

Front Porch

Distributed to the Greater Stapleton Area

STAPLETON

DENVER, COLORADO

SEPTEMBER 2006

Westerly Creek Campus

New Roberts Building Opens for 4th-8th Graders



The K-8 Westerly Creek Campus at Stapleton kicked off the 2006-2007 school year with a great start as the new William Roberts building located east of Central Park Boulevard on Montview Boulevard opened its doors for the first time to students enrolled in the 4th through 8th grades. Under the direction of Principal Trich Lea, the Westerly Creek Campus will provide Early Childhood Education through 3rd grade in the original Westerly Creek Elementary building at 28th Avenue and Akron with students continuing on to higher grades at the Roberts Building.



Community Input for Havana Town Center Forum Draws Overflow Crowd



There was no shortage of creative ideas and energetic discussion as 300 people turned out to participate in a planning forum for the Havana Village Center scheduled to open its first phase in 2008 near the intersection of Havana and Martin Luther King Boulevard. The forum, cosponsored by Stapleton United Neighbors, The Stapleton Development Corporation Citizens Advisory Board and Forest City, featured a presentation by Jim Chrisman, senior vice president-development for Forest City and architect Terry Willis of 42/40, the firm that will design the center.

Northfield Main Street to Open Oct. 26th "Casting Call" Winners Selected; 46 Stores Announced

On July 29th, over 500 Denverites – ages 18 to 80 - turned out to join in the excitement of the launch of the new Northfield Stapleton. The open casting call was a chance for "real people" from the Denver community to be the faces in the ads for the new Northfield Regional Shopping Center. No professional models were allowed. A goal of the casting call was to select a cross section of people to accurately represent Northfield Stapleton shoppers.

Participants ranged in age from 18 to 70, with 50% in their 20's and 30's. Northfield Opening Campaign ads that will feature the five winners will begin appearing in September.

Two Stapleton residents, Matt Azer and Danielle Maynard were among the five winners. Matt is a 39 year old attorney with the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies and Danielle is a 38 year old pharmacist. The other three winners were Lisa Luke from Aurora and Chelsea Khan and Collin Tilbe, both from Westminster.

Forty six Northfield stores have been announced and are listed on page 7.



Stapleton residents Matt Azer (above) and Danielle Maynard (below) at the casting call and after their makeovers for the Northfield Grand Opening Ad Campaign featuring real people who represent the Denver community.



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Photo by Phil Chidester

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2006 STAPLETON EVENTS

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of scenes that portray life at Stapleton for the Front Porch calendar. Email to frontporch@fineprintco.com.

Left: Grand Marshall Joe Fox leads Stapleton's second biggest 4th of July Parade at Arc Park.

EVERY MONTH

Every Tuesday

AA Open Discussion Meeting
Bladium 8:00pm
[Joe Mc at 303.912.7075]

Second Tuesday

New Resident Orientation Meeting
[Call Jenifer Graham at 720-249-5104 for time and location, no Sept. meeting]

Third Tuesday

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

First Wednesday

Westerly Creek PTA Meeting 6:30 - 7:30pm
Westerly Creek Elementary School
[Westerly Creek Elementary School 303.322.5877]

First Wednesday

"1st Wednesdays" Home-based businesses
[Check StapletonLife.com for time and place—most meetings 11:30am - 1pm]

Second Wednesday

S.U.N. Transportation Comm. Meeting
2393 Alton St. 6:30 - 8:30pm
[Michael Johnson 303-292-7808]

Third Thursday

Stapleton Citizens Advisory Board Mtg
Stapleton Development Corp (SDC)
7350 East 29th Ave. 7:30 - 9am
[SDC 303.393.7700]

EVERY MONTH

Fourth Thursday

SUN Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Stapleton Development Corp,
large conference room
7350 E. 29th Ave.
[stapletonneighbors@msn.com]

First Saturday

Bluff Lake Birders
Bluff Lake Nature Center 7 - 9am
[BluffLakeNatureCenter.org 303.468.3240]

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]

Last Saturday

Sweet William Market May - Oct.
Founders' Green 9am-3pm
[Karen Pardue 303.355.6168]

Every Sunday

Stapleton Farmers Market
East 29th Ave. Town Center
June - Sept 8:30am - 12:30pm
[Forest City 303-382-1800]

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sept 9th

Citywide Kids Sports & Fitness Day
10am - 2pm Founders' Green
[Kris Wilson 303-373-8710]

Wednesday, Sept 13th

Stapleton MCA Exec Board Mtg
Noon - 2pm Forest City
Conference Room [RSVP at
www.stapletoncommunity.com]

Friday, Sept 15th

Stapleton Under the Stars Concert
Chris Daniels and the Kings
6:00-9:00pm Founders' Green
[www.stapletononline.com]

Saturday, Sept 16th

S.U.N. Kickball Tournament
[Shelby Samuelson
shelbden@hotmail.com]

Wednesday, Sept 27th

Town Hall Meeting with City
Councilman Michael Hancock
6:30 - 8pm DSST
2000 Valentia St.
[stapletonneighbors@msn.com]

Saturday, Sept 30th

Wine Festival
2-6pm Founders' Green
[Wild Iris 720.529.9911]

OCTOBER

Saturday, Oct 14th

Fall Festival
2 - 4pm Founders' Green
[Wild Iris 720.529.9911]

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, Nov 1st

MCA Annual Members Meeting
by Delegate District
5:30-8:30pm, location TBA
[More info at 303-388-0724 or
www.stapletoncommunity.com]

Wednesday, Nov 8th

MCA Annual Delegate Meeting
6:30-8:30pm, Location TBA
[More info at 303-388-0724 or
www.stapletoncommunity.com]

Wednesday, Nov 15th

MCA Annual Exec Board Mtg
6:30-8:30pm Forest City
Conference Room, RSVP at
www.stapletoncommunity.com

DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec 2nd

Sweet William Market
[More info to follow
Karen Pardue 303-355-6168]

Sunday, Dec 3rd

Holiday Festival
[Wild Iris 720.529.9911]

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Local Schools Post Impressive CSAP Scores

DSST's '06 CSAP Scores Among the Best

By David Ethan Greenberg

One of the many areas where Stapleton has attracted national attention is education. The community is justly proud of the variety of public school choices available, and more importantly, the academic results these schools are achieving. Perhaps the most unique is the Denver School of Science & Technology (DSST), a Denver Public Schools charter high school which recently was featured in Newsweek's America's Best High Schools edition.

In early August, the Colorado Department of Education released the 2006 results of the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) tests, and for the second year in a row DSST scored the highest in Denver in math and among the highest in science, reading and writing.

Although there is no minimum academic requirement for attending DSST, students are expected to have the motivation needed to do what it takes to graduate and attend a four year college. What makes DSST's student performance so remarkable is that it is the most ethnically and economically diverse high school in Colorado, with the student body evenly divided among Black, Hispanic and

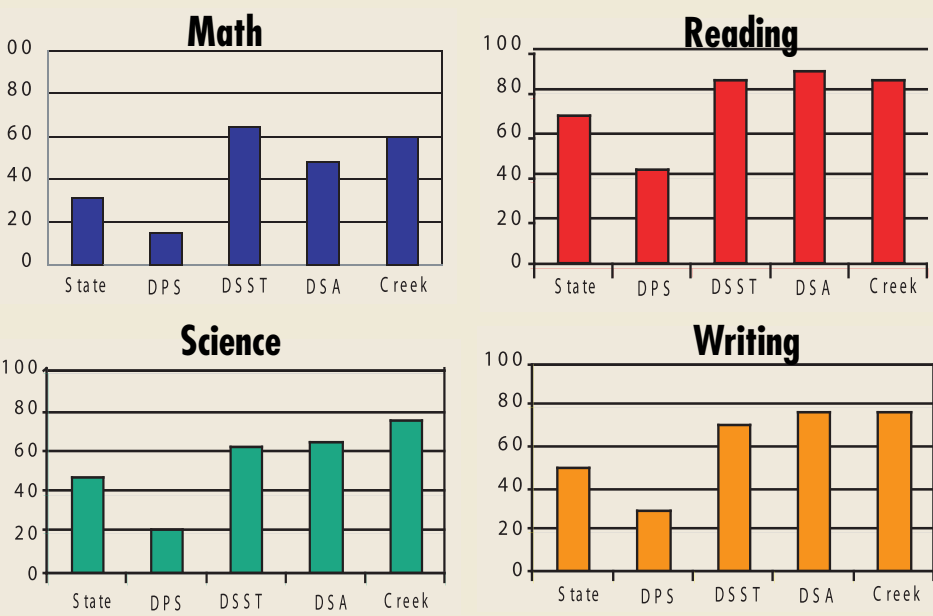
Anglos and with 42 percent of the students eligible for the Federal free/reduced school lunch program.

While DSST is considered an "urban" school, it does extremely well competing with the highest performing schools in the suburbs. The graphs below show the DSST scores compared to the Denver Public Schools (DPS) and Colorado averages. Also included are the results from two "benchmark" schools, the Denver School of the Arts (DSA) and Cherry Creek High School (Creek). Both are rated "Excellent" in the annual Colorado Department of Education assessment reports.

DSA is a magnet school with a 13% enrollment of low-income students. Creek is generally regarded as the leading comprehensive high school in the state and has fewer than 5% low income students. One of the reasons DSST has achieved national recognition is that its tests scores exceed or come close to those of the benchmark schools, even though it has a much more diverse and academically-challenged student population.

(continued on page 4)

Percent of DSST's 10th Grade Scores at Proficient or Advanced



At Westerly Creek 66% Improve on CSAP School showing steady improvement after 2 years of testing

By Brian Weber

Two-thirds of the students at Westerly Creek Elementary School improved their performance over 2005 on state standards tests given last spring.

In addition, two-thirds of each grade level scored higher in 2006 compared with 2005 on the Colorado Student Assessment Program tests, commonly referred to as CSAP.

The school posted significant gains in several grades: fourth and fifth grades went up 21 to 24 percentage points over 2005 in reading and math, from the mid-40th percent passing to the mid to high 60th and lower 70th percentage range. Third and fourth grade writing scores increased from four to 10 points. (See score chart on page 4.)

Trich Lea, now entering her third year as principal of Westerly Creek, attributed the gains to more precise attention to specific areas of student weakness.

"It was the teachers," Lea said. "They provided focused instruction, working with small groups of students and providing extra tutoring. We're not where we want to be ultimately — but we're getting there."

The school, which opened in 2003, scored in the 60th and 70th percent passing range in seven of 13 tests, far exceeding the average for Denver Public Schools. DPS posted average scores in the 30th to 40th percent range on all elementary tests.

Westerly Creek also did well compared with the rest of Colorado, meeting or beating the state average in five of 12 tests and coming within one to two points on three others for a favorable comparative performance on eight of 12 tests. The state averages ranged from a high of 71 percent passing in third grade math (Westerly Creek third graders scored 69 percent) to a low of 50 percent passing in fourth grade

writing (52 percent of Westerly Creek fourth graders passed).

The CSAP tests are administered each spring to grades three through 10 for reading, writing and math, and in science in grades five, eight and 10. The tests are used, in part, to rank schools in one of five categories: excellent, high, average, low and failing. After only one year of tests in 2005, Westerly Creek was rated low.

It is uncertain how this year's scores will affect Westerly Creek's rating. The state Department of Education announces ratings in November or December. Westerly Creek, however, scored in the same passing ranges on a majority of tests this year as schools in other Denver neighborhoods with similar demographics such as University and Washington parks, Hilltop and Park Hill. Those schools are rated average and high.

The Colorado Student Assessment Program shows progress two ways: by grade and for groups of students. For instance, scores for the 2005 and '06 for specific grades are for different children but give an indication of that grade's performance from year-to-year in that school. Progress from year-to-year for groups of students in the same grade (assuming that a majority of students have remained in the same class from one year to the next) is indicated by a comparison of that grade in one year with the next higher grade the next year. For instance, last year 47 percent of Westerly Creek fourth graders passed reading. This year, 68 percent of that same general group of students, who are now in the fifth grade, passed reading. CSAP scores for 2005 and 2006 are shown on page 4..

Brian Weber is Vice President, Education/Workforce Initiatives for the Stapleton Foundation.

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Johnson and Wales – Excellence Through Service

By Bette Matkowski

Building a tradition of excellence in a community is not easy – it takes dedication, commitment, integrity, time, and results. My inspiration as the President of the Johnson & Wales University Denver Campus is to foster the finest university experience in Colorado. This lofty goal means that each day our faculty, students, and staff must be open to opportunities to grow individually and as part of the University. Our challenge as members of the Johnson & Wales University family is to be representatives of the excellence we seek, and to exemplify the characteristics we believe are the best of Colorado, university-life, and leadership. Each of us can show leadership through a commitment to our community. Without hesitation, I believe that one of the most important things that distinguishes our students is the responsibility they take to

improve the communities in which they live. At Johnson & Wales University, we are committed to showing our students the value of being an active member of society. Everything we do is centered around leadership to ensure our students are well-rounded professionals and life-long contributors to their communities. Considered the biggest celebration of service on campus for the academic school year, Johnson & Wales University sponsors Courage to Care Day each fall. This year, Courage to Care Day will occur on Friday, September 15 at sites both on and off campus. Service sites this year include Bluff Lake Nature Center, Food Bank of the Rockies, The Denver Rescue Mission, Brent’s Place, World Vision, Denver Urban Ministries, and many more. We estimate that over 300 participants, including students, staff, faculty, and community members, will give their time and energy to

this great day of community service. Last year, Courage to Care Day provided over 960 hours of service to our community. As neighbors in the Stapleton neighborhood, I know many of you volunteer for local organizations, and I commend your dedication to strengthening our community. Together with Johnson & Wales University students, I hope you will consider this fall as a time to renew your commitment to a local or national cause. Together, we can create excellence through service, bringing to life an oft-quoted adage by Margaret Mead: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” *Bette Matkowsiki is President of Johnson & Wales University, located at the corner of Montview Boulevard and Quebec Street, just west of Stapleton. For more information visit www.jwu.edu.*

Westerly Creek 2005-06 CSAP Scores

The percentages of this year’s third, fourth and fifth graders who passed the CSAP tests compared with the same grade levels in 2005 (different students).

Reading	2005	2006
3rd	65%	56%
4th	47%	68%
5th	44%	68%
6th	not tested	76%
Writing		
3rd	59%	63%
4th	42%	52%
5th	56%	45%
6th	not tested	45%
Math		
3rd	71%	69%
4th	47%	71%
5th	44%	64%
6th	not tested	35%
Science		
5th	not tested	27%

Percentage of fourth, fifth and sixth graders who passed the 2006 CSAP tests compared to their performance in the previous grade in 2005 (example: the 2006 fourth graders were the 2005 third graders and so on).

