Main Street at Northfield, A New DPS School and Primrose School to Open

Although the New Year has just arrived at Stapleton, it is already apparent that 2006 will bring a lot of exciting new additions to the Stapleton community.

Northfield Retail
At Northfield at Stapleton, where Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Super Target and Circuit City have been magnets for holiday shoppers, construction on nearby “Main Street” is racing toward completion for a grand opening later this year. Main Street will provide pedestrian-friendly retail and offices anchored on the southern end by a Harkins 18-plex state-of-the-art Movie Theatre Complex scheduled to open in the spring and a Macy’s Department Store on the north that will open in the fall. In between will be a delightful variety of small shops and restaurants, some of which will be below second and third floor offices like the configuration that adds vitality to the East 29th Avenue Town Center. A public plaza will be enhanced by a performance stage, an interactive fountain and public art.

New Schools
Education has always been a priority in the planning of the redevelopment for Stapleton and the year 2006 will underscore that priority with the arrival of two new schools. Near the intersection of Central Park Boulevard and Montview Boulevard, a new Denver Public School will open in August of this year. Yet to be named, it will be part of a new “K-8 campus” with the Westerly Creek Elementary School that opened in 2003. Westerly Creek will take on a new focus as a primary center for Early Childhood Education (ECE) to grade three, while the new school will serve grades four to eight. This year will also mark the opening of the much anticipated Primrose School at Stapleton. Located at 25th and Syracuse, Primrose will bring its nationally acclaimed early childhood educational programs to Stapleton under the direction of owners Bill and Beth Letzsch. Watch for an opening in the spring.

New Public Art
2006 will also celebrate the arrival of two works of public art commissioned under the Stapleton Public Art Program. The first piece, “Eye On the Horizon” will be installed on the Ellipse of the 29th Avenue Parkway at Xenia Street. North of Interstate 70, an untitled work that recalls the aviation history of Stapleton will grace the new public plaza on Main Street of the NorthField Retail Center. See page six of this edition of The Front Porch for details about both public art installations.

Neighbors Offer a Wealth of Information On Starting a Small Business
Stapleton seems to attract people with an entrepreneurial spirit. If you are looking for information about starting your own business you don’t need to look far to find neighbors with experience, and a willingness to share what they have learned. Their enthusiasm for running their own businesses is infectious – you may find yourself starting up sooner than you had planned. Ask Corby Felsher about his business, Stapleton Home Services, and his eyes light up as he starts talking. You can see the wheels turning in his head as he describes how he runs his business, giving you the feeling he might come up with a new idea for improving his already-efficient business model right in the midst of your conversation. Corby’s business, offering services exclusively in Stapleton, provides house... (continued on page 3)
EVERY MONTH

Second Tuesday
New Resident Orientation Meeting
Stapleton Visitor Center 7:00pm
No January meeting
[Master Community Assoc. 720-974-4136]

Third Tuesday
Stapleton Business Association
Call for location 8am
[Stapleton Foundation 303.393.7700]

Every Wednesday
Music Together classes
Westerry Creek Elementary School
9:30 & 10:30am
[Music Together 303.333.3274]

First Wednesday
Westerry Creek PTA Meeting
Westerry Creek Elementary School
6:30 - 7:30pm
[Westerry Creek Elementary School 303.322.5877]

Second Saturday
NE Denver/Park Hill MS Self-Help and Peer Support Group
Pauline Robinson Library
10:15 - 11:45am
5575 E 33rd Avenue
Paula Sussman 303.813.6691

Wednesday, Feb. 1st
Marketing for Small Businesses
7351 E. 29th Ave.
Forest City Offices, 2nd Floor
6-8pm
RSVP at StapletonLife.com
(spaces is limited)
Complimentary pizza & drinks

DENVER DERMATOLOGY CONSULTANTS

In 2005 we helped 18 Stapleton Neighbors Buy and Sell Homes. Thanks for a Great Year!
Building Stapleton, One Neighbor At A Time
www.BuildingStapleton.com

Diana and Michael Kearns • RE/MAX City Horizons at Stapleton
(303) 598-2076 • Info@BuildingStapleton.com

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303.382.1800

FEBRUARY

2970 Quebec St
2nd Floor
Denver, CO 80207
(In the Bank of the West building)

303.426.4525

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Denver Dermatology Consultants is pleased to announce the opening of Denver Dermatology at Stapleton.

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General Dermatology
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Skin Cancer
Cosmetic Skin Treatments
Dermatology Consultants
cleaning, carpet cleaning and window washing. One of the first subjects he talks about is the “Mayberry Effect.” Everybody knows each other at Stapleton, so if you offer a high quality product or service, word will spread among neighbors, who are anxious to do business locally. The flip side, however, is the pressure to be so good that you don’t disappoint the neighbors who know and trust you. You have to be just “good,” you have to live up to your own expectations of excellence so you can look your neighbors in the eye when you see them on the sidewalk, at the grocery store, or at your kid’s school. “You have to know you’re offering the best possible product or service,” says Corby. “And when something goes wrong, you especially feel the obligation to go above and beyond what’s required to make it right.”

Anyone who has researched starting a business has seen the list of reasons many small businesses fail. A conversation with Corby, and other small business people at Stapleton reveals what they’ve done to overcome the obstacles that can doom a fledgling business. Corby started his business in his home and it grew to the point he needed a warehouse space and an office to accommodate the equipment needed for his ten employees. He held another job while getting his company started to provide cash flow during start up. He talks about the importance of getting systems set up properly from the beginning, acknowledging that difficult time when you are on your own and don’t have the help of others. When setting up database systems for non-profits, Corby feels he gives great value to the community. He has made a commitment to continually participate in most of the Forest City Stapleton Chamber of Commerce functions, muscular dystrophy, and Goodwill.

Corby got his degree from the University of Wisconsin. He has lived in Stapleton for three years with his wife, Andrea Felsher, and his two children, ages 2 and 5. Like Corby, Geoff Scale is a small business success story. Geoff started Showcase Landscaping 10 years ago. His mother ran a small business, which consisted of two trucks, two trailers and a list of 1800 local customers. He feels the challenge of getting started on a limited budget forced him to be “more hands-on and creative,” and he learned from his own experiences how to improve his business. When the maintenance side of the business grew bigger than the design side, he sold off a portion of that business to maintain a balance that allowed him to spend more time doing what he loves most, project design.

