

# Front Porch

A publication of Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

STAPLETON

DENVER, COLORADO

JUNE 2005

*Beginning phases to be open for use later this year*

## Central Park Taking Shape



The land forms for the sledding hills that rise to an elevation of 35 feet in the northwest corner of the park are visible with the tower in the background. At left an artist's rendering shows the promenade and concert venue.

The eagerly awaited Central Park is beginning to take shape across from the former Stapleton control tower on the northeast corner of the intersection of Central Park Boulevard and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Even the most casual observer driving along Martin Luther King Boulevard can now distinguish the land forms for the sledding hills that rise to an elevation of 35 feet in the northwest corner of the park. By the end of this year, the pedestrian "promenade" that traverses the 80 acre park from the "urban forest" on the southwest to the natural prairie mounds and native grasses along the Westerly Creek open space on the northeast will be installed, as will the sports fields south of the promenade.

As future visitors to Central Park stroll along the promenade, they will pass an outdoor concert venue and gathering place that will include a concession facility, regional playground, inter-active fountain, restrooms and lots of outdoor seating. One particularly interesting feature of the promenade will be blue LED (light emitting diodes) lights that will be buried in the sidewalk, recalling the visual impression of the blue runway lights that once marked the runways at the former airport.

Central Park will be open for use in phases beginning later this year. As construction permits, visitors will be able to stroll down the promenade this fall to get a closer look at the park as it takes shape. Landscaped areas will open after they have achieved sufficient maturity. As an example, the soccer fields planted this year are expected to be open for use in the fall of next year.

## New Venture Center Coming to Stapleton

CTEK Colorado, the statewide business catalyst for innovative entrepreneurs, is partnering with Forest City Stapleton, Inc. to develop a new Venture Center in the Stapleton community, serving Denver's start-up technology companies.

The 5,000 square foot facility, which will be located in Stapleton's former Visitor Center at Martin Luther King Boulevard and Syracuse Street, is under construction and will include 10 fully furnished office suites, 4 conference/meeting areas, a kitchen, and copy/fax facilities. CTEK Stapleton will offer technology companies all of the existing CTEK programs, including Business Plan and Feasibility Reviews, the Finance Track (with access to Angel Investors), the CEO Track, and the Venture Labor Track, as well as customized engagements.

"The future of the Denver Metro region will hinge on how successfully the creative energies of the region's entrepreneurs can be evolved into a successful business enterprise," said Hank Baker, senior vice president of Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

"CTEK Denver at Stapleton will allow

those with cutting edge ideas to bring exciting new ideas to reality."

Additional community support is being provided by Wells Fargo Bank, the region's leading SBA loan provider, Brownstein, Hyatt and Farber's

Corporate Securities and Intellectual Property and Technology law practice, and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the largest health benefits provider in Colorado. Comcast

is providing broadband access to the facility. Additional partners will be named at the grand opening, planned for later this summer.

CTEK Stapleton will be led by Stephen Miller, economic development veteran and former Vice President of the Southeast Business Partnership. Miller also previously served as an economist for the State of Colorado's Department of Labor and Employment.

"I couldn't be more excited about the partnership between Forest City and CTEK," said Miller, who is also a Stapleton resident. "We have already signed our first resident client, Asula, a strategic planning software development

company." Miller expects to have as many as three companies by opening day.

The redevelopment of Denver's former Stapleton International Airport by Forest City Enterprises, (continued on page 3)



Stapleton's original visitor center

## The Doctor Is In... at Westerly Creek School

Joyce Huggard's first grade class at Stapleton's Westerly Creek Elementary School could not have had more expert help with their class project on animals recently when Stapleton's veterinarian, Dr. Michele Smith, made a special visit to their classroom to answer questions about caring for injured or sick animals.

Dr. Smith and her nurse, Chanae Bowden, set the stage for the discussion by bringing along doctor's masks and scrub hats for each of the

children. Once the kids put on the special apparel, they were ready to view X-rays Dr. Smith brought along showing a (continued on page 15)



Westerly Creek students study animal x-rays brought to their classroom by Dr. Michele Smith.

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East 29th Avenue Town Center

# Mark Your CALENDAR

## 2005 STAPLETON EVENTS

### EVERY MONTH

#### First Tuesday

Stapleton Residents' Social  
Events Committee  
Stapleton Visitor Center  
6 - 7:30pm

#### First Wednesday

Westerly Creek PTA Meeting  
Childcare \$3.00/head donation  
6:30pm

#### First Saturday

Bluff Lake Birders  
Bluff Lake Nature Center  
7 - 9am

#### Third Tuesday

Stapleton Business Assoc.  
Call 303-393-770 for location  
8am

#### Third Thursday

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

#### Every Tuesday

Stapleton Strollers  
29th and Valentia  
9:30am

#### Every Tuesday

Preschool and Parent Support Group  
Westerly Creek Elementary School  
1 - 3:30pm

#### Fourth Tuesday

Pool Committee Meetings  
Call Stapleton Community Manager  
for time and location

#### Every Wednesday

Music Together  
Westerly Creek Elementary School  
9:30 - 10:30am

#### Every Friday

Story Time for Tots  
Westerly Creek Elementary School  
9:30am

#### Every Sunday

#### June 5 - September 25

Stapleton Farmers Market  
East 29th Avenue Town Center  
8:30am - 12:30pm

### JUNE

#### Saturday, June 4th

ALPS Fest  
Fred Thomas Park  
1 - 3pm

#### Sunday, June 5th

Stapleton Farmers' Market  
Opening Day  
East 29th Avenue Town Center  
8:30am - 12:30pm



Stapleton Farmers Market - every Sunday from June through September

#### Saturday, June 11th

Stapleton Charity Chase  
Greenway Park  
9am

#### Saturday, June 11th

Founders' Day  
Founders' Green  
4 - 6pm

#### Saturday, June 11th

Stapleton Under the Stars Concert  
Dressy Bessy, Matson Jones  
and Vicki Woodworth  
Founders' Green  
5 pm

#### Friday, June 17th

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
The Incredibles  
Founders' Green\*  
Dusk



### JUNE

#### Saturday, June 18th

1st Annual Stapleton  
Block Party Day  
Noon

#### Friday, June 24th

Happy Hour at Aviator Pool  
6:30 - 8:30pm

### JULY

#### Monday, July 4th

4th of July Parade  
Begins at Founders' Green  
10am



#### Monday, July 4th

4th of July Ice Cream Social  
Aviator Pool  
1 - 4pm

#### Friday, July 8th

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
Shrek 2  
Founders' Green\*  
Dusk

#### Friday, July 22nd

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
Willy Wonka and the  
Chocolate Factory  
Founders' Green  
Dusk

#### Thursday, July 28th

Happy Hour  
Aviator Pool  
6:30 - 8:30pm

### AUGUST

#### Friday, August 5th

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
Shark Tale  
Aviator Pool  
Dusk

#### Friday, August 19th

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
Legally Blond - Red, White  
and Blond  
Founders' Green\*  
Dusk

#### Friday, August 19th

Relay for Life  
Founders' Green

#### Saturday, August 20th

Happy Hour  
Aviator Pool  
6:30 - 8:30pm

#### Saturday, August 27th

Stapleton Stampede Run

### SEPTEMBER

#### Friday, September 2nd

Stapleton Under the Stars Movie  
Finding Neverland  
Founders' Green\*  
Dusk

#### September 9-11th

MS Challenge 3-Day walk  
Ending at Founders' Green

#### Saturday, September 24th

Wine Festival  
Founders' Green

### OCTOBER

#### Saturday, October 15th

Fall Festival  
Founders' Green  
11am - 1pm

### DECEMBER

#### December 5th - 9th

Holiday Lighting Contest

#### December 11th

Lighting of the Holiday Tree

\*Watch [www.StapletonDenver.com](http://www.StapletonDenver.com)  
for more information

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# Front Porch

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More than 200 programs offered during summer break

# DPL Launches 2005 Summer Reading Program

According to the U.S. Department of Education, many kids lose up to three months of reading skills during summer months—a time when they most need to develop lifelong reading habits. With that in mind, the Denver Public Library has established “Summer of Reading and Teen Summer of Reading 2005,” programs designed to encourage children, teens and parents to continue reading during crucial non-school months.



This year the Summer Reading Program hopes to provide Denver metro area students plenty of incentives and summer fun for kids and their parents during the 9-week break. The goal of the program is to encourage kids and teens to read over the summer months to keep their reading skills sharp for the fall school year. The following are programs involved in this year’s summer activities:

**Children’s Summer of Reading Program**

This summer, boys and girls (infants to fifth-graders) will take a Pirate Adventure in search of literary treasures at the Library. For a program schedule, call the Children’s Library at 720-865-1311.

**Teen Summer of Reading Program**

Teen Summer of Reading 2005 program provides an opportunity for older kids (sixth to 12th graders—12- to

18-year-olds) to participate in the summer library activities. Through July 23, 2005, teens can visit any Denver Public Library location to register for the program and collect their earned prizes. This year’s theme of TRP “Time Warp: Beyond Time and Place,” encourages kids to relax, escape the every day and experience the wonders of books. Teens and parents can call the Children’s Library at 720-865-1311 or visit neighborhood Libraries to learn more about the program.

**Program Registration Information**

Children, teens and parents are invited to visit any Denver Public Library location through July 9, 2005 to register for the Summer of Reading programs. Program

information for “Treasure Your Library” and TRP “Time Warp: Beyond Time and Place” include calendars of free activities and are available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Russian.

The only requirement is a valid Denver Public Library card, which are free. Please see your neighborhood librarian for registration information. Children’s program participants can read to earn prizes (while supplies last), including a free pass to the Denver Zoo, free swim pass at the Denver Parks and Recreation pools, a pass to a University of Denver sporting event, admission to the Museum of Nature and Science, and many other prizes.

All summer long, Summer of Reading participants have their choice of over 200 free activities at Library locations across the city. The Library’s summer fun comes in all forms, from storytelling to music; art to science, kids will experience a host of activities through the Summer of Reading program. Sign-up at any Denver Public Library location, or, online at [www.summerofreading.org](http://www.summerofreading.org).

## Venture Center

(continued from page 1)

Inc. is one of the largest urban redevelopments in the nation. Since development began in May 2001, more than 1,500 homes have been sold and nearly 4,000 residents are now living within walking distance of new parks, schools and just under one million square feet of new retail. When fully developed in 15-20 years, the 4,700-acre Stapleton property will become a community of 30,000 residents and have thirteen million square feet of commercial uses employing 35,000 people.

Stapleton’s residential and commercial development will be enhanced by more than 1,100 acres of new parks and open space. Stapleton’s commitment to “smart growth” has earned international and national recognition that includes awards from the Stockholm Partnership for Sustainable Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and The National League of Cities.

Three new Denver public schools are already open at Stapleton and a fourth, scheduled to open in the summer of 2006, is under construction near the intersection of Montview Boulevard and Central Park Boulevard. The schools now open include the highly acclaimed Denver School of Science and Technology, a charter high school that opened its doors in Stapleton this year. DSST provides a liberal arts high school education with a science and technology focus to a diverse student body.

## Mayor Visits Smith Elementary



Mayor John Hickenlooper visited Smith Elementary School in the Park Hill Neighborhood west of Stapleton recently to launch the “5 By 5 Project” which introduces young children in Denver’s Head Start program to arts, culture and play as a way to spark imagination and stimulate creativity and learning.

