations to the chief of police.

Our goal is to create a panel of 12 members representing a broad spectrum of viewpoints and diverse stakeholders within our community. Members will be expected to attend the department’s citizen police academy to familiarize themselves with department operations and functions.

The panel will meet six times a year on the first Thursday of every other month. Meetings will be held at the Boulder Police Department beginning at 6 p.m., and the first meeting is scheduled to be held in February.

We are looking for people who reside or work in the city of Boulder who are willing to commit to continuous improvement in police services in our community.

If this effort is something that you are interested in, please contact us via e-mail at CAP@bouldercolorado.gov or watch for our application process to open on Dec. 12. The application will be made available online at www.bouldercolorado.gov/police by searching community advisory panel.

We look forward to enhancing our partnership with the community to improve the quality of policing services, increase transparency and build a stronger foundation for sustainable public trust.

BEHIND THE MASK

Kindergartners from Crest View Elementary School mob Firefighter Michelle Schwerin, dressed in full fire gear, during a tour of the Boulder Fire-Rescue Station 5 on Oct. 26. Schwerin and others expressed to the youngsters that although firefighters may look and sound a bit scary in full gear, they are there to help and there is no reason to be afraid.
A look back at 2016

The end of the year is always a good time to reflect on accomplishments, lessons learned and so much more. And what a year 2016 was! The City of Boulder addressed a wide range of topics – from civil rights to housing to climate change.

Boulder works continuously to provide service excellence for an inspired future. To help with that effort, the city outlined a Sustainability Framework to provide a common understanding of goals and priorities related to the community.

The framework uses seven broad categories to help guide Boulder’s vision and to assist with strategic plans. The expansive list of 2016 accomplishments have been organized under each of these seven categories, which are detailed on pgs. 10 to 12.

We are proud to share these with you but are also humble about what remains to be done. As you set your New Year’s resolutions, we are setting ours.

Keep an eye out for the February/March edition of the community newsletter to review our 2017 areas of focus.
Livable Community

- Promotes and sustains a safe, clean and attractive place to live, work and play
- Facilitates housing options to accommodate a diverse community
- Provides safe and well-maintained public infrastructure, and provides adequate and appropriate regulation of public/private development and resources
- Encourages sustainable development supported by reliable and affordable city services
- Supports and enhances neighborhood livability for all members of the community

- Completed extensive community engagement and initial recommendations related to Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan update.
- Completed a Middle-Income Housing Strategy to identify priority tools and policies for creating and preserving housing opportunities for middle-income households.
- Completed analysis of options for redevelopment of the city-owned property at 30th and Pearl streets.
- Awarded $4.5 million in local and federal resources to support the creation and preservation of permanently affordable housing.
- Awarded $500,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds to support capital improvement needs of community agencies serving low-income residents.
- Adopted Boulder’s first Form-Based Code, creating a new approach to zoning and design review.
- Completed the $700,000 Eben G. Fine Park Stream Bank Restoration project in early summer.
- Broke ground on the $8.7 million Civic Area park improvement project for the Park at the Core, the largest Community, Culture & Safety funded project.
- Continued design planning related to the transformation of the Civic Area and increased diverse and exciting programming in this central gathering space.
- Completed the $3.85 million Dairy Center Theatre Improvements: Phase I completed in March & Phase 2 completed in October.

Environmentally Sustainable Community

- Supports and sustains natural resource and energy conservation
- Promotes and regulates an ecologically balanced community
- Mitigates and abates threats to the environment

