

# Front Porch

Distributed to the Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, Hale and East Colfax neighborhoods

DENVER, COLORADO

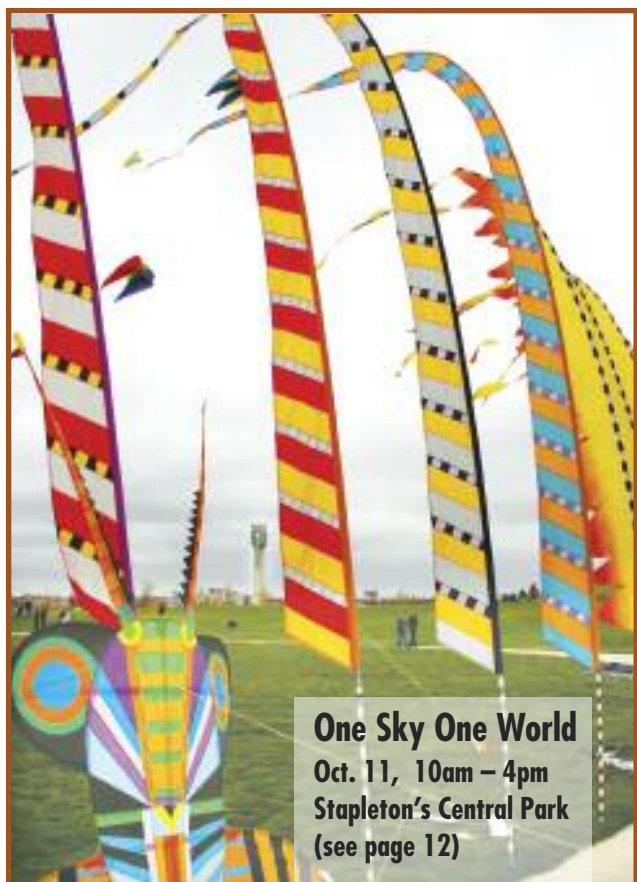
STAPLETON

OCTOBER 2009



## Every dog has its day...

On Sunday, September 13, over 125 dogs enjoyed the first Dog Daze event, held at Stapleton's Filing 15 pool, just before the pool was winterized. Almost \$1000 was raised to benefit the Denver Dumb Friends League. See story on page 13, along with photos of some of the more reluctant dogs.



**One Sky One World**  
Oct. 11, 10am – 4pm  
Stapleton's Central Park  
(see page 12)

## Community Volunteers Bring Fresh Food to Those in Need

*New Cannery to Employ and Feed Homeless*

By Nancy Burkhart

We all know about food banks and hunger-relief agencies that give low-income and homeless folks free food, but where does the food come from other than individual donations?

COMPAs Ministries in North Park Hill is a supplier to area churches, food banks and hunger-relief agencies. And, to meet these needs, COMPAs started a volunteer outreach program called Project Glean.

(continued on page 23)



Volunteers at Compas Ministries in North Park Hill shuck donated corn that will be given to those in need. The volunteers, all of whom are North Park Hill neighbors, are (left to right) Teresa Brown, Howard Anderson, K.P. Abdalla, Jade Jones and Joyce Washington. Each fall, Project Glean sends volunteers to harvest the crops and load the vegetables at farms that have donated sections of their fields.

**Forest City to Provide \$5.5 Million for Third Stapleton School** (See page 22.)



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3 New Shop Promotes Social Justice

Healthy Meals for Schools

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School Board Candidates

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Stapleton Child Census

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Oct 10th – K-9s Against Cancer – 5k fun run and 1 mile walk with expo at Stapleton's Central Park. Funds raised will support breast cancer & canine cancer research. Fun for the whole family. [www.bowwowbuddies.com](http://www.bowwowbuddies.com)



Photo courtesy of K-9s Against Cancer

## CALENDAR

Events in or near Stapleton that are free and open to the public or are charitable fundraisers.

### OCTOBER

#### Every Saturday through Oct.

Northfield Stapleton Farmer's Market 9am - 2pm  
Northfield Stapleton Shopping Center, between Bass Pro Shops and Super Target

#### 2nd Saturdays thru March 2010

Free women's self defense course at Mike Giles Family Karate, 1-2pm, 7506 E. 36th Ave. #480 (Quebec Square) 303-377-5425

#### Thursday, October 1

Greater Stapleton Business Association (GSBA) After Hours, Martini's Lounge, Radisson Hotel, Denver Stapleton Plaza 5:30 - 7:30pm. All businesses are invited. Loreta 303-329-2778

#### Saturday, October 3

Councilman Hancock Dist 11 City Services Summit Hiawatha Davis Recreation Center, 9am - 12pm 303-331-3872

#### Saturday, October 3

SCFD Free Day, Denver Art Museum

#### Sunday, October 4

Stapleton Farmers Market  
Founders Green 8:30am - 12:30pm

#### Sunday, October 4

SCFD Free Day, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

#### Wednesday, October 7

SCFD Free Day, Denver Zoo

#### Friday, October 9

Story time & craft for young children & caregiver  
Westerly Creek Elementary library  
9:15 - 9:45am. 303-322-5877

#### Saturday, October 10

K-9s Against Cancer 5k & 1 mile run/walk  
Stapleton's Central Park 7am - 1pm  
[www.Bowwowbuddies.com](http://www.Bowwowbuddies.com) 720-480-4398

#### Sunday, October 11

24th Annual One Sky One World Kite Fly  
Stapleton's Central Park, 10am - 4pm (see p.12)

#### Sunday, October 11

Stapleton Farmers Market—Pumpkin Patch  
Founders Green 8:30am - 12:30pm  
Last of the season (see page 20)

#### Saturday, October 17

Refuge Roundup, Rocky Mtn. Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge 9am - 3pm (see story page 11)

### OCTOBER

#### Tuesday, October 20

Stapleton Sustainability Series—Everything You Wanted to Know About Composting, but Were Afraid It Smelled. Refreshments 6:30pm, program 7-8pm. Stapleton Development Corp. (SDC) 7350 E.29th Ave., suite 300. [SUNsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:SUNsustainability@gmail.com) (see p. 20)

#### Tuesday, October 20

Active Minds, Mexico: A View from South of the Border, Temple Emanuel, 51 Grape, 11am-12pm  
RSVP Jodi 303-388-4013 x307

#### Friday, October 23

SCFD Free Day, Denver Botanic Gardens

#### Sunday, October 25

SCFD Free Day, Denver Zoo

#### Sunday, October 25

Autumn Open House at Bluff Lake Nature Center 9-12pm [www.BluffLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.BluffLakeNatureCenter.org)

#### Tuesday, October 27

Active Minds, Indonesia: A Functional Islamic Democracy, Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax, 5:30-6:30 pm

#### Saturday, October 31

Halloween Party, Police Academy 5-8pm  
21st and Akron St.

#### Saturday, October 31

Skate Spooktacular, Big Bear Ice, 12:30 - 1:30pm  
Register [www.bigbearice.com](http://www.bigbearice.com) 303.343.1111 (see p. 14)

#### Saturday, October 31

Halloween Hike, costume parade around Lake Mary, 1-3pm, Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge, 303-289-0930

### NOVEMBER

#### Monday, November 2

SCFD Free Day, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

#### Tuesday, November 3

Election Day—Be sure your mail-in ballots have been returned (see page 19)

#### Tuesday, November 3

Genghis Khan & the Mongolian Empire, 10 am  
Jewish Community Center, 350 S. Dahlia St, Elka Popack 303-316-6358

#### Tuesday, November 3

Target Tuesday Night, free from 4-8pm  
Children's Museum

#### Friday, November 20

Stapleton Presents "Light the Town and Holiday Open House"  
29th Ave Town Center, 6-9pm

The Front Porch welcomes submissions of upcoming local events (deadline is the 15th) and story ideas for future issues.  
Email [TGleason@StapletonDenver.com](mailto:TGleason@StapletonDenver.com) or [Carol@FinePrintCo.com](mailto:Carol@FinePrintCo.com)

(See page 22 for recurring monthly events and meetings)



## Celebrate Colorado's Japanese at the Colorado History Museum

Saturday, October 10, 2009

11 AM to 3 PM

Colorado's first Japanese immigrants worked on railroads, in coal mines, and on farms – learn about their contributions and celebrate their enduring legacy. Free admission to the museum, Taiko drummers, tea ceremony demonstration, crafts and more!



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# Front Porch

[www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com)

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# Stapleton Shop Co-ops for Social Justice in India

By Nancy Burkhart

Sevya Fair Trade, located in the Stapleton Town Center at East 29th Avenue and Quebec Street, offers more than adult and children's clothing, jewelry, home furnishings and gifts.

The name "Sevya" means service to community and service to mankind in Sanskrit, according to the shop's owner, 35-year-old Adrienne Lorantos.

The "fair trade" part of the shop's name means that no sweat shop labor contributed to the merchandise sold there.

"It's a social justice movement," Lorantos explained. "It's to make sure that people get paid fair wages. It gives producers direct access to the market. Production is environmentally sustainable. And, workers can maintain their cultural identity."

The workers live in India. Many of them have lived in rural locations, but then moved to the city in an attempt to earn more money, according to Lorantos.

"We're forming cooperatives. We're working to train these folks," she said. "It's better for us to work with folks when they're still rural. They're usually not as destitute as when they've moved to one of the cities. We form a cooperative. Sometimes we go in and work to have the ethnic look to it, but I sort of use their indigenous art forms and clothes that are more Americanized. They really like that I was able to create things that are super cute and sell to the American crowd that isn't into the ethnic stuff."

Lorantos had never owned a business when she bought Sevya at its then Boulder location in April 2008. She was working as a city planner. But, when she learned about the shop and its ability to help poor people earn money, she said, "It was serendipitous."

Lorantos has just moved her shop to Stapleton. As a city planner, she was familiar with Stapleton and the plans the city had for the community. She also used to play roller



Adrienne Lorantos (front), owner of the Sevya Fair Trade shop which will be opening in the 29th Avenue Town Center at Stapleton in early October, and her friends Ginger Palmeri and David Clarke show some of the items the store will offer.

derby at the Bladium.

"I started to think about Stapleton having more roots-type businesses," she said. "The folks that are out and about are enjoying themselves. It's extremely vibrant. If there were a place that sold some cute clothes, and did fair trade, that's really a plus."

"One of the things that draws people to our store is its reasonable prices. In addition, ninety-nine percent of the fabrics are natural and everything is machine washable unless there is really delicate embroidery. The dyes are vegetable-based."

The cooperative also sells merchandise to other fair trade stores, museums and boutiques.

"We have a few things that are in the Smithsonian," Lorantos said. "The quilts are indicative of the amazing culture in the Indian exhibit."

The shop's scarves are handwoven, as are rugs and some clothes, she said.

Sevya Fair Trade is located in the Town Center at East 29th Avenue and Quebec Street. Call 720-519-1519 or go to [www.sevyafairtrade.com](http://www.sevyafairtrade.com).

