In a recent vote on restructuring far northeast Denver schools, the Denver Board of Education split 4-3 in favor of the reforms. Prior to the vote, opponents of the reforms reportedly stated they would initiate a recall petition against Board President Dr. Nate Easley if he voted in favor of the proposed reforms.

Easley, who grew up in Montbello and graduated from Montbello High School, voted in favor of the reforms and the recall petition was filed shortly thereafter. What that means is that if the effort to gain signatures for a recall election is successful and the not-yet-announced recall-supporters’ candidate wins the election, the board members who favor reform would lose the majority.

Easley states he’s “appalled” that those who disagree with him on the reform efforts would subject the district to the cost of a recall election when he has done nothing that warrants removal from office—they simply disagree with him.

John McBride, the spokesman for...
Calendar

Nearby events that are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC or are nonprofit events. See pages 16 - 19 for more Denver-area events. Recurring events are on page 16.

March

Saturday, March 5
Neighborhood Partners Environmental Team Clean-up, 9am
Sand Creek Greenway Trailhead
Loc: r@district.net (see p. 18)

Saturday, March 5
Denver Art Museum - SCFD Free Day
720-863-5000 www.denverartmuseum.org
(American Indian exhibit story on p.27)

Sat. & Sun. March 5 & 6
Dance Performance, “State of the Union,” 11:30am at 8pm. Sun. at 3pm: Cleo Parker Robinson Theater, 119 Park Avenue West, www.thedancestadiumcompany.com, klorem10@gmail.com

Sunday, March 6
Denver School of Rock Benefit Concert for Brenda’s Place, Testament Olive, Northfield, 4pm.
Tickets: 888.888.5555, under are free berkanderson@hotmail.com (see p.19)

Thursday, March 10
Stapleton-Activities, Inc. Potluck, 6-7pm
Active Minds Seminar, 7-8pm
MCA Community Room
Events@stapletoncommunity.com

Friday, March 11
Free Medical Screenings at Denver School of Science and Technology, 4-6pm
2000 Valenciana Street
MonicaEvans@udenveredu or DIST 303.320.5570 (see p. 19)

Tuesday, March 15
Aquatics Registration begins, 10am
Visit MCA website at www.stapletoncommunity.com
MCA Community Room
2823 Ruskin Street, Denver, CO 80238

CALCUB

What Is Your Community DNA?

So how did you do with your Denver Neighborhood Attitude (DNA) last month? How many doors did you open for someone? This month our community’s attention focuses on cell phone etiquette. There are so many elements that get people fined up when you bring up cell phones. We will just focus on one aspect of the month.

Have you ever had to listen to someone talk on their phone while you are in line behind them getting your coffee? Public settings such as retail stores, public restrooms, waiting rooms, retail shops, buses, or anywhere a private conversation is not possible is a bad place for a cell phone conversation because it involves everyone around the person on the phone. We want to challenge the community to practice good cell phone etiquette; put the ringer on vibrate or silent and let the call go over to your voice mail when in a public setting.

If you are already on a call, stay outside until the call is finished. If it’s not possible and you must take the call, keep your voice low and tell the caller you’ll get back to them. It doesn’t matter how quietly you speak, if you are standing too close to others, they are forced to over hear your personal business.

It’s rude to take a cell phone call on a date or at any social meeting with others. It’s also inconsiderate to take a call in the middle of a conversation. If the caller were present, he or she would likely wait and politely interrupt at the appropriate time. Let the call go to voice mail and return it later.

It’s not easy to do, but let’s challenge ourselves over the next month to engage in the moment and your surroundings. See if it makes a difference. As a community, let’s respect others and keep our phone conversations out of public settings.

If you have an idea you would like to have featured, please send it to StapletonDNA@stapletoncommunity.com. This is meant to provide a monthly topic and action for our community, so feel free to let us hear from you!

Active Minds Seminar

The Active Minds Seminar this month is on Thursday, March 10, from 7–8pm in the Stapleton MCA Community Room. The topic for March is “Somalia.” Join Active Minds as we examine Somalia’s troubled path and where it may be leading.

We are hosting a potluck prior to the seminar. The potluck will begin at 6pm and everyone is invited. See details about the potluck in the Stapleton Activities, Inc. section. This program is free and open to the public.

Stapleton Activities, Inc.

Please join us for our monthly potluck in the newly remodeled Stapleton MCA Community Room*. If you are new to Stapleton, this is a great way to meet other adults in the community. This month the potluck is prior to the Active Minds Seminar on Thursday, March 10, at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share with the group. The beverages, plates and utensils will be provided by the MCA.

Aquatics

Check your mailbox for the new 2011 Aquatics Brochure! This fun brochure lists facility schedules, admissions, programs and information regarding after-hour pool rentals and birthday party pads.

Swim Team

Stapleton Stingrays: due to the high demand each season, we will be accepting 60 additional swimmers in 2011. Because of the time/space requirements for this kind of program, we plan to assign swimmers to one of the two teams as registrations are accepted. Both Avisor and the new Jetstream pool will follow the same practice schedule, but will compete separately during weekend competitions.

New Aquatics Programs

NEW! Preschool Stroke Readiness: this intermediate level is added to accommodate the high demand of preschool-age children in Stapleton who are advanced enough to swim independently. Skills learned include rhythmic breathing, front/back crawl, sit/kneel dives and changing directions.

NEW! Drop-In Lap Swim for Residents: Avisor, F15 and the new Jetstream pool will have lap lanes available for resident use during weekday programming hours (6am-12pm), but require a Resident Lap Swim Monthly Pass to access the lanes available. Monthly lap swim passes are priced at $20 for the month, and will be valid for 30 days from the date of purchase. Passes will be available for purchase at the MCA office or any one of the four pools.

New Resident Social

If you are new to Stapleton, we would like to encourage you to attend our quarterly New Resident Social on Wednesday, March 9 from 6:30–7:30pm in the Stapleton MCA Community Room*. This is a chance to meet your neighbors and have any questions about the community answered. This is also an opportunity for you to pick up your new pool pass at no charge. To help with the process for receiving your new card, please go to www.stapletoncommunity.com and under “Member Tools,” click on the green bar “Set up New Account.” Submit the requested information and we will complete the process when you arrive on March 9.

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

*2823 Roslyn Street.
Diane Deeter
Director of Programming and Events

Sponsored by Stapleton MCA
STAPLETON’S FAMILY FITNESS CLUB
There’s So Much More at...

JOIN or REFER someone for a
Bladium Club Membership and receive
• $29 credit towards your next month dues
• Small Group Training Program
• 2 Private Personal Training Sessions
• DoFit Weight Management Program

Full Service Fitness Center
Las Mills - Group X Classes
Youth Programs/Child Care
Soccer, Hockey & Basketball
Lil Kickers child development program

Drawing at our
MEMBER APPRECIATION PARTY
ON MARCH 31st
Call for more details 303-320-3033

REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!
2011 Bladium Summer Camps
Sign up “THIS MONTH”
ENTER TO WIN
“42” Flat Screen TV & XBOX Kinect”

Top Reasons to register for a
BLADIUM CAMP
✓ BEST VALUE
No one can beat our camp prices!
✓ NUTRITIOUS & HEALTHY LUNCHES provided by Revolution Foods
✓ VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES & SPORTS
✓ EMPHASIS ON CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT & CREATIVITY through team work and social interaction
Ask about discounts for members, siblings & multiple camps!

www.bladium.com 303-320-3033
2400 Central Park Blvd Denver CO 80238

BLADIUM
2011 CAMP DATES

Summer Camps
May 30th - June 3rd  Summer Week
June 6th - 10th  Athlete Week
June 13th - 17th  Environmental Week
June 20th - 24th  Animals Week
June 27th - July 1st  Super Hero’s Week
July 5th - 8th  America Week
July 11th - July 15th  Western Week
July 18th - 22nd  Wet Week
July 25th - 29th  Pirate Week
Aug 1st - 5th  Circus Week
Aug 8th - 12th  Colors Week

OUT OF SCHOOL CAMPS
March 28th - April 1st  Spring Break
April 4th  DPS Day Off
May 6th  DPS Day Off
School Board Recall Election

(continued from page 1) the recall effort, and other Easley opponents believe Easley’s position as deputy director of the Denver Scholarship Foundation is a direct conflict of interest with being school board president—which is the official reason they wrote on the recall documents. They state that Denver Public Schools (DPS) Superintendent Tom Boasberg sits on the board of the Denver Scholarship Foundation and therefore can influence whether Easley keeps his job. Easley rebuts that charge, stating first that Boasberg is a non-voting member and second that the voting members of the board only select the director—they have no control over Easley’s position as deputy director. Prior to running for the board seat Easley obtained a signed affidavit from the General Counsel for the Denver Public Schools stating that, in his opinion, there is no inherent conflict that would preclude him from serving on the school board while being employed by the Denver Scholarship Foundation.

According to Denver Clerk and Recorder Stephanie O’Malley, a recall vote on Easley’s seat would cost Denver Public Schools at least $100,000. The city would administer the recall if enough valid signatures are gathered, then they would bill DPS for all expenses associated with the recall election. If enough petitions signatures are submitted to the City Clerk and verified by the Clerk’s Office, a recall vote could be held at the same time as the mayoral election or the anticipated runoff. In that case, DPS would rent space on the city ballot, which would be the most cost effective method. If the petition process were not completed in time to have the recall vote dovetail with citywide elections, a separate election process would be required—and that would even be more expensive for DPS.