Reading	2005	Same students in 2006
3rd	65%	68% (4th in ‘06)
4th	47%	68% (5th in ‘06)
5th	44%	76% (6th in ‘06)
Writing		
3rd	59%	52%
4th	42%	45%
5th	56%	41%
Math		
3rd	71%	71%
4th	47%	64%
5th	44%	35%

DSST’s Scores at the Top *(continued from page 3)*

DSST’s 2006 CSAP Scores

- **In math** 65% of DSST 10th graders scored advanced or proficient. This was the highest score of any high school in Denver Public Schools and more than twice the state average.
- **In reading** 86% of DSST 10th graders scored advanced or proficient in reading, comparable to the other elite schools.
- **In writing** 71% of DSST 10th graders scored advanced or proficient in writing, slightly lower than the benchmark schools. This is, in part, attributable to the higher number of students at DSST for whom English is not their native language.
- **In science** 63% of 10th graders scored proficient or advanced in science, far exceeding the state averages. Relatively speaking, this was the lowest score of any test, a curious result considering that DSST is a science school.

The answer to the mystery is as follows: Because only two years of science is required for public high schools in Colorado, the 10th grade science CSAP only tests for general science knowledge and biology. DSST, because it requires a four year science sequence, teaches a “Physics First” curriculum...physics in 9th grade, chemistry in 10th, biology in 11th and a choice of advanced courses in 12th grade.

So, in essence, the 63% score reflects the general knowledge that DSST students bring to science, not the detailed

learning from the courses they have taken. To score 63% on a test before you take the subjects covered is remarkable.

DSST’s Test Scores Have Improved Each Year

The data released on August 1st gives a snapshot of the raw scores of how each class at each school performed on a specific test. What it doesn’t address is the real question posed by the No Child Left Behind Act: How much did the students’ performance increase from year to year?

And in this area, the student performance at DSST is excellent...student performance improved in every test category. At the state level, two out of three scores dropped.

DSST is Growing and Gaining National Recognition

DSST opened for 9th graders in 2004, and has added a class annually. Now in its third year, DSST is taking on the attributes of a “real school.” It is now officially a member of the Colorado High School Athletics Association, and Stapleton residents can watch it compete at the varsity level (even though there are no 12th graders) in Division 3A sports. Many of the school’s juniors are already getting letters of interest from colleges across the country, which is particularly exciting for the kids who will be first generation college students.

Public recognition has grown as well. In addition to the feature in Newsweek, DSST was:

- Selected by the American Architectural Foundation, the KnowledgeWorks Foundation and Target to be the topic of a documentary called “Great Schools by Design.”
- Chosen by the National School Boards Association and the American School Board Journal to be the Grand Prize Winner in their annual “Learning By Design” competition. Over 120 school and university projects were evaluated in the selection process. Much of the credit for DSST’s success goes to its Head of School, Bill Kurtz, who has created an exemplary culture of high expectations. For students, DSST is a challenging place to go to school. There are no shortcuts. For the faculty and Board, it’s a work in progress in terms of improving curriculum, finding better uses for technology, and a thousand other areas. But under Bill Kurtz’s leadership and vision, the staff and the faculty are accomplishing something very magical and very profound. Although not purely a “neighborhood school,” the number of Stapleton kids attending DSST continues to grow rapidly, and there’s room for more. Is DSST as good fit for your child? Come and see for yourself. You can’t miss the building, and it’s right in your neighborhood! *David Ethan Greenberg is the Founder of the Denver School of Science and Technology at Montview & Valentia. He can be reached at davidethan@scienceandtech.org.*



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Back to School at Stapleton



Students use the computers in the library on the first day of school in the new William Roberts Building of Westerly Creek School.



Chris Leding (far left) hosts one of the Westerly Creek "direct giving" fundraising parties over the summer in which parents raised over \$33,000 for the school. Second from left is Westerly Creek's 2005-06 PTA president Sarah Rogers, and next to her is principal Trich Lea, who attended all of the parties.

Introduction to Judaism

Stepping Stones Serves Interfaith Families

Interfaith families in the Stapleton area in which one parent is Jewish are invited to help their children establish their "religious identity" through an educational program designed to provide information about Jewish life, customs and history.

"Stepping Stones to a Jewish Me" has been in existence for more than 20 years to offer interfaith couples, children and their families a range of programming from "dating to parenting to grand parenting."

Stapleton residents Ari and Sarah Kaufman began attending Stepping Stones Family in the fall of 2004 with their two children Abe, now 5, and Gracie, now 3. As an interfaith couple, they registered with Stepping Stones hoping to "gain some direction" as to how to create a Jewish home for their children. Ari & Sarah had agreed to raise their children Jewish, but acknowledged they had "absolutely no idea as to what that meant."

The Kaufmans attended parent track discussion groups, led by Denver-area community educators, focusing on the issues, challenges and opportunities that all interfaith couples share. "Hearing and sharing stories was uplifting and empowering" the Kaufmans said, noting that they had also enrolled their children in programming that focuses on Jewish learning. "The whole experience was amazing and it has managed to widen the door in ways we could not have expected," the

couple said. "Shabbat has become tradition to us and we have begun to embrace Judaism, but just a little bit at a time. After all, they are stepping stones."

Brad and Elyse Boule, also residents of Stapleton, enrolled in Pebbles. They came to Stepping Stones with their pre-school aged daughter, Chloe, hoping to "get a clearer understanding of what it means to be Jewish and raise our child in that religion." The Boule family was searching for ways to connect with similar couples and explore opportunities

within the Jewish community that would not have otherwise been familiar to them.

"We have been able to begin to chart a spiritual course for our daughter and ourselves," Elyse Boule says. "The experience has also brought to light our core individual fundamental beliefs and values, which we hope to continue to explore as time goes on. We appreciated that the emphasis of the Pebbles program was on education and not conversion," she added.

The Stepping Stones Denver program meets every other Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Mizel Museum at 400 S. Kearney Street, next to Rodef Shalom Synagogue. Interfaith families interested in enrolling in one of the Stepping Stones programs should call 303-388-1198 or visit online at www.steppingstonesfamily.com.



Stapleton residents Brad and Elyse Boule with their pre-school aged daughter Chloe

Thank you to those who gave to the Westerly Creek PTA Direct Giving Campaign

In living rooms and kitchens throughout Stapleton, people came together to learn about our wonderful neighborhood school. They responded by donating with amazing generosity. In one month the PTA raised over \$33,000 in donations. (Denver's highest ranked schools raise between \$80,000-120,000 in supplemental funds each year.) This money will help us pay for smaller classes, Spanish for all kids in grades 4-8, art, P.E. and music.

Thank you to Westerly Creek Principal Trich Lea who attended every party and imparted her vision and leadership plan for the future of the school.

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Over 90 individuals and families pulled out their checkbooks and donated. Their donations ranged from \$25 to \$1,600 with an average gift of \$330.

This is just the beginning!

If you would like to make a one-time donation or a periodic gift, just Click and Pledge* at www.westerlycreekpta.com

If you would like more information or are interested in hosting your own party, please email mseawell@yahoo.com

Cow Parade Artists Reflect on Their Works of Art



Artist JoAnne Orce with her daughter Hannah and her cow MooRine Life

By John Chambers

These cows could dance in your dreams, swim in the ocean or grow in your garden. Three artists pieced together flowers, plaster and acrylics to create bovines grazing in Stapleton during CowParade Denver 2006.

The event is part of the world's largest public art display, placing 100 cows mostly downtown, in Cherry Creek and Stapleton through Oct. 18. "I think when it's such a grand scale, I think that Denver will love it, absolutely love it. And I'm excited that the public will get to see the creativity of it," said JoAnne Orce.

MooRine Life

Orce's cow, MooRine Life, is in Stapleton's 29th Avenue Town Center near 11 other neighborhood cows. Orce, 32, spent about 70 hours sculpting her cow to resemble a clown fish, attaching fiberglass fins and painting the 90-pound statue orange. "I have kids myself and I was looking for something appealing to children and what better than a clown fish," Orce said. "I showed my kids a whole bunch of designs, and they went straight for that." The Denver artist created four cows for



Artist Marcy Kerchal with her cow Moo-veau Organic

Denver's CowParade.

The parades started in 1998 in Zurich and have been in more than 25 cities, claiming thousands at charity auctions. Denver cows will be bid on Nov. 10 and online through December. All proceeds go to non-profits, 90 percent benefiting the Denver Zoo, Children's Museum of Denver, Cherry Creek Arts Festival and Eagle Fund of the Denver Foundation.

Orce, originally from Australia, saw New York City's cow parade in 2000. "That was before I was an artist. I was an economist at that time. I was working the other side of the brain I guess," she said. "I loved them [cows] - I just had to touch them."

Orce's work is online at www.cowlorado.com.

Moo-tanical Gardens

David Westman thought he could cover Moo-tanical Gardens with about 400 silk flowers. "I originally ordered 450 thinking that would be plenty," Westman said. "It was very hard because I tried to measure the square area of the cow which is kind of a hard thing to do because there are no flat surfaces."

After four weeks, the Stapleton artist used 1,003 flowers to cover the bovine he affectionately called Daisy. He spent the \$1,000 commission all CowParade artists receive to buy his materials.

Moo-tanical Gardens is outside the Stapleton Visitor Center in the 29th Avenue Town Center. "Colorado is famous for its wildflowers so I wanted, of course, to capture that," he said. "For me, it was always a dream come true because I saw the original cows in Chicago back in 1999."

"I think it [CowParade] brings a lot of fun and whimsy to the city," Westman said. "We do have the [National]



Artist David Westman with his cow, Moo-tanical Gardens

Western Stock Show here ... so it's part of our history. I think this celebrates our history and makes it fun and accessible too."

Westman, 43, was born in Massachusetts. He posted an Internet blog about Moo-tanical Gardens at www.nuclawaste.com/mootanicalgardensblog.html.

Moo-veau Organic

Marcy Kerchal spent most of Memorial Day weekend covering Moo-veau Organic with acrylics.

The bovine is next to Starbucks in the 29th Avenue Town Center. "It's actually a black design with white design on top. The organic part is with the white part on top," forming shapes found in nature, she said.

Kerchal has been interested in interior design since junior high. "As far as art goes, I'm a jack of all trades," said Kerchal, who also sews, knits and crochets. "This is the first cow I've painted," she said, laughing. Kerchal created two cows for CowParade.

CowParade Denver is organized through Connecticut-based CowParade Holdings Corporation. It is expected to draw about 1 million visitors, according to the event's area producer Creative Strategies Group.

Kerchal, 35, said the cows help create more awareness of area talent. "There's a whole community of artists out there," she said. "Maybe people don't know their presence because they're not featured out in the general population. The cows kind of bring it to the local guy."

Kerchal can be reached at kerchal@ricochet.com.

Four other CowParade artists will be featured in the October issue of the Front Porch. Check DenverCowParade.com and www.StapletonOnline.com for more event updates.

John Chambers is an Ambassador at the Stapleton Visitor Center. He can be reached at 303-355-9600 or Jchambers@stapletondenver.com.



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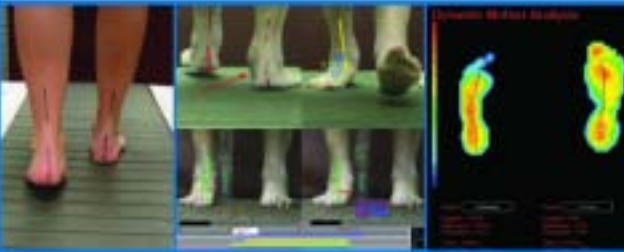
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On the Horizon

New Development at Stapleton

As master developer, Forest City is continuously engaged in the evaluation of development proposals it receives from a wide range of parties interested in Stapleton. While some of those proposals never advance beyond the initial discussions, others move forward to a signed contract. It is important to note, however, that even with a signed contract, some projects may not move forward to construction and completion.

In the interest of providing the residents of Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods with information at the earliest stage of development, Forest City is providing the following update on contracts that have been signed for development of land at Stapleton by someone other than a homebuilder. (For information on homebuilders at Stapleton, please go to StapletonDenver.com and select “Homes.”)

Purchaser: MPG Stapleton MOB, LLC
What: Medical office building and health/fitness center
Where: SE corner of Syracuse and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Purchaser: Hanger 61, LLC
What: Preservation and redevelopment of former hangar for office use
Where: NW corner of Central Park Boulevard & Montview

Purchaser: TRC Storage Development LLC
What: Stapleton self storage (Shurgard)

Where: Next to the new Denver Fire Station on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
(Note: A rezoning application reflecting community input has been filed. The dates for public hearings before Denver Planning Commission and Denver City Council will be announced when scheduled.)

Purchaser: New Dawn Assisted Living Development Company, Inc.,
What: Assisted Living Facility for patients with Alzheimer’s
Where: Northeast of future Havana Village Center between Hanover and Havana and north of 31st Avenue.

Purchaser: RTD (Regional Transportation District)
What: New Stapleton Park-n-Ride
Where: Smith Road, East of Quebec Square
Questions about these projects may be directed to Troy Gardner of Forest City Stapleton, Inc. at 303.382.1800. Please note that while the above projects have reached the signed contract stage, they may or may not proceed to construction and build-out. Thus, in the interest of disclosure, Forest City Stapleton, Inc. reminds all interested parties that it makes no guarantees concerning future development at Stapleton and that proposed development may be modified at the discretion of Forest City Stapleton, Inc. without notice.



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Ann Taylor Loft
Women’s apparel

Bar Louie
Casual restaurant and bar with an urban feel

Bass Pro Shops
Sporting/outdoor goods and apparel in a natural, museum-like setting

Bath & Body Works
Health and beauty

Borders Books
Books, music, movies, cards and gifts

Brendan’s Diamonds
Fine jewelry

Brookstone
Unique and innovative consumer products

Charlotte Russe
Contemporary apparel for young women

Christopher & Banks
Women’s apparel

Circuit City
Electronics, music and video

Claire’s Boutique
Women’s accessories

Cold Stone Creamery
Ice cream specialties made to order

Eddie Bauer
Casual, comfortable apparel for men and women

Finish Line
Sporting footwear, goods and apparel

Forever 21
Young women’s apparel
- Harkins Theatres**
18-screen deluxe movie theater

Heidi’s Deli
Sandwiches, hot foods and desserts

Helzberg Diamonds
Fine jewelry

Islamorada Fish Company
Fine island-style dining

Jamba Juice
Smoothies, fruit juices and baked goods

Journey’s
Teen apparel

La Sandia
Modern Mexican restaurant

Lane Bryant/Cacique
Women’s plus-size apparel

Lenscrafters
Vision services

Ling and Louie’s Asian Bar & Grill
Contemporary restaurant serving authentic Chinese food & distinct specialties from Asia

Macy’s
First new format Macy’s department store in Denver since the Federated/ May Co. merger

NY & Co.
Contemporary women’s apparel

Old Navy
Family apparel

Pac Sun
Urban apparel for young men and women
- Pro Fix Jewelry Repair Service**

Qdoba
Casual Mexican dining

Regis Hairstyling
Service/health and beauty

Select Comfort
Mattresses and bedding

SportsFan
Sporting goods and apparel

Spring Communications
Wireless solutions provider

Subway
Sandwiches, salads and wraps

Sunglass Hut
Eyewear accessories

SuperTarget
On-trend merchandise and upscale grocery shopping

Texas de Brazil
Brazilian steakhouse

US Bank (ATM)
Service

Venetian Nail Spa
Service/health and beauty

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Wireless solutions provider

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Women’s intimate apparel

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A MOVIE AT *Harkins Theatres.*
DINNER AT *Islamorada Fish Company.*

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Festival International

Celebrate the metro area's many nationalities

This free event will be held Saturday, September 16, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Fletcher Plaza, the outdoor urban plaza on East Colfax, a half-mile east of Yosemite, in Original Downtown Aurora.