## DSST – Top Performing Public School in Denver

By Kathie Kramer Ryan

The Denver School of Science and Technology (DSST) has been named the top-performing public school in Denver. Denver Public Schools Superintendent Tom Boasberg released 2009 School Performance Framework (SPF) results showing DSST as the highest-performing school overall. SPF evaluates school performance in six categories including growth, achievement, readiness, student engagement, parent engagement and demand.

DSST outperformed all other public schools with an overall score of 95%. Most importantly, at 98% DSST had the highest student achievement growth score of any public school in Denver, including elementary, middle and high schools. DSST continues its trend of growth success, having earned the distinction of top-performing high school in the state as measured by growth for the last three years.

Bill Kurtz, DSST Campus Director, said, "We attribute our success to outstanding teachers, the use of data to drive student achievement, a powerful school culture, and the overriding commitment to being a learning organization."

DSST is a 6–12 open enrollment charter school. Students are selected for admission using a lottery system rather than pre-admission testing. 45% of DSST's student body is eligible for free or reduced lunch and 63% are minority students.

Kathie Kramer Ryan is the director of advancement at the Denver School of Science and Technology.

## Stapleton Community Art Space Moved to the Town Center

By Tom Gleason

The Community Art Space at Stapleton has moved to the former Visitor Center across from the fountain in the 29th Avenue Town Center. The move was made necessary when the initial location donated by Extra Space Storage was leased by a long-term tenant.

For leasing and events information about the Community Art Space, visit The Stapleton Master Community Association website at [stapletoncommunity.com](http://stapletoncommunity.com).

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Stapleton Front Porch

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October 2009



by Kathy Epperson

The movement toward more healthful eating is making inroads among schools with the Revolution Foods program. The program prepares meals locally in each market it serves, and delivers meals to students for breakfast, lunch and after-school snacks. Local schools using this service include The Odyssey School, Denver School of Science and Technology (DSST), Denver Montclair International School, Global Village Academy and AXL. The program serves over 100 education programs.

Revolution Foods works with Whole Foods and other resources to find the best-quality food it can for its school meals. “Whole Foods has been not only a direct supplier, but they also connect us with local farmers and local meat producers in the area,” says co-founder Kirsten Tobey.

All meat and dairy products are hormone- and antibiotic-free, and much of the food is organic. They use no high-fructose corn syrup, no trans fats, and nothing is fried. And there are fresh fruits and vegetables served with every lunch.

“We plan our menu so that we’re serving food that is

most appropriate for the season,” Tobey says. “The thing that varies the most is produce, obviously. The core menu items tend to be on a rotating basis throughout the year, including meals like spaghetti with all-natural meatballs and organic marinara sauce or a teriyaki chicken bowl with brown rice and fresh vegetables.” Revolution Foods offers different menu platforms that schools can choose from, and there are always dairy-free and vegetarian options.

Founders Kirsten Tobey and Kristin Richmond, who met in business school at UC Berkeley, both have backgrounds in education and food. “We went out and visited a lot of schools and talked with principals and teachers and parents about what they were looking for in terms of a different food solution,” says Tobey. “And they all said, ‘We want you to make the food and deliver it to us and make it easy and make it affordable.’ So that made us realize there is such a need for getting fresh, healthy meals into the lunch room and make it an operationally feasible and affordable solution for schools.”

They find they’re making faster inroads working with charter and private schools, particularly those that either don’t already have a food service or don’t have the kitchen facilities or the desire to take over the food service. “With public



schools, and DPS specifically, there already is an existing food service program, so it’s harder for that whole system to change over in a short period of time,” Tobey says. “We’re certainly interested in serving more schools, and I think there are a lot of creative ways to do that, but it just takes a longer time to figure out the ways we could work with those schools.” For schools that have over 50% of their kids who qualify for free and reduced-price lunch, Revolution Foods offers a discount on their overall price.

To help keep prices as low as possible, Revolution Foods also sells a retail product line that is sold in Whole Foods, Toys R Us, and more grocery retailers soon. “The most popular is the Fruit Mashup, which is an organic fruit puree in a squeezable container and that comes in a variety of flavors,” says Tobey. “So 3% of the sales of those products come back to help us subsidize the prices of meals for our lowest-income schools.”

“We also offer a nutrition education program that we do in schools – a combination of in-person activities, Iron Chef-type competitions, cooking demonstrations,” says Stapleton resident Kate Mayer, who represents the company locally. “We also send out on a monthly basis a newsletter to families called The Family Corner where our dietician gives tips to families that they can use at home to bring healthier foods, snacks and habits into the home.”

Audra Phillipon, Head of AXL Academy in Aurora



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## Meals Revolution



Kinsley Bruce (left) and McKenzie Price (middle) eat their lunches provided by Revolution Foods at The Odyssey School. Stapleton resident Kate Mayer (second from left) works with local schools, often eating with the kids to get feedback on their meals. She also provides schools with nutrition education support. Kirsten Tobey of California, right, is a co-founder and chief operating officer of Revolution Foods.

observed, "Since starting to serve healthy, hot meals for lunch, we've noticed a dramatic improvement in students' behavior in the afternoons. Students have more focus, more energy and fewer disciplinary issues after eating a well-balanced meal. We've even increased the lunch period to allow students several more minutes to enjoy eating and finish. Kids report that they love the fresh fruit every day."

"Principals also tell us they're seeing their kids slimming down, because a lot of the schools we serve have very high obesity rates, so that's a pretty direct impact," says Tobey.

For more information about Revolution Foods, visit [www.revfoods.com](http://www.revfoods.com) or call 510-596-9024.

## Volunteers Clean Up and Repair Trails at Sand Creek Greenway

On Saturday, September 5, more than 75 local volunteers took part in the REI/Sand Creek Greenway annual work day. The event was sponsored by REI, in conjunction with Denver Parks and Recreation and Pulling for Colorado.

Volunteers removed tamarisk, picked up trash and repaired washed out areas by spreading crusher fine material made from Stapleton runway concrete. Participants received an REI tech T-shirt, breakfast, lunch, snacks beverages – and sore muscles!

Special thanks go to Recycled Materials Company, Inc., Mortenson Construction, Kelley Trucking Inc., Starbucks, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Moe's Bagels, Chipotle, REI, The Urban Farm, and Denver Parks and Recreation for their support. The biggest thanks goes to all the volunteers!

*Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership is a nonprofit organization responsible for managing the development, operation and use of the nearly 14-mile public greenway along Sand Creek. The Greenway links the High Line Canal Bikeway to the South Platte River Greenway, completing a 50-mile loop of off-street urban trails in the northeast metro area, and when completed, will include three major wilderness parks. Sand Creek Regional Greenway is a cooperative project of the cities of Aurora, Denver and Commerce City and nonprofits Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership and Stapleton Development Corporation. Visit [www.sandcreekgreenway.org](http://www.sandcreekgreenway.org).*



Volunteers from the Urban Farm help rake crusher fine material.

Photo courtesy of Sand Creek Greenway

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# New HGTV Show Looking for First Time Home Sellers

*My First Sale*, a brand-new HGTV show, is looking for first-time home sellers (and their agents!) in the Denver metro area. They're looking for fun, high-energy people to capture all the trials and tribulations, stress and success of prepping for sale, pricing, negotiating, and ultimately selling a home for the first time.

Taping will begin in fall 2009 and continue through spring 2010. Ideal candidates will be financially candid people who want to share the experience with HGTV and their audience. Singles, couples and families are all invited to apply! Request an application by emailing [BSchledewitz@highnoonentertainment.com](mailto:BSchledewitz@highnoonentertainment.com) or calling 303-712-3168.

## Doors Left Open in Half of Recent Burglaries

*By Amy Esten*  
From early August through mid-September, there were a total of 12 burglaries in the Stapleton area – six of these were no force. No-force burglaries are where the perpetrator does not need to force their way into the house or garage as the home owner has left a door open or unlocked. We ask that the community be vigilant in making sure their doors are locked, windows closed and locked, and garage door closed at all times. Thank you.

*Amy Esten is the Denver Police District Two community resource officer.*

# Shaka's Place Offers Caring Atmosphere

*By Nancy Burkhardt*

Twenty years ago when Les Franklin and his wife, Marianne, lost their 16-year-old son, Shaka, to suicide, Les wanted to start an organization to focus on youth suicide prevention and intervention. They created Shaka's Place Youth Technology Center at 5929 E. 38th Ave.

Today, Marianne is executive director of Shaka's Place, which is a nonprofit organization financed by donations and grants with a volunteer staff.

"We decided to do programs and provide an alternative to suicidal behavior," Marianne explained. "Our programs are for all children because you don't know who might not be feeling good about themselves or about life. We created an atmosphere that was loving and caring with adults who were sensitive to suicide and had other things that they could teach kids. We're big on education and doing what we can do to keep kids in school."

"There are children who can excel in creative things and express things," she said. "When children aren't feeling well, they express it in writings and music."

Volunteers are an essential part of Shaka's Place. The facility has a music production studio, video production and an entrepreneurial program. Some students are learning to repair X-boxes and computers. Others are in a martial arts program. One volunteer works with girls on self-esteem. Two boys have received help to start a photography business.

Adults with special abilities who could set up programs for children ages 12 to 20 years



When Les Franklin and his wife, Marianne, lost their son, Shaka, to suicide, Les decided to start an organization to focus on youth suicide prevention. They created Shaka's Place Youth Technology Center. Above, volunteer mentor, Gilberto Huizar, second from left, teaches Alihaji Sirleaf, computer programming and repair. Also pictured are Rodrick Madison, Gerardo (Junior) Palomino and Jesse Morrison.

are asked to contact Shaka's Place about offering their services. In the past, a chess expert started a chess group. At one time, the teens learned to play chess and had tournaments, and there is a need to start another group, according to Marianne.

At another time, a math whiz helped the kids with their math studies throughout the year.

"He helped them to better understand the concepts of math," Marianne said. "We could use people to help with homework."

Teachers and groups often call on Marianne to give presentations about suicide or violence

prevention. Parents interested in learning whether Shaka's Place would be a good fit for their children can call Marianne.

"We will have one of the hands-on folks talk with the parents and the kids to decide what might fit and be of interest to that child," Marianne said. "If we decide that we're not the right agency for them, we will suggest another place and be a resource to help people to get to the right place."

For information about Shaka's Place Youth Technology Center, call Marianne Franklin at 303-337-2515 or go to: [www.shaka.org](http://www.shaka.org).



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Expert in Politics To Head State Elections



Stapleton resident Judd Choate, the newly appointed director of the state's Division of Elections, demonstrates an optical scanner used by several Colorado counties to calculate votes. The scanner is highly accurate and efficient, and it creates a permanent record in the event a recount is needed.

By Nancy Burkhardt

Stapleton resident with an extensive history and expertise in politics this month will take the seat of director of the Division of Elections for the Colorado Secretary of State's Office.

Judd Choate claims that he was interested in politics as a small child, even though he never has considered running for office.

"I gravitate to the whole kind of game of politics because it's sort of an adult version of a sporting event," he said. "I've always been a great fan of sports, so this is the ultimate sport for me."

Choate, 39, has been a staffer for several political candidates. He carries a PhD in political science and taught classes in campaigns and elections while he was a professor of political science at the University of Nebraska.

