

# Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

STAPLETON

DECEMBER 2010

## Stapleton's Winter Welcome



The "Original Dickens Carolers" entertain the crowd gathered around the Christmas tree in Stapleton's 29th Ave. Town Center for the annual Winter Welcome on November 19. The singers are, left

to right, Susana Brizuela, Dutch Miller, Kathy Kautz-Henson and Andrew Caldwell. Festivities also included s'mores made in fire pits, toasted almonds and hot cocoa. (Story and photos on page 9.)

## Colorado Rapids Proudly Raise Their First MLS Championship Cup



Photo by Garrett Ellwood

By John Babiak

Rapids players grew 'playoff beards'. They exchanged pregame verbal barbs with their opponents. Head Coach Gary Smith played the "we are the underdogs" card. Rapids' great Marcelo Balboa predicted the outcome and we all witnessed history in the making. Colorado 2 – Dallas 1. The Colorado Rapids, Major League Soccer Champions, at last!

(continued on page 4)

## Denver to Choose a New Mayor

By Jon Meredith

On May 3rd, Denver residents will return to the polls to choose a new mayor. Unlike the most recent elections, we most likely will not see a constant stream of negative ads running in the months leading up to the election. Denver residents tend to choose the candidate who is best suited to manage and run the city well. Someone who will promise to keep our taxes low but support bond issues that will improve the city over time. A candidate who has the foresight to envision what Denver can be in the years to come.

(continued on page 30)

At the stadium in Toronto, the Rapids celebrate their 2 – 1 overtime win over Dallas that made them the Major League Soccer champions.

Printed with soy-based ink. Paper contains 40% postconsumer waste.





View of snowcapped Mt. Evans from the west side of Stapleton with a telephoto lens.



## CALENDAR

Nearby events that are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC or are nonprofit events.  
(See pages 20 - 23 for more events.)

### DECEMBER

#### Every Tuesday

Stapleton Rotary Club, 7:30-8:30am  
Speakers on varying subjects  
Stapleton MCA Community Room,  
2823 Roslyn St.; RSVP Gregg Tomlinson  
303.725.9447 or  
info@DenverStapletonRotary.org  
www.denverstapletonrotary.org

#### Friday, December 3

Santa Fe Arts District Art Walk, 6-9pm  
Holiday luminarias between 6th & 10th  
on Santa Fe. www.artdistrictonSantaFe.com

#### Saturday, December 4

Volunteer Cleanup at Bluff Lake  
Bluff Lake parking lot, 9am  
(Cancelled if temp. below freezing)  
Lucia 720.207.5091

#### Saturday, December 4

SCFD 1st Saturdays Free-Denver Art Museum  
www.denverartmuseum.org

#### Monday, December 6

SCFD Free Day-Denver Museum of Nature  
and Science 303-322-7009 www.dmns.org

#### Tuesday, December 7

Children's Museum, Target Tuesdays  
1st Tuesday nights free, 4-8pm, cmdenver.org

#### Wednesday, December 8

Venture Prep Open House, 6:30 - 7:30pm  
2540 Holly Street  
www.ventureprep.org (see p. 23)

#### Thursday, December 9

Active Minds, "Chocolate" 7 - 8pm  
MCA Community Room\*  
Events@stapletoncommunity.com

### DECEMBER

#### Saturday, December 11

Holiday Brass Fest. DCPA Galleria  
Free public concert, 1pm  
www.denverbrass.org

#### Saturday, December 11

Hammonds Candy Cane Festival, 9am-5pm  
Caroling, cookie decorating and more..  
5735 N. Washington St. Denver.  
www.hammondscandies.com 303.333.5588 x10

#### Sunday, December 12

Tuba Christmas Concert, 1pm,  
Skyline Park, 16th and Arapahoe.  
www.tubachristmas.com

#### Friday, December 31

Annual New Year's Eve Downtown  
Fireworks display  
Shows at 9pm and midnight. 16th Street Mall

### JANUARY

#### Saturday, January 1

SCFD 1st Saturdays Free-Denver Art Museum  
www.denverartmuseum.org

#### Tuesday, January 4

Children's Museum, Target Tuesdays  
1st Tuesday nights free, 4 - 8pm, cmdenver.org

#### Thursday, January 13

Active Minds, "Switzerland" 7 - 8pm  
MCA Community Room\*  
Events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Friday, January 14

Deadline for 4th Pool Naming Contest, 5pm  
Email: Pools@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Monday, January 17

Voting begins for 4th Pool Naming Contest,  
10am. www.stapletoncommunity.com

#### Thursday, January 27

Stapleton Activities, Inc. Potluck, 6:30-8pm  
MCA Community Room\*  
Events@stapletoncommunity.com

\*MCA Community Room:  
2823 Roslyn Street, Denver, CO 80238

(See page 20 for recurring monthly events and meetings)



#### Kids N. Bikes

Help kids who do not have a bicycle. Join the holiday bike drive today. Kids N. Bikes (Kids Need Bikes!) has teamed with The Bike Depot to promote active lifestyles and overall health in young people by collecting, repairing and distributing safe bicycles to kids from low-income families in Park Hill and surrounding neighborhoods. With your help, many could have one for Christmas!

Located at 2825 Fairfax St. in Park Hill, not far from Stapleton, The Bike Depot is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health disparities in the Denver metro area. Gather up your old, used and rejected bikes and encourage your friends, neighbors and co-workers to do so, and then bring your used bike, no matter the condition or size, to The Bike Depot. Check www.thebikedepot.org for hours of operation.

Bicycles can be dropped off through December 15 at the Stapleton MCA office located at 2823 Roslyn Street, Monday through Friday between 9am-4pm. Call Nancy at 303.489.7870 if you have any questions.

#### Active Minds Seminar

The Active Minds Seminar this month is on Thursday, December 9, at 7pm. We are hosting the Active Minds Seminars in the Stapleton MCA Community Room at 2823 Roslyn Street. The doors will open at 6:30pm and the seminar will begin at 7pm. This program is free and open to the public.

The December topic is Chocolate. The story of chocolate is a "rich" tale indeed. It involves aristocracy and slavery, innovation and coincidence. Pivotal roles were played by both Christopher Columbus and Hernando Cortéz. Join Active Minds® to learn how extremely bitter cacao beans are transformed into one of the world's most sought after flavors and enjoy chocolate stories about the rise of the Swiss luxury chocolate industry and the origins of the Hershey Company.

The topic for January is Switzerland, to be held January 13, at 7pm. For more about Active Minds, go to <http://www.activemindsforlife.com/index.html>.

#### Winter Welcome

The MCA wishes to thank everyone for a wonderful Winter Welcome. Denver School of the Arts students once again decorated our 29th Avenue Town Center merchants' doors.

Tickets were sold for s'mores, roasted almonds, cookies from Udi's and glow sticks. The proceeds go to Bluff Lake Nature Center and Sand Creek Greenway. What a wonderful way to bring in the holiday season and celebrate the lighting of the Town Center.

If you were unable to pick up your "Dogs of Stapleton" calendar, please stop by the MCA and pick one up. These calendars have our 2011 Events listed inside.

#### Stapleton Activities, Inc.

The monthly potluck for December is cancelled. This get-together will resume January 27, after the holidays.

#### Name the New Pool

Next summer, the MCA will open its fourth outdoor swimming pool in Filing 19. We are looking to the community to help us name this pool. We will be holding a naming contest over the next few months. If you have a name suggestion for our fourth pool, please email [namethepool@stapletoncommunity.com](mailto:namethepool@stapletoncommunity.com) with your idea before January 14, 2011.

We will take the suggestions and select five choices. If your suggestion is one of the five, you will win a \$10 gift certificate to one of our 29th Avenue Town Center merchants. If there are duplicate suggestions, we will use the first one we receive via email.

We will post the five choices online at [www.stapletoncommunity.com](http://www.stapletoncommunity.com) January 17 and the community can vote for their favorite. The person who suggests the winning choice will win a \$50 gift certificate to their favorite 29th Avenue Town Center merchant.

#### 2011 Movies

If you have a suggestion for a movie you would like to see in The Green next summer, please email [events@stapletoncommunity.com](mailto:events@stapletoncommunity.com) with your idea.

#### Community Room Closed

The Stapleton MCA Community Room will be closed December through January. We will be doing some renovations and will reopen for rentals in February. If you have any questions about this, please call our office at 303.388.0724.

If you have any questions or comments about the information above, please feel free to contact [events@stapletoncommunity.com](mailto:events@stapletoncommunity.com) or call the MCA office at 303.388.0724.

Diane Deeter  
Director of  
Programming and Events

Sponsored by Stapleton MCA

EDITORS and PUBLISHERS:  
Carol Roberts and Steve Larson  
303-526-1969  
[FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com](mailto:FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com)  
AD SALES: Karissa McGlynn 303-333-0257  
[KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com](mailto:KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com)

# Front Porch

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

The Stapleton Front Porch is published by Stapleton Front Porch, LLC, 2566 Syracuse St., Denver, CO. Typically 30,000-35,000 papers are printed. The free paper is distributed during the first week of each month to homes and businesses in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, Hale and East Colfax.



# 'TIS THE SEASON... GIVE, GATHER AND CELEBRATE

**A** quick treat, a savory delight, or an evening of dining and entertainment with loved ones — there's plenty to choose from at **The Shops at Northfield Stapleton...**

- Bar Louie
- Cold Stone Creamery
- Harkins Theatres 18
- Improv Comedy Club & Dinner Theatre
- Islamorada Fish Company (inside Bass Pro Shops)
- La Sandia Mexican Kitchen and Tequila Bar
- Ling & Louie's Asian Bar and Grill
- Texas de Brazil
- Twisted Olive
- And so much more!



Over 65 Festive Main Street Specialty Shops and Restaurants including: Macy's, JCPenney, Bass Pro Shops. Located off I-70 and Northfield Blvd.

**Be sure to visit Northfield's  
Newest arrivals...**

- Guy Harvey Perfect Spot Bar and Grill
- Toby Keith's I Love this Bar and Grill
- Wyland's Ocean Blue Restaurant and Art Gallery



The Shops at

## NORTHFIELD

STAPLETON

303-375-5475

[NorthfieldStapleton.com](http://NorthfieldStapleton.com)



ShopNorthfield



northfieldstapleton



# MLS Champs

(continued from page 1)

Thirteen years ago, under rainy skies in Washington's RFK Stadium, D.C. United denied the '97 Colorado Rapids the right to be called MLS Champs. On October 21st, in downtown Toronto, the 2010 Rapids rose to the occasion. They came from behind, then fought off a 13-minute overtime barrage of incoming shots made while the Rapids were down a player—and went on to earn their first MLS Cup in the longest season finale in the history of the MLS.

During a postgame interview, a bruised and battered Coner Casey, the game's Most Valuable Player, described the match with two words, "not pretty" Indeed it was not. But the final score is what ultimately counts and the Rapids prevailed.

Down one nil at the close of the half, the Rapids started the second with a surge and equalized the game on a quick pass from midfielder Jamie Smith to the goal box that a sliding Casey first missed—and then finished off with a determined toe-kick while lying practically on his back, sending the ball into the



At the rally in Skyline Park in downtown Denver, the Rapids players took turns holding up their silver MLS Champions cup. At left, Steward Ceus, the Rapids back-up goalie, takes his turn with the cup—to the cheers of the crowd.

Check out our video at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com)

goal. From there on out the game became even more physical and confrontational. In the first extra period, Rapids forward Omar Cummings pulled up lame—and Gary Smith inserted the 6' 4" Macoumba "Big Mac"

Kandji into the game. The substitution paid huge dividends for Smith. Two minutes into the second extra period, Casey lobbed a cross pass to Kandji, who then took on Dallas defender Jair Beniez from the

right of the 18 yard box. Kanji threw Beniez off balance with a textbook stepover move, then "nutmegged" him with a pass to himself through Beniez's wide open legs. Kanji then toe poked the ball at the goal. The ball deflected off of Dallas' George John into the net—and the rest is now history.

The game-winning shot did come at a certain cost to the Rapids. During Kanji's shot, Dallas' Ugo Ihemelu crashed into Kanji's left knee and the resulting injury has left Kanji with a torn ACL.

Paul Bravo, the Rapids Technical Director and member of the 1997 Rapids MLS Cup playoff team, told me that when he was brought in, "winning championships and trophies" was his priority. Bravo, in my opinion, has been the chief architect of today's Colorado Rapids. He, along with Managing Director Jeff Plush and Head Coach Gary Smith, created this championship team. Plush put it best at the Rapids' Rally in Denver the day after their return from Toronto when he said, "I aim to see that winning championships

is a sustained effort by the Rapids organization." And that is music to the ears of every Rapids' fans.

During the evening rally, players hoisted the Philip F. Anschutz Championship Trophy (made by Tiffany & Co.) above their heads to the delight of the crowd. Elated kids touched the sterling-silver cup that made the rounds of a few bars in Toronto—and even our own Children's Hospital. From the players' grandstand, they tossed out Rapids scarves and t-shirts by the dozens. They signed hundreds of autographs and delivered too-numerous-to-count high fives to their faithful fans. It was a memory-making moment for both the team and their guests.

Let's hope that this celebration is the start of something big here in Colorado. Cheers to the Rapids, North America's Major League Soccer Champions!

*John Babiak is a Stapleton resident. He coaches U7-U11 boys and girls for the Colorado Fusion Soccer Club. He also serves on the club's board of directors. He can be reached at [CoachJohnBabiak@aol.com](mailto:CoachJohnBabiak@aol.com).*



A group of locals at the Berkshire restaurant in Stapleton's Town Center react to the Rapids' winning goal during overtime in the MLS championship game. In the foreground are Bethany and Michael King; behind them are, left to right, Sarintra Saklunamaka, Gerry Coady and Michael Clark.

NOW ENROLLING for infants, toddlers and preschool, also KINDERGARTEN for the 2011-2012 year



**Monarch Montessori**  
Creating the Leaders of Tomorrow.

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

At Monarch Montessori of Denver we offer an authentic Montessori Program with certified teachers. Tours are given daily.

**Call 303.565.4165 to schedule yours today!**

- Self directed learning
- Cosmic education
- 3 Star Qualistar rated
- Indoor gross motor rooms
- Healthy meals
- Flexible schedules
- Access badges
- Multi-child discount



Located in NE Stapleton at 11200 E 45th Ave 80239





# That's Dog for "thank you."

A big shout out to the East 29th Avenue Animal Hospital, U-Shampooch and Art & Framing at Stapleton for sponsoring the 2011 Dogs of Stapleton Calendar. From the bottoms of our heart-shaped tags ... woof.

So drop by one of these animal-loving sponsors to pick up your free calendar (if you don't already have one). You can also get a calendar at the MCA office or any of Stapleton's homebuilders.

*Stapleton*

[StapletonDenver.com](http://StapletonDenver.com)





*Editors' note: We're sorry we don't have space for ALL the wonderful local artists and craftspeople. If you don't find the perfect gift here, we hope this list will help inspire another unique idea. Consider also our list of local charities on page 14 as part of your holiday giving.*

## Holiday Gift Markets

**Dec. 1st and 2nd**—Dizzie Izzie's Hip Holiday Market, 4:30 – 9pm. 9201 East 33rd Ave (parking across the street in the lot). Numerous vendors, wine, desserts, and shopping galore. Special treats for any guys that come to Men's Preferred Shopping Night on Dec. 2nd. Women are also welcome on the 2nd.

**Dec. 4th**—Chickee Monkey Open House, 11-3pm. 10103 E. 29th Ave. Chickee Monkey is a hand-crafted children's line started by Stapleton Mom Christine Villapando, featuring items from ruffled onesies, fancy tie T-shirts, character backpacks, tutu dance bags, beautiful hair accessories, whimsical wall art and more... Price range from \$3 to \$100. [www.chickee-monkey.com](http://www.chickee-monkey.com) 303.870.0429.

**Dec. 5th**—Blue Creek Holiday Extravaganza. 7350 E. 29th Ave Ste 204, Denver 80238. Holiday shopping with a select group of vendors, You can also get

your Blue Creek gift certificate to give the gift of health, discounts, goody bags, mini-treatments and more. 303.573.7484

**Dec. 15th**—Holiday Hand Made Open House, 5:30–7:30pm. A wide assortment of beautiful handmade products; light refreshments served. Naturally Loved, 7349 E 29th Ave., 303.955.6207.

## Local Art and Handcrafted Items



graduations, and holidays. [elisa-bethmk@mac.com](mailto:elisa-bethmk@mac.com)

**Mixed media** assemblages or collages with fabric and other found objects by Lyn Diloranzo of Soulful home. \$15 to approx. \$65. Check Soulful Home on Facebook or [www.etsy.com/shop/soulfulhome](http://www.etsy.com/shop/soulfulhome)

**Custom paintings**, vibrant mixed media works on canvas and wood panel, by Stapleton resident Lizzie Mara Kienast who creates personal works for clients that often tell special stories, such as anniversaries, retirements,

graduations, and holidays. [elisa-bethmk@mac.com](mailto:elisa-bethmk@mac.com)



## Handcrafted jewelry

Jewelry using beads that support a cause whenever possible. Affordable one-of-a-kind pieces by Renee Phillips of Embelish Jewelry. [www.embelish.etsy.com](http://www.embelish.etsy.com)



Unique handmade jewelry; custom orders to fit your needs from Jennifer Lane Designs. [www.etsy.com/shop/jknopf03](http://www.etsy.com/shop/jknopf03), [www.thejeniferlane.com](http://www.thejeniferlane.com)

**Handcrafted mosaics for garden** enthusiasts including bird baths, pots, garden stakes and herb markers by Sarah Christian, Urban Gardens, Inc. [www.urbangardensinc.com](http://www.urbangardensinc.com); [schristian51@msn.com](mailto:schristian51@msn.com) - 303.320.0392

**Paintings and handcrafted items** by local artists can be found at Art and Framing at Stapleton. 7483 E. 29th Pl., 29th Ave. Town Center at Stapleton. [www.artandframingstapleton.com](http://www.artandframingstapleton.com); [lin@artandframingstapleton.com](mailto:lin@artandframingstapleton.com)

**Bicycle basket liners** keep items in your bike basket and convert to an attractive handbag Betty Basket Liners, [www.bettybasketliners.com](http://www.bettybasketliners.com)

## Children's Clothing and Accessories

Handcrafted locally made baby and children's clothing can be found at Naturally Loved, 7349 E 29th Ave., 303.955.6207.

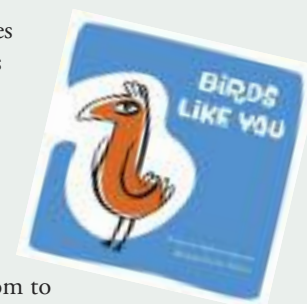
Clothing and accessories for little girls and babies. Spunky, wearable clothing including dresses, skirts, tees, tutus, blankets, bathrobes, and more made by Dizzie Izzie. [www.dizzieizzie.com](http://www.dizzieizzie.com).

## Custom Inscribed Books by Local Authors



**Cookbook**—A personally autographed copy of *Glorious One-Pot Meals* by Elizabeth Yarnell, an award-winning cookbook author who lives in Stapleton with her family. [GloriousOnePotMeals.com](http://GloriousOnePotMeals.com). Save shipping by contacting Elizabeth directly 303.830.COOK (2665).

**Children's book** (ages 1-4)—*Birds Like You* by Stapleton resident Kathryn Epperson. The book explores the things and activities that different birds like and concludes with an expression of kinship and belonging. Buy from Amazon and email [kathyox@yahoo.com](mailto:kathyox@yahoo.com) to arrange for a custom inscription.



## Give a Unique Gift Certificate

Here's a starter list for services you might not have considered. Consider also gift certificates to our local merchants: a favorite restaurant, local theatres (see our local events section), flowers or house cleaning.



**Look Good For the Holidays!**

**\$12 Haircut for Dad**  
Present coupon before haircut. May not be bartered, traded, copied, or sold. Not valid with any other offer. Stapleton location only. EXPIRES 12/31/10. Code 2990

**\$10 Haircut for Son**  
Present coupon before haircut. May not be bartered, traded, copied, or sold. Not valid with any other offer. Stapleton location only. EXPIRES 12/31/10. Code 2995

**It's Good to be a Guy!**

**PAUL MITCHELL** In Quebec Square next to McDonald's  
3700 Quebec St. 303-399-8200

[SPORTCLIPS.COM](http://SPORTCLIPS.COM) [TWITTER.COM/SPORTCLIPS](https://twitter.com/SPORTCLIPS) [FACEBOOK.COM/SPORTCLIPSHAIRCUTS](https://facebook.com/SPORTCLIPSHAIRCUTS)

# Buy these titles (and many more) at The Bookies!



## A ValueTales Treasury

The stories of the young Louis Pasteur, Harriet Tubman, Confucius, Helen Keller and Will Rogers





## Tacky's Christmas

Tacky's got a special gift for the rest of the penguins



## Llama Llama Holiday Drama

Will Llama Llama be able to wait until the holidays?



**Always at a discount**

4315 E. Mississippi Ave.  
(2 blocks east of Colo. Blvd.)

**(303) 759-1117**  
[www.thebookies.com](http://www.thebookies.com)



### The gift of creativity



A two-hour, Paint by Wine class where beginners leave with a masterpiece. \$35. Bring your beverage. Regular classes

or private parties. Art & Framing at Stapleton, 7483 E. 29th Place; 303-534-1979; [www.PaintbyWine.com](http://www.PaintbyWine.com).

Painting classes—acrylics, watercolor or drawing for adults or children; will customize for individual requests. [www.startartkids.com](http://www.startartkids.com) 720-227-4907.

### The gift of a massage

Natural Balance Integrative Health. [www.nbihdenver.com](http://www.nbihdenver.com); 303-355-0363; 3055 Roslyn St., Suite 120. 25% off Gift Certificates through Dec. 24.

Therapeutic massages for couples in your home or at 29th Ave Nail Salon. \$100 for two one-hour massages. Denise 303-956-1912.

### The gift of organization

Organizing and decluttering your home or office, developing office systems and space solutions, and providing corporate and residential moving assistance by Simply Put, Organizational Solutions for the Home, LLC. First 2 hours for the price of one, \$75. Additional hours 20% off. [MeighanMeekerOrganizer.com](http://MeighanMeekerOrganizer.com); 303-321-2692.

Personalized organizational services and decluttering of home, office, garage, etc.—also help with parties and events. \$50/hour – free initial consultation. Ms. Efficiency, [ms\\_efficiency@hotmail.com](mailto:ms_efficiency@hotmail.com)

**A gift for someone who is unemployed** —Resume writing, help with LinkedIn profiles and interview preparation assistance by Side Door Pursuit. Resume is typically 3-4 hours at \$35/hr. [www.sidedoorpursuit.com](http://www.sidedoorpursuit.com); [shannon@sidedoorpursuit.com](mailto:shannon@sidedoorpursuit.com); 303-882-0412

### The gift of pictures

Modern photography of families and children in a relaxed environment Molly Garg Photography [www.mollygargphotography.com](http://www.mollygargphotography.com).

Acasha King Photography. [www.acashakingphotography.com](http://www.acashakingphotography.com); Acasha King, [acasha@live.com](mailto:acasha@live.com); 303.887.5897.

