

Front Porch

A publication of Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

STAPLETON

DENVER, COLORADO

JUNE 2004

Stapleton Challenge

Mayor Hickenlooper Walks the Talk



Mayor Hickenlooper bounds down the stairs leaving City hall.

Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper never met a challenge he didn't like. Against heavy odds, he left a career in the energy industry in the 1980s to open a string of successful restaurants. Later, he bucked even heavier odds when he won the 2003 Denver mayoral race in his first campaign for public office.

Now, however, Mayor Hickenlooper may have met his match. Recently he accepted a challenge from Beverly Haddon, chief executive officer of The Stapleton Foundation and a member of The Active Living Partnership at Stapleton (ALPS) to head up one of two teams of thirty people competing to see which team could walk the most steps over a period of three weeks to promote more active and healthier lifestyles. Called "30 on 30," the competition involves wearing watch-sized step counters on a waist band or belt that record the number of steps taken each day between May 3rd and May 24th. The winning team in the contest receives a prize of \$1,000 from The Stapleton Foundation to be donated to the Denver Public School of the winning team's choice to promote more active and healthier lifestyles for children. *(continued on page 10)*

2004 Founders' Day Kicks Off Stapleton Concerts & Movie Series

On June 5th, The 2004 Founders' Day celebration will continue a new Stapleton tradition as a great place for family fun with the kickoff of the inaugural Stapleton Under the Stars Concert Series showcasing three bands. All are local talent.



This year's celebration will begin at 4 p.m. on Founders' Green in the new E. 29th Avenue Town Center where a "mini urban farm" comprised of animals from The Urban Farm at Stapleton will undoubtedly be among the

(continued on page 7)

Westerly Creek to Search for New Principal

Westerly Creek Elementary School will begin its second year next fall with a new principal. Ms. Trish Kuhn, the current principal, has decided to move on to new challenges. Ms. Kuhn said she is considering several job options but has not yet made a decision. She was hired two years ago to oversee a year of start up activities before students arrived for the first time in the summer of 2003.

Richard Smith, assistant area superintendent for northeast Denver, commended Ms. Kuhn for her dedication and hard work as she faced the challenges of opening a new school in a new community.

"We appreciate the leadership Trish has provided to Denver Public Schools the last two years," Smith said. "She was instrumental in organizing the school and choosing top notch teachers."

"And opening up a new school is a great challenge," Mr. Smith said. "We will really miss her and we wish her all the best in her new assignment."

Westerly Creek's Collaborative School Committee has followed district policies and established a nine-member principal selection committee comprised of Mr. Smith, three teachers (Andrea Harper, Nita Baumann and Marie Salter) one non-teaching staff member (Tara Grant), three parents (Sara Christian, Anna Noble and

Jim Logue) and one community member (Brian Weber, The Stapleton Foundation). The committee will be trained on the selection process, candidate screening and interviewing. The committee will incorporate in their selection process comments in a recent survey from parents

and staff about characteristics they desire in a principal.

That survey revealed that the characteristics desired in a principal by parents, teachers and community members include valuing parent and community involvement, possessing good leadership and organizational abilities, and having good communication skills. They also want a person who is supportive of teachers and the staff, cares about children, and is fair *(continued on page 15)*



Westerly Creek School

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2 Stapleton
Events
Calendar

Charity
Chase
June 5

5

Stapleton
Residents Debate
Bus Route

13



Matthew Moon,
Founders' Day Concert June 5

EVERY MONTH

First Tuesday of each month

Stapleton Residents'
Social Events Committee
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Stapleton Visitor Center

Third Thursday of each month

Stapleton Development
Corporation Citizens
Advisory Board 7:30 a.m.
7350 E. 29th Ave., Suite 300



Every Wednesday

Music Together 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Westerly Creek School

Every Tuesday

Stapleton Strollers
9:30 a.m., 29th and Valentia

Every Other Friday

Mobile Cyclery
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
King Soopers parking lot

First Saturday of each month

Bluff Lake Birders
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Bluff Lake Nature Center

Every Sunday beginning June 13th

Stapleton Farmers' Market
E. 29th Ave. Town Center
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

JUNE

Pool Hours

Mon. - Thur. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

June 5th

Bluff Lake Open
House 11:00 a.m. -
1:00 p.m.
Bluff Lake
Nature Center

June 5th

Charity Chase
9:00 a.m.
Greenway Park



Mark Your CALENDAR

2004 STAPLETON EVENTS

June 5th

Founders' Day Celebration
Stapleton Under the Stars Concert
5:00 p.m.
Founders' Green

June 16th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
Shrek

June 17th

Fireside Chats
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bluff Lake Nature Center

June 20th

Blood Drive
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Founders' Green



June 23rd

Bike to Work Day
6:30 a.m. -
8:00 a.m.

June 30th

HomeBuyer
Education Class
5:30 p.m. -
9:30 p.m.
7350 E. 29th Ave.
3rd floor

June 30th

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie
Founders' Green*
Grease

JULY

4th of July Parade

11:00 a.m.
Founders' Green

July 4th

Ice Cream Social
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Aviator Park

July 10th

Master Composter Program
10:00 a.m. - Noon
Nexus Building, Greenway Park

July 14th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
Harry Potter and
the Chamber of Secrets

July 15th

Fireside Chat
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bluff Lake Nature Center

July 17th

Adult Night: Mexican Theme
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Aviator Park and pool

July 21st

HomeBuyer Education Class
5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
7350 E. 29th Ave., 3rd floor

July 28th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
Seabiscuit

AUGUST

August 4th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
Wizard of Oz

August 7th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Jazz Concert Founders' Green*

August 11th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
Something's Gotta Give

August 14th

Chalk Art Contest
10:00 a.m. - Noon
Aviator Park and Pool

Monday, August 16th

First day of school

August 19th

Fireside Chats
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bluff Lake Nature Center

August 20th

Adult Night: Lobster Bake
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Aviator Park and Pool

August 25th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
E.T.

August 28th

Stapleton Stampede
5k, 15k, Family Run
9:00 a.m.

August 28th

Stapleton Under the Stars
Concert

SEPTEMBER

September 1st

Stapleton Under the Stars
Movie Founders' Green*
People's Choice

September 16th

Fireside Chats
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bluff Lake Nature Center

September 25th

Wine Festival
Founders'
Green



OCTOBER

October 16th

Fall Festival
Noon - 2:00 p.m.
Founders' Green

DECEMBER

First week of December

Holiday Decoration Contest

December 12th

Lighting the Holiday Tree
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Founders' Green

* For more information visit
www.StapletonDenver.com.

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DPS Setting High Goals

by Jerry Wartgow

Stapleton, to borrow an old expression, is taking off. The pace at which families and individuals are moving to this dynamic new part of the city is impressive. So is the quality of the environment that's being built – the homes, the facilities, and the amenities.

Clearly, Denver is home to a jewel of urban planning.

The engine of development will keep roaring, thanks in large part to the Denver City Council's recent approval of a plan to issue new bonds for the next phase of development.

The deal will yield \$168 million for infrastructure improvements including \$19.6 million for the design and construction of a new K-8 school.



DPS Superintendent
Jerry Wartgow

same kind of high-level achievement in science that's found for art, music, dance and other forms of creativity at the nearby Denver School of the Arts.

And I'm sure you all know by now that Westerly Creek Campus at Stapleton is really two schools in one, with Westerly Creek Elementary School sharing one building with the successful Odyssey Charter School, which has finally found a permanent home after a series of temporary quarters.