In 2003, Choate moved to Colorado and got his law degree from the University of Colorado Law School in 2006. As an attorney, election law was one of his specialties at the Denver law firm of Kelly Garnsey Hubbell & Lass.

According to Choate, his diverse background with a focus on politics is one of the reasons he

was hired to head the state's Elections Division. He cites a particular assignment as director of a 40-member task force in Nebraska that investigated racial and ethnic bias in the state court system.

"They were top people with very different constituencies and very different philosophies of the world," Choate explained. "We had to work together to come up with a unified report with recommendations that they could all sign on to. It was quite an undertaking to try and achieve a common goal."

"That experience will help me to work with the 64 elected clerk and recorders in the state of Colorado," he said. "They represent constituencies and have very different needs and views on how to do this kind of work. It's about finding commonality across rural, urban and suburban, east and west, prairie and mountains and figuring out how to create a unified election system which maximizes our effort for a full voter system."

Choate declines to offer issues that he will have to work on in the first year in his

new chair. He says it is more important that he listen to everyone involved to learn what issues require his attention so that he can decide which path to take toward solution.

"Always my number one goal is to keep the Secretary of State's Office out of litigation," Choate said. "This is what happens with elections in all states. There are so many disparate groups, political groups, grass roots groups, individual constituents who for various reasons oppose the Secretary of State's Office."

His second goal, according to Choate, is

to keep his boss, Secretary of State Bernie Buescher, off page 1 of Colorado's newspapers, unless, of course, Buescher wants to be there.

Choate is in it for the long haul, he said. He plans to remain in the position for some time, and has no plans to become an elected official himself.

He and his wife, Lyn Kathlene, have an 8-year-old daughter, Mahlon, and another child on the way to them from China. They are an active family who spends their weekends hiking, skiing, and biking.

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By Kathy Epperson

Snooze, one of the great breakfast experiences downtown, has opened a second location at 7th and Colorado Boulevard. Started and run by Jon Schlegel, Snooze serves breakfast from 6:30am to 2:30pm (opening at 7:00am on weekends) and lunch Monday through Friday. “The pulse of Snooze is a bit more upbeat thanks to the retro style décor — Happy Days meets the Jetsons, if you will,” says Jon. “The servers are trained on more than just food, but about the whole experience. People can go anywhere to get food, or even breakfast, but how do we make the meal a better experience?”

Jon describes Snooze’s breakfast fare as traditional with a culinary twist. Favorites include an omelet with roasted garlic, basil, cilantro and goat cheese, or the very popular pineapple upside-down pancakes. “We change our menus four times a year based on harvest season,” explains Jon. “The menu is divided into sweet and savory. Savory has items like Caprese Benedict and Juan’s Breakfast Tacos with chorizo and avocado. Sweet has Colorado Peach Pancakes in a vanilla cream Anglaise and ginger butter.”

Preparation for the launch of Snooze has been 20 years

in the making. Jon started in the restaurant industry as a busser, then cook. He later attended the University of Denver’s Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management school and worked for the Hyatt Hotels. Jon later moved back to Denver and managed the Denver Chophouse and Sushi Den. “I was always working nights, so breakfast was a meal that I could still go out for,” Jon says. “When I would attempt to wake up each morning early to feel like I lived a “normal” life, to see family and friends, I hit the snooze button on an old alarm clock and became addicted to the name – and to the idea that I could work in the business I love. I then began researching, tasting and discovering all the different ways breakfast was being done, starting in Denver and going to other culinary cities like New York, Chicago, San Francisco. It was great research, very filling and fulfilling.”

Jon feels fortunate to have found people and vendors he felt he could share his vision with. One of those people, his brother Adam, initially offered help getting the first location up and running, but four years later is the finance person and an owner along with one other investor.

The path to launching Snooze was not an easy one, though Jon credits those struggles with helping him refine

his vision. “Thankfully, while I shelved the idea a couple times after hitting financial and real estate road blocks — many of them! — I felt that Snooze would work,” he says. “Each rejection simply fueled a way to make it better, improve the plan and myself. I now believe all those rejections served a purpose — to prepare me for overcoming challenges and to always work on making the restaurant better.”

With the first location up and running successfully, Jon and his brother Adam began looking at spaces for a second location. “This area at 7th and Colorado was always on our map, but the economics hadn’t made sense for us before,” Jon says. “With the vacancy of Boston Market, and the economy affecting the retail market so greatly, they came to us asking if we would be interested. There were several pieces that were attractive about 7th and Colorado, and we feel fortunate to be in this location.”

Because the space at the new location doesn’t have the historical architecture that the downtown spot has, Jon and his design team were able to get more creative with the interior. The barista bar is triple the size and serves as a curvy focal point.

While patrons may not realize it, Jon has worked hard to make Snooze an eco-friendly establishment. “I love that Snooze is carbon neutral,” he says. “I love that we recycle and compost. While it’s not something that we promote and advertise a lot, I think it increases the morale of the staff. We feel better about Snooze, what we’re trying to create, and our goal for the present and the future.”

As successful as both Snooze locations have been, Jon is



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unrelenting in striving for ongoing improvements. “We have not achieved our full potential,” he says. “If we don’t stay on the top of industry trends, both locally and nationally, that means we’re selling our guests short — and that’s unacceptable. I love that for an hour of someone’s day, Snooze has the opportunity to create a memory. The potential of that is exciting, and our team understands that. While I don’t ever really sleep in, I see every sunrise each morning. Then I get to be part of serving the most important meal of the day! That’s awesome!”

Snooze is located at 700 N. Colorado Blvd. (303-736-6200) and at 2262 Larimer St. downtown (303-297-0700). For more information, go to [www.SnoozeEatery.com](http://www.SnoozeEatery.com).



Far left: Snooze provides sidewalk chalk to kids while their families wait to get into the popular new restaurant at 7th and Colorado on a recent Saturday morning.

Left: Jon Schlegel, owner of Snooze, and Jonathan Waller, manager of the restaurant at 7th and Colorado, pause at the counter on a busy weekend morning.

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Newly Opened – Fletcher Primary & Intermediate Schools

By Jennifer Kimpson and Lisa Nieto

Fletcher Primary and Fletcher Intermediate Science and Technology school opened in August. The two schools share one facility adjacent to Stapleton on East 25th Avenue. Aurora Public School’s Pilot School model offers the best of both worlds – public school education with charter school innovation. Families choosing Fletcher schools are part of a pre-K–8th grade community. Fletcher Primary (pre-K – 3rd) offers rigorous, standards-based curriculum focused on integrating literacy and math through science/social studies. Fletcher Intermediate (currently 4th – 7th, with 8th grade added in 2010) offers students a learning experience anchored in scientific inquiry. Students in 6th – 8th grades have apprenticeships with community partners.

The schools prepare students for the 21st century – with small size and governing autonomy allowing for innovation. Call Fletcher Primary at 303-343-1701, Fletcher Intermediate at 303-326-2800, or visit <http://fletcher.aurorak12.org>.

Jennifer Kimpson is the primary principal; Lisa Nieto is the intermediate principal.

FBI Building Nearing Completion at Stapleton



The regional offices for the Federal Bureau of Investigation are nearing completion at Stapleton east of Quebec Square in an area where Forest City anticipates additional office development. That commercial development will have access to the future Central Park Boulevard Interchange on Interstate 70. In addition, an RTD multimodal transit facility planned for the nearby Smith Road rail corridor is scheduled to link downtown with Denver International Airport via FasTracks rail service beginning in 2014.

Bill Roberts PTA Announces New Website

Bill Roberts PTA just launched its all new website and is going paperless! Check out [www.billrobertspta.com](http://www.billrobertspta.com) today. The first 25 visitors will receive a FREE King Soopers Reloadable Grocery Card (value of \$5) to benefit the PTA.

New Car Wash Coming to Stapleton



The Shiny Happy Car Wash, a new glass express car wash, is under construction at the corner of E. 29th Drive and Lola Street, just east of Havana St., adjacent to the planned Eastbridge Town Center. The soaps and detergents are biodegradable, induction lighting is used, and the car wash reclaims 85-90% of its own water. The car wash uses 20-30 gallons of water to wash each car, compared with an average of 80-120 gallons for a car washed at home. The express car wash has the capacity to clean 20-30 vehicles per hour. It is scheduled to open this mid-October with a grand opening weekend featuring free car washes.

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Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge – Just North of Stapleton

Free – Refuge Roundup, Oct. 17, 9am – 3pm

By Melissa Van Dreese, Education Specialist,  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Refuge Roundup is back and it's free and open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 17. Step back in time onto the prairie at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge for a celebration of our Western heritage.

All the favorite events are back, along with brand-new acts, activities and boot-stomping musical performances. New this year are story-telling and sharp-shooting from Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley. The bison chip toss could net you a prize if you throw yours the farthest. Western crafts and games for children of all ages will be offered all day.

Visitors can stop by to enjoy performances throughout the day by Rudy Grant and the Branded Band, Calico and Boots Square Dance Exhibition Team, and the Chimaltonalli Aztec Dancers. Live cavalry drills by the Buffalo Soldiers of the American West and an exhibition by Jose Torres and his Dancing Horses will also be featured. In addition, cowboys from An Open Range Experience will give lessons on roping and wrangling, and visitors can try archery. Most activities at Refuge Roundup 2009 are available on a drop-in basis, without making reservations. However, due to limited space, reservations are required for the hayrides and bison tours. Reserve now at 303-289-0930, as tours fill up quickly.



One of the many activities at a past Refuge Roundup – comparing a child's jump with how far different animals can jump.

Performance Schedule:	
9:00–9:45am	Rudy Grant and the Branded Band
9:30–10:15am	Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley
9:45–10:30am	Buffalo Soldiers of the American West
10:30–11:00am	Calico and Boots Square Dance Exhibition Team
10:45–11:15am	Jose Torres and his Dancing Horses
11:00–11:45am	Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley
11:15am–12:00pm	Rudy Grant and the Branded Band
12:00–1:00pm	Chimaltonalli Aztec Dancers
1:00–1:45pm	Buffalo Soldiers of the American West
1:15–2:00pm	Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley
1:45–2:30 pm	Rudy Grant and the Branded Band
2:00–2:30 pm	Jose Torres and his Dancing Horses
2:30–3:00 pm	Calico and Boots Square Dance Exhibition Team

First Calf of Season Born July 30th

By Sherry James, Visitor  
Services Manager

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge recently welcomed two new bison calves into the fold. The first was born on July 30, and the second followed shortly thereafter on August 6. With these two new additions, the bison herd has grown to 29 since coming to the Refuge in March 2007.

At birth, the cinnamon-colored calves typically weigh 40 – 50 pounds and arrive sometime in April. Why were the first calves of the season so late in coming this year? “When they moved from the bison range in Montana to Colorado, they had a new environment, and it took them awhile to get acclimated. Once they did, the normal breeding season was already passed,” said Refuge Manager Steve Berendzen.

As the herd continues to expand, the need for a corral structure to conduct adequate medical testing and monitoring of the herd grows. Con-



Photo by Rich Keen, Property US Army/DPR

New bison calf at the Wildlife Refuge.

struction of the corral is underway, “It's going really well,” said Berendzen. “We hope to have enough of it done to do a trial roundup of the bison next fall.”