### The gift of fitness

Total-body conditioning class that incorporates your stroller so you can bring your kiddos along. Stroller Strides classes are in Central Park and City Park during warmer months and at Bladium Sports Club during the winter. 10 class package special \$95. Erin Johns, [www.strollerstrides.net/denver](http://www.strollerstrides.net/denver)

CrossFit (a fitness program based on constantly varied, functional movements, done at high intensity). Twelve one-hour introductory classes. Holiday Special \$135 (regularly \$200). Aaron, CrossFit Dominion, 720-381-0728

**The gift of memories** Creative Memories scrapbooking supplies and monthly scrapbooking events from Rachel Fields \$10-\$100. 720-935-7611; [fields-creativemem@comcast.net](mailto:fields-creativemem@comcast.net); [www.mycmsite.com/rachelfields](http://www.mycmsite.com/rachelfields)

### The gift of music

Private and group piano lessons in Stapleton (all ages, all styles) from David Ross Piano Studio. Holiday sale: Buy 1 trial lesson, receive next lesson 1/2 off or 10% off full tuition if you pay for semester by January 1st. 303-507-0906; [pianomanross@yahoo.com](mailto:pianomanross@yahoo.com)

Learn to play guitar at Olson & Smith Guitar Studio in Stapleton. Choose the number of lessons you'll give. \$25 and up. Contact Natasha Olson at 720.318.7854 or email [StapletonGuitar@gmail.com](mailto:StapletonGuitar@gmail.com).

**A landscape design consultation** by Sarah Christian [www.urbangardensinc.com](http://www.urbangardensinc.com); [schristian51@msn.com](mailto:schristian51@msn.com); 303.320.0392

## New Stores at Northfield



**Bobbi's Boutique** – Handbags, custom and costume jewelry.

**Calendar Club** – 2011 wall and desk calendars, games and more. Open through mid-January.

**Cell Accessories** – Hard and soft cases, protectors and other accessories for mobile phones.

**Frames Paradise** – Pictures, frames, rugs and more for your home.

**Jewelry Expressions** – Fashion, custom and fun jewelry and accessories for less.

**Kosmima Jewelry** – Handcrafted authentic jewelry made in Europe, primarily Greece. Bracelets, necklaces, rings and earrings. Kosmima means jewelry in Greek.

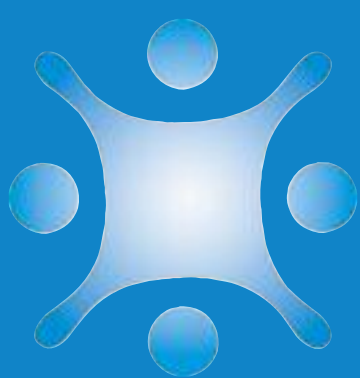
**Menchie's Yogurt** – Opening Dec.18. A rotating selection of frozen yogurt flavors. Toppings from fresh, locally grown fruits to classic rainbow sprinkles and hot fudge.

**Nature's Touch** – Rustic log furniture, including chairs, beds and tables made from local resources.

**Rustic Ranch Relics** – Unique items to complement your home from hand-painted fresco furniture to rocking chairs, spur towel rings to western bedding, iron and antler lighting and more. New items arriving every few weeks.

**Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill** Rowdy atmosphere inspired by the music and attitude of the "Big Dog Daddy" himself, Toby Keith. Down-home cooking and live bands.

**Toys R Us Express** – Offering toys, games and gifts for kids of all ages—open during the holiday season through mid-January.



# Stapleton Children's Dentistry

**ONLY \$75**  
Child exam, cleaning, and fluoride for new patients.

A \$95 savings.  
X-rays are extra.

**FREE!**  
Infant oral health screening. Exam and cleaning for children up to 18 months old.



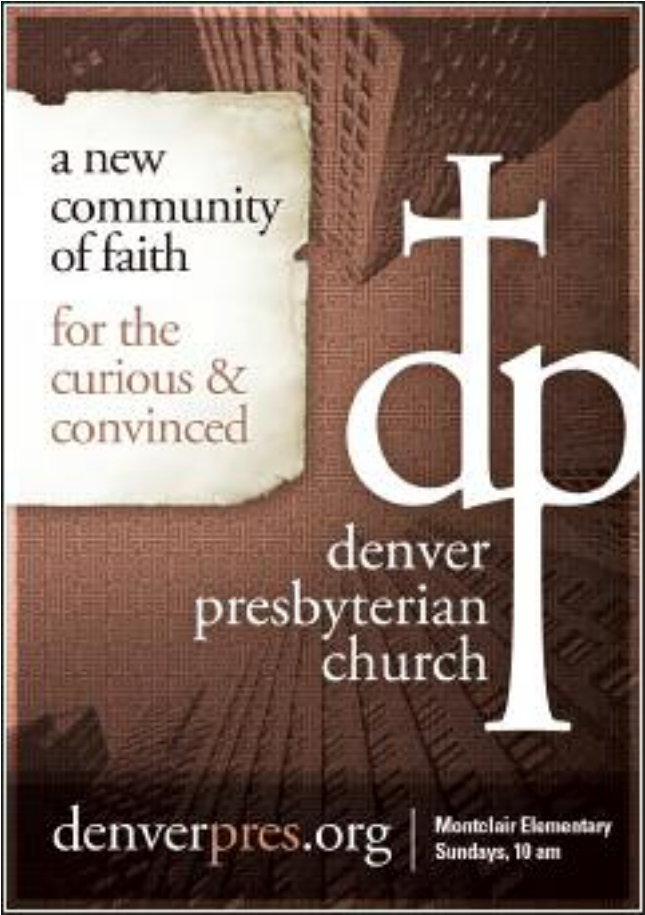
Pediatric dentists undergo an additional two years of training in order to specifically meet the needs of children. At **Stapleton Children's Dentistry** we ensure a positive experience to establish a lifetime of healthy dental habits.

Alfaiyaz Ibrahim, DDS • 2373 Central Park Blvd., Suite 305 • Denver, CO 80238  
**303.399.KIDS (5437) • [www.stapletonkids.com](http://www.stapletonkids.com)**

We accept all major PPO insurance programs • Flexible hours for appointments



# Making Hard Times a Little Easier



## Local Businesses Reach Out to People with Cancer

Stapleton Home Services and Lowry Home Services provide free cleaning to women undergoing treatment for cancer through the non-profit foundation Cleaning For A Reason. Fighting cancer is difficult enough but, as stated at CleaningForAReason.org, living with it is even tougher. This non-profit arranges for free professional housecleaning and maid services to improve the lives of women undergoing treatment for any type of cancer. For information on how to apply for this service visit [www.cleaningforareason.org](http://www.cleaningforareason.org).

A second business, Santa's Best Christmas Trees, will provide cancer patients in the Front Porch distribution area with a free 5- or 6-foot Christmas tree from their lot at Roslyn Street and East 29th Avenue in the Stapleton Town Center.

Santa's Best Trees owner Brett Purdom knows the difficulties families face when cancer hits a family member. Prostate cancer took his father in 2008, and lung



Brett Purdom, of Santa's Best Christmas Trees, talks to customers about the different size trees he offers. The papers hanging from the trees explain his program to give a free tree to those in the Front Porch distribution area who are undergoing cancer treatments.

cancer took his mother just one month after his father died. Purdom, himself, was injured in a roadway accident en route home after clearing his parents' house and he became a quadriplegic.

People in cancer treatment can make arrangements for a free tree by emailing Purdom at [santasbesttrees@comcast.net](mailto:santasbesttrees@comcast.net). Or friends and neighbors can make the arrangements with Purdom to take a tree to a friend. When they come to pick up their tree, Purdom will also provide a 3-foot-tall pink-flocked tree for their front porch, if they wish.

Don't miss our *videos* at [FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://FrontPorchStapleton.com)

Facebook: "Front Porch Newspaper" *Fun ideas for weekend activities*

IS YOUR AD ON THE COFFEE TABLE  
or in the recycling bin?



Advertise in a paper that people really read. [FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://FrontPorchStapleton.com)

30-35,000 copies distributed free to NE Denver during the first week of each month. Email [KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com](mailto:KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com) or call Karissa at 303.333.0257 or 303.526.1969.

Roslyn  
29th

ON THE CORNER

7489 E. 29th Pl.  
...  
ESTABLISHED  
2003

Wishing you our best . . .

Lana Dardano | Tammy Morran | Ken Greenfield | Eric Welch | Lisa Chabot

Available

1834 Magnolia  
\$239,499

Available

7850 E. 29th  
\$254,900

New Price

2998 Elmira  
\$215,000

Recently Sold: 7671 E. 26th • 3646 High • 2967 Forest • 2843 Havana • 11000 Yarrow • 2500 S. Jackson  
9246 E. 35th Ave. • 2833 Spruce • 9027 E. 35th Ave. • 6526 Pierson • 3171 Hanover • 3333 High • 7982 E. 29th

December 2010

8

Stapleton Front Porch





Check out our  
video at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com)

## Thousands Enjoy Stapleton's Winter Welcome

By Carol Roberts

The crowd at the Winter Welcome was estimated at over 3,000 by Diane Deeter, Director of Events and Programming for the Stapleton Master Community Association (MCA) and organizer of the event. The gathering was more than an opportunity for the community to gather and

celebrate the holiday season, it was a fundraiser for Bluff Lake Nature Center and Sand Creek Regional Greenway. Profits from the sale of fresh roasted almonds, s'mores and cookies were donated to these organizations. "Decorated trees" walked the sidewalks selling glow sticks to kids to further contribute to the fun and the fundraiser.

Bicycles for Kids (in conjunction with the Park Hill Bike Depot) collected bikes to be given to kids who don't have one. Bikes can be dropped off at the MCA office at 2823 Roslyn Street through December 15.

Lin Clark of Stapleton Art and Framing organized the door decor contest—attendees voted on decorations at 29th Ave. retailers

that had been made by students from Denver School for the Arts. Retailers offered specials; the Biscuit Bus and Fat Sully's bus offered fast food; and the "Dogs of Stapleton" calendars containing Stapleton events for 2011 were handed out as the winning and runner-up dogs mingled in the crowd. "It's a great community event," said Deeter.



Children and families roasted marshmallows over open fires and made s'mores at five fire pits.



A crowd estimated at over 3000 gathered in the 29th Ave. Town Center for the Winter Welcome.

## . this Holiday Season.

Samantha Dardano | Jon Mauck | Rhett Adams | Eric Carr | Vita Dardano

Available



7905 E. 28th  
\$529,000

Available



2972 Magnolia  
\$222,900

Available



911 Pontiac  
\$295,000

More Homes Available:  
9837 Sunset Hill • 261 Quari • 9845 Sunset Hill Cr. • 4100 Albion

Stop by our convenient street-level office  
in the Stapleton 29th Ave. Town Center.



Metro Brokers at Stapleton  
**303.331.6700**  
[www.4denverrealestate.com](http://www.4denverrealestate.com)



Marissa: Every year for about the last 15 years, my mom, sister and I have adopted a family for Christmas. We talk to an organization that has families in need. We opt to provide the family with specific gifts rather than just donating money to the organization. We purchase King Soopers gift cards along with mittens, hat and gloves for the whole family. We've done MP3 players for the teenagers and an outfit for the mom. We ask for individualized information from the organization about what they need and want.

Justin: I've been a member of the Citizens Advisory Board for almost seven years and a co-chair for the previous two years. Every year about this time the Citizens Advisory Board, our governing body here at Stapleton, looks for new volunteers. Commitments are minimum, Also for not quite a year I've been president of the Greater Stapleton Business Association, which I've been a member of almost seven years as well. The GSBA is looking for members to help make this area aware of the small businesses that are in the neighborhood.



Marissa & Justin Ross, Maraeya, 6, Justin Michael Jr., 3

Erika: My favorite charitable organization is Bluff Lake Nature Center and I work there in two capacities. I'm a volunteer naturalist there so one morning a week I work with school groups who come out for field trips. And I'm also on the board of directors. If people are interested in teaching they can work with school groups. We also have volunteers called Ambassadors are there to greet people and answer questions. We also have volunteers called the Weed Warriors that do a lot of work with the landscaping. Bluff Lake is a private non-profit organization—people to become members, which provides financial support.

Don Weinshenker: We're Friends of the Denver Public Libraries. We feel like the public library system is one of the foundations of our civilization, so we feel it's extraordinarily important to support that.

Erika: There isn't enough money coming in from tax revenue to support the libraries so increasingly they are going to need to rely on support from citizens to keep the libraries open. I think it's a cause that many people don't think about, they just kind of assume the library is going to be there, but it's something we all could benefit by supporting.



Erika Walker & Don Weinshenker with Stephen, 15



Carrie Louise Daenell & Debbie Engle with Jordan, 7

Carrie: Our family supports The Gathering Place, which is a day resource center for homeless and poverty-stricken mothers and their children. It's located on High Street right off Colfax. We do a supply drive at home and this year we're going to have a big party for all our friends and neighbors and everybody's going to bring goodies and go shopping for the women and the children. And then at my office we do a supply drive there too, which was advertised in the Front Porch. Jordan and I just finished formulating a physician-quality, chewable multi-vitamin for those kids and we're going to be putting that at the Gathering Place as well, because we want them to have healthy life nutrition. We're going to sell them for other children and do that as a fundraiser to make buying more and more of those vitamins for The Gathering Place a sustainable long-term project. The Gathering Place is looking for specific items from their needs list, which are non-perishable food items, diapers, sippie cups, formula, wipes, and emergency clothing that is brand new, like bras and underwear and socks for children and women.

Jordan: We're going to try to get as much stuff as we can.

Views on the  
What char



# COME GET INVOLVED!

### SPORTS LEAGUES


- Basketball (Preschool – 8th Grade Divisions)
- Basketball Camp (1st – 8th Graders at Schlessman YMCA)
- NEW Competitive Basketball League – 5th–8th grade boys. Call 303 524 2762 for more information

### REGISTRATION AND DATES

- Basketball Reg. 12/10/10, season dates 01/10/11–03/05/11
- Basketball Camp Reg. 12/24/10, camp dates 12/27/10–12/29/10





Go online to register at [www.DenverYMCA.org](http://www.DenverYMCA.org) or call Schlessman Family YMCA at 720 524 2750



# Uncover the Genius

For nearly 20 years, the Montessori Children's House of Denver has made a difference in the lives of children.


With a focus on education techniques that engage your child's interest, MCHD embraces a curriculum



that *uncovers the genius* within every child. Call today for a personalized tour at 303.322.8324 x29 or visit [mchdenver.org](http://mchdenver.org)

## Now Enrolling 18 Months – 6th Grade

Toddler - Pre-school – Elementary 303.322.8324 x 29 or visit [www.mchdenver.org](http://www.mchdenver.org)



*uncover the genius*



# Street itable or community organization do you support?

Editors note: We randomly stopped six families at the Winter Welcome in Stapleton's 29th Ave. Town Center on November 19th. One was not from the area and chose not to participate. The other five all supported a cause and agreed to share that information with our readers.



Jason & Kelly Wesoky with Sawyer, 1, and Caitlyn, 3

Jason: Every month I give to Environment Colorado, a pro-environment conservation group. They do lobbying. They work on government initiatives in the state of Colorado to protect and preserve the environment. I also give to my alma mater, Miami University. I give specifically to a swimming scholarship to increase the number of scholarships for people who get to swim at Miami University in Ohio.



Jen & Alex Gordon with Spencer, 7, and Quinn, 3

Jen: Our volunteering this year is at the Denver Children's Home. We're having the boys learn a little bit about some kids who are less fortunate and we have chosen to support two kids at the Denver Children's Home. One is a boy who is 17 and one is a girl who is 13. The just ask that kids have a list of things that they would like that they're not able to get, so we're going to purchase those things for the kids and have the boys take them over and give them to the kids.

Installed in  
Three Weeks.  
Or Less.  
Guaranteed.

Call for details

Call Today for a FREE  
in-home estimate

Up to \$1,000 Off your order

call today for details

Stop by our NEW Gallery Showroom!  
Located just off I-70 at Havana | 10525 E 40th Ave., Unit 205

303-534-5454

www.rockymountainshutters.com

Rocky Mountain  
SHUTTERS & SHADES

HunterDouglas Gallery

menchie's  
frozen yogurt

grand opening!

saturday, december 18<sup>th</sup>

FREE frozen yogurt to the first 100 customers\*

drawings every hour to include gift bags,  
menchie's gift cards and ipod shuffles

free face painting

menchie's northfield stapleton

next to harkins theaters  
8302 northfield blvd.  
303.375.1110

menchie's.com

menchie's frozen yogurt

Smiles for a  
Lifetime

Creating Stapleton & Park Hill Smiles since 2004

35th and Quebec in Stapleton

Gentle, personal, health centered care in  
your neighborhood

High quality clinical expertise for the whole family

Wellness oriented care-take an active role in  
your oral health!

Bright, new modern office with the latest technology


New patients welcome and most insurances accepted

Early morning appts available

Top Dentist List 2010, 2009

5280  
Denver's Magazine

QUEBEC

Family  Dentistry

SQUARE

7505 E 35th Ave #304 Denver CO 80238 • 303.322.2081

qsfamilydentistry.com

Stapleton Front Porch

11

December 2010



By Nancy Burkhardt

Few people would say they don't have fun at the Denver Zoo—time is happily spent relaxing and communicating with the animals. Some go further and develop a bond with the Denver Zoo's mission to the public and animal conservation and become zoo volunteers.

Nancy Noll and Ellen Rabinowitz retired in Denver after moving here from New York. They have been zoo ambassadors for the last two years.

"We work at the main gate taking tickets and greeting people," Rabinowitz explained. We work in different offices doing filing or mailing projects. Right now we're cataloging donations for our holiday auction."

"We're frequently reuniting parents with children," she said. "Usually the children are perfectly calm, but the parents or grandparents are excited."

Noll and Rabinowitz have been impressed with the Denver Zoo's "green" philosophy.

"What we love best about the Denver Zoo is that it has no waste—they don't waste time, they don't waste money, they don't waste waste," Noll said. "Everything is recycled. The Denver Zoo is the greenest zoo in the country. Everything is recyclable or compostable. It's one of the outstanding things about the zoo."

While they don't work directly with animals, Noll and Rabinowitz have become knowledgeable about zoo life.

"We're wandering all over before and after our shift because you want to be familiar with the zoo," Noll said.

There are three categories of volunteers at the zoo, according to Angie Panos, volunteer manager of the Denver Zoological Foundation. Ambassadors do indoor and outdoor physical work, clerical and office support and customer activities. Guides are trained to explain things that are going on at the zoo with zoo guests. Docents receive more training to explain the zoo and the animals to zoo guests, she explained.

The Denver Zoo has about 575 adult volunteers. However, the only volunteers who are directly involved with animals are docents who go through handler training with animals such as snakes, rabbits and hedgehogs. They do live animal demonstrations at



Denver Zoo ambassadors Nancy Noll, left, and Ellen Rabinowitz recruit potential volunteers Amy Van Deren and Meg Glatthar at a Volunteer Open House and Information Session held last summer.

## Denver Zoo Has a Volunteer Niche for (Almost) Everyone

Zoo Lights, schools, senior centers or community centers. However, volunteers are not allowed to enter the habitats to pet big cats or rub the wrinkles on a rhinoceros.

Some volunteers work as keeper assistants in kitchen areas and sometimes go out in the yard and clean when animals aren't there, Panos said.

"It's one of the options in the ambassador category," she said. "Being a keeper assistant is based on availability in those areas. The job has to fit with volunteers' schedules and interests. It isn't something that you just come in and do right away."

All volunteers receive extensive, ongoing training that starts with a Volunteer Open House and Information Session.

**A Volunteer Open House and Information Session will be held from 10:30am to noon on Jan. 22 in the Gates Education Building at the Denver Zoo.**

"The purpose of the Volunteer Open House and Information Session is to give prospective volunteers enough information to say 'yes' to volunteering at the zoo, or to say, 'I don't think it's going to be for me,'" Panos said. "If it's someone who wants to feed the giraffes, they will learn that they're not going to be happy."

"Our volunteers volunteer here because they like to be around people, they like to be around animals, and they are committed to being around the conservation that the zoo has," she said. "If volunteers are numbers people or data people, it would be good for them to work in the office. But 95 percent of the opportunities for volunteers here are out in the park somewhere working with people."

Volunteers at all levels receive extensive, ongoing training at the zoo.

"The training is learning about the leadership and the structure of the zoo, and about the education and volunteer services departments," Panos explained. "It's learning about important trends in zoos, and being familiar with our own zoo, our plans and why we're here. We spend a lot of time with customer services and guest relations training. We want volunteers to be comfortable and confident that they are giving appropriate information."

In the beginning, volunteers go through a

three-day training period that requires attendance at sessions on a Thursday evening, Saturday and Sunday.

Volunteers will have to commit to working at least 50 hours a year and to attending a minimum of four of the nine business meetings offered each year that include talks by the zoo's head veterinarian, the CEO, or an animal demonstration. Many volunteers log many more than the required number of hours.

"We've done about 800 hours in two years," Rabinowitz said of her volunteerism and Noll's.

"And we're not any example of outstanding," Noll pointed out.

Volunteer schedules are flexible. The work hours can include days, evenings and/or weekends.

"The volunteer creates the schedule," Panos said. "The volunteer picks when they want to come and what they want to do. We find them something that fits."

"You need to be outgoing," Rabinowitz advised potential zoo volunteers. "You need to love animals and people. You have to want to give back to your community and you have to believe in what the Denver Zoo is doing."

For Denver Zoo volunteer information, go to [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org), email Jan Waterman, volunteer program specialist, at [jwaterman@denverzoo.org](mailto:jwaterman@denverzoo.org) or call her at 303.376.6719.



Amy Van Deren gets a close-up look at a shingleback skink from Australia, held by Denver Zoo Docent Brinda Parsons-Hier at last summer's open house for those interested in serving as zoo volunteers.



Paws to Give this holiday season. Your donation will help save more than 18,000 homeless pets in 2011.

**Donate today at [ddfl.org/paws](http://ddfl.org/paws)**

YES

The homeless pets can count on me this holiday season.

Here's my gift of: ☐\$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐\$100 ☐\$50 ☐\$25

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Mail to: Dumb Friends League  
2080 S. Quebec St., Denver, CO 80231

CLIP & MAIL WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY.

FP2010

Help us collect

**Cozy Merriment**

this holiday season.

Revolution Cleaners and We Don't Waste, at the Denver Inner City Parish, have teamed-up to collect clothing and toys for those less fortunate this holiday season. Donate unwrapped toys and gently-used clothing at any Revolution Cleaners' location or on our route and you'll receive \$20 in free dry cleaning. A great excuse to get your holiday linens cleaned before the grand feast!

\$20 IN FREE CLEANING

VALID FOR TWENTY DOLLARS IN DRY CLEANING WHEN YOU DONATE A TOY OR CLOTHING.

Expires 12.31.10 | Limit one per customer  
Cannot be combined with any other offer



303-458-0404 | [Info@RevolutionCleaners.com](mailto:Info@RevolutionCleaners.com)

Redemption Code: 1089 | Complete terms at [RevolutionCleaners.com/terms](http://RevolutionCleaners.com/terms)



revolutioncleaners.com | 303-458-0404



December 2010

12

Stapleton Front Porch



# Michael Bender, New Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court

By Carol Roberts

Colorado's new Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Bender graciously set aside time for an interview with the Front Porch on a Sunday afternoon. We're glad we caught him before he started his new position on December 1 because, as he says, "The new job will change my life." As Chief Justice, he will continue to be a judge and write opinions, but he will also have responsibilities similar to those of a CEO of a big company: 3,400 employees, a budget of almost \$300 million and the supervision of over 300 judges.

