Central Park Recreation Center staff are shown in the natatorium (indoor pool area) as workmen put the finishing touches on the building. Clockwise from front: Charlene Branch, aquatics; Mary Carriero, customer service, sports, special events; Tony Hernandez, operations, sports, weight room; Matt Draper, customer service, sports, social network; Kelly Kitts, supervisor; and Felicia Rodriguez, operations, kid watch, fitness. The lap pool (with basketball hoops) is visible in the background.

A Parents’ Guide to Kids’ Sports

By John Babtak

As a teacher, youth sports coach and father of three young sports enthusiasts, people often ask me about youth sports and recreation opportunities for their children, so I was delighted to compile that information for Front Porch readers.

There are so many indoor and outdoor sports activities for children here in metro Denver, it is difficult for me to recommend just one. Children between the ages of 5 and 12 should have the opportunity to explore and play different sports. Many children benefit from organized sports activities, and research continues to prove that physically active children are healthier and perform better academically. As they grow, they are less likely to be overweight, to smoke and to use illicit drugs because they tend to care more about their bodies and performance.

After you assess what your child’s interest is and match it to a sport that will both excite and challenge them, (continued on page 6)
Carol Roberts and Steve Larson
EDITORS and PUBLISHERS:

JANUARY

Monday, January 17
Denver Botanic Gardens - SCFD Free Day
720-865-3500 http://www.botanicgarden.org

Saturday, January 22
The Center for African American Health
9th Annual Health Fair
Panassassie Denver Hostel, 8:30am-3:30pm
www.carah.org (See page 9)
303-355-3423 x 110

Tuesday, January 25
SUN Community Forums
Transportation Issues, 7pm, location TBD
Check Stapleton United Neighbors

Thursday, January 27
Stapleton Acrostics, Inc. Potluck, 6:30—8pm
MCA Community Room*
Events@stapletoncommunity.com

What is your Community DNA?
We are adding a new segment to our
monthly article. This is a little piece to
check in with yourself and how you are
contributing, or affecting your community.
We are calling this the
Community Denver Neighborhood
Attitude. For our first month the topic is
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do you shovel to your property line and stop
or do you shovel your neighbor’s
walk or alley section as well? What if you
and your neighbor got together and
shoveled? Imagine what a community we
would create!
We would like to have the community
send in suggestions for this piece. If you
have an idea you would like to have
featured, please send it to
StapletonDNA@stapletoncommunity.com

*MCA Community Room:
The Stapleton MCA will open its fourth outdoor
swimming pool in Filing 19 this summer. We are
looking to the community to help
name this pool. If you have a name
suggestion for our fourth pool, please email
namiethepool@stapletoncommunity.com

January 2011 www.stapletoncommunity.com

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Front Porch, LLC, 2366 Syrosa St., Denver, CO.
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Uncover the Genius.

Montessori Children’s House of Denver is planning a location in Stapleton.

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uncover the genius
Sixty-six days after the President of the United States was assassinated, a month after being named Time magazine’s Man of the Year, and just a few months prior to winning the Nobel Peace Prize, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke at Montview Presbyterian Church in Park Hill. It was at the beginning of the war in Vietnam and the struggle for civil rights.

Sunday, January 27, 1964, was a tem- perate day in Denver with snow on the ground. Most of the more than 3,000 who gathered wore suit coats and light jackets. The sanctuary held only about 1,100, so the rest stood outside the church or gathered in many of the other rooms in the church complex where the speech was piped in. According to the Montview Church archivist Robert Matchett, the day was an eventful one for Dr. King. While finishing getting ready in the vestment area behind the altar, Dr. King became locked in a room and neither he nor anyone could manage to get the door unlocked. A small window in that door was broken so Dr. King could speak to those outside. It was decided that the only way to get him out was for the Dr. to climb out a window on the south side of the church and drop approximately 10 feet. Dr. King was a fairly large man and the window, still on the south side of the church today, has a rather small opening. It is hard to imagine how he could have climbed through the window opening and dropped the 10 feet to the ground.

He then went behind the church and around to the north side and then up the church’s front stairs where he briefly addressed the hundreds of people who were unable to get in.

Dr. King’s message that day had all of the hallmarks that were to become the foundation of his life’s work, cut so terribly short four years later. His message was that “if democracy is to live, segregation must die.” Other nations “will respect no nation which restricts its citizens on the basis of race.” If the United States chooses to ignore this mandate, it will end up “a second rate power with no moral or political force.” Yet the end of racism must come not because it is “diplomatically expedient, but because it is morally compelling.”

He went on to specifically address blacks through educational and other channels, through non-violent direct action. He must be willing, if necessary, to give his life in the battle, because if a man hasn’t found something worth dying for, he is not fit to live.”

When the victory does come, King said, it would be a “double victory because we will win by our capacity for suffering.”

The Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News covered the story the next day on pages 2 and 6, respectively, and are to be credited for Dr. King’s quotes. However, looking back, it is hard to fathom why the history being made that day in Park Hill was covered so matter-of-factly by the region’s two major newspapers. And it is extraordinary how seamlessly Dr. King’s words that day in 1964 fit into the political rhetoric of 2011.

Jon Meredith lives in Stapleton. He can be reached at jon.meredith@q.com. *Fishwrap is a slang term that started in the ’30s and refers to the transient value of yesterday’s newspaper.*
Last year, Becky and Tom Kourlis won the award together. Becky is a former Colorado Supreme Court justice and Tom was the state agriculture commissioner during the Romer Administration.

The events really kick off on Thursday, January 6, with the Stock Show Parade on 17th Street in downtown. Hundreds of cattle, horses and sheep are driven up the street in an event that is not only unique to Denver; it is probably unique to any major city in the country. The rodeo begins with a matinee on Saturday the 8th and from then on the show runs flat out until Sunday, January 23rd.

Rodeo is not all buckin’ broncs and calf roping. There is barrel racing, where ladies try to make the fastest time on their horses rounding three barrels 25 yards apart. That time tends to be around eight seconds. The Westernaires are a troop of teenagers fine-tuned at riding horses in formations adorned in western apparel and flags. Mutton busting is a laugh-a-second event where kids about age six ride on the back of sheep and try to hold on for dear life. All mutton busters get trophies taller than they are.

Other exhibits around the grounds include the Western art exhibit with over 60 artists exhibiting works in oil, pastel, watercolor, pencil, etching, photography and bronze. The Super Dogs Show provides amazing tricks, aerial stunts and comedy antics by dogs that will captivate you. There is a Mexican rodeo, a Buffalo Soldiers rodeo on Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a tribute to black cowboys, a Wild West show featuring Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley and Calamity Jane and an evening of Dancing Horses choreographed to the music of the Denver Brass. All of this is going on to the backdrop of hundreds of booths at the trade fair, thousands of animals to see up close, and the best people watching this side of Venice Beach.