The two groups organizing the efforts to get petitions for a recall election are Northeast Community Congress for Education (NCCE) and Democrats for Excellent Neighborhood School Education (DeFENSE). These organizations are in the process of acquiring the 5,000+ signatures necessary to force the election. The required number of signatures from registered voters who live in School Board District 4 is stipulated in Colorado law as 40% of the number of votes cast in the election that put Easley on the Board.

In the event that the recall signature effort is successful, NCCE and DeFENSE will need to put a candidate on the ballot. Other candidates could also run if they garner the requisite number of signatures to get on the ballot. The ballot would have a question to recall or not recall Easley. If a vote is cast in favor of recall, then the voter would be asked to choose a replacement board candidate. That candidate would replace Easley if he/she were to get the majority of votes in the recall election. At this time, no one is actively pursuing that slot on the recall ballot.

John McBride describes the history of the groups orchestrating the recall effort. The NCCE was formed by central Denver neighborhood residents in an effort to stop the closure of Manual High School in 2006. Manual, at the time, had fallen well behind other Denver high schools by all measures of educational success. The Superintendent Michael Bennet, now Colorado’s US Senator, proposed closing Manual for a year to restructure its curriculum and re-open it to freshmen only the following year. That plan was approved by the board. McBride’s group fundamentally opposed that plan, stating a good high school education should be available in all sections of Denver. NCCE agreed that changes should have been made, but implemented while Manual remained open.

The recent decision by the DPS Board to restructure Montbello High School has reignited those concerns and led to increased scrutiny of Easley’s positions. McBride believes that Easley has broken many of his campaign promises, pointing out that the NCCE actually supported Easley as a candidate. Other allegations by those favoring recall are that Easley has failed to provide proper oversight of DPS funds and that he has exposed taxpayers to liability since teachers who have been dismissed have filed a class action lawsuit alleging age discrimination. McBride also says NCCE and DeFENSE believe the board has “sandbagged” their budget by inflating costs so it can later claim savings. They say this cost inflation holds back money from classrooms.

McBride says NCCE and DeFENSE are not endorsed or supported by the teachers’ union—and at the time he was interviewed the union had not made a decision whether it would support the recall effort. McBride, while being the recall effort’s spokesperson, has said unequivocally he will not be the replacement candidate.

Easley claims there is absolutely no truth to the claims made by these groups pursuing a recall election. He believes that the time and effort being spent on the recall would be better spent helping the board understand the issues involved and working with them on the budget cuts recently proposed by Governor Hickenlooper.

Easley says he is “appalled” that they are bringing the cost of a recall election onto the school district, especially given that it’s about a difference of opinion on policy, not about any wrongdoing.

Easley asserts that under his leadership Montbello High School will never close. However, it is now a school where only six in 100 graduates are prepared for college. He believes that by any measure, the education students have received is not satisfactory and change is a must. The restructured program will have four separate and distinct schools within it. A high-tech academy that will teach vocational applications to those students that decide college is not for them, an international school with proficiency of at least two languages as a requirement, an early college prep program and, for the next three years, a continuation of Montbello’s current program for students already there. There will still be Montbello Warrior athletic teams, debate and arts programs in which students from any of the internal schools can participate.

Board member Mary Seawell and State Senator Michael Johnston backed Easley when asked to comment on the recall. Both were well aware of the concerns on both sides and both believe that DPS has much bigger issues to resolve and that the recall is a “distraction.” Both are greatly concerned about the cost to DPS and neither feels the issues warrant that level of expenditure.
Toby Keith Pays a Visit to His Northfield Bar & Grill

By Jon Meredith

Northfield is quickly becoming a hot spot for nightlife in Denver and the opening of Toby Keith’s I Love this Bar and Grill is the granddaddy of them all. Twenty-two-thousand square feet of country music heaven with his signature guitar-shaped bar, plenty of room to dance, sixty-four big screens, southern food and, of course, plenty of libations. There will be live music five nights a week, Tuesday through Saturday starting at 9pm, which will include local acts as well as nationally-touring country stars.

Keith is a well-known country artist, actor and record producer. He has won numerous American Music awards and Academy of Country Music Awards. Two of his most famous songs, “Beer for my Horses” and “Should’ve Been a Cowboy,” are duets with Willie Nelson. “Should’ve Been a Cowboy” was the most-played country song of the ’90s. Throughout the Iran and Afghanistan wars Keith has done USO tours in support of the troops. He will perform July 31st at Cheyenne Frontier Days.

Mr. Keith himself stopped in at the restaurant at lunchtime on February 22 for an invited-guest grand opening. He said this is the ninth Toby Keith’s I Love this Bar and Grill to open around the country and the first in Colorado. He told the story that when he went to Vegas for that restaurant opening they had somehow taken the fried bologna sandwich off the menu. He insisted that was what his fans wanted and to put it right back on the menu. They did and it is a top seller. The sandwich is a thick slice of fried bologna with grilled onions and Miracle Whip on garlic toast for $9.99. You’re not going to find that combination on too many menus in Colorado.

The menu has everything from New York strip steak for $21.99 to fried macaroni and cheese and pulled pork. Kids are welcome and there is plenty of room for them to run around. The waitresses are dressed just like Hooters’ girls except in black tee shirts, jean shorts and cow boy boots. The décor is what you would expect, barn siding, som e tin, lots of neon beer signs and a mechanical bull. Overall nothing fancy, but it is truly a honky-tonk atmosphere that screams, “Let’s have a good old time tonight.”
Psychological Thriller

Park Hill Psychiatrist Pens Page-Turning Psychological Thriller

By Judith Schwartz

The year: 1972. The place: Five Points in Denver, a community health center. The Vietnam War is winding down, its veterans returning, “war trauma” disrupting their lives. Black pride is potent force. Into this world enters psychiatrist Aden Echo, the protagonist in local author Michael Altman, M.D.’s first novel, No Simple Highway.

Dr. Altman’s goal was to create a vivid, page-turning psychological thriller, and he, and others, believe he has succeeded.

There are parallels between Michael Altman, the Jewish child and adolescent psychiatrist, and his character Aden Echo. They were both sent as psychiatrists to a community during a time of great upheaval in America — violence, poverty, drugs and strains between whites and blacks. A main difference is that Echo served in Vietnam and suffered unspeakable horrors that haunt him.

After medical school, Altman fulfilled his Air Force obligation and was not sent to Vietnam but to Missouri. From 1970–72 he served as the southeast regional child/adolescent consultant at the Eastside Community Health Center in Five Points in the late 1970s.

Altman and his wife of 48 years, Carol, an adjunct professor of French/liberal studies at the University of Denver, and an author, are long-time residents of Park Hill. Their two daughters attended Manual High school when it and East High combined classes and during the controversial years of busing. A daughter and grandchildren now live just a block away.

“There’s romance, a psychotic killer and the efforts that brought positive change in a Denver community,” Dr. Altman says. "No Simple Highway" is a journey. "I hope the discerning reader will read it as a metaphor for his/her life—the many levels of the way we live our lives, sometimes aware, sometimes not."

The Grateful Dead inspired the book’s title: "There is a road, no simple highway. Between the dawn and the dark of night, and if you go, no one may follow, that path is for your steps alone."

After noting he had a very satisfying psychiatric career, he beams when he speaks of the writing process, though it took five years to birth his book. He had no outline and therefore no ending. Cliché perhaps, but he found “In the middle it started writing itself, just let the characters live their lives.” The final version had more about Vietnam than he had imagined. “How could it not?”

With huge changes in publishing, he decided to self-publish and not attempt getting picked up by a publishing house. The book is available in hard copy, paperback and e-book. Dr. Altman will read from his book on March 10 at 7pm at the Tattered Cover in LoDo. (See “Local Events” on page 16.) He can be reached at michaelaltman@mac.com. Judith Schwartz is a freelance copy editor/owner of FinalPage Cопediting and a community volunteer.
Margie Krest is trained in yoga, yoga dance and yoga nidra, but when she contemplated opening a studio, she wanted to offer her clients a way to nourish their soul through both movement and stillness. And so her business, Dancing the Soul, offers ten different classes that her customers can mix and match to suit their own lives.

“My main focus, my main vision, is to allow people to tap into many different forms of both movement and stillness,” Krest explained. “Through that we connect with our bodies and hearts. When we listen to the rhythms of our bodies and hearts, we live better.”

Dancing the Soul: A Center for Creative Movement and Stillness has 15 teachers who lead classes in such modalities as nia, zumba, belly dancing, cardio salsa, beginning power yoga and gentle yoga, mat Pilates, tai chi/qigong, meditation and breath awareness. Students pay for the number of classes they want and then choose to attend any combination of classes.

“I’m really encouraging students to try a variety of classes,” Krest said. “As we honor our bodies we get in touch with what we need to do to become healthier.”

Krest describes nia as a body-mind-spirit fitness class that uses dance music in a non-impact, cardiovascular workout. And she describes yoga nidra, which she teaches, as “purely a deep relaxation. I’ll take students through body scans, awareness and visualizations. I think that it’s just as important to our bodies as dance. I’m hoping that in the long run people will see that it can affect their lives.”

Although Krest refers to Dancing the Soul as a center for movement and stillness, she says the classes can be classified as both dance and workout.

“You can come in for certain classes get a really good workout, and you can take a deep yoga class that will get you really relaxed and mellowed out,” she explained.

Although Dancing the Soul offers a variety of movement modalities, it is an intimate studio setting that offers a sense of calming, according to Krest. Besides classes, there is a boutique that features local designers of chakra gem jewelry, clothing, designer cards, MoonDance oils and scented salts and yoga mats and blocks. There also is a tea nook where people are encouraged to relax before or after class with a cup of tea and a sampling of bakery items, but without cell phones and computers.