But excitement isn't confined to the boundaries of Stapleton.

Denver City Council recently approved a plan to issue new bonds for the next phase of development, including \$19.6 million for the design and construction of a new K-8 school. We are aiming for a target opening date of the school, to be located at Montview and Central Park Blvd., in August 2006.

range of educational experiences for our students. This \$6.5 million component of the mill levy

means about 90 new art and music teachers for the 2004-2005 school year. The arts are back!

There are many options beyond the Stapleton boundaries but we are working to keep pace with the tremendous growth in this new part of the city and to meet your needs for the high

level learning experience I'm sure you expect for your children.

We are on a roll. Governor Bill Owens has announced that DPS is the only Colorado school district to earn the Governor's Award for Distinguished Improvement for the second year in a row. And, in a *Rocky Mountain News* column, the Governor named Denver Public Schools the "bellwether" for educational reform, saying the district is squarely focused on boosting student achievement.

Along with powerful and clear support from Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper, the district is seeking to renew its bonds with the many neighborhoods that comprise this vibrant, diverse city.

The goals of Denver Public Schools are clear – setting high expectations, improving the performance of all students and closing the gap between better and poorer performing students. It is the district's obligation to cherish the renewed optimism and build on fresh success. Keep watching as Denver Public Schools continues to grow.



Mayor Hickenlooper queries Stapleton students.

We are aiming for a target opening date of the school, to be located at the intersection of Montview Blvd. and Central Park Blvd., in August 2006.

The new school will accommodate about 750 students. The plan is to include geo-thermal heating and cooling with extensive use of natural light, fitting the plans outlined in the Stapleton Development Corporation's "Green" book.

Exciting? We think so. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in the thoughtful process that has gone into turning this enormous section of the city into a dynamic new urban neighborhood.

This coming school year at Stapleton will also see the debut of the Denver School of Science and Technology, which we expect will offer the

Hard on the heels of the successful November 2003 mill levy vote, the district is working closely with 13 schools to revitalize their programs and offerings. Our goal is to make sure that each and every neighborhood school presents an attractive first option for parents in search of the right learning environment. Already, enthusiasm is building at such schools as Bradley Elementary School in southeast Denver, where a new International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme is being readied. And, you will find information about the exciting "Tri Academy" at Smiley Middle School west of Stapleton elsewhere in this edition of *The Front Porch*.

The mill levy is also affording us the ability to re-establish art and music instruction in the elementary schools, which will greatly expand the



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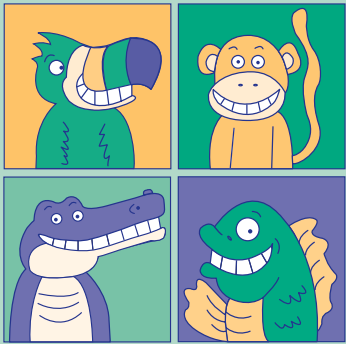
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3

Schools Around Stapleton

Smiley Middle School – Three Academies Under One Roof

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of brief profiles of the Denver Public Schools in the neighborhoods around Stapleton. Forest City is working with Denver Public Schools Superintendent Jerry Wartgow and The Stapleton Foundation to create the best urban school system in the nation. In coming months, the Smith Renaissance School of the Arts and The Hallet Science and Technology Academy will also be profiled.

By Tom Gleason

One can tell a lot about the direction in which a school is headed by the quality of the leadership it attracts. According to that indicator, Smiley

Nate Howard Principal, Smiley Middle School



Nate Howard was selected to be the principal of Smiley Middle School in the Park Hill Neighborhood west of Stapleton in June 2002. A graduate of Denver's East High School, Mr. Howard received his undergraduate degree in science education from Clark Atlanta University. He also holds a graduate degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder in Environmental Population and Organismic Biology, and has attended the Leadership Preparation (Principal Licensure) Program at the University of Northern Colorado. With financial support from the Stapleton Foundation, Mr. Howard also completed a similar program at Fordham University and will attend another one at Harvard this summer.

During a teaching career that has spanned 18 years, Mr. Howard has taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels and has also served as an instructor at the collegiate level. He is a member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, The National Middle School Association, The Colorado Association of School Executives, The Denver Association of School Administrators and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Mr. Howard is a past recipient of the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge National Teacher Award.

Nate Howard was the head football coach at Manual High School for 10 years, earning recognition as "Coach of the Year" for the Denver Prep League in 2001. He was The Denver Post/NFL Denver Broncos' Coach of the Week in September 1997, and The Rocky Mountain News Colorado High School Football Coach of the Year in 1994. Mr. Howard is married and has two daughters attending DPS high schools.

Middle School in the Park Hill Neighborhood west of Stapleton is definitely headed in the right direction under the guidance of Principal Nate Howard who has spread his enthusiasm and energy to the staff and students throughout the school.

Until a middle school is built at Stapleton, Smiley is the middle school of assignment for Stapleton residents. Since his appointment in the 2002-03 school year, Mr. Howard has overseen a dramatic transformation of the school from a typical middle school structure to a magnet school following a "Tri Academy Model." The energetic principal convened teachers and parents to develop the new program during his first year at Smiley with financial and technical support from the Stapleton Foundation, which has helped raise nearly \$300,000 in multi year grants for Smiley's redesign efforts.

The 553 students at Smiley Middle School have the choice of enrolling in the International (Baccalaureate) Preparatory program, The Renaissance Academy (arts program), or The Discovery Academy (math and science program). Each academy also integrates the arts, math and science throughout core subjects. Smiley also offer students more choices of electives than are available at most middle schools.

As part of the new structure, Smiley has established innovative partnerships with the Colorado School of Mines for its Discovery Program, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts for its Renaissance Program, and the University of Colorado Medical School and the University of Colorado at Denver for its International Preparatory Program. The IP program prepares students for the rigorous International Baccalaureate at George Washington High School – the DPS high school of assignment for Stapleton.

Mr. Howard is pleased with the progress made to date in the redesign of the Smiley program, for which he gives students, teachers and parents a lot of the credit. "The next two to three years will be a critical time as we strive to build on the first year's efforts," the principal said. "We look forward to the challenge and more success."

Principal Howard and his staff also recognize the importance of after school activities. Smiley has established special relationships with the Urban League of Denver to create a Tech Club, Arts Club, Shakespeare Festival, National History Day, Drama Club and other after school athletic and academic programs for its students. Last year, Smiley developed a highly successful summer program funded by Forest City Stapleton, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank that provided its students with activities involving dance, music, drama, and film and literature studies. Smiley Middle School is located at 2540 Holly Street. For more information, contact the school at (303) 399-0740.

Tom Gleason is vice president-public relations for Forest City Stapleton, Inc. He also serves on the Board of The Stapleton Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities.



Smiley students involved in the 2003 summer program

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Sustainability has been an inherent part of plans for Stapleton since the very beginning. But, as Director of Sustainability, I am often asked, “What exactly is sustainability?” It’s a concept that has multiple meanings, so it’s no wonder this question arises.

Simply put, sustainability is about many things. Here at Stapleton, sustainability is about quality construction. It’s about walking from your home to the coffee shop. It’s about having abundant parks and open space to enjoy nature. It’s about putting out recycling bins every week and conserving water. But sustainability is also about much more. This article launches a monthly column exploring the many aspects of sustainability.