## Stapleton Public Art Program Hosts Artists Workshops

*By Barbara Neal*


The Public Art program at Stapleton is hosting workshops to assist artists with preparing applications for the public art project proposed for the Ellipse on 29th Avenue. The first workshop, held Thursday evening, May 5th, attracted more than fifteen artists as well as residents and others interested in this project. In addition to information about the ellipse at the intersection of East 29th Avenue and Xenia Street, the workshop included an in depth demonstration of the CaFÉ™ electronic application process for public art projects. Marsea Wynne, Executive Director of

Working With Artists, presented useful tips on documenting artwork in a digital format. This workshop is being repeated on Saturday morning, June 4th.

Anyone wanting to learn more about the Ellipse project or the public art program may contact Barbara Neal at [barbneal@mindspring.com](mailto:barbneal@mindspring.com). Watch future editions of The Stapleton Front Porch or visit [StapletonOnline.com](http://StapletonOnline.com) for updated information on the Stapleton Public Art Program.

*Barbara Neal is the Public Art Consultant for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.*

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Frequently Asked Questions

Since You’ve Asked...

*Editor’s Note: This is the first of what will become a monthly column in The Stapleton Front Porch devoted to answering the most frequently asked questions about Stapleton. Working with Stapleton United Neighbors (S.U.N.) and the Stapleton Citizens Advisory Board (The CAB), the entities involved in the redevelopment of Stapleton will make every effort to provide clear, factual responses to questions from the community. Cooperating in this effort will be Stapleton’s master developer, Forest City Stapleton, Inc., The Stapleton Development Corporation, The Stapleton Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities, The Park Creek Metropolitan District and other entities as necessary. These columns will also be available on the Stapleton Intranet (StapletonOnLine.com). Please remember that all development plans and timetables are subject to change.*

**Q. Who will be the anchor tenants at NorthField Mall? Who are some of the other tenants?**

**A.** A Bass Pro Superstore (equipment for camping, fishing and other outdoor activities) and Super Target are two anchors signed at this time and scheduled to open in the fall of this year. In regard to other tenants, Forest City Stapleton, Inc. has announced a Foley’s Department Store and an 18-screen Harkins Movie Theatre to anchor the north and south ends of the main street retail that will be the backbone of the NorthField Retail Center. Foley’s and Harkins will open in 2006.

**Q. Is there any news about businesses opening or closing in the East 29th Avenue Town Center?**

**A.** The newest Town Center business is The Coral Room Restaurant. Among the tenants scheduled to be added in the near future are Phoenix Yoga Studio and Udi’s Bread Bistro. The only Town Center tenant to close its doors has been Get Fired Up Pottery.

**Q. When will the future Town Centers open? Who will be the anchor tenants?**

**A.** The next Town Center is scheduled to be located near the intersection of the extension of MLK Blvd. and Havana Street. That town center is not likely to open until mid to late 2007 because most retail tenants will wait for the surrounding residential neighborhoods to be completed before they will make a commitment. That situation is different than the East 29th Avenue Town Center where retailers were willing to make commitments before

the adjacent new residential development was completed because they had existing neighborhoods on the west side of Quebec from which they could draw customers.

**Q. What are the hours for current pools? What is the status of future pools?**

**A.** The hours for Aviator Pool are:  
May 28th - August 14th  
Sunday 11am – 8pm  
Mon & Wed Noon - 8pm  
Tues & Thurs Noon - 7:00pm  
Friday Noon - 6pm  
Saturday 11am - 6pm  
August 15th – September 4th  
Sunday 11am – 7pm  
Mon-Thur 3:30pm - 7pm  
Friday 3:30pm – 6pm  
Saturday 11am – 6pm  
September 5 Labor Day  
Monday 11am – 7pm

**Please note** – Aviator Pool will close early on the following dates:  
June 24th @ 5pm  
July 4th @ 5pm  
July 28th @ 5pm  
August 20th @ 4pm

The opening date for the 2nd pool, located on 23rd Avenue between Xenia and Xanthia streets, has been pushed back to late June or early July due to weather-related delays in construction. When it opens, the hours will be:  
Opening Day thru August 14th  
Mon – Sun 11am – 8pm  
August 15th – September 4th  
Sunday 11am to 7pm  
Mon & Thurs 3:30pm – 7pm  
Friday 3:30pm – 7pm  
Saturday 11am – 7pm  
September 5th – Labor Day  
Monday 11am – 7pm

**Please note** – Pool 2 will close at 5pm on July 4th

**Q. I have heard the air traffic tower may be rehabilitated or may come down. How will this tower be utilized? Maintained? Who will pay for any rehabilitation or demolition?**

**A.** The former control tower has been stabilized to allow for future use, although that use cannot be identified at this time. Unfortunately the top of the tower does not have enough room for the use most people suggest (a restaurant). It may become an observation deck if access issues for people with disabilities can be addressed. The base of the building could serve as a marketing center for Forest City, Stapleton, Inc. Until a future use is identified, however, the question of who pays for rehabilitation will be unclear.

The Urban Farm

Hands on Learning

By Donna Garnett

Do you remember when you learned about genetics? If you were like me, it was really hard to get in touch with those peas and to carry over Mendel’s findings to have some relevance in everyday life. It was much later in life, when I began breeding and training horses, that suddenly dominant and recessive genes began to make some real-life sense to me.

This year I had the distinct pleasure of working with a truly gifted teacher at the Odyssey school who wanted to make genetics come alive for her seventh and eighth grade students. Since The Urban Farm (affectionately known as TUF) and the Odyssey School have been educational partners for four years, it was only natural that Liza Eaton and I strategize about how TUF might serve as a learning lab to reach her genetics objectives. We decided to skip the peas and go to the farm animals in hopes that kids might grasp the academic concepts.

Liza created an amazing game that involved horses at The Urban Farm. Working in small groups, the students received cards that represented mares and stallions with certain desirable coat color characteristics. The students were to set a coat color goal that could be achieved within a set number of generations. Most of the horse coat colors were represented by horses at TUF – horses that the kids knew on a first name basis. Having that connection to the horses provided incentive to the students to learn more about each animal’s pedigree. They began throwing around terms like “homozygous” with confidence and understanding. As a

conclusion to this semester-long experience, the kids created their own pedigrees that demonstrated their success (and, in some cases their lack of success) in achieving the desired coat colors in the time frame given.

This project was one of several Farm-School education projects that was implemented at TUF this school year. Through the Farm-School Partnership program, an entire school forms a partnership with TUF. Our Farm education staff meets with school

Photo by John A. Ross



Urban Farm students attending a class in the indoor arena.

staff to plan a variety of experiences in which students at many grade levels participate. The students may visit The Farm monthly or only once or twice during the school year. In some cases, the curriculum is pre-determined by TUF. In other cases, the curriculum is jointly developed by the Farm-School team.

While subject areas

are heavily weighted toward science, math and social studies, the Farm does feature two literacy programs. In all cases, the students also participate in a micro-enterprise that is developed out of their projects. Last year students started a small farm-fresh egg business. The real world of agriculture is a great venue to learn about food production, marketing, health codes, nutrition, and economics.

In a study of plant science at TUF, a culminating micro-enterprise for their botanical studies, was to plant small pots of herbs that will be sold at Stapleton’s first Farmer’s Market of the year. Hope to see you there.

Donna Garnet is President and Co-Founder of The Urban Farm at Stapleton. For more information about the Farm-School Partnership program, contact [www.donna@theurbanfarm.org](mailto:www.donna@theurbanfarm.org).

Baby Power Adds New Programs

By Dan Mitzner

Since opening in January of this year, Baby Power/Forever Kids in Quebec Square has “had its ear to the ground,” listening to the needs and desires of local parents. Based on what we’ve heard, Baby Power would like to announce the following additions to our developmental play programs.

Signing Smart™ programs

With the ever-growing population of infants in the “Golden Triangle” neighborhoods of Stapleton, Park Hill and Lowry there is a need to teach parents and babies the means to communicate. With that thought in mind, Baby Power is adding the Signing Smart™ program to its developmental curriculum. The play class programming integrates American Sign Language (ASL) signs into interactions through songs, props, games and activities. In addition, workshops give parents and caregivers an action plan to make signing seamless and successful in their homes or classrooms. With their interactive methods of teaching, Signing Smart™ will fit perfectly into the Baby Power family of classes and programs.

Spanish added as Power Curriculum

Recognizing the demand for a Spanish program aimed at children as young as two years old, Baby Power and its older Forever Kids programs are introducing a new Spanish

Power curriculum. Baby Power is answering the call of many local parents who want their children to start learning a second language at a young age.

Association for Police and Sheriffs Kids ID fair July 31st

Bring the kids down to Baby Power in Quebec Square on July 31st to have their finger prints taken and state ID forms filled out. There will be hair braiding, balloons and face painting! Come join the fun at Baby Power and our neighbor Lollilocks on July 31st.

We are also proud to announce that Baby Power will team up with Rocky Mountain PBS on Tuesday and Thursday Afternoons Starting June 21st to offer FREE “Ready to Learn” parenting workshops. Baby Power will also serve as a drop-off location for the PBS Book Drive. The drive benefits the Ready to Learn and Share-a-Story programs. New and gently used children’s books from pre-K to 8th grade English or Spanish are appreciated. For more information about the “Ready to Learn” program, visit [www.rmpbs.org/readytolearn](http://www.rmpbs.org/readytolearn)

Dan Mitzner and his wife Rachel Baumel are the owners of Baby Power/Forever-Kids located in Stapleton’s Quebec Square. Call (303) 377-8855 for information or to attend a FREE trial class. Or go online to visit us at [www.babypower.com](http://www.babypower.com)



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# Should Your Child Google Before She Goo Goos?

By Beth Letzsch

Much discussion has surfaced in the early childhood education community concerning young children’s use of computers – whether it be in the classroom or at home. In 2004, it was estimated that as many as 75% of children live in homes with computers, and 77% of children have used a computer by the time they graduate from kindergarten. With computers popping up in every aspect of modern life, when is it the right time to teach your child the difference between a wireless mouse and Mickey Mouse?

It is increasingly common to see computers being introduced to the early learning environment. Early childhood experts have long debated the value of computers in the early preschool classroom, particularly when they are used inappropriately as a device to occupy a child’s time, instead of a valuable learning tool in the classroom. Not everyone is sold on the virtues of early computer use. Some research has shown that over reliance on computers can give rise to the kinds of problems associated with television use, such as stifled creativity, hampered social skills, eyestrain and obesity. What’s clear in these studies is that, used indiscriminately, early use of computers may not be as valuable to very young children as the social interaction and learning through play that is such an important component of a strong curriculum in a preschool setting.

Skilled implementation of computers in an early learning classroom, however, can have lasting and valuable outcomes. Recently, the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a study where the findings show that preschool children who have access to computers have been shown to perform better on school readiness and cognitive development.

Many early childhood experts agree that there are numerous benefits to early exposure to computer learning, but caution that, because children under three years old learn differently – mainly through their bodies, social interaction, emergent communication and creative movement – computers simply don’t match their learning style. Although toddlers and early preschoolers may return to an activity over and over again, they change their focus

frequently, and prefer to explore cause and effect and learn about their environment through active play.

