

# The Daily Post

from **Local Color**®

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Raymond Gonzales, Brighton Economic Development Corp. president and CEO, is welcomed by Craig Carlson, of Carlson Parkhill, Monday during a reception to introduce the new EDC director. His wife, Lisandra, is behind them at left. *Daily Post photo*

## New EDC CEO welcomed home

Raymond Gonzales, the new president and CEO of the Brighton Economic Development Corp., was formally introduced Monday to members of the EDC by City Manager John Bramble during a reception at United Power. Gonzales and his wife, Lisandra – both Brighton High School graduates – were welcomed home.

“I have worked in many communities. Some are growing, some are not,” he said. Those that are growing, he said, all share characteristics of innovation and collaboration that eliminate boundaries and they work for “smart, fierce growth.”

“Brighton is on the brink of becoming one of the state’s prime communities,” Gonzales told the audience that included city councilors, city department heads and

local business people.

The former South Elementary School student recalled hanging out at the Senior Center with his grandmother. He recalled a community with fewer opportunities.

“As I grew up, there wasn’t much to do” in town he said. Taking in a movie required a trip to Northglenn or Westminster. Shopping for clothes also meant a trip out of town.

After graduation, he and classmates felt the need to leave town for opportunities, he said. Many of his peers have not returned.

“Why did I come back?” As their children grew older, he said, he and his wife decided they wanted their children to have “the quality of life that can only be found in a town like Brighton. We have come home for good,” he said.

The meeting also served as the EDC Summer Update and Bramble shared some highlights of progress at Prairie Center. A mid-October opening is expected for the Michaels arts and crafts store. J.C.Penney will open in March or April. And Buffalo Wild Wings will open in the first quarter of 2009.

## Three days

### Today

10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – **Story Time**, Brighton Library, 575 S. Eighth Ave., 303-659-2572

6 p.m. – **City Council study session**, City Hall Heritage Room, 22 S. Fourth Ave., 303-655-2043

7 p.m. – **School District 27J Board meeting**, Harshbarger Educational Services Center, 18551 E. 160th

### Wednesday

9:30 a.m. – **County Board of Commissioners meeting**, County Building, 450 S. 4th Ave., 303-659-2120

9 a.m.-2 p.m. – **Adams County Quilters**, Fairgrounds Parks Meeting Rooms, 303-288-1920

### Thursday

10 a.m.-2 p.m. – **Open House to honor Sharon Jaeger** and her 30 years of service to Valley Bank & Trust upon her retirement, Fourth and Bridge branch

10:30 a.m. – **Story Time**, Brighton Library, 575 S. Eighth Ave., 303-659-2572

5-7 p.m. – **Reception celebrating Dr. Rod Fair’s 25 years in practice**, Business After Hours, Brighton Eye Associates, 1001 E. Bridge

## Gas gauge

**\$3.69<sup>9</sup>** Lowest unleaded price at 6:30 p.m. Monday:

• Western station on East Bridge Street

## Funeral notice

**Audrey L. Larson**, 78, of Brighton, died Aug. 21. She was born in McDonald, Kan., to Sylvester and Emma (Ohlson) Loker. Audrey moved to Lochbuie in 1962 and to Brighton in 1968. She was a member of the VFW Womens Auxillary 284. Survivors include husband, Dick, of Brighton; sons Kelvin (Rita) of Lochbuie, Gerry (Venita) of Milliken, Buddy (Kathy) of Montrose; daughters Rhonda (Mike) Bremkamp of Brighton, Brenda (Mike) Petrie of Henderson, Ann (Mike) Krueger of Northglenn; sister Phyllis Clendenan of Palatine, Ind.; brother Keith Loker of Springdale, Ark.; 13 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Funeral services 10 a.m. **today**, Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Full obituary: [Tabor-Rice](#).

**Gil Weitala**, 67, of Thornton, died Aug. 22. Funeral Services, 10 a.m. **Wednesday**, Summit of Peace Lutheran Church, 4661 E. 136th Ave., Brighton.

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Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; **4th & Bridge**; local musicians, theatre troupes, dance troupes, DJs, more. **Booking info:** David, 303-655-2176.