Krest became focused on her yoga training and what the body needs to be healthy after spending 18 years as an instructor in the ecology and evolutionary biology department of the University of Colorado. She said she felt a “call to do something else” and then spent months at a center for yoga and health—which helped her find her direction in guiding people to their own form of healthiness.

“I would like my clients’ goal to be to try different forms of movement and different forms of stillness and see what resonates with them,” she said. “I would like the people coming in to experience both aspects of life. I think there’s a way of tapping into our own rhythms. If we’re coming home and feeling tired, maybe it’s time to be quiet for a few minutes and put our feet up the wall, listen to our bodies and let our bodies reenergize.”

“It’s about living a balanced life and listening to ourselves,” Krest added. “A lot of people coming in are 35 to 55 years old. They have done the pushing and the striving, and now they want to do what feels right for the heart.”

For information about classes at Dancing the Soul: A Center for Creative Movement and Stillness, go to www.dancingthesoul.com or contact Margie Krest at 303.502.4586 or Margie@dancingthesoul.com. The studio is located at 950 C Jersey Street.
Race To Nowhere Explores Society's Achievement Obsession

By John Babcock

I found the documentary Race To Nowhere to be a sobering film. For many viewers, it is a wake up call. For others, it is a reflection of the here and now. The film attempts to transverse many topics in just eighty-five minutes. It well documents the over-scheduled, competitive and stressed out lives of a cross-section of our country’s school-aged children. Race To Nowhere seriously questions data-driven educational standards and policies, challenges one-size-fits-all teaching methods, decree curriculums that teach-to-the-test, and the misplaced priorities of many school systems. It also exposes overbearing, success-oriented parents. The movie clearly shows how, more and more, our kids are being robbed of their very own childhood and the opportunities childhood provides for children to gain early-life experiences, develop social graces and have some well-deserved fun. Moreover, the documentary painfully portrays children who become unhealthy, self-destructive, disengaged and burned out by the time they graduate from high school—if not sooner. And worst of all, I learned that many of our graduates are not adequately prepared for higher education. Well over half need to take remedial courses after they enter college.

Each scene in the film captures an aspect of a silent epidemic that is spreading throughout the US. Sleep deprivation and suicide rates among adolescents are at all-time high levels. Depression, anxiety, eating disorders and prescription drug abuse afflict our children now more than ever.

Race To Nowhere was created and funded by one-time Wall Street financial advisor and attorney, now turned film-maker-activist, Vicki Abeles, who makes her home in San Francisco’s East Bay community of Lafayette. The mother of three was prompted to make the film after she saw her own children starting to collapse under their academic workload and extracurricular commitments. She dedicates her work to a 13-year-old perfectionist who succumbed to the pressures of her own adolescence, and subsequently took her own life after she brought home a poor math test.

“I want to place the education of our youth on our nation’s agenda and broaden the current narrowed vision of success in today’s world,” states Abeles on the film’s web site (www.RaceToNowhere.com). Abeles also puts to question our fundamental value and belief systems. She calls for the mobilization of parents, teachers, school boards and government policy makers to take on current assumptions about how to best prepare America’s young citizens to become educated, problem-solving critical thinkers who, to the best of their abilities, contribute to society.

Since its debut last fall, the film has had over 700 coast-to-coast showings in atypical venues including church halls, boutique movie theaters and school auditoriums. The grassroots campaign has created considerable dialogue and debate within our communities. The Bill Roberts School gymnasium hosted play to the movie last month. The screening, attended by some 200 local residents, was sponsored by the Robert’s PTA. The documentary was presented to the greater community at the request of Roberts’ faculty and staff who watched the movie the month prior. A panel discussion followed the screening. It included child psychologist, Dr. Matthew Birnk, Colorado State Senator Michael Johnston, Kunsmitl School Principal Dr. Diana Howard, pediatrician Dr. Noah Makevsky and Denver Public School Board member Mary Seawell. Senator Johnston, a former school principal, asked how parents could gain access to the day-in and day-out observations that teachers make on how their child learns. He felt that such insight, in addition to test data, could be valuable to parents and help them appreciate their child’s development and learning style. Dr. Howard reinforced this notion and commented that teachers cannot just say that a child is a “fite” student. (continued on page 14)
Kerry O’Connell was driving up to Vail in a hurry, his massively-swollen left arm hanging outside his pick-up truck’s window. He was trying to cool it down and relieve the pain, which on a scale of 1 to 10, was up around 9. O’Connell had dislocated his arm, falling from a ladder a few weeks before. Tears streamed down this grown man’s face, a construction project manager, as he drove by himself through the Eisenhower Tunnel and over Vail Pass to the hospital in Vail where he had gone through surgery the previous week. As soon as he stumbled into the hospital they stuck his arm with a needle and extracted several vials of pus. The relief from the pain was immediate; however, O’Connell distinctly remembers the smell in the air was of death.

He was embarking on a medical journey that called the Status Report on the Health Facility-Board member Dr. Connie Price, Director, Infectious Diseases at Denver Health. Dr. Price is also a Senior Project Manager for Mortenson Construction and has worked on the redevelopment of Stapleton for ten years. After the initial needle puncture that relieved the excruciating pain, O’Connell had to endure an isolated hospital room, a process of debridement and the infection every other day for a week (this entails cleaning the infection and cutting away dead tissue), months of re-habilitation and $120,000 worth of hospital bills. Several thousand dollars of the charges were not covered by his insurance and Mortenson has some of the best insurance provided by any company.

After his hospitalization, O’Connell researched these infections and found them to be fairly prevalent. He knew several people through work and friends who had had similar experiences, including some who live in Stapleton. He found that about one in two hundred hospital patients acquire a nosocomial infection. In 2005, the most recent year for these statistics, 94,360 developed a serious infection in United States hospitals and 18,630 died during a hospital stay involving serious infections. These statistics were published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 2007. O’Connell points out that some Colorado hospitals do one thousand procedures a week, which means that, statistically, five of those patients will have serious infections. With proper management and oversight, O’Connell believes from his experience that hospitals can reduce these infections by 70 to 90%.

After doing his research, O’Connell lobbied the legislature to require hospitals to provide the public with statistics about these infections. After two years of trying, the Governor signed a bill that required the formation of a state board to oversee a process in which hospitals provide this information. The information is available on the Colorado Department of Health website and is called the Status Report on the Health Facility- Acquired Infections Disclosure Initiative.

While on that board, O’Connell met fellow board member Dr. Connie Price, Director, Infection Prevention and Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases at Denver Health. Dr. Price is also a Stapleton resident. Asked what the average person can do prior to surgery to prevent infection she states, “Become informed. Access information from reputable sources on the prevention of healthcare associated infections. Ask your provider what they are doing to prevent these infections.”

The most critical component of prevention is hand hygiene. Never be afraid to remind a provider to wash their hands prior to approaching you. If you or a family member is scheduled for surgery, be well educated on all procedures ahead of time to keep yourself safer. Ask the surgeon in-depth questions about sterility and how many times they have performed the procedure. Inquire about the infection rates for the operation at that hospital and how that compares with other hospitals.

Some preventive measures can be taken at home, as well. Get diabetes under control as much as possible. Try to stop smoking as far in advance as possible. Keep your home clean and practice sound personal hygiene. Medical providers stress that sleep, exercise and sunshine are important components of keeping your immune system healthy. Try to avoid sugar, caffeine and alcohol prior to hospitalizations. Once back home always wash your hands prior to touching the bandaged area. Inform your surgeon if there are any signs of infections on your body both prior to surgery and afterwards. Dr. Price says Colorado is making strides to reduce infections. She is “impressed with the many initiatives from state and local health departments, from the Colorado Hospital Association, to right here at Denver Health.” She goes on to point out that, “In most cases, if a patient gets a healthcare-associated infection, it is bad for the institution from a financial standpoint as insurers don’t typically reimburse for these infections. With public reporting, it also is bad from a public relations standpoint. Most importantly, it is bad from both a patient and physician satisfaction standpoint. No one is happy with bad outcomes.”

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), “Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is a type of staph bacteria that is resistant to certain antibiotics called beta-lactams. MRSA infections can occur in any geographic location and anywhere on a person’s body and can affect anyone.” MRSA is now fairly common in the community at large and not just in hospitals, so beware when a child comes home with a scrape or cut. The CDC website recommends the following treatment if you have a cut:

• Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand rub.
• Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
• Avoid contact with other people’s wounds or bandages.
• Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.

If you or a family member does contract MRSA, see a doctor immediately and much more detailed sterilization procedures will have to be implemented in your home.

For Kerry O’Connell things could have turned out vastly different—to the point that he may have died had he not been so personally proactive about his infection. In subsequent operations that were necessary to heal his arm, he required everyone in the operating room to wear hazmat-like suits. Dr. Price believes that informed patients who are relentless in following proper procedures will significantly lower their chances of getting a serious infection.

Visit www.FrontPorchStapleton.com to view a list of websites recommended by Dr. Price.
By Nancy Burkhart

Park Hill resident Katrina Lair-smith is a professional dancer who owns the Colorado Contemporary Dance Academy in Stapleton. She has used her love for dance to gather together other dancers to do fundraisers to benefit women in crisis and raise public awareness about women’s issues.

In 1998, Lair-smith had been living and dancing in Los Angeles. She moved back to Colorado to have her daughter and started her own company so that she could continue to dance. After a neighbor of hers was murdered, Lair-smith asked the woman's mother if she needed any help and the mother told her that her daughter would have appreciated some help for SafeHouse.