Visit www.nationalwestern.com to view the schedule of events. A parking map is posted on the website under the link for “Directions.” The stock show offers a very full afternoon or evening if you decide to go—and it is an event that you will never forget if you have not been before.
Youth Sports
(continued from page 5) Use this guide to identify organizations that offer suitable programs.

When performing your due diligence, speak with a sports program director before you decide if the particular sport is right for your son or daughter. Obtain a written statement of the goals and philosophies of the organization. Determine if they are compatible with your family values and goals. Does the organization emphasize giving all children an opportunity to play? Is everyone, including less skilled players, treated fairly? Ask if your child will be penalized if he/she misses practices or games. Do practice and game schedules interfere with dinner, homework or other routine family obligations? Certainly, learn what your responsibilities as an adult are. Ask for and review the organization’s parent guide or handbook.

Coaching. Always learn more about the coaching staff and their mentors. Are they paid or parent volunteers? What education, training and experience do they have as youth sports coaches? One of the keys to being a good youth sports coach is setting realistic, age-appropriate expectations with your junior athletes. I like to watch a practice session and game before I make a final decision for my sport.

Be mindful of travel distances to practices and games. Understand the overall costs that are necessary to participate in the sport. Finally, many organizations offer scholarships and reduced rate fees for families that qualify. Do not hesitate to inquire.

All sports listed below offer camps, clinics and lessons except one marked with an asterisk (*).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>CONTACT INFO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Boys – South- east Denver Baseball &amp; Softball League (SEDBS) Alpine and Northside Baseball (PCL)</td>
<td>denverbaseball.com 303.696.7312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football Boys &amp; Co-ed – Stapleton All Sports</td>
<td>denerymya.com (see SPORTS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys – Colorado State University</td>
<td>demereyl.com (see PROGRAMS link) 720.937.1223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys – Denver Police Activities League (PAL)</td>
<td>demereyl.com (see PROGRAMS info) 720.937.1223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys – Diamond Club Baseball</td>
<td>demereyl.com (See PROGRAMS info) 720.937.1223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football Boys &amp; Co-ed – Denver Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>demereyl.com (See PROGRAMS info) 720.937.1223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball Co-Ed – Stapleton All Sports</td>
<td>demereyl.com (See PROGRAMS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball Co-Ed – YMCA of Metro Denver</td>
<td>demerymya.org (see SPORTS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball Co-Ed – Denver Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>demerymya.org (see SPORTS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Boys &amp; Girls – Denver Univ Family &amp; Youth Recreation Junior Pioneers</td>
<td>recreation.denver.edu (see Jr. PIONEERS info) 303.871.7728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball – Boys &amp; Girls – Denver Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>recreation.denver.edu (see Jr. PIONEERS info) 303.871.7728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys &amp; Girls – Stapleton All Sports</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reformationdenver@comcast.net">reformationdenver@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys, Girls &amp; Coed – YMCA of Metro Denver</td>
<td>demerymya.org (see SPORTS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>demerymya.org (see SPORTS info) 720.985.6642 info@s tapletonnpsports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Boys &amp; Girls – Robert E. Louise Jewish Community Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reformationdenver@comcast.net">reformationdenver@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball – Denver Police Activities League (PAL)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reformationdenver@comcast.net">reformationdenver@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheerleading – Stapleton All Sports</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reformationdenver@comcast.net">reformationdenver@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure Skating – Big Bear Ice Arena Louwry</td>
<td>bigbearice.com 303.343.1111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football Boys &amp; Co-ed – Denver Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
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John Babuck is a Stapleton resident. He is a certified youth baseball coach and licensed soccer coach. He coaches for the Colorado Fusion Soccer Club and the Southeast Denver Baseball and Softball League. He can be reached at CoachJohnBabuck@aol.com.
SPORT                        CONTACT INFO

Lacrosse – Denver City LAX
denvercitylax.com 720.837.4947 info@denvercitylax.com

Lacrosse* – Stapleton Lacrosse Club (SLC) stapletonlax.org 303.333.3897 info@stapletonlax.org

Karate – Mike Giles Family Karate milegiekarate.com 303.377.4425 milegiekarate@comcast.net

Inline Roller Hockey – Bladium Sports & Fitness Club Stapleton Bladium.com (See DENVER link, then PROGRAMS) 303.320.3033 denversports@bladium.com

Running – Girls on the Run Denver girlsontherunerun.org 720.503.1064 info@girlsrun.org

Soccer Outdoors & Indoors – Colorado Fusion Soccer Club (CFC) coloradofusion.org 303.393.5838 info@coloradofusion.org

Soccer Outdoors & Indoors – Colorado Rapids Youth Soccer Academy stapletonlax.org 303.727.3757 info@stapletonlax.org

Soccer Indoor – Bladium Sports & Fitness Club Stapleton Bladium.com (See DENVER link, then PROGRAMS) 303.320.3033 denversports@bladium.com

Soccer Outdoors – Stapleton All Sports stapletonallsports.com (See PROGRAMS link) 720.985.6642 info@stapletonallsports.com

Softball Girls – Southeast Denver, Boxed & Softball League (SEDLL) Affiliated with National Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken Organizations sedenverfastpitch.com 303.496.7712 registrar@sedenverfastpitch.com

Swimming Year Round – Denver University Family & Youth Recreation recreation.du.edu (See AQUATICS link) 303.871.7728

Swimming Year Round – YMCA of Metro Denver denverymca.org (See AQUATICS) Schlessman YMCA 720.524.2750

Swimming Year Round – Denver Parks & Recreation **Contact info for Denver is shown at end of list

Swimming Year Round – Robert E. Loup Jewish Community Center jccdenver.org (See SPORTS & FITNESS, then Sports & Rec links) 303.316.6304

Swimming Summer – Stapleton Neighborhood Community Pools stapletoncommunity.com (See AQUATICS link) 303.388.0224

Synchronized Swimming – Rocky Mountain Splash Swim Team rmsplash.org 303.693.4330 info@rmsplash.org

Tennis – Denver Tennis Club Hilltop Neighborhood denvertennisclub.com (See CLINICS/PR Ac TICE link) 303.322.4024

Tennis – Gates Tennis Center gatensportscenter.info (See JUNIORS link) 303.355.4661

Tennis – Robert E. Loup Jewish Community Center jccdenver.org (See SPORTS & FITNESS, then Sports & Rec links) 303.316.6304

Tennis – Denver University Family & Youth Recreation recreation.du.edu (See LEARN TO PROGRAMS link) 303.871.7728

Tennis – Denver Parks & Recreation **Contact info for Denver is shown at end of list

Volleyball – YMCA of Metro Denver denverymca.org (See SPORTS link) Schlessman YMCA 720.524.2275

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Swimming Summer – Stapleton Neighborhood Community Pools stapletoncommunity.com (See AQUATICS link) 303.388.0224

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Stapleton Front Porch

January 2011

7
In the days following the tragic hit-and-run accident at East 29th Ave. and Central Park Boulevard, Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) residents and City officials looked for immediate ways to make the intersection, which has 12 stop signs, safer. Councilman Michael Hancock requested expedited attention to the safety concerns and Brian Mitchell, Denver’s Director of Traffic Engineering Services & City Traffic Engineer, identified actions that could be taken quickly to improve compliance with the stop signs at the intersection.