"I think the job requires a vision for the future about where the system is going, and it also requires an ability to lead the whole branch as a group," says Bender. "You become the spokesperson of the third branch of government and you act as the internal administrator of the Supreme Court and how it operates. It's a major responsibility and undertaking. It's the greatest honor of my life—but it's no small task."

That said, what Justice Bender talks most passionately about is the fair and rigorous system that Colorado uses to select judges and how important it is that citizens understand the role of the Judiciary as the third branch of government. He points out that a valuable source of information is the speakers bureau, "Our Courts," and recommends that people visit [www.ourcourtscolorado.org](http://www.ourcourtscolorado.org) to learn how our judges are selected. Another website he recommends for readers is <http://CourtsNoPlaceForPolitics.org/>, which explains Colorado's judicial selection process.

The state's new judicial complex in Denver is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2013 and Bender has, for five years, been involved in its planning and is excited about what it will offer Coloradans. "In the new judicial building, there is going to be a learning center next to the three courtrooms. It's going to be



Chief Justice Michael Bender and Helen Hand in their Stapleton home.

the most important part of the courthouse. The learning center will have hands-on educational materials about the three branches of government and also about the history of the rule of law, the constitution, and the aspects of the judicial system, the third branch, that are unique to the state of Colorado. It'll be geared to 8th grade and up *and* it will be geared to the statewide public school curriculum."

We asked Justice Bender if there were any surprises when he became a part of the Colorado Supreme Court?


"One surprise was that as an individual Supreme Court justice you have very little power. The first week I was there I was the only justice in the building and we got a writ that, if I were a trial judge, I think I would have denied it in less than 20 seconds after reading it. But I really couldn't do that because every major decision you have to make on the court requires at least three and sometimes four votes of the members. So I couldn't do anything. It was kind of a recognition of how we are a group and how we only make joint decisions. You have the power to speak in terms of dissent, you have a forum, and you have a pulpit, but in terms of actually making law or making decisions that are binding, it's a group decision.

"For the people who are making these decisions it's a bit of an

arranged marriage. They all have different backgrounds, different perspectives and they're all very capable in many different ways. It's an interesting process. The goal is to be as collegial as possible and the whole is better than the sum of its parts.

You do your homework, you ask yourself what's right and what's fair, and follow precedent and you reach a particular conclusion. It's hard to say, after a lot of study, that someone who reaches the opposite conclusion is equally as right as you, and you have to respect that. That's a difficult personal thing to do."

Michael Bender was born in the Bronx, went to Dartmouth, and majored in philosophy and literature. During a college summer he worked in construction in Yellowstone and fell in love with the West. "I had never seen a mountain," he says. "I decided to do something different than all my family back East." So, after college he went straight to law school at CU in Boulder. His first job was as a public defender in Denver. He subsequently worked as a criminal defense lawyer in private practice and then for the EEOC litigation center in Denver. He was appointed to the Supreme Court in February 1997. Bender lives in Stapleton with his wife Helen Hand, who is the president of Colorado Free University. They have five children and five grandchildren.






**WOMEN'S SERVICES AT**  
**ROSE**

Obstetrics & Gynecology,  
Midwifery and Infertility

**2975 ROSLYN-SUITE 140**

Women have special needs and that's why we offer comprehensive care that treats you as a whole woman, no matter what your stage of life. And now, taking care of your health can start closer to home.

**To learn more about the Stapleton Women's Clinic, call 303-320-2578**



Top five reasons why you should use

**STAPLETON & LOWRY HOME SERVICES**

for your Carpet · Upholstery Cleaning



1. We use one of the most technologically advanced and powerful truck mount cleaning units known to man

2. Our chemicals are plant based and biodegradable



3. We are local & we are not a franchise

4. Our prices are affordable

5. We support our neighborhood schools and charities, and lend a hand when someone in our community is in need

303-320-1297

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

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

# LiveWell

Did you know that psychoneuroimmunologists have actually studied the effects of simple random acts of kindness? Not only on committing and receiving those acts, but even on those witnessing random acts of kindness? You guessed it—it is actually good for you. For your mood, your spirit and for your immune system too. Pay it forward, spread the love and remember... thinking about giving accomplishes far less than following through on your intentions. Take action and everyone wins! Here's to a season of joy, giving and gratitude.

## The Gathering Place Supply Drive

From now until the end of the year - in our office

**Food, Toiletries, Diapers, and Formula**

**Drop-off Tue–Thurs from 10am–5pm**



- Age-Smart Protocols
- Weight Balancing
- Hormone Health
- Aging Metabolism
- Bone Health
- Total Digestive Repair



225 Detroit Street  
Denver, CO 80206  
In the heart of Cherry Creek North

[www.DrDaenell.com](http://www.DrDaenell.com) | 303-399-8050

**LiveWell Center**  
**Carrie Louise Daenell, ND**

NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR





Holiday Giving in NE Denver

The need is great this year and even small donations help. If you've been putting off making a charitable contribution, now is the time to take advantage of incentives for both the giver and the recipient organization.

Those who give to nonprofits that provide child care can get a hefty credit on their state tax return through the Colorado Child Care Credit. And charities that receive donations on Colorado Gives Day, December 8, will have your gift increased through an incentive fund.

By Carol Roberts

Get a Colorado Tax Credit by giving to a registered non-profit child care program.

When this state tax credit is combined with federal itemized tax deductions, your out-of-pocket cost is less than half of your gift amount.

The Colorado Child Care Credit (CCCC) was passed by the legislature to promote child care in Colorado. Taxpayers that make a monetary contribution to an organization registered as part of this program may claim a state income tax credit of 50% of the total contribution. Call the organization of your choice to get Form DR 1317 to submit with your taxes. (For more information, visit Colorado.gov/revenue and click on Child Care Contribution Income Tax Credit. The main restrictions are that you have no financial interest in the organization and your tax liability exceeds the credit amount.

Nearby charities that qualify for the Colorado Child Care tax credit include:

The Anchor Center for the Blind, which teaches visually impaired infants, young children and their families, and provides hope and a nurturing environment where children can reach their highest potential. www.anchorcenter.org; 303-377-9732; 2550 Roslyn St.

Denver Children's Home, which provides services, regardless of ability to pay, to emotionally distressed children and their families who struggle with the effects of poverty, abuse and neglect. www.DenverChildrensHome.org; 303-399-4890; 1501 Albion St.

Summer Scholars, which has year-round programs that give low-income, academically-struggling elementary students the skills necessary to attain academic success. They work with numerous public schools in northeast Denver. www.SummerScholars.org; 303-355-0290; 3401 Quebec St., Suite 5010.

Donate on Colorado Gives Day, December 8, and your gift will be increased.

Join other Coloradans to help raise \$1 million for Colorado Charities on December 8 and your gift will be increased through an "incentive fund."

Make your donation at GivingFirst.org, which is operated by the Community First Foundation. The website lists over 400 Colorado Charities, their mission, their programs and their financials. Community First Foundation pays all processing fees, so 100% of the donations go to the charities.

Every donation made at GivingFirst.org on Dec. 8 (starting at 12am for 24 hours) will be increased in value through an incentive fund started by FirstBank with a \$250,000 donation



Rob Chaney, FirstBank, Stapleton branch

(and increasing with other corporate donations). "Colorado Gives Day is an initiative of Community First Foundation and we are their partner in this effort to help Coloradans raise \$1 million for Colorado charities," says Rob Chaney, Executive Vice President of FirstBank's 29th and Quebec location. "We believe Coloradans will surpass the \$1 million goal on December 8. We're interested in the strength of communities. As our communities grow and get stronger, our banks will get stronger."

Chaney went on to explain that the incentive fund will be distributed proportionately to all the non-profits based on the gifts they receive on December 8th.

Other nearby charities to consider:

Food Bank of the Rockies. According to the Food Bank of the Rockies, in the area they serve nearly 400,000 people live in poverty and struggle to meet their basic food needs; almost half of them are children. Every dollar donated provides over five pounds of food (four meals). Donate online at www.foodbankrockies.org. Plan a gathering of friends and volunteer together for a three-hour shift (minimum age is 14). Fill out the volunteer form online or call 303-371-9250 x236 or x232. Or organize a food drive among family and friends and deliver to 10700 E. 46th Ave.

Friends of St. Andrew serves the poor and homeless of Aurora by providing meals (150 hot lunches a day), emergency food baskets, personal care items, funding for medical prescriptions on an emergency basis, and other assistance. Volunteers are needed to work one day a week from 9-2 with a six-month commitment. Call Sarah Norton at 303-344- 9306. Food staples, basic toiletries and blankets, sleeping bags and scarves are needed. Visit www.queenofpeace.net/friends\_st\_andrew.html. Tax deductible donations go to Queen of Peace (the non-profit 501[c]3 organization), 1525 Dallas St Aurora 80010. (This organization is not listed on GivingFirst.org.)

Aurora Warms the Night provides shelter in severely cold weather. They obtain rooms at local low-cost motels using a pre-negotiated voucher system. They also distribute motel-appropriate food, toiletries and clothing and give referrals for

medical and dental care, substance abuse treatment, and permanent housing by working closely with other non-profits. Items needed include food that can be warmed and eaten in a motel room, toiletries, warm outer clothing (hats, gloves, socks, scarves, sweaters, coats), blankets and backpacks. Visit www.aurorawarmsthenight.org to donate online or tax deductible checks should be payable to Aurora Mental Health Center, with Aurora Warms the Night on the memo line., and mailed to PO Box 1362, Aurora, CO 80040. AWTN's offices are located at 1555 Dayton St.

Red Apple Recycling is a textile/clothing recycler that funds grants to schools through donations of clothing and shoes that the community drops in one of their "little red schoolhouse" boxes. All clean donations are accepted regardless of condition. A box is located on the northeast corner of the Bill Roberts school parking lot. In October Red Apple Recycling gave Bill Roberts K-8 a check for \$1,500 to be used for a school-wide composting program. Visit www.redapplerecycling.org

Donate blood. It's easy, it's safe and it saves lives. If all blood donors gave blood 2 to 4 times a year it would help prevent blood shortages. Businesses and community groups are encouraged to organize blood drives. To donate to Children's Hospital, individuals should call 720.777.5398 to set up a time at the Children's Hospital blood donation center. Visit www.thechildrenshospital.org/give/blood/. To donate to the Bonfils Blood Center call 303-363-2300 and make an appointment to donate at 7901 Lowry Blvd. For information visit www.bonfils.org.

**FUN, JUNGLE ATMOSPHERE**

- Eliminates fear
- Encourages great lifetime habits
- Specializing in infants thru teens
- New patient 'Passport' creates a fun, incentive based dental experience

**PHENOMENAL SMILE CARE**

- Board Certified Pediatric Dentist: Jesse Witkoff, DDS
- Prevention focused, giving you education for informed decisions
- Most insurance & PPOs accepted
- Payment plans available

**LATEST TECHNOLOGY**

- Child sized instruments & chairs
- Digital x-rays reduces radiation exposure, maximizes accuracy & comfort

DENVER/STAPLETON: A WILD SMILE 720.945.1234

"Pediatric dentists are the pediatricians of dentistry"  
Play games and learn more about us at [www.awildsmile.com](http://www.awildsmile.com)

Karl Lo—Awarded a Five Star Real Estate Agent Based on Customer Satisfaction!

Presented by 5280 Magazine

As one of Stapleton's first homeowners and Realtor since 2002, I've worked with and become close friends with hundreds of homeowners in this great community. With so many years of new homes and resales experience, I offer an inside track to both Buyers and Sellers. *Experience matters, especially in Stapleton!*

Under Contract in Under a Month

Upgraded, Mediterranean-style home. Fin. basement, 5 bedrooms/4 full baths. 3,794 sq. ft. 8750 E. 29th Ave. \$539,000

Great year end builder deals available, call me for details

Cell 303-819-1639  
Karl@IREgroup.com • [www.iregroup.com](http://www.iregroup.com)

**PAIN-RELIEVING THERAPIES**

**For Women's Health**

Physical Therapy • Massage Therapy • Pilates • Personal Training

**Two for One**

**Massage Special OR**

**\$20 off Pilates**

**Mat Class Package,**

**Massage Package, or**

**Gift Certificate**

Not valid with other special offers.  
Must present coupon.  
Offer expires 12/31/10.

**Schedule an appointment today 303.333.3493**

***cherrycreekwellnesscenter.com***

**Cherry Creek • Wheat Ridge • Lone Tree • Stapleton!**



Extraordinary Discovery Sparks Mammoth-Mania throughout Colorado

By John Babiak

Nature has ways of stalling construction projects. In mid-October, Jesse Steele, a heavy equipment operator for the Gould Construction Company, was doing his part to enlarge the Ziegler Reservoir located on the edge of Snowmass Village. The project aims to quadruple the reservoir's ability to catch water from East Snowmass Creek to meet the Village's escalating water needs. Steele's dozer blade unearthed a sizeable bone about 20 feet beneath the reservoir's clay bottom. His curiosity peaked; he silenced his earthmover and examined the specimen along with several dirt mounds that were created along his path. Soon Steele and his fellow hard-hat-wearing colleagues realized that the find was of prehistoric proportions. Their work had revealed a one-of-a-kind, high-elevation, Ice Age ecosystem, filled with well-preserved flora and fauna. The ancient lake bottom is now known to be comprised of many layers of clay and peat bog, which helped preserve the specimens for thousands of years.

Since the discovery, Denver Museum of Nature and Science curators, scientists, volunteers and consultants have painstakingly mined a small, 100-plus-square-foot swatch of the



The Denver Museum of Nature and Science opened its doors Saturday, November 20 for "Mammoth and Mastodon Madness." Thousands of excited Denverites showed up for a first viewing of the fossil treasures from the historic find near Snowmass.

nile; eight to ten American mastodons; two deer and four bison with skulls twice the size of those that now roam the nearby Rocky Mt. Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge; one tiger salamander, the only amphibian species that today has been documented in all 63 counties of Colorado; gnawed wood from possible beaver inhabitants; insects including iridescent beetles; snails and microscopic crustaceans;

Bulldozer Blade Uncovers Ice Age Past

reservoir. Recovered Ice Age era plant and animal specimens will now undergo in-depth scientific analysis and long-term preservation in the museum's conservation laboratory. Scientists hope to sequence extracted DNA from bones or suitable soft tissue. Because the samples were saturated with water, controlled drying could take as long as 12 months. Bones that dry too quickly can splinter and disintegrate. Carbon-dating methods will narrow the age of the specimens that are currently estimated to be between 12,000 and 120,000 years old. Soon, DMSN staff will be able to tell a great story about the last Ice Age in our Rocky Mountains. "There

have been suggestions that high-altitude environments might have harbored different communities, or had a different story of change, but since fossils representing them are so rarely found, no one has known for sure. Now is our chance to see what they are like," said Dr. Daniel Fisher, a mastodon expert from the University of Michigan, and a scientific consultant on the excavation.

All in all, the museum recovered approximately 600 bones and bone pieces including 15 tusks, two tusk tips and 14 bags full of tusk fragments from the mammoths and mastodons, in addition to hundreds of pounds of plant matter. The site yielded the first-ever Colorado Jefferson's ground sloth; four Columbian mammoths, including a juve-

and a variety of seeds, cones and leaves from sub-alpine fir, white spruce and sedge.

To find more information, visit [www.dmns.org/about-us/snowmass-village-mammoth-and-mastodon-excavation](http://www.dmns.org/about-us/snowmass-village-mammoth-and-mastodon-excavation).

John Babiak is a Stapleton resident. He is a microbiologist and teaches science and ecology enrichment classes in the Denver Public Schools. He can be reached at [NatureRangerJohn@aol.com](mailto:NatureRangerJohn@aol.com).

Check out our video at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com)



Young museum visitors pretend to be paleontologists.



Allison, 6, and Wyatt Carlson, 7, look over some of the peat in which the fossils were found. Layers of clay and peat helped preserve the fossils.

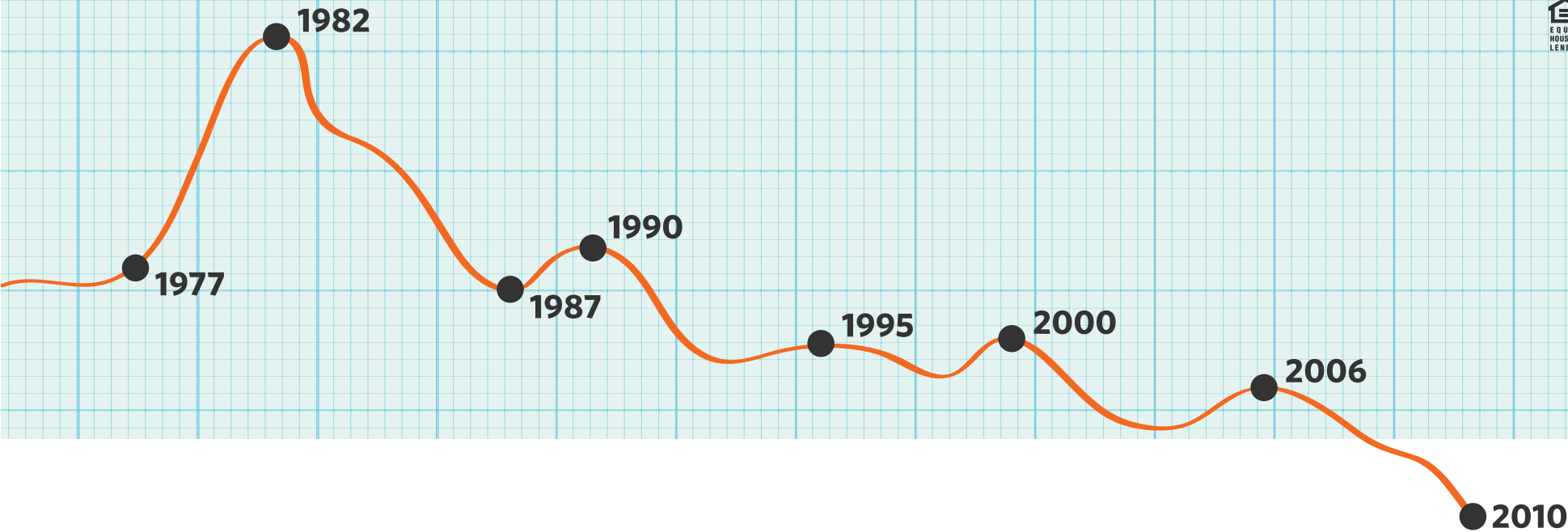
[efirstbank.com](http://efirstbank.com)

Visit us at 29th and Quebec, 303 329 4762

Historically low mortgage rates.

1STBANK

Member FDIC





## Apollo XVII Commander Eugene Cernan Speaks of His Mission and an Unfulfilled Dream

By Marko and John Babiak

Retired U.S. Naval Aviator and NASA Astronaut Eugene Cernan is a man of many accomplishments and distinctions. Like the first man to set foot onto the lunar surface, he earned an undergraduate degree in engineering from Purdue. He is also a graduate of the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey California. He is the recipient of the Navy's Distinguished Flying Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal with Star, as well as the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, and the Lindbergh Spirit Award. He has flown fighter jets off of aircraft carriers. Captain Cernan led three historic missions into space as the Pilot of Gemini IX, Lunar Modular Pilot of Apollo X and the Commander of our last voyage to the moon, Apollo XVII. From the moon's dark side and in her shadows, he saw trillions of stars against the black backdrop and wondered if life existed out there. He 4-wheeled over the moon's crust and even etched his daughter's initials TDC in the lunar regolith.\*

Since Apollo, he has made it his mission to inspire children to take interest in astronautics and aviation. More than that, he encourages them to take on challenges and not be afraid to make mistakes. He moved two of Colorado's very own to pursue careers in aviation: educator and STS-131 Discovery Shuttle Mission Specialist Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, and Kent Rominger,

## Last Moonwalker Sets Foot onto Lowry



Photo by NASA

Check out our video at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com)

Apollo 17 mission commander Gene Cernan is shown at the start of his third EVA (extra vehicular activity) on the moon. The photo was taken by astronaut Jack Schmitt in what their 3rd colleague, Alan Bean, has called Cernan's "John Wayne" pose. Cernan is known as the "Last Man on the Moon."

an Endeavour, Discovery and Columbia Shuttle pilot and crew commander. Rominger calls Cernan his "hero and idol."

Gene Cernan is also a staunch patriot and one of the strongest proponents of having man return to the moon. He does not mince words when it comes to talking about his passion. In July, while

testifying at a U.S. Senate Committee of Commerce, Science and Transportation meeting on NASA's budget and America's role in the future of human exploration in space he said that "the budget proposal presents no challenges, has no focus, and in fact is a blueprint for a mission to nowhere."

Still, he has the dubious distinction of being the last man to walk on the moon, a distinction that he would gladly shed to a young man or woman.

Cernan was recently in Denver to be honored by the Wings Over the Rockies museum during a gala that helps the Museum in Lowry sustain its many educational outreach programs. He was the recipient of their annual Spreading Wings Award, which recognizes those who have dedicated their lives to flight



Cole Arts and Sciences Academy students who placed 5th in Cernan's video challenge on the importance of space exploration sit behind the Colorado astronauts as Cernan spoke. Cole students, left to right, are: Jesus Lara, Lane Jones, Matilk Mathiang, Georgia Jay, Luis Moreno, Angel Hernandez and after-school computer sciences instructor from KidsTek, Nathan Martin.

and advances in aerospace. Earlier in the day he was at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to speak to students who participated in the Wings Museum "Cernan's Challenge" video contest. Students created short videos about the importance of space exploration. The contest piqued the interest of 13 classmates from Denver's Cole Arts and Sciences Academy. Their entry, "KidsTek Cole Arts and Sciences Academy Space Exploration," placed 5th overall in the competition. (See article below—Cole will become part of DSST in 2011.)

When (Marko) asked does he have any unfulfilled dreams, he responded: "I still have dreams. The most important dream that I have is to see that someone like you, from your generation, follows in my footsteps, to go back there where we once lived and to that place that we called home. We can do that. We need to have the passion and desire to do it. Those of us who have preceded you want to give you the same opportunity that we were given. The sky is no longer the limit. My dream is to see you go to where no other humans have been before, and take all of mankind to places that they have never seen before. And I am working pretty hard to make that come about."

Marko and John Babiak are Stapleton residents. John was a founding member of the Aircraft Carrier Hornet Museum in Alameda, CA. John served the museum as the Apollo Historian and Curator. The USS Hornet recovered the Apollo XI and XII crewmembers and is now a National Historic Landmark. He can be reached at [HornetCV12@aol.com](mailto:HornetCV12@aol.com).

\*regolith – the layer of loose material covering the bedrock of the earth and moon



Gene Cernan, 76, speaks at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science; Colorado astronauts Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger and Kent Rominger join him on the stage.

## One of Denver's Top Private Schools Presents a New Middle School!

DMIS will offer the IB Middle Years Program to all students in grades 6-8



## Middle School Open House Thurs., Dec. 9, 4–6 pm

Followed by a presentation on **Transitioning to Adolescence**

by board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist **Dr. Christian Thurstone** from 6–7:30pm in the gymnasium. **RSVP to [kate@dmischool.com](mailto:kate@dmischool.com).**

Visit us online at [www.dmischool.com](http://www.dmischool.com) or call **303-340-3647**



## DSST Public Schools Receives \$3 Million for Expansion

The Denver School of Science and Technology Public Schools (DSST) recently received a five-year \$3 million grant from the Daniels Fund to help fund expansion of its network of public charter schools. The Daniels Fund has been a supporter of DSST since its inception, giving gifts that helped to open the first campus in Stapleton and additional gifts that support DSST's capacity to open and manage new schools and school start-ups. Linda Childears, president and CEO of the Daniels Fund, says, "DSST schools have achieved great results, demonstrating that all students can perform to high standards when given quality support to get there."

