

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Doug Tisdale

"The way lies past these clouds of light."

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Great accomplishments are seldom easy. The path is strewn with difficulties that may in reality be only small pebbles, but which appear to be as great as the prodigious stone that Sisyphus struggled with in Homer's tale of *The Odyssey*. Thus has been the tale of our new Joint Public Safety Facility in Cherry Hills Village, dedicated on January 12, 2013. Our Villagers will remember that plans to build a new Village Center resulted in a sea-change on Council in 2006, after three years of planning for a new facility. Following that well-intentioned but over-ambitious exercise, the new Council empanelled a Citizens Commission on the City Center. The Commission concluded that our Village Center did need a great deal of work, beginning with a solution to the problem of a severely constrained Police Department and a Fire Station that needed to be replaced in order to have South Metro Fire Rescue Authority maintain its presence in the heart of Cherry Hills. After almost seven years of analysis, we dedicated that new facility. Here are excerpts from your Mayor's comments at the dedication of that new state-of-the-art facility.

This is a grand occasion: the dedication of the Joint Public Safety Facility for the Cherry Hills Village Police Department and the South Metro Fire Rescue Authority.

There are few tasks more intimidating than speaking at the dedication of a new public building for a city. The words spoken by an elected official will perhaps be quoted in the newspaper. They may be repeated by city employees in the future. They may be remembered, favorably or unfavorably, at the next election. So, in the ordinary city, this is a daunting task.

But in the unique community of Cherry Hills Village, it is an almost overwhelming task. And that is because our residents are some of the most discerning, educated and committed residents in the country. And also because this exercise doesn't happen very often in Cherry Hills Village. Look across the street: the Village Center was opened in 1963 – fifty years ago. The Public Works addition was built in 1973 – forty years ago.

So dedicating a new public building in Cherry Hills Village is not a frequent occurrence. Moreover, I understand that this building may well be in use for the next half century. Therefore let me take the first three minutes of that next half century to share three thoughts with you.

My First Thought: In the Book of Genesis, the first words that Moses records being said by God are, "Let there be light." An English philosopher made the observation that Light was God's eldest daughter. And he noted that Light is a principal beauty in a building. This building is indeed endowed with that principal beauty of light. The windows on the west side will forever let in God's eldest daughter to shine light on the work done there. And that is a fitting symbol, as government work should always be conducted in the light.

My Second Thought: It has been said that there are three things to be looked to in a building: that it stand on the right spot; that it be securely founded; and that it be successfully executed. I am confident that this new Joint Public Safety Facility does stand on the right spot, that it is securely founded, and that it has been successfully executed.

My Third and Final Thought: I would like to take note of the words of John Ruskin, an art critic and philosopher, who said "There should not be a single ornament put upon great civic buildings, without some intellectual intention." By that he meant that there should be careful thought given before adding any ornamentation to a civic building. That it shouldn't be placed there by accident or without careful thought and consideration. If you look at this building, you will see that there is only one single ornament on it: the dedication plaque next to the front door. Every other feature of the building serves a function. It has a structural purpose. Only that plaque serves as ornamentation. And it has been placed there with a very specific intellectual intention: to honor, to appreciate and to applaud the visionaries who succeeded, after more than a decade of study and hard work, in bringing this building to reality.

And so now I want to highlight the contributions of some of these individuals.

First, let us acknowledge our partners in this great endeavor: the South Metro Fire Rescue Authority. The cooperation of **Chief Qualman, Deputy Chief Turner, the South Metro Board and Staff** made a project that could have been difficult extremely easy indeed. Thank you for what you have done, and thank you for ensuring state-of-the-art fire and rescue services in Cherry Hills Village being located in the very heart of our Village for the next half century!

Next, this project came about because of the commitment of a dedicated volunteer group of elected officials, our City Council: **Mayor Pro Tem Russell Stewart and Councilors Alex Brown, Mark Griffin, Harriet Crittenden LaMair, Scott Roswell and Klasina VanderWerf.**

Next, the building process was overseen by the tireless efforts of **Brad Dean** from Adolfsen & Peterson Construction.

Next, the steward of our municipal ship of state is our **City Manager John Patterson.** Thank you, John, for your hard work on this project.

Next, a City Manager is made successful by surrounding himself with quality staff, and Cherry Hills Village is blessed with an exceptional staff, all of whom worked diligently to bring this building about. Special thanks to **Community Development Director Rob Zuccaro, Police Chief Michelle Tovrea** and especially **Finance Director Karen Proctor**, who got all the bills paid.

Please go to page 11, right hand column, for the rest of "Message From the Mayor."

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Mayor's Message *continued from page 2*

Next, we express sincere appreciation to the citizens of Cherry Hills Village for their support of this project, but most especially to our neighbors here on Meade Lane. You put up with noise and dust and inconvenience and we thank you for your patience!

I've saved two people for last because of their very special importance.

When we talked about the names that were to appear on this dedication plaque – this ornament that was placed on this civic building with intellectual intention – we never even hesitated about including on it the name of my predecessor in office, former **Mayor Mike Wozniak**. Mike inspired and championed the process that finally got the City to build this new building and, Mr. Mayor, we thank you.

Lastly, we take a special moment to thank the man who shepherded this building from groundbreaking to completion. In just over nine months he delivered a modern 20,000 square foot special purpose building: on time and on budget. Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you our Public Works Director and Deputy City Manager, **Mr. Jay Goldie!**

As you look upon that dedication plaque over the next fifty years or more, remember the personal commitment and dedication of these people, all of these people: elected officials, staff and citizens. Regard them. Respect them. And thank them!

CHERRY HILLS' PROFILE GROWS

Cherry Hills continues to grow in influence and prominence throughout the Denver Region. In the past weeks your Mayor has been elected to the Executive Council of the Denver Metro Mayors Caucus, the leadership group of Mayors in the Denver metropolitan area. In addition, the Mayor has been elected to the Administrative Committee of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), the organization of nine counties and 47 municipalities that constitute the Denver Region (an area that is roughly the size of the state of Connecticut). Your Mayor has testified in recent weeks before the Colorado General Assembly on pending legislation affecting municipalities. And, at the invitation of the Mayor, the principal official at Denver Water responsible for setting water rates appeared before Council to discuss our water rates, and Congressman Diana DeGette met with the Mayor, several Councilors and City staff (the first time the Congressman has met with Village elected officials in the ten years that she has been our Congressman).

I pledge to all Villagers that I will continue to ensure that Cherry Hills has a voice that is effectively and powerfully heard wherever and whenever it is necessary or helpful for us to be heard.

Doug

DID YOU KNOW? The Cherry Hills Art Commission is working to establish criteria for the art which will be placed in the Joint Public Safety Facility. One of the Commission's goals is to encourage CHV artists to utilize the Community Room space.

NEXT CRIER DEADLINE - MARCH 22ND