Some of Geoff’s tips for running a successful business: “Look into the mind of the customer. Focus on what’s important to them.” Customers often mention that they have never seen anything like the unordered. He spends time educating them on what will happen throughout the course of a landscape project. He calls them regularly to keep them informed. He picks their brains to find out how the job is going and find ways to improve the project. And as the need for changes evolves during a job, Geoff tries, wherever possible, to include them in the project without additional costs. Like Corby, he feels the “Mayberry Effect,” and the need to offer more than the competition, in his commitment to excellent service for his customers, who are his friends and neighbors.

In a business that has 23 employees during the peak season, Geoff talks about the need for redundancy. Knowing that the chances are good on any given day that an employee will be ill or be a piece of equipment won’t work, he has a backup plan: one extra truck, one extra employee, extra equipment, even a backup computer. He also reminds us of something you’ll find in any book about sales: it is easier to keep an existing customer than to find a new one. Plan your business to have follow up services for existing customers so you don’t have to spend so much time finding new customers. Finally, as Geoff points out when hiring employees: “They have to be people with a good work ethic. You can teach skills, but people either have a good work ethic or they don’t. You can’t teach it.”

Geoff works from his home, and enjoys the flexibility that offers him in spending time with his family or taking care of sick kids. His wife Anda works at Westerley Creek School. He has two children, ages 4 and 6.

One of the key ingredients to a successful business is knowing your market and providing a service that is in demand. Corby and Geoff have clearly found businesses that are in demand in the Stapleton market. Stapleton also has a number of residents who may be starting, or wish to start, one-person businesses based on their own creative or intellectual skills. Zac Ryon talks about how his developed his business as a consultant. Although his business does not have a lot of direct clients at Stapleton, he has received referrals to nonprofit organizations through his network of Stapleton friends.

Looking around Stapleton, Zac found other one-person home businesses and discovered a common need for contact with others, not just to discuss business ideas and share helpful information, but also to get the chance to talk through business issues and get advice from others. Zac says that one of the big needs of home businesses is to develop marketing strategies. To that end, the February meeting of “1st Wednesdays” will feature a marketing expert. The meeting, listed below, is open to anyone who is interested in learning how they can use their own creative or intellectual skills. Zac Ryon is a consultant who helps set up database systems for nonprofit organizations. He also founded “1st Wednesday,” an informal networking group of home business owners who meet for lunch the first Wednesday of each month. Through discussions at the meetings, one-on-one conversations and big ideas, Zac has helped many small businesses take the next steps in their organizations so they comply with the many regulations that govern them. What he learned was that he had the interest and ability to set up such systems himself. From a personal perspective he liked that better, and found it more satisfying, than managing and writing reports. That realization led him to set up his own business as a consultant. Although his business does not have a lot of direct clients at Stapleton, he has received referrals to nonprofit organizations through his network of Stapleton friends.

A discussion of small businesses at Stapleton would be incomplete without mention of the Greater Stapleton Business Association (GSBA), which meets the third Tuesday of the month at 4pm to 6pm. The members are young professionals who work as team to do their best by the community, according to Brad Phillips, former president. For information on times and dates of meetings of the Business Association call Angie Malpiede of the Stapleton Foundation at 303-393-7700. You can also sign up for the GSBA newsletter by joining StapletonLife.com.

Free Seminar at Stapleton “Marketing for Small Businesses” Presented by “1st Wednesdays,” a Stapleton group to support home businesses Wednesday February 1st from 6 to 8 pm 7351 E. 29th Ave, Forest City Offices, 2nd Floor Space is limited Please RSVP via StapletonLife.com Complimentary pizza & beverages provided Presentation by an expert from SCORE, a nonprofit organization that is a resource partner with the Small Business Administration, which provides free counseling and education by accredited counselors to assist in the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide. For more information visit http://scoredenver.org.
The Club Card offers great discounts at these Stapleton merchants:

**SERVICES (cont')**

- **Art & Framing of Stapleton**
  - Offer: 20% off any art
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **Commercial Federal Bank**
  - Offer: Free 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 $10.00 gift card when you open your new Credit Union at Stapleton account
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Environmental Friendly Cleaners**
  - Offer: 25% of all DRY CLEANING (Quebec Square location only)
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **FirstBank**
  - Offer: Receive $10.00 deposit into your new First Bank savings account when you open a First Bank checking account.
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **Lollipocks Kidd Salon**
  - Offer: 15% off on any product purchase with a purchase of a salon service
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **New Avenues Real Estate Office**
  - Offer: $10.00 gift certificate toward select real estate services
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **PostNet**
  - Offer: 50% off FedEx and UPS shipments (excluding ground services).
  - 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 when you buy at Stapleton.

- **RE/MAX City Horizons, The Kearns Team, LLC**
  - Offer: 10% off all services and professional products
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Services (cont')**

  - **Stapleton Realty, LLC**
    - Offer: Free move-out house cleaning ($250.00 value) when you sell your home with Stapleton Realty PLUS discounted commissions.
    - Location: Quebec Square

  - **Tires Plus**
    - Offer: $9.95 oil change; 10% off any automotive service, $25 off of a set of four tires, $30 off your 30, 60, and 90 scheduled maintenance services.
    - Location: Quebec Square

- **Town Center Apartments**
  - Offer: Receive $10.00 off of your move-in costs when you lease at Town Center Apartments.
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **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

- **WIRE Group Real Estate Services**
  - Offer: $500 towards closing costs.

**MISC. RETAIL**

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

- **Baby Power**
  - Offer: $10.00 off of any size organic diaper
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Cat's Music Together at the Stadium**
  - Offer: $5.00 tuition for each neighborhood child in your family.

- **Cinemark Wireless**
  - Offer: Free Vehicle power adapter with new activation ($25.00 value)

- **Grape Leaf**
  - Offer: 5% off wine and wine purchases
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

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

- **Miss Talashof's**
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **V2K Window Fashions**
  - Offer: 15% off of all orders of $100 or more.

**RESTAURANTS**

- **Anthony's Pizza and Pasta**
  - Offer: 10% off of all items
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

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

- **Cold Stone Creamery**
  - Offer: $1.00 off “L & W” or “Cafe to Go” items, $3.00 off cake order.

- **Doubletree Denver**
  - Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

- **Grape Leaf**
  - Offer: 20% off of any one food and beverage.

- **Inta Juice**
  - Offer: 10% off of any pie.
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Kye’s Saloon and Eatery**
  - Offer: 10% off of any drink inulas or pizza or cucumber order.