DSST Public Schools was founded as the Denver School of Science and Technology in 2004 with the founding campus at Stapleton. DSST currently serves over 1,000 students with three schools on two campuses. DSST has been approved to open three additional secondary school campuses (grades 6–12) in 2011, 2012 and 2013. At full enrollment, DSST Public Schools will serve over 4,200 students, and will double the number of four-year-college-ready DPS graduates by 2020.

The next DSST expansion school will be Cole (located near MLK and Downing), a school where the parents approached DSST and asked them to develop a proposal for bringing the DSST program to their school. The Cole program has been approved by the school board and will start with a class of sixth-graders in 2011.





## Premium Fishwrap\* by Jon Meredith

### The Ride Home: A Christmas Tale

Mom had always made time in her schedule to pick the kids up from school and drive them home. Her rule, for herself as well, was no electronics on this five- to ten-minute drive. Whatever calls or texts needed to be made had to wait during this sacrosanct time. In order for this to work, she had to come up with something the four of them could talk about.

Today would be an easy one, she thought. "Hey guys, what should we get the dog for Christmas?" It was only early November but all the stores had their Christmas decorations up and she knew the kids would be thinking about what they wanted. Last year her husband lost his job at this time and they got through Christmas on credit. That turned out to be a big mistake that in fact almost made them lose their house.

"A new PS2 with Modern Warfare Black Ops," piped up her youngest boy, a second-grader.

Her ninth-grade daughter responded by shaming her brother with bluntness only an adolescent can have, "Stupid, you want that for yourself. Why get the dog anything, for all we know he might be Jewish. We don't have money to waste on the dog when Dad just got a job...finally, geesh." Mom thought to herself her

daughter is right and she had come up with a poor question today.

Mom's middle son was curled up against the driver's side rear window with an ear bud tucked into his ear. He had not chimed in yet.

Mom felt her phone vibrate and her first instinct was to pick it up. As a Realtor, she is constantly on the phone, and this might be the buyers who she had just shown a few houses to. Christmas would be a whole lot easier if only she could close a sale prior to the end of the year. If she answered she knew that she could never again impose her little rule on the kids. She let the call go and drove faster.

Her youngest once again chimed in, "If we don't want to buy an expensive present for the dog, why don't we make him something?"

"Like, what could you ever make a dog? That is sooo stupid," cried the daughter.

"I think we could make the dog a great present such as a pillow or a chewy toy." Mom knew she had to defend her little one and the idea wasn't half-baked.

"I think we should get him the cool doghouse that the Smiths bought their dog last year. I think it came from LL Bean," the daughter suggested, completely oblivious to the financial concerns she had just imposed on her little brother.

Mom had seen the Smiths' doghouse and wondered if they had to get a building permit

from the city in order to have it installed. That idea was certainly out of the question.

"He doesn't like to go out, so I don't think he would ever go in the house, sweetie," said Mom, trying to gently put the kibosh on that ridiculously expensive idea.

Finally, her middle child chimed in after being seemingly oblivious to the entire conversation. "How 'bout we just skip the whole present deal this year, Mom. There are things about Christmas that are much more important than the gifts. Let's pick names out of a hat and buy that person a present worth no more than \$20. My friend's family did that last year and he said it was the best Christmas they ever had because his parents weren't fighting about money."

The daughter, thinking fast, knew her brother had something, "Let's take the pressure off Mom and Dad this year and make Christmas really special without a bunch of gifts. We can buy stuff next year."

Mom couldn't believe what she was hearing. The two oldest children really understood these financial issues within the family and were willing to sacrifice their Christmas gifts in order to help. She had one more vote to take and she turned to her youngest.

"Buddy," the nickname only she and her husband used, "what do you think about this? You're the youngest and you may not want to go along because Christmas is a very special time for little guys."

"Mom, there are lots of kids who don't get a bunch of stuff at Christmas. Half the stuff you buy I lose anyway. So, I'm cool with it."

Mom could not believe what she had just heard. She pulled up to the house and the kids scrambled out of the car. Could they really have a great Christmas without gifts? If it was the children's idea, then, yes, they probably could and she would make it very, very special. A Christmas her family would never forget. All the trimmings of Christmas except the overabundance of gifts. She started to tear up when she remembered her phone.

There was a text from the buyers. "Wld like to offer full \$\$ on the Elm Prop. Can we close and be in before Xmas?"

*Jon Meredith lives in Stapleton. He can be reached at [jon.meredith@q.com](mailto:jon.meredith@q.com).*

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



Happy Holidays from your  
Home-Away-From-Home!

Come celebrate Christmas Eve  
with us and enjoy \$1.50 PBR's  
& half-price bottles of house wine

7352 E. 29th Ave.

p: 303 321.4010

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

Lon L. Flewelling's  
**Lead Dog Services**

- K9 Behaviorist • Pet-Sitter • Walker
- Red Cross Certified Animal CPR/First Aid

[www.lead-dogservices.com](http://www.lead-dogservices.com)  
720.859.7864 lead.dog@live.com

## Gift wrapped for you by Wolfe & Epperson



2665 Central Park Blvd  
**\$279,750 New Price**  
Quiet courtyard location \* 3 Bd  
\* 3 Bth \* Great Location \* Slab  
Granite Kitchen \* Fireplace \*  
Large South facing Master \*  
Extra crawl space + gar storage



2688 Dexter St  
**\$310,000 New Price**  
Pottery Barn Cute Bungalow  
with 3 bd \* 2 bth. Renovated  
Kitchen \* Updated and move  
in ready \* Hi Ceiling. Finished  
Basement



2348 Ivanhoe St  
**\$422,500 New Price**  
Spacious Remodeled Bungalow  
\* 5 bd \* 2 bth \* 3 Main floor  
bedrooms \* Large Kitchen w/  
slab granite- exposed brick +  
Fin basement w/ egress,



1700 Niagara St  
**\$499,950 New Price**  
1 1/2 Story Tudor \* 5 bed  
3 bath \* Spacious Kitchen  
w/ breakfast nook \* Oak  
floors, coed ceilings \* Full  
finished bsmt \* 9150 sq ft  
prof. landscaped lot \* 3  
car gar \* 3024 sq. ft.



5821 E 9th Ave  
**\$309,950 New Price**  
Charming 3 story town-  
home \* Finished basement  
\* Slab granite in kitchen \*  
3 bed 4 bath \* Oak floors  
\* 2 car garage \* Mayfair  
Park around the corner \*  
Close to Lowry



2677 Ulster St  
**\$332,500**  
**Sold in 4 Days**  
**Results matter, call  
us to help you sell  
your home!**



2200 Elm St  
**\$749,950**  
**SOLD**  
**Results matter, call  
us to help you sell  
your home!**

Wrap up one of these great homes for the Holidays!  
Happy Holidays and a terrific New Year from the Wolfe and Epperson Team!

**SOLD signs follow wherever we go!**

**Judy Wolfe & Jay Epperson**

303.886.6606 | [www.wolfe-epperson.com](http://www.wolfe-epperson.com)



Specializing in **acupuncture** for:

- Stress and Anxiety Reduction
- Women's Health
- Cancer Care
- Chronic Pain
- Joint Pain and Sports Injuries
- Care before and after Surgery



Dianne Ansari-Winn, M.D.

5 Cook Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206  
(303) 243-3300

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





# 24-Year-Old Mayfair Native Makes a Difference in the World

By Nancy Burkhart

When Mayfair native Jessica Posner was majoring in African American studies at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, she studied abroad, like many college students do. But little did she know that her experience in Africa's largest slum, Kibera, located in Nairobi, Kenya, would provide her with a lifetime career.

Posner worked on a theater project and lived in Kibera, the only white person to do so in residents' memories.

"I had a deep appreciation and understanding for equality," Posner said.

It was this quality that led her to discussions with Kennedy Odede, then a 23-year-old Kibera resident who had grown up in a large family with an abusive father and two sisters who had children at young ages. The discussions focused on what to do about the extreme poverty that forced 66 percent of Kibera's girls to trade sex for food by the age of 16, that gave only 8 percent of all Kibera girls an opportunity to attend school, and that took the lives of one in five children before their fifth birthdays.

"Seeing Kennedy's mother working so hard for her family was where the idea for working with women started," Posner said.

The result was a nonprofit organization called Shining Hope for Communities (SHC). Posner, now 24 years old, is chief operating officer and Odede, who now is a student



Jessica Posner, a 24-year-old who grew up in Mayfair, co-founded a charity to help women and children in Kenya's Kibera slum.

at Wesleyan University, is chief executive officer. SHC has a staff of 30 people in Middletown and five recent college graduates working in Kenya.

In Kibera, SHC has built a tuition-free school for 67 girls that boards six students, a community center to provide social services, and a community-run health clinic with a paid, professional Kenyan staff. The clinic is named for Colorado native Johanna Justin-Jinich, who was shot and killed near Wesleyan University. One room in the clinic was named for Denver's Chase Parr who, along with her father and mother, was killed in a holiday season car accident three years ago. Her younger sister was the only surviving family member.

"We're really focusing on expanding the school and serving more people at the health clinic," Posner said.

SHC's mission is to "combat intergenerational cycles of poverty and gender inequality." All efforts are directed toward making women respected members of society.

In recognition for their work with SHC, Posner and Odede have been named 2010 Echoing Green Fellows and won the 2010 Dell Social Innovation Competition. Posner was named Top World Changer 25 and Under by Do Something and VH1.

Posner credits her family with giving her a desire to make a difference in the world.

"My parents were always very supportive," she said. "They gave me a broad view of the world and an apprecia-



Photos courtesy of Jessica Posner

Posner's charity, Shining Hope for Communities, has built a tuition-free school for 67 girls, a community center to provide social services, and a community-run health clinic with a paid, professional Kenyan staff.

tion for all the opportunities I've had, as well as an understanding of the responsibility to give back to the world."

Posner sees SHC growing in the future with other projects in different parts of the world and not just in African American cultures. Short-term plans call for more students living at the Kibera school.

Posner will talk about SHC and Kibera's needs at a benefit, Deep River: A Spirituals Concert and Talk, to be held at 2pm on December 5 at Saint Thomas Church, East 22nd Ave. and Dexter St. (See p. 23)

A longtime friend of Posner's family, Dr. Arthur Jones, will sing spirituals that were created and sung by African Americans who were slaves. Songs with Christmas themes will be included. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted.

"I think that you're able to give so much for so little," Posner said. "Even \$20 goes far. To feed all the students for one day, it takes \$10."

The SHC website says that \$25 buys 33 books, 360 pencils or 12 pairs of shoes. For further information about SHC, go to [www.shininghopeforcommunities.org](http://www.shininghopeforcommunities.org).



**Budget Blinds**  
a style for every point of view

**Budget Blinds – custom window coverings that fit your style and budget!**

- Personal Style Consultants
- Thousands of samples from the best brands
- "Expert Fit" measuring and installation
- Over 1,100 consultants

**FREE In-Home Consultation & Estimate**

**30% OFF**

**All Home or Office Window Treatments**

**Call today for details!**  
**720-870-1884**  
or visit us online at [www.budgetblinds.com](http://www.budgetblinds.com)

**Budget Blinds**  
a style for every point of view™

Some Restrictions Apply. Offer Good At Time of Initial Estimate Only. Lifetime Limited Warranties. Not Valid With Any Other Offers.

We have the styles you love.

- Shutters • Draperies
- Wood Blinds • Honeycomb Shades
- Roller Shades • Vertical Blinds
- Silhouette® • Woven Wood
- and more!



**Journey with us to the Manger.**

You will love our incredibly special services.

**Sunday, December 12th: Festival of Lights 7pm**

**Friday, December 24th:**  
**Family Christmas Service 5:30pm**  
(every child attending may have a part in the presentation of "The Grumpy Shepherd")  
**Traditional Service 8pm**  
(candlelight service with carols)

**Sunday, December 26th:**  
**Family Celebration Service 9am & 11am**  
(come with your family and Christmas guests)

  
5208 Montview Blvd, Denver 80207 [www.phumc.org](http://www.phumc.org)



**BLADIUM**  
SPORTS & FITNESS CLUB  
THE BEST PART OF YOUR DAY...EVERYDAY!

We bring fitness to you and your family!  
**MEMBERSHIPS STARTING AT \$29 MONTHLY**

**303-320-3033 / [www.bladium.com](http://www.bladium.com)**  
**2400 Central Park Blvd. Denver CO 80238**





# Singles Unite for Charitable Work

By Nancy Burkhart

Many singles join matchmaking clubs to find partners. Others realize that being around other singles when they do what they are passionate about gives them people to talk to who have the same interests.

This is the basis for Single Volunteers of Greater Denver. The organization acts as a resource for nonprofit organizations that need extra help putting on fundraising activities such as silent auctions, walk-a-thons and run-a-thons. SVGD offers members an opportunity to do volunteer work without the need to commit to a certain number of hours a month.

“It’s a healthy way to give back to the community, and I get to hang out with lighthearted people,” explained Howard Shaw.

Shaw is a Stapleton resident who is 50 years old and a systems engineer for Lockheed Martin. SVGD attracts members over 21, he said, noting that some members are in their 60s. It is not a matchmaking service.

“A love connection can happen, but it’s not our primary objective,” he said. “If you meet people doing something you like, you know you have some aspect of your life in common. Your value systems may line up.

“By doing volunteering and being single, it’s an easy way to connect with people in an environment where we all have the same goal,” he said. “You can show up and not know anyone and feel included immediately. It’s a very ac-



Howard Shaw, Stapleton resident and member of Single Volunteers of Greater Denver, serves dinner to individuals and families for whom The Crossing provides long term rehabilitation and transitional housing. The Crossing, located in a former hotel located in North Park Hill, is a branch of the Denver Rescue Mission.

cepting environment. You feel like you’re accomplishing something and you feel like you’re connected with people.”

SVGD offers its volunteer members the opportunity to work at about 70 events a year for a one-time membership fee of \$10, according to Kayla Okafor, the group’s volunteer event coordinator.

“The members don’t have to make a time commitment,” Okafor said. “We would hope that they would select one event a month, but that doesn’t work for everyone. Most of them are working people who can’t make a commitment for every week or every month on a certain day. They can go on the website and see what interests them.”

With so many events under their belts, SVGD members offer nonprofits the benefit of their extensive experience.

“Since we volunteer a lot, we’re fairly expert at how to make an event that we support work,” Shaw said. “We aren’t just random people who can show up and do registration and hand out directions. We really know how to do those things well. We can be very helpful at making what they’re doing much more effective. If you’ve done enough volunteering, you develop an expertise. The only question is how we can align their needs with our participation.”

Many nonprofit organizations who have used SVGD volunteers return for their help. Groups such as the Denver Dumb Friends League and The Crossing have worked with SVGD. Organizations looking for a partnership with SVGD are asked to give four weeks’ notice.

“I’m at a limit of seven events a month,” Okafor said. “We can’t do more than that because we don’t have enough volunteers for more. So, I do turn events away.”

SVGD membership is about 300. Many people have been interested in membership, not only for the local volunteerism, but for the international volunteerism SVGD offers. A February 7–14 trip to Puerto Vallarta is being organized that will provide SVGD members with an opportunity to volunteer in three nonprofit events there.

“There is an orphanage that we assist with,” Okafor explained. “We assist Peace Mexico with spay-neuter clinics, and the botanical gardens that is doing research work. We have a dinner cruise and a fiesta. An average tourist would not get to do that kind of trip. We’re putting together a Guatemala trip for October.”

The Puerto Vallarta trip costs each member \$1,200, including airfare, hotel for seven nights, and all events, she said.

For Single Volunteers of Greater Denver membership information, go to [www.svgd.org](http://www.svgd.org). Nonprofits seeking partnership information with SVGD should email Kayla Okafor at [drckayla@aol.com](mailto:drckayla@aol.com) or call her 303.455.0244.

*The Crossing consists of 149 living units for nearly 500 men, women and children caught in the cycle of poverty and homelessness who are engaged in various programs that may include life skills training classes, educational opportunities, mentoring and job readiness. Donations can be made online at [www.DenverRescueMission.org](http://www.DenverRescueMission.org). Items needed include: canned goods and non-perishable food items, diapers (larger child sizes), and hygiene items. Volunteers can find information about long-term and short-term positions at [www.DenverRescueMission.org](http://www.DenverRescueMission.org).*

## BLUEPRINT

Stapleton's Basement Finish Leader



- Basements
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Garage Pop Tops
- Decks
- Outdoor Kitchens

(303) 467 - 9400 • [www.blueprintdesignco.com](http://www.blueprintdesignco.com)

Best Warranty - Licensed & Insured - Gold Star BBB Member

**Compare Our Prices to Anyone's!**  
Exceptional Service Backed by 50 Years Combined Experience



**Professional Basement Planning for \$1 a Square Foot!**  
Interior Design - Paint Consultation - Redesign - Space Planning - Remodel & More

Kama Weinberger, ASID, IIDA and  
Jenn Watson, Allied ASID

(303) 355 - 2700  
[www.qedesignsource.com](http://www.qedesignsource.com)

Stapleton Resident & Gold Star BBB Member





Lesley Bevan, M.D.



Kristina Fraser, M.D.

# Metropolitan

## OB/GYN

### Women caring for Women

#### Providing Complete Women's Care

2975 Roslyn Street, Denver, CO 80238 • 303-320-8499



Kelly Moore, M.D.



Suzanne Strubel-Lagan, M.D.

**Now offering in-office Essure™ – Permanent Contraception**

[www.metroobgyn.org](http://www.metroobgyn.org)  
4500 East 9th Avenue, Suite 470, Denver CO 80220

An Affiliate of Health Partners

Give you and your family the gift of a beautiful, healthy smile!

# “beautiful smiles begin here”


## Lowry Family Dentistry

303.366.3000


### MAKALA HUBBELL, D.D.S.

Voted Top Dentist **5280** 2008 2009  
Denver's Magazine 2010

• ADULTS • CHILDREN • INSURANCE ACCEPTED • FINANCING AVAILABLE • CONVENIENT EVENING HOURS •



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





## HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Through 12/26- The Nutcracker.** Presented by Colorado Ballet. Tickets start at \$19. Ellie Caulkins Opera House, Denver Performing Arts Complex. [www.coloradoballet.org](http://www.coloradoballet.org)

**Through 12/24- A Christmas Carol.** Appropriate for ages 8 and up. Stage Theatre, Denver Performing Arts Complex. Tickets from \$18. 303.893.4100, [www.denvercenter.org](http://www.denvercenter.org)

**12/1 Wednesday and 12/2 Thursday- Hip Holiday Market with Dizzie Izzie and Friends.**

Have a glass of wine while shopping local Denver artisans and vendors. Thursday is Men's Preferred Shopping night: beer, brats and free gift wrap! 4:30–9pm both days. 9201 E. 33rd Ave. in Stapleton's North Central Park neighborhood.

**12/3 Friday and 12/4 Saturday- Fancy Tiger's Holiday Homemade.** Denver's alternative craft fair, over 75 crafters! Friday 5–9pm, Saturday 10–4pm. 1770 Sherman St., Sherman St. Events Center.

**12/3 Friday and 12/4 Saturday- 9News Parade of Lights.** Marching bands, giant balloons, dazzling floats and delightful characters. Friday 8pm and Saturday 6pm. FREE. Denver City and County Building, 1437 Bannock St. 720.913.4900

**12/3 Friday to 1/2/2011- Blossoms of Light.** Over one million colorful lights, holospex glasses, romantic and popular kissing spots and seasonal entertainment on select evenings. 5:30–9:30pm including holidays. Adults \$9, Students/Seniors \$7, Children \$6. Denver Botanic Gardens. 1007 York St. 720.865.3514

**12/4, 12/5, 12/11, 12/12 Saturday and Sunday- 50th Annual Georgetown Christmas Market.** European-inspired market with hand-crafted gifts, carolers, horse-drawn wagon rides, roasted chestnuts, appearances by St. Nicholas in traditional robes and much more! Saturday and Sunday, 10am–6pm. FREE admission. 303.569.2888, [www.historicgeorgetown.org/spevents/xmarket.htm](http://www.historicgeorgetown.org/spevents/xmarket.htm)

**12/4 Saturday- Snack with Santa.** Denver Children's Museum, 10–1pm, [www.mychildsmuseum.org](http://www.mychildsmuseum.org)

**12/4 Saturday- Festival of Lights at Historic Four Mile Park Presented by Colorado Hebrew Chorale.** Traditional Chanukah candle lighting, music, food and instructional Israeli folk dancing. Bring own candles and menorahs for candle lighting! 6:30pm. Four Mile Historic Park's Grant Family Education Center, 715 S. Forest St. Admission (includes performance, food & folk dancing): Adults: \$18, Students (w/ID)/Seniors (65+): \$15. FMHP & CHC members: \$12, Children 6 & Under: Free.

**12/4, 12/11, 12/12 and 12/18- Santa Claus Special at Colorado Railroad Museum.** Museum's locomotive and passenger cars will be all decked out for the holidays. See Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoy cup of hot chocolate. [www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org](http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org)

**12/4 to 12/19- Granny Dances to a Holiday Drum.** Cleo Parker Robinson Dance. Denver tradition for 18 years celebrating winter holidays from around the world through dance, live music and spoken word. Byron Theatre, Newman Cen-

ter for Performing Arts, Univ. of Denver. 2344 E. Iliff. [www.cleoparkerdance.org](http://www.cleoparkerdance.org) or 303.295.1759 ext 13

**12/4 Saturday- Denver Waldorf School's Holiday Fair.** Vendors, food, crafts, carriage rides and more. 9am–4pm. Denver Waldorf School, 940 Fillmore St. [www.denverwaldorf.org](http://www.denverwaldorf.org)

**12/5 Sunday- A Colorado Christmas.** Experience Four Mile House decked out for the holidays, play Victorian games with Father Christmas, make your own gingerbread fantasy, snack on sugarpplums, create popcorn and cranberry ornaments for Four Mile Tree and more. Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 youth 7–17; members free. 12–4pm. 715 S. Forest St. [www.fourmilehistoricpark.org](http://www.fourmilehistoricpark.org)

**12/5 Sunday- Denver Brass Presents I'll Be Home for Christmas.** 3:30pm. FREE/with donation. Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Ave. [www.denverbrass.org](http://www.denverbrass.org) or 303.832.HORN

**12/10 to 12/24- Winter Wonderlights at Wildlife Experience.** 5:30–8:30pm nightly. Breakfast with Santa, 12/4, 11, 18 and 24 at 9am. [www.thewildlifeexperience.org](http://www.thewildlifeexperience.org)

**12/10 to 12/19- It's a Wonderful Life.** Presented by Rocky Mountain Conservatory Theatre. University of Denver's Newman Center. [www.RMCTonline.com](http://www.RMCTonline.com) or 303.476.0222

**12/10 Friday through 12/12 Sunday. Colorado Christmas.** Presented by Colorado Symphony. Boettcher Concert Hall 1000 14th Street Downtown Denver. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org) for tickets and more info.