Following a December 22nd meeting, Councilman Hancock and the Department of Public Works announced the changes listed below—and on Dec. 23 crews were out implementing them. The changes include:

- Increasing the size of the existing stop signs on CPB from 30” to 36” using the highest quality reflective material available.
- Installing “STOP AHEAD” warning signs on CPB; one on the outside edge of the street and one in the median, a block in advance of 29th Ave.
- Increasing the wattage of existing street lights at CPB & 29th Ave from 175 watts to 250 watts.

Councilman Hancock also said the city is doing a study of the traffic at this intersection, and if the traffic count turns out as they expect, it will be a fully signalized intersection by this time next year to coincide with the opening of the Central Park Boulevard interchange.

“These are city streets and the City Traffic Engineer is the expert in terms of what’s the safest design,” said Tom Gleason of Forest City. “We’ll work with them regarding what, if any, design changes they decide to make.”

“Detail Officers have spent numerous hours of enforcement at that location,” according to Commander Rhonda Jones of the Denver Police Department, and she added that police are also monitoring the intersection in unmarked cars to watch for violations. Sgt. Eric Knutsen observed that drivers are accustomed to stopping at one stop sign at an intersection, but “the second stop sign... is not so common so I could easily see that the second stop sign results in the most violations,” though he said police don’t have statistics to prove that.

The victim, Laurie Gorham, 27, was in the crosswalk, heading east on 29th from the southwest corner of the intersection, when she was hit by a driver who has not yet been found by police. Gorham was 34 weeks pregnant and a medical student from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia who came to work on a medical research project at Children’s Hospital. Her baby did not survive the accident.

Dr. Nancy Krebs, Professor of Pediatrics at the CU medical school who supervised Gorham’s work said, “Laurie is indeed a remarkable woman—smart, curious, very capable, outgoing, hard-working, determined, supportive, and one of the most positive people one could hope to have around. She had been working with our group to do research related to infant and young child nutrition. In her short time with us, she had had some very significant accomplishments herself and additionally, had generously supported other active projects in our group. Her aspirations to be a pediatrician and a medical researcher were not dimmed by this tragic accident, and as she recovers, I am certain she will continue to have a positive impact both professionally and personally.”

Co-workers at Children’s hospital have organized a blood drive through the end of January in her honor. They say that at her last post she was so passionate about blood donation that she was known as “Captain Platelets.” Those who wish to participate in that blood drive should call 720-777-5398.

SUN has organized a separate blood drive on Sunday, January 2 from 10am – 2pm at the Westerly Creek School gymnasium. Call 303-363-2300 to schedule an appointment that day or at another time at Bonfils Blood center in Lowry.

SUN has also scheduled a community meeting on Jan. 25 at 7pm. Check StapletonUnitedNeighbors.com for the location. See Gorham’s Letter to the Editor on page 18 for an update on her current condition and her thank you to the community.
What have you observed at this intersection?

Shannon Long: “I probably drive through here on average once a day. Although I don’t see it every time I drive through, what I see regularly are cars stopping at the first stop sign and completely missing the second stop sign.”

John Guatafan: “When I take my daughters on walks I go out of my way to avoid this intersection. If we did want to cross Central Park, you want to stop, look the driver in the eye, and make sure they see you because so many times you see someone just run the intersection.”

Tambralyn Peterson: “I live a block from this intersection and I drive here every day. I’d say I’ve seen at least eight cars run this stop sign. I stop here and wait until they stop before I move forward. This is not the first time the stop sign has been run through. I see it all the time.”

Kimiko Egy: “We drive through here four times a day and I run here two to four times a week. Every time I drive through that intersection I don’t know if the other person will run the stop sign or if they’ll stop. So I tend to just wait till people are frustrated with me... it’s so often that someone just goes ahead and goes (through the stop sign). And if I’m taking my kids to Central Park, you want to stop, look the driver in the eye, and make sure they see you because so many times you see some —make sure they see you because so many times you see some —...”

Jerry Dossidy: “I come through here probably 4-5 times a week. There’s a lot of people who will kind of roll through the stop if there’s no oncoming traffic at both stops.”

Jerry Dossidy: “I come through here probably 4-5 times a week. There’s a lot of people who will kind of roll through the stop if there’s no oncoming traffic at both stops.”

A new novel described by the author as a James Bond interpretation of the commodities market

When a man is involved in the highly stressful, intensely challenging world of commodities and energy trading, where can he retreat to calm his inner being and find peace and tranquility? To his Stapleton home and Starbucks to write a novel, of course. That is what Cortright McMeel, who works for Rainbow Energy in LoDo, did. The result is his first novel, Short. “It’s a work of fiction,” McMeel explained. “I would describe it as a James Bond interpretation of the commodities market. It has a poker terminus, terrorism and the nuts and bolts of my 14 years of experience in the commodities and electricity market. The book has a lot of information that a lay reader could learn about trading, such as how weather and transmission lines affect the pricing of electricity. It’s part entertainment and part educational.”

McMeel likes to tell Irish blarney stories, and the talent has given him an edge in his writing. Ian Fleming and James Bond stories gave him the impetus to build a fictional story about energy, personalities involved in trading and the risks the players take. “I love Ian Fleming,” he said. “I was really inspired by the James Bond novels. Trading takes place in front of a screen all day. My book is not about energy, personalities involved in trading and the risks the players take. I love Ian Fleming.”

McMeel already has two new novels “in the hopper” that aren’t connected to Short. However, an overwhelming response to one of the Short characters, Milt the broker, has led McMeel to submit an outline to his literary agent for a novel that would make Short the first in a series.

McMeel calls Short a “page turner.” “It’s Wall Street meets the Sopranos,” he said. “Finance and trading affect all of us, especially in a time of recession. It’s about the greed. You can pick it up after work—it’s a fun and entertaining way to learn without knowing that you’re learning.”

Even with a plan to publish more books, McMeel will retain his career as a commodities trader, he said. “I’ve been a trader for so long I don’t know what I’d do without getting up every day and stressing out about money,” he said. “It’s a rush. The writing is where I get to calm down and relax and the stories that come to my mind. It allows me to exercise my imagination.”

McMeel lives in Stapleton with his wife, Sharon, and his children, six-year-old Connor and three-year-old Marlowe. He would like to hear from people who have read his book. Email him at cortrightmcmeele@yahoo.com.