- Implemented Phase 1 of the Building Performance Ordinance, which requires commercial buildings to measure and report their energy usage and helps identify opportunities for efficiencies.
- Completed analysis of long-term goal and short-term success measures for Boulder’s Climate Commitment; conducted significant outreach around areas of potential action by individuals and groups.
- Began implementation of Boulder’s path-breaking Universal Zero Waste Ordinance.
- Convened meeting of natural gas industry experts to chart strategies for conversion to clean electricity.
- Created solar mapping tool and worked in partnership with county to enhance solar and electric vehicle incentives.
- Filed supplemental application to the Colorado PUC for transfer of assets in order to create a city-owned and cleaner electric utility.
- Participated in negotiations with Xcel Energy about a possible partnership that could achieve community’s Energy Future goals.
- Completed major flood-repair projects and continued efforts to restore affected habitats.
- Drafted and approved the North Trail Study Area Plan, which was designed to improve visitor experiences; ensure trail and trailhead sustainability; and conserve natural, agricultural and cultural resources.
- Participated in CityLinks Climate Exchange Partnership with Shimla, India, focusing on the nexus between climate, resilience and water.
Accessible & Connected Community

- Offers and encourages a variety of safe, accessible and sustainable mobility options
- Plans, designs and maintains effective infrastructure networks
- Supports strong regional multimodal connections
- Provides open access to information, encourages innovation, enhances communication and promotes community engagement
- Supports a balanced transportation system that reflects effective land use and reduces congestion

- Expanded free public wi-fi, branded ConnectBoulder, to the Boulder Reservoir and Scott Carpenter park.
- Conducted needs assessment and feasibility study related to possibility of enhanced broadband offerings.
- Completed Boulder Public Library Community Needs Assessment, which is the first phase of the Library Master Plan update project.
- Launched the new BLDG 61 Makerspace in the north wing of the Main Library.
- Conducted a coffee chat series including a stop in each area of the community, visited over 50 neighborhoods and utilized public input to build the first Neighborhood Summit in over a decade.
- Collaborated with partner agencies to develop regional trails to expand reach and accessibility.
- Continued implementing key programs included in the Transportation Master Plan.
- Began significant improvement projects, including the Diagonal Highway CIP Project and the Baseline Underpass.
- Worked with RTD to implement new BRT and FLEX bus service.
- Allocated Neighborhood Partnership Grants that have allowed groups to host diverse events including a North Boulder day of celebration, a Peace Walk and a Jam Band Session.

Safe Community

- Enforces the law, taking into account the needs of individuals and community values
- Plans for and provides timely and effective response to emergencies and natural disasters
- Fosters a climate of safety for individuals in homes, businesses, neighborhoods and public places
- Encourages shared responsibility, provides education on personal and community safety and fosters an environment that is welcoming and inclusive

- Conducted more than 162 fire inspections in residences around the city.
- Supported proactive emergency prevention efforts, including home safety inspection checklists and specialized education and training classes with students and interested community members.
- Hired three new police officers.
- Added one Code Enforcement officer to help with the expansion of the bear protection zone.
- Participated in Hilliard Heintze data analysis and began implementing recommendations.
- Completed Resilience Strategy in partnership with 100 Resilient Cities.
- Announced plans to build resilience nodes at several key facilities in Boulder at the 2016 Clinton Global Initiative conference.
- Held a pilot class called Better Together: An Interactive Course in Disaster and Community Resilience.
- Completed the $2 million University Hill Pedestrian Lighting project in October.
Healthy & Socially Thriving Community
- Cultivates a wide-range of recreational, cultural, educational, and social opportunities
- Supports the physical and mental well-being of its community members and actively partners with others to improve the welfare of those in need
- Fosters inclusion, embraces diversity and respects human rights
- Enhances multi-generational community enrichment and community engagement

- Completed Draft Human Services and Homelessness strategies.
- Continued implementation of Homeless Action Plan.
- Launched community use of the neighborhood block party trailer, used at 21 Boulder neighborhood block parties, bringing residents together.
- Explored and facilitated partnerships and community-building opportunities, such as Trees to Opportunity program.
- Created Homeless Outreach Team (see pg. 15).
- Implemented Community Cultural Plan strategies: Public Art Policy; restructured grants program with a focus on institutional support; and implemented a youth council for the arts.