This started The Damsels Contempora ry Dance Company. The group of women dancers does about three performances a year to raise funds for women’s organizations. About half the dancers live in Stapleton, Park Hill or Lowry.

“Every show that we do gives the prof-
equally talented.”

One man enters into the mix occasionally. Greg Cinovic is a guest choreographer and dancer.

“He wanted to be a part of it,” Lair-smith said. “We’re thinking of adding some men to the company for guest artists. We have duets where we do need a man, and Greg is a hip-hop dancer.”

Lair-smith is the company’s main choreogra pher, and Meghan Lawitz is co-choreographer.

“Ideally, our message is one of sisterhood and how all different types of women are coming together to help different types of women, breaking the stereotype of cattiness and helping other women in need,” Lair-smith said. “It’s not the typical story of women stabbing other women in the back. This message is important to teenagers as well.”

The Damsels will present “State of the Union,” a show addressing current issues, on May 5 and 6 as a benefit for The Gathering Place.

“The productions are always different,” Lair-smith said. “This one is politically based. It’s about all the things that are happening in the world today. It’s about any topic that you see in the news. We’re going after the most interesting one.”

“The Damsels’ first show of the year will be “State of the Union,” to be presented at 8pm on Saturday, March 5, and at 5pm on Sunday, March 6, at the Cleo Parker Robinson Theater, 119 Park Avenue West.

This fundraiser will benefit The Gathering Place, a daytime shelter for women and children who are homeless.

“They are really, really low on supplies right now, so it’s a really good time to help them,” Lair-smith said. “During the day, they can eat and have shelter and re- group. But they have to leave at night.”

Tickets for the “State of the Union” are available for $15 each online at www.thedamsels.eventbrite.com/.

For information about The Damsels Contemporary Dance Company, call Kar-rina Lairsmith at 303-333-1885, email her at klairsmith@msn.com or go to www.thedamseldancecompany.com.
By Carol Roberts

Visitors to the 29th Ave Town Center will see a new temporary play structure called the “Mine Shaft” in the Green. The Mine Shaft is one of 12 playhouses of a similar size that have been designed and built by professionals and donated to Rocky Mountain Communities (RMC) to raise awareness of the importance of affordable housing in our communities. The playhouses will be auctioned and the proceeds will be used to raise funds for health and nutrition programs for RMC’s younger residents.

Each playhouse reflects some aspect of Colorado’s history; can be no larger than 6 feet-by-eight-feet-by-10 feet, and incorporate hands-on activities for children of varying age groups. Four of the playhouses will be on display at the Denver International Airport (level 5) through March 31. The Mine Shaft will be on the Green through March 20.

From April 6 - April 15 all 12 playhouses will be on display at the Spring Celebration at the Botanic Gardens. To learn more about Rocky Mountain Communities, the design teams, the playhouses and to purchase tickets to the display at the Spring Celebration at the Botanic Gardens, visit www.RockyMountainCommunities.org or call RMC at 303-863-8651 ext. 109. Tickets for the event are $35.

Northeast Denver residents can help guide the selection of candidates and the questions asked at the forum by visiting www.FrontPorchStapleton.com and choosing the link to the Forum survey.

Save the date! April 14, 6:30 to 8pm
Denver Mayor Candidate Forum
Central Park Recreation Center
9651 East MLK Blvd
Sponsored by: The Front Porch, The League of Women Voters of Denver and Engaged Public

Front Porch Readers! Take our online survey to identify the candidates you most want to hear at the NE Denver Mayoral Candidate Forum April 14.

Select Candidates
Carol Boigon
www.boigonfordenver.com
Paul Noel Fiorino
paulfiorino@yahoo.com
Michael Hancock
www.hancockfordenver.com
Dwight Hanson
303-764-2218
Doug Linkhart
www.douglinhart.net
Danny Lopez
dannylopezformayor@gmail.com
James Mejia
www.mejiafortmayor.com
Chris Romero
www.romeriformayor.com
Kenneth Simpson
kensimpson97@hotmail.com
Theresa Spahn
www.spahnformayor.com
Thomas Wolf
www.wolf4denvermayor.com
Eric Zinn
www.denverfirst.net

Vincent Pacieyonski
vmasiayonksi@comcast.net
Jeff Peckman
www.jeffpeckmanformayor.com
Gerald L. Stipon
303-477-2131

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

FREE In-Home Consultation & Estimate

25% OFF Home or Office Window Treatments
Call today for details!
303-321-4404 or visit us online at www.budgetblinds.com

Includes shutters. May not be used in combination with any other offers. Offer expires 3/31/11.

Select Issues
Public safety
Budget shortfall
Sustainability
Medical marijuana
Collaboration with City of Aurora
Property rights and zoning
City employees
Health and human services
Jobs development
Denver International Airport
Parks and recreation
Public education
Transportation
Homelessness

By Gerald L. Stipon

Frontline Bootcamp.com

Jonathan Zonca, MD, “Top Doc 5280”
Jeremy Orr, MD, MPH
Leslie McKenna, NP • Emily Shupe Talley PAC

High Quality Care for your entire family including kids!
Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30am - 5pm, Sat 8am - 1 pm

303-322-PEAK (7325) - www.peakfamilymed.com • 4500 E. 9th Ave #320

Stapleton Boot Camp
Powered by CrossFit Stapleton
Building a Strong Community

Receive 10% off your 1st month when you sign up with a friend!
Classes forming now for April. Visit www.frontporchstapleton.com for more information or contact StapletonBootCamp.com

Stapleton Bootcamp.com

Stapleton Front Porch
Trained Therapy Animals Help Calm Patients

By Nancy Burkbart

Sometimes counseling sessions can be difficult, but animal-assisted therapy often helps reduce the stress and makes clients more open, according to psychotherapist Ellen Kinney.

"Animals can really facilitate the therapeutic process—they are a really calming presence in the sessions," Kinney said. "A lot of kids are more engaged in therapy with an animal present. And for adults who are in counseling for anxiety or grief and loss, an animal can help them calm down and be relaxed in the therapy setting."

Kinney, who is a Lowry resident, practices with other therapists at Animal Assisted Therapy Programs of Colorado, 1540 Race St. The counselors all have animal assistants, including dogs, a cat and a horse, but animals assisting in therapy are not limited to these types of animals.

"I know people that have used ferrets and guinea pigs," Kinney said. "You can be creative and think of ways to have a lot of different therapy animals."

"The animals are trained, and using them depends on the animal’s temperament and personality. You have to recognize if your animal has the skills, is friendly and predictable. If they stay calm, you know that they’ll react safely if someone pets them too hardly."

Kinney’s partner in therapy is Sasha, a 7-year-old dog of unknown heritage who was abandoned and was rescued with her puppies. Kinney and Sasha have been certified as a therapy team through Professional Therapy Dogs of Colorado.

"Sasha is a very social animal," Kinney explained. "She really loves attention, there are some clients that she’ll play with for a while and then go away to her bed. There are some she will sit next to all session. If Sasha looking tired, I may not work her as hard. But she gets really excited when clients come. She’s really helpful in most situations."

AATP tries to pair clients with the appropriate animal therapists.

"When clients call, we make sure to get enough information to pick the right therapist and animal that would be best suited to them," Kinney said. "Most of our animals are rescue animals. Even the horse has a rescue history. The horse has an addiction called cribbing. That’s when horses bite on wood and suck in air so that it gives them a high. It can happen to abused horses that are kept in stalls or not are properly cared for. The horse might help a client who is suffering from an addiction.

"We see the gamut of presenting issues, from anxiety, depression, mood disorders, divorce, grief and loss counseling, children with behavioral concerns at home and school, anger, conduct disorder, eating disorders, trauma history, abuse and neglect. I happen to work with a lot of children and families, but several of our counselors see adults. Animals in therapy can be beneficial to all ages and all issues."

For further information, call Animal Assisted Therapy Programs of Colorado at 720.266.4444, go to the website www.aatpc.com or email Ellen Kinney at kinney@aatpc.com.
Rich Gonzales
 Service to others is a cornerstone of my life. A Denver native and youngest of 14 children, my parents instilled the quality of life is measured by the support we provide each other and the community.
 I served Denver 29 years as a firefighter, 14 as department chief, an honor to lead 900 remarkable men and women. I initiated innovative programs saving $1.5 million per year and developed Seeking Opportunities to Serve, allowing Firefighters to engage with neighborhoods and be responsive to community quality of life issues.
 As Vice President at Mile High United Way, I learned the need for human services and value of non-profits.
 As Executive Director of the State Department of Personnel and Administration I learned the business of government. “Good Government Starts Here” was the guiding principle. I have a proven record of responsible leadership that understands government is about people.
 www.FriendsofRich.com

Josh Davies
 I am running for Denver City Council At-Large because I want to make Denver the best city to work, live, and play. In the 10 years I have lived here I have worked to achieve this goal by serving with multiple local nonprofits, as President of the Lower Downtown Neighborhood Association, and as a Vice President at Sagr Hospitality. Being your City Councilman will give me the opportunity to combine these experiences and bring new ideas to the table.
 My first priority as a City Councilman will be to make Denver a city that is open for business and innovation. Fostering a strong local economy will increase quality of life, decrease unemployment, and help establish Denver as one of America’s greatest cities. I am excited to bring my knowledge and passion to the City Council to help make Denver all that it can be. www.daviesfordenver.com

City Council At-Large

City Council Dist. 11
Chris Martinez
Stapleton and Park Hill voters elect a new City Councilman, they will be looking for the candidate who has the most informed perspective on their new community as well as the most experience and involvement in Northeast Denver neighborhoods. Only I was on the original community group (Stapleton Tomorrow) assigned to examine redevelopment options at Stapleton Airport, and only I can show 35 years of active involvement in the communities of Council District 11. My record of positive activism in Park Hill, Montbello, Green Valley Ranch, and Stapleton is unequalled.
 Voters will be looking for someone with professional experience. As a 35-year veteran with the Federal Reserve Bank and 8 years on the RTD Board of Directors, I will offer real-world solutions to the challenges we face. Roots. Activism. Professional Experience. Leadership. Common Sense. www.ElectChrisMartinez.com

Mayor
Theresa Spahn
There is opportunity in Denver to rethink how we do things, to bring jobs, improve our schools, provide services, and ensure that Denver thrives. I bring the skills, executive experience, and the fresh, innovative perspective that Denver needs to get there. As the first Director of the Office of the Child’s Representative, I transformed a system that others deemed unfixable and developed a $18 million state agency which now serves as a national model. Recognizing my ability to bring diverse points of view to the table and create solutions, former Colorado Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis hand-picked me to work with Sandra Day O’Connor on her Judicial Selection Initiative. We are facing tough problems and we need a new perspective to find innovative solutions. I will bring that to the Mayor’s Office and ensure that Denver thrives. For more information about my experience and vision, visit www.Spahnformayor.com.