Entertainment will be provided by cultural groups representing such countries as Somalia, Ethiopia, Spain, Ireland, Brazil, Japan, China, the Sudan, Mexico and Polynesia. Visitors will be able to sample food from Vietnam, Ethiopia, Peru and more. A World Market will feature arts and crafts from several countries around the world.

The Passport to Culture, a children's activity area, will feature hands-on, interactive cultural activities touching on global dance and performance, international sports and games, make-and-take projects and exploratory experiences such as trying on authentic heritage attire. Children will receive their own Festival International Passport to Culture in which they may receive marks for each activity and food vendor they visit during the festival.

Festival International is presented by the Northern Aurora Business Association. To find out more, call 303-361-6169 or visit www.aurorabusiness.org.

Cast a Line Family Fishing Event

Saturday, September 16, 2006

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) will hold the third annual Cast a Line Family

Fishing Event on Saturday, September 16, 2006. From 11am to 3 pm, ELK friends will be fishing at Lake Lehow, a remote pond in Waterton Canyon. Tickets are \$15 for an individual and \$50 for a family of five. This includes a fantastic Bar-B-Q lunch, fishing lessons for beginners, and other science activities. Children will get to take home their new fishing rod.

ELK is a community-based non-profit organization that provides an education in science and natural resources to low-income, culturally diverse youth. Celebrating their 10th anniversary, ELK has a 98% high school graduation rate for youth in their year-round program. For more information and to register please go to www.elkkids.org, Email skingsley_elkkids@comcast.net or call 303-291-7503.



ELK Golf Tournament

Thursday, October 12, 2006

First Annual ELK Golf Tournament
Green Valley Ranch Golf Course

Celebrate Environmental Learning for Kids' Tenth Anniversary of "Putting a Little Wildlife in a Child's Life"

Tee off with Bronco Celebrities on Thursday, October 12th at the world-class Green Valley Ranch Golf Course.

Cost: \$125 per player
Check-in: 11:00 AM
Shot Gun Start: 12:00pm

Enjoy a complete program of special events, 18 holes of golf (including cart), door prizes for each player, dinner, and an exciting awards banquet.

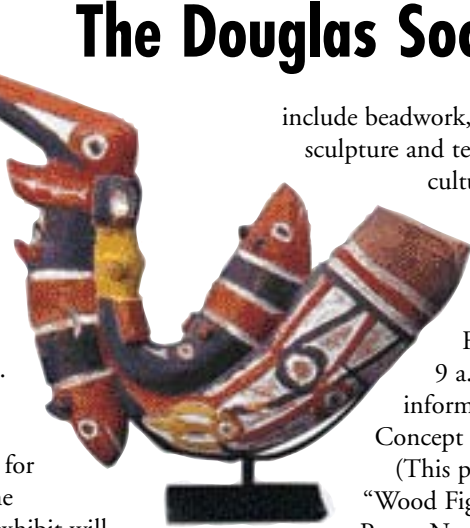
- Two longest drive contests
- Closest to the pin challenge
- Putting Contest
- Hole-in-One Contest for a New Car
- 2 Minute Fishing Contest

Pre-register now by calling Kim Glatz at (303)291-7554 or register via the web at www.elk.golfreg.com.

Visit www.elk.cmarket.com to bid on items in our golf silent auction!

Native Arts of the World.. at Home in Colorado, The Douglas Society Collects

"Native Arts of the World...at Home in Colorado, The Douglas Society Collects," featuring native arts from North America, Africa and Oceania, will be on display at Republic Plaza Lobby and Concourse levels, through October 27, 2000. All works on exhibit have been loaned by members of The Douglas Society, a support group for the Native Arts Department of the Denver Art Museum. Works on exhibit will



include beadwork, jewelry, paintings, pottery, sculpture and textiles representing the following cultures: African, Australian Aboriginal, Inuit, Native American and Oceanic.

The exhibit is open to the public free of charge Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. For further information please call: the Archer Concept Group at: 303-733-1868.

(This photograph is a carving entitled, "Wood Figure from the Highlands Region, Papua New Guinea.")

Northfield Stapleton & Quebec Square Job Fair

Saturday, September 16

9am - 4pm

Corner of Quebec St and 36th

For more information contact

Ann White with the Denver

Office of Economic

Development at 720-865-0068

or ann.white@ci.denver.co.us



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28th Annual Park Hill Home Tour

Sunday, September 24 from 11am to 5pm

The headquarters for the Home Tour this year is the Park Hill United Methodist Church. Included on the tour is Treat Hall on the Johnson & Wales campus. Learn how it is being renovated into a chic boutique hotel.

Tickets are available after Labor Day at Spinelli's Market, the Park Hill Community Bookstore, the Park Hill Library, King Sooper's or the Greater Park Hill Office (2823 Fairfax St.) Ticket prices are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, \$8 for seniors, and \$4 for children.



Park Hill Home Tour's Gerwin Home

specialities from Joe's West of Memphis Bar-B-Que. Perk Hill will be serving their infamous "kids" ice cream cones and bigger cones for those who need more Rocky Road in our diet. Cork House will have their jambalaya, Satchel's Market will have a sampling of their wonderful cheeses, and the youth group from the host church will be selling hot dogs.

Great music, wonderful arts and craft items for sale, and the silent auction will be held in the church's courtyard (AKA The Pumpkin Patch). Items in the silent auction include gift certificates for personal services, including massages, facials and hair care, gift certificates for meals at area restaurants, artwork, gift certificates for gymnastics classes and local liquor emporiums, a wine tasting party, and pet care gift certificates. To make donations to the Silent Auction, contact Dee Ciancio (303-246-8623) or Kim Tighe (303-355-7653).

Quebec Square's Affair in the Square



Saturday, Sept. 16th, 11am - 1pm
Corner of Quebec Street and 36th
Bring the entire family to enjoy arts and crafts, interactive games, vendor booths, raffle prizes and much more!

Celebrate Art – Saturday Art Stroll

East End Arts District in Aurora

September 16, 2006 from 10am to 8pm

Family fun will include "hayrides," live music, dancing, clowns and door prizes

- Visit artists in their studios:
- Multiple art studios at 1556 Florence Street displaying functional pottery, ceramic art and jewelry.

Emmett Fine Furniture at 9529 E. Colfax Ave with custom hand creafed furniture

The Dancers Advantage at 10101 E. Colfax Ave offering recreational and professional dance instruction
- Enjoy refreshments and create your own art:

The Mud Hut at 1571 Florence Street for painting your own ceramics

Coffee Canaan, MLK Library at 9898 E Colfax Ave for special organic coffee, frozen drinks, ice cream and pastries.

La Cueva, 9742 E Colfax Ave, specializing in over 100 selections of tequila and fine Mexican cuisine

"Directions"

Art Institute's Annual Alumni Exhibit

Monday - Saturday through October 1
Free and open to the public
The John Jellico Gallery,
1200 Lincoln St., Denver

A spectrum of fine art, TV and movie promos, interactive casino games, photographs, interior designs and commercial logos are all included in this year's Art Institute of Colorado alumni exhibit. The public is invited to see, hear and experience a multimedia panorama of the best professional work produced by graduates of the school. Called "Directions," the exhibit showcases where alumni have taken their education in school programs such as Graphic Design, Photography, Interior Design, Video Production, Industrial Design, Visual Effects & Motion Graphics, and Web design. The artists represent graduation dates from the 1960s to the current decade.



The display has become an annual favorite for its diversity and professionalism, as well as its creativity and sense of surprise. This year's collection features a photo essay by a Culinary Arts civilian contractor working in an Iraqi warzone, Einstein Bros® designs, traditional and contemporary paintings, designer home interiors, fine-art and commercial photographs, glass work and more.

Call 303-837-0825 for more information and specific hours of operation, which may vary.

The Art Institute of Colorado offers career-focused bachelor's and associate's degrees in design, creative and applied arts, creative and business management, and culinary arts. The Art Institute of Colorado is located in the Golden Triangle neighborhood in Downtown Denver.

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STAPLETON EVENTS THIS SUMMER

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JUNE – SEPTEMBER

East 29th Avenue Town Center

Stapleton welcomes a new monthly event to Founders' Green: Sweet William Market on the Green!

Sweet William Market on the Green is an open-air market, reminiscent of one you'd discover in Europe, featuring vintage and antique treasures, art, retro finds, and charming seasonal decor.

The market opens at 9 a.m. on the last Saturday of each month. Here are this year's dates!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
See you at the Market!

Come view the Stapleton herd.

12 Beautiful Bovines can be seen at the East 29th Avenue Town Center and Founders' Green

JULY 21 – OCTOBER 18

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The Club Card offers great discounts at these Stapleton merchants:

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: 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

Phoenix Yoga Studio
Offer: One month unlimited, first timers \$79.
Stapleton residents.
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

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.

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

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 (cont')

Art & Framing of Stapleton
Offer: \$10 off custom framing, not valid with any other offer
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

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

LolliLocks Kid Salon
Offer: 10% off any one product purchase with a purchase of service
Location: Quebec Square

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 33%. Offer valid though 12/30/05.

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SERVICES (cont')

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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

Town Center Apartments
Offer: Receive \$100.00 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

U-Shampooch Self Service Dog Wash & Pet Boutique
Offer: Free treat with any bath.
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

MISC. RETAIL

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: 5% off liquor and wine purchases
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

RETAIL (cont')

Miss Talulah's
Offer: 10% off all lighting products.
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

V2K Window Fashions
Offer: 10% off of orders of \$100 or more.

RESTAURANTS

Anthony's Pizza and Pasta
Offer: 10% off 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 "Love It," or "Got to Have It" creations.
\$3.00 off cake order.
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

Copper Canyon Grill & Bar at the Renaissance Hotel
Offer: 15% discount on all food and beverage.

Coral Room
Offer: Free dessert with the purchase of an entrée.
Location: East 29th Avenue Town Center

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

Inta Juice
Offer: 10% off of any item.
Location: Quebec Square

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

Parking in Denver for Persons with Disabilities

In order to park in any disability parking spot on public or private property a vehicle must have: 1) a disability parking placard/hang tag issued by the state or 2) a vehicle license plate that has the universal sign of accessibility symbol on the plate. The Denver Commission for People with Disabilities can provide information for obtaining these. Please call 720 913-8482.

A disability placard is issued to an individual, not a vehicle. It can be used in any vehicle the person is being transported in. The person who the disability placard is issued to must exit or enter the vehicle. The vehicle can be ticketed if the person who has the disability parking placard sits in the vehicle while a friend or relative runs into the store.



No vehicles can park in access aisles (striped places next to disability parking spaces)...regardless if the vehicle is displaying a disability placard or plate. The vehicle parked in the access aisle can be ticketed for a handicap parking violation. (Fine of \$100.00.)

While in Denver, on a city street, a vehicle displaying and using properly, a disability placard or plate, can park at meters free of charge for up to four (4) hours when parking is allowed regardless of time limit. If the vehicle is not moved after four (4) hours it may be ticketed. On Denver city streets, vehicles displaying a valid disability placard or plate can park in posted time limit areas (1 hour, 2 hour) for up to four (4) hours before being required to move.

If you have a placard or plate please keep in mind that YOU are responsible for the placard or plate's use and misuse. Misuse can result in revocation of disability parking privileges.

If there are questions or problems please call the Commission at 720 913-8482.

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Purchase your Club Card at the Visitor Center, 7480 E. 29th Avenue, 303-355-9600. Present your Resident Pool ID/Stapleton Club Card for discounts at these businesses. Visit www.StapletonDenver.com for participating merchants and program information. Offers may change monthly.

Traffic Forecasts....by the numbers

By Tom Gleason

When the residents of Denver, Aurora and Commerce City came together in the early 1990s to produce the Stapleton Development Plan (also known as “The Green Book”), they created a vision for transforming the former airport into a diverse and pedestrian-friendly urban community seamlessly connected to the surrounding neighborhoods.

One of the means of creating those connections was to extend the street grid from the surrounding neighborhoods on to the Stapleton property. That street grid provides access to and from Stapleton for people traveling by automobiles, public transit, bicycles and, of course, as pedestrians, fulfilling a vision that Stapleton should be “integrated” into the surrounding communities and not become a “gated community.” Extending the street grid means that traffic will be consistent with other urban neighborhoods and not suburban, “cul-de-sac communities.”

Stapleton homeowners and homebuyers who are considering a move to Stapleton often ask about traffic projections for the streets in and around Stapleton. Those traffic forecasts are based on the projected full “build-out” of Stapleton in the year

2025. They include projections for “local” streets (less than 5,000 vehicles a day), “connector” streets (less than 12,000 vehicles a day) and “arterial” streets (more than 12,000 vehicles a day).

When reviewing traffic information, it is important to remember that “traffic modeling” is a general study of a large area. Projected traffic volumes are based on general land use, not specific property uses. Detailed models for local streets are not possible because traffic models are not that sensitive. In addition, volume alone is not the only criteria for roadway classification. Other criteria include “connectivity” and adjacent property use. The threshold volumes in the Stapleton traffic numbers are defined by the City and County of Denver and tend to be conservative.

The Stapleton traffic forecasts (which are for planning purposes only and subject to change) are readily available for inspection by all in the Stapleton Visitor Center located at 7480 E. 29th Avenue, across from the fountain in the Town Center. The Center is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and from Noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Tom Gleason is Vice President-Public Relations for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

Stapleton Retailers, Contractors, Builders Applauded

The Stapleton Workforce and Business Opportunities Committee recently honored retailers, contractors and home-builders for their participation in programs designed to provide a wide range of business and employment opportunities to minority-owned and women-owned businesses in the development of one of the most widely acclaimed new urban communities in the nation.