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

- **Panera Bread**
  - Offer: Free Bagel to New Member
  - Location: Quebec Square

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

- **Thomas Bros. Coffee & Chai**
  - Offer: FREE $10 UPGRADE on any beverage
  - Location: Quebec Square

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

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**HEALTH & BEAUTY**

- **A Day Spa**
  - Offer: 20% off of any one product with purchase of 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: 30% off select tanning with purchase of a session.
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Fantastic Sams**
  - Offer: Free 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 from product with hair cut purchase.
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Phoenix Yoga Studio**
  - Offer: One month unlimited, first timers 10%
  - Stapleton residents
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Sports Clips**
  - Offer: $20 off a men’s or boys hair cut.
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Stapleton Health and Wellness, LLC.**
  - Offer: 25% off from service and professional products
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Stranz Beauty Supply/Salon**
  - Offer: 10% off from services and professional products
  - Location: Quebec Square

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

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**RESTAURANTS (cont')**

- **Salsita**
  - Offer: $4 off any entree sized bowl.
  - Location: Quebec Square

- **Sunny’s Italian Restaurant**
  - Offer: 15% off of any one food and beverage.
  - Location: Quebec Square

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**RTD PARKING GARAGE**

Since You’re Out...

Editor’s note: A number of written questions submitted at the Fall Forum Forest City co-hosted with Stapleton United Neighbors could not be answered due to a lack of time. The following are some of those questions and the corresponding answers. For a full list of the responses to the questions raised at the Forum, visit the Stapleton Intranet at www.StapletonOnLine.com.

**What can we get a stop sign or two between Kimball and Beecher on 25th?**

Decisions on the installation of stop signs are made by the City and County of Denver Department of Public Works according to national traffic management standards. The Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) Transportation Committee meets monthly in the Stapleton Visitor Center to discuss those types of issues and to make recommendations to City officials. Call the Visitor Center at (303) 355-9600 to confirm the time and date of the meeting.

**What is the condition of the old parking garage? It looks like it is crumbling in spots. Will the RTD parking garage ever be updated?**

The former airport concessions facility, before it can be redeveloped to serve commercial office development in the surrounding area. Forest City will be responsible for making those improvements once the RTD park-n-ride now located at the parking garage is relocated north to Smith Road

**Will there be any more pools?**

Yes. The next pool is scheduled to open in summer 2007 on 28th Place between Genesia Street and Hanover Street.

**Will the East town center be the same size/greater/smaller than West?**

The design for the town center planned for Havana and Martin Luther King Blvd. has not been finalized, but it is likely to be smaller than the East 29th Avenue Town Center. Forest City hopes to attract a small grocery store, perhaps offering natural foods as the anchor of that center, which will likely open in mid 2007.

**What is planned north of the East Town Center? Residential or School?**

That is still to be decided. It could be either multi-family residential or a school, depending on a decision yet to be made by Denver Public Schools.

**When will the CPD detector near Mastinview Blvd. end?**

The concrete for the road construction north of the intersection of Central Park Boulevard and Mountview Boulevard has been poured but the concrete must be sealed before it can be opened for use by the public. That opening is currently scheduled for sometime in this month, weather permitting.

*Please get a natural foods store in the East Town Center. Preferably Wild One’s (it’s locally owned)*

Forest City would like to attract a natural foods store to the Havana Town Center and is talking to all potential candidates. Stapleton residents can help that effort by urging their favorite natural food stores to contact Forest City’s Regional Director of Leasing, Robb Brown, at (303) 382-1800 to discuss retail opportunities at Stapleton.

*Is there a plan to be implemented to reduce pesticide/herbicide broadcast spraying in green areas and parks? Current?* Stapleton has very heavy pesticide/herbicide use and causes an inhalation hazard to residents.

*Peticides – actually, larvicides – are used only when necessary for mosquito control and are actually naturally occurring bacteria. Herbicides have been used for weed control in turf, forest and native plant areas during establishment of that landscape. Their use will be reduced as planted vegetation becomes dominant.*

**What about new playgrounds?**

Among the new playgrounds planned for Stapleton will be a unique playground in Central Park, located just east of the “central gathering space” that will be used for small concerts. The playground should be open for use in the fall of 2006.

**Please try to have play equipment for all ages at playgrounds. The playground at the new pool is not really fit for children up to 3 or 4 years. Can you add a swim/slide? Baby swings and other swings are always being used by very small children.**

The Stapleton’s pools and adjacent play areas are managed by the
By Dick Anderson

The full public forum hosted by Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN), the Stapleton Development Corporation’s Citizens Advisory Board and Forest City produced a lively discussion on a number of topics of interest to residents of Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods. As you will note from the question-and-answers section of the adjacent “Since You Asked” column on this page, most questions pertained to non-complex issues and could be answered with very brief responses.

At least one question on the minds of people in attendance at the Forum requires a more lengthy response to provide a complete and accurate answer. That question was “Why are taxes at Stapleton higher than Lowry or other adjacent neighborhoods?”

By Dick Anderson

The Fall public forum hosted by Stapleton United Neighborhoods (SUN), the Stapleton Development Corporation’s Citizens Advisory Board and Forest City produced a lively discussion on a number of topics of interest to residents of Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods. As you will note from the question-and-answers section of the adjacent “Since You Asked” column on this page, most questions pertained to non-complex issues and could be answered with very brief responses.

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Since You’ve Asked (continued)

In that process should attend a meeting of the pool planning and operation committee. Contact Stapleton Community Manager Diane Deeter at communitymanager@StapletonDenver.com.

Are there plans for an indoor pool at the recreation center big enough for regional (“trunk”) infrastructure which includes major utility lines and regional parks including Central Park, Westerly Creek and the completion of the “Promenade” (sidewalk) that extends across the 80 street improvements and Central Park Boulevard, as well as major utility lines and regional parks including Central Park, Westerly Creek and Greenway Park. Funding Stapleton’s regional open space program alone accounts for over $128 million of the projected cost for infrastructure at the former airfield owned by The Denver Urban Renewal Authority. Those fees are reflected in the development of parks and open space at Stapleton. To date, Forest City has funded over $35 million of park improvements at Stapleton. Ultimately Forest City will provide over $44 million for the development of Stapleton’s open space.

Another source of funding for Stapleton’s regional infrastructure is provided through the sale of bonds by The Denver Urban Renewal Authority. Those fees are reflected in the development of parks and open space at Stapleton. To date, Forest City has funded over $35 million of park improvements at Stapleton. Ultimately Forest City will provide over $44 million for the development of Stapleton’s open space.

The method ultimately selected to fund local infrastructure was the State approved Metropolitan District approach that required approval by the City of Denver. We created the Park Creek Metropolitan District (PCMD) and Westerly Creek Metropolitan District (WCMD). PCMD builds the improvements and sells bonds to fund those improvements. Westerly Creek establishes an annual mill levy that is on each City of Denver tax bill. The mill levy is applied to the assessment established by the County Assessor under state law. The mill levy is currently about 54 mills, limited by agreements with the City and the bondholders.

