

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Snow shouldn't jam city every time

The city of Fort Collins passed a new sales tax in November. I thus expected advance preparation for the well-predicted snow/deep freeze, at least so folks would still be inclined to get out and generate tax revenue.

But preparation for snow did not happen, so none of the snow melted on contact with roads and ran off into the sewer system. All the snow piled up and got packed down. Now traffic is tied up on Stuart as the snow/ice is scraped with heavy machinery and loaded into big dump trucks. It just looks silly.

Why is snow that doesn't melt in two days a surprise every time? The city currently has an opening for a sales tax manager, monthly salary range \$4,826-\$6,733. Perhaps he will manage to funnel money into maintaining mobility for the sake of commerce.

If salting roads is too stressful in this semi-arid environment, perhaps consider hydronic snowmelting: bury pex tubing in the road surfaces, at least around the sewer drainage grates that freeze over causing ice back-up, then run a hot water/glycol mix through the pex tubing.

Hydronic snowmelt systems are not new, and control systems have advanced. Pre-heating the water with the sun and giving our municipal electric utility some winter load to help balance out the summer peak load (air conditioning) could make some sense. If

additional research is needed, isn't there a university in town?

Ann Malone,
Fort Collins

Development must address concerns

As a resident of Ridgewood Hills, I am not opposed to the proposed units being built, but significant concerns must be addressed.

The city and Thompson School District taxpayers shouldn't have to shoulder the development burden; the development itself should pay for added infrastructure needs. Those would include a stoplight at College Avenue and Triangle Road to accommodate additional traffic, widening and resurfacing Trilby Road west of College, especially a right turn lane onto south-bound College from eastbound Trilby, adequate plans for drainage, plans to steer traffic away from Avondale, as that will be the shortcut the apartment residents will take to get to Trilby. Not doing so would introduce large volumes of traffic into an area where there are already large numbers of neighborhood children.

Another must would be to put a plan in place to accommodate the additional elementary school students with the Thompson School District before the development commences. If the city does not insist the development shoulder these infrastructure costs to be completed concurrently, infrastructure monetary support must be budgeted from city

coffers so that the work can be completed concurrent with the development's completion. If neither option is acceptable, neither is the development.

John W. Thomas,
Fort Collins

If you want your share, work for it

In reading the letters of those who think it is terrible that the rich received tax cuts on the recent compromise, if you were informed, you may have understood that there were no tax cuts. The taxes that were in place were simply extended for two years.

Secondly, I have had a bellyful of the crying that the rich don't need their money and you should have some of it. My opinion is, if a person has the energy, desire and gumption, they are entitled to every dime. If you want your share, get an education... don't drop out of school.

Be willing to take a chance, maybe even go broke in trying, but keep on trying just as those who are "rich" did.

There are many of us who, on a modest income, accomplished a lot. We sent our children to college, bought our home and set aside money for a rainy day. We did what we needed to do to accomplish our goals.

Class envy is a disease that is tearing this wonderful country apart and destroying incentive to excel. If you want your share, do what is necessary to achieve it.

Grover Kelly,
Windsor

ESBURY

1/20/2011

MALLARD FI