The awards luncheon was held to recognize the following retailers, contractors and home builders for their work at Stapleton:

Retailers	Contractors	
Harkins Theatres (Northfield)	Castle Rock Construction	McStain Neighborhoods
Home Depot (Quebec Square)	Thoutt Bros.	John Laing Homes
Famous Dave’s BBQ (Quebec Square)	VCC/J.A. Walker	KB Homes
Super Target (Northfield)	M.A. Mortenson	Wonderland Homes
		Trimark Communities
		Touchstone Homes, LLC
		Parkwood Homes
		NuWest Custom Homes
		New Town Builders



Cynthia Bowser of Mosaic Consulting presents an award to Jose Rodriguez of Thoutt Bros. for supporting the MWBE/SBE program.

“Recording for the Blind” Seeks Volunteers

Denver’s Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic program is now seeking volunteers who are interested in opening new worlds for the blind or dyslexic members of our community.

“Our volunteer opportunities in Denver include reading a textbook, directing and editing, as well as conducting community and school outreach,” said Executive Director Betsy Boudreau. “We also have opportunities for volunteers in fundraising and clerical work that is essential to the

success of our programs.” Volunteer orientations, which are held twice a month, last ninety minutes and give participants an overview of opportunities to assist with the important work of the program. The offices are located at 1355 S. Colorado Boulevard (Suite C406). Call 303-757-0787 to schedule a time for orientation or email Betsy Boudreau, Executive Director, at betsyrbfd@qwest.net for more information.

District Two “Top Cops”



Officers Renda Herter (left) and Daniel Diaz De Leon show their Top Cop awards, Not pictured is Officer Robert Warren who also received the award.

The District Two Top Cop Citizens Committee has honored three Denver Police Officers for their extraordinary judgment and restraint in responding to an assault by a suicidal assailant.

On June 29th at approximately 2 p.m., Officers Renda Herter, Daniel Diaz De Leon and Robert Warren responded to a Colorado Boulevard Hotel on the report of a female who had a drug overdose. Arriving on the scene, the officers were further informed that a male party who was in the room with the female was suicidal.

The officers obtained a key to the room and quickly devised a tactical plan to deploy less lethal force if possible. Upon entering the room, the officers discovered the male, armed with a knife, kneeling over the unconscious female in what appeared to be preparation for attacking the woman. The officers ordered the man to drop the knife. When the assailant failed to comply and moved his hand as if to strike

the woman, Officer Diaz De Leon fired his department-issued Taser. The non lethal Taser probes struck the man in the back, causing him to roll off of his intended victim, allowing Officer De Leon to disarm the man who was quickly taken into custody by Officers Herter and Warren. The woman was transported to Denver Health Medical Center where she was later pronounced dead. An autopsy to determine the cause of death is pending.

In honoring the three officers, the Citizens Committee applauded their expert handling of a very dangerous situation without resorting to lethal force. The committee also commended all of the men and women of the Denver Police Department for their daily efforts in which they frequently risk their lives to protect their fellow citizens.

Anyone wishing to nominate a District Two police officer for the monthly Top Cop Award should email District Two Commander Rhonda Jones at jonesrh@ci.denver.co.us.

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Bombers Baseball



A year ago at a party, Corby Felsher and Rob Doolan came up with the idea of starting a neighborhood t-ball team for 5- and 6-year-olds at Stapleton. Corby's company, Stapleton Home Services sponsored the team and provided the orange "Stapleton City Bombers" t-shirts. The team immediately filled to capacity. For those who would like to form a new team, the Bombers' organizers can provide information based on their experiences getting a team started. Email: maricrisdoolan@msn.com.



Photo courtesy of Maricris Doolan



Stapleton Public Art

Thoughts About The Eye On the Horizon (After Monet)

By Ilan Averbuch

The sculpture I am building for Stapleton, like its name, is a combination of two elements that intersect and support each other. It is also made of two materials, stone and steel. In contemplating the place on a site visit, the idea for the sculpture came directly out of the environment: the elliptical shape of the immediate site, rows of buildings, and the strongly present horizon in the distance. The making of an image was informed also by what I knew of Stapleton, the transformation of an airport to a vibrant neighborhood with daily life, neighbors, schools, and time to stroll down a jogging path. The base for traveling has been recycled as a place for residency. In other words, transience into stability.

The intersecting parts of this work are a stone eye shape and a horizontal line of stones crossed by four bundles of steel, in various profiles and dimensions. The "eye" is made of two curved lines of stone, creating an enormous empty frame that barely touches the ground. It measures 15 feet at its highest point and 25 feet wide. At

7 1/2 feet high, one side is touching the horizontal element that I call "horizon."

Horizon is a massive 23-foot stone line that seems like it is floating. Two of the vertical elements that cross the stones reach the ground, and two just hang in mid-air. This will create an anti-gravitational feeling and a startling contradiction of the heavy material. My materials in this work are recycled. Like the transformation in Stapleton, the stones were once an old bridge and

Photo courtesy of Ilan Averbuch



The Eye on the Horizon (After Monet) began to take shape in the studio of Ilan Averbuch.



the sides of roads. The steel bundles were parts of building structures. Now the process transforms them into elements that create a work of art. The recycled materials speak about the process of things changing their roles in life-being one

thing and becoming something else.

Technically the work is created in the same way a modern building is created. A steel tube is bent and connected to other steel tubes, forming a skeleton with the integrity to support the work. The stones then are split and carved out, so they fit like a sleeve around the steel tube. Some of the old patina of years remains on the stones to indicate the origin of the materials, and in other places the new cuts show the beauty of raw granite.

In the title I have written "After Monet." It was Claude Monet, the French Impressionist painter, who spent his lifetime looking at the ever-changing views of water, distant vistas, and horizon lines. This combined image refers to two of his famous paintings: The Four Trees, in which the trunks of four trees are reflected in the water of a pond; and The Japanese Bridge at Giverny, in which a stone bridge is reflected in the lush green and blue environment of an idyllic garden. Monet built this garden and spent the rest of his life in it, reflecting about the ever-changing nature of light and its influence on how we see the world around us.

Ilan Averbuch was selected through the Stapleton Public Art process to create a sculpture that will be placed in the ellipse on East 29th Avenue.



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Hidden Resources In and Around Stapleton



Janette Hansen, violin instructor

By Kathy Epperson

This month we profile three women with a real passion in art, music and equestrian. Whether you're looking for a creative outlet for yourself or interested in a wonderful activity that can open new doors for your child, there's a hidden resource for everyone in and near Stapleton.

Janette Hansen, Violin Teacher

Violin teacher Janette Hansen knows first-hand the effect a music education has on a child's life. Janette studied piano and violin as a young child and later went on to major in music education at Arizona State University. She began teaching violin and viola shortly after getting her music degree and has taught both in the public school system and privately ever since. In addition to the positive impact music has on a child's sense of self and accomplishment. "I recognize that some students have to work harder than others to reach each level," she says. "As students work to become better, their self-esteem increases which, in turn, motivates them to continue to achieve."

Janette teaches violin and viola in her home in Green Valley Ranch for ages three through adult, from beginning through intermediate levels. "I was trained in the Paul Rolland Technique which teaches students how to play the violin/viola in a way that is most natural to his body," she explains. "In addition to teaching correct posture and technique, I also emphasize work on scales and, of course, musical pieces." She teaches school aged children and older to read music and gives them the opportunity to perform in a yearly studio recital.

Lessons range from 30 to 45 minutes each week and can be arranged at a time to fit the student's schedule. While Janette typically teaches private lessons, a student can be involved in a group

lesson in order to split the cost.

While Janette is most accomplished on the violin, viola and other string instruments, she has also studied the clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, guitar and various percussion instruments. In addition to sharing her love of music with her students, Janette enjoys exposing her own 20 month old daughter to all styles of music and letting her play the piano. Another music education will begin in January when Janette's second child is born.

For more information about lessons, contact Janette at 303-371-1202 or janetteih@yahoo.com.

Carol Brown, Adult Art Classes

For Stapleton resident and art teacher Carol Brown, art is all about the journey. A professional fiber artist for 25 years, Carol has shown nationally and created commissioned works.

"Recent graduate studies in counseling psychology have contributed to a shift in my focus from art as product to art as process," she says. "When I began to approach my art making as process, I let go of self-judgment and expectations. When I can let go and let one thing naturally lead to another, I constantly surprise myself. I find this approach spilling over into all areas of my life."

Carol currently teaches a one-day workshop through the Colorado Free University called "Connecting with the Creative Process for Women," with upcoming sessions on October 7 and November 12. The workshop is open to all experience levels and focuses primarily on acrylic painting and collage. While Carol teaches basic techniques, the real purpose of the class is to help women tap into their creative nature and make the connection between art and living their daily lives.

Carol is also available to teach individuals or small groups in her home studio or in clients' homes. She provides basic materials but also welcomes students to bring their own materials

and work in other media. She hopes to have enough interest to begin teaching ongoing classes for women and men one day a week starting this fall.

"My objective in teaching these classes is to create community," Carol says, "and to open people to the reality that the creative process is with us in everything we do. All we have to do is show up and pay attention. Anything is possible!"

For more information about her adult art classes, contact Carol at 303-399-7979 or carolb205@comcast.net.



Carol Brown, art instructor



Angel Hoskins, equestrian instructor

Angel Hoskins, Equestrian Lessons

Equestrian instructor Angel Hoskins fell in love with horses at a very young age. "I used to make my parents pull off the road whenever I saw horses in a pasture so I could stop and see them," she remembers. She began riding lessons at the age of eight. "When I was 12 years old my parents finally succumbed to the inevitable and allowed me to purchase my first horse," she says. "I joined 4-H and rode western and endurance with her before eventually discovering dressage."

While Angel teaches a variety of equestrian classes, her own specialty for the past dozen years has been dressage. A classical style of riding that dates back to 400 B.C., dressage is sometimes referred to as ballet on horseback. Angel has competed in this specialty, receiving her United States Dressage Federation silver medal in 2004 and now working toward the gold medal with her current horse named Dutch Chocolate.

A riding instructor for 12 years now, Angel teaches age 3 through adult and beginner through advanced at both The Urban Farm in Stapleton and at Lost Lake Equestrian Center in Franktown. Asked at what age it is appropriate to start lessons, Angel replies, "The age is not such a key factor as the desire. I have had students as young as 3 years old (usually their first word was "horsey") that are horse crazed with good coordination and motor skills. In general 5 years old is a good start point; by that age they have the attention span and physical stamina to stay engaged for an hour." Angel focuses primarily on English style riding, (continued on page 21)



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The Green Book Vision – Affordable Housing at Stapleton

By Melissa Knott

If the numerous awards and honors Stapleton has received from throughout the nation and around the world are any indication, the citizens of Aurora, Denver, and Commerce City demonstrated extraordinary vision in the early 1990s when they created the Stapleton Development Plan known as “The Green Book.”

One of the cornerstones of the Stapleton Development Plan called for the creation of a diverse, urban community at Stapleton where housing would be affordable to the widest range of incomes. Based on that vision, Stapleton’s master developer Forest City created *The Stapleton Affordable Housing Plan* with the Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) and the City and County of Denver in late 2000 to spell out the specific requirements needed to meet that objective. That plan was later endorsed by the SDC Board and Citizens Advisory Board and formally adopted by the Denver City Council.

The Stapleton Affordable Housing Program ensures that a portion of the homes and apartments at Stapleton will remain affordable, on a long-term basis, to households that might not otherwise find Stapleton an affordable place to live. Housing that is affordable to essential community workers such as teachers, nurses, police, and retail clerks enhances the viability and economic stability of the Stapleton neighborhoods.

The Stapleton Affordable Housing Plan is a detailed document that is too long to be reprinted in this publication, but it can be accessed online at www.stapletondenver.com and www.stapletononline.com. The essence of the requirements in the document stipulates that 10% of for-sale housing and 20% of rental housing at Stapleton should be affordable housing.

Affordable For-Sale Housing

Stapleton’s affordable for-sale housing is

restricted to people with incomes falling at 80% or below the Metropolitan Denver Area Median Family Income (MFI), which is published annually by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. For example, in order to qualify to buy a for-sale affordable home in 2006, the following income limits apply:

Household Size	Income no higher than:
1 person	\$40,150
2 people	\$45,900
3 people	\$51,600
4 people	\$57,350

In order to ensure long-term affordability for future homebuyers of these properties, certain resale restrictions apply to these homes.

Affordable Rental Homes

As detailed in *The Stapleton Affordable Housing Plan*, 20% of rental housing at Stapleton should be priced to be affordable. The affordable rental housing is targeted for incomes falling at 60% or below MFI, and includes housing that is available to incomes as little as 50% and 30% below the MFI. As with the buyers of affordable homes, tenants renting affordable homes must go through an income qualification process to verify income levels.

Summary

So, five years into the redevelopment of Stapleton, how is Forest City doing in terms of meeting *The Stapleton Affordable Housing Plan*’s requirements? In terms of market-rate homes, 2,385 have been completed and sold. In terms of affordable homes, 158 have been completed, of which 111 have been sold. Another 68 affordable for sale homes are under development.

In terms of rental housing, there currently are 144 market rate rental homes completed at Stapleton. On the affordable side, there are 168 affordable rental homes completed. Another 18 affordable rental homes are under development.

The progress being made by Forest City toward achieving The Green Book’s vision of housing diversity at Stapleton would not be possible without the efforts of many individuals and entities, including the Stapleton Development Corporation and its Citizens Advisory Board, the City and County of Denver, and our homebuilder community. Most importantly, however, it would not be possible without the support of the Stapleton community that believes in the importance of affordable housing. We look forward to continuing to work with everyone who has been involved in this effort.

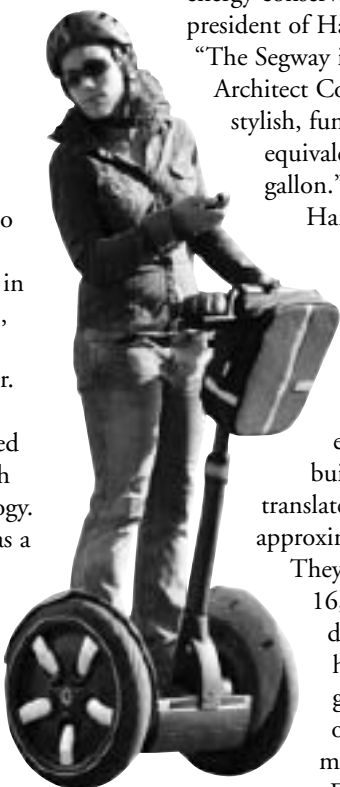
Melissa Knott is the Director of Housing Initiatives for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

Harvard Communities Architect Collection Offers Inventive Incentive

Harvard Communities, Inc., a leading semi-custom homebuilder in Denver and Stapleton, has an inventive incentive geared toward helping the environment. Any one who purchases an acclaimed Architect Collection home in Stapleton by September 30, 2006, will receive a FREE Segway Human Transporter.

A Segway Human Transporter is a two-wheeled electric people mover which features incredible technology. Hailed at its introduction as a major breakthrough in human transport technology, the Segway is totally unique.