Front Porch Candidate Announcement Guidelines
The Front Porch will print a 50-word first-person statement of candidacy and biographical information from individuals running for public office who specifically request our distribution area. Statements from citywide candidates will be run as space allows, with priority given to residents of The Front Porch distribution area.
Announcements, along with a close-up print-quality photo, should be emailed to FrontPorch Stapleton@Gmail.com no later than the 15th of the month for the following month’s issue.
(A map of city council districts can be found at www.denvergov.org/Portals/639/documents/Maps/2008_Council_Districts_Precincts_Map.pdf)

Welcomeing OUR newest family member:
Dr. Bryan Kono
Stapleton Pediatrics
Brandon Davison-Tracy, MD • Amy Nash, MD
Noah Makovsky, MD — 5280 “Top Doc”
2975 Roslyn Street, Suite 100 • Denver, CO 80218 • 303.399.2700
Located 1/2 block north of the 29th Street Town Center
www.showcase Landscaping.Denver, Colorado
www.showcase Landscaping.com
303-289.6821
Lawn Mowing – Power Raking
Aeration – Fertilization
Sprinkler Tune-Ups – Gardening
Locally Owned
Call for a Free Estimate
One FREE Lawn Aeration
With sign-up of summer weekly lawn service ($37 value)
New customers only.

Clyburn at Stapleton
Welcome to luxury senior living in the exciting Stapleton redevelopment area. Stop by to view our affordable apartment homes and great community amenities for $55 and offer!
www.senioroutlook.com/clyburnatstapleton

Northfield Church
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Westerly Creek Elementary, Stapleton
www.northfieldchurch.com

Beautiful smiles begin here
Lowry Family Dentistry
Malaka Hubbard, DDS
• Comprehensive Care
• Adults & Children
• Your Comfort is our Priority
• General & Cosmetic Dentistry
• Aesthetic Treatments
• State of Art Dental Technology
• Dental Care for Every Need

303-366.3000
www.lowryfamilydentistry.com

303-388-1515 • 7401 E. 26th Avenue
www.senioroutlook.com/clyburnatstapleton
As we all stood by and watched, our jaws dropped in disbelief, the dictatorial leader of the world’s fifteenth most populous nation was run out of office by throngs of mostly nonviolent protesters. This uprising began and flourished through the power of social media, a force that has until now never been shown so powerful on the world stage but it has been very evident here in Stapleton. Through blogging, social media websites and text messaging, masses of people in Egypt were able to demonstrate on cue each day for weeks on end. The only avenue of survival left for the dictator was the power of the Internet— and ultimately money is found to build the school.

If an issue comes to light that many in Stapleton believe in, Stapleton Moms could have a thousand people at Founder’s Green tonight. Is there a D for democrat or R for republican required for admission, no political action committee’s funding the Moms, no suits lobbying Moms and no “Big Mama” in charge? Is it simply the power of personal participation in significant events that can change the world?

The power of social media can be scary and it can destroy privacy. We all need to be aware of how we use it and how we can be manipulated by others. What transpired in Egypt is hopefully a testament to the good it can do. Certainly, how it has been used by people in Stapleton has benefitted our community at large.

Stapleton Moms could have a thousand people at Founder’s Green tonight. There is no D for democrat or R for republican required for admission, no suits lobbying Moms and no “Big Mama” in charge. Is it simply the power of personal participation in significant events that can change the world?

The Stapleton Moms website can be accessed at www.stapletonmoms.com. Jon Meredith lives in Stapleton. He can be reached at jon.meredith@q.com. □

**Fishwrap**

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

**Did You Know?**

People who drink 3 or more sugary sodas daily have 62% more dental decay, fillings, and tooth loss!

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.

**Stapleton Children’s Dentistry**

Allafiyaz Ibrahim, DDS • 2373 Central Park Blvd, Denver

303.399.KIDS (5437) • www.stapletonkids.com

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

*Kentwood City Properties*

Stacy Neil
The Neir Team
720-280-3004
www.neirteam.com

2905 Beaver Street
$890,000
4 bed/4 bath, 3,667 sq.ft.

UNDER CONTRACT!

2540 Hanover Street
$500,000
5 bed/4 bath, 3,309 sq.ft.

JUST LISTED!

2753 Dayton Street
$469,000
4 bed/3 bath, 2,702 sq.ft.

225 Bryant Street
$565,000
3 bed/6 bath, 2,160 sq.ft.

Check out www.stapletonmoms.com for a free home evaluation!

**Get your first month FREE, when you sign up for 3!**

**Mathnasium**

The Math Learning Center

2500 E. 6th Ave. (at Columbine)
Denver, CO 80206
Phone: 303-553-MATH (6284)

Email: cherrycreek@mathnasium.com • Web: Mathnasium.com/cherrycreek

**Race to Nowhere**

(continued from page 6) Teachers need to proactively share ideas with parents on how to help their kids learn. Dr. Brink articulated his concern that children today are not allowed to fail, and to that end, are not developing lifelong skills that are needed to recover from setbacks. Perhaps today’s parents are overly protective and doing far too much for their children.

Today, America’s education system is under considerable criticism, based in part on how low our nation’s students rank in comparison to those from other countries. In Race To Nowhere, this single-minded data-driven ranking system is viewed as the culprit. Determine for yourself! I invite you to view the film (find screenings at RaceToNowhere.com) and if you find the documentary as compelling as I did, then join the campaign for reform.

John Babik is the parent of three elementary- to middle-school-aged children. He teaches Nature Rangers ecology classes at local schools and leads a summer-long nature day camp at Rocky Mt. Arsenal. Contact NatureRangerJohn@Aol.com.

**Embrace Your Child’s Mind**

Embrace your child’s mind. Take a look inside the head of your child and see what they are experiencing. *Embrace Your Child’s Mind* is the first book to provide a comprehensive and easy-to-use self-help guide to understand each stage of your child’s development.

By: Dr. Andrew Solomon

[published by R将](#)
Monarch butterfly by Marko Babiak

The Monarch of All Migrators

Gram for gram, centimeter for centimeter, there is no greater migrator on planet Earth than the monarch butterfly. This insect’s amazing annual mass migration is the longest found within the animal kingdom.

Every March, an awakening of biblical proportions occurs within a range of rugged, volcanic mountains northwest of Mexico City. Here in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, an ancient, high-altitude fir and pine forest, spring is in full bloom. The sun’s angle and warm air invades more than 300 million monarchs from their winter overwinter sites. This time, 22 years ago, I stood in the monarch’s forest. Every tree, from bottom to top, was blanketed with quaking monarchs. I felt as if I was standing in a children’s storybook.

The monarchs’ genome directs them to relinquish their tree-limb resting spots, and like a sea of orange and black, the massive colony flows downhill and fills every low land valley and meadow. The migration begins. The urge to reproduce overwhelms them. They seek out multiple mates and the instinctive ritual begins. The hungry creatures sip water from streams and ponds. They consume energy-packed nectar from blooming wild flowers. Females search for vital milkweed plants for their eggs.

During their pilgrimage, the monarchs will reproduce three more times, producing four generations that sequentially will travel some 2,500 miles over our continent. It is an amazing country winter sanctuary. For the next six months, this unique species of butterfly will follow the sun’s ultraviolet rays and the Earth’s geomagnetic field. A navigational compass, built into the monarch’s eyes cells orients them to the north, then south. An array of brain cells operates like a circadian clock.

The toxic milk will serve them well when they grow up and transform into butterflies. Predacious birds have learned not to eat the very attractive, yet vomit-inducing monarch. The yellow-, black-, and white-striped caterpillar grow fat on the leaves and molt five times over. Finally, about 30 days after the eggs were laid, metamorphosis yields the diminutive butterfly that every child knows all too well—the wandering monarch.

To attract monarchs to your backyard habitat, plant a mix of blooming perennials including a butterfly bush, bee balm and purple coneflowers. Nectar-rich annuals such as marigolds and cosmos will lure them too. For those who wish to witness the entire lifecycle, consider planting common milkweed seedlings that you can start indoors this month. They will mature and be in full bloom by June. You can purchase a packet milkweed seed from your favorite garden seed catalog company.