I am realistic – and very practical. I do not expect every person to embrace every aspect of sustainability. Rather, my goal is to encourage individuals to change just one behavior in their day-to-day lives. Collectively, each individual change will create a positive ripple effect throughout Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods.

The Stapleton Farmers’ Market, beginning Sunday June 13th from 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Founders’ Green, is one of our sustainability initiatives. You might wonder, “What does a farmer’s market have to do with sustainability?” There are several aspects involved:

Environmental Sustainability

Sustainability is most commonly understood as minimizing one’s impact on the environment. Did you know that most food in the United States travels an average of 1,300 miles from the farm to the market shelf? Buying food at the Stapleton Farmers’ Market reduces transportation impacts and supports the preservation of the regional food production system.

Economic Sustainability

Sustainability is not just about the environment. It is also about the financial health of a community. At Stapleton, we believe that a mix of local and national merchants is important in creating a vibrant community. The Stapleton Farmers’ Market helps achieve this balance between local and national merchants.

Social Sustainability

Sustainability also has a social component—creating opportunities for neighbors to meet and interact. The Stapleton Farmers’ Market will serve as a community gathering place throughout the summer and early fall, offering neighbors another way to build and enhance their relationships.

The Stapleton Farmers’ Market is just one of the many initiatives at Stapleton you might not immediately recognize as part of the sustainability program. I look forward to sharing more information about the many sustainability programs at Stapleton with you in the coming months!

Melissa Knott is the director of sustainability, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

Items of interest...

Charity Chase June 5

Runners and walkers planning to participate in the 5K Stapleton Charity Chase on Saturday, June 5th at 9:00 a.m. who have not yet registered may do so on line at www.bkbltd.com (click on “Event Calendar”) until 11:00 p.m. on June 3rd. Registration is also available on race day from 8:00 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. in Stapleton’s Greenway Park at 24th and Syracuse. Don’t miss the fun!

Stapleton Farmers’ Market

This summer, Stapleton will introduce the Stapleton Farmers' Market to its residents and neighbors. Beginning Sunday, June 13th, you can stop by Founders' Green in the East 29th Avenue Town Center to purchase your favorite fruits, vegetables and flowers. The Stapleton Farmers' Market is every Sunday through September from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit StapletonDenver.com.



Stapleton Blood Drive

Stop by the Bonfils Blood Center Blood Drive Mobile on Sunday, June 20th from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Blood Drive will occur at Founders' Green at Stapleton. Walk-in appointments are welcome, or you can call the Stapleton Visitor Center (303-355-9600) to schedule an appointment.

Stapleton Strollers

Stapleton Strollers is hitting the streets once again! This stroller exercise conditioning class meets every Tuesday, at 9:30 a.m. and takes to the streets and parks to do various exercises from jumping jacks to lunges to stretches. Anyone is welcome – Stapleton Residents, friends, family and nearby residents!

To join this energetic group, RSVP by the Monday prior to 303.341.0937 or visit www.hotmamasdenver.com. The cost is \$10. Bring water, a towel and your baby in a stroller. The class meets at East 29th Avenue and Valentia.

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Denver Zoo – Adventure Has A

Denver Zoo has been providing children and families an unparalleled opportunity to embark on an international wildlife adventure in their own backyard for over one hundred years. This year the Denver Zoo adds to that adventure with its newest exhibit, Predator Ridge, which will open to the public with a grand opening celebration on June 22nd at 12:00 p.m.

Predator Ridge is an 8-acre project that showcases a series of dynamic exhibits designed to recreate a portion of the Samburu National Reserve

in Kenya. Visitors will get up-close views of lions, hyenas, African wild dogs and eleven other African species of mammals, reptiles and birds.

A new Zoo Main Entrance and a new gift shop are other improvements.

An interactive discovery center called “Pahali Ya Simba” (pronounced Pah-hall-ee Yaw Sim-bah, Swahili for “Place of the Lions”) will allow guests to view scenes of animals from within the Samburu Game Reserve in Kenya on new plasma television screens and watch the zookeepers as they work with the lions and wild dogs in a specially-designed interactive area.



Introducing the **Stapleton Club Card**, Stapleton's retail discount program. Participating merchants at Quebec Square, East 29th Avenue Town Center and surrounding hotels will offer discounts when you present your resident pool ID card.

Participating Merchants

Amore Fiori

The charm of an outdoor Italian Flower Market, filled with unique gifts, seasonal décor, plants and a vibrant array of the freshest flowers. 7353 E. 29th Ave.
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Do At The Zoo
June 17, 2004
6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Denver's hottest summer party. Dine on exotic dishes from Denver's finest restaurants, cocktails, live music and a silent auction.

Proceeds from the 2004 Do At The Zoo will help build new homes for the animals at the Denver Zoo. For ticket information call 303-376-4860.

Amazing Animal Encounters

Discover a wide variety of small animals seen nowhere else in the Zoo! These daily encounters allow visitors chances to interact with reptiles, invertebrates, birds, and mammals and their accompanying humans. Daily starting Memorial Day weekend.

Kraal - African Farm

We've got your goat! And we have other African animals one might find around an African farmyard - or Kraal. Guinea fowl and chickens cackle a welcome to visitors daily, while the young goats provide energy-filled opportunities to meet animals close up. Daily starting Memorial Day weekend.

July: WildNights

Summer at the Denver Zoo is always an exciting time. The highly successful event WildNights will return again this year every Wednesday night in July from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Embark on an international journey every Wednesday evening in July during Wildnights. This multicultural event celebrates the influence of animals on worldwide music, stories, dance and beliefs. Without packing a single bag, be astonished by Polynesian fire dancers, enchanted by African story tellers, energized by Aztec dancers, tempted with fine foods from around the world and amazed during interactive animal demonstrations. Every Wednesday evening will feature different entertainers, activities and animal stars - all under the stars!



Exempla Family Medicine at Stapleton



Meet Stapleton's Neighborhood Doctor, Kristine Leathery, MD. Dr. Leathery is board certified in family medicine. She and her partners at Exempla Family Medicine at Stapleton recently opened their new office conveniently located in the Stapleton Plaza Office Building. They offer

a full range of medical care for all members of your family including newborn care, child health care, women's health care, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology. Exempla Family Medicine at Stapleton is located at 3401 Quebec, Suite 1015. For an appointment, please call 303-467-8900. Dr. Leathery and her staff look forward to providing extraordinary health care to you and your family, our Stapleton neighbors.

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Experience the wonder of having brilliantly colored Lorikeet birds eat right from your hand! Lorikeets, native to south Australia, feed on nectar from blooming trees. Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day within the aviary in Primate Panorama, you can purchase a small container of nectar and watch the wonder unfold as these friendly parrots fly up to you to sample this treat. You never know, they may even land on your head! Daily starting Memorial Day weekend.

Zoo Information

Denver Zoo's summer hours, effective April through September are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Admission fees April through September are \$11 for adults (ages 12-64), \$7 for children (ages 3-11) and \$9 for senior citizens (ages 65+). Children two and under are admitted free. The Denver Zoo is open every day. Parking is free. For information on Colorado free days, meeting and party space rental or special events, call (303) 376-4800.

Visit the Denver Zoo web site at www.denverzoo.org.



A visitor meets the birds at the Denver Zoo.

Clever Coyotes Star at Bluff Lake

Fireside chats held throughout the summer months at Bluff Lake Natural Area will introduce nature lovers to wildlife such as the "clever coyotes" who roam the open space at Stapleton.