For an opportunity to see the bison calves, join a tour of the Refuge and bison grazing area. The tours are offered at 10 am every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. To reserve your spot, call the Visitor Center at 303-289-0930.

To get to the Refuge, take I-70 and exit north on Havana St. The public entrance to the Refuge is at 56th Ave. and Havana. For more information, call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 303-289-0930, or visit online at <http://www.fws.gov/rocky-mountainarsenal/>.

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One Sky One World  
Founder to Attend Kite  
Event at Central Park

A crowd is expected at Stapleton's Central Park on October 11th, launching their kites for the One Sky One World Kite Fly presented by Forest City Stapleton, Inc. Special guest at the event this year will be Earth Day Founder, John McConnell and his biographer, Robert Weir. Mr. Weir's book *Peace, Justice, Care of Earth: The Vision of John McConnell, Founder of Earth Day* will be available for purchase and inscription by both the author and his subject. Every second Sunday of October since 1986, millions of people around the world have been celebrating "World Kite Day."

Numerous musical acts will be performed on a solar-powered stage. Other events include: Children and Pet Parade for Peace to raise funds to bring international kite artists to Denver schools in 2010 and for the Stapleton Dog Park, a Giant Kite Competition, a Food & Wine Pavilion, a Kite Village where visitors can make a kite, a fighter kite demonstration, an Animal & Pet Village and a Sustainability Village. More information: [www.oneskyoneworld.org](http://www.oneskyoneworld.org), [www.stapleton-denver.com](http://www.stapleton-denver.com), 720-334-4508

Genghis Khan's History Comes to Life in Denver

By Nancy Burkhart

Genghis Khan, the most powerful man of the 13th century, created a Mongol Empire that included 12 million square miles and nearly 30 of today's countries with today's population of more than three billion people.

Khan made his people literate with a written language and fair taxation in a stable government. Residents of the Mongol Empire were given freedom of religion and opportunities for appreciation of the arts.

Denverites will have an opportunity to experience life in 13th-century Mongolia during the Denver Museum of Nature & Science's Genghis Khan exhibit, which will be open from Oct. 16 to Feb. 7.

The public can explore the Mongols' tents, battlegrounds and marketplaces and horse-based culture while traditional Mongolian singers and musicians entertain. It will be possible to investigate a traditional nomadic dwelling, called a ger, and have hands-on experiences with pottery, furniture and clothing of the period.

Participants can play traditional children's games, such as knucklebone, which is a dice-like game that Mongols played with

sheep bones.

Weaponry demonstrations will feature the engineering behind the trebuchet, which is like a giant catapult. Life in 13th century Mongolia can be viewed with computer touch screens located throughout the exhibit.

Exhibitors can design and make their own Mongolian-style hats to take home while they learn about the hats' symbolism.

More than 200 objects will be featured in the Genghis Khan exhibit, including gold jewelry, silk robes, musical instruments and pottery.

Genghis Kahn is known as both a gifted, innovative leader and a ruthless warrior. He and his army of about 120,000 warriors leveled cities and wiped out civilizations. Exhibit-goers will learn how Khan united warring Mongol tribes and can visit Karakorum, the empire's walled capital during Khan's third son's reign.

Facts about the family feuds among Khan's sons and grandsons that led to the fall of the Mongol Empire will be shown, as well as



Contortionist Dolgoon Tumurbaatar performs at the announcement of the Ghengis Khan exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. She is a representative of the Mongolian Cultural Center for the Arts, which preserves the culture of Mongolia through contemporary and traditional art practices.

Golden Horde artifacts from Russia's State Heritage Museum that illustrate the empire's expansion by Khan's grandson, Batu.

More than 2,500 Mongolians live in Denver, making it one of the largest communities of Mongolians living outside of Mongolia. Denver and Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, became sister cities in 2004.

To purchase tickets for the Genghis Khan exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, go to: [www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org) or call 303-322-7009. Tickets will be available Oct. 1. Advance reservations are advised. For additional information on Denver's Mongolian community and their upcoming events, go to: [www.mongoliadenver.org](http://www.mongoliadenver.org) or call Selena Dunham at 303-775-8382.

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## Kickball Tournament



## Recent Stapleton Events

Photo courtesy of Amanda Baldwin



## Dog Daze



By Amanda Baldwin  
The 6th Annual Stapleton Kickball Tournament sponsored by SUN was held on Sat., Sept. 19. Hundreds of people came out to cheer for their neighbors as well as play in the tournament. This year the tournament raised over \$2,000 for the March of Dimes. Special thanks to the Stapleton MCA and Jim N Nick's Bar-B-Q for helping make this event such a success. The winning team (above) was "Balls and Dolls."

By Diane Deeter

If you were wondering why there were so few dogs at the dog park on Sunday, September 13, it was because they were swimming at the pool. The first dog swim event took place at F-15 pool and over 125 four-legged participants enjoyed the opportunity to run, swim, fetch and even socialize with others.

DJ Ken Sakal provided the music, and yes, "Who Let the Dogs Out" was a popular song for the day. Almost \$1000 was raised and the profits will benefit the Denver Dumb Friends League. This was such a success that we will have Dog Daze as an annual event.

Diane Deeter is the director of programming and events for the Stapleton Master Community Association.

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## FALL / HALLOWEEN EVENTS

**10/03 Saturday and Sunday 10/04- "Pumpkin Harvest Festival"** Free old-fashioned autumn fun with pumpkins, scarecrows and music. Food and horse-drawn rides available, fees for pumpkins and some activities. 10am-4pm, Four Mile Park, 715 S.Forest St in Denver. 720.865.0800 [www.fourmilehistoricpark.org](http://www.fourmilehistoricpark.org)

**10/03 Saturday through 11/01- "Fright Fest"** Elitch Gardens transforms from theme park to

"scream" park Saturdays and Sundays all month long! [www.elitchgardens.com](http://www.elitchgardens.com) for tickets.

**10/10 Saturday- "Jack-O-Launch at Pumpkin Fest"** Watch pumpkins hurled hundreds of feet through the air as creators of pumpkin launching devices compete for prizes at the City of Aurora's annual fall festival that also features music, hayrides, a pumpkin patch and much more. FREE, Delaney Farm 170 South Chambers Rd

across from the Aurora Municipal building at 15151 East Alameda Parkway. 9am-4pm, [www.auroragov.org](http://www.auroragov.org)

**10/24 Saturday- "Montessori School of Washington Park Harvest Festival and Open House"** Festivities begin at 11:00am and include a petting zoo, bouncy castle, face painting, arts and crafts, a sidewalk mural, music, a pumpkin patch, games and a Halloween costume swap. 320 South Sherman near Broadway and Alameda. [www.mswp.org](http://www.mswp.org) phone 303.722.7708

**10/29 Thursday through Saturday 10/31- "Trick or Treat Street at the Children's Museum"** Thursday, Friday, Oct 29th, 30th, 9a - 8p and Saturday, October 31st 10a - 8p Outside activities are free, inside activities included in museum admission. \$5.50-\$7.50, parking is \$5. 2121 Childrens Museum Drive. [www.mychildsmuseum.org](http://www.mychildsmuseum.org)

**10/31 Saturday- "Halloween Hike"** Costume parade around Lake Mary. Discover the scary, the icky, and the yucky animals that live here. 1-3pm. (see Rocky Mountain Wildlife Refuge events for directions.)

**10/31 Saturday and Sunday 11/01- "Boo at the Zoo"** Trick or treat at the Denver Zoo while viewing vampire bats, spiders, snakes and all of the residents of the Denver Zoo. [denverzoo.org](http://denverzoo.org) or 303.376.6741

**10/31 Saturday- "Police Academy Halloween Celebration"**, 5-8pm, 21st and Akron.

**10/31 Saturday- "Skate Spooktacular at Big Bear Ice Arena"** Come in your Halloween Costume and skate for FREE 12:30 - 1:30 Treats, Skating and Prize for Best Costume. To register go to [www.bigbearice.com](http://www.bigbearice.com). Limited to the first 200 people registered. Big Bear Ice Arena 8580 E. Lowry Blvd. 303.343.1111

**Through October 31- "Corn Maze at Denver Botanic Gardens-Chatfield"** Wind your way through 8

acres of maize at one of the nations most attended corn mazes! Fridays 4-10, Saturdays 10-10, Sundays 12-10. Special weekends include 10/2-3 "Pumpkin Walk" featuring over 75 carved pumpkins and 10/10-11 "Pumpkin Festival" Tickets \$4-\$10, children 2 and under free. 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Road, Littleton, 80128. [www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org)

## AURORA EVENTS

**10/24 Saturday- "Public Observatory Night"** Community College of Aurora, Behind the Fine Arts Building, 16000 E. CentreTech Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011 6pm. Free [www.ccaurora.edu/observatory/events](http://www.ccaurora.edu/observatory/events).

**10/30 Friday - "Sherlin Lecture in Astronomy"** 7:30pm. Community College of Aurora, Observatory is open to the public following the lecture. Free. Fine Arts Building Forum, 16000 E. CentreTech Parkway Aurora. [www.ccaurora.edu/observatory/events](http://www.ccaurora.edu/observatory/events)

## CLASSES/LECTURES

**10/03 Saturday- "2009 Rocky Mountain Civil War Symposium"** featuring distinguished Civil War scholars and authors. Tickets \$50, students \$20. 9am-5pm, includes breakfast and lunch. Community College of Aurora, 1600 E CentreTech Parkway. [www.rockymtncivilwarrrt.com](http://www.rockymtncivilwarrrt.com)

**10/08 Thursday- "The Power of Color 2009, Colors for Your Home"** Learn how to develop a home color palette, personalize space and how lighting affects color at this FREE seminar offered at the Denver Design District 595 South Broadway. 10 am and 6 pm, Space is limited, RSVP to [Sarahf@denverdesign.com](mailto:Sarahf@denverdesign.com) or 303.282.3233

**10/13 Tuesday- "Hypnosis for Confidence"** Learn about the uses and benefits of hypnosis to boost your confidence in this FREE class. 6:00 -



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7:30pm. Presented by Jennifer Welch of Hypnotherapy for Women's Wellness, 6-7pm, Le-Celle Medical Wellness, 1940 E 18th Ave. Reserve at 303.393.1062 or [www.womenswellnesshypnosis.net](http://www.womenswellnesshypnosis.net)

**10/18 Sunday- "See Inside the Human Body"** Dr. Victor Spitzer, director of the University of Colorado Center for Human Simulation, presents slides and diagrams from the Visible Human Project, which uses donated cadavers to investigate the mysteries of the human body. Learn how body slides are digitized, and then reconnected, using computer programs to view body organs from all different directions, and how this information is used in medicine and science. Parental caution is advised due to content. FREE. Aurora Central Library 14949 E Alameda Pkwy. 303.739.6600. or [www.aurora.gov.org/powerofone](http://www.aurora.gov.org/powerofone)