Marko and John Babiak are Stapleton residents. Marko, 10, is an avid wildlife photographer. John teaches Nature Rangers ecology classes to students at St. John’s, Waterside Creek and Odyssey and leads a seven-week nature day camp at Rocky Mt. Junior. Contact: NatureRangerJohn@aol.com.
DENVER METRO EVENTS

Art Walks:
3/4 Friday - Santa Fe Arts District. Santa Fe Drive between 10th and 4th. www.artdistrictsantafe.com

3/4 Friday - North Denver's Tennyson Art Walk. Tennyson St. 303.433.2661

3/4 Friday - Cherry Creek Arts District. www.cherrycreekarts.com

3/11 Friday - Aurora's East End Second Friday Art Walk. Gallery openings, music, theater, food and more. 5-8pm. At at Foster Plaza/MSK Library (8 Colfax @ Elnora) for map to all venues.

3/17 Thursday - Highlands Square Third Thursday - 5pm to close. 32nd and Lowell. North Denver: www.highlandsquare.com


Through 3/8 Sunday - Romney and Juliet by Colorado Ballet. coloradoballet.org

Through 4/2 - New Perspectives Art Exhibition. Showcasing 13 artists who explore new outlooks on familiar topics. Translations Gallery, 1743 Wazee St. 303.629.0713


2/26 Wednesday - Lowry Seminar Series, Military Base to New Urban Community. 7-8pm. Colorado historians Tom Noel and Chuck Woodward talk through Lowry’s history with slides and stories. See where your house is now and learn what it may have been. Eisenhower Chapel 293 Lowry St. Lowrey Saylors@centennial.net

3/3 Thursday to 3/5 Saturday - Solid Gold, An '80s Retrospective. 2011 Pop Show Short Run Auction. Showtime 7pm. Silent Auction 5pm on Fri. and Sat. Tickets: $10/$2 students/children. $163/bisulida at 720.424.1713 or www.dsa.denyff.org/performances. DSA box office open MWV 7:30am–3:30pm. Denver School of the Arts, 1711 Montview Blvd.

3/4 Friday to 4/26 Tuesday - MOP - The Month of Photography. Redline and Colorado photographic community present an art photography at over 80 collaborative public events in Denver and surrounding region, museums, galleries and schools employ fine art photography to create exciting artistic and educational events. Redline art space, 2350 Anapah St. will be nerve center with exhibitions, lectures, workshops and more. Opening Night Saturday, March 11, 6–10pm. Denver School of the Arts, 1711 Montview Blvd.

3/12 Saturday - 49th Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. 10am. Begin in LoDo and through downtown.


3/14 Monday - One Day Decorating: Discover the Cover of Visual Coordination. Using pieces you have, find out where to place furniture/accessories/artwork and why they need to go where they do. 6-9pm. $45 or $34/CFU members. $10 materials fee, pay in class. Colorado Free Univ. 303.399.0931

3/17 Thursday - Denver School of the Arts Visual Arts Dept. presents its 3rd Quarter Exhibition. Opening reception, 7-9pm. Original paintings, jewelry and sculptures in main hallways on NW corner. Montview and Quebec.

3/18 Friday - Westerly Creek School Auction - “Pardi Gras.” Sunday School & Event Center. Tickets: www.wcasuction.com


SFC now has 2 worship service times to choose from each Sunday. You’ll find the great worship messages, word and sexism’s ministry at both services.

More details at www.StapletonChurch.com

Beginning Sunday, March 6, 2011

Recurring Events

4th Monday
SUN Board Mtg, 7:30pm
MCA, 2283 Roslyn St.
stapletonneighbors@outlook.com

Every Tuesday
Stapleton Rotary Club • 7:30pm
Stapleton Community Room
2283 Roslyn St.
www.denverstapletonrotary.org

Every Tuesday
AA Open Discussion Mtg, 7:30pm. MCA, 2328 Roslyn St. 303.912.7073
AA Open Meeting 6:00pm
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
2226 Market St. For info call Shirley at 303-720-2998

1st Monday
Lowry Peak Support Group
5:30pm AF Williams Family
Museum, (way entrance) 3035 Roslyn (at MLK) 720-848-8600

2nd Tuesday
Parks Advisory Group, 7:30am
3030 E. 29th Av, 3rd fl. Lcorell@dotnet.net

3rd Tuesday
Stapleton Business Assoc.
8pm MCA, 2328 Roslyn St
303.393.7700

Every Wednesday
Weekley Wednesdays, Bluff Lake Nature Center 9-12am, 303-393-7700

1st Wednesday
Stapleton Neighborhood Partners
Executive Board Mtg, 7350 E. 29th Ave.
303-393-7700

2nd Wednesday
 volunteers support group
5:30pm SUN Board Mtg, 7:30pm
MCA, 2283 Roslyn St.

Every Saturday
Lowry Park Toastmasters
Bluff Lake Birders, Nature Center 7pm

2nd & 3rd Wednesday
Lowry Peak Speaks Toastmasters Club. Noon-1pm, Pinot’s Affair, 750 E. Lowrey Blvd, Denver 20303
lowreyspeak@earthlink.net

3rd Thursday
Stapleton Creek Advisory Board Mtg, 7350 E. 29th Ave.
3rd week, 7pm
303-393-7700

1st Saturday
Lowry Park Toastmasters
Bluff Lake Birders, Nature Center 7pm

New Town Builders:
303.797.4464
We were inspired by classic Colorado architecture and passionate about craftsmanship. Yet we gear cut on the latest technology and sustainable building techniques. Some of Yankee Workshop meets Silicon Valley. Talk to us about building your (surprisingly affordable) energy-efficient new home. Solar included.

We Believe Energy Star is Just a Starting Point.
We are New Town Builders.

Mike Ciechanowicz
PAINTING

Mike Roberts 303-745-7530

Mike Ciechanowicz
PAINTING

Metulous Interior & Exterior Painting Faux Finishes Free Estimates

“Every customer becomes a reference!”

www.StapletonChurch.com

303.321.1014

Painting, Michael

1212 S. Xanadu Way, Ste 230, Aurora (720-297-8600)

O ur Bo ridge's A rts

Through 3/21 - League of Women Voters of Denver Honoring on Charter Schools. What is a charter school and answers to all your questions. 5:45pm. Montview Blvd Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St, FFE@Eopans to public. or 303.321.7571

3/10 Book Signing and Reading. Dr. Michael Altman, Denver psychiatrist and author, will speak about his debut novel, a psychological thriller, No Simple Highway when Taterted Cover LoDo (16th & Wynkoop) will refreshments served. Questions Dr. Altman at 303.355.8346.

3/11 Friday - Bill Roberts School Auction, “The Sky's The Limit.” Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Tickets: billroberts@opta.com

3/12 Saturday - Get the Job! How to Build an Effective Job Search Strategy. Strategy goals and research tools to crack the hidden job market. 1–4pm. $31 or $35/CFU members. $5 materials fee, pay in class. Colorado Free Univ. www/freeu.com, 303.399.0931

3/12 Saturday - “The Sky’s The Limit.” Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Tickets: billroberts@opta.com

3/12 Saturday - 49th Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. 10am. Begin in LoDo and through downtown.