**12/11 & 12/12 Saturday and Sunday- Holiday Gift Mart at Italian Institute.** 10am–4pm. Italian pottery, hats, jewelry & more. 670 S. Colorado Blvd, #100. Free parking in back. [www.ItalianInstitute.com](http://www.ItalianInstitute.com)

**12/11 Saturday- Holiday Brass Fest.** Calling all brass players, come perform with the Denver Brass! DPCA Galleria, Registration: 10:30am, Rehearsal: 11am, Free public concert: 1pm. [www.denverbrass.org](http://www.denverbrass.org) or 303.832.HORN

**12/11 to 12/19- Butterfly Pavilion Living Lights, Illuminating Small Wonders.** Thousands of lights illuminate tropical rainforest and outdoor gardens at Butterfly Pavilion. 5:30–8pm nightly. [www.butterflies.org](http://www.butterflies.org)

**12/11 Saturday- Hammonds Candy Cane Festival.** Santa and Mrs. Claus, storytelling, caroling, cookie decorating, face painting and trolley rides. 9am–5pm. 5735 N. Washington St. [www.hammondscondies.com](http://www.hammondscondies.com) or 303.333.5588 ext 110

**12/11 Saturday- Holiday in the Highlands.** Wagon rides, Santa, strolling carolers and more. 1–3pm. 32nd and Lowell in N. Denver. [www.highlands-square.com](http://www.highlands-square.com)

**12/12 Sunday- Tuba Christmas Concert.** 1pm. Registration 9am; Rehearsal 10am. Skyline Park, 16th and Arapahoe. Auraria Events Center. FREE. [www.tubachristmas.com](http://www.tubachristmas.com) or 303.556.8123

**12/12 Sunday and 12/18 Saturday- Twas the Brass Before Christmas.** Presented by the Denver Brass. 12/12 show 2:30pm; 12/18 show 7:30pm. Tickets from \$9. Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Ave. [www.denverbrass.org](http://www.denverbrass.org) or 303.832.HORN

**12/14 Tuesday- A Jazz Christmas with Dianne Reeves.** Presented by Colorado Symphony. 7:30pm. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org)

**12/15 Wednesday and 12/19 Sunday- Messiah by Candlelight.** Presented by Colorado Symphony. 12/15 at 7:30pm, 12/19 at 5:30pm. Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org)

**12/17 Friday and 12/19 Sunday- Holiday Masterworks Concert: A John Denver Christmas.** Presented by Aurora Symphony Orchestra. Friday 7:30pm; Sunday 3pm. John Denver tribute artist John Adams collaborates with ASO on inspirational holiday celebration for the entire family. Tickets: \$15 adults; \$12 students/seniors. [aurorasymphony.org](http://aurorasymphony.org)

**12/17 Friday and 12/18 Saturday- Too Hot to Handel presented by Colorado Symphony.** Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St., Downtown Denver. 7:30pm. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org)

**12/17 Friday and 12/18 Saturday- Denver Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert: This Shining Night.** 7:30pm at L2 Arts and Culture Center, 1477 Columbine St. at Colfax Ave. Advance tickets: \$22/adults; \$18/students; children 12 and under/free when accompanied by adult at Rocky Mountain Arts Assoc. website [www.rmarts.org](http://www.rmarts.org) and higher price at door on day of concert.

**12/18 Saturday- Charles Dickens Candlelight Christmas Tour.** Molly Brown House Museum. Hear excerpts from *A Christmas Carol* in Molly Brown's festively decorated home. Learn about the Browns' happiest Christmas and enjoy cookies and cider on Mrs. Brown's third floor. Tickets: \$13/members; \$16 nonmembers. 6 and 7pm. [www.mollybrown.org](http://www.mollybrown.org)

**12/19 Sunday and 12/22 Wednesday- Hark! Brass and Angels Sing.** Presented by Denver Brass with Colorado Chorale. 4pm 12/19, 7:30pm 12/22. Newman Center for Performing Arts at DU. [www.denverbrass.org](http://www.denverbrass.org) or 303.832.HORN

## Complete Skin Care as unique as you are

## MEDICAL

Skin cancer | Skin checks  
Acne | Eczema | Psoriasis  
Warts | Rash | Phototherapy  
Photodynamic therapy

## COSMETIC

Physician-administered  
Botox, Fillers, and  
Laser Treatments  
Intense Pulsed Light  
Resurfacing | Pigment  
Hair and Vascular Lasers  
Chemical Peels  
Microdermabrasion  
Sclerotherapy

## SURGICAL

Mohs Micrographic Surgery  
Skin cancer treatment  
Cosmetic excision and  
repair



Erin Welch, M.D.



Joe Simodynes, M.D.



Carrie Cera Hill, M.D.

**DDC+ Denver Dermatology Consultants, P.C.  
Stapleton Laser Center**

[www.denverderm.com](http://www.denverderm.com) | 303-426-4525

2970 Quebec St Suite 200 - above Bank of the West

## RECURRING EVENTS

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

**Every Tuesday**  
Stapleton Rotary Club – 7:30am  
Stapleton Community Room  
2823 Roslyn St.  
[www.denverstapletonrotary.org](http://www.denverstapletonrotary.org)

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

**1st Tuesday**  
Breast Cancer Support Group  
5–6:30pm AFWilliams Family  
Medicine Clinic, Conf Rm.

(west entrance) 3055 Roslyn  
(at MLK) 720-848-9000

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

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

**1st Wednesday**  
"1st Wednesdays" Home-based  
businesses. Alternates between  
Lunch & Happy Hour  
[tbrislina@gmail.com](mailto:tbrislina@gmail.com)  
[www.stapletonhomebusiness.co](http://www.stapletonhomebusiness.co)

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

**3rd Thursday**  
Stapleton Citizens Advisory  
Board Mtg. 7350 E. 29th Ave.  
7:30–9am 303-393-7700

**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

**2nd Sunday**  
Collaborative Kite Fly & Walk,  
(free) Stapleton Central Park,  
2:30–5pm. Please RSVP at  
[Meetup.com/RockyMtnKite](http://Meetup.com/RockyMtnKite)  
or [Meetup.com/TTWalks](http://Meetup.com/TTWalks)

**Periodically**  
Stapleton Wine Appreciation  
Group. [meighanm@aim.com](mailto:meighanm@aim.com)

## When You Need An Attorney

Divorce & Legal Separation, Paternity & Custody (Parental Responsibilities), Modification of Existing Orders for Child Support & Parenting Time, and Mediation



**Karen B. Best**  
Attorney at Law

Stapleton resident  
26 years family law and litigation experience  
8 years collaborative law involvement  
Attorney input mediation available

Regency Commons  
12605 East Euclid Dr. • Centennial, CO 80111  
Phone 303-708-1300 • Fax 303-708-1612  
[karen@bestmediation.net](mailto:karen@bestmediation.net)

# Get noticed. Smile beautifully.

Comprehensive dentistry for adults • Orthodontics for adults and children  
MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

**TOWNCENTER**  
DENTISTRY AND  
ORTHODONTICS  
Genuine Oral Care • Life-Changing Results

**303.321.4445**  
Brett H. Kessler, D.D.S.  
Gina G. Kessler, D.D.S., M.S.

**TCD**  
TCDdenver.com  
[facebook.com/TCDdenver](http://facebook.com/TCDdenver)



**12/22 Wednesday- Trans-Siberian Orchestra.** Pepsi Center. Worldwide top-selling act offering concert of holiday favorites with lasers, pyrotechnics and state-of-the-art lighting. [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**12/31 Friday- A Night in Vienna presented by Colorado Symphony.** 6:30pm. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org)

**Through 12/31- Symphony in Lights.** The Shops at Northfield Stapleton show runs nightly 6-9 pm. [www.northfieldstapleton.com](http://www.northfieldstapleton.com)

**12/31 Friday- Annual New Year's Eve Downtown Fireworks Display.** 2 shows, 9pm and midnight. 16th Street Mall.

**Through 1/2/11- Hudson Holiday-** Holiday lighting display with horse-drawn carriage rides and glowing garden railroad. Tickets: \$9 adult, \$8 senior and \$6 child. Times and dates vary over holiday season. [www.hudsonholiday.com](http://www.hudsonholiday.com)

## DENVER EVENTS

**12/03 Friday- First Friday Art Walks:**

**Santa Fe Arts District.** December's Art Walk celebrates the holiday season with Luminarias de Santa Fe, hundreds of festive glowing luminarias (paper bags filled with a candle) on Santa Fe Drive between 10th and 6th. [www.artdistrictonsantafe.com](http://www.artdistrictonsantafe.com)

**North Denver's Tennyson Art Walk.** Tennyson St. and 44th Ave. [www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com](http://www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com)

**Cherry Creek Arts District.** [www.cherrycreeknorth.com](http://www.cherrycreeknorth.com)

**12/4 Saturday- Harmonica for the Holidays.** Get into the holiday spirit by learning to play several best-loved songs on the harmonica. Players of any level will have great fun playing popular secular songs such as *Jingle Bells* and pretty melodies like *Silent Night*. 9:30-11:30am, \$71 or \$59 for CFU members. Colorado Free University. [www.freeu.com](http://www.freeu.com), 303.399.0093 X0

**12/5 Sunday- Hope and Healing: A Spirituals Concert and Talk with Dr. Arthur Jones.** Free. Donations benefit Kibera School for Girls in Africa's largest slum in Kenya. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 22nd and Dexter St. Concert features Dr. Arthur Jones and include some Christmas spirituals. Reception follows. Contact Elizabeth Bennett: 303.316.7570.

**12/12 Friday- Aurora's East End Second Friday Art Walk.** Gallery openings, music, theater, food and more. 5-8pm. Start at Fletcher

Plaza/MLK Library (E. Colfax at Elmira) to get map to all venues.

**12/17 Friday- An Introduction to Belgian Beer.** Sample amazing brews from one of the most diverse beer cultures in the world. Learn background, characteristics and history while tasting beers that represent major Belgian brewing styles. 6-9pm. \$6 or \$34 for CFU members; \$15 materials fee. Colorado Free University. [www.freeu.com](http://www.freeu.com), 303.399.0093 X0.

**12/17 Friday- Become a Grant Writer.** Discover 6 common reasons why grant-makers decline a proposal. Identify 10 strategies to make your proposal stand out above others, and learn how to write the 7 basic parts of a proposal. 9am-4pm. \$113 or \$99 for CFU members. Colorado Free University. [www.freeu.com](http://www.freeu.com), 303.399.0093 X0

**12/17 Friday- Overdue Love Club, Singles Night for Intelligent People.** Come chat with other interesting singles, indulge in wine and coffee. Michelangelo's Wine and Coffee Bar, every 3rd Fri., 6:30-8pm. 1 S Broadway. Registration encouraged, 720.865.1206

**12/22 Thursday- Highlands Square Walk and Shop Night.** 5pm to close. 32nd and Lowell, North Denver. [www.highlands-square.com](http://www.highlands-square.com)

**Single Volunteers of Greater Denver.** Visit [www.svgd.org](http://www.svgd.org) for upcoming volunteer opportunities for singles. Activities include local projects, charitable social events and working vacations abroad.

**Adopt a Sophisticated Cat-** Denver Dumb Friends League offering FREE adoptions of cats 6 years and older. [www.ddfl.org](http://www.ddfl.org) or 303.771.5772

**12/29 Wednesday- Disney in Concert presented by Colorado Symphony.** 6:30pm. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St, Downtown Denver. [www.coloradosymphony.org](http://www.coloradosymphony.org)

**Through 1/31- Southwest Rink at Skyline Park.** FREE ice skating in Downtown Denver. Bring your skates or rent a pair for \$2. Mon-Fri, noon-10pm; Sat and Sun, 9am-10pm. Reduced hours on holidays. [www.downtowndenver.com](http://www.downtowndenver.com)

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

**12/14 Tuesday- Because Life Happens.** Find out what happens to your precious gift of life after you give blood. Program and tour of Bonfils lab facilities. 717 Yosemite St. 12-1pm. FREE. RSVP: [foundation@bonfils.org](mailto:foundation@bonfils.org) or 303.739.4000.

## To submit information for the Front Porch "Local Event" Listings

Email information in the following format by the 15th of the month to [frontporchevents@gmail.com](mailto:frontporchevents@gmail.com). Events will be run subject to space available.

Date in numerical format (mm/dd), day of week- Name of Event. A one- or two-sentence description. Time. List cost or if free. Location. Contact information.

Visit [denver.org/events](http://denver.org/events) to find more events. Check out the Denver 2 for 1 Tix special offers.

Press releases for suggested stories should be sent separately to [frontporch@fineprint.com](mailto:frontporch@fineprint.com).

## ACTIVE MINDS LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

Info on all sessions, [www.ActiveMindsForLife.com](http://www.ActiveMindsForLife.com). FREE.

**12/7 Tuesday, Pearl Harbor: The Day that Lives in Infamy.** 10am. Jewish Community Center, 350 S Dahlia St. RSVP Lil Shaw: 303.316.6359.

**12/9 Thursday- Tchaikovsky and the Nutcracker.** 10am-noon (10am reception, 10:30am program). Limited seating. 1375 High St. RSVP: 303.399.5555.

**12/9 Thursday- Chocolate.** 7-8pm. Stapleton Master Community Association, 2823 Roslyn St. [www.stapletoncommunity.com](http://www.stapletoncommunity.com)

**12/13 Monday- Denver History.** 2:30-3:30pm. Springbrooke, 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963.

**12/15 Wednesday- Women of Denver History.** 1:30-2:30pm. Washington St. Community Center, 809 S. Washington St. RSVP: 303.733.4643.

**12/21 Tuesday- Paris: Biography of a City.** 11am-noon (10:45 refreshments). Temple Emanuel, 51 Grape St. RSVP: 303.388.4013 x307.

**12/28 Tuesday- The National Parks.** 5:30-6:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E. Colfax Ave.

## LIBRARIES

For info on library programs, check events calendar at [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org).

All Denver Public Library locations will be closed on Friday, December 24 and Saturday, December 25 and Friday, December 31 and Saturday January 1 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

**Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. 720.865.0250. Closed Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays.**

**Thursdays- Storytime with a Craft.** For kids who can sit and listen to short stories, participate in songs and simple craft. 10:30am. Craft limited to first 30 kids.

**Thursdays and Fridays- Book Babies.** For babies 6-23 months with parent/caregiver. Share books, songs, finger plays. 11:15am.

**Fridays- Tales for Twos.** Storytime for 2-year-olds and caregivers. Stories, songs, movement activities. 10:30am.

**Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St (1st and Quebec). 720.865.0000. Closed Wednesdays and Fridays. Children's programming returns in January!**

**12/4 Saturday- Holiday Appetizer Sampler.** 2pm. Help prepare and sample delicious, holiday appetizers that are sure to be crowd pleasers.

**12/5 Sunday- Photo Fabric Art.** 2pm. Innovative projects you can do with photos and fabric that require little to no sewing. Includes a small photo ornament that you make in class.

**12/11 Saturday- Ceylon Pearl Tea Tasting.** 10am. Learn about the varieties and health benefits of tea while sampling the delicious tea of Ceylon Pearl.

**12/13 Monday- Rob Wivchar: Man of 1,000 Songs.** Listen to the holiday stylings of the versatile Rob Wivchar while you escape from seasonal madness at the library. 6pm.

## KIDS AND FAMILIES

**12/9 Thursday to 12/12 Sunday- Disney on Ice.** Pepsi Center. Tickets: [www.tickethorse.com](http://www.tickethorse.com) or 1.866.461.6556, from \$15.

**12/18 Saturday- Saturdays at the Art Barn Presents Holiday Gifts and Baking Treats.** Ages 5+, pack a lunch, \$55 (supplies included). 10:30am-2:30pm. 2539 Xanthia Ct. 720.252.9553, [beth@childrenshouseofstapleton.com](mailto:beth@childrenshouseofstapleton.com)

**Through 3/11- Louisville Winterskate-** Outdoor ice skating with traditional holiday music and Friday night carriage rides. Call for hours, 303.449.3137. 824 Front St., Louisville. [www.bceproductions.com](http://www.bceproductions.com)

**Through 3/11- Flatiron Crossing Winter-skate.** Outdoor rink outside the mall with holiday music. Call for hours, 303.449.3137. [www.bceproductions.com](http://www.bceproductions.com)

**Art Students League of Denver-** Now registering programs for kids and teens. 303.778.6990 or [www.ASLD.org](http://www.ASLD.org)

**Small Hands Art Studio-** Winter art classes begin 1/11. Located in Stapleton! [www.smallhandsart.com](http://www.smallhandsart.com) info.

**The Art Garage-** Now registering for seasonal/holiday workshops and classes for December and over the holiday break. Ages 4 and up. 6100 E. 23rd Ave. in Park Hill. [www.artgaragedenver.com](http://www.artgaragedenver.com)

**Through 12/30- School House Rock Live!** Arvada Center for the Performing Arts. [www.arvadacenter.org](http://www.arvadacenter.org) or 720.898.7200 for showtimes/ticketing.

**Through 1/2/11- Tutankhamen: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs.** Denver Art Museum, 13th at Broadway and Bannock. Tickets at museum or Ticketmaster or Tickethorse, \$16.50 up. [www.tutdenver.com](http://www.tutdenver.com)

## MUSEUMS

**Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Montview and Colorado Blvd. [www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org)**

**12/16 Thursday- Science Lounge.** Cocktails and entertainment every 3rd Thurs. of month. 6:30-9:30pm. \$8/members/\$10/nonmembers.

**Through 1/2/2011 Amazon Voyage: Vicious Fishes and other Riches.** Free with admission.

**Planetarium- Journey to the Stars.** Narrated by Whoopi Goldberg, various times; tickets \$6/ages 3-18, \$8/adult

**IMAX-Hubble in 3D** narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. **Under the Sea in 3D** narrated by Jim Carrey. Various times, tickets \$8/3-18. \$10/adult.

(continued on page 22)

It's okay, RTD commuters.  
We've got your back...

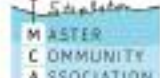


### A back-up set of wheels from eGo CarShare

You deserve more than just a pat on the back for your commitment to eco-friendly commuting. Now you've got it. The eGo CarShare membership program gives Stapleton residents access to a sleek, fuel-efficient hybrid car. Think of the added travel flexibility! Together, RTD and eGo CarShare make a great, green transportation team.

Find out how to qualify for an eGo CarShare membership today:  
[www.carshare.org](http://www.carshare.org)

WayToGo Stapleton!



## Where We Treat Your Family as Our Family

We're Growing Too!

Watch for our updated & expanded website coming soon!



Stapleton  
Pediatrics

Brandon Davison-Tracy, MD • Amy Nash, MD  
Noah Makovsky, MD — 5280 "Top Doc"

2975 Roslyn Street, Suite 100 • Denver, CO 80238 • 303.399.7900  
Located 1/2 block north of the 29th Street Town Center



(continued from page 21)

## NORTHFIELD EVENTS

### Northfield Stapleton Horse and Carriage Rides

Carriage departs at Bass Pro Shops and drops off at Main Street Northfield  
12/19 Sunday – 11am–7pm  
12/23 Thursday – 11am–7pm  
12/24 Friday – 10am–6pm

### Bass Pro Events – 720.385.3600, [www.BassPro.com](http://www.BassPro.com)

12/1 Wednesday – Ice Fishing 101 (every Wednesday in December)  
12/2 Thursday – Get Ready for Ice Fishing (every Thursday in December)  
12/4 Saturday – Breakfast with Santa, 8–9:30am (accepting reservations until November 30)  
12/4 Saturday – Basic Pistol Course – Handgun Safety  
12/11, 12/12 Saturday & Sunday – Ice Fishing Weekend – Meet the Stars  
12/14, 12/21, 12/28 Tuesdays – Get Hooked on Fly Tying (for beginners)

### Harkins Theatres 18 – 720.374.3118, [www.HarkinsTheatres.com](http://www.HarkinsTheatres.com)

12/10 Friday – *The Chronicles of Narnia*  
12/17 Friday – *Tron Legacy*  
12/22 Wednesday – *Little Fockers*

### Improv Comedy Club and Dinner Theatre – Tickets: 303.307.1777

[www.ImprovDenver.com](http://www.ImprovDenver.com)  
12/2 to 12/5, Thursday to Sunday – Finesse Mitchell  
12/10 to 12/11, Friday to Saturday – Rickey Smiley  
12/16 to 12/19, Thursday to Sunday – Tom Wilson  
12/30 Thursday – Tony Rock

### The Twisted Olive – 303.373.8100, [www.TwistedOlive.com](http://www.TwistedOlive.com)

Spoken Word/Poetry, 9pm every Wednesday; weekly live entertainment.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Reservations required for these popular programs. 303.289.0930. To get to refuge, take I-70, exit north on Havana St, enter at 56th and Havana. Free unless noted.

**Refuge Hours:** Tuesdays to Sundays, 7am–5pm. **Visitor Center Hours:** Tuesdays to Sundays, 9am–4pm.

**Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays -Wild Rides.** 9:30–11:30am. Experience the sights and sounds of the Refuge on this two-hour guided viewing tour.

**12/2 Thursday- Winter Raptors.** 10am–noon. Learn the tips and tricks to identifying several birds of prey during this outing.

**12/5 Sunday- Animal Olympics.** 1–3pm. The whole family can go for the gold with the remarkable animals of the Refuge in this friendly competition. All ages welcome.

**12/7 Tuesday and 12/28 Tuesday- Tuesday Tots: Fly Like an Eagle.** 10–11am. Imagine living in a nest, learning to fly, soaring through the air. Discover what it's like to be a bald eagle and how you compare to these majestic birds. This program for the young naturalist 2 to 5 years old. Parent or guardian must accompany all children.

**12/11 Saturday- Sunset Photo Tour.** 2–5pm. As autumn leaves give way to falling snow, the Refuge landscape provides a showcase for photographing bison, deer, hawks, coyotes, birds and more. Recommended for adults. FREE.

**12/18 Saturday- Eagles in the Sky.** 7–8pm. HawkQuest will present an up close and personal encounter with their live bald eagle in celebration of migrating eagles in the area. Recommended for adults.

**12/21 Tuesday- A Short Solstice.** 1–3pm. Beat the winter blues and come celebrate the shortest day of the year. Find out how the winter solstice affects wildlife on the Refuge as we tour their different habitats.

**12/26 Sunday- Holiday Tour.** 9:30am–noon. Do you have friends or relatives visiting for the holidays? Take them on a unique outing to see deer, prairie dogs, eagles, hawks, coyotes and more.

**12/30 Thursday- Friends of a Feather.** 8–11am. Join the flock and spend the afternoon with a Refuge birder in search of our wintering feathered friends. Binoculars recommended.

## SPORTS & FITNESS

**12/4 Saturday- 3rd Annual Polar Plunge Benefiting Special Olympics.** 10pm, Chatfield Reservoir. Participants asked to raise \$85 in pledges receive the "Freezin' for a Reason" T-shirt. [www.specialolympicsco.org](http://www.specialolympicsco.org) or 303.592.1361

**12/12 Sunday- 2010 Jingle Bell Run/Walk to Benefit Rheumatoid Arthritis.** Washington Park. 10:15am. \$30/individual, \$15/12 and under. To register: [www.jinglebellrun/denver.kintera.org](http://www.jinglebellrun/denver.kintera.org)

**12/18 Saturday- Rudolph's Revenge 5K/10K.** Hudson Gardens. Race times: 9am and 10am. To register: [www.winterdistanceseries.com](http://www.winterdistanceseries.com)

## STAPLETON/PARK HILL/LOWRY EVENTS

**Broomball Teams forming** at Big Bear Ice Arena in Lowry. Drop-in practices begin 12/12 for men and women ages 21 and up. Fees are \$8 per session and include 1 can of beer. [www.bigbearice.com](http://www.bigbearice.com)

**Live Music at The Soiled Dove.** One of Denver's best live music venues, The Soiled Dove is located at 7401 E. 1st Ave. in Lowry. Tickets: [www.soiliddove.com](http://www.soiliddove.com)

## SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

### 12/8 Wednesday- Ricks Center for Gifted Children Admission Information Session.

6:30–8pm. RSVP to 303.871.3715 or [rickscsr@du.edu](mailto:rickscsr@du.edu). The Ricks Center is located at the University of Denver, 2040 S. York St. Repeats 1/12/11 from 9:30am–11am.