The Tattered Cover Book Store at 2526 E. Colfax Ave. will hold a book reading and signing with McMeel at 7:30pm on January 5. The book is available for $24.99 at the Tattered Cover and Barnes and Noble, and online at www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com.

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“Empowering the Community to Live Well”
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Stapleton Front Porch
CU Researchers Making Progress in Reducing Cancer Recurrences

By Jon Meredith

There is a plethora of critical research going on at the Anschutz Medical Campus. From time to time, the Front Porch will try to bring our readers some of this information in a way so that all of us can begin to understand it and its significance to our economy.

The Front Porch recently visited with Dr. Antonio Jimeno, an associate professor of medical oncology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Jimeno wears multiple hats on the campus; he visits with cancer patients in his clinic, heads a team of six to eight researchers and spends upwards of 50 percent of his time researching and writing grants. He is a very affable man, deeply committed to what he does, yet patient enough to explain this complicated research to a layman. The doctor hails from Spain where he obtained his medical education and he still carries a very European style and accent.

He then went on and worked at Johns Hopkins University in a similar capacity before being recruited to CU. He is very excited about the future of research at CU and the Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology, both located at the CU School of Medicine.

Dennis Roop, PhD, is the director of the Gates Stem Cell Center and a professor of dermatology at the medical school. Gail Eckhardt, MD, UCCC deputy director, is the head of medical oncology at the medical school and leader of UCCC’s renowned early-phase cancer clinical trials program. The early-phase program greatly accelerates the development of cancer-curing drugs and minimizes the time it takes to bring new treatments to the patient.

Since 2007, that Gates Center has grown to 62 full-time employees and received $29 million in research funding with an additional $20 million pending—a rate of about 20 percent annual growth in terms of research dollars, faculty members and staff. It is also attracting top national and international talent. Ninety percent of this research is paid for by grants and philanthropic donations. The Vora Foundation recently donated a $25,000 microscope to Dr. Jimeno’s efforts.

The umbrella program Dr. Jimeno directs is the Cancer Stem Cell-Directed Clinical Trials Program (CCTP). It is a collaboration between the University of Colorado Cancer Center and the Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology.

The Front Porch recently visited with Dr. Antonio Jimeno, an associate professor of medical oncology (far right), is pictured with his team of cancer researchers in their lab at the Anschutz medical campus. The research team, from left to right, includes: Ryan Anderson and Dan Sehrt, research technicians; Jason Morton, postdoctoral fellow; Daniel Bowles, oncology fellow; and Stephen Kaysar, postdoctoral fellow.

“The CSCs are what researchers have found to regenerate after traditional cancer therapies and surgery, causing recurrences of cancer after the original treatment. Prior to cancer surgery the patient gives Dr. Jimeno’s team permission to use the detached tumor for research purposes. The tumor is taken to the lab where the CSCs are isolated and tested. The tests focus on exactly what drugs kill the CSCs most effectively,” Dr. Jimeno said, speaking on his hopes for the success of this research.

“We’ve already had success in early clinical trials with some drugs that happen to be cancer stem cell-targeting drugs; I have patients who are essentially in remission with some drugs that happen to be cancer stem cell targets are active, and quickly come up with a cocktail of drugs that will kill the root of the tumor with fewer side effects to the patient,” Dr. Jimeno said, speaking on his hopes for the success of this research.

“...I hope that in the near future, we can take a tiny sample of a patient’s tumor, do a quick test to see which stem cell targets are active, and quickly come up with a cocktail of drugs that will kill the root of the tumor with fewer side effects to the patient...”

“When surgery the patient gives Dr. Jimeno’s team permission to use the detached tumor for research purposes. The tumor is taken to the lab where the CSCs are isolated and tested. The tests focus on exactly what drugs kill the CSCs most effectively. Dr. Jimeno said, speaking on his hopes for the success of this research.”

Dr. Jimeno’s team of cancer researchers are launching the nation’s first clinical program focused on identifying and testing drugs that target and destroy cells thought to be at the root of cancer, called cancer stem cells (CSCs). The CSCs are what researchers have found to regenerate after traditional cancer therapies and surgery, causing recurrences of cancer after the original treatment. Prior to cancer surgery the patient gives Dr. Jimeno’s team permission to use the detached tumor for research purposes. The tumor is taken to the lab where the CSCs are isolated and tested. The tests focus on exactly what drugs kill the CSCs most effectively, sandblasting every tumor. These cells are difficult to eradicate because they are generally impervious to chemotherapy and radiation, and perhaps even new “targeted” therapies.

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By John Babiak

Our country is facing a silent epidemic—illiteracy. The organization Reach Out and Read is an evidence-based nonprofit organization that promotes early literacy by partnering with pediatric healthcare providers who prescribe books and encourage families to read. This national program was started because fewer than half (48%) of young children in the U.S. are read to. More than 13 million children under the age of five go to bed every night without a bedtime story. One-third of American children enter kindergarten without the basic language skills they will need to learn to read.

Reading difficulty contributes to school failure, which increases the risk of student absences and then dropping out of school altogether. In 1993, the U.S. Department of Justice reported that 21 million Americans cannot read at all, 45 million are marginally illiterate and one-fifth of high school graduates cannot read their own diplomas.

In 2006, the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL), a large survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, estimated that 14 percent of adults in the United States have a “below basic” level of “prose literacy”—defined as the ability to use “printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one’s purposes” (NAAAL), a large survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, estimated that 14 percent of adults in the United States have a “below basic” level of “prose literacy”—defined as the ability to use “printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one’s purposes” (NAAAL), a large survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, estimated that 14 percent of adults in the United States have a “below basic” level of “prose literacy”—defined as the ability to use “printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one’s purposes” (NAAAL), a large survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, estimated that 14 percent of adults in the United States have a “below basic” level of “prose literacy”—defined as the ability to use “printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one’s purposes”. Have you read enough?

As a teacher I take literacy very seriously. I know that children at every age greatly benefit from hearing books read aloud. Listening helps develop a child’s attention span and focus. Book reading catalyzes their imaginations. Reading books can pave the way for their future success.

Together we can improve literacy at home and in our community. As we all turn to a new page on our calendars, permit me to invite you to adopt a few of the suggested ways below so you can consider adding even one to your list of 2011 New Year’s resolutions. It will make a difference. Perhaps we can put illiteracy in our country to bed, one child at a time.