DENVER EVENTS

**Through October 25- "Don Quixote at the Colorado Ballet"** [coloradoballet.org](http://coloradoballet.org)

**10/10 Saturday- "2009 Booklovers' Ball"** Denver Public Library fundraiser. The Denver Central Library is transformed into an exciting gala venue with a cocktail hour, gourmet dinner and dancing. Tickets and info: [bcook@denverlibrary.org](mailto:bcook@denverlibrary.org), 720-865-2046

**10/10 Saturday - "The Ballpark Market"** 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. An open-air, European style flea market with distinguishing urban flair. Larimer Street between 21st and 22nd streets. [Ballpark-market.com](http://Ballpark-market.com). 303-589-2800

**10/18 Sunday- "Denver Marathon"** Begins in downtown and aims to bring a world-class running experience to Denver. Register 888.RUN.5280 or [denvermarathon.com](http://denvermarathon.com)

**10/24 Saturday- "21st Annual Veloswap and Sports Expo"** The worlds largest consumer bicycle and sports expo. See, swap, buy and sell every imaginable bike, part and accessory. 4655 Humboldt St, National Western Complex in Denver. 9am-4pm; \$6 in advance; \$8 at the door, [veloswap.com](http://veloswap.com)

**10/24 Saturday through 11/11- "Abraham Lincoln Traveling Learning Station"** at Four Mile Historic Park, features reproduction artifacts from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Mu-

seum. FREE. 715 South Forest Street in Denver. Wed-Fri 12-4, Sat & Sun 10-4. [www.fourmilehistoricpark.org](http://www.fourmilehistoricpark.org) 720.865.0813

**10/30 Friday- "Global Professionals Forum"** Free. Open to the local international business community; participants will choose 3 seminars to attend out of 9 options. 8am to noon, College of Business at Johnson & Wales University. Pre-register by October 16th. For a list of seminars & information, email Kelly Kasic at [kkasic@jwu.edu](mailto:kkasic@jwu.edu)

**11/06 Friday through 11/08 Sunday- "Fair Trade Gift Market"** Shop with a conscience, gifts of every kind from around the world. Friday 3-7pm, Saturday 9-4pm, Sunday 11:30-3pm. Park Hill Congregational Church 2600 Leyden St., Denver. 303-322-9122, [www.parkhillchurch.org](http://www.parkhillchurch.org).

GALLERIES

**10/02 Friday- "Art District on Santa Fe 1st Friday Art Walk"** Enjoy over 30 participating galleries and artist studios in Denver's only multi block art district, along Santa Fe from 5th to 10th Avenues. 6-9 pm. FREE. [www.artdistrictonsantafe.com](http://www.artdistrictonsantafe.com)

**10/02 Friday- "Cherry Creek North First Friday Gallery Walk"** 5:00pm. Gallery map at [www.cherrycreeknorth.com](http://www.cherrycreeknorth.com). FREE.

**10/02 Friday- "Tennyson Street First Friday Art-walk"** Tennyson Street between 38th and 44th, 6-10 pm. Family friendly evening in one of Denver's hippest neighborhoods. FREE. [www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com](http://www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com)

**10/22 Thursday- "3rd Thursdays in Highlands Square"** Enjoy live music, art, shop specials and trunk shows along the shops of 32nd Avenue in Denver's Highlands Neighborhood. 32nd and Lowell, 5-8pm. FREE. [www.highlands-square.com](http://www.highlands-square.com)

**Through 10/30- "Designs for Life at DAVA"** Exhibit of furniture, lighting, camping and mountaineering equipment that can be custom made or mass produced. FREE, M-F 9-5. Designer talks Tuesday 10/7 6pm. 1405 Florence St one block south of East Colfax in Original Aurora. [www.davarts.org](http://www.davarts.org) or 303.367.5886

FREE PARENTING SEMINARS

The following FREE parenting seminars are presented by the Children's Hospital. Registration required; adults only. Reserve at 720.777.KIDS or [www.thechildrenshospital.org/parenting](http://www.thechildrenshospital.org/parenting). The Children's Hospital, 1-225 and East Colfax Avenue, 13123 East 16th Ave, Aurora. 2nd floor Conference Center.

**10/06 Tuesday- "Counting Sheep"** Learn how to evaluate and treat the most common sleep problems, including nighttime awakening or crying, bedtime refusal, nightmares and night terrors. Bart Schmitt, MD 7 - 8:30 p.m.

**10/08 Thursday- "Talking About Toddlers"** An informative session on how to manage the ups and downs of the toddler years; sleep, potty training, discipline, tantrums and much more. Speaker: Ayelet Talmi, PhD 7-8:30 pm.

**10/14 Wednesday- "Speak UP for Kids!"** Offering parents information, examples and necessary tools to speak up on behalf of children. Speaker: The Children's Hospital Public Affairs Team 7-8:30pm.

**10/21 Wednesday- "The Tumultuous Teen Years: A how-to in surviving your child's adolescence."** Covering drugs, sex, depression, discipline, communication, setting limits and negotiating with

your teen. Speaker: David W. Kaplan, MD, MPH 7-8:30pm.

KIDS AND FAMILIES

**10/10 Saturday - K-9s Against Cancer** - 5k fun run & 1 mile walk with expo at Stapleton's Central Park. Funds raised will support: Komen Denver's breast cancer research and education efforts, canine cancer research and treatment at CSU's Animal Cancer Center, animal welfare programs by The Bow Wow Buddies Foundation. Family-oriented event will feature a day of food, fun, contests, giveaways, demonstrations and more. Enter your dog in a photo contest, see live fly ball and agility demonstrations, learn about the early warning signs of cancer in your dog, check out some great adoptable dogs from local rescues, and more! [www.bowwowbuddies.com](http://www.bowwowbuddies.com)

**10/10 Saturday- "Night Kite Fly"** prelude to One World, One Kite celebration on Sunday 10/11. Central Park in Stapleton, 5pm. 303.507.4388. FREE.

**10/10 Saturday- "Red Cross-Babysitter's Training at the Children's Museum of Denver"** 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Learn how to provide safe, responsible care for infants and school-age children with skills, knowledge and confidence: basic childcare, safety, first-aid, learning through play, and an introduction to child

(continued on page 16)

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Stapleton Front Porch

15

October 2009



(continued from page 15)

## KIDS AND FAMILIES

development. \$60 per student. For ages 11-15. 303-561-0113 to register. [www.mychildsmuseum.org](http://www.mychildsmuseum.org)

**10/11 Sunday- "One Sky One World International Kite Fly for Peace"** Activities include Children & Pets Parade, Live Music, Food & Wine Tent, Giant Kite Battle and Harvest Market. FREE. Stapleton Central Park 1/2 mile east of Quebec on MLK Blvd. 10am-4pm. [www.onesky-oneworld.org/denver](http://www.onesky-oneworld.org/denver)

**10/14 Wednesday- "Create Playdates"** at the Denver Art Museum. Kids 3-5 are invited to roar, bang and stomp the second Wednesday of every month. Drop in and meet up with other tots for artmaking, story times and scavenger hunts. Included in museum admission, five and younger free. 100 W. 14th Ave Pkwy in Denver, [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org) or 720.865.5000.

**Through October 11- "Ringling Bros and Barnum and Bailey Circus"** September 30 through October 11 at the Denver Coliseum. Tickets are \$15-\$82 and can be purchased online at Ticketmaster.com, The Denver Coliseum Box Office or by calling 1.800.745.3000. [www.ringling.com](http://www.ringling.com)

## DENVER CENTRAL LIBRARY

**Saturdays- "Super Saturdays at the Central Children's Library"** FREE Family shows every Saturday from 2-3pm. [www.denverlibrary.org](http://www.denverlibrary.org) or 720.865.1306 for specific shows and additional info, the Central Library is at 10 West 14th Parkway on the corner of 14th and Broadway in Downtown Denver.

## PARK HILL BRANCH LIBRARY

Located in Park Hill at Montview and Dahlia. Call 720.865.0520 for more info.

**10/03 Saturday- "I'm a Dog" with Michael Stanwood** Join musician Michael Stanwood on a trip around the world with silly songs and lots of laughs! 10:30am

**10/10 Saturday- "The Green Scene" with Play-Ground Theatre.** Super Natural, the world's first organic super hero, saves the day; then Captain Underwear and Long John Slipper star in a hilarious pirate adventure! 10:30am

**10/17 Saturday- "Ann Lincoln's Creativity Circus"** Enjoy magic, juggling and comedy. 10:30am.

## SCHLESSMAN BRANCH LIBRARY

1st and Quebec, Lowry. For more information call 720.865.0000. Additional library

programson the events calendar at [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/02 Saturday- "Colorado Author Series featuring Wick Downing"**. Wick has authored ten novels, three for young readers. He will be discussing his latest, "The Trials of Kate Hope" about a teen-age girl who, through a wrinkle in the law, becomes a lawyer. Set in Denver in 1973, Kate goes to Hill Middle School. 2:00pm.

**10/05 Monday- "Felted Sweetness"** Create a cupcake pin cushion - no calories, but loads of fun! 6:30-7:30pm.

**10/08 Thursday- "One Book, One Denver"** 2-3pm. Join in a discussion of "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. Reserve your copy today at [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org).

**10/10 Saturday- "Winterize Your Pet"** 11-11:30am, Learn how to protect your furry friends when the weather turns cold!

**10/12 & 10/16 Monday- "Ewe, Crocheting and Knitting!"** Bring your knitting or crocheting and receive help from Dana Juncker, owner of The Modern Ewe. Don't have supplies or know how to knit or crochet? Supplies available for purchase. 3-4 pm, 1st floor

**10/15 Thursday- "Floral Centerpieces for the Holidays"** 2-3pm. Learn tricks and techniques to enhance your holiday table and create a beautiful centerpiece on a budget!

**10/17 Saturday- "Flu Prevention"** 2-3pm Flu shots/\$25 from the Visiting Nurse, Flu mist/\$35, Pneumonia vaccinations/\$45. 2nd floor community room.

**10/21 Wednesday- "Teens Read Beyond Reality"** 3:30-4:30pm. Celebrate Teen Read Week with a book swap & pizza party! Registration required 720.865.000

**10/22 Thursday- "Travel Tales"** Sample Hawaiian adventure and learn the Hula with Becker Parkhurst-Strout 2-3pm. In the large community room, 2nd floor.

**11/07 Saturday- Join the authors of "Don't Panic Dinner's in the Freezer: Great Tasting Meals You Can Make Ahead"** Samples will be served! 11:00am.

## BLUFF LAKE

**10/25 Sunday- "Autumn Open House at Bluff Lake Nature Center"** Guided tours of Bluff Lake and environmentally-friendly, craft activities for the whole family. 9-12pm [www.blufflakenaturecenter.org](http://www.blufflakenaturecenter.org)

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE REFUGE

Reservations are required for these popular programs. Call 303-289-0930 to register. Take I-70 and exit north on Havana St. Public entrance is at 56th and Havana.

**10/06 Tuesday- "Tuesday Tots: Spook-tacular Bats"** Learn the myths and truths about these fantastic flying mammals and make a craft to take home. 10-11am

**10/10 Saturday- "Hayride"** enjoy the fall colors, plentiful wildlife, and crisp air on a family style hayride around the Refuge's lakes and woodlands. Remember your warm blankets and cameras. 1-3pm.