The advantages of this method of funding the infrastructure includes (1) lower lot prices and therefore lower home prices (2) the ability to finance debt at lower interest rates (3) the application of the mill levy to all property at Stapleton (including Wal-Mart, Home Depot and Super target) and (4) the ability of the taxpayer to deduct the payment on their federal and state tax returns. At the completion of the development process and the retirement of the Westerly Creek Metropolitan District (WCMD) debt, 97% of the mill levy will go away. The remaining 3% will be used to fund operating and maintenance obligations of the District.

Dick Anderson is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Stapleton Development Corporation.

Dick Anderson is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Stapleton Development Corporation.
Did You Know?

- Eagles reach adult size in the first six weeks after hatching.
- It takes six years for an eagle to fully mature, as measured by the plumage (color) of its feathers.
- Without human interference, eagles typically live to be 30 years old.
- All eagles drop used worm feathers and grow a new set of feathers each year.

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge (NR) is located on the northern border of Stapleton. Visitors should enter the Refuge at 45th Ave. & Havana. For more information, please visit www.rockymountainarsenal.fws.gov.

Photos by Bernadette Atencio

The Confiscated Wildlife Property Program is specific to supplying eagle feathers to the federally recognized Native American tribes after a detailed application process. The applicant must provide certification of enrollment in a federally recognized tribe and be 18 years of age or older. Applications are submitted and approved by the Magruder Bird Permit Office and then forwarded to the repository at the Arsenal. The limited supply and high demand means each applicant can only request one bird at a time.

“Most requests we receive are for a whole bird, and the most popular is the immature golden eagle, which can take up to four years to get because we receive the fewest of those,” said Atencio.

See for Yourself

The repository provides tours for groups of 10 to 25 people only. All tours must be scheduled in advance. For more information, please contact Bernadette Atencio at the National Eagle Repository on 303-397-2120.
The Alzheimer’s Memory Grove and Gardens

The memory park is designed with a spiraling pathway of four distinct gardens enhanced with seasonal plantings to reflect the Seasons of our Lives. This lasting tribute to a loved one will be inscribed in the centerpiece of the gardens. Each memory tree sells for $1,000, which is a tax-deductible donation. The money raised from the sale of 167 trees will provide critically needed funds to foster support and education for individuals and their families who are affected by this devastating disease and to generate essential funding for Alzheimer’s prevention research. The Alzheimer’s Association Colorado Chapter and AWARE hope this remarkable memory grove and gardens will bring lasting beauty to the Greater Stapleton Community and communicate the hope of one day soon conquering Alzheimer’s disease. For more information contact the Alzheimer’s Association at 303-813-1669.

With the purchase of a tree, a name will be inscribed in the centerpiece of the gardens. This lasting tribute to a loved one will help create a place of natural beauty and hope.

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, Denver June 24th & 25th

Please join us for an hour-long Introduction Meeting in Stapleton and learn all there is to know about the upcoming 2006 Walk! You’ll learn how the Walk is structured, how to train and fundraise, and much more! If you decide to participate in the Walk for 2 days and 39 miles, your participation will allow medically underserved women and men to be treated, giving them access to the care they require. It’s a weekend you will never forget, so come and learn more! Upcoming Introduction Meetings will be held at 6:30pm at the Westerly Creek Elementary School Library on 1/23, 2/6, 3/2, and 4/18. Call 303-753-2163 or visit www.avonwalk.org to RSVP today!

The Westerly Creek Elementary School PTA’s 2nd Annual Auction and School Dance

Saturday, Feb. 11th, 2006
6:30 – 8:00 pm at the School
Auction Fever

Elementary School-aged and younger children are welcome to participate in the chaperoned dance while grown-ups bid on items (all kids must be accompanied by an adult for admission)

Pre-event online auction opens January 22, 2006 and closes February 9, 2006. Please visit our site! www.westerlycreekpta.cmarket.com

Westerly Creek

Our office in Stapleton is open! Our practice in Cherry Creek has been providing exceptional care to infants, children and young adults for more than 45 years. We are excited to be able to provide care closer to home to many of our patients in our additional location in Stapleton.

Please see us at:

Pediatrics at Stapleton Plaza
3501 Quebec Street Suite 3900
Denver, Co 80207
303-388-4333

or

Pediatrics at Cherry Creek, LLC
210 University Boulevard Suite 490
Denver, Co 80206
303-377-9663

We are looking forward to seeing familiar faces and new patients!

Dr Elisabeth Staerz, MD
Dr Linda Couillard, DO
Dr Jennifer England, MD

Harvey Schwartz Photography
Photography for pets and the people they love.
303-394-0378
www.harveyschwartz.com
info@harveyschwartz.com

Call now and mention this ad for $50 creation fee (reg. $125)

We live and work in Stapleton!
Stapleton Citizens Advisory Board
Pat McClearn
Sustainability Program Consultant
works for the U.S. Department of State.

That program encourages medical facilities to work on the creation of the "Colorado Hospitals for a Healthy Environment." Pat McClearn's dedication to that task has helped to shape the natural beauty of the community.

Pat and her husband, well-known attorney Hugh McClearn, have two grown children, Cami, a consultant in Boston, and Andrew, who works for the U.S. Department of State.

Karen Kingsberg, Forest City Stapleton Sustainability Program Consultant

Karen Kingsberg was eight years old when her first airplane flight took her from Cheyenne, Wyoming to Stapleton International Airport.

Now almost 25 years later, she has returned to Stapleton to help create a new community based on sustainable development principles that protect Colorado's environment and make the wisest use of its natural resources.

Since April 2004, Karen has been working to implement portions of the Stapleton Sustainability Master Plan, including working with builders to help them advance from the minimum Built Green standards Forest City initially required to the higher performance standards of the ENERGY STAR program.

Karen earned her Masters Degree in Business Administration from CU following her undergraduate work in Anthropology and Women's Studies at American University. In her first time she enjoys hiking, skiing and yoga. Karen is engaged to marry Ryan Hufnagel, an environmental engineer, in September of this year.

Latrice Norwood, Executive Assistant, Public Art Coordinator

Latrice Norwood is a former student at Marchek Middle School in Aurora. As a former student at Marchek Middle School in Aurora. As a former student at Marchek Middle School, Latrice currently serves as the Board Chair of Colorado Single mothers of Color (SMOC).