• Make reading to young children a habit…before bedtime, or call 303-955-0861
• Attend children’s book readings at book stores, recreation centers, libraries and wildlife refuges.
• Become a volunteer reader or reading advocate at your neighborhood public library, school or hospital.
• Support your school book fairs.
• Start a used children’s book drive and donate the books to a hospital, shelter or social services organization.
• Start a holiday reading tradition. Include a “book reading” during your celebration.
• Start a mother-daughter, father-son book club.
• Start a neighborhood summer book club.
• Start a neighborhood children’s book exchange.
• Connect book reading with activities. Read a story about firefighters; then visit your local fire station for a tour. Read a story about kids playing soccer, then go outside to play ball. Read a story about eating yummy cookies, then bake a batch of cookies together. Read a book about nature; then go take a family hike.
• Give books as gifts.

A precedent has already been set. Recently, Brownie Troop 757 from the Bill Roberts School collected 3,000 slightly used books from their fellow students. They were donated to the new Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children on December 10. And, at the recent Roberts book fair, nearly $4,000 in profits were realized from book sales, all of which will be used to buy new library books for the students to explore and enjoy.

John Babiak is a Stapleton resident. He teaches life science at several Denver Public Schools. He can be reached at NatureRangerJohn@aol.com.

Bill Roberts School parent and Colorado Rapids Head Coach Gary Smith lends his voice to the book Sergio Saves the Game, a children’s book about a stumbling penguin who has big dreams of being a soccer star. Smith was one of forty readers during the school’s recent “Community Heroes” family reading night event. Photo by Laura Mahoney.
1/16 Saturday to 1/23 Sunday - National Western -
free with paid adult. Tickets: www.sportsexpos.com

Art Walks:
DEN VER  EVE NTS
ern Stock Show and Rodeo.
Friday 12–9pm; Saturday 10am–8pm; Sunday 10am–5pm.
Tickets/events: www.nationalwestern.com

1/6 Thursday to Sunday 1/9 - Denver Interna-
center, 700 14th, Downtown Denver. Thursday and
1/6 Thursday - National Western Parade.

Gy mnastics!
Wal k.
artwalk.squarespace.com
Satafe.com
1/7 Friday - North Denver's Tenneyson Art
day Art Walk
Plaza/MLK Library (E Colfax at Elmira) for map
to all venues.

1/2 Thursday - Highlands Square Third
Downtown Denver. 1–8pm; Saturday 10am–7pm;
3rd Thursday to all venues.

1/26 Wednesday - Denver Mayoral Can-
candidate Forum.

1/18 Saturday

1/21 Tuesday - Highlands Square Third

to Denver’s Tenneyson Art

1/20 Thursday - Highlands Square Third

1/19 Thursday - Nation Western Parade.

1/20 Thursday - Highlands Square Third

to Denver’s Tenneyson Art

1/19 Thursday - Nation Western Parade.

1/12 Friday - North Denver’s Tenneyson Art

1/17 Monday - Martin Luther King Jr. Ma-
rade. Celebrate the largest Martin Luther King Jr.
and rally in U.S. City at City Park; march to Civic
Center Park. Fam. www.dmuseum.org

1/21 Friday - Overdue Love Club, Singles
Night for Intelligent People. Chat with other
interesting singles, indulge in wine and coffee.
Michelangelo’s Wine and Coffee Bar; every 3rd Fri.,
6:30-8pm; I S Broadway Register: 720.865.1206
1/21 Friday to 1/23 Saturday - National
Colorado Indian Market and Southwest
Showcase. Friday 1–8pm; Saturday 10am–7pm;
Sunday 10am–5pm. Admission $10; under 13 free;
good for entire weekend, all shows, performances,
demonstrations. Denver Merchandise Mart, 451 E
Colo rado Blvd, Suite 100. Haircuts

1/15 - Healthy Living through the Medi-
tean Lifestyle. Join Dr. Peter Brubaker and
colleagues for a one-day event to learn how to
cultivate the heart-healthy Mediterranean lifestyle
here in Denver. 9am–3pm. $149 (food, wine,
tastings included), Lumber Baron Inn and Gardens,
2555 V. 37th Ave. Space limited. Register: www.vi-
mediterranea.com

L E C T U R E S  A N D  D I S C U S S I O N S
Active Minds – Info on all sessions, www.Ac-
tiveMindsForLife.com. FREE.
1/4 Tuesday - Switzerland, 10 – 11am Jewish
Community Center, 350 S. Dahlia St. RSVP: Lil
Stov. 303.316.6359
1/11 Tuesday - Haiti: The Road to Recovery.
10:30 – 10pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax Ave.
1/12 Thursday - Switzerland, 7 - 8pm. Stapleton
Master Community Assoc. 2823 Roslyn St.
1/18 Tuesday - China: Closing for Business?
11am – 12pm (10-15 refreshments). Temple
Emmanuel, 51 Grape St. RSVP: Jodi. 303.388.4013
x107
1/25 Tuesday - Mindfulness. 3:30 – 4:30pm. Tattered
Cover, 2526 E Colfax Ave.

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calendar at denverlibrary.org.

12 January 2011 Stapleton Front Porch
L O C A L E V E N T L I S T I N G S

activities. 10:30am.
olds and caregivers. Stories, songs, movement
Schlessman Family Library
Fridays- Tales for Twos
babies 6–23 months with parent/caregiver.

T hursdays and Fridays- Book Babies.

W ednesdays and Fridays. 


Announcements of Candidacy for Public Office

The Front Porch will print a 150-word announcement of candidacy from individuals running for public office in our distribution area. Announcements, along with a close-up print quality photo, should be emailed to FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com

Live Music at Soiled Dove. One of Denver’s best live music venues, Soiled Dove is located at 7401 E 1st Ave in Lowry. Tickets: www.soiled-dove.com

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION
2/1 Tuesday—Christ the King School Open House. 6:30-9:30pm. Christ the King Catholic School, 860 Elm St. For questions/personal tour: 303.321.2123.

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Chris Romer

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Together, we will have the honest conversations, make the tough choices, and put in the hard work necessary to navigate these times.

I’m going to win this race the old fashioned way: neighborhood by neighborhood, conversation by conversation, handshake by handshake and I’d be honored to earn your support. Visit www.romerformayor.com

Carol Boigon

I am running for mayor because I am excited about Denver’s future. Denver is a city of great opportunities, strong community, with a rugged spirit of optimism, creativity, energy and passion. As your mayor, I will build an economy with jobs and businesses that America and the world will need in the future. We have the opportunity to build Denver’s next stage of growth, to help each other, to work together to bring more hope and justice and jobs for the future into our hometown.

Throughout this campaign, I look forward to hearing from you about your hopes and concerns, about your neighborhood, family and jobs. I want you to know me and what I stand for. I will work to earn your vote.

Together, we will move Denver forward.