Children three and older are typically developmentally ready to explore computers. Preschoolers who use computer programs that focus on activities that reinforce the learning found in other components of the preschool curriculum, such as math concepts, storytelling and cause and effect, have been shown to have significantly greater developmental readiness, verbal and nonverbal skills, structural knowledge, long-term memory and problem solving skills. What’s important is that the focus of the child’s learning is toward open-ended exploration, not skill acquisition and rote drilling and memorization.

What should you look for when considering introducing your child to a computer at home, or when your child care provider offers computers as a tool in the preschool classroom? First, make sure your child is ready to explore on the computer, and wants to focus on an activity for fifteen minutes or more. Children will need plenty of time to experiment and explore on the computer, and love programs that allow them to click on various options to see what is going to happen next. When considering software to use at home, look for programs that provide for open-ended exploration, and are easy for a child to navigate with simple mouse clicks. Many software programs offer underlying tones that help influence positive behavior traits like cooperation and social interaction. It’s also important

to be available to your child during her computer time to help relieve frustrations if a child gets into an area of the program and can’t get back to a menu screen. If you’re allowing access to the internet,

you’ll probably want to install a web filtering software, such as Net Nanny, to minimize exposure to unwanted websites. There are also wonderful educational sites available for you to surf the net together – like [www.pbskids.org/lions](http://www.pbskids.org/lions), which is a rich source of interactive activities, songs, information, parent tips, printable games and coloring sheets based on the popular “Between the Lions” television program.

If computers are offered in a group setting like a child care facility, key factors of a successful technology program that you should look for are balanced access to computers in the classroom as an additional learning center, teacher monitoring and facilitation, and quality educational programming. The National Association for the Education of Young Children recommends that technology be implemented in the preschool learning environment as *one* of many options to support children’s social and cognitive abilities – but cautions that computers should not

replace other valuable learning centers such as blocks, art, sand and water play, books, science tables and other exploratory areas in the preschool classroom.

Computers should not be used to drill children on educational concepts, nor should they be an activity that is used as a babysitter, or reward system for good behavior. Instead, they should be woven seamlessly into the curriculum as another component of the daily learning. A new

trend being offered in high quality programs is to provide laptops in the classroom that are integrated into daily curriculum schedule like any other teaching tool – whether it be letter writing, introducing math concepts, storytelling or research for a group project.

At Primrose Schools, coming soon to Stapleton, computers are integrated into the daily routine beginning in the preschool classrooms, and continue through pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and school age programs. Numerous laptops in the classroom enable teachers to bring the instruction to life by integrating technology right into the daily lessons. Unique educational programs and software and a virtual resource library called INET found exclusively at Primrose Schools, provide an extensive collection of tools to make the most of technology in a preschool environment. Additionally, the use of Classworks, a supplemental instructional component of Primrose Schools’ acclaimed Balanced Learning Curriculum, offers kindergarten and school age children the opportunity to have an individualized learning path, aligned to state standards, created just for them to help young learners master critical concepts that are expected on standardized tests.

Clearly, children are going to be exposed to computers at a very early age, whether you sit down each night at a computer with your child, or your child decides to reprogram your favorites on TIVO. What’s most important is that computers, whenever introduced, are used as a supplemental tool to the learning process, not a replacement for teaching or providing time for active learning. Just like a book or a pencil, computers can be used in developmentally appropriate ways that are beneficial to children, with a lasting positive impact. When used properly, computers can challenge our littlest learners, and ignite a passion for lifelong learning. It’s one more way to help your child explore this extraordinary world. Happy keyboarding!

*Beth and Bill Letzsch are owners and operators of Primrose School at Stapleton that will open later this year at 25th and Syracuse Street.*



## Community Groups Rediscover Stapleton

By Latrice Norwood

Stapleton continues to attract the interest of community groups around the Denver Metro area, and Single Mothers of Color (otherwise known as SMOC) is no exception. Recently staff and members of this organization toured the development along with children and extended family members, as well as a representative of one of the organization’s major contributors.

The responses were that of great surprise and excitement, being that many of the members of this organization are natives of Colorado such as Ms. Mary McCoy who grew up in close proximity


to the Stapleton airport. While on the tour she reminisced about how she and her family spent Sunday afternoons having lunch and watching planes take off and land at Stapleton, which sparked the memories of a number of us on the tour who also lived in Denver during the airport’s existence. Charles Taylor of American Family insurance, who is one of the major sponsors of this organization, indicated that “This is the first opportunity I have had to see Stapleton and everything going on over here. This is great!”

SMOC is a local non profit organization that was kicked off in May of 2004 by Stephanie Cross and Joi Afzal. Both working single moms agreed that there was a need for an organization that addressed the needs of working single mothers of color who felt there were no resources available to her and her family. SMOC is dedicated to providing information and resources to single mothers of color, as well as advocating family and personal growth through educational and social programming by providing workshops, mentoring, networking opportunities, and family oriented activities in a safe environment. For more information on this organization, please visit their website at [www.smocdenver.org](http://www.smocdenver.org).

*Latrice Norwood is an executive assistant at Forest City Stapleton, Inc. and a regular contributor to The Stapleton Front Porch.*

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# Denver Publi

**PARK HILL BRANCH**  
4705 Montview Blvd., 303-331-4063

**World Music**  
by: Usamah Zaid  
06/03/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Rhythm master Usamah Zaid will play beats from around the world on his exotic instruments. Join him and try one yourself!

**Balloon Art**  
by: Handy Andy  
06/07/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Join Handy Andy as he reveals to us the craft of balloon art. Make dogs, cats, spiders and more during this entertaining craft program.  
Registration Required

**Top-Secret Magic Magic Workshop 102**  
by: Connie and the Rabbit Company  
06/07/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Become a magician! At this workshop you will receive the materials and instruction to perform some eye-popping illusions of your own. For ages 11-18.  
Registration Required

**Cosmic Circle Puppets**  
by: Ed Glassman  
06/10/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Ed Glassman will present multicultural folktales with his Cosmic Circle Puppets.

**Storytelling with Hugo**  
by: Hugo Sayles  
06/17/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Listen to the unforgettable storytelling of Hugo Sayles as he tells tales for all ages.

**Memory Wire Bracelets**  
by: Mary Schadler  
06/21/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Hey teens! Come make a memory wire bracelet!  
Registration Required

**Bug-Eared Trip Around the World**  
by: Michael Stanwood  
06/24/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Listen to silly songs and sounds from around the world. Ever seen, heard or played a didgeridoo? Here is your chance!



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#### HEALTH & BEAUTY

**A Day Spa**  
Offer: 10% off any service.  
Location: Quebec Square

**A Wild Smile Pediatric Dentistry**  
Offer: Free well baby check up for 12-18 month-olds.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Bladium Sports Club**  
Offer: \$75 for initiation fees.

**Curves**  
Offer: 50% off initiation fee.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Executive Tans**  
Offer: 20% off select lotion with purchase of a session.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Fantastic Sams**  
Offer: 10% off all services and professional products. Free haircut with color service.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**GNC at Quebec Square**  
Offer: \$5 off a purchase of \$30 or more.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Great Clips**  
Offer: 20% off any product with haircut purchase.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Sports Clips**  
Offer: \$2.00 off a men's or boy's haircut.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Stapleton Health and Wellness, LLC.**  
Offer: Every resident will get their first yoga class for free.

#### SERVICES

**Allstate Insurance, Brad Phillips & Associates**  
Offer: A \$5 gift card to your choice of Starbucks or Thomas Bros Coffee and Chai with any FREE, no hassle quote on home and auto, or health, business or life insurance.

#### SERVICES (continued)

**Commercial Federal Bank**  
Offer: Open a FREE no-minimum balance checking account with Direct Deposit and receive added benefits equal to those offered to bank employees!  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Credit Union at Stapleton**  
Offer: Receive a FREE \$20.00 gift when you open your new Credit Union at Stapleton account!  
Location: Quebec Square

**Environmentally Friendly Cleaners**  
Offer: 20% off of all DRY CLEANING (Quebec Square location only).  
Location: Quebec Square

**FirstBank**  
Offer: Receive .5% discount on any consumer installment loan (excluding mortgages).  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**New Avenues Real Estate Office**  
Offer: \$100.00 gift certificate toward select Stapleton merchants.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**PostNet**  
Offer: \$3 off Fed Ex and/or UPS shipments (excluding ground service).  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**RE/MAX City Horizons, The Kearns Team, LLC**  
Offer: \$500 towards closing costs and extra discounts on Home Sale costs when you buy at Stapleton.

**Renaissance Denver Hotel**  
Offer: Special room rate, savings up to 20%.

**Stapleton Home Services**  
Offer: 50% off 1st scheduled maid service. (Expires 60 days after move in date.)

#### SERVICES (continued)

**Tires Plus**  
Offer: \$9.99 oil change; 10% off any automotive service; \$25 off of a set of four tires; \$30 off your 30, 60 and 90k scheduled maintenance service.  
Location: Quebec Square

**UPS Store**  
Offer: 50% off black and white copies.  
Location: Quebec Square

**US Bank**  
Offer: .25% discount on ANY fixed rate loan.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center – in King Soopers

**WIIRE Group Real Estate Services**  
Offer: \$500 towards closing costs.

#### MISC. RETAIL (continued)

**Amore Fiori**  
Offer: Saturdays - get two for one on select flowers.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Baby Power**  
Offer: \$10 off of class session fee.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Cat's Music Together at the Bladium**  
Offer: \$5 off tuition for each registered child in your family.

**Cingular Wireless**  
Offer: FREE Vehicle power adapter with new activation (\$29.99 value).  
Location: Quebec Square

**Grape Leaf**  
Offer: 15% off mixed case of wine or 10% off on 6 bottles  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Graham Taylor Photography**  
Offer: 15% off listed Wedding Package or 50% off portrait sitting fee.

**Instant Imprints**  
Offer: 10% off of all products and services.  
Location: Quebec Square

#### MISC. RETAIL

**Brasserie Restaurant and Lounge in the Renaissance Hotel**  
Offer: 15% discount on all food and beverage.

**Character's Sports Bar & Grill (at the Doubletree Denver)**  
Offer: 10% discount on all food and beverage.

**Cold Stone Creamery®**  
Offer: \$1.00 off "Love It," or "Got to Have It" creations. \$3.00 off cake order.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Doubletree Denver Café**  
Offer: 10% discount on all food and beverage.

**Kyle's Saloon and Eatery**  
Offer: FREE salad with dine-in pizza or calzone order.

**Noodles and Company**  
Offer: Free fountain beverage with purchase of entree sized bowl.  
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

**Panera Bread**  
Offer: \$1 off Sandwich, Salad or You Pick Two.  
Location: Quebec Square

**Radisson Hotel, Quebec's Bistro**  
Offer: 15% off food menu items.

**Thomas Bros. Coffee & Chai**  
Offer: FREE size UPGRADE on ANY beverage  
Location: Quebec Square

**Wingz ETC!**  
Offer: 10% off any combo meal.  
Location: Quebec Square

Present your Resident Pool ID/ Stapleton Club Card for discounts at these businesses. Visit [www.StapletonDenver.com](http://www.StapletonDenver.com) for participating merchants and program information. Offers may change monthly.



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#### Why doggie daycare?

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- Instead of being home alone, your dog has an indoor/outdoor cage free alternative.