Latrice is involved in her free time, teaching for children in her community and dance activities. She has also traveled, including a recent trip to Jamaica. Her future plans include a visit to Paris.

Sustainability at Stapleton

New Town Builders Recognized for Commitment to Energy Efficiency

New Town Builders was recently awarded the Regional Innovation and Star Builder Award for Metro Denver as part of El Star Colorado's fifth annual New Millennium ENERGY STAR Builder Awards. The EPA has developed specifications to recognize homes equipped with a comprehensive set of indoor air quality measures that go beyond the requirements of the ENERGY STAR program. The EPA has released the Indoor Air Package specifications as a pilot program in a limited number of markets to allow for comprehensive evaluation.

"New Town Builders has been working very closely with specific indoor air quality con- nects in our homes. Trampeing up with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program, a comprehensive Indoor Air Quality Pilot program at Stapleton made sense for us because it fits our existing goal of working toward third-party certification of indoor air quality. The results of the pilot program will complement our work in this area and be incorporated into our future design and construction plans," said Bill Bexton of Building Systems and Technologies Manager for New Town Builders.

Over 70 additional home design and construction features are included in the Indoor Air Package to help protect qualified homes from moisture and mold, pests, combustion gases, and other air pollutants. Homes that comply with these specifications can use the Indoor Air Package label as a complement to the ENERGY STAR label. Homes that earn the ENERGY STAR Indoor Air Package label are designed to have lower utility costs, greater comfort, better durability, and reduced risk of indoor air problems.

Karen Kingsberg (kikingsbury@stapletondevelopment.com) is the Sustainability Program Consultant for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.
Sustainability at Stapleton
by Melissa Knott
Director of Sustainability for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

2006 To Be A Great Year for Sustainability at Stapleton

Happy New Year! 2006 is going to be a terrific year for sustainability efforts at Stapleton. This year all of our residential builders will be making the final transition to ENERGY STAR, the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency. We will be highlighting more about the ENERGY STAR for Homes program in future issues.

Already, many of our builders are making great strides in building more energy efficient homes. Be sure to read about the award New Town Builders recently won and the indoor air quality pilot program in which they are participating. The City and County of Denver is working on sustainability issues as well, through its new Sustainable Development Initiative. Be sure to check out the tips from Denver Water to help reduce problems of freezing pipes during the next few months. Finally, keep sustainability in mind when making your New Year’s resolutions!

Cold Weather Tips from Denver Water

The same natural forces that trigger cold-weather breaks in Denver Water’s 2,500 miles of underground mains can cause pipes to burst in your own household or business planning. Here are some tips for avoiding costly damage.

Know the location of your water shut-off switch and test it regularly.

If a pipe breaks, you won’t want to have

If You Think a Pipe Has Already Frozen

Don’t wait for nature to take its course: Save the pipe as soon as possible or call a plumber for help.

If you do it yourself, shut off the water or test the shut-off valve. You don’t want water suddenly gushing from the pipe when it thaws.

Remember: When thawing things, slower is better.

A hair dryer trained at the frozen area of the pipe is appropriate. A blow torch is not. Pipes warmed too fast may break anyway.

Recycle Your Holiday Cards and Envelopes

Don’t let the lovely holiday cards and envelopes from your Great Aunt Martha go to waste. Recycle them instead! Denver Recycles is now accepting greeting cards and their envelopes in the residential recycling collection program. So, after the holidays are over and you’re left with a stack of greeting cards, recycle them in your purple recycling containers instead of tossing them in the trash.

Please no foil type cards or envelopes (no paper with a silvery color). For more information about other materials you can recycle in the Denver Recycles programs call 720-464-5005 or visit www.denvergov.org/DenverRecycles.

City Launches Sustainable Development Initiative

By Beth Conover

You may already know about some of the sustainability initiatives at Stapleton, but did you know that Mayor John Hickenlooper has launched a program to advance a variety of cost-effective, socially equitable and environmentally friendly programs throughout the City and County of Denver? The Denver Sustainable Development Initiative was launched in April 2005 and has quickly gained traction. The goal of the Sustainable Development Initiative is to focus and catalyze the City’s sustainable efforts and to increase public awareness of programs and policies that support the values of sustainable development.

A Sustainability Council comprised of key City managers and staff is engaged in developing a sustainability action plan for Denver, based on “best practices” nationwide. The plan will focus on opportunities surrounding energy and emissions, land use and transportation, natural resource stewardship, community economic development and waste reduction. An annual report will measure progress toward established goals.

Denver has historically led the nation in many areas of environmental stewardship, including the creation of the first municipal Green Fleet in the nation in the early 1990s and one of the largest inventories of energy and emissions-saving LED traffic lights in the country. The passage of FasTracks, the newly expanded ReThink Recycling program, development of Community Conservation Gardens, and the commitment to use green building practices for the new Justice Center complex are some more recent examples of Denver’s leadership in these areas.

The Denver Sustainable Development Initiative is working with Forest City Stapleton and the Stapleton Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities to support areas of common interest.

For more information about the Sustainable Development Initiative, please visit www.denvergov.org/sustainability.

Beth Conover is the Director of Denver’s Sustainable Development Initiative

Northfield Church

loneliness bad habits good health family issues broken promises successful career great relationships unfulfilled expectations

Grace makes it possible to turn the page.

Westfield Creek Elementary School, Sundays at 9:45 a.m., 720-985-6610 • www.northfieldchurch.com • contact@northfieldchurch.com
Parents Most Common Questions About Karate for Kids

Are classes safe?

Karate is a highly supervised activity, in fact, the average student/teacher ratio is only 7 to 1. This ratio is three times less than a public school. The children are never asked to perform any movements that would put them in danger of injury. Our children’s curriculum has been specifically designed to accommodate ages 3 and up. This curriculum has been modified so children of these ages can successfully learn and perform all the moves necessary to excel. The curriculum is never harmful, sometimes a little challenging to build greater self-esteem, but never too difficult, so that a child won’t experience “failure.”

Will my child have fun?

Karate is good, clean fun for kids...and a great way to give kids a head start on life. It has been our understanding that parents want the lasting benefits of confidence, respect, self-esteem and self-discipline that Karate offers; however, we don’t want a struggle with the children when it’s time to get ready for class. Our instructors have become leaders in the field of motivating children. It is a required part of our instructor training to take seminars that teach “children so they want to learn.” Motivation, excitement and fun are the essential tools we use to increase the learning and performance of our Karate kids. We also offer various school events that teach children how to get along better with others, thus creating a spirit of teamwork and a sense of belonging. In recent months our students have met Martial Arts stars, attended sleep overs, pizza parties, summer fun camp and more. Not only do our students learn the most, they have the most fun too!