Good Governance
- Models stewardship and sustainability of the city’s financial, human, information and physical assets
- Supports strategic decision-making with timely, reliable and accurate data and analysis
- Enhances and facilitates transparency, accuracy, efficiency, effectiveness and quality customer service in all city business
- Supports, develops and enhances relationships between the city and community/ regional partners
- Provides assurance of regulatory and policy compliance

- Implemented HD channel, live streaming and closed captioning on Boulder 8.
- Grew city’s social media presence and engagement; piloted Nextdoor and Facebook Live.
- Produced and mailed five printed community newsletter in first year of two-year pilot.
- Completed a comprehensive review and analysis of Boulder’s Development Fees and Excise Taxes.
- Selected for a partnership with What Works Cities to focus on open data, as well as data-based performance measurement and contracting.
- Researched options and chose vendor to provide new software to present City Council agendas and videos in a more integrated and searchable way.
- Revamped central job website and improved recruiting strategies to attract top talent to city workforce.

Economically Vital Community
- Supports an environment for creativity and innovation
- Promotes a qualified and diversified work force that meets employers’ needs and supports broad-based economic diversity
- Fosters regional and public/private collaboration with key institutions and organizations that contribute to economic sustainability
- Invests in infrastructure and amenities that attract, sustain and retain diverse businesses, entrepreneurs and the associated primary jobs

- Created the University Hill Commercial District Pilot Employee EcoPass Program.
- Collaborated with partners to explore possible creation of a parking garage and conference center.
- Developed financial forecast tool and updated modeling of electric system costs.
A community is best defined by its people. From volunteers to city employees to neighbors helping neighbors, there is no shortage of hometown heroes in Boulder – and we are delighted to spotlight one per newsletter. This edition’s Hometown Hero is:

**Jack Box**
Columbia Cemetery Conservation Corps

Established in 1870, Columbia Cemetery is a who’s who of Boulder’s founders, pioneers, history, culture, artistic remains and military veterans. While visitors may recognize several of the cemetery’s occupants, such as Eben G. Fine, Mary Rippon and Tom Horn, one resident remained nameless until August 2016. Edward Baker, if alive, would have volunteer Jack Box to thank for reuniting his resting place with his identity.

Box volunteers with the Columbia Cemetery Conservation Corps (CCCC), a group established by the City of Boulder to assist with simple grave marker repair and conservation tasks. Box lived a half block away from Columbia Cemetery for several years, walking his dog there almost daily. As he neared retirement in September 2001, residing near the hallowed grounds provided Box with a new way to spend his time – he joined the CCCC.

“I noticed the cemetery needed work,” Box said. “It seemed a little neglected and thought it might benefit from some attention. I saw a way to contribute to the neighborhood.”

Although initially interested in conservation, Box soon became intrigued with the technical and historical aspect of headstones, particularly those of our veterans. Columbia Cemetery is the final resting place for 306 military veterans who served in 10 different wars, both foreign and national. The grave markers that represent these veterans are not simply inanimate markers of stone – they reveal clues about who they were, how they lived and how they died. Unfortunately, of the 306 veterans buried in the cemetery only 142 have marked grave sites.

Since the early 2000s, Box has dedicated thousands of hours researching and documenting military veterans buried in the cemetery. He began requesting military service records from national and state archives to apply for Standard Government Headstones from the Department of Veteran Affairs Memorial Program Service.

This program allows any deceased veteran to receive a free standard government headstone, as long as discharge occurred under honorable circumstances. To date, Box has successfully applied for and installed 19 government markers.

Aside from deposits in the “karma bank,” Box says, “another source of gratification is that many of these veterans had lain in unmarked graves for more than 100 years.”

In 2016, Box applied for nine additional headstones. Most notable is the research he conducted for veteran Edward Baker. Until August 2016, Baker’s gravesite was not only unmarked, but Baker was an unnamed Buffalo Soldier. Thanks to Box’s perseverance, Baker’s headstone was installed in October.

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Box continues to research the lives and service of not only the veterans in Columbia Cemetery, but also those in Valley Brook Cemetery, Niwot Cemetery, Superior Town Cemetery and Evergreen Cemetery. He also conducts military veteran research in cemeteries outside of Colorado.