# c Library – June Programs

**PAULINE ROBINSON BRANCH**  
5575 E. 33rd Ave. 303-370-1530

**Stunt Planes—Mad Science**  
by: Mad Science of Denver  
06/01/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Learn the principles of flight, and do some fancy flying with your own creations! Registration is required. Limited to 25 children. This program is intended for school-aged children. Registration Required

**Memory Wire Bracelets**  
by: Mary Schadler  
06/14/2005 - 04:00 PM  
Hey teens! Come make a memory wire bracelet!

**Listen and Talk Story Time**  
by: Mary Palmer  
06/14/2005 - 05:30 PM  
06/21/2005 - 05:30 PM  
06/28/2005 - 05:30 PM  
Join us for an interactive story time that the whole family will enjoy. You'll be encouraged to join in, ask questions, add comments and share experiences. Drop in for a few minutes or stay an hour!

**Miss Abbie the Clown Show**  
by: Mime Time  
06/15/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Miss Abbie demonstrates her amazing clowning abilities! Watch her escape the treacherous grasp of a painting easel. See her perform amazing magic tricks with balloons Witness her conduct a magical symphony to the music of Peter and the Wolf. Is she a clown? A magician? A music conductor? Come and find out! But be careful. You may be picked from the audience to help her perform!

**Comedy and Magic**  
by: Mark Strivings  
06/29/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Come see Mark Strivings as he amazes us with his magic and entertains us with his comedy!

**Japanese Folk Drumming**  
by: Toni Yagami  
06/22/2005 - 10:30 AM  
Boom! Bang! Crash! Learn about Japanese drums in this interactive program with Toni Yagami.

**Paul-Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!**  
by: Jackman Brothers  
06/22/2005 - 02:00 PM  
Bryce Jackman will share some unusual bugs with you!

**Light Switch Covers**  
by: Denver Public Library  
06/28/2005 - 04:00 PM  
Tired of your boring old light switch covers? Come design an interesting, colorful cover in this craft program. You may bring your own light switch cover, or a standard cover will be provided.

*All programs of Denver Public Library are free and open to the public. Please call ahead to ensure that the scheduled program will be held. For more information, call the listed branch, or visit us at Denver Public Library Online located at [www.denverlibrary.org](http://www.denverlibrary.org).*

*TTY for persons who are deaf or hearing-impaired call 720-865-1472, if you would like to schedule an interpreter. Please call at least one week in advance of the event. All Denver Public Libraries are accessible to people with disabilities. For continuous updates please visit the DPL Events Calendar <http://www.denverlibrary.org/news/events.cfm>.*

# Sand Creek Trail Named One of Top 10 Fitness Trails

Courtesy Sand Creek Regional Greenway

The American Hiking Society, the only national organization dedicated to establishing, protecting, and maintaining America's foot trails, has named the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Trail that runs through Stapleton one of the top 10 fitness trails in the United States.

Fitness trails are defined as trails within 20 minutes of a major metropolitan area - meaning consumers can use them before, during or after work. The trails have elements that can be completed in 60 to 90 minutes and can be used for a variety of fitness activities including trail running, hiking and biking.

The Sand Creek Regional Greenway is a 14-mile public greenway that connects the High Line Canal in Aurora with the Platte River Greenway in Commerce City as it passes through Stapleton where it is the "backbone" of more than 1,100 acres of new parks and open space. The trail is perfect for busy Coloradoans looking to combine their need for physical exercise (an average-size person hiking just two miles an hour burns more than 200 calories an hour) with their love of the outdoors.

Kate Kramer, executive director of Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership said, "We love the fact that we were recognized by this honor. As the Stapleton population grows, we will be providing even more recreational opportunities along the greenway for all."

The honor for the Sand Creek trail comes on the heels of Denver being named one of the top five fittest cities in the country by Men's Fitness magazine.

For more information about the Sand Creek Regional Greenway, visit [www.sandcreekgreenway.org](http://www.sandcreekgreenway.org).



Runners from the Colorado Masters Runners and Race Walkers Association on the Sand Creek Trail

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.

<b>Movies:</b>	Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Pre-movie entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Trailers & Movies begin at 8:00 p.m.
June 17	<b>The Incredibles</b> (PG)
July 8	<b>Shrek 2</b> (PG)
July 22nd	<b>Willy Wonka &amp; the Chocolate Factory</b> (G)
August 5	<b>Shark Tale</b> (PG) (Aviator Pool)
August 19	<b>Legally Blonde 2 - Red, White &amp; Blonde</b> (PG-13)
September 2	<b>Finding Neverland</b> (PG)

<b>Concerts:</b>	Gates open at 4:00 p.m. Concert begins at 5:00 p.m.
June 11	<b>Dressy Bessy</b> <b>Matson Jones</b> - Westword 2005 Best New Band <b>Vicki Woodworth</b> - Westword 2004 Best Female Singer/Songwriter

All movies and concerts are taking place at Founders' Green unless otherwise noted (East 29th Avenue and Roslyn Street).

Please visit [www.StapletonDenver.com](http://www.StapletonDenver.com) for full details.

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7



# Managing Mosquitoes

By Tony Stilwell

This year, as last, the Mosquito Management Program we manage for the Park Creek Metro District at Stapleton will follow sound environmental principles for mosquito control. And it all starts with mapping.

Many people think of GIS (Geographic Information System) as being a tool for civil engineers and city planners. But today's GIS technology has dramatically improved upon mosquito control programs of the past. At Stapleton, this layered mapping system is used to first combine aerial photography into a database with streets and other features. Potential mosquito breeding habitat is then added to a map, with each site receiving a unique number such as "SP-0001." This site number actually links each site to years of mosquito history. By combining GIS with our database, we can use each site's historical data to predict when a site may produce mosquitoes, what type of mosquitoes are produced there, and also bring up the treatment the site has received.

The map is then "field checked" for accuracy and is then ready to be put into the weekly inspection cycle. In the Stapleton area, every mapped site is checked on a weekly basis. This allows us to catch mosquito breeding cycles and stop them before they become adults. A Colorado Mosquito Control technician inspects these sites for mosquito larvae, and if found, will treat using a biological larvicide or growth regulator. Some of the larvicides used are actually registered for Organic use, yet are still highly effective and very selective. Biological larvicides are the product of choice because they are naturally occurring throughout the world and have not been altered or genetically modified. We focus on using mosquito control products that have years of data and are selective only on mosquito larvae,

thus they have little to no impact on the environment.

Our technicians are out in the field every day identifying possible trouble spots, but each resident of the Stapleton community can play an important role in mosquito elimination by removing the potential breeding areas, such as standing water in flower pots to children's toys collecting sprinkler water, or by contacting us at Colorado Mosquito Control. Over the years, the general public has helped us identify many sites that have proven to be large mosquito breeding areas.

So the next time you see a technician in your area, whether you have information for them or a question they can answer, stop them and say "hello." To contact our office, dial 303.558.8730.

*Tony Stilwell is the Northeastern Operations Manager for Colorado Mosquito Control, which is under contract to Stapleton's Park Creek Metropolitan District.*

## Need child care? Au Pairs May Be the Answer

By Claire Chaplais

Coming up with flexible, dependable, affordable childcare can be a challenge! When we don't have the option to get help from grandparents or other family members, we're often faced with a very difficult task to find childcare that fits our requirements and our wallets. There are a few usual avenues that we can look into: the experienced nanny, the family daycare, the pre-school/ daycare facilities, or even the next door neighbor's teen for after school care. One option that is not as often considered is the au pair!

The word "au pair" is a French term, which means "on par" or "equal to," denoting living on an equal basis in a reciprocal, caring relationship between the host family and the children. An Au Pair is a young adult, between the ages of 18 and 26, coming from abroad to the United States for 12 months as an exchange program visitor. The program is a wonderful

childcare alternative. An au pair lives in your home and in exchange for room, board and weekly pocket money; she may provide you with 45 hours of childcare per week. Au pairs care for infants (age 3 months to 2 years), toddlers and children up to 12.

Your children receive personal care when you need it. Professionals with busy schedules love the flexibility of having an au pair. Au pairs can drive your children to lessons or other activities, stay home with them when they're not feeling good, help with homework and more. An au pair becomes a perfect support line for busy families!

The U.S. State Department carefully regulates au pair programs as cultural exchange programs. It designates agencies as sponsors of the au pair cultural exchange that are required to function within federal guidelines. Agencies screen au pairs and host families according to these guidelines. Au Pairs must have a minimum of 200 hours of previous child care experience and must attend a 32 hour-workshop on child development and safety upon arrival in the U.S. prior to being placed in their host family.

Getting an au pair for your family is also a way to bring the world to your children. As au pairs share the life of your family for a year, they can share their culture, their music, their food. Au pairs definitely enrich our lives. Helene Young, President of USAuPair, witnessed this enrichment first hand when her son did a family tree assignment for his class. He included the family au pairs and their countries as part of his family tree.

Au pairs are a wonderful child care solution! Consider the au pair alternative and find out if the au pair program can solve your child care needs.

*Claire Chaplais is a Stapleton Resident & Volunteer Counselor for USAuPair. For more information, visit [www.usaupair.com](http://www.usaupair.com).*

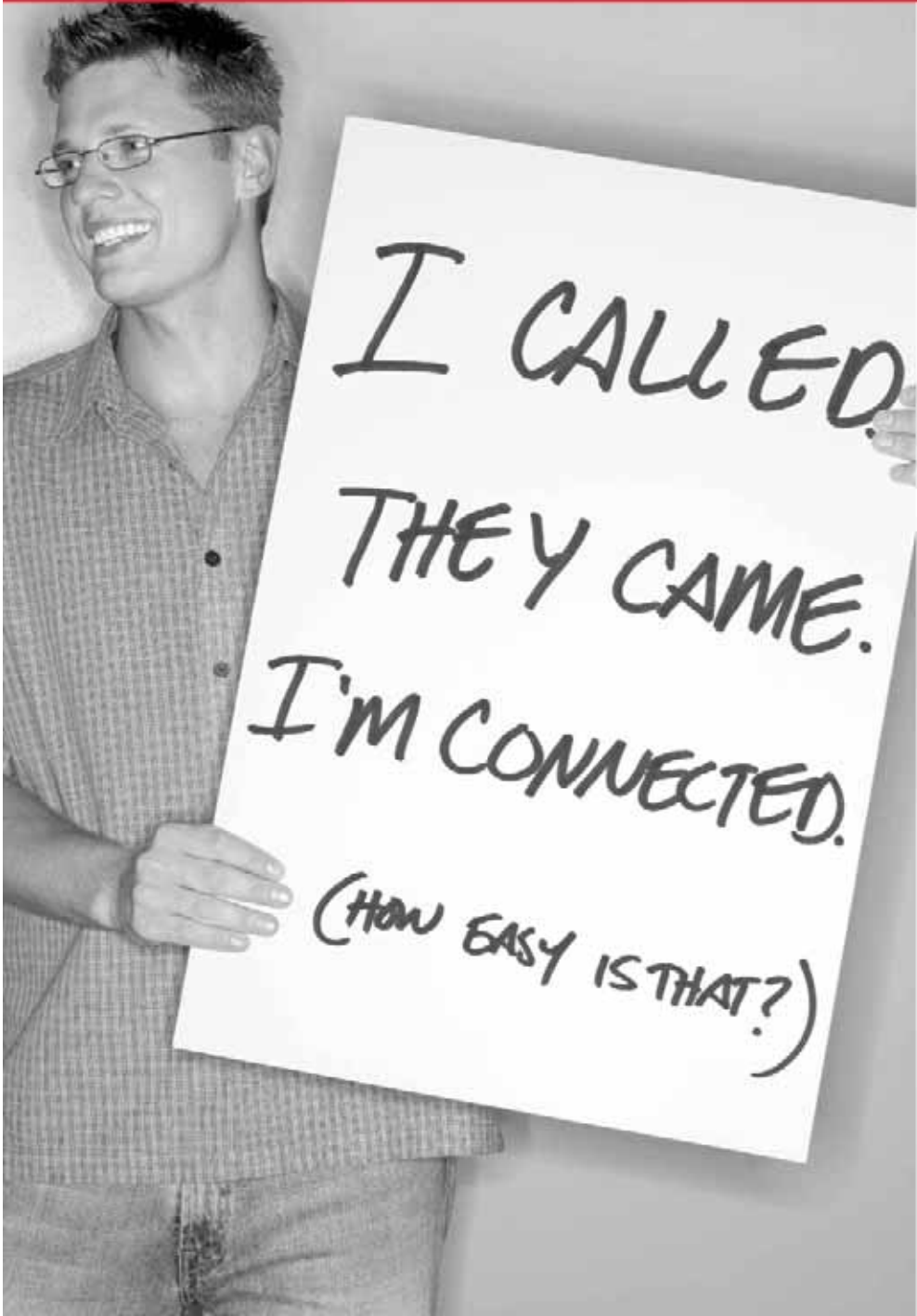
Photo courtesy of StapleTwins



### Seeing Double?

Members of StapleTwins gathered recently at Stapleton to discuss issues of mutual interest. Look for more information about StapleTwins in an upcoming issue of the Front Porch.