Each third Thursday of the month, a member of the Bluff Lake Nature Center educational staff will gather visitors at 6:00 p.m. around a campfire at Bluff Lake to deliver a fascinating presentation. Following the presentation, visitors will be taken on a naturalist hike of approximately one hour in duration with the possibility of sighting coyotes, great horned owls, mule deer, foxes or other wild life from the trail or one of the wildlife viewing blinds around Bluff Lake. The program will conclude around 8 p.m. with a marshmallow roast upon the hikers' return to the campfire. The topic for June 17th is "Clever Coyotes."

Sue Schafer, education director at the Bluff Lake Nature Center, notes that anyone wishing to attend one of the "Fireside Chats" must pre-register by calling (303) 468-3245. The cost for the fireside chats is \$5 for non-members and \$3 for members (regardless of age). The presentations are free to Bluff Lake volunteers.

Ms. Schafer recommends that participants in the "Fireside Chats" wear comfortable shoes, bring bug spray, a light jacket and binoculars. Visitors are reminded that, due to the sensitivity of the Natural Area, dogs are not allowed at Bluff Lake. The Bluff Lake trails are ADA compliant.

The Bluff Lake Natural Area is a 123-acre urban wildlife refuge for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, songbirds, deer, fox, reptiles, amphibians and other types of wildlife located at Stapleton. The entrance to The Bluff Lake Natural Area is located south of Smith Road, where Havana Street turns into Moline. Visit www.blufflakenaturecenter.org for more information.

More Bluff Lake Events...

A schedule of Bluff Lake summer activities is shown on page 14.



Justin Ross, Owner, is excited about the opportunity to offer Mortgage Loan Services to the residents of Stapleton and the Metro Denver area. With twelve years of mortgage experience, Stapleton Mortgage was established in September of 2002.



The Ross's were one of the 1st families to move to Stapleton in June 2002. Justin's older daughter Jericka will be entering the 6th grade this fall and he and his wife Marissa are expecting their 1st child in September.

Justin and Marissa are quite anxious to experience the growth along the Stapleton corridor and look forward to serving your mortgage loan needs. Stapleton Mortgage may be reached at 303-810-0782, or email jusross@stapletonmortgage.net

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Stapleton under the Stars

Forest City Stapleton, Inc. is proud to present the Stapleton Under the Stars Summer Series, featuring movies and concerts that are **absolutely free**. So bring your blanket, your family and join us for a great night out!

Movies:		Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Pre-movie entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Trailers & Movies begin at 8:00 p.m.
June 16	Shrek (PG)	
June 30	Grease (PG)	
July 14	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG)	
July 28	Seabiscuit (PG-13)	
Aug. 4	Wizard of Oz (G)	
Aug. 11	Something's Gotta Give (PG-13) <i>Sponsored by John Laing Homes</i>	
Aug. 25	ET: The Extra-Terrestrial (PG)	
Sept. 1	People's Choice (TBA)	

Concerts:	
June 5	Local Artist Concert <i>Sponsored by New Town Builders</i> Arthur Lee Land 5:00 p.m. DeVotchKa 5:40 p.m. Matthew Moon 7:05 p.m.
Aug. 7	Jazz Concert (TBA) <i>Sponsored by Infinity Home Collection</i>
Aug. 28	Concert (TBA) <i>Sponsored by McStain Neighborhoods</i>

All movies and concerts are at Founders' Green
(East 29th Avenue and Roslyn Street)

www.StapletonDenver.com

Founders' Day (continued from page 1)

most popular attractions. In addition, there will be face painters, magicians, inflatable jumps for kids, a masseuse, a dunk booth, pie-eating contests, and sidewalk sales in the Town Center retail stores.

At 5:00 p.m., a three-band concert will enliven the 2004 Founders' Day celebration featuring the great talents of local artists. Arthur Lee Land will present the opening act, DeVotchKa will perform at 5:40 p.m., and Matthew Moon will take the stage at 7:05 p.m. Concertgoers are invited to bring a blanket to sit on the 2.5 acre Founders' Green lawn. For more information visit www.StapletonOnline.com.

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Ben White, owner of the new Get Fired Up Pottery shop in the East 29th Avenue Town Center, shows off some examples of recent work.

Panda Express at Quebec Square

One of the most popular dining spots at Stapleton’s Quebec Square is undoubtedly Panda Express, where General Manager Sharon Wie Zhang and her staff serve gourmet Chinese food to customers who flock to their restaurant.

Panda Express offers a range of delightful food items on a mouth-watering menu and with a promise that “We’ll Wok Fresh For You.” Offering more than 18 kinds of flavorful vegetables and cooking in 100% Soybean oil, Panda Express gives diners a choice of “Panda Plates” of one, two or three entrees and a terrific choice of A La Carte Entrees that include Orange Flavored Chicken, Beef with Broccoli, Fried Shrimp and other traditional Chinese dishes. Panda Express is free of MSG.

Panda Party Packs serving 16, 24, or 32 people may be ordered by phone (303) 331-8409 or fax (303) 331-8701. Panda Express is open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. every day of the week at 7507 E. 36th Avenue.

Get Fired Up Pottery

Ben and Brooke White, owners of the new Get Fired Up Pottery in the East 29th Avenue Town Center, have a slogan on the wall that captures the spirit of their pottery business: “Relax and Create.” The Whites’ small shop, located near Founders’ Green, is a terrific place to pursue both activities.

“We wanted to create a place that attracts adults and their children,” said Ben White, a native of Washington State with a degree in Communications from Washington State University. Ben would like visitors to his shop to feel comfortable bringing in a cup of coffee to enjoy while they browse through the wide selection of pottery items that are available for painting, glazing and firing. Get Fired Up specializes in classes, workshops, Mosaic Nights, fundraisers and parties. The shop is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Call (720) 377-0250 for more information.



Sharon Wie Zhang, Manager of the Panda Express at Quebec Square, offers a plate of their gourmet Chinese food from the daily buffet.



Dr. Jesse Witkoff relaxes with some of the stuffed animals that hang from the jungle decor in his new office at the East 29th Avenue Town Center.

A Wild Smile

The young patients making a trip to the pediatric dentistry practice of Dr. Jesse Witkoff in the East 29th Avenue Town Center are in for a treat. Dr. Witkoff believes that a child's visit to the dentist should be a fun-filled adventure rather than an experience to be dreaded.

The interior of A Wild Smile is an architecturally crafted indoor jungle, complete with the overspreading branches of a leafy tree and stuffed animals hanging from the branches. As a result, a visit to A Wild Smile is more like going on safari, than a trip to the dentist.

On their safari, children (and even parents) will visit various stations. At Java Junction, parents can get a cup of coffee. At Smile with Lyle, kids get their picture (x-rays) taken with Lyle the Lion. At the Education Station, kids learn about good dental hygiene, and at the Watering Hole, they learn and practice the proper way to brush their teeth.

Call for an appointment at (720) 945-1234 or visit www.JesseWitkoffDDS.com for more information.



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AD0204A



Manager Norm Padilla welcomes customers to the new Walgreens drugstore and pharmacy on opening day.

Okkasions Wine and Liquors at Quebec Square

Anyone in the Stapleton area looking for a great selection of wines, spirits, liqueurs and other beverages doesn't need to look any further than Soon Oh's store in The Quebec Square Regional Retail Center at Stapleton.