ABOUT THE CCCC

In 1999, the city established a cadre of professionally trained volunteers, the Columbia Cemetery Conservation Corps (CCCC), to assist with documenting, cleaning and resetting grave markers, landscaping, providing educational outreach and performing minor repairs. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the program coordinator at 303-413-7232.
These current and upcoming City of Boulder construction projects are making Boulder’s roads, multi-use paths, greenways and other infrastructure safer and last longer. Visit bouldercolorado.gov/transportation for more information about these and more upcoming projects in and around Boulder and check BoulderConeZones.net for the latest construction updates.

1. **Wonderland Creek greenway improvement project**
   Wonderland Creek from Winding Trail to Foothills Parkway
   - **Duration:** Ongoing through early 2018
   - **Description:** Flood mitigation project that includes construction of multi-use paths and underpasses.
   - **Impact:** Intermittent road and path closures that could cause detours.

2. **Diagonal Highway reconstruction**
   Diagonal Highway between 28th Street and Independence Road
   - **Duration:** Ongoing through 2016
   - **Description:** Reconstructs vehicle traffic lanes, adds bicycle and multi-use paths.
   - **Impact:** Lane closures during off-peak hours.

3. **Valmont Road and 29th Street safety and multimodal enhancements**
   Intersection of Valmont Road and 29th Street
   - **Duration:** Fall through summer 2017
   - **Description:** Enhance existing multimodal facilities and improve safety with widened intersection, dedicated left turn lanes, new traffic signal and more enhancements.
   - **Impact:** Vehicle and bicycle lane closures and pedestrian detours.

4. **Boulder Creek at Arapahoe Avenue pedestrian bridge replacement**
   Boulder Creek Multi-Use Path at Arapahoe Avenue
   - **Duration:** Early 2017
   - **Description:** Replaces existing wooden deck bridge over Boulder Creek with a new concrete deck bridge.
   - **Impact:** Pedestrian and bicycle lane narrowing, intermittent closures with detours.

5. **Chautauqua pedestrian improvements**
   South side of Baseline Road near 10th Street to west of 6th Street
   - **Duration:** Fall through spring 2017
   - **Description:** Constructs sidewalk on south side of Baseline Road, upgrades transit stop, adds ADA-compliant crosswalks and ramps.
   - **Impact:** Parking restrictions, vehicle lane narrowing, and pedestrian and bicycle detours possible.

6. **Baseline Underpass**
   Baseline Road between Broadway and 27th Way
   - **Duration:** Ongoing through spring 2017
   - **Description:** Builds underpass to replace current street-level pedestrian and bike crossing to improve safety.
   - **Impact:** Vehicle lane narrowing and shifts, transit stops temporarily relocated. Possible pedestrian and bicycle detours possible.

Check out helpful RTD apps
Real-time and scheduled transit information is available at the touch of a button with a number of Regional Transportation District (RTD) mobile apps.

Apps enabled with real-time information allow you to know where your bus is and when it will arrive at your stop. To learn more about RTD’s real-time information and available mobile apps, visit www.rtd-denver.com/mobile.shtml.

Visit CoTrip.org for information about Colorado Department of Transportation projects or bouldercounty.org/roads/construction/pages/default.aspx for Boulder County projects.

Please note that start and completion dates could change due to factors such as weather.
Team reaches out to adults in need

With the sun shining and temperatures hovering around 70 degrees, it was unusually warm for mid-November in Boulder and unusually quiet at a resource center for the homeless. About 15 at-risk adults dotted the space just off the Pearl Street Mall, trying to secure a bus pass or inquire about a place to stay for the night.

“There’s nobody here,” Boulder Police Officer Abel Ramos said, looking around the room. “It’s such a nice day that some people might think what they need here can be done another day.”

When it comes to the issue of homelessness, here and in many other cities around the country, the situation is not always so calm. Increasing attention has been paid to the waves of seasonal “travelers” who come to desirable communities during warmer months with little more than the clothes on their back. In Boulder, this population adds to the pockets of homeless people who congregate along the Boulder Creek Path, the Civic Area and in other parts of downtown.