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# 2005 Summer Water Use Program

The Denver Water Board announced its 2005 Summer Water Use Program at the May 11th meeting. The 2005 program takes effect June 1st. See [www.denverwater.org](http://www.denverwater.org) for complete information.

### Mandatory Components

Do not water between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Penalties for water waste are in effect. The first violation results in a warning, the second violation results in a \$50 fine, the third violation results in a \$100 fine, and the fourth violation may result in suspension of water service.

### Voluntary Components

Three day-a-week turf watering schedule  
Even numbered single family homes:  
Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday  
Odd numbered single family homes:  
Monday, Wednesday, Saturday  
Multi-family, HOA's, Businesses and Government:  
Sunday, Tuesday, Friday  
Water flowers, trees and shrubs as needed, on any day, but not between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.



# Sustainability at Stapleton

by Melissa Knott

## Sustainability Resources

Education is at the core of all of our sustainability initiatives at Stapleton. As Director of Sustainability, it is my goal to encourage individuals to change just one behavior in their day-to-day lives. Here is a handy list of sustainability programs and resources available to you:

**Stapleton Farmers Market** – The Stapleton Farmers Market opens Sunday, June 5th. Come to the market to greet your neighbors, meet Colorado food producers, purchase luscious fresh fruits and vegetables, and enjoy the ambiance that Colorado Fresh Markets will create. I look forward to seeing you there!

**New Leaf** – Each month we publish a monthly flyer with tips for sustainable living called New Leaf. You can download two years' worth of issues from our website at [www.stapletondenver.com](http://www.stapletondenver.com). You can also sign up to receive New Leaf via email from our website or pick it up in paper form at the Stapleton Visitor's Center.

**New Leaf for Kids** – In 2004 we started distributing New Leaf for Kids to area elementary schools. New Leaf for Kids is available on our website and at the Stapleton Visitor's Center and features fun tips and activities to help children understand the principles of sustainability.

**Denver Recycles** – Denver Recycles' website ([www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles)) has great information on managing household hazardous waste, composting, and residential recycling, including a recycling directory that allows you to locate the nearest drop-off

recycling center for a wide range of materials that are not included in Denver Recycles' program.

**Tri-R Recycling Center** – At Stapleton we are very lucky to be close to the main Tri-R Recycling Center, located at 3600 East 48th Avenue (north of I-70 between Colorado Blvd. and Vasquez) where you can recycle cardboard, paperboard, phonebooks, and much more.

If you have an interest in sustainability or questions about resources, feel free contact me at [mknott@stapletondenver.com](mailto:mknott@stapletondenver.com) with ideas. We want to help make it easy to change daily habits!

## Recycle Your Old Sneakers!

Dig out your old, tattered sneakers from the back of your closet and bring them down to the 29th Avenue Town Center June 1-8 for recycling! Denver Recycles/Solid Waste Management and the Metro Denver Sports Commission are teaming up to collect more than 5,000 pairs of old athletic shoes as part of the Reuse-A-Shoe program sponsored by the National Recycling Coalition, Inc. and Nike. Stapleton is one of four collection

sites in the Denver area. There will be a recycling bin at the southwest corner of 29th Drive and Roslyn St. in the parking lot behind Noodles & Company from June 1-8.

All brands of sneakers will be accepted. Shoes with metal cleats or spikes, flip-flops, sandals, pumps, dress shoes and boots will not be accepted for recycling. Shoes that are wet, tied together or in plastic bags will also not be accepted. The recycled shoes will be made into a material used to make new athletic playing surfaces, such as basketball courts and soccer fields.

For information on recycling your old sneakers, please call Denver Recycles at 720-865-6805.

STAPLETON

Stapleton Farmers Market

Sundays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm  
June 5 - September 25

29th & Quebec, just north of the East 29th Avenue Town Center

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# Meet Your Neighbors

by Jody Donley

## Long-Time Denver Residents Connect with Stapleton

Stapleton is a diverse community comprised of unique people from all over the world. We each have a personal history. Meet Michael Wear and James Deaguero, Stapleton residents since 2004.

Mike was born in San Diego, CA. He is the oldest of three children and the son of a Vietnam veteran Navy pilot. As a child, Mike enjoyed riding bikes with his friends and camping with his family. He was avid tennis player and member of his high school's tennis team in Ventura, CA. He attended junior college for two years at nearby Moor Park College before relocating to Denver.

He worked in photo labs developing prints and motion picture film, including practice films for the Denver Broncos (used before video tape.) According to Mike, he had an "all-access pass to the stadium" where he would retrieve the film from the cameras located behind the scoreboard and other vantage points. In 1984, he started a career with the U.S. Postal Service where he has been a clerk at the Montclair Station for the past ten years.



Michael Wear (left) and James Deaguero

James was born and raised in Commerce City, CO. The seventh of ten children, he has five brothers and four sisters. James grew up in a family where he and all of his brothers were involved in team wrestling and trained virtually year round. The Deaguero family has produced several state champion contenders.

After graduating from Adams City High School, James attended UNC and then Metro State, but found working full time and attending college too burdensome. He soon started his career with the Postal Service where he has worked for 20 years and is now a clerk at the Park Hill Station.

The Postal Service brought James and Mike together about 17 years ago. They have earned tenured positions and receive 5 weeks of vacation per year. During their free time, they travel, play volleyball, and visit with their large extended families. With nearly 30 nieces and nephews between them, there is a family event almost weekly. They also enjoy gourmet cooking and fine dining. In fact, Mike can remember and describe with vivid details meals they enjoyed years ago.

James has a long time connection to the Stapleton Airport. As a teenager, he volunteered to transport family and friends to the airport "any time day or night." He not only drove them to the airport, he accompanied them to the gate and waited until the outbound flight took-off and disappeared from sight before returning home.

Now, some 20 years later, they live on the same runway from which James used to watch the planes take-off.

Jody Donley is a Stapleton resident who runs her real estate business, "The Donley Team at Innovative Real Estate Group," from her home. For more information, call 720.290.8917.

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# Home Work

by Kathy Epperson



## Matching Moms

When Stapleton resident Julia White had her first child, she experienced what many moms do: feelings of isolation and the challenges of interacting with other moms while working around nap schedules. "I eventually got up the courage to go knock on a neighbor's door who also had a baby," she says. "Being able to conveniently connect with another mom with our kids kept us both sane."

Julia decided there needed to be a more convenient way to meet other nearby moms, and a little over five years ago started "Matching Moms," a website service that helps mothers meet other moms in their area and set up playgroups ([www.matchingmoms.org](http://www.matchingmoms.org)). Julia's husband, Jason Friedman, works as a computer programmer and was able to build the site himself. Launched in June of 2000, the site now services more than 16,000 active members and 1,200 playgroup listings from all fifty states.

"Even though we live in a community with lots of families with young children, new friends don't just fall into our laps," she says. "There's effort and time involved to make those connections, and our website can be one of several ways for moms and kids to meet." Not only can moms make initial contacts over email, they can also match up to moms with common interests and children of similar ages.

Prior to having children, Julia worked as a clinical social worker and family therapist, specializing in children ages 0-3 and their mothers. Creating "Matching Moms" has given her different ideas about how to utilize her social work degree, but it has also presented new challenges. When Julia and her husband first conceptualized the site, they hoped they could eventually get enough members to charge a small fee. But between the "dot com" bust, having two children (Abigail, age 6 and Charlie, age 3), and moving, they have not yet been able to attract the millions of members that would help them maximize the site's potential. While they hope one day to add features that will create a good revenue stream, for now "Matching Moms" remains a labor of love.

Asked for her advice to those starting a home-based business, Julia says, "If you feel strongly about your business, don't let the fatigue and discouragements stop you. Keep plugging along, because you will eventually have something to show for all of your work. And there is much to be gained by the process alone, even if you don't end up with what you initially envisioned."

Kathy Epperson is a Stapleton resident who writes about home businesses.



Julia White of Matching Moms

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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 welcomed their first 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](mailto:jusross@stapletonmortgage.net).

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# 4 Paws News

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

## Use Lawn and Garden Products Cautiously Around Pets

On weekend mornings in the summer my family and I often awake to a symphony of lawnmowers, weed whackers, and roto-tillers. People hard at work in their yards and gardens now will soon enjoy delicious tomatoes, beautiful blooming gardens, and deep-green lawns.

Just last weekend my parents came by to help me in my garden. And along with several garden tools, my Dad brought the weed killer. My Mom and I shared a knowing glance. With my dog and cat, who begrudgingly share their backyard space, it can be hazardous to use weed killers and fertilizers.

However, for pet owners who want to spruce up their yards and use lawn care products, reading the label and using the products properly is the key to keeping pets safe. Problems usually arise only when people apply lawn care products incorrectly or when a pet is accidentally sprayed or allowed on a freshly sprayed lawn too soon.

Most lawn care products fall into three categories: fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides. If you use these products correctly and read the label, most really do not cause a problem. In general, most residential-use products have low toxicity.

But everybody makes mistakes. It isn't unheard of for a person to grab a bottle of herbicide instead of the flea spray and accidentally douse the cat. With these yard products, any direct exposure can be a problem. If you find your pet rolling or walking in a recently sprayed area or spray him by accident, immediately wash the substance off with a mild dish soap, such as Dawn, and contact a veterinarian.

Insecticides tend to be more toxic to pets than herbicides or fertilizers. There are a few insecticides for use in the garden, especially those for roses and molluscicides for snails, that can be very toxic. People need to be especially careful with these products around animals.

Your pets will thank you for following instructions and using common sense with lawn care products. So, put your animal in a safe place, away from the area of application. Store all fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides where pets cannot gain access. Keep all products in the original container and make sure the label is intact and readable before using. Then, always read the label and follow directions exactly. And finally, make sure a treated lawn is completely dry after waiting the maximum period recommended on the label. To be extra safe, consider watering down the lawn after application and letting it dry before allowing pets into the area.