“The Architect Collection homebuyers are looking for something new and fresh, and they have an eye for innovation and style. Many of them are also concerned about the environment and



energy conservation,” said John Keith, president of Harvard Communities. “The Segway is a perfect match for The Architect Collection; it is innovative, stylish, fun and it gets the equivalent of 600 miles to the gallon.”

Harvard builds what it calls “High Performance Homes.” The Architect Collection homes in Stapleton are approximately 40 percent more energy efficient than new homes built to current code. That translates to a savings of approximately \$1,000 per year.

They also generate about 16,000 pounds less carbon dioxide than a typical new home. This reduction in greenhouse gas equates to one less car driving 20,000 miles a year.

For more information please call Sheri Ogilvie at 303-789-4440, or visit www.thearchitectcollection.com.

Stapleton’s Neighbor Volunteering at the National Wildlife Refuge

Trail rovers, refuge tour guides, recreation program leaders. These and many more make up the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge volunteer force.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offers a multitude of volunteer opportunities at the refuge year-round. All volunteers must complete a mandatory orientation and training session before beginning. If fishing is your thing, you can volunteer at the lakes with fishing programs, or if you want to learn more about the history of the refuge, you could be a refuge tour guide.

Typically, you must be 18 years or older to volunteer, but the Service says it all depends on the person and how responsible they are. An example is Chad Masters, a sixth grader at the Community Leadership Academy, who knows a thing or two about serving as one of the 60 volunteers at the refuge.

At the young age of 8 Chad became the youngest volunteer on site when he and his grandmother visited the refuge and fell in love with the fishing, flourishing wildlife, and natural landscapes so close to their home. After more than three years of volunteering under adult supervision, Chad looks forward to many more years there and is considering going to

college for a biology degree.

When asked what his favorite memory of volunteering at the refuge is, he responded with excitement, “It would have to be the time I caught a snapping turtle while I was working with the kids from Children’s Hospital.”

In the summertime, the Service offers two fishing programs for kids admitted at Craig and Children’s hospitals. Both hospitals bring a group of children to the refuge once a month to give them the opportunity to be outside, have fun and possibly catch a few fish in the nearby lakes.

Standing tall at 5 feet 9 inches, 12-year-old Chad assists with many of the fishing programs, walks the trails with groups as a “Trail Rover,” and helps with the habitat maintenance in the field.

“It’s been great to see Chad grow up here at the refuge. He is one of the most responsible and caring kids I’ve ever known, and our hope is that he volunteers here for many years to come,” said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Volunteer Coordinator Jeannine Kimble.

To sign-up or find more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Jeannine Kimble at 303-289-0471, or email her at jeannine_kimble@fws.gov. You can also visit the website at www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal.

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Celebrating 29 Years in Design

Northfield Stapleton Leads Green Development

It took many years, an energy crisis, increasing gas prices, hybrid cars, a natural disaster named Katrina and a movie from Al Gore, but environmental issues are finally on the nation’s radar screen. For Forest City Stapleton, these issues have been on the forefront of the community’s collective conscious for some time.

As a pilot project for the U.S. Green Building Council, Northfield Stapleton will be one of the first shopping centers in the country to test environmentally-conscious construction in retail – a prestigious honor for the development team.

The Council is creating green-building guidelines for retail and core and shell development to complement the guidelines already in place for commercial and government buildings. Northfield Stapleton is the first Forest City project to be constructed to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Standard and to pursue certification.

Feedback from Northfield Stapleton will be used to fine tune the LEED Green Building Rating System for Core and Shell Development (LEED-CS) standards when they are formally adopted next year.

Northfield Stapleton went beyond the specifications put in place by the Council, requiring its retailers to implement what Brian Levitt, project developer of Forest City Commercial, calls, “Baby steps,” to LEED standards.

Brian developed a Northfield Stapleton Sustainability Tenant Incentive Program (NSTIP) as another facet of Stapleton’s commitment to environmental responsibility.

The challenges involved with the development of green retail centers stem from the fact that the tenants design and construct their own interior space. “Most people want to avoid the challenges of retail sustainable development,” said

Brian, “but we are trying to change the way retailers do business.”

Northfield retailers will be required to implement 17 environmental initiatives, and will receive incentives – financial and promotional – for adopting additional guidelines.

So what’s so green about Northfield construction? Well for starters, management offices will include carpeting made from recycled material, a solar panel, skylights and a daylight harvesting system that will dim interior lights when sunlight filters into the building. Also, public rest rooms will use waterless urinals, and retail tenants will be required to use environmentally-approved cleaning products. Forest City has even purchased wind energy for a portion of the project.

The grand opening of the 1.2 million-square-foot town center of shops, restaurants and entertainment venues, is set for Oct. 26, 2006.



Community Notes

by Diane Deeter
Stapleton Community Manager



New Resident Orientation

Orientations are generally held the second Tuesday of each month, but please note there will be no orientation session in September.

Greater Stapleton Area Restaurants

Our column last month providing information about restaurants in the Greater Stapleton area received favorable comments. The following are more fine eateries in our neighborhood:

Adagio Baking Company
4628 E 23rd Avenue 303.388.0904
The Cherry Tomato
4645 E 23rd Avenue 303.377.1914

And speaking of food, for grocery shopping be sure to try out Spinelli’s Market at 4621 E 23rd Avenue 303.329.8143. If you have favorite restaurants or places to shop in the greater Stapleton area that you would like to share with our readers, e-mail Jenifer Graham at jgraham@stapletondenver.com or me at communitymanager@stapletondenver.com.

Denver Noise Ordinance

Some residents have asked about constraints on the hours construction can take place in the area. The City & County of Denver noise ordinance pertaining to construction regulates that activity 7 days a week from 7 am – 9 pm (the City may allow exceptions). Violations of that noise ordinance may be reported by calling the 311 “One Call to City Hall” system. The Division of Environmental Quality will investigate the complaint and issue a citation if warranted.

Cultural Arts Committee

If you would like to help in the planning of cultural events (i.e. Theatre in the park, art education and music) please call 720.249.5104 or e-mail Jenifer Graham at jgraham@stapletondenver.com.

It’s “Lights, Camera, Action!” for Mesa Del Sol

Soon, that celebrity paparazzi shot in People magazine or interview on Entertainment Tonight might just be from Forest City’s own Mesa Del Sol in Albuquerque, N.M.!

That’s because a Hollywood studio just unveiled plans to build a 50-acre film production campus at the master-planned, mixed-use community.

Pacific Ventures, owners of California’s historic Culver Studios, has officially broken ground on Albuquerque Studios, a full-service, \$74-million site that will feature production facilities for film, TV, music videos, commercials and digital processing.

Bring on the stars, says Mark Lautman, director of economic development – Forest City Covington. “This is an incredibly exciting time here,” he said. “This makes Mesa Del Sol hip from day one. It’s a landmark deal for Mesa Del Sol and New Mexico’s economic development. This shows that Hollywood believes in the benefits of working in New Mexico,” he said.

And why not. Mesa Del Sol is located only 5 minutes away from the Albuquerque International Airport and 90 minutes from Los Angeles. And now that the film studio has arrived, plans for Mesa Del Sol’s retail centers have accelerated. “Instead of having retail in 10 years, we

will now have it before any housing goes up,” Mark said.

Completion of the studio is expected by Spring 2007, with the first stage complex to be available by February 2007.

Indeed, the exciting arrival of Albuquerque Studios has set the stage for Mesa Del Sol’s historic and ambitious 30-year, \$6-billion plan. Despite Mesa Del Sol’s central location to the airport, the surrounding area is undeveloped, giving Forest City the unique opportunity to vitalize the area and make an incredible impact. “We get to build an entire community from scratch,” Mark said. “It’s a chance to really do something great.”

Referred to as an “industrial and residential mecca” by Fortune magazine, Mesa Del Sol’s plan calls for 1,400 acres of office and industrial space, 3,400 acres of open space and recreational areas, 800 acres for schools and universities, 30,000 homes and 50,000 jobs.

Future residents will be no further than a mile away from retail and village centers, connecting residents with important amenities and creating a close-knit community.

“We welcome the Albuquerque Studios as one of the first occupants of Mesa Del Sol and are excited about the jobs and opportunities that the studio brings,” said Michael Daly, COO of Mesa Del Sol.



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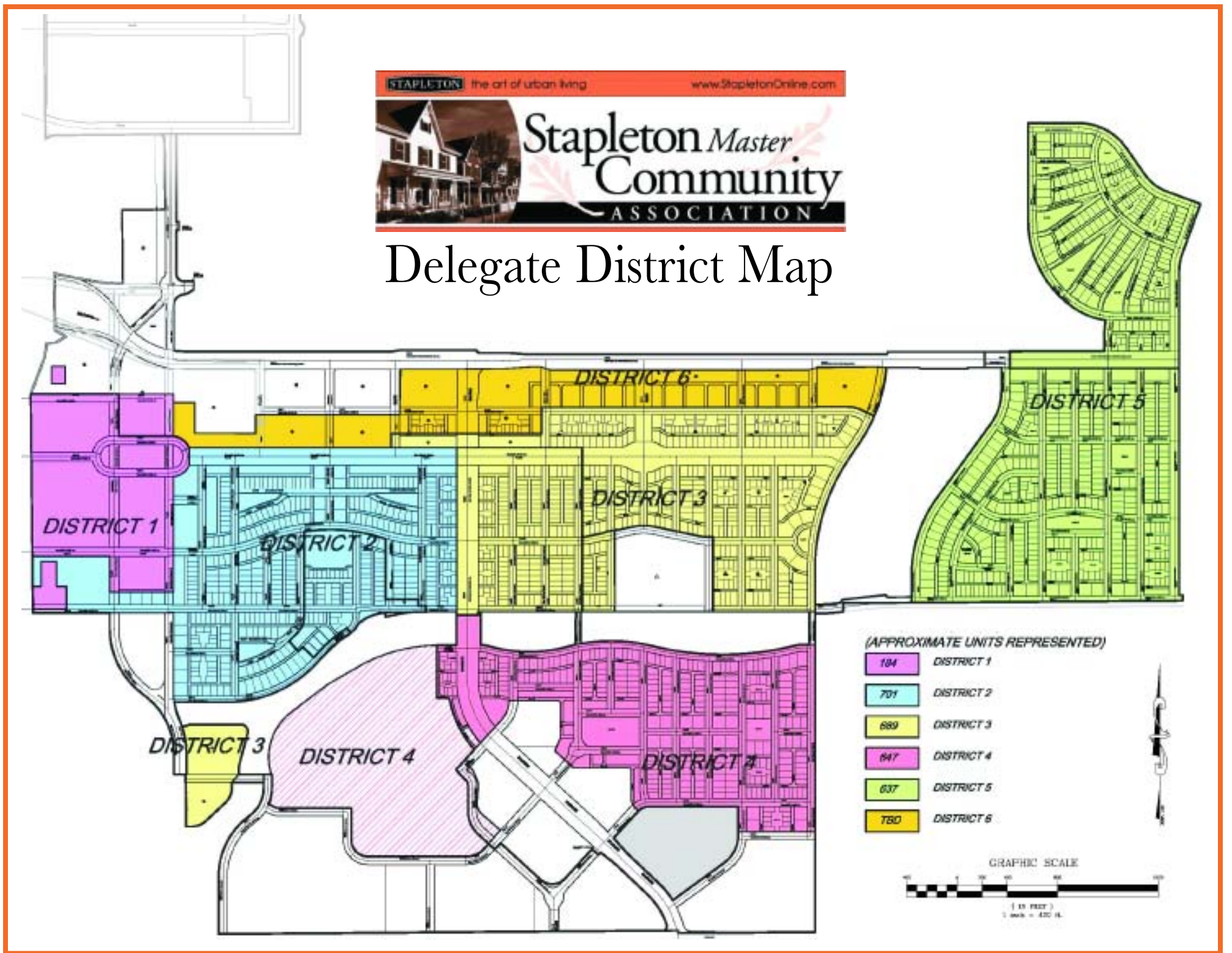
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The Stapleton Master Community Association Is Seeking "District Delegates" for 2007

A "Delegate" is defined in the Community Declaration as "the natural person selected by Members within a Delegate District to represent such Delegate District and to cast votes on behalf of Members within such Delegate District."

Each Delegate shall have one vote for each vote, which could be cast by Members voting to elect a Delegate for such Delegate District. Each Delegate may cast the votes, which he or she represents in such manner as the Delegate, in his or her sole discretion, deems appropriate, acting on behalf of all the Members in the Delegate District.

A Delegate must be a resident of a dwelling unit within the Delegate District, an occupant of a Commercial Unit, within the Delegate District, or an Owner, or, if any Owner is not a natural person, must be an authorized agent of the Owner. A Delegate may be reelected, and there shall be no limit on the number of terms a Delegate may serve.

Each Delegate elected at an annual meeting of Members in a Delegate District

shall serve in the following calendar year proceeding the annual meeting or until a successor is elected whichever is later, unless such Delegate resigns, is removed, or becomes disqualified to be a Delegate.

The purpose of the Delegates is to consider proposed community operational budgets. The "CCIOA budget" process allows for a veto, by certain delegates, of a proposed budget adopted by the Executive Board, as provided for in the Community Declaration. In the event any proposed budget is rejected, the budget last ratified is continued until such time as a subsequent budget proposed by the Executive Board is ratified.

The Delegates also may act as an advisory committee to the Executive Board and may give the Board advice (which shall not be binding on the Board), on the following matters: Special events and community programs; Adoption of a new name for the Community; Community Wide Services Assessments and the services funded through the Community Wide Services Assessment; Other operations or aspects of the Community as requested by the Board, and other operations or aspects of the Community as requested by a majority of Delegates and approved by the Board.

Residents wishing to be nominated as potential delegates should send a letter of interest to the Stapleton MCA Executive Director at 7608 E. 29th Ave Unit #1 Denver, CO. 80238 to be received no later than September 30th. Email letters to delegates@stapletoncommunity.com For more information on the delegate process please refer to the MCA community documents posted at www.stapletononline.com or call Keven Burnett, MCA Executive Director at 303-388-0724.

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Sustainability at Stapleton

by Melissa Knott
Director of Sustainability for Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

Sustainability in the News

Sustainability has been making the news these days. We've been seeing good local coverage of Mayor Hickenlooper's new Greenprint Denver initiative. *TIME* and *Newsweek* magazines have dedicated issues in the past few months to global warming and the environment. Tom Brokaw recently hosted a documentary on the Discovery Channel entitled "Global Warming: What You Need to Know." And Al Gore's movie "An Inconvenient Truth" has been generating lots of buzz. Brad Pitt recently narrated a six-part series on PBS called *design:e2* which explored the "economies of being environmentally conscious." The Sundance Channel even announced recently that in early 2007 they will launch "Sundance Channel Green," which will carry shows about the Earth's ecology and concepts of green living that balance human needs with responsible environmental stewardship. It seems like every day another celebrity comes out with another environmental cause to support. There's no doubt about it - it's hip to be green.