**12/9/10 Thursday- Professional and Executive MBA Roundtable.** Admissions and enrollment representatives from the Daniels College of Business discuss their MBA programs in an intimate setting. University of Denver, Daniels College of Business, Rm. 335. 5:30pm–7:30pm. FREE. RSVP: Kim Harja at 303.871.4760 or [Kimberly.harja@du.edu](mailto:Kimberly.harja@du.edu)

## THEATER

**Through 12/24- Santa's Big Red Sack.** Avenue Theater, 417 E. 17th Ave. 303.321.5925

**Through 12/12- An Evening With Nina.** Shadow Theatre, 1468 Dayton St., Aurora. 720.857.8000, [www.shadowtheatre.com](http://www.shadowtheatre.com)

**Through 12/19- Red Ranger Came Calling, A True Christmas Story.** Aurora Fox Theatre, 9900 E. Colfax, Aurora. [www.aurorafoxartscenter.org](http://www.aurorafoxartscenter.org), 303.739.1970

**12/7 through 12/19- The Blue Man Group.** Buell Theater. [www.denvercenter.org](http://www.denvercenter.org)


**Through 12/18- Inspecting Carol.** John Hand Theater, 7653 E. 1st Pl., Lowry. 720.880.8727, [www.johnhandtheater.com](http://www.johnhandtheater.com)

**Through 12/19- You Can't Take It With You.** Vintage Theatre, 2119 E. 17th Ave. 303.839.1361, [www.vintagetheatre.com](http://www.vintagetheatre.com)

## THEATER—DRAMA CLASSES FOR KIDS & TEENS AT FOX THEATRE

Classes for kids from ages 4–17. Times vary, some weekday afternoons/evenings, some Saturdays. Registration is open for Jan.-Feb. sessions. Students should dress for movement for all classes. Consistent attendance is strongly encouraged for all performance classes. Performing arts skills builds muscle, brains & self-esteem. Questions? Call Lisa Mumpton at 303-739-1973. To register, call 303-326-8650 or go online to [www.auro-rafox.org](http://www.auro-rafox.org).

**Dog Tested. Vet Approved.**



Named "Best of the Best" by SPCA International

- Home Training
- Natural Methods
- Vet Recommended
- Lifetime Guarantee

**877.500.BARK**  
[www.BarkBusters.com](http://www.BarkBusters.com)

BARK BUSTERS HOME DOG TRAINING



**Now offering free pregnancy tests!**

At Stapleton OB-GYN we offer a full range of women's health care options. From teenagers to mothers to grandmothers, we provide obstetrical and gynecological services for women at every stage of life. Your health and well-being as a woman is the focus of our care.

**BIRTHDAYS are our Specialty!**

**Stapleton OB-GYN**  
Exempla PHYSICIAN NETWORK

2807 Roslyn Street • 303-403-6333  
(Near the Stapleton Town Center behind King Soopers)

©2010 Exempla Healthcare

**We offer advanced medicine in the following areas:**

- Obstetrics
- Gynecology
- Infertility
- Gynecological Surgery
- Menopausal Counseling
- Incontinence
- Contraceptive Counseling
- Postpartum Care and Support
- Free pregnancy test

Please call 303-403-6333 today to schedule your appointment or a FREE 10-minute Meet and Greet with Dr. Ginsburg.

**npre**

**Happy Holidays to all of our Friends and Neighbors.**  
From Jody Donley and the entire New Perspective Real Estate Team.

**Get comfortable.**




[www.NPREblog.com](http://www.NPREblog.com) • 303-394-4526 • [www.NPREco.com](http://www.NPREco.com)

**Unique Garage Storage**

We install, organize, & get everything off your floor. Holds more than cabinets, at half the cost!

[www.monkeybarstorage.com](http://www.monkeybarstorage.com) ~ 720.339.7630

Free Estimates ~ Affordable ~ Patented



**STYLISH FURNISHINGS THAT FIT YOUR BUDGET**



FREE in-home design consultation • FREE in-store personal shopper.  
Best furniture prices in town... • Call Irene Ledesma 720-312-2626  
Stapleton resident & Interior Design Consultant, American Furniture Warehouse



## DENVER ZOO

**12/4 Saturday- Photo Safari.** Learn nighttime photography techniques and see Zoo Lights before it opens to the general public. Led by Zoo staff photographer Dave Parsons, from 5:15–7:30pm. Class limited to first 25 registrations. \$40 members, \$45 nonmembers. Register: [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)

**12/10 Friday to 12/11 Sunday- Denver Zoo Lights 20th Anniversary Celebration.** Nightly from 5–9pm. \$8/ages 12 and up, \$6/ages 65 and up, \$4/children 3–11. \$2 discount for zoo members. [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)  
**12/11 Saturday and 12/12 Sunday- Breakfast with Santa.** One-hour seatings at 9am and 10:30am. Breakfast buffet, animal demonstrations and free carousel ride. [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org) for pricing and reservations.

**12/17 Friday to 12/21 Tuesday- Wild Ice.** Power tools and blocks of ice = a magical artistic creation. Watch Santa's helpers create works of art in a special ice-carving garden and catch fabulous fire dancing at Zoo Lights. [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)

**12/22 Wednesday- Desserts with Santa.** Visit with Santa and enjoy a stroll through Zoo Lights. 6:30–8:30pm. Tickets \$15/kids 3–11, 12 and up/\$20. Tickets: [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)

**12/26 Sunday- Kwanzaa.** Celebrate the cultural holiday honoring African-American heritage through dance, music and education. 5–9pm. Included in Zoo Lights admission. [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)

**12/31 Friday- Zoo Year's Eve.** 5–9pm. The Zoo's "Wild" family-friendly New Year's Eve party with a countdown to the new year at 9pm. Activities included in Zoo Lights admission, \$4–\$8. Tickets: [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org) or 303.376.4800

**12/31 Friday- Zoo Year's Eve Kids-Only Bunk.** 6pm–10am 1/1/11. Experienced zoo instructors lead kids in games, crafts and animal encounters. Kids participate in the Zoo Year's Eve early countdown celebration. A private morning Zoo tour wraps up this special holiday event. \$75/member, \$85/nonmember. Includes dinner, snacks and breakfast. Ages 6–12. Register: [www.denverzoo.org](http://www.denverzoo.org)

## More Events...

### Open House Dec. 8 at Local Venture Prep Charter School

Venture Prep, a free, college-prep public charter school for grades 6–12 will host an open house at their Park Hill Smiley campus on Wednesday, Dec. 8 from 6:30–7:30pm. Using project-based learning to teach both academic content and skills for the 21st-century, it is a small school where teachers can give each student personalized guidance and support.

The school reports that last year's students made 1.6 years of growth in reading and math. A recent in-house survey showed 98 percent of the parents said they would recommend the school to other families and friends looking for a great school.

Venture Prep is located at 2540 Holly Street and can be contacted at [www.ventureprep.org](http://www.ventureprep.org) or 303.893.0805 for enrollment and other information.

### Lowry Charitable Concert Series Debuts Dec. 14 with "The Soul of the Season"

A new monthly concert series is starting on Tuesday nights at the Soiled Dove Underground music venue in Lowry. The first concert will feature a performance by Dave LeMieux and House of Soul on Dec. 14. The event, called "The Soul of the Season," will be a musical gumbo of Christmas favorites and original melodies of the band, which is also known for its community outreach. Future concerts will have seasonal themes and be a family-friendly, fun musical night out.

This Lowry Merchants Association/Lowry Foundation initiative has a broader community-building and charity component. Each month Lowry merchants will nominate worthy organizations in different service categories and announce the winning organization that will receive the proceeds from that evening's concert. December's category is local adoption agencies.

Shows at 6pm and 8:30pm. Tickets: \$20/adults, \$10/12 and under, available at [www.soileddove.com](http://www.soileddove.com) or at the door. Soiled Dove Underground, located at 7401 E. 1st Ave., features a full-service menu and can be contacted at 303.366.0007.

## African American Spirituals Concert to Fund Kenyan Project Nonprofit Was Co-founded by 24-year-old NE Denver Native

By Nancy Burkhart

Deep River: A Spirituals Concert and Talk will benefit Shining Hope for Communities (SHC), a non-profit organization co-founded by Kennedy Odede and 24-year-old northeast Denver native Jessica Posner to combat gender inequality and poverty in Nairobi, Kenya's Kibera slum. SHC has opened a school for girls, a community center and a community-run health clinic in the largest slum in Africa.

The concert will be held at 2 pm on Dec. 5 at Saint Thomas Church, East 22nd Avenue and Dexter Street. Admission is free. Donations are requested.

Musical fare will be presented by Dr. Arthur Jones and pianist, Ingrid Thompson.

Jones is a teacher, singer, clinical psychologist, scholar, community worker and professor in the Women's College at the University of Denver. He is founder and chair of the Spirituals Project, a non-profit organization based at DU with the mission of preserving and revitalizing sacred songs called spirituals that were created and sung by African Americans.

"This concert will be primarily coming out of that tradition—old slave songs," Jones said. "It will include some songs based on the theme of Christmas. The songs were influenced by African culture, but the songs were created in the United States."

Jones chose to help Shining Hope for Communities because of his long-term relationship with Posner and her family. When



Dr. Arthur Jones

Posner was a senior at the Denver School of the Arts, which Jones' daughter attended, Posner produced a play to benefit Jones' Spirituals Project. He now wants to return the favor.

During his tenure on the Kenyan Project's board of directors, Jones spent time in Kenya and visited the Kibera slum that Posner later would choose to help. "I feel very strongly that the best thing you can do is educate the young girls," he said in support of Shining

Hope for Communities' establishment of a school for girls in Kibera. "I think that they're on the right track with that."

Jones hopes that the songs that will be presented at the concert will provide a feeling for SHC's efforts. "We expect that this tradition of songs that was created by African peoples that were enslaved in America is an ideal connection between this country and the homeland of Africa," Jones said. "There are some deep, spiritual messages that we hope people will experience that are the spirit of what Jessica and Kennedy are trying to do in Africa."

"We're hoping that people who enjoy this music we're doing will come," he added. "People who care about poverty and oppression and enjoy a really inspiring concert will want to donate to the organization."

Arthur Jones and his wife Dr. Christine Chao have lived in the Bellevue-Hale neighborhood for 27 years. Two adult sons, recently moved back to Denver with their families. Nmuta, 40, graduated from East HS and Sekou, 38, graduated from George Washington HS. Nmuta currently teaches computer science at Denver School of Science and Technology. Sekou is a nurse practitioner at Clinica Campesina in Thornton. Daughter Joella, 21, is a senior at Wesleyan University and a graduate of Denver School of the Arts.



## Bring Happiness to a Child with Cancer

The Stink Bug Project was founded by a 10-yr old cancer survivor and Stapleton resident. We match rescue dogs, trained by prisoners going through rehabilitation, with children who are fighting cancer. Find out how you can help today! [www.stinkbugproject.org](http://www.stinkbugproject.org)

**Ling & Louie's**

*Give the gift of Food!*

**Receive an additional \$5 on your gift card for every \$25 you spend**

*For gift certificates purchased before 12/31/10*

**Happy Holidays**

Northfield Mall 303.371.4644  
Tabor Center 303.623.5464

**DIANE GORDON DESIGN**

**303.355.5666**

[DIANEGORDONDESIGN.COM](http://DIANEGORDONDESIGN.COM)

BASEMENTS | KITCHENS & BATHS | INTERIORS

Fitness & Fun, All in One:

**Gymnastics!**

All Ages & Levels  
Boys Program  
Birthday Parties

**303-355-0080 • DARDANO'S • 2250 KEARNEY ST.**

**One FREE Month or FREE Leotard**

With Paid 4 Week Session. Good for One Session Only.

New customers only. Must present coupon. Not valid for Team Athletes. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 12/31/2010

*Keeping Denver Fit for 26 years!*

**CHRISTMAS**

BEGINS WITH

*Christ*

**STAPLETON REAL RELEVANT FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**Community Christmas Celebration**

**Sunday, Dec. 19th at 6:00 pm**

More details at [www.StapletonChurch.com](http://www.StapletonChurch.com)

**Meeting at the Denver School of Science & Technology**

**Sundays 10:30 AM | 2000 Valentia St. | Denver, CO**

**303.321.1014**



## Steve Lawrence Announces Candidacy for Denver City Council District 11



*Editors' Note: The Front Porch will print an announcement of candidacy from individuals running for public office in our distribution area.*

*By Mark Mehringer*  
Steve Lawrence, long-time Denver resident and Stapleton United Neighbors president, has announced his run

for Denver City Council in District 11 to replace outgoing Councilman Michael Hancock. Steve is a dedicated community activist and businessman with considerable experience in personnel and budget management.

Steve's priorities are to bring jobs and a business-friendly environment to northeast Denver. He is working to create an online tool to help local small businesses create new jobs for area residents. In early December, Steve will visit businesses in Park Hill, Stapleton, Montbello and Green Valley Ranch to discuss job development, excellence in public education and building sustainable "green" communities.

Steve's community service includes appointment by Mayor Hickenlooper to the Justice Center Operations Committee and election to the Westerly Creek Metropolitan District board. He has served on committees in the areas of creating jobs for people with disabilities, mental health awareness, homelessness and criminal justice reform. Learn more about Steve and his campaign at [www.ChooseSteve.com](http://www.ChooseSteve.com).

*Mark Mehringer is Steve Lawrence's campaign manager.*



Schylar Gieringer, Macy Gosch, and Katherine Hueston.



Claire Gieringer, Jasmine Lairsmith, and Lili Quintana.

## Dancing (and Winning) with Our Local Stars

*By Judith Schwartz*

It was an exciting competition for Katrina Lairsmith's young dance students who brought home top awards from a regional competition put on by Los Angeles-based Co. Dance on November 5-7. Co. Dance puts on what it calls "dream dance conventions" around the country. The local dancers were pitted against performers from more than 20 studios across Colorado.

Katrina Lairsmith, the artistic director of Colorado Contemporary Dance Academy, located in Quebec Square, is ecstatic about her students. They emerged first-time winners in two categories, Petite, ages 6-9 years old, and Teen, ages 13-15, with their contemporary dance routines. Two of her students have also been awarded an opportunity to meet with agents in LA.

"Some studios have been training students for over 20 years, but our studio, open just five years, has now shown how far our dancers have come. This brings us national prominence," she stated with a very proud tone.

The entries went before four judges, including Lauren Gotlieb, a contestant, then choreographer, now all-star for

the popular TV hit, *So You Think You Can Dance*. It seems that TV dance shows, including *Dancing With the Stars* and *Glee*, have youth, and adults, just feeling they gotta dance.

A well-regarded dancer and choreographer, Katrina believes that dance is about passion. She quotes Martha Graham: Great dancers are not great because of their technique, they are great because of their passion. She concentrates on work ethic with her students because their hard work and passion for dance will spill over into every endeavor they strive for in life.

"If they give 1,000 percent to their passion, they cannot fail," and she adds, "The universe never rewards laziness."

She also received the competition's Educator of the Year award, which is especially rewarding for this guest teacher at the Denver School of the Arts, where many of her older students come from, and many of her younger students hope to attend.

The Damsels is her all-female contemporary dance group that performs to raise money for women in crisis, especially those at The Gathering Place. They made it

through Denver auditions for America's Got Talent and will know in April if they get on the show.

Colorado Contemporary Dance Academy presently has about 100 students, who can start at age two. Classes in ballet, jazz, hip hop, lyrical and modern are offered and registration is ongoing.

The academy is located at 7505 E. 35th Street and can be contacted at 303.333.1885 or [www.coloradocontemporarydance.com](http://www.coloradocontemporarydance.com).

# ...got kids? ...need space?

How about looking into a bigger home? Let Stapleton Mortgage show you how to manage your existing "Equity". Give us a call today!

303.399.2154 • [info@stapletonmortgage.net](mailto:info@stapletonmortgage.net)



## FARMERS

**Our low rates will save you so much, it will be like getting FREE holiday gifts!**

**Call today for a quote  
303-955-0861**

[ktafoya@farmersagent.com](mailto:ktafoya@farmersagent.com)

2332 Central Park Blvd., Denver, 80238



Kevin D. Tafoya

**Helping Businesses Start, Grow, & Prosper**

**Starting a Business or Need Assistance? Let Us Help.**



Denver Metro Small Business Development Center at Johnson & Wales University  
[www.denversbdc.org](http://www.denversbdc.org)  
**303-256-9786**



## PEACE ON EARTH

Call me for Current Relevant Information about our Market!



3439 Allon St.  
[www.3439Allon.info](http://www.3439Allon.info)



2653 Trenton St.  
SOLD in 27 Days!



**Symantha Rodriguez**  
Certified Residential Specialist  
720.217.4788  
[Sam@DreamHomesRE.com](mailto:Sam@DreamHomesRE.com)

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



## BASEMENT FINISH SPECIALIST

**Jim Baudinat  
720.276.7704**

Licensed & Insured • 30 yrs Experience • FREE Estimates  
Basement Finish • New Construction • Kitchen & Bath Remodeling



**FREE Diane Gordon Design Professional Plan Set with Basement Contract**  
Offer good December 1, 2010 through January 31, 2011

#1 in Customer Satisfaction!





Linda Royer, a Dumb Friends League volunteer, sits on the porch of her Park Hill home with her two rescue dogs, Skywalker, 12, (left) and Comet, 6.

By Nancy Burkhart

Pets are a part of the family in many homes today. And a large number of those pets, including dogs, cats, rabbits and guinea pigs, found their homes through the services of the Denver Dumb Friends League.

The largest animal welfare organization in the Rocky Mountain region receives more than 25,000 pets each year. Volunteers are needed to pet, exercise, bathe, clean kennels

and help the pets match up with families to get their perfect homes.

Park Hill resident Linda Royer is an animal lover who has been finding pets for her family at the Denver Dumb Friends League for some 30 years. Now that she has time for volunteering, she has gone through the two-and-a-half-hour orientation session and did an interview to determine whether she would make a good adoption counselor.

When a person comes to the Denver Dumb Friends League to adopt a pet, they are asked to submit information about their family and their home. An adoption counselor talks to them about the kind of pet and the kind of temperament they are seeking. The counselor picks out animals that fit the family's requirements. They know the animals' health and the breeds and how they will act within the home situation that may include other pets or children.

"The DFL takes the time to help you adopt the right pet," Royer said. "I want to work as an adoption counselor. The people behind the desk have the ability to tell you about the dog or cat. They will pick out the animals that you want to see. And they will tell you if a dog doesn't like kids or a cat doesn't like other animals. The idea is to find the animal that will succeed with that person. We don't want to have animals returned because it was a bad selection.

"They don't want to hurry you," she explained. "They want you to take some time. It's the interaction that I have with people that's fun. I think that personal touch makes a difference."

Royer said that becoming a volunteer at the Denver Dumb Friends League has reminded her of when her family adopted an Australian shepherd mix dog. "The first dog they brought in ran for the corner when he saw the kids," she said. "Then they brought in the second dog. The kids were all over him and he licked them all over and came back for more. He was ours." Today, Royer's two daughters, Charlee and Raechel, are grown and have their own pets and Royer and her husband, Dennis, have two Lab mixes.

Denver Dumb Friends League volunteers are asked to commit to working approximately three hours a week for a six-month period. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old.

Volunteers have to have a real love for animals, Royer said. "You have to

## A Place for Animal Lovers

support the Denver Dumb Friends League mission," she explained. "If you love animals and you want animals to have a home or you're in veterinary medicine or you're interested in animal behavior, then it's for you. They have a need for dog walkers, behavior people like cat petters, and for people to work in every aspect of animal care.

"This volunteerism gives me all that wonderful contact with people that I love, and the pleasure of people adopting animals," Royer said. "You have the satisfaction of knowing that the animals that have been abandoned or abused are going home with someone who will love them."

To learn more about volunteering at the Denver Dumb Friends League, 2080 S. Quebec St., go to [www.ddfl.org](http://www.ddfl.org) and click on "Volunteer" on the left side. An application can be accessed there. For questions about volunteering, call Volunteer Services Manager Jasmin Rice at 303.751.5722, extension 7246 or email her at [jrice@ddfl.org](mailto:jrice@ddfl.org).

### I Rescued a Human Today

by Janine Allen

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her.

I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid. As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the overworked shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life.

She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her. Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms.

I would promise to keep her safe.  
I would promise to always be by her side.  
I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes.

I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today

"I rescued a human today" is printed with permission from the RescueMeDog.org website whose mission is: to welcome and guide you through the wonderful world of dog shelters; promote shelter adoption as your first option; and provide educational and training resources for adoptive parents and their canine companions. <http://rescuemedog.org/dog-blog/i-rescued-a-human-today-by-janine-allen/>

"I rescued a human today" was written by Janine Allen CPDT, Rescue Me Dog's professional dog trainer. Janine's passion is working with people and their dogs. She provides demonstrations for those who have adopted shelter dogs, lends email support to adopted dog owners that need information beyond our Training Support Pages, and aids shelter staff and volunteers in understanding dog behavior to increase their adoptability. Copyright 2010 Rescue Me Dog; [www.rescuemedog.org](http://www.rescuemedog.org)



**STAPLETON  
ORTHODONTICS, PC**  
KAREN FRANZ D.D.S., M.S.  
2373 Central Park Boulevard,  
Suite 302, Denver, CO 80238  
[www.StapletonOrthodontics.com](http://www.StapletonOrthodontics.com)



Providing distinctively excellent  
orthodontic care for your entire  
family in the heart of Stapleton.

Call 303-31-ORTHO  
for a complimentary consultation



Take the chill out of winter with  
**The Beach Boys**  
At  
*Saturday Night Alive*

A signature benefit for The Denver Center's theatre education programs,  
which serve 50,000 students each year.

**March 5 • Seawell Grand Ballroom**  
Tickets start at \$375 per person

Computerized silent auction and Surprise Box Sale  
Catered dinner • The Beach Boys • Desserts & Dancing



Proceeds benefit theatre education.



The Denver Center  
for the Performing Arts

303.446.4815

[denvercenter.org/sna](http://denvercenter.org/sna)

**george Architecture LLC**  
residential design



**NEW.BUILD  
ADDITION  
REMODEL  
DESIGN.BUILD**

Monika George | Architect  
720.280.4547  
[www.georgearch.com](http://www.georgearch.com)



# CoPIRG Pushes for Colorado Energy Rating System



Keelin Kelly, energy associate with CoPIRG, and Gene Myers, CEO of New Town Builders, held a news conference recently in Stapleton to explain the details of an energy rating system for homes for rent or sale.

By Jon Meredith

Before you buy or rent a home, would you like to know how energy efficient the property is? You can find out what the utility bills have been, but you have no idea how the previous owner or tenant conserved energy and you don't have an indication how the property will perform under new rates and surcharges power companies have imposed. The surcharge on electric usage by Xcel last summer is a good example. Some air-conditioning systems are far more efficient than others—and those others cost more to cool last summer because there was a surcharge imposed after 500 kilowatts were used during the billing period.

A new proposal by the Colorado Public Interest Research Group (CoPIRG) will try to encourage the state legislature to pass legislation that will require all properties to display at the time of rental or sale an energy rating system that differentiates energy-efficient properties from energy-inefficient ones.