If you notice your dog or cat acting strangely, stumbling, salivating, vomiting, or having seizures and especially if you have recently applied a lawn care product, call your veterinarian or ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (1-888-4 ANI-HELP) immediately. Don't forget to have the product in hand so you can tell a veterinarian what chemical your pet may have been exposed to.

For the latest information and advice about the pet-friendliness of specific lawn care products and less toxic alternatives, consult your veterinarian or the ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center.

*Dr. Smith is a Stapleton resident. Her clinic, the 29th Avenue Animal Hospital, is located on the courtyard next to Fantastic Sams in the East 29th Avenue Town Center. For more information, call 303.394.3937.*



# Eat Good Food

by Annie Brown

## Cooking and Eating Indian Food A Lifelong Obsession

In 1989 I had just graduated from college and was living in Philadelphia where I was working as an editorial assistant for a medical publishing company. It was definitely one of those jobs that didn't suit me. I had little interest in copy editing and absolutely zero interest, much less aptitude, in medical editing. The majority of my time was spent in one of two ways: either wistfully watching the sales and marketing department who were always having buckets more fun than the editorial department, or sneaking up to the front desk and chatting with the secretary about food.

It was this secretary, Rose Moody, who led me down a culinary path I have yet to exhaust: Indian food. Now, it might come as a surprise when I tell you that Rose was nearly 70, from Eastern Europe, and the best cooking instructor I've ever had. Rose couldn't drive and I had a car: a perfect match when it came to scouring West Philly neighborhoods for Indian grocery stores. Together we would gather what seemed like exotic ingredients, return to her apartment, and with them create mouth-watering Indian meals.

Having been exposed to the basics I knew that cooking and eating Indian food would be a lifelong obsession. When I moved to Minneapolis two years later I found a man from southern India teaching a series of cooking classes. I immediately signed up and continued my training. Since then I have acquired at least seven Indian cookbooks and have continued teaching myself from these books. Pre-children, my husband and I made a sport out of creating 6-to-10-course Indian meals for friends. With the addition of two baby girls, those particular sporting events are on hold!

Below is one of my favorite weeknight Indian meals. It is a standard at most Indian restaurants in the United States, with the exception that instead of the traditional white cheese, paneer, I substitute tofu. Although the tofu is not authentic, the texture and even taste approximate the bland paneer cheese.

This dish is loaded with superfoods: the tofu is rich in omega-3s, protein and B vitamins, and the powerhouse spinach is rich in carotenoids, lutein, zeaxanthin (wonderful for eye health) and also a great source of vitamin B, folate and magnesium.

### Saag Paneer with a little twist

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 carton firm tofu  | 1 jalapeno, coarsely chopped (take the vein out if you don't want the heat) |
| 2 large bunches of fresh spinach, stems discarded, leaves well washed or a 10 oz. bag of frozen chopped spinach | 1 serrano chile, coarsely chopped   |
| 1 teaspoon salt   | 1 Tablespoon butter (ghee if you have it) or olive oil                      |
| 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cumin  | 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)  |

Dice tofu into pieces about the size of a sugar cube. Bring 6 cups of water to a boil, add 1 teaspoon salt and lower heat to a simmer. Add the tofu, turn off the heat, and leave for 5 minutes. Pour into a colander to drain. Set aside. Reserve cooking water.

If using fresh spinach, blanch in the tofu cooking water for 1 minutes. Drain well.

Put the chiles, ginger, garlic and onion in a food processor and process until finely chopped. Heat butter or olive oil in medium sized saucepan, add chile mixture and cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, for 5 minutes.

Add salt, cumin, cayenne and 1 cup water. Simmer for 5 minutes, then return the mixture to the food processor, add spinach and puree.

Return mixture to the skillet, add tofu and let simmer for 5 minute. Serve over basmati rice.


Serves 2 very generously

Annie Brown is a Stapleton resident and independent food consultant who is often referred to as "the Food Police" by members of her family, although she prefers to think of herself more as "the Hall Monitor." Annie may be reached at [anniesbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:anniesbrown@yahoo.com).

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By Sherri Keller

Whether you are left-handed or right handed, a slice will get you in all sorts of trouble on the golf course. What causes a slice? Your swing path is outside to in and the clubface position is open at impact. An outside to in swing path happens when the path of the club is swinging more away from the body on the back swing and too close to the body on the forward swing. If the clubface is open at impact it will create counter clockwise spin on the ball which causes the ball to slice.

Improper alignment and grip are two major contributors to a slice. When aligning to your target, do your best to aim the club first. Position your body so it is parallel to your target line. Visualize railroad tracks running from the ball to the target. Imagine the ball on the right rail and your body on the left rail. One way to help do this more consistently is to practice with two clubs on the ground, positioning one club at the target and the other parallel to it. Placing a ball in between the clubs will give you a good visual of proper alignment.



Golf Pro Sherri Keller

The only connection to the golf club is your hands, therefore making your grip and grip pressure a critical factor in your swing. Hold the club in the fingers of your hand and not in the palm. This allows you to square the clubface at impact. Make sure you can see two knuckles on the back of your left hand (for right handed golfers). Always hold the club with light pressure as if holding a tube of toothpaste.

Concentrating on these key areas will help you get the clubface back to square at impact, thus sending the ball off without that slice spin you were creating before.

*Sherri Keller is a Stapleton resident, an LPGA Member and a teaching professional at Kennedy Golf Course. She is available for private lessons and group instruction for all levels. Contact her at 303-755-0105 ext. 272.*



Stapleton United Neighbors Editorial

New Board Members, Pool Issues, Dog Ordinances

Stapleton United Neighbors Elects New Board Members, Touts Progress on Pool Issues

On May 17, Stapleton United Neighbors (“SUN”) held its annual election for one-half of the seats on its Board of Directors. Current SUN President Bill Fulton was re-elected, and the SUN Board received an infusion of new perspectives and ideas through the election of Anthony Aragon, Michael Bevilacqua, Rob Goldstein, Susan Hadinger, Mike Johnson, Diana Kearns, and Justin Silverstein. Each Board Member will serve a two-year term with SUN, and will participate in one of SUN’s working committees. These committees are open to participation by residents, and include the Education, Public Safety, Traffic, Outreach, Communications, Membership, Smart Growth, and Community Relations Committees. Together with continuing Board Members Bernard Douthit, Elizabeth Garner, Mike King, Melissa McQueen and Bryan Penny, the Board represents a wide array of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences, and seeks to continue to transcend the typical neighborhood association focus on pure advocacy by also proactively addressing neighborhood concerns, engaging in joint problem-solving and dispute resolution, and building common ground within the neighborhood. SUN also thanked outgoing Board Members Gregory Diggs, Jason Longsdorf, Jennifer Song Koeppe, and Caroline Wilten for their dedicated service on the Board.



Among other things, the meeting included an update on the Stapleton pools. Last fall, SUN facilitated a neighborhood meeting on issues regarding the pool, and followed up throughout the winter and spring on those concerns with Forest City and pool service provider Wild Iris. As a result, (1) the water trench running across the pool yard which, despite the best of artistic intentions, was potentially dangerous has been filled in with concrete, (2) additional shade will be available through fixed umbrellas and four shade tents, and (3) the iron grates and metal water fountains will be replaced with materials designed to

be cooler in sunshine. While substantial progress has been made, the pool hours and the opening of the new pool continue to be topics of interest that the community, SUN, Forest City and Wild Iris will continue addressing together. For complete minutes of the public meeting, visit the StapletonOnline website under Community Associations.

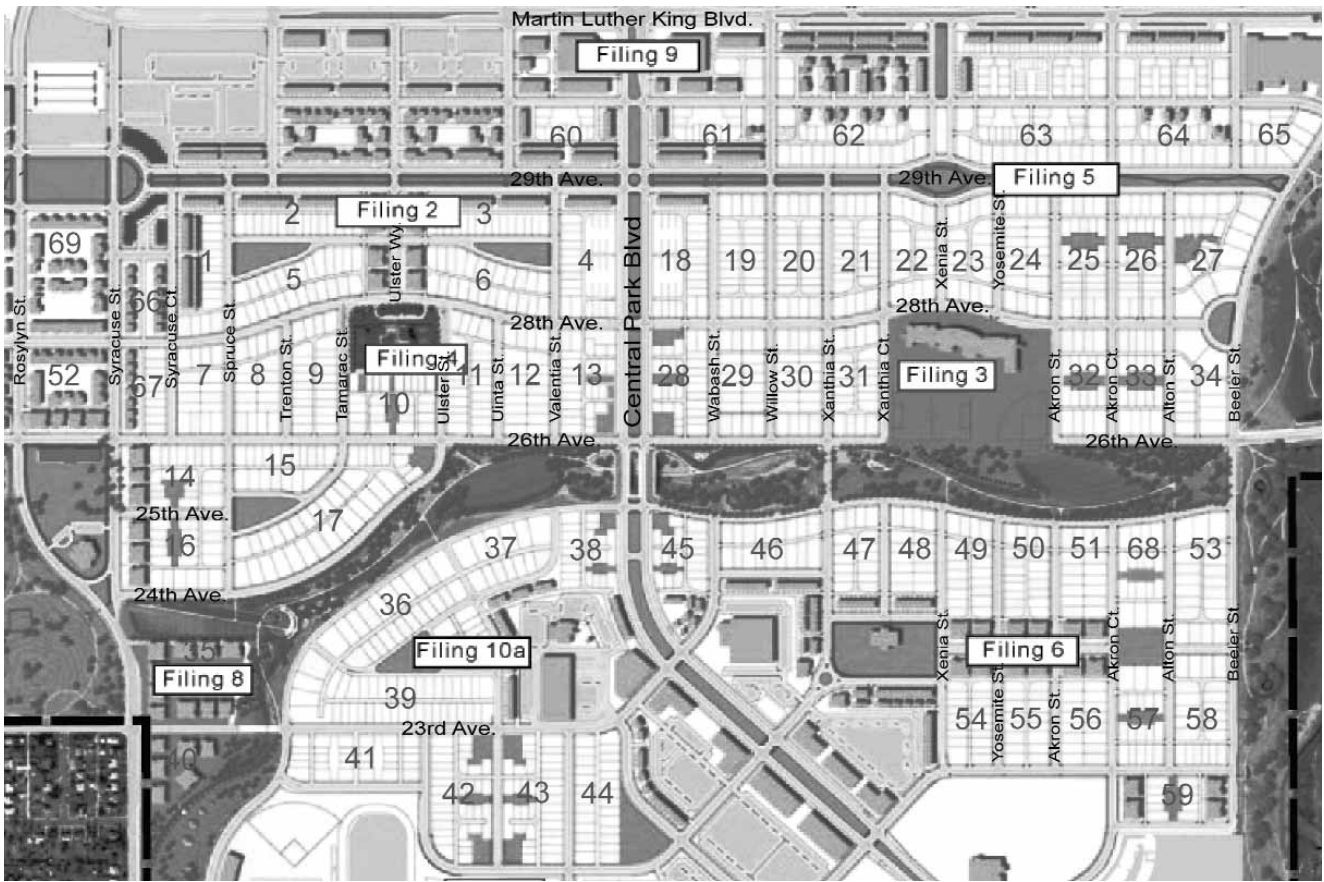
Dog Owners, Be Advised: Division of Animal Control to Step Up Enforcement of Dog-Related Ordinances at Stapleton

In response to concerns expressed regarding dog owners continuing to allow their dogs to roam off leash and neglecting to pick up their waste in violation of Denver city ordinances, the Denver Department of Environmental Health’s Division of Animal Control will be increasing enforcement of these ordinances in and around Stapleton. Efforts have previously been made to raise awareness by posting signs near Stapleton parks reminding residents of the ordinances and providing free bag dispensers to encourage and facilitate cleanup efforts. The ordinances exist for the public good, as fecal material from dogs poses a health risk to both dogs and humans alike, while off-leash dogs can inadvertently harm small children, other dogs, and even adults.