March 2011

16

Stapleton Front Porch

Stapleton United Neighbors

11:45am
3/18 Friday- Overdue Love Club: Singles Night for Intelligent People. Meet other singles, indulge in wine and coffee. Michelangelo’s Wine and Coffee Bar, every 3rd Fri., 6-8pm. 1 S Broadway Registrar: 720.200.1206
3/19-3/11-17- Colorado Watercolor Society Show and Sale. Footlights Art Center, 809 15th St., downtown Golden, CO. Opening reception Friday 3/18, 6-8-10pm. www.footlightsartcenter.org
3/25 Friday - Tarantaella Dance Lessons. Jan Vla Mederana and Rosaanja Jeroens for traditional Italian food, wine and music dancing 5-7pm. $20/membership lesson. Wash Park Rec Center, 701 S Franklin St. Space limited register.
3/30 Wednesday- The Park People Training for 4/16 Saturday: Plant Trees for Your Neighbors. 3-7pm. Training for volunteers who will deliver and plant trees for elderly and disabled folks who requested trees through Denver Diggs Trees. Learn tree planting methods, help others prepare for/make homes for their new street trees. RSVP kim@theparkpeople.org or 303.722.6662. Location TBA.
4/1 Friday- Sphere Ensemble Inaugural Concert. New string chamber orchestra formed by 13 Denver young professional musicians presents its premiere concert with works by Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Mozart and Graupmann. 7:30p. $15 adults/8 students. Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E Hampden ...
4/6 Wednesday- Lowry Seminar Series, Food, Glorious Food! 7-8:30pm They know their food and where it comes from Sundry Kraft (Sustainable Food), Lisa Rogers (Feed Denver), and Pete Marczuk (Marcyzk’s Fine Food) take us from soil/seed to store/table. Eisenhower Chapel 293 Roasly St. Lowry saltys@ecowor.com
4/7 Thursday to 4/10 Sunday- Just Between Friends of Denver Kids’ Gear & Clothing Sale. Largest kids’ gear/clothing resale event ever. 10,000 items at 30-50% below retail. National Western Complex, 7-170 & Brighton Blvd Thurs–Fri. 1-7am. $7 admission. Free with Front Porch ticket Sat. 10am-4pm, Military Appreciation Discount 25% off most items. Sun 6am-6pm, 50% off most items. 303.884.1918.
HEALTH AND WELLNESS
3/8 Tuesday- Estrogen Fights Cancer and Alzheimer’s?! Have your medical questions answered by a FREE concert. Laura Louise Dennis, ND, LiveWell Center, 255 Detroit St. 303.399.8050.
3/14 Wednesday- Because Life Happens. Find out what happens to your precious life gift after you give blood. Program and tour of Bonfils lab facilities. RSVP, 303.739.4000. 717 Yosemite. 4–5 pm. FREE.
3/15 Thursday- Be Your Best Self. Find out how! FREE. Carrie Louise Dennis, ND, LiveWell Center, 255 Detroit St. 303.399.8050.
3/16 Wednesday- Because Life Happens. Find out what happens to your precious life gift after you give blood. Program and tour of Bonfils lab facilities. RSVP, 303.739.4000. 717 Yosemite. 4–5 pm. FREE.
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
LIBRARIES
For info on library programs, check events calendar at denverlibrary.org.
Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. 720.845.0250.
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 Two Storytime for 2-year-olds and caregiver. Stories, songs, movement activities. 10:30am.
Schlesserman Family Library, 100 Poplar St (1st and Queve). 720.865.0000. Closed Wednesdays and Fridays.
Thursdays- All Ages Storytime. 10:30am.
Thursdays- Book Babies. 10:30am.
3/13 Sunday- Well-Being Women Seldom Make History. 2pm. Celebrate Women’s History Month and the women, well-behaved and not, who made history in Colorado. Presented by Fairmount Heritage Foundation volunteers Jean & Garry O’Hara.
3/19 Saturday- Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Yoga, But Were Afraid to Ask. 10am. Michelle Carrell, owner of neighborhood studio Harmony Yoga answers questions about yoga and does a yoga basics bring questions, blankets, mat, or towel, wear comfortable clothing.
3/21 Monday- Get Your Groove On. 6pm. Learn to make healthy lifestyle changes with Melissa Anderson, Certified Personal Trainer and Licensed Sports Nutritionist.
3/27 Sunday- Polarids: DPL’s New Catalog. 2pm. Pacing holds new, more fun! Learn to search new online catalog, place holds, track your reading history and more!
4/3 Sunday- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. You Think You Know Colorado History? 2pm. Denver citizens Speer, Iliff, Lowry, Bostitch, and Griffis are well-known in Colorado history. Hear stories about them that didn’t make it into your history books! Presented by Fairmount Heritage Foundation Volunteer Tom Morton.
3/14 Monday- California. 2:30-3:30pm. 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963
3/15 Tuesday- Hopelessly Romantic, European Composers of the 17th Century. 7pm-12am (10/5 rehearsals). 31 Grace St. RSVP: joyd. 303.388.4013 x 307
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
3/14 Monday- California. 2:30-3:30pm. 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963
3/15 Tuesday- Hopelessly Romantic, European Composers of the 17th Century. 7pm-12am (10/5 rehearsals). 31 Grace St. RSVP: joyd. 303.388.4013 x 307
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
3/14 Monday- California. 2:30-3:30pm. 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
3/14 Monday- California. 2:30-3:30pm. 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
3/14 Monday- California. 2:30-3:30pm. 6800 Leetsdale Dr. RSVP: 303.331.9963
3/22 Tuesday- The Civil War, Cause and Effects. 5:30-6:30pm. 2526 E Colfax Ave.
This summer, give your children the world! Denver Montclair International School offers summer day camps for children ages 3–12. DMIS offers language camps in French, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. Sports camps in tae kwon do, basketball, soccer, tennis, and, lacrosse. Fine arts camps in arts and crafts, music, dance, and drama. Register online at www.dmischool.com
206 Red Cross Way, Lowry 303-340-3647
L E A N T H E N S E A R H  -  s a l e  +  d i a n a  ~  s a l e  +  d i a n a  ~  c o m m o n  s c i e n c e  +  d i a n a  


NORTHFIELD EVENTS
3/2—Wednesday—How to Use Fish Feeders and What’s New! (every Wed in March)
3/2—Wednesday—The Basics of Shotgunning
3/2—Wednesday—Trout Fishing in the Rocky Mountains (every Wed in March)
3/3—Thursday—Learning to use GPS (every Thurs. in March)
3/4—Friday—Hunting Wild Turkeys (every Fri. in March)
3/5, 3/6—Saturday—Sunday—Spring Fishing Classic
3/8—Tuesday—Get Hooked on Flying for Beginners (also 3/15 and 3/22)
3/10—Thursday—Hunters Education 2011 (Internet-based)
3/12, 3/13—Saturday—Sunday—Spring Fishing Classic
3/19—Saturday—Basic Archery Safety
3/20—Sunday—GPS and Map & Compass Clinic
3/4—Friday—The Adjustment Bureau, Range
3/11—Friday—Red Riding Hood, Mars Needs Moms 3D
3/18—Friday—Lincoln, The Lincoln Lawyer
3/30—Friday—Diary of a Wimpy Kid 2: Roderick Rules, Sucker Punch
Improv Comedy Club and Dinner Theatre—Tickets: 303.397.1777 www.ImprovDenver.com
3/2, Wednesday—Denver Improv’s Great MC Contest
3/10–3/13, Thursday–Sunday—Joe Bagg
3/16, Wednesday—Denver Improv’s Great MC Contest
3/18–3/19, Friday—Saturday—Cadsie the Entertainer
3/31–4/3, Thursday–Sunday—Bryan Callen

Lenten & Special Events
Ash Wednesday Service—March 9, 6pm
Palm Sunday Services—April 17, 9 & 11am
Followed by a children’s Easter Egg Event
Open to the public, 12:30pm
Maundy Thursday Seder—April 21, 6pm
RSVP to rich@phmc.org by April 15
Good Friday Service—April 22, 7pm
Easter Sunday Services—April 24, 9 & 11am

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
Reservations required for these programs. 303.289.0930. To get to refuge, take I-70, exit 20 north on Havana St, enter at 56th and Havana. Free unless noted. Refuge Hours: Tuesdays to Sundays, 7am–3pm. Visitor Center Hours: Tuesdays to Sundays, 9am–4pm.

Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays—Wild Rides. 9:30–11:30am. 2-hour guided viewing tour.
3/5 Tuesday—Tuesday Tots: Hiding in Plain Sight. 10–11am. Animals play hide-and-seek using body colors and textures. Learn how a fawn’s spots help it hide, why cattails are green, where best hiding spots are! Young naturalists 3–5 years old. Parent/guardian must accompany all children. Repeats 3/22
3/8 Thursday—Zoom in on Birds. 9am–noon. Bring camera and zoom lens to focus on seasonal feathered friends and how to identify them.
3/12 Saturday—Seasonal Photo Tour. 3–6pm. As seasons change, so does the refuge’s landscape and wildlife. Capture wondrous moments through your camera. Repeats 3/25, Sunday
3/17 Thursday—Bison Anniversary Tour. 9–11am. Anniversary celebration! Four years ago, 16 American bison returned to the refuge and grown to a herd of nearly 50. Special bison tour followed with refreshments.
3/18 Saturday—Waterfowl ID. 8–10am. Explore waterfowl habitats, learn to identify various species with help of a local birder. Binoculars recommended.

SPORTS AND FITNESS
3/8 Sunday—That Damn Run ½ marathon, 5K and 1K family fun run. Cherry Creek State Park, 10am.

THEATER
3/1–3/4 Friday to Sunday—A Christmas Carol. Aurora Fox Theatre, 9900 E Colfax Ave, Aurora, 303.739.1790


More Events...
March 5—Neighborhood Partners Environmental Team Clean-ups.
A new name for stalwart community members who meet monthly to do cleanups at Westerly Creek, Bluff Lake or Sand Creek Greenway: the Neighborhood Partners Environmental Team. On Saturday, March 5, the team.

2ND TUESDAY’s FREE LECTURE SERIES
Space is Limited, Call Now to Register: 303.399.8050

Theater
2/22 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206
In the heart of Cherry Creek North
www.DrDaenell.com | 303.399-6050

March 2011
18

Stapleton Front Porch

Playing in the rain—March in Denver with Re-Fixin’-It.jpg

LiveWell Center
Carrie Louise Daenell, ND

Local Event Listings

MUSMUSEUMS

3/17 Thursday—Science Lounge. Cocktails and entertain ment every 3rd Thurs. of month. 6:30–9:30pm. $8/members, $10/nonmembers.

will meet at the trailhead of Sand Creek Greenway for a cleanup from 9am-12pm. Starbucks donates coffee to get the group started and all are welcome to join in the effort. Take Havana to Smith Rd. and go east on Smith Rd. approximately one-half mile until it dead ends at the trailhead. Walkers can cut across Westerly Creek North and walk across the pedestrian bridge to the Sand Creek Greenway trailhead. The group’s activities will be expanded at times to pull weeds, plant trees and beaver-proof trees, as well as pick up trash. Team members determine which activities they will participate in. For more info, contact Lucia Correll at Lcorrell@dotnet.net.

March 6—Denver School of Rock Benefit Concert for Brent’s Place

Come and rock it to the beats of the popular Denver School of Rock Band at 4pm on Sunday, March 6. This family concert will raise funds for very special kids and a place that is essential to their recovery from cancer. Brent’s Place is the only hospital-approved “Safe-Clean” housing facility for immune-compromised patients and their families that bridges the gap between hospital and home. Created by the family of Brent Eley, who were unable to be together during their son’s difficult cancer treatment, families can now stay together in 16 fully furnished apartments near the Anschutz Medical Campus and six apartments at 17th and Marion St. that are free from dander, dust, mold and other infectious agents.

The Twisted Olive in Northfield Stapleton is hosting this important but definitely fun event. Tickets are $8 and kids 5 and under are free. Contact Amy Anderson at berkander-soot@hotmail.com. Learn more about Brent’s Place at www.brentsplace.org and Denver School of Rock at www.schoolofrock.com.