For more information or to get involved in my campaign, please visit www.boigonfordenver.com

Leslie Twarogowski—District 5

We need a pro-active, energetic councilperson, and I feel a strong sense of urgency to help improve the state of our district. As a business owner and mother of three, I understand our district’s immediate needs. Our local businesses are struggling. Most of our schools are either overcrowded or under-performing. Our main streets are unsightly and congested. I’m proud to be a fourth-generation resident of District 5. At age 13, I began working for my family’s small business on East Colfax. I graduated from East High and earned a B.A. from Smith College, after which I served a year with AmeriCorps by teaching English as a Second Language. I started my own business several years ago and I’ve worked part-time while raising my three children. My husband and I bought our home near Johnson & Wales more than 10 years ago, and we plan to live here for many years to come. Visit www.lesliefordenver.com

(District 5 boundaries are approximately Montview, Yosemite, Leetsdale and Colorado Blvd.)
Stresses Personal Accountability

By Jon Meredith

Motivational Speaker at DSA
Nationally-known expert sponsored by local business

Brett and Gina Kessler of Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics have built a successful practice in the Stapleton Town Center—and that success has allowed them to reach out to the local community and give back. They have donated to local auctions and personally spent time with those less fortunate, including doing pro bono dental work with recovering addicts. Their desire to give back comes not from being altruistic but from their own past, when they relied on people who were more fortunate than they were at the time.

Recently, they brought nationally known motivational speaker Kristin E. Lindeen to Denver School of the Arts (DSA) to talk about finding inspiration through one’s own actions. DSA’s entire middle school attended. Ms. Lindeen is the eldest child of John G. Miller, the best-selling Denver author of QBQ! The Question Behind the Question, which tries to eliminate victim thinking, procrastination and blame. Organizations that adapt Mr. Miller’s QQQ program have found that productivity, teamwork, morale, creativity, safety, communication and problem solving are enhanced. DSA and the Kesslers agreed that this group of middle schoolers was certainly not too young to hear about personal responsibility.

One of Lindeen’s specialties is speaking to and engaging young audiences. Middle schoolers would seem to be a very tough crowd for any speaker, yet Ms. Lindeen had them actively participating in the discussion and at pretty much full attention the whole hour. At only 27, Lindeen has an understanding of the challenges this upcoming generation faces. She believes, “We have a deep sense of entitlement because many of us are accustomed to having just about everything we want. Even the least wealthy among us are wealthier than the rest of the world.” She advised the DSA audience to learn they do not deserve things but rather they should earn everything they receive.

She told a story about a friend who had lost her glasses at a fast-food restaurant. She thought she had mistakenly thrown them in the trash. She called the business and asked a woman named Marge if she could come by and look through the trash herself. When she returned to the restaurant, she was told that Marge was out back. She went behind the establishment to the dumpster and there was a woman head down, arms covered with ketchup and mustard, looking through the trash. Marge just then came up with the lost glasses. Marge turned out to be only 15 years old and yet, by taking responsibility for the lost glasses, she turned a potentially unpleasant experience for the customer into one in which the customer was not inconvenienced—and she was very much impressed with the young restaurant employee. Even the least wealthy among us are wealthier than the rest of the world.

The Kesslers selected DSA for this speaker because the middle schoolers there have already made a choice as to in which direction they want their life to go. They hoped this talk would motivate the students to make the most of their current opportunities. Brett Kessler added that he hopes the children at DSA will be able to “strengthen their unique ability by hedging their weaknesses,” a goal he learned long after middle school and some very trying life experiences.

Stapleton Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics • 2803 Roslyn (Behind King Soopers) • Schedule a 15-minute meet & greet today • 303-403-6300

Gina Kessler (left) of Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics and her husband Brett Kessler sponsored Kristin Lindeen (above) to speak to Denver School of the Arts (DSA) middle school students. Lindeen talked about accountability and advised students that they do not deserve things but should earn everything they receive.

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Stapleton Front Porch

January 2011

16
I have many inquisitive, over-the-top Nature Rangers in my following. These small-fries in my school keep me on my toes with their rapid-fire questions about our natural world. I have to keep a watchful eye on them as they come full of knowledge and often want to stump this graying Ranger. One in particular is Ranger Luke. He is my resident frog expert. I recall during one class he asked me, “How do frogs in Colorado survive the winter?” With a straight face, I replied, “Well, of course, we all know that just like you, frogs are very intelligent. In early November, they hop on a bus and head to the warmer climates of Arizona.”

This walking encyclopedia was not fooled by my curve ball, nor was he humored by my bad joke. He just wanted the facts.

Here in our part of the Northern Hemisphere, animals have learned to adapt to our winter season in many different ways. Most birds and butterflies migrate either short or long distances in search of more suitable habitats. Woodchucks (aka groundhogs), chipmunks and bats significantly lower their heart rate, respiration and body temperature and enter into a true state of hibernation. Surprisingly, it is a two-thirds of the frog will freeze. The frog’s temperature drops, the frog gradually freezes, beginning with their extremities and by visiting our backyard feeders.

As for cold-blooded animals (ectotherms) like turtles, snakes, toads and frogs, they have evolved fascinating strategies to survive our freezing temperatures. They can freeze nearly solid into a suspended state of animation during their hibernation period. Take, for example, the common land-loving wood frog. They bury themselves in leaf litter or under a log early in the fall. As the temperature drops, the frog gradually freezes, beginning with their extremities and then their vital organs. Soon their blood will stop flowing, the pulmonary system stops functioning and flat ice crystals slowly fill up the body cavity. Ultimately, about two-thirds of the frog will freeze. The frog’s body temperature remains relatively normal during the winter. And they can rise from their sleep rather quickly if disturbed. Pregnant female bears can wake up mid-winter, give birth ($) and then go back to sleep while their cubs nurse. Active overwintering creatures, including coyotes, foxes, deer and beaver, build up a layer of fat as well as grow out more fur. Both serve as good insulators by trapping warmth close to their bodies. Wintering birds, like the house finch, fluff up their feathers and create a larger area of warm air around their bodies. They ride out the winter by foraging for any natural seeds and by visiting our backyard feeders.

Wintering birds, like the house finch, fluff up their feathers and create a larger area of warm air around their bodies. They ride out the winter by foraging for any natural seeds and by visiting our backyard feeders.
Goldin-Dubois Named Executive Director of Fusion Soccer Club

Jan Goldin-Dubois Scores His Dream Job
By John Badahk

J on Goldin-Dubois has a new purpose and cause. After 20 years in leadership positions at Common Cause, the Colorado Public Interest Research Group, and Confluence Strategies, a business he co-founded, Goldin-Dubois is starting on a new path as the leader of Colorado’s fifth-largest youth soccer organization. In early December, he was named the executive director of the Colorado Fusion Soccer Club. Fusion is metro Denver’s largest youth soccer club serving over 3,000 four- to 18-year-old children from both Denver and Aurora. The Club is also an alliance partner with the Colorado Rapids organization.