I used to own a home in Park Hill and my wife and I would cringe every time the heat bill came in the mail during the winter. Heating bills were sometimes 25 percent of our mortgage payment. We now own an energy-efficient home in Stapleton and opening the heating bill is not a source of anxiety.

Keelin Kelly, energy associate with CoPIRG, and Gene Myers, CEO of New Town Builders, held a news conference recently in Stapleton to explain the details of this proposal.

"Many Coloradans will try to bat-

tle their bills by turning down their heat and wearing sweaters," stated Kelly. "That can only do so much because the biggest factors are the design of the home and the efficiency gadgets inside." She went on to say the consumers know the estimated mpg's when they buy a car and they know how efficient every appliance in their home is. Why shouldn't there be a similar rating for housing, the most expensive bill consumers have?

The idea behind the rating system is that consumers should be able to take into account the energy efficiency of a property prior to purchasing or signing a lease. It would further encourage property owners to make much-needed energy improvements to properties before leasing or selling.

The rating system would be an easy-to-understand index from 0 to 100, with a completely energy-efficient home receiving a score of zero. It would include an estimate of the amount of money that is being lost or saved in utility bills as a result of the property's energy efficiency as compared to similar properties.

The cost of rating the property is estimated to be between \$200 and \$700 dollars, depending on the property size.

New Town Builders encourages the adoption of this rating system. They believe it pays to build energy-efficient homes since it increases the demand for their product. New Town says they will have homes on the Stapleton market that are energy neutral (a zero on the rating system) when they build on their next filing—that means the net cost of gas and electricity for those properties will be zero.

## FasTracks Information Sessions Dec. 1 and 2

By Kevin Flynn

RTD's East Corridor FasTracks project is getting under construction with early field work and utility relocations the rest of this year and the heaviest work beginning next summer. The 23-mile corridor will be the Denver metro area's first commuter rail project and will connect downtown's Denver Union Station with Denver International Airport. It is scheduled to open in January 2016.

Unlike RTD's existing light rail system, commuter rail uses larger, heavier and faster vehicles. They are electric-powered cars like light rail but seat more people and meet crash safety standards set by the Federal Railroad Administration. Commuter rail travels at greater speeds and is better suited for longer runs such as those to the airport. Top speed for light rail is 55 mph. For commuter rail, it will be 79 mph.

The project runs through the Stapleton area along the existing Smith Road railroad corridor, and includes a major station at

Central Park Boulevard.

In order to get the public familiar with the start-up of this project, RTD's contractor on the project, Denver Transit Partners, will hold three open house events. The presentation will include an overview of the FasTracks Eagle P3 Project of which the East Corridor is a part. The project also includes the Gold Line commuter rail corridor to Arvada and Wheat Ridge and a segment of the NW Rail corridor to south Westminster.

RTD staff and members of the Denver Transit Partners team will be available. The open houses will start with light refreshments at 5:30pm. The presentation begins at 6:15pm. They will be held:

Wednesday, Dec. 1, RedLine Community Gallery, 2350 Arapahoe St.

Thursday, Dec. 2, Bruce Randolph Middle School, 3955 Steele St.

Kevin Flynn is the public information manager for the RTD FasTracks Eagle P3 Project. He can be reached at [kevin.flynn@rtd-fas-tracks.com](mailto:kevin.flynn@rtd-fas-tracks.com) or 303.299.2898.

## Brownies Contribute to Shelter and Learn about Homelessness

By Karyn Weakliem

Nine Brownies from Troop 2895 had an eye-opening experience when they collected towels and delivered them to a homeless shelter. Andrew Spinks, the development director at St. Francis Center, asked the Brownies some questions they'd never thought about. "If you were to pack everything most treasured to you in one backpack, what would you choose and where would you keep it safe? If you did not have a phone, where would you call your family or receive phone calls about job interviews? Where would you do laundry or take a shower?" These questions tested the troop's limited knowledge of what it truly means to be without a home.

Over a six-week period, the nine girls talked to people in their communities and schools (Westerly Creek, Bill Roberts, Park Hill, Polaris and Bromwell) about the needs at the St. Francis Center, and collected over 100 towels and washcloths for the homeless shelter. St. Francis provides a place for Denver's homeless men and women to stay during the day when other shelters are unavailable. St. Francis also provides resources through their outreach program, a place to shower, clothing for job interviews and job skills. They also provide a safe place to store valuables, a phone and message center, a mailbox and many other services. Visiting and contributing to St. Francis was a learning experience and the girls were thankful to be able to help. As the Brownie troop walked into St. Francis carrying bags and arms full of towels, the shelter guests were all smiles as they

cheered and greeted them. As the girls left that day with empty bags and arms, they walked away with more than they arrived with. Our hearts were full and our eyes were opened to what it means to be homeless. We realized how fortunate we are and what little difference stands between us all. Troop members are: Karsen Kinning, Abby Gage, Elaina Weakliem, Nora Dooling, Abi Butters, Kendall Reed, Ellie Lambert, Ella Gage and Saskia Angelov. St. Francis Center is located at 2323 Curtis St. On an average day, the shelter is visited by 642 different people; almost 10,000 different individuals every year. Each visitor costs \$5 a day for all services; \$2,500 per day to run the shelter. St. Francis collects clothing year-round and gives away over 90,000 units of clothing annually. For more information, visit [www.sfcdenver.org](http://www.sfcdenver.org). Items they currently need are listed on the website at -> Contributions -> In-kind contributions.

Karen Weakliem is the leader for Brownie Troop 2895.

For more information about homelessness and items needed visit: [www.sfcdenver.org/html/homelessissues.html](http://www.sfcdenver.org/html/homelessissues.html)

## Looking for work?

Check out our website at [www.excelpersonnel.com](http://www.excelpersonnel.com) for openings!  
Apply online or call 303-427-4600



Proudly servicing the Denver area since 1992!

Excel Personnel is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

## THIS YEAR, STUFF THEIR PIGGY BANKS INSTEAD OF THEIR STOCKINGS

To learn more, call or visit today.



Natalie Robbins  
303.320.7752  
Financial Advisor  
2373 Central Park Blvd.  
Suite 104  
Denver, CO 80238

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com) Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## The Logan School Summer Adventure Camp

Registration Now Open for Summer 2011  
[www.theloganschool.org](http://www.theloganschool.org)  
admissions link

Day and Overnight Camp in Lowry for ages 5-14  
Hands-on • Experiential  
We Thrive on Adventure!

## QUEBEC LIQUOR

BEER WINE & SPIRITS

**Holiday Gift Packs:**  
Corazon, Bailey's, Wild Turkey, Crown Royal, Jack Daniel's, Buchanan's, Macallan, Jose Cuervo, Van Gogh, HPNOTIC, and more!  
**303.287.4071 • 5275 Quebec St.**  
North of I-70, across from Post Office



#5 Plastics Now Accepted for Denver Recycling

Includes yogurt and most tub-style containers



Yoplait's partnership with Denver's recycling program means that all #5 plastics can now be placed in recycling bins.

Denver residents can now include yogurt cups and all #5 plastic (with no lids or foil) in their purple recycling carts. Yoplait has partnered with the city and Waste Management to add #5 plastics to Denver's curbside recycling. "Though this project is intended to increase recycling of Yoplait yogurt cups, we recognize that other #5 plastic should be included as well," said Scott Bradley, area vice president for Waste Management. Waste Management and Denver Recycles will collect and deliver the materials to Waste Management's regional recycling facility for sorting and measurement. From there, #5 plastic can be repurposed for various products, from toothbrushes to new food packaging to traffic lights.

Why are only specific plastics picked by Denver's recycling program? According to Denver Recycles' website (Denvergov.org/recapp), plastics vary greatly by their resin types and how they are manufactured. Plastics are categorized into seven general resin types. There are also two common manufacturing processes. Plastic bottles are "blow molded" and most plastic tubs are "injection molded." As a result of the different resin types, the different manufacturing processes and the different mixes of chemical additives (dyes, plasticizers, UV inhibitors, softeners, adhesives and more), plastics melt at different temperatures and have different physical properties—and as such need to be recycled differently.

Once plastics are separated into their varying categories, they must then be shipped to a recycler. The distance to these plastic markets can be large and the cost to ship certain types of plastic to distant processing facilities may simply be more expensive than the material's value. Some markets are very limited and are overstocked with plastics for recycling.

To determine what plastics can be recycled, Denver Recycles recommends that residents check the neck of the container. Bottles have a neck or opening smaller than the base of the container. Most bottles and jars also have a screw-on top (for example: milk, juice, soft drinks, detergent bottles and peanut butter jars). Plastic bottles should be flattened and caps should be removed since they are usually made from a different type of resin than the container itself. Also, many caps are so small they fall out during the material sorting process. Containers with caps or lids left on can also prevent the containers from being compacted properly.

Other items accepted by Denver's recycling program include: Steel and empty aerosol cans that are empty (no full or partially full cans); Aluminum cans, foil, trays and pie plates; paper with paper clips, stamps, staples, tape and sticky notes are ok; shredded paper in paper bags, flattened cardboard no bigger than 2 feet by 2 feet, phone books.

NOT ACCEPTED are foil chip bags, food containers with a wazy white coating on the inside, wax-coated cardboard milk or juice cartons, paper coffee cups, Tyvek shipping envelopes or plastic wrappers.

Letters to the Editor — Fee-based Events in Parks

Editor: As an avid Denver Park user I became concerned after reading Mr. Meredith's article about new Denver Parks and Recreation policy to close off part of some Denver Parks to allow for admission based events and decided to investigate further. I learned that Stapleton's Central Park was one of the 6 (out of 231) designated parks to be permitted for admission based events in 2011. Parks and Recreation has recommended the area around the playground be permitted for paid events for up to 3,000 people. It could be permitted for up to 4 weekend days per month and closed off to the public on those days.

I live close to the designated area. This past summer we had problems with the small events (maybe 300 people) permitted in this area. Violations of noise ordinances have occurred and there has been excess parking in the adjacent neighborhoods. Traffic on MLK is disrupted as people cruise the area trying to find parking. It appeared that there was little supervision of the events by Park personnel. It is difficult to imagine events for 3,000 people!

I object to admission based events in our parks in general, particularly in areas regularly used by the public as gathering areas. In Central Park, the area around the playground and the fountain are the most heavily used area of the park, full on summer weekends. Large events would disrupt normal usage of the park by the public (taxpayers who already pay for the parks). It would undermine the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods, cause over parking, noise pollution and traffic congestion on a main artery through Stapleton.

Admission based events in public parks is a change in city policy that has strong opposition for many good reasons. The estimated revenue is a small part of the city's budget and it will deny access to the parks by the people who really pay for them. Michele Fuerst

Editor: I would like to point out two corrections to Jon Meredith's November article: The outdoor movie company did get approval to use Civic Center Park, but the company itself chose not to go forward because of a lack of financial backing. Most recently, the principals of OpenAir Cinema have cancelled the contract and the company is leaving the Denver market.

Denver's Red Rocks facility consists of a PARK and an amphitheater. Admissions based events are held only in the amphitheater, which is operated by the city's Theaters and Arenas Department, not Parks and Recreation.

Dave Felice

Dave Felice (gelato321@aol.com), a long-time opponent of admissions based events, is an At Large Member of the Greater Park Hill Board of Governors. He is also a member of the INC Parks and Recreation Committee. He participated on the Admissions Based Special Events Policy (ABSEP) Task Force.

Commentary by Dave Felice: Denver's next mayor faces continuing controversy over the previous administration's policy to allow event operators to close parts of public parks and charge admission. Opponents contend it is wrong to allow private interests to stage exclusive commercial events in parks.

Outgoing Mayor John W. Hickenlooper usually directs opposition to his Parks and Recreation Manager, Kevin Patterson, who often ignores public comment. Patterson never acknowledged receipt of a written resolution from Greater Park Hill Community Inc., opposing admissions based events.

In a rare e-mail to Congress Park Neighbors, someone from Hickenlooper's office recently asserted: "After receiving numerous requests...the City embarked on a process to determine the best way to allow these events."

The statement is conjectural and disingenuous. There is little documentation of demand for admissions based events. Hickenlooper may have his own ideas, or may be misguided.

The Parks Department's response to a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) request by Parks are for People (www.parksareforpeople.org) shows written interest conspicuously lacking. Parks staff admitted there were no telephone records of any inquiries.

Administration claims advantages

"By permitting these (admissions based) events...we can activate our parks, encourage usage...and create new revenue," said the unattributed message from Hickenlooper's office.

Activation is arguable. It is already difficult to find solace in many parks. Large nonprofit events, such as Furry Scurry and Race for the Cure, already overwhelm parks and surrounding neighborhoods. As with the recent Rock and Roll Marathon, these events cause serious havoc with traffic and routine activities.

The initial impact on Stapleton's Central Park may be less than other locations. The park is large, the trees are not mature, and surrounding residential areas are less dense than City Park. However, parking is already a problem at Central Park. Because media coverage has been minimal, few Stapleton residents have likely contemplated the disruption of fenced music concerts in the park.

Patterson has said revenue is not the primary reason for closed commercial events in city (continued on p. 28)



# 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.



## In the Business of Being "Green"

By Caroline Batorowicz, LEED AP

Isn't everyone who lives in Stapleton obsessed with sustainability? Perhaps not. Your friendly, neighborhood SUN organization created the Sustainability Committee in 2009 to handle this obsession for you. We are crazy about being "green" and are dedicated to fostering a healthier lifestyle for all of Stapleton's residents and neighbors.

This is why we are interested in providing a beneficial resource in the form of a "green" business directory. One of the biggest sources of greenhouse gases is commercial development; it is critical that all commercial facilities use sustainable practices. Therefore, we are asking all Stapleton business owners who practice sustainable actions to contact us. We want to know what makes you green. How do you encourage healthier lifestyles? What kind of services do you provide that impact our environment? Is your business run out of your home? Then tell us how you incorporate sustainability into your everyday schedule. Do you own a commercial property in Stapleton? Then tell us if you provide organic fare, use compact fluorescent light bulbs, compost or recycle. Perhaps your business involves a lot of driving. Do you offset your carbon emissions? Or maybe you are a diehard fan of sustainability and do not use mobile phones in your business in order to protect endangered gorillas and their habitat (<http://www.nwf.org>). Our goal is to educate the community about the importance of being green, and at the same time acknowledge those conscientious business owners who run their businesses sustainably.

One such business is our newest shop on the block, Naturally Loved. This wonderful store in the Town Center promotes wholesome living by providing natural and organic

products for babies and kids. What I mostly love about this store is their assortment of cloth diapers. Before I entered this shop, I didn't give cloth diapering a second thought. But after all, how can I preach sustainability yet at the same time contribute to the addition of 3.4 billion disposable diapers to landfills each year? It takes 450 years for a disposable diaper to biodegrade ([http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/edresources/debris\\_t.html](http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/edresources/debris_t.html), while millions of tons of human waste lay in our landfills and contaminate the water supply. So after spending 30 minutes in front of the many different cloth diapers and talking to the very lovely and knowledgeable owner, Alyson, I was sold. I attended a cloth diaper class, which is offered at Naturally Loved, and now my husband and I are cloth diaper pros. Thank you, Alyson, for providing Stapleton with this wonderful resource. Your green business is an amazing addition to our lives.

Being green isn't just good for the Earth, it is also vital to our well-being. Our health and our survival depend on being proactive. It is important for individuals to be green, but also important for businesses, big and small, to try to function sustainably as well. So whether you only put hemp on your baby's bum or use tin cans to communicate with your tree-house child, you are in the business of being green, and we are grateful to you.

Caroline Batorowicz is a SUN Board member and sits on the Sustainability Committee. She can be reached by email at [SUNSustainability@gmail.com](mailto:SUNSustainability@gmail.com).

## Letters to the Editor

(continued from p. 27) parks. There is no formal cost-benefit analysis. Estimates of potential income are small. When all support costs are calculated, the city could end up *losing* money.

### Objections widespread

There is more opposition than support. Many Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) joined Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) with individual resolutions of opposition.

Patterson adopted the policy after a contentious vote by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Responding to the Board, Patterson limited the number and duration of commercial events.

City Charter calls for a public vote on leasing of public park land. The City Attorney, also an appointee of the mayor, made a questionable interpretation of Charter to allow the admissions policy.

Hickenlooper leaves the next mayor encumbered with an unnecessarily divisive policy. The controversy could be resolved if the city administration declared public parks free and open at all times.

With District 11 Councilman Michael Hancock running for mayor, the next council representative from Stapleton may also have to deal with the policy.

If there is demand, the city ought to build a full-time festival facility with permanent infrastructure and access to public transportation.

### Council views split

Hancock and his Advisory Board appointee, Scott Gilmore, suggest a public vote is appropriate.

Councilwoman Carla Madison, a proponent, posted the policy on her web site. City Park, an events site, is in Madison's district.

US OpenAir Cinema has cancelled plans close a section of City Park for outdoor movies.

After residents objected, District 1 Councilwoman Paula Sandoval asked Patterson to remove Sloan's Lake from the list of parks for admissions based events.

Patterson added Ruby Hill Park in District 7 as a festival park. Councilman Chris Nevitt, describes opposition of admissions based events as "hysteria, extremism, and narrow-minded parochial interests."

Surveyed by Councilwoman Jeanne Faatz, residents of District 2 in southwest Denver responded with 51 percent opposed and 49 percent in favor.

Civic Center, Confluence, and Skyline Parks are in primarily non-residential areas. Hickenlooper's former strategist, Lindy Eichenbaum-Lent, heads Civic Center Conservancy with the objective of "activating" the park.

### Opposition still strong

The fundamental principle is the same as when the discussion started three years ago. Tax money paid for the public parks. Commercial enterprises have no prerogative to usurp public property.

Public parks must be free and open. It is wrong to close park property and exclude those who do not, or cannot, pay admission. This is a classic case of the "rip it out of the ground and sell it" philosophy. Stewardship of public property cannot be abandoned.

The controversy is documented on the web site, [www.savecitypark.org](http://www.savecitypark.org) (<http://groups.google.com/group/save-city-park>).

### State parks different

Hickenlooper's office considers state parks different because "the State Park system already charges a gate fee."

In spite of a recognized general admission fee, state parks have full-time rangers, and, generally higher operating costs. Nobody has suggested large-scale commercial events INSIDE state parks. There are, however, proposals that some state park locations be opened to oil and gas drilling.

In a rare public statement, Hickenlooper told environmental affairs writer Joanne Ditmer that he would not support admissions based events in *state* parks.

The Law Office of  
**Yvonne E. Olivere, LLC**



**Estate Planning**  
Wills & Trusts  
Guardianships  
Medical Directives  
Powers of Attorney  
FREE CONSULTATION  
DAY & EVENING APPTS.  
**Phone: 303.974.5617**  
[oliverelawoffice@gmail.com](mailto:oliverelawoffice@gmail.com)

**Have you signed up for Art Classes yet?**



**Classes for Tots, Kids, Teens, and Ladies!**  
**StartArt**  
**www.StartArtKids.com**  
**720-227-4907**  
**info@startartkids.com**

**Open Your Heart.**



For information on becoming a foster parent, Call **303.217.5858**



**LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES**  
of Colorado

**Open Your Home.**

**New Day Acupuncture**



Treating: Pain • Allergies • Stress, Anxiety & other Emotional Complaints  
Digestive Ailments • Women's Health Issues • Children's Health

Bruce Stoebner, L.Ac. • 720-838-7918  
Free consultation • Herbal pharmacy  
[www.acupuncture-in-denver.com](http://www.acupuncture-in-denver.com)  
2840 Xanthia Ct., Stapleton

**The Weikel Building Co.**



Stapleton-Based • 20+ Yrs. Experience • Remodeling  
Deck Construction • Basements • Renovations  
Brian Weikel • Licensed & Insured  
720.771.4690 • [www.weikelbuildingco.com](http://www.weikelbuildingco.com)

Schedule your FREE custom project design that stays within your timeline and budget!

**Your Neighborhood Bike Shop**



**Just in time for the Holidays—Diggler Scooters!**  
New & Refurbished Bikes • Parts • Accessories  
Maintenance Classes • Repair Service  
2825 Fairfax Street • 303-393-1963  
*We are a 501c3 nonprofit organization in need of bicycle donations & volunteers*



Since You've Asked...

**Q: Development of the Stapleton district appears to be shifting toward residential, government, and retail commercial property (excluding light industrial property in North and East Stapleton). The original plans included designation of space for non-retail commercial space (e.g., office buildings), similar to the Lowry development. What is the current status of these developments? Are there still plans for attracting office developments in the area?**

A. Forest City is presently testing the market to identify additional office users interested in coming to Stapleton. The new regional headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that opened this past summer at 36th and Ulster is the most recent office development, and Forest City is working with commercial brokers to identify other potential office tenants for the area adjacent to the coming RTD rail station and multimodal facility on Smith Road, as well as the area north of the new Central Park Blvd. interchange that will open on I-70 in November of next year.

**Q: Once remediation is done on the east side of Iola, is Forest City committed to developing that area right away or are you going to move to other neighborhoods before that.**

A. The timetable for the development of that parcel, known as Filing 16, depends on when remediation activities are completed and the parcel becomes available for purchase by Forest City. The strength of the residential market at the time the land becomes will also play a major role in the timetable for development.

**Q: I believe the current plan is to sign a high-end grocer (Whole Foods, Sun Flower Market, etc.) as the anchor store for the Eastbridge town center before construction begins. Is there something we as a community can do to help (e.g., petition Whole Foods, demonstrate a viable market by contracting with an economics firm)?**

A. Forest City has talked with numerous grocers who have the potential to locate a store in the Eastbridge Town Center. In those communications, we provide a wide range of economic and demographic information about the strong interest of Stapleton residents to bring the next grocery store to their community. Any support Stapleton residents can provide for that effort would be welcome.

**Q: Is there a bike connection between Stapleton and Fitzsimons?**

A. Yes. To obtain on-line access to maps for bike connections between Stapleton and Fitzsimons, visit The Sand Creek Regional Greenway website ([www.sandcreek-greenway.org](http://www.sandcreek-greenway.org)) or the City of Denver's bike information page at ([www.denvergov.org/DenverBikeMaps](http://www.denvergov.org/DenverBikeMaps))

**Q: Any plans to extend 35th east over Westerly Creek?**

A. There are no plans or funds to extend 35th Avenue east over Westerly Creek at this time.

**Q: What is the lane reconfiguration work presently underway on 35th Ave west of Central Park?**

A: 35th Avenue is being reconfigured from four lanes down to two lanes with a wider, landscaped median similar to 35th Avenue East of Central Park Blvd.