Since opening in November of 2003, Okkasions Wine and Liquors has provided residents of Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods with the answers to their questions about just the right beverage for any occasion. The family-operated store is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Okkasions Wine and Liquors is located on the south side of Quebec Square across from the United Air Lines Flight Training Center.

Walgreens

Walgreens, one of the nation's oldest drugstores and pharmacies, has arrived at Stapleton. Located along Quebec Street in the East 29th Avenue Town Center, Walgreens has brought its nationally renowned name, value and service to residents of Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods. The Stapleton store is under the management of Norm Padilla, who has eighteen years experience working for Walgreens. Norm comes to Stapleton from the Walgreens store at 2nd and Broadway.

Walgreens is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The Walgreens Pharmacy operates from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Two lanes of drive-through service are available.



Joyana Oh, of Okkasions Wine and Liquors, displays a bottle from their wide selection of fine wines at the Quebec Square store.



Left to right: Bernise Garcia, Kathy Lavato, Oksama Bruce, Lyn Archuleta, Alejandro Casillas, Derrick Fuller, Manager, and Yolanda Edwards are ready to welcome you to the new Vectra Bank Colorado in Quebec Square.

Vectra Bank Colorado at Quebec Square

Derrick Fuller, branch manager of Vectra Bank Colorado at Quebec Square, opened his bank at Stapleton eighteen months ago. Derrick is a graduate of Denver South High School and the University of Denver where he received his degree in Communication and Psychology. He and his wife Jerilyn reside in Green Valley Ranch with their two children.

Derrick can undoubtedly remember when air cargo buildings or aircraft hangars occupied his bank's location at 36th and Quebec. Today, Vectra Bank Colorado at Quebec Square is a full-service bank with a staff of

fifteen people ready to help customers with all of their banking needs. The bank is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Fridays. Vectra Bank Colorado at Stapleton includes convenient drive-up and ATM banking services. Call (720) 947-8250 for more information.

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Sanford Changes Name to Beazer Homes

Sanford Homes has recently changed its name to Beazer Homes. While the name is fairly new to the Denver market, the relationship with one of the nation’s leading homebuilders is not. Sanford Homes

“The new name, along with a new look, is part of a process our company is undertaking nationally to ensure we consistently meet our customers’ needs.”
— Peter Simons, Beazer Homes, Colorado

“It’s the next step in our evolution, building on the rich history and traditions established by Sanford Homes in this great state,” says Peter Simons, Senior Division President, with Beazer Homes in Colorado.

Sanford Homes has been operating in Colorado for more than 40 years, with over 7,500 homes being closed since the company’s inception. Under the Collection names Regency, Prairie, Windsor, and Manor (which is built at Stapleton), Beazer will continue offering high-end traditional designs. It also will continue to expand its product line to serve a wider range of brand new home buyers, including more affordable design plans and communities in mixed use developments. New product lines include the Concord, Vintage and Cornerstone Collections.

Beazer Homes operates in 40 markets in the Southeastern, Mid-Atlantic, Midwestern, Western and Central United States. Beazer is the 6th largest builder in the U.S. with over 15,000 closings in 2003. The company’s website, www.beazer.com, helps buyers find their ideal home, and once a home is purchased, www.mybeazerhome.com provides a personalized, customized online resource with construction schedules, as well as closing and mortgage status reports, making this information easily accessible for their buyers.

At the heart of Beazer’s new Manor Collection at Stapleton are architecturally distinctive designs that offer open floor plans with unique elevations, basements and optional carriage apartments with separate entrances above two-car, alley-loaded garages. Ranging in size from 2,868 square feet to 3,144 square feet, the Manor Collection offers home sites that average 4,700 square feet and that are placed near or adjacent to park areas.

For more information about Beazer Homes at Stapleton, telephone Candace Glass, (303) 377-4549, or visit the Beazer New Home Information Center Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Mondays noon to 6 p.m.

Stapleton Reaches Out to Religious Institutions

By Landri Taylor
When Forest City was selected to be the master developer for Stapleton in November 1998, we pledged to create a mixed-use community of new jobs, housing and open space that would capture the very best traditions of city living and establish a “seamless connection” with the surrounding urban neighborhoods. In making that commitment, we were expressing our support for the vision of thousands of citizens and their elected officials who produced The Stapleton Development Plan, more commonly referred to as “The Green Book.”

Today, the transformation of Denver’s former airport into the community its citizens envisioned is well underway. More than 900 homes affordable to a wide range of incomes are occupied. Nearly 900,000 square feet of retail are open. The first phase of a projected 1,100 acres of new parks and open space is enhancing our lives. And several new Denver Public Schools are thriving.

As we follow through on our commitment to create great urban neighborhoods on the site once occupied by Denver’s former airport, we are continuing our efforts to bring the first church, synagogue or other religious facility to Stapleton. Over the past several years, we have held ongoing discussions with the planning entities of all of the major faith-based organizations in Metropolitan Denver to help identify the prospects for religious facilities at Stapleton. At the same time, we have sent mailings to hundreds of churches, synagogues and mosques informing them about the principles of The Green Book and keeping them apprised of our progress as we also extend an



Landri Taylor, vice president of community relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

invitation to them to consider Stapleton for their new or expanded presence in Denver. Those discussions have been aided by our work with The Stapleton Interfaith Ministry, which represents nine or more different faiths who are exploring the establishment of a single presence at Stapleton to promote greater communication and understanding between their members.

These have been challenging discussions. On one hand, we began working with churches and synagogues to select sites of approximately three acres that fit well into residential neighborhoods as they do in the existing, older neighborhoods around Stapleton. At the same time, we are struggling to help those religious

facilities meet the challenges of a changing world in which they need more land for parking to accommodate worshipers who often travel greater distances to attend services rather than walk from nearby neighborhoods. Those religious institutions are also often looking for sites of ten or more acres to accommodate a complex of separate buildings that might include not only the place of worship, but separate facilities and the required parking for youth, social services and other ministries as well.

The good news is that the existing places of worship around Stapleton welcome the new residents of Stapleton

and expect to be able to provide for their needs for the immediate future. And, of course, the tremendous amount of land at Stapleton offers numerous sites for future development. As we move forward with the redevelopment of Stapleton, we will continue to work with those faiths to incorporate them into Denver’s newest neighborhoods.

Landri Taylor is Vice President of Community Relations for Forest City Stapleton, Inc., master developer of Denver’s former airport. Religious organizations wishing to inquire about sites at Stapleton may contact Mr. Taylor by phone at (303) 382-1800 or by e-mail at ltaylor@StapletonDenver.com.

Mayor Walks

(continued from page 1)
“The people of Denver love a good challenge and this competition will bring out the best in both teams as we increase awareness of the benefits of leading more active lifestyles,” Mayor Hickenlooper said. “Regardless of which team finishes on top, our city will be the winner if we encourage more of our fellow citizens to make walking a greater part of their daily lives.”
The Active Living Partnership at Stapleton is an initiative that is part of Active Living by Design, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation established to create, enhance and promote environments that make it safe and convenient for people to be more physically active. In November of last year,

ALPS received a \$200,000 grant to demonstrate that the design of the pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods at Stapleton can lead to more active and healthier lifestyles.

Managing Mosquitoes

With the beginning of the summer months, the management of mosquitoes is on everyone’s minds, including Dennis Piper, director of parks and the environment for The Stapleton Development Corporation.