Will my child learn to be abusive?

Absolutely not! Karate is self-defense, not self-defense. Every child is taught our “student creed,” which is a necessary part of learning the philosophy of our school. Our creed states... “I will respect all life.” Our creed is a commitment students learn in order to maintain the courtesy and integrity of our Art.

How much does it cost and is it worth the money?

Our primary focus is to teach children “life skills.” Because a structure of respect, courtesy and honesty is built into Karate, children develop the ability to listen, learn, and achieve with a highly regulated environment. Most sports don’t build leadership traits. If you have ever thought about getting your child started in the lasting benefits of Karate - now is the time.

Mike and Karen Giles are the owners of Mike Giles Family Karate in the East 29th Avenue Town Center. They may be reached at (303) 377.KICK (5425) or by email at mikegileskarate@comcast.net.

Rachel Fields, Creative Memories

The holidays come and go in a blur for most of us. Gifts and decorations, a few extra pounds, and more family photos stuffed into a drawer inordinately. Here to help us keep those family photos from languishing forever is Stapleton resident Rachel Fields. Rachel has recently started her own home-based business as a Creative Memories consultant, hosting scrapbooking “get-togethers” to help people organize and preserve their photographs and stories forever.

While Rachel continues her day job as a microbiologist (her husband Josh is also a microbiologist), this is her first time starting her own business. She has, until recently, been scrapbooking with a Creative Memories group in Littleton, but the long drive was getting inconvenient. It was a friend who urged her to put together her own scrapbooking group here in Stapleton. “My friend suggested I just give the business a try and send out emails and even fliers to get started,” she says. “I thought, “Why not? I had nothing to lose. I was pleased to have 13 people on my first get-together on Dec. 2nd. Everyone had a wonderful time and most will be back every month.” At each get-together, Rachel shares scrapbooking techniques, tools and help with organizing overwhelming piles of photographs and memorabilia. The cost of each session ($18 in advance or $20 paid that evening) goes toward supplies and the coffee and desserts she serves.

For Rachel, scrapbooking isn’t just a creative outlet. “There are no pictures of me from when I was a baby or child,” she explains. “There was a fire in our home when I was in grade school and all was lost. I feel a huge loss because of it. I want my kids to have baby books and photo albums from their childhood that they can show to their children. Because they are being preserved properly with Creative Memories products, I know they will not turn yellow or fade away.” With her baby due this summer, Rachel can’t wait to get started on her first baby book.

Rachel hosts regular scrapbooking sessions the first Friday of each month in her home starting at 7:00pm. Please call ahead to RSVP since table space is limited. For those interested in having their own scrapbooking get-together for family and friends, Rachel will also bring supplies and her know-how to your home. For more information, email Rachel at creativemem@comcast.net or call at 303.758.1346.

Kathy Epperson is a Stapleton resident who writes a monthly column about home businesses. She may be reached at kathyxe@yahoo.com.
Pet, you can give yourself the best chance possible. Pet, but if you prepare a little in advance and take a proactive approach to recovering your scent. You may also want to post flyers at local veterinary hospitals.

Ask neighbors to watch for the pet and post lots of flyers with the shelter employees will try to match your description with the right animal, you are the number if the animal has one. Many shelters have a program in place to match lost that the pet will be found. One of the first things you should do is to contact your local presence of the chip, which can help reunite the pet and owner.

Microchipping as a means of pet identification has become more popular recently. The microchip is a small electronic chip that is easily inserted underneath the pet's skin, usually at the back of the neck. It provides permanent identification about the pet, fences and accidentally suffocate. This is why it is important to use collars that will stretch trickier, however. If the collar with the tag is too tight and will not give when tugged, then the cat could get stuck somewhere. Cats have been known to get their collars caught on fences and accidentally suffocate. This is why it is important to use collars that will stretch or break when pulled.

Without a doubt, the hardest part is waiting to see if you will be reunited with your Without a doubt, the hardest part is waiting to see if you will be reunited with your pet, but if you prepare a little in advance and take a proactive approach to recovering the pet, you can give yourself the best chance possible.

Be a Good Neighbor!

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 anniebrown@yahoo.com.

West African-style Peanut Soup

In a medium stock pot, heat olive oil. Add onion, garlic, ginger, sand and sliced red mesa chiles. Cook until the onion becomes soft and translucent. Add chopped carrots, sweet potato, and peanut butter. Let cook until peanut butter melts into vegetable and tomato mixture. Add water. If you like a thinner soup, add more water. If you like it thicker, like a stew, add a little less. Stir well and bring to a boil. After soup boils, add tofu or crumbled chicken. You can eat it right away, or let simmer for up to two hours.

Makes 6 hearty servings.
Prior to coming to Stapleton, Shelly worked as a bartender year for fundraising. One of those charitable causes is the International Disasters Than Ever in the Wake of Hurricanes, sledding. snow storms with outdoor frolic like snowball fights and progressive parties, game nights, and taking advantage of community and connection during the cold weather, plenty of ways that blocks can build their sense of neighborhood building event – getting to know your neighbors and knowing who is coming and going from the area can be challenging. However, Neighborhood Watch has had a proven deterrent effect on crime, even in newer areas of Stapleton - so get your block involved! SUN’s annual Block Party Day is only six months away! It’s never too early to start organizing your block for this neighborhood building event – getting to know your neighbors during the planning is half the fun! There are plenty of ways that blocks can build their sense of community and connection during the cold weather months. Ideas for winter block activities include progressive parties, game nights, and taking advantage of snow storms with outdoor frolic like snowball fights and sledding.

Charity Volunteerism More Important Than Ever in the Wake of Hurricanes, International Disasters

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters worldwide, traditional charities face a challenging year for fundraising. One of those charitable causes is the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and its mission of ending the devastating effects of MS. Last year, Stapleton had significant participation in the MS Society-Colorado Chapter’s MS 150 Bike Tour and Challenge Walk, including a generous sponsorship donation by Forest City/Stapleton. MS is a disease that effects 7,900 people right here in Colorado, a number that unfortunately continues to grow. Asking for donations is never easy, but fundraising work enables research and programs that are vital to ending the devastating effects of MS. Together, we can build on this partnership for the 2006 Bike Tour and for years to come by joining together as a neighborhood and building on our participation in this event. Whether it be as a cyclist, a volunteer, or through recruiting your neighbors to participate, we invite you to join us and thousands of other dedicated volunteers for this amazing experience. If you are interested in joining Stapleton’s efforts on behalf of the National MS Society, Colorado Chapter, please contact me at mking@bbblaw.com. I hope to hear from you soon!