**10/13 Tuesday- "Bike the Refuge"** Explore the Refuge on two wheels. Keep your eyes open for skittish white tail deer as you roll around the lakes, prairie and woodland.

**10/17 Saturday- "Refuge Roundup: Journey to the Old West"** A FREE family celebration of the American West and National Wildlife Refuge Week (see page 11.)

**10/21 Wednesday- "Waterfowl ID"** Grab your binoculars and learn how to spot and identify the colorful waterfowl that visit the Refuge's lakes each fall. 8-10am

**10/24 Saturday- "Fall Photo Tour"** Get stunning shots of the fall foliage and abundant wildlife at the Refuge. 9-12pm.

## THEATRE

**October- "Halloween Dreams"** Vintage Theatre. [www.vintagetheatre.com](http://www.vintagetheatre.com), 2119 E 17th Ave, Denver

**Through 10/11- "The Big Bang"** Aurora Fox. 9900 East Colfax Ave in Aurora. 303.739.1971 [www.aurorafox.org](http://www.aurorafox.org)

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### Health Care Crisis: Perspectives & Challenges

The National Council of Jewish Women, (NCJW) Colorado section, is sponsoring a forum on health care issues titled Health Care Crisis: Perspectives & Challenges on Thursday, October 22, 2009, from 7 to 9 pm. at Temple Emanuel, located at 1st and Grape Street.

Moderated by Colorado State Senator Joyce Foster, speakers will include Marcy Morrison, Colorado State Insurance Commissioner; Dr. Irene Aguilar, a practicing physician and member of the Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care; and Emily Alfano, NCJW Senior Legislative Associate.

"NCJW has always advocated for high-quality, comprehensive health care that is affordable and accessible for all," said Cindi Coleman, vice president of public affairs of NCJW, Colorado section. "Since the health care reform measures being discussed in Congress have become so divisive and distorted, it's particularly important that we understand what's involved. Those are the issues our panel members will be addressing."

The forum is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Cindi Coleman at 303-771-0016 or cindicoleman@aol.com.

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

### Stapleton Referral Program Grand Prize Winners Get New Scooter



Sarah and Justin Cassida and their 2-year-old daughter Gracie sit on the new Vespa from Erico Motorsports they won during the Stapleton Referral Program. Their friends Cole and Stephanie Denard and their son Jackson, 1 1/2, join them in front of their new Stapleton home.

The Stapleton referral program gave \$500 to Stapleton residents who referred a new home buyer. The Cassidas won a drawing of the residents who referred buyers.

### Ling & Louie's Wokin' Hot Daily Specials

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# Premium Fishwrap\*

## Angie and Max

On every Monday morning at eight you can see Angie walking, all four feet-eight inches of her, with the help of a cane, across the Odyssey School parking lot in Stapleton. In the wonderful fall Indian summer weather she is there as well as the cold dark winter mornings and the spitting conditions of spring. She wakes up at 4:30 on the mornings she goes to school because her arthritis makes it very difficult to get dressed and ready to go. Nevertheless, she always arrives dressed impeccably with a broad smile on her face. Angie is a reading volunteer at the school and has been reading with her friend Max since he was in second grade.

Seven years ago Angie had a grandson at the school who graduated and moved on to East High. She had just retired from teaching and moved to Colorado from upstate New York. Her daughter thought she could be helpful as a reading volunteer. Max had just enrolled at Odyssey and he needed a little extra help with his reading — a person who could be patient with him and encourage his progress. Angie would turn out to be perfect.

That year, Angie drove herself to Odyssey and she started off by reading to Max and gently

by Jon Meredith

prodding him to begin reading himself. At first Max was extremely shy and it was hard for Angie to get him to talk, let alone read. As the weeks went by, Angie gently coaxed Max into reading and a fast friendship ensued.

By the end of third grade, the Odyssey teachers had told Max that his reading had improved enough to the point that he no longer needed the help of his reading buddy. Max told the teachers that he still wanted to have

Mrs. A read with him because he enjoyed the time they spent together.

Max is now a strapping young man who plays hockey and football. He does not seem to understand or care that it is completely uncool for an eighth-grader to have a reading buddy. Max and his friends look forward to seeing Mrs. A and always say hello to her in the halls. He has a maturity and sensitivity about him that greatly exceeds his age and grade level. He has known for a long time that he really does not need Mrs. A's help. A friendship has developed between them that Max sees as important not just for him but for her as well. He has witnessed her aging since she first started, he realizes that she forgets things and he knows that she doesn't understand some of the books they read. Yet they

talk and those conversations and Mrs. A's smile are why Max wants to keep her as a reading buddy.

At the end of last year, Max gave Mrs. A a rose bush to plant as a thank-you gift for the year. Angie appreciated the acknowledgement of the gift but her relationship with Max is in itself a gift because it gives her strength and something to always look forward to.

Angie and Max are both bittersweet about their last year together. Max is very excited in anticipation of high school and knows that he will not receive the personal attention from someone like Mrs. A at East High. Mrs. A is thinking this will be her last year as a reading buddy. However, I know that certain people at Odyssey are going to make sure she gets to know plenty of younger students this year in the hope that another rose will bloom in the

mind of a young reader.

*Jon Meredith lives in Stapleton. He can be reached at jon.meredith@q.com.*

*\*Fishwrap is a slang term that started in the '30s and refers to the transient value of yesterday's newspaper.*



Mrs. A and Max



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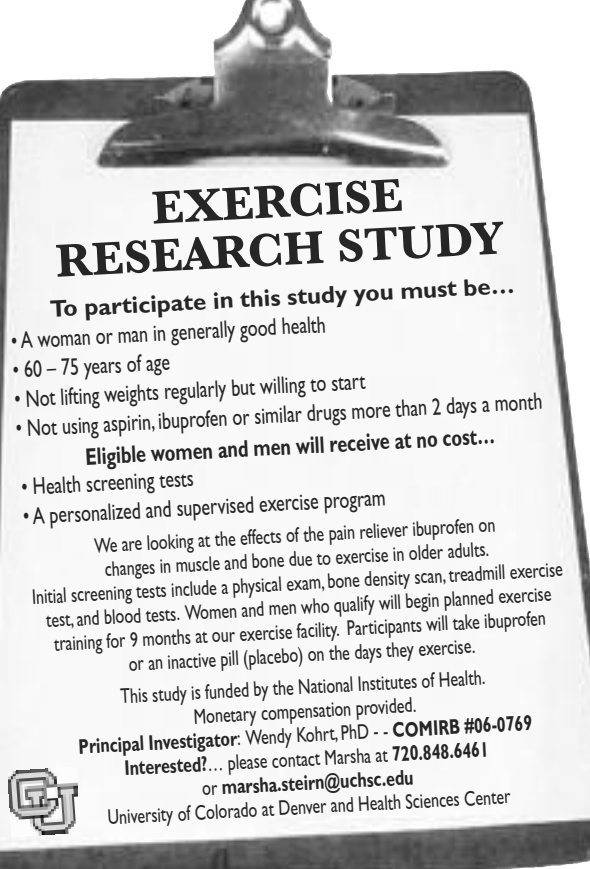
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This study is funded by the National Institutes of Health. Monetary compensation provided.

**Principal Investigator:** Wendy Kohrt, PhD - - COMIRB #06-0769  
Interested?... please contact Marsha at 720.848.6461 or marsha.steirn@uchsc.edu  
University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

## October is National Physical Therapy Month Physical Therapy and Low Back Pain

Physical therapists play an important role not only in treating persistent or recurrent low back pain, but also in prevention and risk reduction. They can help patients reduce pain and improve or restore mobility — in many cases without expensive surgery or the side effects of medications.

Approximately one quarter of Americans report experiencing low back pain within the past three months at any given time (*Spine*, Nov. 2006). Low back pain often occurs due to overuse, strain or injury. This includes too much bending, twisting, lifting, and even too much sitting.

### How Can You Prevent Low Back Pain?

- Keep your back, stomach, and leg muscles strong and flexible
- Keep your body in alignment, so it can be more efficient when you move
- Don't slouch—keep good posture
- Use good body positioning at work, home or during leisure activities
- When lifting, keep the load close to your body
- Ask for help or use an assistive device to lift heavy objects
- Maintain a regular physical fitness regimen. Staying active can help to prevent injuries

### What To Do When You Have Low Back Pain

In most cases, low back pain is mild and will disappear on its own. However, for some people, back pain can return or persist, leading to a decrease in quality of life or even disability.

Stay active and do as much of your normal routine as possible when you have low back pain. Bed rest for longer than a day can slow down your recovery. If your pain lasts more than a few days or gets worse, then you should schedule an appointment to see your physical therapist. See a health care professional immediately if you experience the following symptoms:

- Loss of bowel or bladder control
- Numbness in the groin or inner thigh
- Pain that does not change with rest

### How a Physical Therapist Can Help

Not all low back pain is the same and your treatment should be tailored to suit your specific condition. You should expect the following from a physical therapist: *Individualized assessment* – Your physical therapist will ask

(continued on page 22)

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Division of Geriatric Medicine  
University of Colorado Denver





# School Board Election November 3

The November 3rd election this year will be by mailed ballots only. The ballot will contain school board races and could also include initiated ordinances. The school board election will be for three director district seats and one at-large seat. The school board districts up for election this year are 2, 3 and 4. Voters will choose one candidate from their district and one at-large candidate.

District 4 includes Stapleton, Park Hill (north of Colfax between Colorado and Quebec), and the area south of Stapleton and north of 11th.

District 3 includes Lowry and the area south of Colfax between Colorado and Quebec. District 2 is in southwest Denver (candidates are not listed here).

Voters should check the Secretary of State's website to be sure their registration information is correct. Visit [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us), and click "Verify Your Voter/Ballot Status" or call 311. Ballots will be mailed to voters starting 22 days before the election.

The Front Porch requested a 125-word statement from each candidate.

## At Large Candidates

### Christopher Scott

It's a cliché that children are our future – but it's also a reality. I believe it is imperative that Denver children receive an excellent education that will prepare them for that future. As a member of the DPS Board of Education, I will work tirelessly to see that Denver children have: 1) Access to quality, neighborhood schools. 2) Great teachers who are rewarded for their efforts. 3) The resources they need by ensuring that our school funding is wisely used.

The children who pass through our educational system now are the children who will shape our city, our country, and our world in the years to come.

[www.scott4schools.org](http://www.scott4schools.org)  
303-261-7956

### Deborah L. Sims-Fard

Due to a death in her family, Deborah Sims-Fard has withdrawn from the school board election.

### Mary A. Seawell

I am running At-Large for the Denver School Board, because: 1) I support neighborhood district schools. 2) I believe charter, innovation and performance schools have an opportunity to be successful. DPS must ensure that all new schools be strong instructionally and

organizationally. 3) I support Barack Obama's education policy and am committed to bring "Race to the Top" funding to Denver and Colorado. 4) I believe school board members must be proactively involved with communities when making decisions about the opening or closing of schools. 5) I believe Denver must provide quality school choices so students may attend schools where they will succeed.