Since May 10th and under Mr. Piper’s direction, The Park Creek Metropolitan District at Stapleton has been conducting an “integrated mosquito management program” for mosquito control. In that program, a weekly inventory of the parks and areas under development at Stapleton has been conducted to identify the location of mosquito larvae (eggs). So far, no breeding mosquito larvae have been found in areas surveyed. If larvae are discovered, they will be treated to prevent them from hatching. When adult mosquitoes are located, an EPA- approved spraying operation will be conducted once the public has been notified.

Experts believe that mosquitoes can fly up to ten miles, and they are likely to breed around homes where water may have been allowed to stagnate for more than four days. To reduce the chances that mosquitoes will become a problem around your

home, remove or empty items that could collect water, such as saucers under flower pots, buckets or recycling containers. For more tips to reduce mosquitoes around your home or neighborhood, visit www.denvergov.org/animalcontrol.

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TIPS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS



4 Paws News

by Michele Smith, D.V.M.
E. 29th Ave. Animal Hospital

New Babies and Pets

People often ask me how many children I have. I have had to answer one dog and two cats. That was before our daughter, Kamdyn, was born on August 27th 2003. What a wonderful experience to deliver a healthy daughter! We spent two days in the hospital while my family took care of our “four-legged children.” We made preparations for introducing Kamdyn to the rest of the family even before she was born. There are many things you can do to help make this process easier.

Let your pets see what you are doing when you are setting up the nursery. Let them explore, sniff and check things out. One of our cats climbed into the stroller and the other into the car seat. “What a nice place to take a nap,” they thought. The crib was interesting, especially when we were putting it together. Yes, I did read the directions but it still was not easy. Some people will purchase a mesh tent to cover the crib and the play pen. While these help to keep climbers from getting out, they also help to keep cats from getting in. Greg and I chose to keep the bedroom door closed while Kamdyn was sleeping, thus keeping the cats from sleeping with her.

Many people assume that the baby will cause a dog to become jealous. Most of the time dogs perceive the new addition as a member of the “pack,” protecting the baby from strangers or visitors. Introducing a new baby to your pets should be a gradual process. Review basic obedience training and skills, putting the dog through his/her paces daily. This provides important structure and reinforces the habit of listening, making your pet less likely to be distracted by the baby’s presence. If you have an animal that is anxious with routine changes many experts recommend getting a life size doll to carry around so they will get used to you having something in your arms besides them. Talk to the doll, rock it and generally treat it like a new born. You can also have a friend tape their baby crying and making other baby sounds. Playing this while carrying the doll will help desensitize the animals to these new sounds that will soon be an every day occurrence.

Just before the baby is ready to come home, bring home a blanket with the baby’s scent. Create a positive interaction when introducing the blanket. By rewarding the animal with soft words and pats, he/she will form a good association with the baby before it even comes home. On the day that your new baby is due home, have someone take your dog for a good run, swim or play session. When you bring your child home from the hospital, minimize the excitement of the greeting. Over several weeks, allow closer and closer contact with the baby, keeping your pet on a leash and under supervision. The goal is to teach them to be relaxed and sensible around the new baby. They just do not know their size and can accidentally hurt the baby. Never leave your baby unattended with your pets at any time.

Dr. Smith’s clinic, the E. 29th Ave. Animal Hospital, is located in Stapleton’s first Town Center. For more information call 303-394-3937.

Infinity Home Collection Unveils Model Showhomes at Stapleton



If you are among the multitude of prospective buyers who have been patiently awaiting the debut of Infinity Home Collection’s new Court Homes at Stapleton, we have some great news: Infinity’s three spectacular models are open to the public!

Based from the \$400s and ranging from 2200 to 3200 square feet, Infinity is offering four floor plans (two ranches and two 2-story’s) on a number of special Stapleton homesites. Expansive great halls, main floor living, and indoor/outdoor interaction are among the homes’ highlights, creating perfect living opportunities for couples and families alike.

Contact (303)-399-6698 or visit Infinity online at www.infinityhomecollection.com for more information.

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Front Porch Flower Talk

by Michele Stefanon
Amore Fiori Flowers and Gifts

Making Flowers Last

Customers visit Amore Fiori and frequently ask, “What flowers last the longest and is there anything I can do to increase their vase life?” What I tell my customers is that the average life span of cut flowers is about a week, but fortunately there many types that will remain vibrant for twice or even three times as long. For example, alstromerias, chrysanthemums, carnations and asters, all can stay fresh for two weeks or more. If you would like flowers that will brighten up your home or office for a week, try lilies, miniature calla lilies or snapdragons.

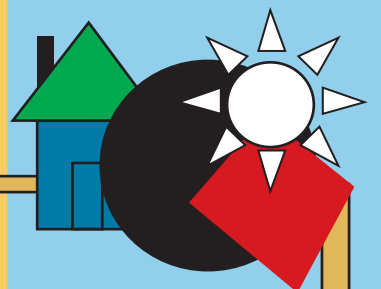
The type of flower you choose is a factor, but so are care and environment. There are certain tricks and techniques that will ensure fresh cuts stay pretty for as long as possible. Flowers from Amore Fiori have already been conditioned, but if you are cutting from your own garden, cut in the early morning or in late afternoon. Immerse them in cold water for about 20 minutes.

When assembling an arrangement, use a clean vase and fill with tepid water. Add floral preservative to provide the flowers with nutrients and to inhibit bacterial growth. Remove any leaves that fall below the water line, since any greens that are kept under water may produce bacteria. Cut stems underwater at a forty five degree angle. This allows more water to be absorbed by the flower and decreases the chance of air bubbles getting into the stem. Keep flowers in a cool area as heat increases the deterioration of the flowers. Change the water every two days or when it begins to look cloudy.

Taking these few little steps will ensure longer lasting, beautiful flowers. Stop by Amore Fiori Flowers and Gifts in the E. 29th Ave. Town Center for more information and to check out our fresh cuts from local growers and around the world!

Michelle Stefanon’s flower shop, Amore Fiori Flowers and Gifts, is located in the East 29th Avenue Town Center. For more information call 303-333-3848.

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29th Avenue Town Center at Stapleton

Stapleton United Neighbors Different Routes, Same Destination

Over the past few months, we have tried to use this column as a way of turning individual issues that arise into more universal stories of how we are attempting to work as a community. This month adds an important chapter to that story. How should we balance the common good (e.g. locating a bus route along 29th Avenue) with individual needs (e.g. not having a bus pull up 8 feet from someone's porch every half hour)?

If you read the front page Denver Post article on the topic a few weeks ago, you realized the different ways people tell this story. "We should move the route to MLK, it's a four lane street that can handle the buses better." "Clearly a case of NIMFY (not in my front yard). People just trying to push the route onto someone else's street." "Obviously the builders are to blame — they should be held accountable for not disclosing the bus route to homebuyers." The challenge for SUN was to create a space where differing views could be aired and respected, and hopefully new perspectives could emerge.

People filed into the Forest City Board Room on May 16 at the SUN Open Forum and agreed to take on this very challenge. Jessie Carter from RTD explained that the route along 29th Avenue between Central Park and Beeler Street was originally planned in 1998 as a means of embedding local bus service into the Stapleton neighborhood. Placing the route further north on Martin Luther King Boulevard would push it further away from residents who live south of 29th. Ruth and Nathan Woodliff-Stanley, speaking on behalf of other residents along 29th Avenue, explained that after going door to door to contact residents, over 98% of the people they contacted were willing to sign a petition in support of moving the route off 29th, preferably north to MLK.