Festivities at Noon, Sunday, June 18th

Block Parties

Beginning at noon on June 18, SUN’s Outreach Program will kick off the first annual Stapleton Block Party Day. Each of forty to fifty Stapleton blocks will organize and throw its own unique party. While SUN hoped to finance traveling entertainment to visit each block party, the explosion of interest in this event has made paid entertainment for each block financially infeasible. Instead, SUN has focused on providing “best practices” and fun ideas for block parties, advertising and logistical support, and adult and kids’ versions of the Block Championship of “Know Your Neighbor BINGO.” This game is sure to stoke competitive fires while building friendships – the better you know your neighbors, the more likely you will walk away with an exciting prize donated by local businesses and SUN! Below is a list of party locations and email addresses for “block captains” organizing their block’s efforts. To help make your block’s party the best it can be, please find your block number on the map (right) and contact the volunteer Block Captain listed below for your block.



Block	Block Captain	Party Location
1	OPEN	28th Pl. & Spruce Pocket Park
2	Bernard Douthit	28th Pl. & Spruce Pocket Park
3	Jennifer Koeppe	28th Pl. & Valentia Pocket Park
4	OPEN	28th Pl. & Valentia Pocket Park
5	Julie Cameron/ Jen Courtney-Keyse	28th Pl. & Spruce Pocket Park
6	OPEN	28th Pl. & Valentia Pocket Park
7	Kathy Walker	TBA
8	Kari Cummings	TBA
12, 13	Julie Huntley/ Hope Tregellas	TBA
14	Mike & Elizabeth King, Symantha Rudolph	25th & Spruce Pocket Park
15	Jen Eiteljorg	25th & Spruce Pocket Park
16	Landri & Gloria Taylor	25th & Spruce Pocket Park
17	Paul Fisher	25th & Spruce Pocket Park
18, 19	Karen Thies-McWilliams	TBA
20, 21, 22	Don Garcia & Sarah Barth	TBA
23	Michael Bevilacqua	TBA
24	Jody Donley	TBA
25	Catherine Chew	TBA
28, 29, 30, 31	Zac Ryon	TBA
32	Jennifer Kahn	TBA (32,33,34 together)
33	Rob Goldstein	TBA (32,33,34 together)
34	Tammy Sauer, Melody Harris	TBA (32,33,34 together)
46	Doug Linkhart/Cindy Tseng	TBA
48	Julia White	TBA
49	Diane Gordon	TBA
52	Kelly King	25th & Spruce Pocket Park
53	Mark Yoder	TBA
56	Tunde and Amy Brimah	TBA
57	Christine Duclos	TBA
70	Susan Hadinger, Karen Harkness	25th & Spruce Pocket Park

Email Address
Bernard.Douthit@trizetto.com songkoeppe@msn.com
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(Stapleton resident)

Judy Wolfe  
303-331-4524

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# Letter to the Editor

## An Open Letter from Blessed Sacrament Church

Dear Members of the Stapleton Community:  
As pastor of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, a loving CatholicCommunity, located immediately to your West at 4900 Montview Boulevard, I take great pleasure in welcoming you to the area. Your decision to choose the Stapleton Community for your home causes all of us to be richer for your involvement. To enhance that experience I would like to take just a few moments to tell you more about Blessed Sacrament.

Founded in 1912 the parish has grown to a point that today it consists of a parish offering a full range of Catholic Sacraments as well as preparation for the reception of these sacraments. The parish also provides a long list of religious as well as service opportunities both to participate in or to receive. Blessed Sacrament has a school which was opened in 1922 and today is a pre-K (3 year olds and 4 year olds) through 8th grade. The school provides a classical educational opportunity for the children our parish family and others choosing a quality private value educational experience.

We are a Stewardship community and as I mentioned earlier, members of Blessed Sacrament Parish participate actively in a full range of spiritual and temporal outreach activities which embrace all phases of parish and community life. Our parish staff, schools staff and teachers are dedicated to providing every parishioner and student an opportunity for service and fellowship with those aspects of parish, community and educational life that captivates their energies and interests.

We invite you to join us! One day, perhaps in the not too distant future, Stapleton will have grown to the point that your own parish will be appropriate. Until then we would hope that you will find Blessed Sacrament as a home where your spiritual and temporal Catholic Community needs might be met and fulfilled. For more information about Blessed Sacrament Church, please call (303) 355-7361.

Once again WELCOME to Stapleton. Please join us at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church to complete your involvement in all aspects of a truly fulfilling community life.  
Sincerely Yours,  
Rev. Kenneth J. Liuzzi, Pastor

## To Send 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, The Front Porch, Forest City Stapleton, Inc., 7351 E. 29th Avenue, Denver, CO 80238 or email: [tgleason@stapletondenver.com](mailto:tgleason@stapletondenver.com)

## Will Your Child Be 4 by Oct. 1st?

Westerly Creek Elementary School (WCE) in Stapleton is currently registering new students, Early Childhood Education (4-yr-olds) through 6th grade, for the 2005-2006 school year.

- Please stop by the school, located at 8800 E. 28th Avenue (enter through the east doors on Akron Street) and complete the Pre-Enrollment Form for your child(ren) who will attend WCE next Fall.
- Additional items required for Registration include:
  - Original Birth Certificate (a copy will be made)
  - Current immunization record
  - Proof of residency (for example: house deed, contract on house, mortgage)
- Please note: if you have already enrolled your child(ren) at WCE, you do not need to re-enroll.
- If you have any questions, or if you are reading this notice for the first time during summer (when the school is closed), please contact a co-chair from the WCE PTA Welcoming Committee: Abby Reynolds 303-321-5484 or Meg Yoder [meg@familyyoder.com](mailto:meg@familyyoder.com)



## District 2 Top Cop Awards



January "Top Cop" Aaron Brill



February "Top Cop" Jeff Sanger



March "Top Cop" Philip Dudley



April "Top Cop" Kari Johnson

Not long after Rhonda Jones took over the command of Denver Police District 2 that serves Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods in the northeast quadrant of Denver, she invited a group of community leaders to serve on a committee that would make a monthly selection of the District's "Top Cop."

Mindful of the Denver Police Department's commitment "To Serve and Protect," Commander Jones established the program to commend officers who had demonstrated service "above and beyond" the call of duty. Many times, that service has included heroic actions to protect the safety of the public. Other times, it has involved extraordinary efforts to come to the assistance of a person in need. And, in some cases, the actions have represented a superior dedication to doing one's job. Whatever the case, the citizens' committee conducts a monthly review of nominations submitted by the officer's supervisors and selects the District II "Top Cop" for the month. The Citizens Committee then makes a presentation of the award to the officer at his or her roll call.

## New! Classified Ads

Classified advertising will be introduced beginning in the July issue of the Stapleton Front Porch. Classified ads will be accepted in the following categories: **For Sale, Help Wanted, Events, Services and Miscellaneous Items.**

Ad rates per month are based on the number of words: 15 words/\$10; 30 words/\$18; 45 words/\$35. Ads must be submitted by the 10th of the month for the following month's paper. Personal classifieds will not be accepted and Forest City Stapleton, Inc. reserves the right to refuse any classified based on content. No colors or logos are allowed in classified advertising. Classified ads will not be linked or included on the [StapletonDenver.com](http://StapletonDenver.com) public website or [StapletonOnline.com](http://StapletonOnline.com) community intranet. For more information go to [www.StapletonDenver.com](http://www.StapletonDenver.com).



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# Experience of a Lifetime

By Stacie Gilmore and Garrett Thomas

Any angler would look forward to an enjoyable day of fishing for northern pike and bass, but it is even more fun when it is opportunity to bring along inner city kids who never get a chance to go fishing.

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) provides city kids from the Denver metro area with the opportunity to take environmental education field trips throughout the year to learn about and enjoy the outdoors. ELK introduces, immerses, educates,

and inspires youth about science, nature, wildlife, and careers in natural resources. Through a partnership with the Colorado Division of Wildlife and other natural resource agencies, scientists, wildlife biologists, and fisheries biologists educate and mentor youth to encourage them to develop respect and a stewardship ethic to the environment. The biologists and other natural resource professionals who mentor and educate ELK kids are people of color who know first hand that there are not many minorities or females working in the natural resources or pursuing it in college as a legitimate career option. In getting "at-risk" kids excited and involved in science and such outdoor recreation as fishing, ELK is doing what so many other agencies and organizations have failed to do.

In the spring of this year, ELK took its

annual fishing trip to the unique urban wildlife preserve of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge, where more than 330 species of wildlife, including deer, coyotes, white pelicans and owls thrive in a wildlife habitat in Commerce City on the northern boundary of Stapleton. The Arsenal provides a wide variety of environmental education

Photo by Scott Gilmore



Dondre Smallwood with Scott Cargile of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

programs, 10 miles of trails, wildlife viewing opportunities, and site tours for the public.

When our group of 45 kids and adults arrived at the arsenal, we had to go through an orientation before we were allowed to fish. First, we were educated about what types of fish we would be catching, basic fish biology, how to handle the fish (this

was a new experience: fish with big teeth!) and aquatic ecology. Next our group learned some history about the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. The classroom session was very interesting and informative, but the kids and adults could not wait to do what we came here to do: catch fish!

Following the classroom session, one group of 4 boys, all about 12 or 13 years old, headed to a spot that looked like "good bass territory." Although the boys' fisheries biologist mentor rigged their fishing poles as fast as he could, it wasn't fast enough. Before they could even get their lines in the water, a young lady by the name of Chiquita Cole in another group of young anglers caught the first fish of the day—an absolutely beautiful 3-and-a-half-pound largemouth bass! At first, some of the boys in the group were mad that a girl caught the first fish, but it didn't take long to see that there were plenty of big bass to be caught by everyone. The group must have caught and released over 100 fish between us all, and it was only lunchtime

Experiences like these are "once in a lifetime" for many of the youth and families in the ELK programs. In educating people of color and females about science, natural resources, and outdoor recreation, we are opening up doors of opportunities for new family activities and new career options for minority youth. The young lady who caught the first fish on our outing at the Arsenal has been involved in the ELK program since the sixth grade, and is considering studying fishery biology in college. As a sophomore in high school, she

(continued in column at right)

# Channel 8: A Front Row Seat at Stapleton

By Alaina Brandenburger

Ten years ago, the building was part of a general aviation terminal and hangar complex at Stapleton. Today, it is part of a media center that houses Channel 8, the City and County of Denver's official government access station. Neighboring companies include Colorado Studios and HDNet, one of the nation's leading centers for high definition television, and Barbizon Lighting, manufacturers of theatrical lighting.