I live with my husband and three daughters in Stapleton. I have deep childhood roots in Park Hill.

[www.seawell4greatschools.org](http://www.seawell4greatschools.org)  
[campaign@seawell4greatschools.org](mailto:campaign@seawell4greatschools.org)

## Director District Four Candidates

### Alton Clark

Working for 14 years within the educational environment, I've noticed year after year the statistics showing how many of our children enter into the higher education arena lacking basic academic skills. Graduates entering college are performing poorly in basic reading, writing, and mathematical skills. I am:

1) Working with state legislators in establishing youth programs within our district to promote academic responsibility, and life skills. 2) Working with community leadership to provide after school academic services for children. 3) Collaborating with high school leadership, establishing a bridge between high school and higher education. 4) Working with community grassroots organizations to provide services for adult learners, using the TRIO, Gear Up and College in Colorado organizations that provide services for potential college students and adult learners.

<http://teachone.vpweb.com>  
cell 303-437-9099 home 303-576-0459

### Andrea G. Mosby

We love our children and want what is best for them. With this as my premise, I believe we must build on this understanding and help parents know how to engage schools, teachers, the administration and especially our children. Parental engagement helps to raise our children's expectations and help our children know that failure is not an option, but that their success is essential to every member of our society as well as for their individual success. I am aware that the issues Denver Public School faces are not easy to overcome, I refuse to accept that any issue that involves our children cannot have a meaningful solution. If they lose we all lose, if they win, we all win.

[hopeforkiddendev@msn.com](mailto:hopeforkiddendev@msn.com)  
720-218-5040

### Jacqui Shumway

Parent, teacher, business owner, community organizer. With over 25 years of teaching in community and higher education, I am known for promoting the love of learning. My nationally recognized commitment to walking and biking as part of livable, safe communities strongly influenced my three children in attending neighborhood public schools.

As financial and outreach director of our health education business, I promote programs based on scientific evidence that shows academic excellence is achieved with art, music and physical activity curriculums. By reducing art and music in our schools, we risk losing our competitive edge around the world. By reducing physical activity, including not walking to school, we endanger the health of our children and the health of our nation.

[www.ShumwayforDenver.com](http://www.ShumwayforDenver.com)  
303-725-7482

### Nate Easley

Nate Easley knows the critical role education plays in the future of our children and community. He attended Hallett Elementary and Montbello High School, and Nate and his family live in the Stapleton community.

At Montbello, he was encouraged to stay in school, despite being a teen parent. Those educators inspired him to devote his entire professional career to education. Nate now holds a Ph.D., in education, and a Master's Degree in Higher Education and a Bachelor's in History — both from CSU, Fort Collins, CO. Nate now serves the Denver Scholarship Foundation, working to help all children reach their academic goals and achieve their dreams.

Nate supports strong neighborhood schools, creating positive learning environments for students, staff and teachers and empowering greater parental involvement.

[www.Easley4DPS4.com](http://www.Easley4DPS4.com)  
720.941.8394

### Vernon Jones, Jr.

I believe in the potential of our public school system. I've spent time in a number of the schools in our neighborhoods and I believe in their great potential. Together we can accelerate growth for all students.

As a father of 3 children in DPS, I believe that all families should have access to great educational choices. I believe that all schools must have great culture to develop success and the support of a great community to sustain success for all children.

I am running to serve on the school board because I believe that together we can, and will make all DPS schools great for all students and families, in every neighborhood. Please stand with us.

Together we can...Together we will,  
[www.jonesfordps.com](http://www.jonesfordps.com)  
303-667-7261 or 303-949-3602

## Director District Three Candidate

### Jeanne S. Kaplan (unopposed)

Public education is a cornerstone of our democracy. We in Denver need to make sure all of our children and all of our families are afforded equal excellent educational opportunities. DPS has a ways to go to accomplish this, but we have made some strides in the past 4 years. I am particularly proud of the following: creating Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy, a K-8 integrated arts school; establishing the first Early Childhood Education Center at Knight School; passing a \$454 million bond. Personally, I have tried to be responsive to my constituents' concerns. In the next four years I will work to make sure there is a transparent public process to establish a district-wide vision as well as a plan for getting there.

[www.kaplanforkids.com](http://www.kaplanforkids.com)  
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# The SUN Spot

The *independent voice of Stapleton*  
Brought to you by Stapleton United Neighbors

**SUN Meetings** are held on the 4th Monday of every month at 7:30pm in the Stapleton Community Room, 2823 Roslyn Street. For information about SUN, visit [www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com](http://www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com).

To contact SUN or confirm meeting time, email [stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com) or call 720-840-8492.



## Has Your Pet Been Blessed?

by Dane Vierow

Bring your cats, dogs, goldfish and parakeets for a special blessing in Central Park! All animals and humans are welcome to attend the "Blessing of the Animals" service hosted by Augustana Lutheran Church of Denver, a spiritual home for a growing number of Stapleton area residents. The service will be held on Saturday, October 3 at 5pm in Stapleton's Central Park by the playground and fountain at Martin Luther King Blvd. and Xenia Street.

In the past, the Blessing of the Animals service has been held on the church grounds at 5000 E. Alameda in the Hilltop neighborhood and has been well-attended by pets of all kinds, even reptiles and spiders. This year Augustana will also be hosting nearby refreshments and barbecue following the service to allow attendees an opportunity to socialize, learn more about Augustana, and enjoy playtime in the park. Please be sure to control any pets you bring to the service. Dogs and cats must be leashed. For more information please call 303.388.4678 or visit [www.AugustanaDenver.org](http://www.AugustanaDenver.org)

Dane Vierow is a Stapleton resident and Augustana Lutheran Church member.

## Black Gold – Everything you wanted to know about composting, but were afraid it smelled!

As much as 20% of the volume of garbage that families in Stapleton send to the dump can be composted at home. Kitchen vegetable scraps, prunings from shrubs and trees, grass clippings, newspaper, cardboard and even dog hair and dryer lint can be turned into a nutrient-rich material which can be returned to our plants, trees and lawn. Worm composting (vermicomposting) can become a child's show-and-tell school project and can be maintained in a small box in the basement or under the kitchen sink. There are many easy to follow websites with composting basics — try [www.composting101.com](http://www.composting101.com).

SUN Board member Steve Lawrence is a Master Composter who teaches classes for Denver Urban Gardens ([www.dug.org](http://www.dug.org)). Watch for an upcoming announcement this fall for a simple (kids welcome) composting training session at Stapleton. Until then, if your compost pile is 'just sitting there' e-mail Steve at [Composting@2111USA.com](mailto:Composting@2111USA.com) with your questions.

## Yoga by the Pool at Stapleton

The five-week series of "Yoga by the Pool" this August had a healthy turnout of yoga enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. A big draw was the tranquil morning yoga practice next to the Stapleton F-15 pool with the soothing sounds of the fountains in the background. Participants commented they enjoyed the slower practice, which offered the possibility of breaking down the individual poses and incorporating the breath-to-body connection.

The "Yoga by the Pool" enthusiasm has sparked a plan to start up further community yoga classes in Stapleton beginning January 2010. For more information about future Stapleton yoga classes, please contact Anna Aldrete at 303-562-7455 or [amatualma@gmail.com](mailto:amatualma@gmail.com).

Photo courtesy of Stapleton MCA



Yoga by the pool.

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-Mark Twain

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## Upcoming Events

### Holiday Open House & Lighting the Town Center

Mark your calendars for the annual lighting of the community and retail open house on Friday, November 20, 2009 from 6-9pm. Festivities will include a "s'more" station, fire pits to warm your hands, hot chocolate station, a cookie station and entertainment. Retail stores will be offering specials and you will not want to miss the opportunity to shop prior to the holiday rush!

The Town Center will be hosting the annual "Door Decorating Contest" with the artistic designs by students at the Denver School of the Arts. Come by and vote for your favorite door and be entered into a drawing for all kinds of great prizes, including a cruiser bicycle.

E-mail invitations will be sent out to the community during the middle of October. If you would like more information, please go to [www.stapletoncommunity.com](http://www.stapletoncommunity.com).

### Stapleton Farmers Market & Pumpkin Patch

Just a reminder the market will run through October 11th, 2009. This has been a great year for our Farmers Market and we hope you are able to stop by and grab your fresh pumpkin from one of the vendors. The market runs on Sundays from 8:30am-12:30pm. Every time you spend \$5 at a booth you will receive a coupon that can be exchanged for a free pumpkin.

- 1 coupon will get you a free small pumpkin
- 2 coupons will get you a free medium pumpkin
- 3 coupons will get you a free large pumpkin

### Event Ideas

If you have an idea for an event, please contact me at [events@stapletoncommunity.com](mailto:events@stapletoncommunity.com) or call 303.388.0724.

Diane Deeter, Director of Programming and Events



Letter to the Editor: Bullies 1 – Democracy 0

By Jon Goldin-Dubois
If a nation expects to be ignorant and free... it expects what never was and never will be.
-Thomas Jefferson, 1816

At first it was a feeling of resignation. I came to take my children out of school so that they could watch an American President directly address them on the importance of education and their responsibility to themselves and to the nation.

Of course, I've known for a long time that our politics is broken. It only takes a review of what has taken place over the last several weeks to see that our political system has become a hostage to a radical fringe that thinks that those who wish to reform the healthcare system are socialists or Nazis, that a shout-down is an adequate form of political discourse, and that threats of violence (or the actual performance of violence itself) is an acceptable strategy to achieve policy "victories."

But the fact that my children and their peers would not be allowed to watch the President that morning has made me reflect more deeply on the state of our politics and on the role and purpose of our public schools. The reflection has turned my sadness and resignation to anger.

It is troubling that some people refuse to even listen to our President. But, it is a free country, and those who choose not to listen have that right. The problem in this instance is that a vocal minority has infringed on the rights of others, effectively prohibiting millions of students around the country from lis-

tening to our democratically elected President.

The fact that too many principals, superintendents and other education leaders were subjected to the screaming, cajoling and threats from a small minority of political thugs and bullies is further shame. But let's face it, as our schools have become more and more focused on testing in math, science and literacy (all critical), we have lost sight of the fact that Horace Mann, viewed by many as the father of American public education, believed that our public schools should be the place where we teach our children how to be effective citizens in a democracy.

Yet, in this teachable moment, where we had the opportunity to engender important conversations about our democratic form of government, the President's role in our system and the content of the President's speech, we fell victim to those who screamed the loudest, and we failed our children.

I only hope this unfortunate incident renews the effort to ensure that our public schools no longer abdicate their responsibility to raise informed, trained and effective citizens. And, I hope that in the weeks to come, the President and the Congress don't let critical issues affecting the country fall victim to the same bullies that shout the loudest, but are afraid to have an honest conversation with their kids.

Jon Goldin-Dubois is a small-business owner and founding partner at Confluence Strategies, which works with nonprofit organizations to help them achieve their goals. He lives in Denver with his wife, Denise, and has two children who attend DPS's William Roberts K-8.

How Stapleton Schools Responded to the President's Speech to Schoolchildren...