Some people spoke in favor of the 29th Avenue route, citing the accessibility and value it gave to the development. Others felt the route would be better placed on MLK, as it would also benefit people living north of Central Park. We then brainstormed a list of values at stake and creative solutions to address them. SUN will submit them to RTD Board, which will hopefully consider the list as it makes the final decision on the route at their June meeting. Even if the route on 29th is approved, as it is likely to be, the route is provisional and will need final public approval at a later point, probably three years from now, when it nears full implementation.

But if we did not agree on whether to change the route, there seemed to be widespread agreement about the ways in which we should handle our disagreement. The coalition of residents on 29th Avenue have gone out of their way to take into account not only their own needs but the views of those who would be negatively affected by any change in route. Chris Martinez, the RTD Board member representing Stapleton, has been a model of accessibility. Members present at the Open Forum spoke articulately about not only their own views but also views of future residents who might be affected by the decisions we make.

These are not small victories in a world where diverse opinions too often lead to lasting factionalism. If we are to live out the explicit value for diversity that is part of the Stapleton vision, we would be wise to continue handling disagreements in ways that allow us to keep working together in such constructive ways. This issue is clearly not resolved, but we applaud the various parties who have set such a high standard of integrity in this process of working through it.

We may not agree on what the best route is, but it seems like we all know where we want to go.

Bill Fulton, president of Stapleton United Neighbors.

Letters to the Editor

The Front Porch will publish Letters to the Editor, as space allows. We reserve the right to edit length. Please mail your letters to Tom Gleason, editor, Front Porch, Forest City Stapleton, Inc., 7351 E. 29th Avenue, Denver, CO 80238.

Views On the Street Why did you choose Stapleton?



Laura Nielsen

I'm actually thinking about moving over here and I live downtown right now. I have lived downtown for quite a while, I work in the hospitals down there. I'd kind of like to move to an area a little bit outside of downtown. This seems perfect with shops and atmosphere and the people I've met are really friendly. My boyfriend is working right here at one of the realty businesses. It's a really nice area for my dog with all this outdoors and I am really excited and will be looking into it soon, hopefully.

Kirsten Palermo (on left in picture below)

I primarily moved to Stapleton because my brother lives here. The community and everything that it offers are what we were looking for and it worked out perfectly. The off leash dog park was the biggest attraction. Just how close knit everything is here. The future plans, like the outdoor amphitheater — and the town centers and everything — but living in a city and not being downtown. That's a plus along with being close to the airport. The best thing is making new friends here, especially all the new moms.

Kirsten Stein (wearing ballcap in photo at right)

We moved to Stapleton because we love the proximity to downtown, my husband is able to ride his bike to work. I've met a lot of new moms.

We just love all the things we can walk to like the town center and we can walk to the park. And also all the activities they have like the farmers' market that's coming this summer and the concerts and movies that we are really excited about. It's just a great community to raise our kids.



Adam Bennowitz (with 4-month-old son Dylan)

We wanted to live in the area and we liked the location. We really like it now that it is getting more developed, it's nice that there is not so much dirt around. We moved here in Nov. of 2002. There was just nothing here then, it's grown a lot. It's definitely what we expected for the most part. I like the way it's shaping up, it's got a really young

neighborhood, lots of kids and young families. We came here because we wanted a new home and we saw the plans. We were impressed with the concept, how they had all the parks planned and the town centers and new homes, that sounded real nice to us. When we moved here it was pretty much just a few houses and a lot of dirt. You almost can't remember what it looked like when there was nothing here.



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Stapleton*Master* Community ASSOCIATION

Summer At Stapleton



Lew Maurer

It was a combination of the price and location, plus I really liked the sidewalks and the little town square and a walking neighborhood versus a suburban neighborhood. All of the things I thought were here turned out to be true and I was really glad to see so many people with dogs. It's a really dog-friendly neighborhood and it's beautiful.



Debra Mickelson

I was looking in a certain price range, 400,000–1 million, also looking to stay in the city of Denver. I looked at Lowry as well as Stapleton and an older neighborhood in Denver to kind of know what real estate was doing. I looked at the communities first. I looked at Stapleton and liked what the community was doing here. I liked the park system that was going in, the green belt system, and the mass transit with the parking deck and eventual rail system that will be hooked into DIA and downtown, and hopefully go to Boulder someday. I'll be commuting to Boulder five days a week next year so those things were essential to me. A number of reasons, in addition to why I looked at this community was the location being hooked into the I-70 freeway system and the projected malls and hotels and the whole community thing.



Diane Deeter, Stapleton community manager

At last! It's summertime at Stapleton! Please keep the following information in mind as you prepare to enjoy the warm sunshine and cool nights in Denver's newest neighborhood:

Aviator Pool is Open

The swimming pool in Aviator Park on 28th Avenue is now open for its second season. Hours for the pool will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. If you have not already obtained your identification, you may pick it up at the pool during those hours.

Photo courtesy of Dick Anderson



A web-footed visitor at Aviator Pool.

Off-leash Dog Park is Open

The off-leash dog park in Greenway Park officially opened on Memorial Day. Please follow the posted rules and make certain to clean up after your pet, not only in the park, but anywhere you walk or exercise your four-legged friends.

Bike to Work Day is June 23rd

Don't forget that "Bike to work day" will take place this year on Wednesday, June 23rd. Watch for special events in the King Soopers parking lot, including the bike to work station that will open at 6:30 a.m. Refreshments and prizes will be available. For more information, contact Angie Malpiede of The Stapleton Transportation Management Association at (303) 468-3230.

Questions about Traffic or Construction Issues?

Do you ever wonder why a new curb cut is being poured in a certain location? Do you want to report a broken streetlight? Do you want to complain about a traffic problem? Contact the Metro District Construction Hotline (720) 249-5100 to get help with your questions regarding construction and maintenance issues at Stapleton.

Keep an Eye on Special Events!

Pay close attention to your Stapleton Intranet for news about upcoming special events, including the Mexican Fiesta Night for adults on Saturday July 17th (6:30 to 9:30 p.m.) and the Lobster Bake for adults on Friday, August 20th (6:30 to 9:30 p.m.). Invitations will be mailed out three weeks prior to each event. Please remember an RSVP for these popular events is a must!

Use Your Intranet!


If you have trouble accessing The Stapleton Intranet (StapletonOnline.com) contact me, Diane Deeter, at communitymanager@stapletondenver.com.

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Congratulations Dr. Michele Smith, DVM, for opening 29th Avenue Animal Hospital in East 29th Avenue Town Center!

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DSA a Finalist Jazz Band Took the “A” Train to New York

With the intensity of a music “March Madness,” over 200 outstanding national and international music programs sent entries in hopes to attend the “Essentially Ellington” festival and competition in New York, but only fifteen were invited to the “big dance.” The Denver School of the Arts (DSA) was the only Colorado school and one of two schools in the western US to win such honors.

Jazz at Lincoln Center Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, who presented DSA with a signed certificate, said, “Instruments are being oiled and tuned up, reeds are being shaved, bass lines are being walked, scores are being studied, and countless hours are being spent preparing the most swinging music ever written – it is time for ‘Essentially Ellington.’”