Residents Participate in Public Focus Groups on Travel Issues in Quebec Region

The City of Denver’s transportation department has undertaken a comprehensive review of travel patterns in several areas, including the region bordered by Monaco, Monaco, Lowry, and Hill, and Lowry. The meeting was designed to surface issues, and several recurring themes emerged: concerns about the volume and efficiency of north-south, and, to a lesser extent, east-west traffic in the Quebec region, and limited public transportation options. Residents offered up ideas ranging from widening Quebec between 6th and 23rd to maintaining Quebec as is to deter traffic a lesser extent, east-west traffic in the Quebec region, and limited public transportation options. Residents offered up ideas ranging from widening Quebec between 6th and 23rd to maintaining Quebec as is to deter traffic and using trolleys to transport people up and down Quebec. At least one more public focus group meeting will be held in late January or early February, so keep an eye on this space and your email for updates and your chance to let your voice be heard!

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S.U.N. News

The SUN Spot
The independent voice of Stapleton
Brought to you by Stapleton United Neighbors

My Opinion
New Year’s Resolutions Can Include Good Deeds for Community, Charities
by Mike King, SUN President

Whether you engage in building your community or assisting important charities in need, there are plenty of opportunities to follow through on those ambitious New Year’s resolutions to make the world a better place in 2006. Stapleton United Neighbors (“SUN”) has numerous working committees that require volunteer participation and maximum community involvement for their success. Our committees address transportation, safety, community relations, growth and development at and around Stapleton, education, and neighborhood/building social activities. For more information on getting involved, contact our Outreach Co-Chairs Bill Fulton (civilconversations@hotmail.com) or Susan Hadinger (schading@hotmail.com).

Specific, immediate needs exist for emerging leadership east of Westerly Creek. Ideally, each block will have volunteers to organize participation in the SUN Outreach Program, social activities like the SUN Kickball Tournament and Block Party Day, and the SUN/DPD Neighborhood Watch Program. New areas of Stapleton have historically been more prone to burglary and other crimes, as these areas are often in a state of transition. With construction teams, brokers, prospective home buyers and new residents coming and going, knowing your neighbors and knowing who is coming and going from the area can be challenging. However, Neighborhood Watch has had a proven deterrent effect on crime, even in newer areas of Stapleton - so get your block involved!

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M.C.A. News

Christmas
I’m reading by Barbara Robinson. I love to read each chapter. I have a sense that our new person who shared the gist of what was covered in under a blanket and stuff. That would be nice. I’m a total romantic so probably any romance novel as she does.

A book I’d love to curl up with is The Five People . I just love Dorothy Parker. She’s like a poetess. I do not have a book I’d like to read but my favorite is The Poisonwood Bible.

The World Is Flat
Technology age and how fast children deal with the world is flattening. Our new person who shared the gist of what was covered in under a blanket and stuff. That would be nice. I’m a total romantic so probably any romance novel as she does.

A book I’d love to curl up with is Outlander. I just read The World Is Flat by Thomas Friedman. We’re educators and I found that a fascinating book thinking about our children and the brave new world. The change we have as educators to help children deal with the technology age and how fast the world is flattening. Our new person who shared the gist of what was covered in under a blanket and stuff. That would be nice. I’m a total romantic so probably any romance novel as she does.

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Denver Brownstones to Grace Central Park

Classic Denver Brownstones are Coming to Stapleton

The traditional exteriors of The Denver Brownstones at Central Park by Touchstone Homes will bring to mind the historic mansions of the 1920s. Combining the best of old world charm and new world amenities, the Brownstones take advantage of being across the street from Central Park, with three private terraces in the living room, and the most important gathering place featuring an urban forest, prairie mounds, a promenade for strolling, numerous open grass areas ideal for soccer matches or picnics, and a stage and seating for concerts and lectures.

Touchstone Homes will bring presales of the Brownstones in early 2006. Potential buyers wishing to add their name to the much anticipated VIP interest list should call 303.851.0989 or visit www.denverbrownstones.com.

Overlooking what will soon be one of Denver’s most beautiful parks, the owners of the Denver Brownstones at Stapleton will enjoy outstanding views of Central Park from their many terraces. The 80-acre park is destined to become Stapleton’s most important gathering place featuring an urban forest, prairie mounds, a promenade for strolling, numerous open grass areas ideal for soccer matches or picnics, and a stage and seating for concerts and lectures.

New Community Group, Sustainable Politics Stapleton, Kicks Off With FoodBank Fundraiser

by Mark Mehringer and Jake Sherosky

On Sunday, December 4th, a new and growing community group in Stapleton, Sustainable Politics Stapleton, held its holiday open house and fundraiser for FoodBank of the Rockies. The event was hosted by Stapleton owners Evan Dreyer and Melody Harris at their home. During the open house, the organization’s first public event, it raised nearly $1000 in donations to fight hunger in Denver, with about 80 people attending, including Stapleton’s City Councilman, Michael Hancock, and Stapleton residents City Councilman Doug Linkhart and CU Regent Michael Carrigan.

Sustainable Politics Stapleton is working on a range of local issues, including advocating for safe bike and pedestrian access (across I-70, to the planned light-rail station and across many of the busy streets around Stapleton); finding safe alternatives to pesticide spraying in Stapleton parks; improving access to affordable housing throughout Denver; and, working on options for more organic food in the area.

In the coming year, the group hopes to help ensure new residents register to vote when they move to Stapleton, plans to hold forums for 2006 candidates and ballot measures and continue its charity fundraising efforts. A key focus for the group will be on community education to ensure area residents have the information they need to make decisions.

Sustainable Politics Stapleton was founded this fall by Harris, Jake Sherosky, and Mark Mehringer with the mission of “promoting equal opportunity, social justice, and sustainable living values by using community-based activities to organize, educate and take action” and with a broad goal of providing the Stapleton area with a community-based outlet for political and sustainability concerns. The group has grown quickly, and now includes 58 members who have signed up on the group’s website. Sustainable Politics Stapleton can be reached via email at SustainablePolitics@gmail.com to join, for more information or to attend an event.

The authors are Stapleton residents.

Phoenix Yoga

Anyone hoping to lead a healthier, more relaxing life should visit Phoenix Yoga Studio across from the fountain in Stapleton’s East 29th Avenue Town Center.

“Yoga is an ancient system of self-care that brings vitality, health, deep relaxation and peace of mind,” says Stapleton resident Mary Jane Fenness (lower right) who owns the studio and is one of seven instructors. “We offer different styles of yoga including Vinyasa, Gentle Yoga and our specialty, Hot Yoga, which is a wonderful sequence of postures designed to bring strength, flexibility, and balance to any body at any level of ability.”