While potential solutions continue to be explored and debated, the city is piloting a new approach. The Boulder Police Department, working with Boulder Human Services and Municipal Court, has established a Homeless Outreach Team. The goal? To improve the overall health, safety and welfare of the community while balancing individual freedoms and meeting the needs of the homeless.

Officers Ramos and Jenny Paddock, who have decades of combined experience closely tied to the issue of homelessness, have taken up the outreach challenge. And both understand the task at hand.

“There is no one-size-fits-all solution,” Paddock said. “We are trying to break that cycle of jail, detox, emergency room and figure out what works for them. There’s a complex interaction between mental health, homelessness and addiction, and we are working on solutions that fit with the community of Boulder.”

The relationship between law enforcement and the homeless – and the larger community and the homeless – remains complicated. As Paddock and Ramos joked with Celeste Dekker inside the resource center, one man got up from the table and walked away, saying “I don’t like to be around cops.” Paddock smiled. “No problem at all, and we’re here if you need anything.”

For Dekker, the officers could not be doing better work. “Gold stars!” Dekker said. “They’ve helped me, they’ve been nice to me … they are wonderful.”

About the Homeless Outreach Team

The two-member Homeless Outreach Team is intended to be seen as a useful resource for disadvantaged individuals and not an enforcement arm. The team does not take regular calls for service, but instead is focused full-time connecting and assisting homeless individuals, paying specific attention to those who have received multiple citations or made multiple appearances in municipal court.

The team strives to get individuals into a regional coordinated entry system to make them eligible for housing vouchers. In addition, the team works with at-risk individuals on a case-by-case basis to see what programs are available and appropriate.

For more information, contact the Boulder Police Department: homelessoutreach@bouldercolo-rado.gov.
Get into the spirit of the season

Holiday lights, skating rink add sparkle to Civic Area

Grab a cup of hot cocoa or a gingerbread latte, then take a stroll this holiday season through the sparkle and shine at Central Park.

Once again, the park, located at 1236 Canyon Blvd., is lit up with more than 200,000 LED lights, as is the Pearl Street Mall thanks to the Downtown Boulder Partnership. The lighting display will continue to run through Feb. 20 as part of the city’s Snow Much Fun celebration – this year served “on ice!”

This season, Boulder welcomes the return of a petite WinterSkate ice skating rink to the Civic Area, presented by Boulder Creek Events. Weather permitting, the rink will run through Valentine’s weekend.

The rink is adorned with city-installed lighting and décor created from downed ash trees as part of the city’s #TreeOpp project. You can find it at the Civic Plaza on 13th Street, next door to the Dushanbe Teahouse.

For information regarding Winterskate hours of operation and skating rates, visit bceproductions.com/winterskate.

In addition to enjoying the lights and ice of Snow Much Fun, the city looks forward to presenting free community performances at the Glen Huntington Band Shell. Take a ride on The Polar Express at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10. Boulder Parks and Recreation will host a free showing of this family favorite movie for all to enjoy.

To discover all upcoming events happening at the Civic Area, please visit bouldercolorado.gov/parks-rec/civic-area-event-links-2016. To learn more about Snow Much Fun, check out snowmuchfun.org.
How to recycle holiday leftovers

Along with joy and good spirits, the holiday season tends to bring a lot of waste along with it. From Christmas trees and wrapping paper to batteries and food scraps, it can seem like there is no end to the trash that piles up.

To help, the City of Boulder and Boulder County have made a number of recycling options available to the community. Below is a list of drop-off centers and specific locations to drop off certain items.

More information is available at ecocycle.org/holiday-guide.