DPS directed each school to make its own decision on airing the speech but to offer an alternative activity for children whose parents didn't want them to hear it. Classroom activities about the speech were to be nonpolitical and centered on the importance of education.

The Front Porch asked each Stapleton school what they did regarding the speech on September 8.

Denver School of Science and Technology showed the speech in the student commons at lunchtime on the day it was given. Students could choose to go to the commons to view it.

Bill Roberts showed the speech on Friday, September 25th, with separate showings for Middle School, grades K-2, and grades 3-5 and offered an alternative activity for students whose parents chose to have them opt out of viewing the speech.

Westerly Creek teachers made the decision to show the speech in grades 2 and 3.

The Odyssey School supported showing the speech live, later in the day, or in the future. Teachers made the decision when to view it and how to use it as a learning tool.

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Letters to the Editor - The Front Porch will publish letters to the editor as space allows. Please e-mail Tom Gleason, editor, The Front Porch at TGleason@StapletonDenver.com.

Display Advertising To place a display ad, please see contact information in the Front Porch ad on page 10. Display ad reservations are due the 10th of the month.

Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 3, 5 p.m. Stapleton's Central Park Fish, snakes, lizards, ferrets, spiders, rabbits, birds, dogs, cats, and other pets are welcome—as are their humans! Picnic to follow. Visit www.augustanadenver.org

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL TAKE ANOTHER LOOK



# Forest City to Provide \$5.5 Million for Third Stapleton

by John Lehigh, president, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

After consultation with the community, Councilman Michael Hancock, Denver Public Schools (DPS), and the Stapleton Foundation, Forest City has agreed to recommend to the City of Denver that a \$5.5 million contribution Forest City had intended to make to the development of a future park at Stapleton be used instead to help fund the construction of Stapleton's

3rd school. We agree with the community that the higher priority at this time is to build the third school for Stapleton rather than to tie up those funds for a park that may not be built anytime in the near future.

Forest City will also provide the land for that third school at no cost to DPS, which has committed to provide part of the funds for the construction cost of the third school. Forest

City's \$5.5 million will be in the form of a contribution that would not be reimbursed.

As the master developer for Stapleton, we have pledged to spend \$44 million for the parks and open space at Stapleton. Of that amount, Forest City has already paid more than \$23.8 million into the fund that has created Stapleton's parks and open space. Over and above that \$44 million, Forest City had intended to contribute \$5.5 million to a future park to be built near the confluence of Westerly Creek and Sand Creek, an area that is scheduled for environmental remediation by the City of Denver's Department of Aviation. As part of this agreement, Forest City will work with The Stapleton Development Corporation and The Park Creek Metropolitan District to utilize a portion of the \$44 million we have committed for open space to pay for an extension of the bike and pedestrian trail connections between the Sand Creek Regional Greenway trail and the Westerly Creek trails in that area, which will remain natural open space.

Under the operating relationship between Forest City, The Stapleton Development Corporation, the Denver Urban Renewal Authority, The Park Creek Metropolitan District and the City of Denver, the transfer of the Forest City contribution from the future park to the construction costs for the third Stapleton school will need the approval of the City of Denver. Councilman Hancock is leading the effort to review this option with the Mayor's office.

I want to acknowledge in particular the efforts of City Councilman Michael Hancock and the Stapleton community for coming up with this idea for providing a significant element of the funding solution for the third school. Those efforts are highly appreciated.

Forest City will also continue to work with The Odyssey School to

**For date and time of the upcoming meeting with DPS, visit the SUN website at [www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com/education](http://www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com/education)**



## Stapleton Child Census Planned

by Sophia Briegleb

Stapleton residents have long been noticing how many children there are in the neighborhood. Unfortunately, there is not a lot of data on exactly how many children live in Stapleton. The Stapleton Foundation school survey conducted in July did find that there are 1694 children ages 6 and under in Stapleton and approximately 350 families that are expecting or plan to add to their families, but with a 30% response rate, true numbers of children are still unknown.

In response to this data gap, a child census for all of Stapleton has been planned. The Stapleton Foundation, Forest City, Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) Education Committee, and the Stapleton Community Education Coalition (CEC) are collaborating to conduct this census by mid October. The data collected will be used by DPS to plan the future 3rd school.

The primary means of collecting data will be via the block captain network. Please be aware that your block captain will be contacting you for this purpose. If you are unaware of your block captain, please visit [www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com](http://www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com) and click on "Outreach," then "Getting Started." Maps there show which blocks have captains. If your block does not have a captain and you are willing to help collect data from your block for the census, please email [SUNEducationCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:SUNEducationCommittee@gmail.com).

*Sophia Briegleb is on the SUN Education Committee.*

## RECURRING EVENTS

**4th Monday**  
SUN Board Mtg. 7:30pm, MCA Comm. Rm., 2823 Roslyn St. [stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com)

**Every Tuesday**  
Stapleton Rotary Club - 12pm  
Stapleton Radisson Plaza Hotel  
3333 Quebec St.  
[Michael@KearnsTeam.com](mailto:Michael@KearnsTeam.com)

**Every Tuesday**  
AA Open Discussion Mtg. 7:30pm  
MCA Community Room, 2823 Roslyn Street 303-912-7075

**1st Tuesday**  
Breast Cancer Support Group  
5-6:30pm AF Williams Family Medicine Clinic, Conference Rm. (west entrance) 3055 Roslyn (at MLK) 720-848-9000

**3rd Tuesday**  
Greater Stapleton Business Assoc.  
8am MCA Comm. Rm., 2823 Roslyn Street 303-393-7700

**Every Wednesday**  
Weekly Weeders, Bluff Lake Nature Center 9am-12pm, 303-945-6717

**1st Wednesday**  
"1st Wednesdays" Home-based businesses. Location at Stapleton-Life.com. Most mtgs. 11:30am-1pm

**2nd Wed.** (Odd-numbered mos.)  
SUN Transportation Committee  
6:30pm MCA 2823 Roslyn St. [stapletonneighbors@msn.com](mailto:stapletonneighbors@msn.com)

**Every Thursday**  
(when school's in session)  
Bill Roberts Elementary School Tour, 10am, 2100 Akron Way, 720-424-2640

**First Thursday**  
Bill Roberts Middle School Tour, 10am  
2100 Akron Way, 720-424-2640

**3rd Thursday**  
Stapleton Citizens Advisory Board Mtg, Stapleton Development Corp (SDC)  
7350 E. 29th Ave.  
7:30-9am 303-393-7700

**2nd Friday**  
Story time & craft for young children & caregiver, Westerly Creek Elementary library  
9:15-9:45am. 303-322-5877

**1st Saturday**  
Bluff Lake Birders, Nature Center 7-9am  
[BluffLakeNatureCenter.org](http://BluffLakeNatureCenter.org)

**2nd Saturday**  
NE Denver/Park Hill MS Self-Help & Support Group, Dist. 2 Police Station, 10:15-11:45am  
3821 Holly St. 303-329-0619

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This article, submitted by Anne Keil, is from [moveforwardpt.com](http://moveforwardpt.com), courtesy of the American Physical Therapy Association. Anne Keil, PT DPT, is a physical therapist at the University of Colorado Hospital's Stapleton Physical and Aquatic Therapy Clinic. The clinic offers Pilates and water exercise classes and gym programs and is open to the public. For information, please call 720-848-9010.

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# School



Councilman Michael Hancock speaks at a community forum at Bill Roberts School in Stapleton on September 15th to update the community on options and hear input on Stapleton school overcrowding. State Senator Michael Johnston is shown to the left of Hancock. SUN (Stapleton United Neighbors) co-sponsored the forum with Councilman Hancock.

explore a potential move to a new campus at Stapleton that will allow the highly successful charter school to expand its enrollment and free up 250 seats it now occupies in the Westerly Creek building. And Forest City is also helping the Stapleton community to conduct a census to identify as precisely as possible the number of children who will be attending DPS schools in the coming years.

## For more information about Stapleton school overcrowding...

Notes from recent meetings and other information on school overcrowding at Stapleton have been posted online by SUN at [www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com/education](http://www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com/education). Questions for DPS on overcrowding in Stapleton schools should be emailed to [StapletonInitiative@dpsk12.org](mailto:StapletonInitiative@dpsk12.org). Stapleton information is posted on the DPS website at: <http://communications.dpsk12.org/announcements/the-stapleton-initiative>

# Project Glean Opening New Cannery



COMPA Ministries is finishing a canning facility at its North Park Hill location to process food so it will be nonperishable.

Greg Morton, director of marketing and communications and Manuel Vargas, maintenance, look over the new equipment.

When the fresh vegetables arrive at the cannery from the area farms, they go to a food-sorting area where good food is separated from damaged or rotten food. The vegetables are taken from bins that are four-feet square and four feet high and put into smaller boxes for COMPA's farm market program that distributes the food. Occa-

(cont' from p. 1)

Through Project Glean, in the fall, volunteers go to farms that have donated sections of their fields to harvest crops of sweet corn, peppers, cucumbers, cabbage and other vegetables. Entire volunteer families load the vegetables into boxes, with the kids getting their fun by picking zucchinis that are sometimes the size of their legs, according to Greg Morton, director of marketing and communications for COMPA.

"It's a wonderful way to teach your kids to give back," Morton said. "At Glean the kids can be any age. The kids have a great time loading up these boxes."

But, does all this fresh food have to be used at once? What about canned food?

COMPA saw an opportunity to take food to the next step. By Thanksgiving time, the COMPA Ministries Cannery at 5725 E. 39th Ave. will be open for business. The 48,000-sq.-ft. facility, which also houses COMPA's base of operations and offices, will start canning vegetables year-round from Monday through Friday.

In the beginning, the cannery will train and employ two people, Morton said.

"It will quickly go up to six jobs and will have the capacity for 30 positions in three years. We expect to produce one million pounds of beans in the first year. The employees will be people in transitional programs, drug treatment programs or who have been paroled from prison. These jobs help them get back on track and give back to society. These people will be able to go to King Soopers and say they know how to do this because of this program."

sionally there will be an overabundance of one type of vegetable, such as carrots.

"With vacu-seal we'll be able to store for future distributions and give them out in January when we might not be able to find carrots," Morton explained.

The cannery will be able to operate year-round because COMPA is establishing relationships with food suppliers for discount buying, Morton said.

"We will be able to buy flash-frozen carrots, green beans and peas from California growers. We'll put them into the vacu-seal operation and get those out. We will continue to develop relationships with other suppliers," he said.

With COMPA's new canning facility, a search is on for volunteers and for funds to purchase fresh food to be canned. COMPA Ministries collects the food through such efforts as the Broncos Food Drive and 9 Cares, Colorado Shares. Twice a year, COMPA gives out a great deal of food to hunger-relief agencies registered with them. On Oct. 5, nearly 2,000 lbs. of food will be available free of charge to these agencies.

Volunteers are needed to sort food and parcel it down to family-size boxes, Morton said. Volunteers also are needed in the form of handymen and women, painters and office workers.

To donate or volunteer with COMPA Ministries, call 303-294-0272 or click on "donate" at [www.compa.org](http://www.compa.org).



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