It was the prospect of melding his nonprofit business management and leadership skills with his life-long passion—soccer—that attracted Goldin-Dubois to join Fusion. He has been involved with the game since the mid-’70s both as player and coach. He played for East High School and Denver University, and was a volunteer coach for the Denver Soccer Club (now Colorado Fusion), where he mentored his daughter’s team. His modus operandi—soccer—that attracted Goldin-Dubois to join Fusion management and leadership skills with his life-long passion for the game, developing character and sportsmanship—and we help each child achieve their highest level on and off the soccer field,” said Goldin-Dubois. He added: “With curbscabs in school-based physical education programs and a growing obesity epidemic in our country, organized soccer can fill, in part, this void and provide a year-round opportunity for boys and girls to exercise.” He intends to grow the club’s after-school soccer program, offer more clinics at neighborhood recreation centers in Denver and Aurora, and expand the club’s presence in the Montbello and North Park Hill neighborhoods, as well as in Commerce City. Goldin-Dubois also aims to raise more scholarship funds for the underserved. In the meantime, he looks forward to watching his two children play within the Fusion organization.

For more information about the Colorado Fusion Soccer Club, visit coloradofusion.org. Jon Goldin-Dubois can be reached at 303.399-5858 ext. 104 or at jon@coloradofusion.org.

Letters to the Editor—
Thank You from Gorham/Sherlock Family

Dear Stapleton Community and all of Colorado,

Thank you for the overwhelming support over the last few weeks. I am grateful to report I am home from the hospital to continue healing with the help of my family. I never imagined being the victim of a hit and run accident or losing our first child in such a way. Sometimes you wonder what it would be like to experience such an event, and I think both Pete and I feel our greatest emotion is gratitude. It is amazing to go through a tragedy like we have and come out feeling loved, blessed, and even lucky.

We cannot speak enough of Denver Health and the doctors, nurses, and support staff who worked so hard to save my life. Denver Health is not just the reason I am alive, but they are the reason I have been able to heal quickly and start an emotional recovery. It is an insane feeling to know you literally owe your life to others. I also would not be here without the donated blood products from over 30 individuals—people I will never be able to directly thank. I know many of you have donated blood since my accident. THANK YOU!

I also want to thank everyone who prayed for our family and my healing. I believe in the power of prayer. I believe all the prayers and healing thoughts are why I have recovered quicker than expected. Thank you to all the churches and organizations who put us on their prayers lists. Thank you to all the prayer circles. Thank you for all the individual prayers. They are powerful and they helped. You have all helped us so much. Pete and I have been so touched by the love from friends and strangers alike. From neighbors in the Stapleton community to people throughout Colorado—we feel like everyone rallied around us. We have had horrible moments this last month. We will forever grace the loss of our beautiful son, who was so wanted and so loved. We know our physical and emotional healing will be treacherous at times, but want to emphasize that overall, we feel supported, loved, and blessed. Thank you for everything each of you has done to help us feel this way. We are proud to be members of Stapleton. We are proud to be citizens of Denver. The community here jump-started our recovery and makes us believe in the good of humanity. We appreciate all the love and support and hope that we can return the favor in due time.

Forever grateful, Laurie and Pete Sherlock

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• A woman or man in generally good health
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• Not lifting weights regularly but willing to start
• Not using aspirin, ibuprofen or similar drugs more than 2 days a month

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303.320.7752
Financial Advisor
2375 Central Park Blvd., Suite 104, Denver, CO 80238

CoPIRG Home Energy Ratings

I have serious concerns about the COPIRG’s push to propose legislation for Efficiency/Nonefficiency Ratings for all properties for sale or rent in Colorado. The idea appears to be for the convenience of buyers. However, I believe it would result in a potential great hardship for many sellers, particularly in these severe economic times. The market is flooded with foreclosed and undervalued homes for sale. Any seller who cannot afford the time or money to fully upgrade a house with all the newest high efficiency equipment and appliances would be at an unfair disadvantage in the housing market. Already, every seller faces a huge list of costly EPA and “green” regulations.

Those who push even more regulations should consider that homes in Colorado include older, even pre-world war II, and lo-

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CoPIRG (continued)
cated in remote and rural areas. In order to comply with the new rat-
ing standards, complete overhaul or replacement of entire electrical
systems, heating and cooling equipment, and installation of every
new bathroom and kitchen appliances are also unnecessary. This
will be an enormous cost and burden to the retired, elderly, and eco-
nomically disadvantaged owner. Remember how homeowners are on
fixed incomes, "under water," or near foreclosure. The $200 to
$700 cost to even get a rating is only the beginning of expenses for
them.
We will all, at some point, become sellers of property. Please do
not make it more difficult when we must do so.

“Still Living” in Park Hill homeowner.

CoPIRG Response to Letter to the Editor:
The letter to the editor regarding our proposal for an energy effi-
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misses the point. The author seems to think that the home en-
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CoPIRG Energy Associate

Kelly Moore, M.D.

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McAuliffe was selected out of 11,000 applicants. An East High School graduate, McAuliffe attended Syracuse Street, but size, configuration, and budget were taken into account when choosing the site. The school would be located at 35th Ave. and Syracuse Street, but size, configuration, and budget were taken into account when choosing the site. We have come a long way in one year!

By Sophia Briegleb, Stapleton United Neighbors Education Committee

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Introducing Our New Neighbor:
Swigert-McAuliffe International School

By Sophia Briegleb, Stapleton United Neighbors Education Committee

One year ago, Stapleton residents were anxiously awaiting a January meeting with Denver Public Schools (DPS) to learn more about the proposed third school needed to address overcrowding at existing neighborhood schools. At that meeting, we learned that the school would be located at 35th Ave. and Syracuse Street, but size, configuration, and budget were taken into account when choosing the site. We have come a long way in one year!

Stapleton 3, as the school was temporarily called, now has an official name: Swigert-McAuliffe International School. Jack Swigert, an East High School graduate, was an astronaut on the Apollo 13 mission. Christa McAuliffe was selected out of 11,000 applicants to be the first teacher in space aboard the space shuttle Challenger. These two extraordinary people provide students with positive role models, as well as continuing the global/space theme architects have planned for the building. The International Baccalaureate (IB) model represents the plan for the school to be International Baccalaureate (IB).

Swigert currently consists of six classes, from ECE3 through first grade, under the leadership of Principal Chuck Raisch. In August 2011, the school will move into the new 900-student building with grades ECE3–2nd. The following year, a third and sixth grade will be added. Eventually, the plan is for the school to consist of a smaller elementary school downstairs with a separately functioning middle school on mostly the second and third floors. The October school survey, which also found strong support for IB and foreign language, showed this to be the preferred configuration.

Swigert is in the process of applying to become an Innovation School. Passed in 2008, the Innovation Schools Act was designed to provide a way for schools to petition for waivers from district and state policies and regulations. The DPS District is currently the only designated district of innovation in the state. With the Innovation designation, a school can have the ability to choose its own curriculum, set school hours, determine the school year calendar, set its own hiring policies, etc. Other Innovation Schools include Manual, Montclair and Cole.