**Holiday Materials Recycling**

Boulder County Recycling Center
1901 63rd St., Boulder; open 24 hours.
• Wrapping paper

Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility (HMMF)
1901 63rd St., enter at the Boulder County Recycling Center, follow signs. Open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.
• Rechargeable and alkaline batteries

Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials
6400 Arapahoe Road, Boulder. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Fees apply for some materials. For a full list and prices, visit ecocycle.org/charm.
• Electronics and appliances;
• Holiday string lights and extension cords;
• Food scraps and cooking oil;
• Bubble wrap and plastic bags;
• White block foam and wrapping paper

**Tree Recycling**

(Remove all tinsel, lights, stands, etc.)
Yard Waste and Wood Drop-off Center
5880 Butte Mill Road. Curbside collection is also available; call 303-444-2037 or visit westerndisposal.com.

**Do Not Recycle**

• Packing peanuts;
• Dark envelopes — and be sure to reuse those holiday cards as next year’s gift tags.

Update on US 36

A change is coming to the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) express lanes on US 36. Starting Jan. 1, 2017, the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV), or carpool vehicle, requirement will change from HOV 2 to HOV 3.

To use the US 36 express lanes without having to pay a toll, HOV 3 commuters must have a driver and at least two passengers, along with an ExpressToll account and switchable HOV transponder to indicate their status as HOV users.

Options for using the US 36 express lanes now and after Jan. 1, 2017, include:
• Carpool with a driver and at least two passengers (effective Jan. 1, 2017) and drive the express lanes for free;
• Use the free general purpose lanes;
• Ride the bus – visit rtd-denver.com for more information;
• Pay a toll – go to expressstoll.com to get a pass and pay lower tolls.

More information about the US 36 Express Lanes is available at codot.gov/programs/express lanes.
Putting Innovation on the Map

Whether providing you with updates about the condition of a favorite hiking trail, illustrating comprehensive planning choices, or optimizing snow plow routes in the winter, Boulder has invested in innovative mapping technology and data to make smarter decisions and provide more information about your city.

What is GIS?

A Geographic Information System (GIS) uses computer-based tools to capture, analyze and display data related to positions on the Earth’s surface and to identify relationships, patterns and trends using maps. The city uses GIS to improve spatial analysis and decision-making, and to make communication and service delivery more efficient.

Case in Point: Tracking Potholes

Report a pothole, and you do more than help alert city crews about a needed repair.

You also add to the city’s GIS data records, which includes the location of every pothole.

This data helps staff monitor street conditions and prioritize street maintenance.

A Versatile Set of Tools

- After several snowstorms in spring 2016, the city used GIS data to track progress in a special tree limb collection program across the city.
- The city provides an online map of current development review projects, powered by GIS.
- Thanks to GIS, you can find up-to-date information about road construction and closures at the Boulder Cone Zones website.

Learn More: bouldercolorado.gov/maps

Explore Interactive Maps • Download GIS Data • And More!
Once the summer’s hustle and bustle is over, quiet descends on the forest. This is especially true of the summit of Flagstaff Mountain. When the road to the summit is closed for the season at the end of October, the summit becomes a seldom-visited place of peace. Snow billows and drifts across the roadway, capturing animal tracks. Pine branches glisten with ice or bend under the heavy weight of snow. Try hiking a loop from the parking lot at Realization Point up the Ute trail and back along the road. Or if you’re more ambitious, drop down the Chapman Trail and loop back on Tenderfoot. Watch for animals. The forest may be quiet, but it’s not sleeping!
This community newsletter is created by the City of Boulder to share local government news, information, initiatives and events with residents.

It will be printed and distributed bi-monthly through 2017. You also can sign up to receive an electronic version in your email inbox by visiting bouldercolorado.gov/newsletter.

We welcome your feedback!

If you have suggestions for future stories you’d like to read, please email them to communitynewsletter@bouldercolorado.gov.

In keeping with Boulder’s sustainability values, the paper used for this newsletter contains recycled content and the printer is FSC certified, which means they follow standards required by the Forest Stewardship Council. Please recycle this newsletter after use.

City Manager
Jane Brautigam
303-441-3090
brautigamj@bouldercolorado.gov

Important City of Boulder Phone Numbers

Emergency
911

Non-emergency dispatch line
303-441-3333 (24/7)

City switchboard
303-441-3388
Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.