But all this coverage can also be a little overwhelming. Sometimes the world's environmental challenges seem too large and all encompassing for individual actions to make a difference. But they do make a difference. In my very first "Sustainability at Stapleton" column back in June of 2004 I said, "I am realistic—and very practical. I do not expect every person to embrace every aspect of sustainability. Rather, my goal is to encourage individuals to change just one behavior in their day-to-day lives. Collectively, each individual change will create a positive ripple effect throughout Stapleton and the surrounding neighborhoods." That is still my goal, and I hope that the information you find on these pages each month helps motivate you to make small changes in your daily life. Anyone can make a change to help ensure a more sustainable future, whether you are 5 years old, 35 years old or 80 years old.

A good way to learn more about simple things we can all do is to sign up to receive New Leaf electronically every month. Go to www.stapletondenver.com and scroll down to the Mailing Lists section. Once you are signed up, each month you'll receive information on various topics and specific, simple ways to live a more sustainable life.

Stapleton Residents to Receive New Recycling Carts this Fall

By Charlotte Pitt, Denver Recycles Solid Waste Management/Denver Recycles has completed cart deliveries to approximately 60% of participating customers in Denver (more than 38,000 carts) and is thrilled that plans are now to complete delivery of recycling carts to all customers by the end of 2006. Stapleton residents are scheduled for cart deliveries in October 2006.

Stapleton residents can assist Denver Recycles in the cart delivery process by keeping an eye out for an informational

postcard that will be mailed a few weeks prior to cart delivery. The postcard will state the date when carts will be delivered to your home and include instructions on how to ensure that you receive a cart. Residents may check their scheduled delivery day on-line at www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.

Denver Recycles will be working with customers to make the delivery of the new recycling carts as smooth as possible. Due to the sheer number of carts scheduled for delivery, we do expect to encounter a challenge or two, so we ask for your patience as we work to correct any issues that may arise.

To get a cart, residents must be a current participant in the recycling program and have recyclables set out on collection days in order for Denver Recycles to exchange the current smaller bins with a new larger, wheeled recycling cart. **Green Court residents, Garden Court residents, and residents who do not place their recycle bins directly in front of their homes must write their address on their recycling bins with a permanent marker, so that Denver Recycles can identify which bins belong to which home.** Carts are assigned to specific addresses using an eight digit serial number. Cart delivery is extremely resource intensive for Denver Recycles' staff, who work long days during cart delivery. If you have not received your cart by 5:00 pm and the rest of your block does not have carts, please leave your bins out since Denver Recycles may still be working in the area.



Once delivery of the new carts is complete in Stapleton, you must have a cart to continue participating in the recycling program. Also, please note that once a cart is delivered to your home it should be brought onto your property. Carts may not be left at the curb or in the alley during non-collection days. Carts left in the alley or at the curb on non-collection days may be removed.

Denver Recycles has not yet determined if it will be possible to include new development areas of Stapleton in this initial delivery phase. If you live in an area of Stapleton that does not currently have recycling service and would like to find out when service will be extended to your area, please call the Denver's 3-1-1 service at the

end of September.

If you have questions about cart delivery, or other questions about the recycling program, please call Denver Recycles at 3-1-1 (or 720-913-1311 if dialing outside of Denver) or visit our web site at www.denvergov.org/DenverRecycles.



Stapleton Farmers Market — Get your fresh veggies while you can! The last day of the Stapleton Farmers Market is September 24th.

Denver Tour of Solar Homes

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 7th, and plan to join the Denver Tour of Solar Homes presented by the Colorado Renewable Energy Society (www.cres-energy.org). The Denver tour is one of a series of Colorado tours taking place that weekend in conjunction with the American Solar Energy Society National Solar Tour, which has events scheduled in almost every state. The National Solar Tour day, October 7th, is the first Saturday of National Energy Awareness Month.

The tour will cover approximately 15 homes throughout the metro region that showcase all types of renewable technologies. Tour attendees will be able to meet with enthusiastic and well-informed homeowners who will provide information about their green homes. A tour booklet will have photos of the homes and explanations of all the features for each home.

The tour lasts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and begins at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Visitor Center (1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO), where there will be additional exhibits for attendees to view. There is a \$20 tour fee per car. Due to the number of homes on the tour, it is recommended that you arrive at the NREL Visitor Center at 10 a.m. if you want to be able to complete the entire tour. For more information visit www.ases.org/tour or contact Pamm McFadden at 303-443-4308 or pgosun@aol.com.

Last Chance to Learn to Compost This Year!

There are still a few more chances to learn to compost this year by signing up for one of the remaining FREE

"Learn to Compost" classes or neighborhood seminars, sponsored by Denver Recycles/Solid Waste Management, Denver Urban Gardens, and the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District.

Compost saves water and fertilizer, and increases your garden's ability to resist disease and pests. Classes will teach you all

you need to know to make terrific compost at home in just a few weeks. All classes are free, but participants must register at least one week before desired class to ensure proper staffing. Composting is good for your yard and garden, good for the environment, easy to do and fun too!

Remaining 2006 dates for "Learn to Compost" classes, held at the Denver Backyard Composting Demonstration Site in Denver Urban Gardens' Gove Community Garden located at 13th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard, are:

- **September 9th* & 23rd** (9 - 11am)
- **October 7th & 14th** (9 - 11am)

*(Please note the Sept. 9th class will be special worm composting workshop)

The remaining 2006 Neighborhood Compost Seminar, which takes place on Saturday from 10am to noon, will be:

- **September 16th** - at the Rosedale Community Garden, 2332 S. Sherman St

To sign up for a FREE, hands-on, 2-hour backyard composting class at the Denver Backyard Composting Demonstration Site or a Neighborhood Compost Seminar call 720-865-6810 or e-mail DenverRecycles@ci.denver.co.us. Please be sure to provide your name, address and phone number in your message or e-mail.

For more information on the "Learn to Compost" class program visit www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.

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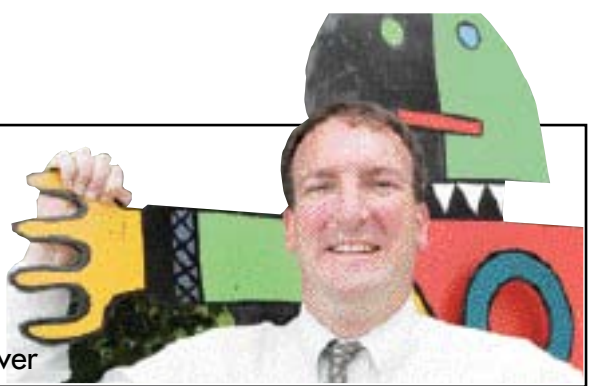


Family Kicks

By Mike and Karen Giles
Mike Giles Family Karate

Teachable Moments

by Tom Downey
Children’s Museum of Denver



Family Kicks – September 2006

Moms and Dads, the kids are back in school now, time to think about your mental and physical health. Our lives in general are revolved around our children; what are we going to feed them, how we are going to spend our day, what they’re going to wear, and where do they need or want to go. Some days we do it all with a smile, and other days we simply grin and bear it, not because we don’t love our children, but because we haven’t taken time to love ourselves.

Taking a mental and physical break is an important item to place on your daily agenda. This means, ride your bike, walk, run, play tennis, lift weights, join a kickboxing class, skate, swim, whatever makes your endorphins kick in. I know almost everyone will say to me, “but I’m too tired, or I just don’t have the time.” But what’s true is, working out will give you more energy, add more balance to your life, and give you the confidence to accomplish your personal goals. This will translate to more patience with your children, less stress when life throws you a curve ball, and a happier (like the old days) relationship with your significant other.

We as adults set the ultimate example in our children’s lives. If they see us constantly stressed, always eating unhealthy, and using the remote control as our only workout routine, they will inevitably follow in our footsteps. This life style will only lead to high blood pressure, heart attacks, mental breakdowns, depression, and a gamut of other problems, and nobody wins. Children are a product of their environment or as they say in the south, “the fruit doesn’t fall far from the tree.” You have a chance as a parent to inspire your children and others around you simply by loving yourself enough to get fit and work out.

As part of our creed at our karate school, our victory over violence pledge states: I will value my own life, I will respect all life, I will inspire hope in others.

So get on out there, live, try something new, fall a few times, look silly, laugh, be human, set a few goals, it will be so much fun to just love you, and I’m sure it will inspire hope in your loved ones.

Mike and Karen Giles own Mike Giles Family Karate in Stapleton’s E. 29th Avenue Town Center. Call 303-377-KICK for more information.

Teachable Moments in the Car

Driving in the car might not have the same sense of fun for kids, now that the excitement of summer vacation is over. That doesn’t mean, however, that everyday trips have to be meltdown prone for kids or anxiety ridden for parents. To the contrary, they can be easy and comfortable opportunities to educate and bond with your children.

Young children can be on the look out for buses, fire trucks and trains. They can have fun counting them and telling you what colors they are. Who can yell “truck” first? Listen to what your toddlers say and repeat their words, adding new words or rhyming with words they say. These games help children learn to watch carefully and to categorize what they see. Finding stop signs can certainly occupy a young child’s trip, but helping him/her sound out the letters S-T-O-P is also a foundational building block for reading. After mastering the stop sign, they can move on to other traffic signs, which help more than mere literacy. The concept of traffic, traffic flow and traffic regulation is complicated and worthy of a child’s exploration. It includes understanding maps and spatial relations on a large scale. Studying traffic might also become future content for a child’s art project. Before embarking on a trip, talk with your child about where you will be going (“We are going to the market on the way home”) to help him or her develop thinking and planning skills. Knowing the plan will also increase patience and decrease anxiety for your child, making everyone’s trip a little bit easier.

Parents have hundreds of these “teachable moment” opportunities everyday with their our kids. Some are obvious, and some take a bit of explanation. Now, thanks to incredible research and efforts by Civitas, the Ad Council and United Way of America, these Born Learning techniques are available to parents in simple forms. Nationally, they are promoting the Born Learning concept through public service announcements and a wonderful website: bornlearning.org. Here in Colorado, Mile High United Way, Anna Jo Haynes of Mile High Montessori, the Children’s Museum and others have partnered to spread the Born Learning concept techniques in our community.

For children four years and older, a regular car ride is the perfect opportunity for an on-going story. Richard Adams’ “Watership Down” is a classic allegory of courageous rabbits. Legend has it that Adams made up the story while driving his kids in the car. He would tell it in pieces, and the children couldn’t wait for the tale to continue during the next trip. Eventually, they persuaded him to write it down, and now his book is a familiar staple on school reading lists. While you may not create the next great American novel on the way to the grocery store, you can tell your kids about your childhood . . . or theirs, or make up a wonderful story while introducing the concept of chapters. Your car ride will be far more enjoyable for all riders.

In addition to being educational, these teachable moments may alleviate parent pressure points. Taking the kids to the grocery store can be an anxiety-ridden experience, even if you are lucky enough to get one of the child car carts. If kids realign their focus from the candy or toy they wanted, your visit will be much less harried. With little kids, just counting items or matching colors can occupy them for the whole trip. If they can handle the walking, they can help with the shopping. A child directed to get the milk carton by her parent will have fun, and learn. She may know her letters, but not be able to read yet. Making that association of the M-I-L-K on the familiar box, however, creates the foundation for literacy. A wonderful trick is to clip coupons with your child, even if you aren’t in it to save money. Your child will have fun trying to find the product based upon matching letters and pictures from the coupon to the items in the aisles. He also has ownership of the process, greatly reducing the likelihood of bad behavior. The reason we have a grocery store at the Children’s Museum, is

because there are so many embedded educational aspects.

We cannot promise that applying Born Learning techniques will eliminate meltdowns, but we can promise that your kids will have fun, they might learn something, and you might have a more relaxed experience. Please look for more ideas in future articles in the Front Porch or ask us about Born Learning at the Children’s Museum.

Tom Downey is the Executive Director of the Children’s Museum of Denver, tomd@cmdenver.org. He lives at Stapleton with his wife, Lori Fox, and daughters Cate and Ella.



Information of interest from local real estate professionals

Understanding the Current Housing Market

By Tammy Morran

You may have been looking at the local real estate market for some indication as to whether you should buy or a sell a home. What are the things you should be looking at? And what are the pros and cons on each side?



Tammy Morran

If you have seen any recent media coverage, the reports are all pretty gloomy. Sales are dropping, interest rates continue to rise, and the market is slowing down. What does this mean specifically for you?

If you are a seller, it could be that you will have a harder time selling your home. If you are a buyer, you could have much more inventory to choose from, but a higher interest rate on your mortgage.

If you are smart, and want to be a well educated buyer or seller, you will forget the market, forget all the media reports, and just look at the area you are looking to purchase or sell a home in.

If you are looking to sell, you can be quite sure that things are not the same as they were when you bought your home. Real Estate values have gone up in most of our local neighborhoods. However, your neighbors could also have their homes on sale which means you aren’t a rare find in your local market, or you could be competing with your builder for buyers; more and more common as the New Construction Boom continues.

Or you could be in an area where your home will be the most desirable property in town.

The conditions that make a market good for one party can change overnight. All it takes is a few more houses on the market or a few less sellers

to change the neighborhood market quickly.

Watch for what is really going on in your neighborhood, or the area you want to buy in. Are new families moving in? Are homes selling quickly? Are there just a couple of homes for sale? Are improvements

being made? Do you see many people looking at the homes that are for sale? That will tell you a lot about the desirability of your neighborhood, and the chances of successfully selling your home.

No matter what the market is like, there will always be a buyer for a home. Always. It just depends on time and price. If you are in a slower market, you will need to do everything you can to make your home as attractive as possible to buyers to increase your chance of selling it. In a really hot market, the house sells itself.

No matter what interest rates are, there will be a point at which you cannot afford to buy a home. Yes, rates are up now, but certainly not so much that buying a home right now is unreasonable. The rates are still very low when compared to the rates from 10 to 15 to 20 years ago.

So, whether you are looking to buy or sell a home, there are lots of different factors to consider but the most important is your local market. Know that market, and find an agent who also knows that market for your best chance of success.

Tammy Morran is a Realtor with New Avenues’ Dardano & Associates Inc. She and her husband bought one of the first homes in Stapleton, She can be reached at 303-507-7110.



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4 Paws News

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

Exercising With Your Pet

Kang and Kodiak Meacham keep themselves in shape with regular exercise, running five miles most days. The regular exercise is great for their body mass index, the health of their heart and general attitude about life. In fact, if they miss a regular run they tend to be a little sluggish and cranky. The regular exercise is pretty good for their owner, Dr. Andy Meacham, of Stapleton, as well.