In addition to becoming an Innovation School, Swigert plans to offer the IB, at least in the elementary grades. IB is not a curriculum, but rather a philosophy that will be layered on top of the existing DPS curriculum. The IB approach is inquiry based, with lessons being planned around children’s curiosities and questions. IB also takes a thematic approach to learning, integrating multiple subjects. In order to assist with this approach, an IB facilitator will be hired and teachers will attend IB training prior to the start of the next school year. As an IB school, Swigert would also offer Spanish to the elementary students.

Swigert also hopes to use Singapore Math in Focus, a successful and increasingly popular math curriculum. Math in Focus teaches fewer concepts in greater depth and builds vertically on them rather than spiraling and repeating. There is also a strong emphasis on problem solving, bar modeling, manipulatives and developing positive attitudes toward math.

Principal Chuck Raisch is in the process of applying for the Innovation designation and grants that would allow him to offer IB, Singapore Math’s Math in Focus, and Spanish. Residents interested in learning more about Swigert may attend an open house on Tuesday January 11 from 9:15 to 10:00, or on January 12 from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Westerly Creek Library. Choice applications for any DPS school are due January 31. For more information and updates on all Stapleton schools, please visit www.stapletonunitedneighbors.org/education.

By Nancy Bubbart

Rotary clubs are organizations meant to draw those who want to serve their own communities as well as communities around the world—and Stapleton and other northeast Denver clubs have been serving the community well. Last year, the northeast Colorado district of 65 clubs, of which the Stapleton Rotary Club is a part, ranked third among the world’s Rotary clubs for raising money.

“We raised $1.5 million,” said Tom Wolf, a Stapleton Rotary member who serves as district foundation chair. “Our foundation typically spends $1 million to $1.5 million a year.”

Rotary’s fundraising arm is the Rotary Foundation. Members donate and raise money for the foundation. This money allows the clubs to do both local and international projects.

When Stapleton Rotary raises money for one of its international projects, the foundation matches it 3.5 times the amount raised. When the club raises money for a local project, the foundation matches it dollar for dollar.

“One of the international programs we are looking into is clean water projects in developing countries,” explained Gregg Tomlinson, who will become president in the summer of 2011. “Our focus is on being good citizens and also contributing to the local community. It’s not about generating business, but it is sponsoring local students for a youth leadership program. It’s about learning to recognize leadership and becoming leaders. We would like to do a green project where we harvest food and donate it to the Food Bank of the Rockies.

“Projects depend on donations and manpower,” he said. “As members, we contribute towards projects we would like to take on.”

Rotary members are not required to make financial contributions, according to Wolf.

People who can’t donate money are asked to donate their time and talent,” he said. At one time becoming a Rotary member could be difficult. In 1911, the club started a classification system. If there already was a member who was a lawyer, another lawyer would not be accepted as a member.

“In 1911, they didn’t want a club full of lawyers or accountants or teachers,” Wolf explained. “They wanted a diverse talent of people to help do projects in the world.
hose Who Want Community

“I’m a trial lawyer, and there also is a bankruptcy lawyer in the Stapleton club. We have had three financial advisors representing different people. We have never excluded anyone in the club. We will work with diversity and in people who are really committed to doing good.”

The Rotary motto is “Service above self.” We’re a service club,” Wolf said. “We’re trying to make the world a better place. If a different profession is there, it’s because we want to help others, not just ourselves.”

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day care center that, for an additional charge, will supervise kids while parents work out. Kelly Kitts, a 25-year Denver Parks and Rec (DP&R) employee, will be the supervisor for the center. Kitts started out as a lifeguard and has worked her way to one of DP&R’s premier jobs. She is excited to bring a very talented staff that has experience working in all areas of recreation management.

There will be adult and children’s basketball and volleyball leagues at the rec center. The organized leagues will not start until the center has been open for a month to get the new rec center running smoothly. Classes for spinning, yoga and aerobics will also be offered.

The building was designed by the Denver architectural firm Sink, Combs, and Dethlefs and the general contractor is Saunders Construction of Centennial. There is currently an application pending to have the building gold certified by the internationally recognized green building certification system Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or LEED. The certification means that the building uses resources more efficiently than buildings that are strictly built to code. There is a long list of requirements for the LEED certification that include improved air and water quality, reducing solid waste and generally benefitting occupants and the surrounding community.

(continued from page 1)

from 9:30am until 2pm. Residents of all Denver neighborhoods are encouraged to attend. The facility will be open for use the following day, January 30 at 8am. Memberships will be sold Jan. 26 to 28 from 1pm to 7pm, along with “sneak peak,” tours, but visitors are also encouraged to join the festivities on the 29th. The fees for usage are the same as every other Denver rec center, $190 annually per adult and $35 annually per child 17 and under. The fee covers use of any Denver rec center.

Upon walking in the front door, one is immediately struck by the views. The mountains are framed in the west windows, and cardio equipment is lined up, facing the views. Not impressed with mountain views? Then there are more TVs hanging over the equipment than are normally on display at Target. There is a picture window overlooking the very spacious gym that has a total of six hoops. An NCAA regulation-sized court runs north and south and two junior courts run east to west with baskets that can be lowered to eight feet. There are also two volleyball courts.

The swimming pool area is designed with children of all ages in mind. A ramp eases the toddlers into the pool and there are water features all around. A “lazy river” flows through part of the kids’ pool. There is a separate four-lane lap pool that has a slide and three water basketball hoops. Three trained lifeguards will be on duty at all times. Adjacent to the pool is a party room that can be rented for children’s pool parties.

On the lower level is a huge room full of brand-new weight equipment, a large aerobic/yoga room with wooden spring floors, and a spinning room with brand-new LeMond bikes. A two-section community room with a catering kitchen is upstairs on the southwest corner of the building.

For those who need childcare, there is a Preview Tour of day care center that, for an additional charge, will supervise kids while parents work out. Kelly Kitts, a 25-year Denver Parks and Rec (DP&R) employee, will be the supervisor for the center. Kitts started out as a lifeguard and has worked her way to one of DP&R’s premier jobs. She is excited to bring a very talented staff that has experience working in all areas of recreation management.

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(continued from page 1)
Above: The multi-purpose room, which can be rented for events, can be divided into two separate areas or used as a single large room and has an adjoining catering kitchen.

Below: View to the west from the cardio equipment area.

The NCAA-sized gym converts to two junior courts with hoops that lower to accommodate the younger players.

The spinning room has 17 LeMond bikes.

The aerobics room has a wood floor and mirrored walls with rails.

Above: The many windows on the west side of the rec center offer views of Westerly Creek and Central Park with the mountains in the distance.

Central Park Rec Center
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And thanks to all the other Realtors who have sold new homes at Stapleton in 2010.

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