Mary Jane notes that Hot Yoga is practiced in a comfortably heated room to cleanse, release muscles, and prevent injury. “Even people who don’t like heat, love yoga in a heated room,” Mary Jane says.

Phoenix Yoga Studio also offers therapeutic and pre-natal massage, which provides numerous health benefits as well. Classes are held 7 days a week with morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. Massages are available by appointment 7 days a week. Call 303-777-7444 or visit www.phoenixyogastudio.com.

Six Steps to Buying a New Home

If you’re looking to buy a new home — or just exploring the possibilities — talk to Joni Probst, your neighbor and mortgage loan officer at the Credit Union at Stapleton. Joni can help guide you through six easy steps to help make your home buying experience more enjoyable.

The first step is determining your budget. Joni recommends the loan which best fits your situation — and pre-approve you for the loan! When this is done prior to looking at homes, it helps focus and streamline the rest of the process: 1) choose a realtor, 2) select a home, 3) make an offer and contract, 4) have the home inspected, 5) close and move in! Call Joni at 720.921.3036. The Credit Union at Stapleton is located at 3700 North Quebec, Unit 102, behind Panera Bread.
By Brett Kessler

Two years ago, the greatly anticipated Stapleton 29th Ave Town Center opened. As one of the first businesses to occupy space in the Town Center, it is hard to believe how things have changed. I would like to offer some perspectives on how the 29th Avenue Town Center and the Neighborhood are doing. I can say that things have definitely progressed nicely! 

Stapleton Envy

Has anyone noticed that residents from the surrounding neighborhoods have this phenomenon that I loosely call “Stapleton Envy”? They are in awe of what has been developed here in Stapleton. The careful urban plan, the park designs, the stores and businesses in the Town Center, the fountains, you name it: they love it.

Traffic Patterns

There are two distinct traffic patterns that we see outside our office. The first rush is at about 9:30am on weekdays. It looks to me that it is the “stay-at-homers” pushing their strollers or walking their dogs towards Starbucks and Einstein’s (now Udi’s as well) as I assume they are socializing over coffee, pastries, bagels etc.

The second rush is after dinner. This traffic flow is with the dogs, kids, strollers, wagons and bicycles going down to Cold Stone Creamery for the ice cream. It is with the families shopping, saying “I’ll see you tomorrow!”

Traffic Patterns continues next week...

Community Support

The 29th Avenue Town Center has supported the community in many ways. Contributions to the school and community fundraisers, to the canned food drives, and all of the charitable donations are commonplace among the businesses here. The businesses here are all about helping those in need.

The Restaurants

This is a particular area that we are especially happy to partake in. I can’t stop in a restaurant without seeing someone I know. The quality of the menu, the careful preparation and presentation of the food, the outstanding service, all speaks for itself. I have found this to be consistent at every restaurant in the Town Center.

The Retail

Get your art framed, drop in for a yoga class or a workout, buy some hip new clothes, pick up your dry-cleaning, purchase that perfect gift for a friend, say it with flowers, discuss a potential new real estate deal, find out what is new at the visitor center, locate that perfect bottle of vino for your dinner party this weekend...the possibilities are endless! Two years ago it was pretty lonely, as it took some time for the vacancies to fill. It is sure to have neighbors!

The Services

Let’s face it....where can you drop your dog off for a teeth cleaning, walk over and get your teeth or your child’s teeth cleaned, and then get your haircut without getting in your car? The Green

Founder’s day, movies, concerts, fall festival, spring flings. All are venues to celebrate everything that is Stapleton. The numbers of attendees at these events are increasing every year. What a sight to watch year after year!

Thanks for Your Continued Support

Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics as well as all of the businesses here in the 29th Avenue Town Center wish to offer a huge thanks to you, the residents of our neighborhood. Due to your continued support, we are still a viable entity here. We will continue to try our best to serve the needs of the community.

Many of the businesses here in the Town Center are owned and operated by your very own neighbors. As business owners as well as residents of our great neighborhood, we want only the best for the community.

While writing this I come back to the “Stapleton Envy” phenomenon that I mentioned earlier... “We have a lot to be proud of!!!” Dr. Brett Kessler and his wife Dr. Gina Kessler are Stapleton residents who own the Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics in the East 29th Ave Town Center. They may be reached at 303-321-4443.

“Top Cops” Honored in District Two

District 2 “Top Cops” Awards given for outstanding service to the citizens of NE Denver.

October Top Cop

The October award was given to Corporal Doug Moran who recently led a successful search for an 11-year-old boy who was missing from a homeless shelter where he had been staying with his family. The officer was also applaudable for his work with the Whittier Neighborhood Association, where he has worked to help citizens make their community safer. Corporal Moran has served as an acting shift supervisor and a Field Training Officer for recruit officers newly graduated from the academy.

November Top Cop

Officer Choice Johnson was nominated for the “Top Cop” Award by his supervision for the “pro-active” approach he has brought to his police work as a patrol officer in Northeast Denver. Officer Johnson has taken time to ask the residents of the neighborhoods he patrols that sets the highest standards for the Denver Police Department and its goal to “protect and serve” the citizens of Denver.

Citizens of civic and business organizations in northeast Denver who would like to nominate an officer for Denver Police District Two for a “Top Cop” Award should email Commander Rhonda S. Jones at jsjones@ci.denver.co.us.

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Photo courtesy of Denver Police Dept.

Top Cop Choice Johnson with Larry Burgess of the Top Cop Committee.

Photos courtesy of Denver Police Dept.

Corporal Doug Moran with Anthony Thomas of the Top Cop Committee.

November Top Cop Officer Choice Johnson with Larry Burgess of the Top Cop Committee.

October Top Cop Corporal Doug Moran with Anthony Thomas of the Top Cop Committee.

New Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge

Construction progresses on new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Sand Creek north of Interstate 70.

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Stapleton feels different

Not all services available in all areas. Certain restrictions apply. ON DEMAND service not available in all areas. Activation of service may be subject to credit approval. Discounts or prepayment may be required. Minimum download speed 4.9Mbps. Maximum upload speed 256Kbps. Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. © 2008 Comcast Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.
Stapleton Celebrates the Holidays

Holiday decor brightens the East 29th Avenue Town Center (left) and Quebec Square (above).

Left: Winner of the holiday lighting contest.

Above three photos: Annual holiday tree lighting party. Left: Lighting the Menorah on the 29th Avenue Parkway at Xenia Street.