Dr. Preston Stubbs, veterinary surgical specialist at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital, says “I like activities that allow you and you’re pet to participate together. Sometimes we gain a little extra motivation to exercise out of a sense of responsibility to our pet.” While the benefits of exercise for you and your dog are obvious, Dr. Stubbs says that there are certain things you should take into consideration before introducing your pet to a new exercise routine.

He cautions that large amounts of repetitive, physically-demanding exercise are not natural for dogs. Just as you would do for yourself, you’ll need to gradually break your dog into an exercise regime. Start slow, gradually increasing the length of the activity and take breaks; constant, steady activity at an elevated pace could be harmful for an unconditioned pet. When left on their own, dogs will run for a short time, stopping frequently to sniff a tree or a flower before running for another short period. Dr. Stubbs also cautions that there are certain breeds, such as pugs and bulldogs, which often cannot withstand large amounts of physical activity because their respiratory systems are unable to handle too much activity, especially in warmer weather.

It is important to consider the age of your pet. Dr. Stubbs doesn’t recommend long periods of repetitive motion exercise, such as running with young dogs, because they are still growing; such types of exercise may cause injury to their growing bones and joints. He also doesn’t recommend rigorous exercise with pets that are at a later stage in life because they simply don’t have the physical stamina that they once did.

Medical conditions which your pet may have are also important considerations. Pets with respiratory, heart or joint disease may be harmed by too much physical exercise. Dr. Stubbs says, “Just as with any human, it is important to consult your veterinarian before introducing your pet to a demanding exercise regime.”

The climate in which you and your pet will be exercising is another important issue to consider. During the summer months it is important to be cautious about overheating. Your pet doesn’t have the ability to sweat efficiently to dissipate body heat as does a human; a hot and humid day provides the ideal conditions for your pet to overheat.

You’ll need to be as equally alert to the climate during the winter months. Your pet’s feet don’t have much protection; you should be watchful for frostbite and observant of any icy patches that might cut your dog’s foot pads. Salt or other deicers on roads and sidewalks may also harm their feet.

The most important thing you should do is to be alert to what your dog is experiencing. Be prepared to take a break if it’s lagging behind, limping or working too hard to breathe. These are all physical signs that your pet has had enough exercise and you should stop.

For more information about exercising with your pet, consult your local veterinarian.

Dr. Smith’s clinic, the 29th Avenue Animal Hospital, is located in the East 29th Avenue Town Center at Stapleton in the courtyard next to Fantastic Sams. Call (303) 394-3937 for more information.

Stapleton Visitor Center Updated



The newly remodeled Stapleton Visitor Center was designed to reflect a feeling of “urban light.” Visitor Center Ambassadors like Leslie Gardner (above) are available to share the story of Stapleton’s past, present and future development.

The Stapleton Visitor Center has a new face. Located at 7480 E. 29th Avenue across from the fountain in the Town Center, the Center has new walls, updated graphics and fresh colors.

“As our community has grown, so have the different types of homes we’re building,” said JuliAnne Murphy, director of marketing for Forest City Stapleton Inc.’s residential arm. “We wanted the Stapleton Visitor Center to reflect a feeling of “urban light” which is what we call our newest lifestyle home products that are new to Stapleton within the past months. And we felt cooler colors, such as ice blue and light grey, paired with a more open floor plan, conveyed that to visitors.”

The Urban Estate Homes’ office, formerly located in the back of the old Visitor Center, has moved into

a new attached space.

“The Urban Estate Homes are our million-dollar homes, and we felt it made sense for them to have their own front door presence for visitors,” Ms. Murphy said. “We designed that interior space with warmer, earthy hues, such as deep red and chocolate.”

The 3,000-square-foot Stapleton Visitor Center also provides information about new homes, plans for future development and an overview of the community.

“The visitor center is an important starting point for people who are interested in seeing model homes and gaining an overview of Stapleton,” said Visitor Center Manager Heather Stewart. “We are a great resource for visitors, and continue to share the story of Stapleton’s past, present and future development.”

Home Work

by Kathy Epperson



Joni Wiggins, Jim Vastola – Technical Directions

Business is a family affair for partners Joni Wiggins and Jim Vastola. Joni and Jim recently moved from Phoenix to Stapleton, bringing their 15 year old Technical Directions business with them. Their business has evolved to include large-scale event services, video and audio production and satellite broadcasts for corporations such as Apple, Adobe, Microsoft, Restoration Hardware, and Coors, plus smaller-scale services such as home movie transfers, photography services and event production for local small businesses.

Originally introduced to each other through friends, Joni and Jim are the rare couple that works well together

professionally. “We try to be as professional as possible on the job,” Joni says. “But every once in a while a pet name will slip in front of an executive and they give you a funny look – not sure if you’re being sexist or just overly friendly. Most people don’t even realize we are a couple while on the job.” Their two Basenji dogs, recently featured in a Front Porch photo for Digstown’s opening, complete their family.



Jim Vastola and Joni Wiggins

Joni and Jim made the move to Denver to escape the heat of Phoenix, and were attracted to Stapleton by the architecture and sense of community. “The architecture of the Town Center is reminiscent of the post-1989 earthquake renovation areas of San Francisco’s Embarcadero,” they explain. “It felt like ‘home’, since we are both from San Francisco, and the sense of community was also a huge factor.”

Their success is due in part to their complementary skill sets and experience. Jim specializes in staging of events, lighting, audio and video production, satellite broadcasts, and managing crews while Joni works as a technical producer and coordinator and manages budgetary and logistical aspects. Jim, whom Joni refers to as “the AV geek pushing film projectors down the hallway in elementary and high school”, got his degree in AV Communications and Photography, eventually working as a production manager at several event production companies and later touring with U2 for several years as a video engineer. Joni, who originally started in the medical field, took video production classes to fulfill humanities classes for her degree. She went on to work in Public Access TV and later broadcast TV on many CNBC programs in the Bay area before joining Jim in his Technical Directions business.

Experienced business owners, Jim and Joni enjoy the autonomy of running their own business but also say that is also one of the biggest challenges. “It’s why we’ve diversified our offerings over the years to accommodate local business opportunities,” Joni says. Savvy about the need to augment their large-scale corporate work, they have expanded their services in home movie transfers (from a variety of formats to DVD) and photography (portraits, pets, commercial and digital image bank). They also keep operating costs in control by continuing to run their company as a home-based business. “With the exception of the home movie transfer and photography equipment,” Joni explains, “most of the gear we use to produce an event is acquired on-site.”

Starting in September, they plan to offer 10% discounts on orders over \$200 for home movie transfers and photography services for all Stapleton residents. Also look for Jim to showcase his photography at the Sweet William Market in September.

Contact Joni and Jim at Technical Directions, LLC, at 303-321-2772 or by email at joni@technicaldirections.net. Visit online at www.technicaldirections.net.

Kathy Epperson is a Stapleton resident who writes a monthly column about home businesses. She may be reached at Kathyox@yahoo.com.



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Questions about local government? Plan to Attend a Town Hall Meeting with Council President Michael Hancock

Wednesday, September 27, 6:30-8pm
Denver School of Science and Technology
2000 Valentia Street (at Montview Blvd.)

Mark your calendar for this important town hall meeting with our District 11 Councilman Michael Hancock, who was recently tapped to become the Denver City Council President. Obtain updates on city issues, and get your questions answered on matters ranging from parks and recreation to district police. This is your opportunity to have direct dialogue with your Councilman and Denver City officials!

Huge Turnout at Havana Town Center Forum

by Mike Johnson, SUN Vice President

Well over 300 people turned out for the Havana Town Center planning forum on August 16. The event, held at the Denver School of Science and Technology, was sponsored by SUN and the Stapleton Citizen's Advisory Board, and featured key officials from Forest City, which also sponsored the forum. The forum began with a presentation by Forest City and the architects regarding the land set aside, the street grid (which has already been laid out) and the current conceptual plans for the town center. The audience then broke up into small groups of 5-10 people to discuss four questions: What do you like about the E. 29th Avenue Town Center? What don't you like about the E. 29th Avenue Town Center? What would make the Havana Town Center a comfortable, attractive destination? What types of retail establishments or services would you like to see at the Havana Town Center?

The answers and ideas from the audience were as varied as the people in the room. Almost everyone complained about the traffic in the E. 29th Town Center and would like the Havana Town Center to include public gathering areas that are safe from traffic and are easily accessible by foot and bicycle from the retail and services in the town center and the surrounding neighborhood. Several people asked whether the main street (Geneva Court) could be closed off from traffic and converted to a pedestrian mall like Pearl Street in Boulder. There were concerns about bicycle parking in the existing town center and requests that that more thought be given to making it easy to park bicycles and bicycle trailers in the new town center. Many in the full house expressed their support for concepts presented in the oral reports with their hearty applause, and some of the most applauded concepts for inclusion in the Town Center were a natural foods market, locally owned (non-chain) retailers, restaurants, and service providers, and a library with community space.

Due to time constraints, oral reports were not presented by all focus groups. However, the written reports from each focus group were collected, and will be summarized in a later edition of the Front Porch, on the SUN website, and by email to those who signed in at the forum. SUN and CAB are working with Forest City to consider the ideas presented at the forum. Check future editions of the Front Porch for follow up and additional information about the design of the Havana Town Center.

Neighborhood Dialogue on Proposed Shurgard Facility Generates Win-Win Results: Better Design, Likely Neighborhood Support

by Bill Fulton, Immediate Past SUN President

Whenever a story of conflict turns to collaboration, it's worth taking time to pay attention to the lessons it has to teach us. The evolution of the Shurgard Self-Storage property at Stapleton is one such story.

When residents near Central Park Blvd. and Montview first heard plans that a Shurgard self-storage unit would be located near them, they let their disapproval be known. They wanted retail options, not a storage unit. When the proposed location switched to the site on Martin Luther King Blvd., residents near that site felt similar concerns, and were frustrated that they were being told it was a done deal.

But frustration led to action, and the SUN board worked with area residents to see if there might be a way to blend retail options into the proposed plan. Fortunately, these ideas were well received by Tom Razo, President of TRC Companies, the builder of the Shurgard facility. When we sat down to discuss this in more detail, Tom clearly had not only listened, but had been persuaded by the force of a better argument. He brought with him blue prints that added a strip of shops to the site, an outdoor sitting space for pedestrians, and a welcoming structure surrounded by extensive landscaping. As one resident involved in the discussions put it, "So far, this is an example of how residents and a developer (in this case, TRC Companies Inc.) can — and should — work together for the good of a neighborhood. The key, of course, is inviting residents into the conversation early — which is something [SUN board members] are working to make happen more frequently as Stapleton continues to grow."

Having these conversations early and often is at the heart of SUN's approach to building an effective neighborhood association. The recent forum on the Havana Town Center, co-sponsored by the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) and Forest City, shows the fruits of this effort, and an upcoming forum to apply past lessons to the development of Filing 18, north of Central Park, will continue the process.

SUN was first started in a pocket park nearly 4 years ago, with 80 neighbors sitting in a circle talking about a common hope: creating a community that embodied in practice what it envisioned on paper. That hope remains, the circle is still expanding, and the conversations continue. And while dialogue across our differences is sometimes dismissed as "just talk," in cases like Shurgard and many others, it is just the talk we need to make sure that our different perspectives do not remain the stumbling blocks of conflict, but lead to the building blocks of community.

S.U.N. Meetings are open to the public

SUN meets on the 4th Thursday of every month
at 7pm in the Stapleton Development
Corporation Large Conference Room
3rd Floor, 7350 E. 29th Ave.

Third Annual Stapleton Kickball Tournament

Saturday, September 16, 2006
Westerly Creek Elementary/Odyssey School Playing Fields
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

What is Kickball?

Kickball is a sport that is set up similar to baseball. However, instead of hitting the ball with a bat, players kick the ball. The ball is a little bigger and harder than a soccer ball. There are bases, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and home and other than a few differences, the rules are much like that of baseball.

The Kickball Tournament is a fun fall event organized by SUN. It is sponsored by SUN, Active Living of Greater Stapleton (ALPS) and donations from many Stapleton businesses. There will be a competitive adult kickball tournament and fun, loosely organized kid's tournament — overall, a great fall opportunity to have fun, see friends, meet neighbors, and enjoy a great outdoor activity. Come play or watch, but be sure to bring your skills of kicking, catching, throwing, running, cheering, laughter and building neighborly goodwill!!!!

Start organizing your teams! Team registration information:

You are welcome to sign up as teams, small groups or individuals and all levels of players are welcome. Teams will be formed from small groups and individuals. Limit of sixteen adult teams—up to 20 people per team. There will be a team and individual registration fees this year. Teams (up to 20 people) are \$100/per team and Individuals are \$5/per person. The fee will help offset costs for the event.

Registration deadline: September 9, 2006. Contact Caroline Wilten 303-394-1346.

Letter to the Editor

I live in the Park Hill community and a lot of our residents patronize Stapleton businesses and enjoy its beautiful events. We also get your paper, but I have never seen any features on any Park Hill events or on any of our wonderful restaurants and markets. The Park Hill Bike tour, the Park Hill garden tour and the Park Hill home tour are some of the oldest and best events in the area. Oblios is one of the most recognized and awarded pizzeria's in Denver. The Cherry Tomato is by far the best Italian restaurant around and Tables is the best sandwich and dinner spot anyone could ever visit. Many of the residents that have moved to Stapleton come from the Park Hill area so they know many of these places and they share the information with friends and neighbors. But many of your residents have no idea that these things or places exist. Maybe a few articles would be a nice start. I'm sure that your residents would love to hear about these Park Hill places and events the way we enjoy hearing about the ones in Stapleton.

Thank you, Thomas Gilhooly

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 Ave., Denver, CO 80238 or email: TGleason@StapletonDenver.com

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Views on the Street

What do you like to see in a town center?



Kris Haywood
I'd like to see a Whole Foods or some kind of organic health food store. Also mom and pop shops – locally owned businesses.



Ben Grossman
It would be nice to have non-chain local ethnic restaurants – Indian, Chinese, Mexican – something that's unique. Neighborhood restaurants that are

kid-friendly like a Cherry Tomato or Carmine's type of place. I like having the restaurants facing open space where families can get their dinners and go hang out on the green.



Jen Courtney-Keyse
I'd like a library and post office and athletic facilities. Those are the things I have to drive to. I'd like more traditional architecture that feels "warm."



Amy Belstra
I'd like something that has the Midwestern "Main Street" look. For example inviting store windows for window shopping. I'm from the mid-west... I'm thinking of the court house square with coffee shops and everything you need on the square. I'd like to see less mixed use residential so it looks more like a small retail center.



Zeb Delancy
I'd like to see a Sports Bar with pool tables and someplace you can go hang out. Also there should be a game store for kids.