**Q: What are the current plans for the area surrounded by MLK, Central Park, Ulster, and E.29th Place?**

A. The current plans for that area are for multi-family housing.

*Responses provided by Tom Gleason, vice president-public relations for Forest City Stapleton, Inc. He may be reached at [tgleason@stapletondenver.com](mailto:tgleason@stapletondenver.com)*

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

READING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. The Odyssey Charter School is looking for volunteers to read with one child for 1/2 hour a week throughout the school year. Available times are 8:15 to 8:45 M-F. If interested call, Julie at 303-316-3944 ext. 43230 or email at [julie@odyssey-denver.org](mailto:julie@odyssey-denver.org)

WORK FROM HOME: Full or Part Time. Company grew 400% last year and just launched Patent Pending Anti-Age Technology as an alternative to Botox. Internet based. Call Dianne for interview. 303-513-3872

SERVICES

A GOOD PAINT JOB - A painter referred by your neighbors. Call Scott The Painter - 720-373-1010

ACUPUNCTURE AND CHINESE MEDICINE - Ease your pain in minutes. 720-320-8799 - Life Spring - 2306 Central Park Blvd

ACUPUNCTURE, CHIROPRACTIC, MASSAGE THERAPY, Skin Care & Waxing services are available at Natural Balance Integrative Health. Insurance Accepted! Call to schedule your appointment at 303-355-0363. 3055 Roslyn Street, Suite 120, Denver CO 80238 - [www.nbihdenver.com](http://www.nbihdenver.com)

AFFORDABLE PAINTING - Exceptional results. Visit [www.jcspainting.com](http://www.jcspainting.com) for info and pictures, or call 303-474-8882. Highly recommended

BASEMENT DESIGN, KITCHEN/BATH Remodeling, Built-Ins, Interior Design. Diane Gordon Design, 303.355.5666, [www.diane-gordondesign.com](http://www.diane-gordondesign.com)

BASEMENT FINISH - GATES CONTRACTING, INC. - Bathroom remodel, Kitchen remodel, Additions. Licensed/Insured. 720-922-3273, [www.gatescontracting.com](http://www.gatescontracting.com)

BASEMENT FINISHING - "Best Bang for the Buck." Hundreds of references. Licensed and Insured. Blue-Print Design & Construction, Inc. 303.467.9400

BASEMENTS Best Builders - Best in Quality & Design at truly affordable prices. Call Jim at 720.276.7704

B&D RENOVATIONS - Affordable Tile Installation/Repair, Painting/Faux Finishes, Trim/Molding. Quality craftsmanship. Chris 720.404.2649

BLUE CREEK - Acupuncture, Massage, Skin Care... Community Acupuncture, Cosmetic Facial Acupuncture, Allergy Elimination, Energy Medicine, Cranio Sacral, Facials, Peels, Waxing & Yoga! We have it ALL!! Please call 303.573.7484 to schedule your appointment today! [www.blue-creekhealth.com](http://www.blue-creekhealth.com)

SERVICES

BODY, FOOD & YOU GROUP - A safe place to explore your relationship to your body, food and weight. 10 weeks. Located in Park Hill, facilitated by Dr. Jane Ginsberg, a licensed clinical psychologist. 303-868-3690

CANNONBALL MOVERS - 2 men + 26 ft Truck = \$75hr, 3hr Minimum, \$25 one-time fuel charge. PUC # HHG-00194, PRC #56890, Workman's Comp #4122008. Call 720-255-4368 / Visit [www.cannonballmovers.net](http://www.cannonballmovers.net)

COMPUTER HELP! Network, Virus Removal, upgrade & more. 303-475-3203. MTX Computer - 2306 Central Park Blvd

COMPUTER SERVICES - Located in Stapleton: on-site residential and small business support; spyware removal, file recovery, secure wireless networking, mobile device configuration, hardware/software upgrades and installations; call Jon at 720.989.1979

CONSIDERING RENTING YOUR HOUSE / Townhouse? Full Service Property Management Company. Expert in extremely hot Stapleton market. Will get top \$\$\$.

Call/email Tom Cummings for free consultation. 303-324-6988. [TJCMGMT@msn.com](mailto:TJCMGMT@msn.com). [www.StapletonForRent.com](http://www.StapletonForRent.com)

CONTRACTOR - FINE WOODWORKING, FINISH Carpentry, Remodeling, Home Repair and Maintenance. Licensed General Contractor. Small difficult jobs welcome. 22 years exp. in Park Hill area. Peter 720-291-6089

EARN FREE MARY KAY products! Why cut skin care, makeup, or body care from your budget or sacrifice quality? Complimentary services with 100% satisfaction guarantee! Over 90 items for \$10 or less. Contact Denise [www.marykay.com/dzaiontz](http://www.marykay.com/dzaiontz)

ELDER CARE DECISIONS GROUP - As we, or our parents, age, each family member goes through a transition. It can be a time of family conflict or growth. Explore the dynamics in a safe, 10 week group. Facilitated by Dr. Jane Ginsberg, licensed clinical psychologist. 303-868-3690

ELECTRICIAN - INEXPENSIVE, LICENSED, Insured, Guaranteed. Hi I'm Dan with DHE Electric. Free Estimates! I install fans, lights, fix problems, add outlets. Breakers, fuses, panels replaced. References available. 720-276-2245

HANDYMAN AND REMODELING - Serving Park Hill since 2001. No job too small. Home Repairs, Tile, Painting, Carpentry, Landscape, Basement, Baths, and Kitchens. Free estimates 303-333-4507

HOME COOKED HOLIDAY MEALS! Affordable, healthy, personalized help with your parties and get togethers. Mangia! Personal Chef Service will menu plan, shop, cook and clean up. Contact Michelle: 303-324-1198 [www.mangiapersonalchef.com](http://www.mangiapersonalchef.com)

SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING - Mature, honest, friendly, dependable. 303-671-9065

HOUSE-CLEANING: AFFORDABLE, ECO-FRIENDLY, EXPERIENCED! Great references. [info@cleanteamhousecleaning.com](mailto:info@cleanteamhousecleaning.com). [www.cleanteamhousecleaning.com](http://www.cleanteamhousecleaning.com)

HOUSECLEANING-EXCELLENT LOCAL REFERENCES - 15 years in business, Park Hill resident. Homes, offices. Paulina 720.628.6690, Paulina-Leon22@hotmail.com

IRELAND'S FINEST PAINT CO - Your Stapleton Neighborhood Painting Company. Complete Commercial/Residential; interior/exterior painting. Carpentry repair, drywall repair, pressure washing. Bringing color to Denver since 1995. [www.irelands-finestinc.com](http://www.irelands-finestinc.com), 303.512.8777

NON-MEDICAL CARE-GIVING SERVICES for elderly and children. [www.funlovingcare.com](http://www.funlovingcare.com)

PAINTING: QUALITY RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR & Exterior Painting. Dry-wall Repair & Texture. Timely & Clean. Over 25 years experience and insured. Kevin-303.725.7873

PET SITTING / DOG WALKING - Insured and bonded, experienced dog walker available. Shelter volunteer. [www.ztdogwalking.com](http://www.ztdogwalking.com)

PIANO SERVICE - Tuning, repair, reconditioning. Registered Piano Technician with Piano Technicians Guild, 30 years experience serving metro Denver - close to Park Hill & Stapleton. David Nereson - 303.355.5770

PLUMBING - I show up on time! I do it right! I don't gouge! Brugman Plumbing - Larry @ 303.935.6348. [www.brugmanplumbing.com](http://www.brugmanplumbing.com)

PREMIER PAINT WORKS - Since 1993 Stapleton's Residential Paint Specialists. Int/Ext Neat, conscientious craftsmanship by polite, respectful, honest & fully insured crew, impeccable references. Ask about our FREE 1 hour color consultation with Jennifer Comfort from [thecolorpsychic.com](http://thecolorpsychic.com). Call John at 303-864-9247

SERVICES

QUALITY AFFORDABLE HANDYMAN! Insured Handyman Services include: baby proofing, ceiling fans/ light fixtures, closet organizers, assembly, repairs, pictures hung, fence staining, etc. No Job Too Small! Bob 720-434-3649. [besthandyman@comcast.net](mailto:besthandyman@comcast.net)

TILE & STONE INSTALLATION - floors, showers, showerpans, floor heating, backsplashes, patios. References. Michael 303-399-4330, [oboecat@gmail.com](mailto:oboecat@gmail.com)

TILE INSTALLATION by a Stapleton resident. Competitive pricing. Call for a free estimate. Dave - 303-847-2200

WINDOW TREATMENTS - STAPLETON RESIDENT. Sales and/or Certified Installation of high quality roller shades, romans and draperies. References Available. Please call Larry at Platinum Installations 720-277-7784

YOU DESERVE A MASSAGE! Holiday Special: \$100 for 2 one hour therapeutic massages for couples in your home or at 29th Ave Nail Salon. Gift Certificates Delivered! Denise ACMT 303-956-1912. Give the Gift of Wellness!

FOR RENT

STAPLETON AND LOWRY TOWNHOMES - Homes available for rent. Have 2, 3, 4 or 5 bedroom properties available both immediately and for future (30+ days) move-in. 303-324-6988 or [TJCMGMT@msn.com](mailto:TJCMGMT@msn.com). [www.StapletonForRent.com](http://www.StapletonForRent.com)

FOR SALE

DISCOUNT KIDSWEAR - SAVE 50% off store prices. Log onto our website and get a privileged glimpse of children's trends that are as dazzling as they are appealing. At prices you won't believe. [www.denverkidswear.com](http://www.denverkidswear.com)

WANTED

GARAGE WANTED - Want to rent a garage near Denver airport or Stapleton bus terminal. Will pay \$75/month starting December. E-mail carolyn-hell@bellsouth.net if interested.

To place a classified ad, please visit [www.frontporchstapleton.com](http://www.frontporchstapleton.com). Choose the link for CLASSIFIEDS and follow the online instructions. The deadline is the 15th of the month for an ad in the next issue.

Celebrate Christmas at our house!



**Christmas Eve Worship**  
3 pm\*, 5 pm, 11 pm\*

**Christmas Day Worship**  
10:30 am\*

Nursery care available.  
\*Holy Communion.

5000 E Alameda Ave | Denver CO 80246

**Augustana**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

303-388-4678 | [www.augustanadenver.org](http://www.augustanadenver.org)

Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Number One



# HOUSE CLEANING

Stapleton and Park Hill References

Detail Oriented • Ironing Included • Window Washing • Carpet Cleaning  
Bonded & Insured • 15 Years in Business • Offices • Homes • Park Hill Resident  
Paulina Leon 720-628-6690 • [paulinaleon22@hotmail.com](mailto:paulinaleon22@hotmail.com)

## Letters to the Editor

The Front Porch will publish letters to the editor as space allows. Please email Carol Roberts, editor, The Front Porch at [FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com](mailto:FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com).

## Display Advertising

To place a display ad, please visit [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com). Display ad reservations are due the 10th of the month. (See our ad on page 8.)

## Teas to Soothe Mind, Body, & Soul

Loose and Bulk Teas ~ Afternoon Tea (Sat. only) ~ Private Tea Parties  
Over 50 International Teas ~ Weight Loss, Energy, and Health Teas  
Over 30 Fairy Blossom Teas ~ WiFi and Meeting Rooms

[www.nannasteas.com](http://www.nannasteas.com) • 1404 Oneida St. • 303-862-8832

Nanna's Teas

**10% OFF**

**Loose Teas**  
20% off online orders  
Expires 12/31/10





Hickenlooper, shown as he announced his candidacy for governor in front of the State Capitol in January 2010.

(continued from page 1)

### Denver's Citywide Election Process

Mayoral races in Denver have been traditionally non-partisan affairs. That is why our city elections are a little different than most other political contests. Instead of primaries for Republican and Democratic candidates, all candidates that complete the petition process that is verified by the city elections division are on one ballot. Unless one candidate gets over 50% of the vote there will be a subsequent run-

# With Hickenlooper's Move to Guv, Four (So

off between the top two vote getters.

Although the races are non-partisan, Denver has elected mayors who are Democrats since 1963 when Republican Richard Batterton left office. However, in 1983 Republican Donald Bain, a well-known local attorney, challenged Peña to a very close runoff.

The initial election will be on May 3rd with the potential runoff set for June 7th. Voters will choose the Mayor, Auditor, Clerk and Recorder, and thirteen City Council members, any of which could need a run-off election if no candidate gets over 50% of the vote. The May 3rd ballot may also contain initiatives, referenda, Charter amendments, or other referred measures.

### Recent Denver Mayors

It appears Denver residents have been very happy with their choices for mayor since 1968. Only four men have been mayor since then—all were elected to a second term and

two were elected three times. (Denver has never elected a woman mayor.) William McNichols, was voted mayor in 1968 and reelected twice more. He may well have been elected a fourth time if not for the Christmas blizzard of 1982, which dumped up to four feet of snow. Public Works crews never got the alleys and the side streets plowed before the spring thaw. That was just prior to the May election and perhaps the deciding factor that put Federico Peña into office.

Peña is remembered for spearheading the building of Denver International Airport and the closing of Stapleton. His campaign slogan was "Imagine a Great City." Where the new airport would be located, how it was to be financed, and the initial oversight of its construction were all serious issues Peña dealt with prior to the opening of the new airport, which took place during the Webb administration in February 1995. Peña also began the process of redevelopment in both Stapleton and Lowry. He did not run for a third term, choosing instead to become Bill Clinton's Secretary of Transportation.

Much like today, the mayoral race in 1991 was chock full of really good candidates. Wellington Webb won in a runoff against Norm Early to become Denver's first black mayor. Webb was known for always wearing running shoes during the campaign and visiting neighborhoods throughout Denver. He called it his "sneaker campaign." Webb took office right before the "summer of violence" when there was a record number of murders in Denver and a significant increase in gang activity. Webb took the time to listen to neighborhood groups and dedicate funds for an increased police presence, including a separate "gang unit" that, over time, reduced the incidence of gang violence. Webb oversaw the completion of DIA and the closing of Stapleton. During his third term, Colorado voters passed term limits, which paved the

way for John Hickenlooper's candidacy.

Hickenlooper was a bit of a "strange duck" in political circles. An East Coast transplant, former geologist and very successful brewpub owner when he ran in 2003, the majority of voters apparently supported his view of Denver as a "great city" and had confidence that his business background would serve him well in running the business side of city government. A long shot when he started campaigning, Denverites quickly were impressed with his attention to detail and business savvy. He has the ability to articulate solutions to complex problems in terms that are easily understandable. Hickenlooper was reelected with close to 75% of the vote in 2007. In 2008 he was instrumental in bringing the Democratic National Convention to the Mile High City. Now he will move across Civic Center Park to the Capitol.

### Issues

All of the current candidates will have their own ideas on what needs to be done with education reform, the city's budget and, of course, creation of jobs. Other issues that have come up are relations with law enforcement; water; overlapping of city services; gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) issues; job programs for youth, and the timely completion of FasTracks. If you have any issues that you believe the candidates need to address, please email the Front Porch at [FrontPorch-Stapleton@gmail.com](mailto:FrontPorch-Stapleton@gmail.com) and we'll ask candidates to respond.

### Announced Candidates

**Michael Keith Forrester** Mr. Forrester is currently a student at Metro State majoring in education with an emphasis on sports medicine. He has a background in law enforcement and public safety. He has been an EMT instructor since 2007. He moved to Colorado in 1999 from Tennessee.

Forrester is a relative unknown who has not held any public office. He knows he will need

**PARKWOOD HOMES  
LIGHTHOUSE SERIES**

Morgans Point   Stratford Point   Palmer Island

- The Morgans Point and Stratford Point prices include a *design center allowance*
- The Palmer Island includes an *unfinished third floor* - a perfect storage solution!
- Fabulous *Mountain views!*
- Conveniently located across from the *Denver School of Science and Technology*

WWW.PARKWOODHOMES.COM

**Call now to learn more: 303.320.4938**

Model Home: From Quebec Street go east on 35th Avenue. 9206 E. 35th Avenue.

Marketed exclusively by Jennifer Gore Unlimited, LLC

**Only 3 homes remain in this special, limited series! From \$349,900**

**STATE FARM INSURANCE**  
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

**Jessika Aerni**

7505 E. 35th Ave, Suite 305  
Denver, Colorado 80238  
Phone: (303) 377-5433  
Fax: (303) 377-1773  
[www.jessikaerni.com](http://www.jessikaerni.com)

**Office Hours**  
Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm  
Evenings & Weekends by Appointment

**HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL**

**Auto + Home = DISCOUNT!**  
AUTOMÓBIL + CASA = ¡DESCUENTO!

**Messiah Community Church, ELCA**  
A Welcoming Lutheran Congregation  
**We have Fresh Christmas Trees for sale**

*Come select your best Christmas tree ever! Open daily beginning Nov. 26.*

*All sizes available. Located next to our playground.*

**Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Reception following each service**

**Christmas Service in the German language**  
Ökumenischer Weihnachtsgottesdienst  
Am 19. Dezember 2010, 17 Uhr  
Reception following

**Fair-Trade Marketplace, Dec. 11 & 12, 2010**  
Our annual fair-trade market! Fairly-traded coffee, tea, beads, soups, artwork, handbags, olive oil, chocolate and handicrafts from local and global sources. Great gift ideas! Come see!

**Located in Park Hill/Stapleton**  
(across from Denver City Park/IMAX)  
**Serving all communities**

Sunday worship and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Forum at 10:45 a.m.

1750 Colorado Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80220  
303-355-4471  
[www.messiahdenver.org](http://www.messiahdenver.org)



# Far) Have Stepped into Mayor's Race

to get out and meet people and try to gain as much exposure as possible. As just an average person, he believes he brings some common sense and reality to the race that people can certainly relate to.

As mayor, his top priorities will be to bring jobs to the city and address water issues and police-citizen relationships.

In his literature he identifies himself as a gay candidate and states that he will stand up for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender (GLBT) issues. He has been concerned about the rise in gay teen suicides and states he faced a tremendous amount of bullying growing up gay in a small Tennessee town. (Mr. Forrester did not provide a photo.)

**Michael B. Hancock** – Councilman Hancock has represented Stapleton and much of Northeast Denver in Council District 11 since 2003. He served two terms as Council President from 2006 to 2008. He is well known in Northeast Denver for being accessible to constituents and working to resolve their issues by helping to ensure fair and equitable delivery of services such

as libraries, rec centers, road repairs, police protection, street sweeping, trash collection and neighborhood inspections. He helped facilitate and coordinate the new school being built in Stapleton and is a firm believer that “great schools make great neighborhoods.”

Hancock attended Manual High School, graduating in 1987 as head boy. He went to Hastings College in Nebraska before receiving a master's in public administration from CU-Denver in 1995. He then went on to join Metro Denver's Urban League affiliate and became its president in 1999. At the time, he was the youngest Urban League president in the nation.

As a new mayor, Hancock's top priority will be to bring

jobs to the Mile High City by focusing on small business expansion and ensuring that there is sufficient structure in place to grow Denver's economy.

Councilman Hancock is married to his middle-school sweetheart and they have three children.

**Doug Linkhart** – Councilman Linkhart has represented all



Doug Linkhart

of Denver as one of the two at-large members on the City Council. He has been on the Council since 2003 and prior to that he served eight years as a State Senator and two years in the Sate House. Before getting into public service, Linkhart was a business economist, working with venture capitalists and

large banks to analyze which regions and cities were best for long-term investment. He moved to Denver in 1980.

Linkhart has proposed and passed city ordinances allowing for solar panels on homes and windmills under certain codes. He has a long record of being supportive of youth programs that lead to jobs, sustainability and economic development.

While many candidates will concentrate on fixing Denver's budget issue, Linkhart believes there is enough money in the budget and that we need to move money around to make the current budget successful. Linkhart looks back to when the Peña administration took office. That was during the recession that deeply affected Denver in the early '80s. Peña charted a course of spending on infrastructure and new public buildings. Linkhart believes today we need to have the same sort of commitment but invest in people, ensuring their ability to be qualified to go and find good jobs right here in Denver.

**James Mejia** – James Mejia grew up in Park Hill, is an East High graduate and is the ninth of 13 children. He went on to graduate from Notre Dame. His parents were teachers and so are several of his brothers and sisters. He was Parks and Recreation Manager under Wellington Webb, spent four years on the Board of Education, and most recently was the project manager on the Denver Justice Center, which was a public/private partnership. He is currently CEO of the Denver Preschool Program, which provides tuition credits for parents who send their children to preschools in the program's network.

Mr. Mejia was the first candidate to throw his hat in the ring for mayor, announcing back in June. His first priority as mayor will be education reform with a huge emphasis on ensuring kids graduate from high school. Mass transportation, the completion of FasTracks, which is already way behind schedule and over budget, is a top priority because “great cities need great transportation.”

He will promote job creation by increasing funding to small business through low-interest loans. In dealing with the City budget issues, he will present novel approaches to trying to balance the budget and eliminate agency overlap and waste. He notes that Denver Health's LEAN program has saved the city \$50 million by empowering employees to reduce costs. He believes a similar program can be implemented citywide.

## Who else may join the race?

Candidates who have not officially announced but have filled out the preliminary filings with Denver Elections are: Dwight Eisen Henson; Danny F. Lopez, a city employee who ran against Mayor Hickenlooper in 2007; Chris Romer, currently a State Senator; and Kenneth R. Simpson.



**BRENT GATES**  
LICENSED & INSURED  
**720.922.3273**  
WWW.GATESCONTRACTING.COM

Your Complete Home Remodeling Contractor:  
BASEMENTS—BATHROOMS—KITCHENS—ADDITIONS



Included in EVERY Basement Contract:  
Diane Gordon Design Customized Plan Set  
Free No-VOC paint upgrade... & more



**SHARE THE JOY OF THE HOLIDAYS!**

**RECEIVE \$50**  
for transferring a balance to  
a Westerra VISA® Credit Card!



- No balance transfer fee, no annual fee and no escalating rates.
- 5.9% APR\* for 6 months for VISA® Platinum on balances transferred.
- Just 9.9% APR on all new purchases – and reward points, too.

**303-321-4209 | westerracu.com | Conveniently located at 3700 North Quebec – behind Panera Bread.**

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. \$50 Bonus paid to you within 7 days of transferring a balance of \$500 or more from another financial institution to a new or existing Westerra VISA Credit Card. Subject to application and approval. Limited time offer.





**SHUTTERS \$17.99 sq. ft. INSTALLED!**  
**FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATES**  
**303-895-8282**

**FREE Temporary Shades with Order**  
**Qualify for Federal Tax Credits**  
**Hunter Douglas November = Cash Back Rebates**  
**NORMAN SHUTTERS & GRABER**  
**MOTORIZED & PATIO SHADES**  
**www.flatironwindowfashions.com**

**SAVE MONEY • SAVE ENERGY • BUILD GREEN**



**Jonathan Zonca, MD, "Top Doc 5280"**  
**Leslie McKenna, NP • Emily Shupe Talley PAC**

**High Quality Care for your entire family including kids!**  
**New Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30am - 5pm, Sat 8am - 1pm**

**303-322-PEAK (7325) - www.peakfamilymed.com • 4500 E. 9th Ave #320**



STRESS SHOPPING LISTS BURDENS CONSUMERISM DEBT MORE  
SPEND DEBT BUSY NO TIME BUSY TO DO LISTS TRAFFIC JAMS  
CREDIT CARD DEBT BILLS \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ LONG NIGHTS BUY MORE  
SPEND MORE GIVE LESS FORGET FAMILY STRESSFUL NIGHTS NO  
PEACE TRAFFIC JAMS LATE NIGHTS LONG TO DO LISTS  
SHOPPING STRESSFUL NOT STOPPING MORE MORE MORE DEBT  
TRAFFIC JAMS CONSUMERISM NO PEACE STRESS SHOPPING

STOP. TAKE A DEEP BREATH. REFOCUS.

# DENVER

# THIS IS YOUR NEW TRADITION

This Christmas Eve, start a new tradition with your family and friends. Choose to make your holiday less stressful and more meaningful. Take an hour to reflect on what Christmas is really about.

December 24th at 7:00pm  
Westerly Creek Elementary School



**NorthField Church**

As a reflection of our own desire to give rather than consume, 100% of our Christmas Eve offering will be donated to Living Water International. To find out why visit: [www.northfieldchurch.com/cleanwater](http://www.northfieldchurch.com/cleanwater)