Yet, the road getting there wasn’t easy for DSA. Entry recordings of Duke Ellington songs were blindly judged by Jazz at Lincoln Center consultants, and respected musicians/educators, including jazz icons Ron Carter, David Berger, and Wynton Marsalis on technique, tone/intonation, interpretation, soloing/improvisation, and soulfulness.

DSA scored a combined 134 out of 150 points for their three selections, enough to be selected as one of fifteen finalists.



DSA’s New York schedule was as hectic as it was exciting. Students spent the first afternoon in a one-on-one private event with Wynton Marsalis at the BB King Blues Club on West 42nd Street,

followed by a Festival Banquet and Jam Session later that night. After an Ellington film program the next morning, competition began for two days, culminating in a concert and awards ceremony with a winning prize of \$2,000. Every school received at least a \$500 check. Congratulations to Mr. Hammond and the Jazz Band for this exciting accomplishment and opportunity! For more information on this event or for how you can make a donation to support this terrific program, contact Mr. Dave Hammond, DSA Band Director, at (303) 394-8583.

Bluff Lake Summer Activities

The Bluff Lake Nature Center invites you to mark your calendars for the upcoming “Community Connections” Programs for the general public. Please note that **pre-registration is required by calling 303-468-3245.**

Fireside Chats

Join us in the new Bluff Lake Fire Circle to hear a nature presentation, enjoy roasted marshmallows, and take an evening stroll through the refuge. Cost is \$5 non-members/\$3members/free to volunteers.

June 17, 6 - 8 pm: “Clever Coyotes”
July 15, 6 - 8 pm: “Leave No Trace”
Aug 19, 6 - 8 pm: “Prairie Dogs, Pest or Pal?”
Sept. 16, 6 - 8 pm: “Nuts About Seeds”

Bluff Lake Birders

First Sat. of the month – 7 - 9 am
Dates: June 5, July 3, Aug. 7, Sept. 4

We’re going hunting! With our binoculars and cameras, that is. Join our local bird expert on an exciting expedition through the wilds of Bluff Lake. We are hoping to catch a glimpse of the elusive yellow-bellied sapsucker and many other exciting species. No experience is necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them. This program is free.

Bluff Lake Open House

June 5, 11 am - 1 pm
Learn more about the hidden treasures in

your neighborhood. On Founder’s Day, Bluff Lake Nature Center will be hosting a FREE open house. Join us for lunch, a fun and educational kid’s activity or take a walk with a Bluff Lake Naturalist.

Gardening Colorado Style

June 19, 9 - 11 am
Native Plant Master, Christine Leahy, will reveal gardening clues from nature. Learn about native plants that thrive in Colorado’s Dry climate, mineral soils and fickle temperatures.

Ode to Owls

June 22, 6-8 pm
Naturalist, Jody Morse, will introduce you to the wonderful world of owls. Learn cool facts about these amazing predators of the nights. Enjoy and campfire and an evening nature walk. Hopefully we will be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of one of Bluff Lake’s resident Great Horned Owls.

Jr. Naturalist

Session 1 June 22 - 24, 1 - 4 pm
Session 2 July 13 - 15, 1 - 4 pm
Cost is \$20 members/\$35 non members
For students ages 6-11
Students will receive a Jr. Naturalist Badge
Day 1: Fantastic Plants – Use microscopes and magnifiers to take a closer look at plants and soil.
Day 2: Water Warriors–Explore the Bluff Lake wetlands and Sand Creek using nets, shovels, bug boxes and more!
Day 3: “Tiny Town” – We will learn how insects benefit plants, animals and people as well as how to identify them.

Sharing Nature With Children

June 26, 10 am - noon
Debbie Livingston, BLNC’s Education Specialist, will take you and (continued on next page)

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stapleton today

A monthly update of Stapleton's evolution from a former airport to a new urban community

JUNE 2004:

HOMES

More than 935 households with over 2,200 residents are living at Stapleton.

The rental homes of Botanica on the Green are welcoming their first residents.

The Crescent Flats Apartments in the Town Center are now being leased.

The architectural diversity and wide range of homes continues to grow with the addition of The Court Homes by Infinity Home Collection and The Paired Homes by John Laing.



Stapleton is a tapestry of homes, shops, offices, parks, and schools in a walkable community of classic city architecture.



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SCHOOLS

Work is progressing on The Denver School of Science and Technology High School, a DPS charter high school, which will open its doors in August 2004.

SHOPS

Quebec Square Regional Retail Center is well into its second year with over 50 shops and restaurants now open.

East 29th Avenue Town Center is thriving with the addition of new stores including 29th Avenue Animal Hospital, Commercial Federal Bank, Curves, Fantastic Sams, 1st Bank, One Hour Cleaners, PostNet, Starbucks Coffee, and Get Fired Up Pottery.



OFFICES

The first offices have enjoyed six months in their new location in the East 29th Avenue Town Center.

Planning continues on the Denver BioScience Center at Stapleton, a unique location for science and technology companies with many advantages including tax incentives, nearby affordable housing, an experienced and financially capable developer, and great school choices.

PARKS

Aviator Pool opened on Memorial Day for its second season.

Greenway Park will open June 5th with the start of the Stapleton Charity Chase.

"Stapleton Under the Stars," the summer concert and movie series, will begin at Founders' Green on June 5th.



Bluff Lake Summer Activities *(continued from prior page)*

your children on a journey to better understand the wonder and complexities of nature by using a technique called, "Flow Learning." Based on the book by Joseph Cornell, Sharing Nature With Children.

Watchable Wildlife

Saturday, July 31: 1 - 5 pm

Cost is \$15 per family (Children 10 and older) Does your family love wildlife? You will learn how and where to view animals as well as how to use fun tools like binoculars and viewing scopes. The class fee includes receipt of The Colorado Wildlife Viewing Guide. The program will begin at 7350 E 29th Ave, suite 300.

Wild Patterns in Nature

August 28: 10 am - Noon

Cost: \$5 members/\$10 nonmembers In conjunction with the 2004 Bluff Lake Photo Contest, children will discover Bluff Lake's beauty, learn how to view patterns in nature and practice art and photography skills

Prairie Dogs, Pest or Pal?

Dates and times vary

Cost: \$2 members/\$5 nonmembers The Prairie Dog is a controversial animal these days. Schedule this program for your class, family or neighborhood association. Are prairie dogs nuisances or necessities? Find out.

Westerly Creek *(continued from page 1)*

and consistent with discipline with the staff. Finally they would like a person who is open and available to discuss issues with the staff, values diversity, is able to work in the DPS system, and is open minded.

The interview stage will likely last into the first half of June. The committee will recommend three finalists to the area superintendent and DPS Superintendent Jerry Wartgow. District officials will make the final choice after conducting their own interviews and background checks.

Westerly Creek Unveils Students' Tiles



Nita Baumann, a Westerly Creek kindergarten teacher, views the tiles created by students to decorate the entry way of Westerly Creek Elementary School at Stapleton.

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In the Heart of Stapleton

Scenes from the Town Center



With the arrival of summer weather, the East 29th Avenue Town Center at Stapleton is becoming the popular gathering place it was envisioned to be by Denver architect Peter Dominick and his team from 42\40 Architecture, Inc. (formerly part of Urban Design Group, Inc.). Umbrella-shaded street cafes are the popular choice for a leisurely lunch while sidewalk

flower stands and comfortable benches draw relaxing office workers, parents with strollers and curious shoppers. Young visitors looking for relief from the mid day sun have already discovered the water feature in the West Crescent on Founders' Green is a cool attraction.



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