Steve Nearpass
I'd like to see more specialty shops... non-chain boutique type stores... a health food store. I'd like to see a traditional look, like a small town Main Street – like an old Hollywood set. Modern architecture doesn't match the residential architecture. It would be nice to have a play area for kids to hang out. Get it off a busy street and put in stop signs and cross walks to make it pedestrian friendly.

Editor's Note: A special thanks to our interviewees this month who had been up all night participating in the Relay for Life and spoke to us early Saturday morning during a pouring rain.

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Free Ads for kids 18 and under – email ad 15 words or less by the 15th of the month to frontporchads@fineprintco.com along with your name, address, phone and age. Designate months to run ad. Be sure you get a confirmation email.

Hidden Resources

(continued from page 13)

with private lessons scheduled to meet the needs of her students. Angel understands why children are so drawn to horses, and credits this interaction with helping kids build confidence, patience and assertiveness. “Learning to care for and control such a large animal can be very empowering,” she says. “Children benefit from the structure and systematic development in riding, and it usually carries over into the other areas of their lives.” As for the impact on her own life, Angel appreciates the therapeutic benefits horses provide. “They have this amazing ability to fill in the blanks,” she says. “It is as if they intuitively know what is missing in your life.” For information about riding lessons, contact Angel at 720-810-5466 or ah@angelshorses.com. Watch for her new website coming this fall at www.angelshorses.com. In addition to teaching, Angel also is available to assist clients with buying, selling and training horses.

Stapleton Survey Results — Residents cite location, schools, and parks among top reasons to live in Stapleton

The recent community survey commissioned by Forest City Stapleton, Inc. underscores that residents are most often driven by quality of life considerations when choosing to live at Stapleton. Conducted by Boulder-based Egg Strategy, the survey shows Stapleton residents to be highly educated and strongly satisfied with their community, especially the parks, schools, open spaces and quality of homes. Twenty three percent (580) of the homes surveyed responded on-line or via U.S. Mail. “This is the first statistical benchmark that shows Stapleton on track to create a sustainable urban neighborhood, as envisioned by the Denver community in 1995,” said Hank Baker, senior vice president for Forest City Stapleton, Inc. “The high response rate for the survey renders results statistically accurate within plus or minus 4 percent.” Key findings show that Stapleton is:

- A young community, with most residents under the age of 45. Of study respondents:
 - 67 percent are married
 - 15 percent are single
 - 18 percent are living with a

- partner, widowed or divorced.
- Household characteristics:
 - 43 percent of Stapleton households have children under 18 living at home.
 - 57 percent of households do not have children.
- Well educated: 87 percent of respondents are college graduates, or more than three times the national average of 27 percent. In addition, 44 percent hold a post-graduate degree.
- High employment: 64 percent of households have dual incomes.
- Stapleton residents consider themselves active, with 60 percent saying they and their partner or spouse engage in physical activity several times a week.
- Hooked on amenities, including “quality of homes,” “parks/open space,” “community” and “schools/educational opportunities”—respondents rate all these as important.
- Convenient: Residents consider the most highly satisfactory amenities to be “convenient location,” “community,” “walkability,” and “parks/open space.”
- Good for Business: 21% of residents conduct work from their Stapleton residence.

“Forest City is implementing the vision of the citizens who created the Stapleton Development Plan,” said Mr. Baker. “That plan calls for a community that blends the best of city life with the benefits of good schools and lots of parks; this survey shows Stapleton is hitting that mark. Residents love the urban sense of community but they also treasure all the parks and open space. They appreciate that Stapleton is family-oriented but just as welcoming to couples, singles and empty-nesters,” he added. When we asked for room for improvement, residents said they'd like better mass transit and more urban hangouts like bookshop/coffeehouses, Mr. Baker said. “It is reassuring that the efforts of Forest City and others in implementing the Stapleton Development plan are being accepted and confirmed by the market place,” said Dick Anderson, president and CEO of the Stapleton Development Corporation and a Stapleton resident. “We have a ways to go before the plan is completed and it is helpful to have our residents involved in the process,” he added.

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Beyond Parsley - Cooking Up Fun

What started as a school project for his wife's MBA program, turned into a business for Rich Marks, owner of Beyond Parsley Personal Chef and Catering service. In 2002, while Stapleton residents, Rich and Michelle Marks, were both working full-time and attending school, the concept of Beyond Parsley, LLC was born. Rich was attending Johnson and Wales University earning a Culinary Arts degree and Michelle was traveling weekly while pursuing an executive MBA at University of Denver's Daniels College of Business. The couple's schedules rarely intertwined but when they did, it was over dinner to enjoy food Rich had prepared as school "homework" or at the restaurant where he was employed.

"I thought to myself, 'What a wonderful idea for a business,' there must be lots of other people like us who are time-starved but still want to enjoy good food without the hassle of cooking and without the price tag of eating out," Michelle explains. "So I decided to use this idea as the basis of a business plan we had to submit at the culmination of my MBA program."

At the time, Michelle didn't realize her school project would soon turn into a reality. In September 2003, after Rich earned a Culinary Arts degree from Johnson and Wales University, he decided the late nights and inflexible schedules of a restaurant were not conducive to family life. Looking for a way to continue his passion for cooking, he picked up a copy of Michelle's recently completed business plan and decided to put all the research and number crunching to test. Three years later, the business enjoys a steady clientele who choose from Chef Rich's weekly menu or enjoy Beyond Parsley's catering services, culinary instruction or gift certificates.

"Beyond Parsley is all about 'cooking up fun,' says Chef Rich. "For me, there is nothing I enjoy more than cooking, and my clients have fun because they can spend their time enjoying family and friends and not worry about the daily grind of shopping and cooking."

For Rich, there is no better job than being the chef and owner of Beyond Parsley. He started cooking while he was in high school and his career has taken him through fine kitchens in restaurants, hotels, ski resorts, and catering services. In addition, he has taken several nutrition and sanitation courses to ensure his menu creations are healthy and prepared to the highest standards.



Rich Marks, Beyond Parsley

Growing up in southeastern Virginia and spending summers on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, Rich specializes in tidewater cuisine, which features seafood, vegetables and southern spices. A favorite among his clients is his cheese grits soufflé.

One of Chef Rich's business goals is to offer an affordable, ever-changing weekly menu – his choices range from Classic French or Italian to Down-Home Southern, South of the Border, Nuevo-American, Asian Fusion, a client's favorite recipe, and his own new creations. Beyond Parsley provides free delivery in Denver as well as a free consultation to new clients, with no minimum purchase required.

Rich has recently perfected a new cuisine that isn't featured on any of Beyond Parsley's menus. In fact, only one client enjoys Rich's latest creation of oatmeal, bananas, blueberries and milk – Madelaine "Lainey" Marks, Rich's and Michelle's 10-month old daughter. Rich will have plenty of time for baby food practice as the couple is expecting their second child in February.

To learn more about Beyond Parsley, visit

www.beyondparsley.com, call Rich at 303-717-5451 or email chefrich@beyondparsley.com.

Putting a new spin on bag lunches...

By Rich Marks

It's back to school time once again. Where did the summer go?!? The kids may not be excited about leaving the pool and starting homework– but it will be easy to make lunch time something they'll look forward to. Putting a spin on the old traditional brown bag lunch will **make your child the envy of the lunch room!**

Instead of making sandwiches, why not **try wraps**? Start with a plain tortilla, and fill with all of your child's favorite sandwich ingredients. Simply roll it up and you've got yourself a totally unique lunch.

When the weather starts to cool off, try sending them off to school with **a thermos full of nice hot soup**. It's sure to warm them up!

When packing lunch in the morning – substitute the usual chips and a cookie with some **fresh fruit and vegetables**. These days they sell **individually packaged dips** for both at the grocery store to make them a little more exciting.

For the younger kids, **use a cookie cutter** to make different shaped sandwiches.

Try different toppings on your child's sandwich. Add alfalfa sprouts or leaf lettuce in addition to, or instead of, cheese and mayo.

Use leftovers in the lunch box! Chicken from dinner the night before makes a great lunch, as does pasta, and – of course – pizza.

For dessert, why not **make s'mores** to send to school? Simply spread cream cheese on a graham cracker and sprinkle with chocolate chips – add another cracker on top to complete.

One important reminder: keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold (the first thing you learn in culinary school).

Use a thermos for hot soup or pasta. Pack the sandwiches next to a cold juice box or use ice packs. This is a sure-fire way to make sure the lunch you pack tastes the way it's supposed to and stays safe to eat.

Let's face it, the school day can be long for your child – why not make their lunch as exciting as you can! I have included some simple "special recipes" below for you to try.

Crazy Mixed-Up Peanut Butter

When making a peanut butter sandwich (or wrap), simply add a few of these common items from your pantry to change it up a bit: raisins, nuts, chocolate chips, dried fruit, or cereal. You can turn the average PB&J into a masterpiece!

English Muffin Pizza

It's as easy as it sounds. In the morning, top a toasted English muffin with a little spaghetti sauce, sprinkle with any kind of cheese, and top with spinach, tomatoes or deli meats. Pop it in the microwave for 40 seconds to melt the cheese, and your child has his/her favorite meal for lunch!

Homemade Trail Mix

You can save a small fortune by making this yourself. Simply combine pretzels, nuts, chocolate chips or m&m's, cereal, dried fruit, and whatever else you may have in your cupboard that looks good. This delicious snack will always be a favorite.

All these ideas are great for the kids – and the kids at heart.

Rich Marks is a classically trained chef and owner of "Beyond Parsley," a personal chef and catering service. Please visit his website at www.beyondparsley.com. Feel free to email recipes or questions to chefrich@beyondparsley.com

Healthy Eating On the Go

A "Healthy Eating" class is scheduled for Thursday September 28th (6:30-7:30 p.m.) at the Bladium, 2400 Central Park Blvd. This class is designed to help "hungry people in a hurry" make healthier choices when dining out or eating on the go.

This free class is offered through the Active Living Partnership of Greater Stapleton (ALPS) as one of a series of classes designed to incorporate healthy living into everyday lifestyles. All classes are open to everyone ages 15 and up. The classes are facilitated by representatives from the Department of Family Medicine and Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. All instructors are trained and certified.

For more information, contact the Stapleton Neighborhood Coach, Collette Shaughnessy at 303-329-7379 or at collette@kdsi.net.

Mothers & More

Mothers & More, a non profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers through support, education and advocacy, is inviting mothers in the Greater Stapleton Area to join their local chapter.

Mothers & More describes one of its goals as promoting the value of "all the work mothers do." The Denver chapter of the organization helps to arrange play groups with kids of all ages, field trips and craft days. Other events include "Wash Park Walks," a book club and a gourmet club.

Mothers are welcome to participate in a few activities before joining the organization at \$45/ year (scholarships are available). Meetings are held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Heritage Club at 2020 S. Monroe Street. The sessions are "for moms only" with the exception of infants up to 4 months old.

For more information, contact: Anne Drake at 303-744-438 (adrakemom@yahoo.com) or see a sample calendar & more details at www.denvermothersandmore.com.



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Home Decor

Creating Different Looks with Similar Architecture

Almost everyone at Stapleton lives in a home that is architecturally similar to others in the community. We asked Hillary Reed Interiors, the designers of the Infinity Sky Terrace model homes, to share their thoughts on creating three distinctly different interiors for three architecturally similar spaces.

Their first goal, which was common to all three, was to maintain the architect's vision for a contemporary loft style living space, and to accentuate the spaces and angles to show off the design of the building, not overpower it with the decor. That dictated taking an airy, minimalist approach with clean lines... an art gallery look. And in each case the designers focused on finding the right combination of contrast and balance in their choice of colors, textures and materials used.

Now for the differences. The upper and middle photos on the left show the "bold" approach taken in the unit called "the Guggenheim." (All the models are named after famous museums.) The bright red and deep charcoal colors are balanced by the expanse of windows bringing in lots of light and the high ceiling. In keeping with the balance and contrast theme, the floors are light and the kitchen cabinetry and dining table are dark, with a pop of the bright color added in the red island and the bright modern artwork by the dining table. The vertical red panel on the fireplace wall ties together the upstairs and downstairs, but the horizontal elements on that wall and lowered lights bring the scale down to the living level and make it feel more cozy.

The photos on the right show the "organic contemporary" approach taken in the unit called "the Pompidou." In this home the designers used a softer color palette, with the contrast walls a deeper shade in the same palette, and the neutral background lends itself to showing an eclectic collection of artwork on the walls. Natural stone contrasts with wood in the living room and glass and stainless steel create a balance in the kitchen. Following the angular lines established by the architect, the designers created a built-in banquette with wine storage facing the living room and an upholstered bench at the dining table to define the living spaces. Again the dark furniture creates a contrast with the light floor.

The bottom photo shows the more sophisticated and elegant approach taken in the model called "the Metropolitan." The contrast here can be seen in the cream colored cabinets and the dark floor. Mirrors, unique lighting fixtures and built in shelving create a more polished and formal look than the other homes.

Hillary Reed Interiors of Littleton collaborated with Infinity Home Collection and Woodley Architectural Group on the interior design of these three model homes.



The three Infinity Sky Terrace model homes, named after famous museums, are distinctly different yet all have a minimalist art gallery look. Upper and middle left photos show "the Guggenheim," upper and middle right photos show "the Pompidou," and at the bottom is "the Metropolitan."



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Relay for Life at Stapleton



The Relay for Life at Stapleton raised almost \$40,000, which will be used to fund cancer research and education and also for services to patients and their families. Eighteen teams registered with over 200 participants. Evening events included the kick-off lap with 16 survivors, building birdhouses, a bouncy slide for kids, and freshly grilled burgers and brats. The relay participants walked throughout the night despite the rain that started about 3:30am. On Saturday morning 9News came out to give their weather report from Founders' Green and they interviewed participants in the dog walk fundraiser sponsored by Michele Smith, D.V.M., of the the 29th Avenue Animal Clinic.

Left: Relay for Life kicked off with a lap around Founders Green by cancer survivors; in the next lap they were joined by their helpers who had supported them; and following that lap all the other teams joined the walk.

Middle row: (Left) Periodic heavy rain failed to dampen the spirits of the walkers as they participated in the many activities throughout the night. (Middle) The kids enjoyed playing with light sticks. (Right) A special Luminaria ceremony was held to remember those lost to cancer and honor those who survived. Luminaria bags lining the sidewalk glowed as the Relay participants circled the Green.



Bottom row: (Left) At 7am Saturday morning Relay supporters and their dogs participated in the dog walk fundraiser organized by Michele Smith, D.V.M., owner of 29th Avenue Animal Hospital. (Right) Members of Sarah's Team enjoyed a lighted tent to pass the hours with conversation and food when they weren't representing their team making laps around Founders' Green in the Stapleton Town Center.

Stylish Views

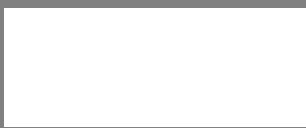
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