Typical programming on Channel 8 consists of City Council meetings, as well as programming designed to educate the public about the governmental processes. The most popular programs are the City Council meetings. Channel 8 reaches about 120,000 residents in Denver, and is cross promoted in its website, [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org). The website is beneficial because, unlike the station, it reaches residents outside of the city.

"Channel 8 is a great marketing tool for Denver," said Steve Hansen, Marketing Director for Channel 8. "A lot of people move out here from the East to 'reinvent their lives.' It is a very individual thinking city. I like that we are not aligned with the old machinery of political thinking. It is easy to implement new ideas here."

Channel 8 was born in 1986 when the City of Denver began running limited cable TV programming. As part of the package, the cable company provided a station that would air government-related programming. At first, Channel 8 was located in the Denver Public Library. In 1998, the station moved to its current location at Stapleton. As part of the first wave of new commercial tenants to come to Stapleton, Channel 8 has had a front

row seat to witness the redevelopment of Stapleton.

"At first, the only thing here was us, prairie dogs and dust," said Mr. Hansen. "We saw the first house go up. After awhile it got to be pretty exciting. You would go away for business, and comeback to see thirty new houses."

The employees at Channel 8 have been excited to watch the community grow around them—and they like what they see.

"The development company (Forest City Stapleton, Inc.) did it right by 'building green.' It is evident in the greenways. We come to the Town Center all of the time for lunch. It is fun being here," Mr. Hansen said. "I come down here on the weekends to do my shopping. It is fun hanging out and getting to know people. I am starting to see the same people regularly." Mr. Hansen adds that he finds it nice that he and his fellow Channel 8 employees are not in the thick of Downtown Denver, although they are always coming and going to and from the Downtown area.

Mr. Hansen says his station is proud to serve the community as an agency of Denver city government. In 2002, Channel 8 worked together with then councilwoman Happy Haynes to make a documentary about the redevelopment of Stapleton that was submitted to the Stockholm Partnerships for Sustainable Communities award competition. Stapleton won the prestigious international award.

To learn more about the City and County of Denver, tune into Channel 8, or visit [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org).

Alaina Brandenburger is an employee of Forest City Stapleton, Inc. and a regular contributor to *The Front Porch*.

## Celebrities Apply the Paint for Charity

Local broadcasting celebrities from 9News and CBS4, along with stars from *Champions on Ice*, are applying the paint for Colorado AIDS Project's Let's Dish! fundraiser.

The finished plates, with all their unique designs and star signatures, will be up for auction at the 18th annual Art for AIDS Fine and Decorative Art Auction

(previously known as *Art against AIDS*) on Saturday, June 11, 2005 in the Donald R. Seawell Grand Ballroom beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets for

**art**  
for AIDS

the auction are \$40 and may be purchased online through [coloradoAIDSproject.org](http://coloradoAIDSproject.org) or by calling 303-837-0166, ext. 508.

## Experience of a Lifetime (continued)

applied to the American Fisheries Society Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program and was awarded a scholarship to study fisheries biology in college.

ELK is working to instill in our younger generation values centered on the enjoyment of nature and the need to help conserve, protect, and restore natural areas and wildlife. When these kids are planning

an activity to do with their own children years from now, we know that they will remember how much fun they had with ELK and that first time they went fishing.

Stacie Gilmore is Executive Director of Environmental Learning for Kids. Garrett Thomas is the Education Coordinator for Environmental Learning for Kids.

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# Bike to Work Day June 22nd

By Angie Rivera-Malpiede

On June 22nd, thousands of people will leave their cars at home and use “pedal power” to get themselves to work. Cyclists can stop at breakfast stations all over the metro area the morning of the event to catch their breath and get an energy boost. This year, with the cooperation of the Stapleton Area Transportation Management Association, there will be two local breakfast stations: the Greater Park Hill Community Office at 2923 Fairfax Street and the King Soopers parking lot on 28th and Quebec in the East 29th Avenue Town Center at Stapleton. Local eateries will provide a free, healthy breakfast and snack items and riders will have the opportunity to win prizes. Online registration will open in mid-April at [www.drcog.org](http://www.drcog.org). Call 303-458-7665 for more information.

### Mobile Cyclery

Anyone planning to participate in this year’s “Bike to

Photo courtesy of Stapleton Transportation Management Assoc.



Participants in the 2004 Bike to Work Day.

Work Day” may want to visit Mobile Cyclery for a tune-up when the van returns to Stapleton on Friday, May 6. Look for Mobile Cyclery in the King Soopers parking lot from 9am-5pm on that date!

Angie Malpiede is the Executive Director of The Stapleton Transportation Management Association, a service provided by The Stapleton Foundation

for Sustainable Urban Communities. For more information, visit [www.stapletontma.org](http://www.stapletontma.org).

## The Doctor Is In (continued from page 1)

pregnant dog, a parakeet who mistook screws for edible treats, an arthritic snake and the broken leg of a gazelle. Dr. Smith then fielded a series of questions from the kids, including one child whose cat “Smudge” had been a recent patient in the veterinarian’s 29th Avenue Animal Hospital. Dr. Smith’s clinic is located in Stapleton’s East 29th Avenue Town Center.

Helping the children in their discussions with Dr. Smith was Mr. Tom Washington, a para professional who has worked for Denver Public Schools for 18 years. Chances are, Mr. Washington will not soon forget the day he spent with so many “junior veterinarians!”

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## Odyssey Students Collect Donations for Shelter



Odyssey students (from left to right) Tyler Peace, Kiki Thomas, Jasmyne Johnson, Elizabeth Cortez and Ashlee White load items they solicited for The Haven shelter for young mothers.



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## STAPLETON TODAY

An update of Stapleton's evolution from a former airport to a new urban community.

### THE TOP 10 REASONS TO LIVE AT STAPLETON



The Denver School of Science and Technology opened at Stapleton in January 2005.



The off-leash dog park is a popular destination for Stapleton's dog owners.

10. Residents can buy freshly grown fruits and vegetables, bundles of flowers and mingle around on Sundays at the Farmers Market.

9. Move Goers can venture to Founders' Green on Friday nights this summer with their picnic blankets to watch the Stapleton Under the Stars Movie Series, starting Friday, June 17 with The Incredibles.

8. Happy dogs frolic in Stapleton's "off-leash" dog park while their owners meet new friends and neighbors.

7. Education is diverse in curriculum and creates new, positive learning experiences at the Westerly Creek Campus and the Denver School of Science and Technology.

6. Stapleton's 1,100 acres of parks and open space increases the size of Denver's parks by 25%.

5. Location...Stapleton is just 15-20 minutes from Denver International Airport; easy for traveling and picking up out-of-town guests.

4. ...And just eight miles from Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Coors Field, Six Flags Amusement Park and the Denver Botanic Gardens.

3. ...And just three miles from City Park, Denver Zoo and the Museum of Natural History.

2. This walkable community waits outside the front door. Walk to shops for groceries, a cup of coffee, pizza for the slumber party or that fabulous birthday present.

And the NUMBER ONE reason to live at Stapleton...There's a home for everyone! Stapleton offers homes from the \$100s to over \$1 million for first time buyers to the empty nesters.



Infinity Builders' Crescent Lofts on Founders' Green are one of many upcoming options for new Stapleton buyers.

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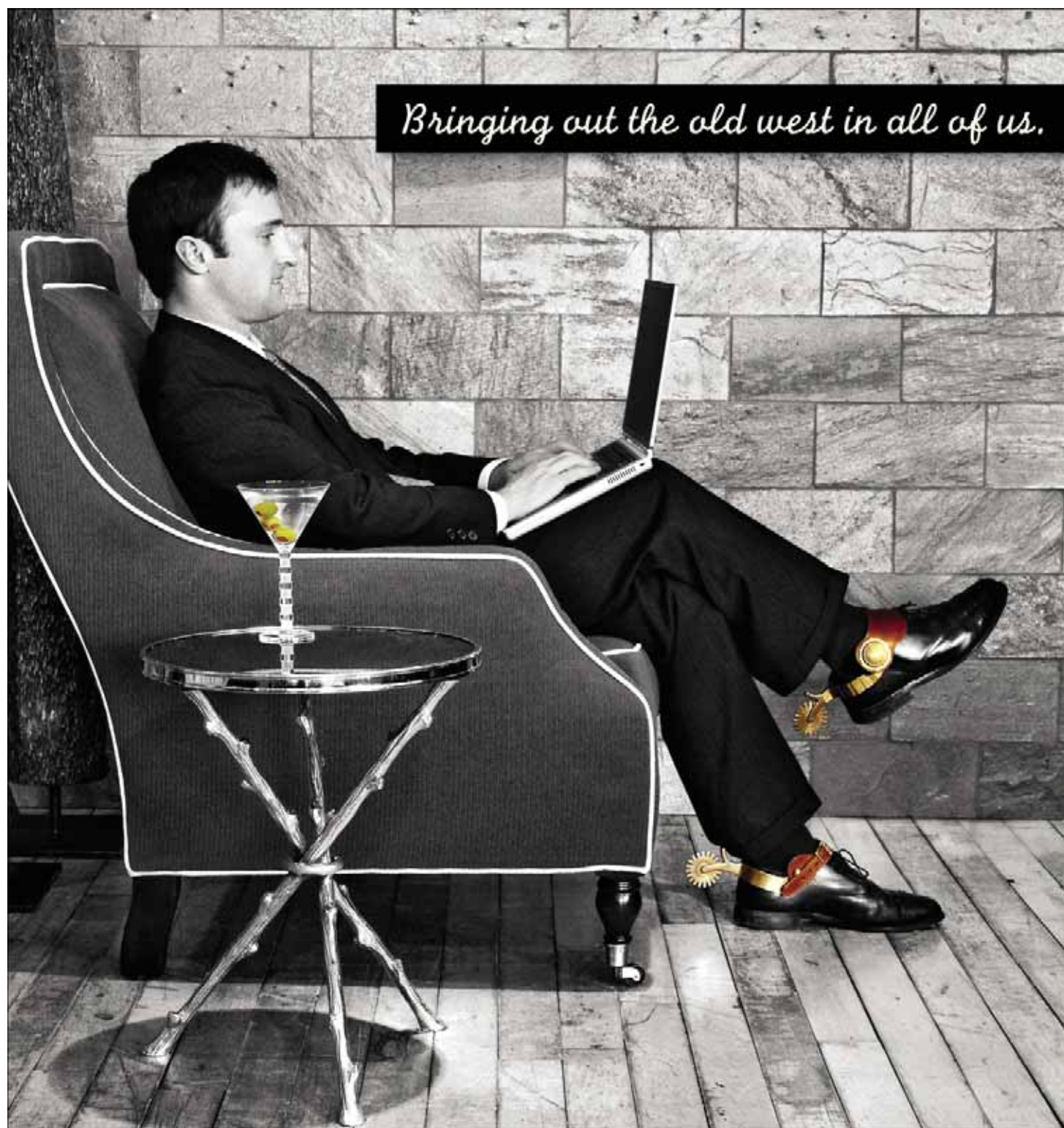


# School's Out!

Students from Westerly Creek Elementary School turned out with enthusiasm to participate in their year-end field day activities. Although the books were closed for the year, students learned an important lesson: "nothing succeeds like teamwork!" Decked out in their new "Westerly Creek Wolves" t-shirts, the children burned up energy that had built up during a successful year in the classroom.



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