March 11—Free Medical Screenings at D SST

Students from the Anschutz Medical Campus, including SNPhA (Student National Pharmacy Association) and BRANCH (Bridging Research and Aurora Neighborhoods for Community Health), aided by students from the Denver School of Science and Technology (D SST), will provide free health screenings on Friday, March 11 from 1-6pm. The screenings include glucose and cholesterol (recommend 8-hour fast prior for most accurate results, if possible), blood pressure and osteoporosis.

D SST student Humberto Escobedo is interested in health issues important to teens and their families and is organizing presentations to be given by D SST students. Health-related computer touch screen programs will be available for elementary-school students who attend with their families. The event will take place at D SST located at 2000 Valenta Street. For more information contact Monica Evans at Monica.Evans@ucdenver.edu or D SST at 303.320.5570.

March 19—Free Women’s Self-Defense Class at the Police Academy

The Denver Police Department will hold a free women’s self defense class on Saturday, March 19 from 9am to 1pm. The class is for girls and women ages 12 and up (under 18 must have a parent present to sign a waiver for them; waivers can be picked up in advance).

Topics include awareness, attitude and demeanor, understanding predators and psychological aspects of violent encounters plus physiology when confronted with fear-inducing situations. Also included will verbal skills, balance/movement, personal body weapons and defense against chokes and grabs. Participants should wear workout-type clothes and shoes (no slip-on shoes) and bring water. Those physically unable to do the hands-on portion are still welcome to attend.

The class will be held at the Denver Police Academy; 2155 N. Akron Way. Pre-registration is suggested as class size is limited. For more information call Cpl. Richard Stensgaard at 303.370.1517.

I know what you’re thinking!
Local Artists Selected for Watercolor Show

Park Hill artist Nancy Priest shows her painting, Spirit of Competition, that will be on display at the free and open to the public 2011 State Watermedia Show at Foothills Art Center in Golden. The exhibition and sale run from March 18, 2011 to April 17, 2011.

By Carol Robert

Three local artists’ paintings, chosen from over 300 entries, were selected to be in the upcoming 2011 State Watermedia Exhibition. Nancy Priest and Carolyn Martin, both of Park Hill, are the co-chairs of the show. With nationally-acclaimed artist Soon Warren as juror of the show, “Being picked is an honor,” says Priest.

Priest has lived in Park Hill for 44 years and taught drama at George Washington High School for 33 years. In Priest’s years working as a drama teacher at George Washington she produced 133 shows. Among her responsibilities were teaching scenic design and costuming and supervising production of backdrops that were 18 feet by 40 feet. “In comparison,” she says, “a 26 by 30 inch painting, a photo of the Loeffe Carousel in Spokane, Washington, a painting, can be reached at NanEPriest@gmail.com.

Another Park Hill resident, Terrie Cooke, had her painting, Staghorn Wandi, selected for the show. Cooke says she only paints in watercolor and all her paintings are about plants and nature. Staghorn Wandi is a unique tropical plant she found and photographed in Key West, FL.

Cooke was born and raised in northern Colorado and early in life developed a respect for the land and the beauty of nature. She majored in fine art with an emphasis in watercolor at the University of Northern Colorado, but then “got in the way of painting.” Cooke took “a few years off” (18 years to be exact) to raise kids and pursue a career as an administrator in the Denver County Court System. She still maintains that career but at last has time for painting. “Painting is my passion, my stress reliever. It’s what I want to do when I retire. In my paintings I strive for good composition and interesting de- tail.” Her work can be seen at www.terricecooke. fineartworld.com.

Stapleton artist David Gardner was born in the northeast part of England and still has a charming British accent to show his roots, though he moved to the US in 1984 (and lived in Canada prior to that). “I look for design and shapes and use strong color to accuate the design and shapes,” he says. He finds inspiration in everything from old agricultural and farm equipment to mechanical items like scales, but also in Colorado landscapes, such as ranches or old mining buildings in Park County. His painting selected for the Watermedia Exhibition, called Agriculture III, is a bit of an old abandoned thrashing machine he saw along the road.

“I loved painting as a kid, but a decade or two went by that I didn’t paint.” Those decades in his life were devoted to oral pathology. Gardner started out as a dentist, then became a specialist in diseases of the mouth. He has been a professor of Oral Pathology at the University of Colorado Dental School, where he also saw patients and “spent time at the microscope.”

He is a signature member of the Colorado Watercolor Society—to gain that status an artist’s paintings must be chosen for at least three of their shows. His work can be seen at Art and Framing at Stapleton in the 29th Ave. Town Center and online at www.825art.com.

The Colorado Watercolor Society’s 2011 State Watermedia Exhibition will be held at Foothills Art Center, 809 15th St., Golden, from March 19 to April 17. The opening reception is March 18, 6:30 – 8:30pm. Admission is $5 adults/$3 seniors/students and members free. SCFD free day is April 16 from 11am to 2pm. For more information visit FoothillsArtCenter.org.

Don't Suffer. Let us help.

chiropractic • acupuncture • massage therapy

303.355.0363

March 2011

Our Spanish Summer Camp is Here!

Spanish Is Fun summer camp is not a class, it is an unforgettable life experience!

Location in Arvada, Denver Museum Area, Denver Tech Center, Washington Park, Highlands Ranch, Denver West, and Broadcom, Fall and Fall half day available. Register now 303-207-5872 info@spanishisfun.com

For more information about our camps, visit our website: spanishisfun.com

 REGISTER @DDFL.ORG

Stapleton Porch
Altogther Outdoors- Day camp for ages 5-11: $320-$345/week, discounts, flexible payment plans, scholarships available. Stapleton’s only ACA-accredited Camp and partner of PTA AO Camps provides authentic nature-based experiences for children; exploration, choice and play. Campers climb, hike, fish, sing, do team-building, make crafts, and have fun in the natural setting around. Central pick-up/drop-off at Stapleton and Lowry 720-249-2977 www.aocamps.com, info@aocamps.com

Aurora Fox Drama Classes and Camps- for kids ages 4 up, June and July. Participation in the performing arts builds muscles brains and self esteem. Classes include No Fear Shakespeare, Audition Techniques, Broadway Board and more. Contact Lisa Mumpson, Director of Educational Theatre at 303 279-1973 or lisa.mumpson@auroragov.com for more info; visit www.auroragov.com and click on parks and rec, then leisure guide for a detailed listing of classes for more info on the Aurora Fox visit www.aurorafoxscenter.org


Baby Power & Forever Kids Camps- (Quebec Square) 7:30am-5:30pm, ages 3-6, 2:30-5:30pm, ages 3-5. $150/week; $30/2-hour-day-session. Half day/Full day; summer camp & day care. 2828 Quebec St. info@baby-power.com

Bladium Sports Camp- Ages 1-12, May-Aug. 7, Full Day/Full week $220, Half Day/Full week $195. Half-Day camp for ages 3-4:30pm, ages 5-6:30pm; ages 7-8:30pm, ages 9-9:30pm; and ages 10-11:30pm. 1120 Quebec St. 720-337-3855

Colorado Fusion Soccer Club Summer Camps- Day and evening soccer skills camps for boys/girls at Cranmer Park in Denver and Olympic Park in Colorado. 303.770.6696 or terrance_gunnells@ coloradofusion.org

Colorado Heritage Camps, Inc.- Overnight Family Camps, 2 years-old-$85, 3 years-old-$125 per person plus lodging fee. Camps specialize in cultural and family-related experiences for children adopted internationally or transracially, and their families. www.coloradoheritagecamps.org for dates of each of following camps: African/Cambodian; Asian/Chinese, Indian/Nepalese; Filipino; Korean; Latin American; Russian/Eastern European/Central Asian; Vietnamese; 303-320-4324; info@heritagecamps.org. 2011 family camps.


Colorado Rapids Academy Summer Camps- Ages 5-14. www.coloradorespals.com. Academy 303.727.3735 or rapidspals@co.com

Colorado Rockies Summer Day Camps- 7th Annual Denver Rocky Mountain Chess Camps: June 23-27 (Englewood)—full and half-day options — and July 11-13 (Denver) All abilities/ages. 8 Stall student room. Five 2-day chess camps also offered through the summer in Englewood for specific ability levels. Participants taught scorekeeping, etiquette, tournament preparation, logical thinking and strategy planning for all phases of game. 303.770.6696 or www.ColoradoMasterChess.com

Comanche City Recreation Community Summer Camps- Ages 5-15. (2 Commerce City locations) Separate camps for ages 5-10 and 11-15. May 31-June 10 (Englewood) and July 11-13 (Denver). All abilities/ages. 8:1 staff/student ratio. Five 2-day chess camps also offered through the summer in Englewood for specific ability levels. Participants taught scorekeeping, etiquette, tournament preparation, logical thinking and strategy planning for all phases of game. 303.770.6696 or www.ColoradoMasterChess.com

Dance Institute Denver Summer Camp- 2011 Summertime at the First Tee of the Denver metropolitan area. 720-249-2977

Denver Botanic Gardens Camps- Ages 6-15; various sessions through summer. Discover wonders of plant world as you plant, paint, eat, dig and discover your way through the Garden. 1070 York St. 720-863-3580; botanicgardens.org/programs@botanicgardens.org

Denver Swim Camps- Ages 6-18, various sessions through summer. Discover wonders of plant world as you plant, paint, eat, dig and discover your way through the Garden. 1070 York St. 720-863-3580; botanicgardens.org/programs@botanicgardens.org

Dance Institute Summertime at the First Tee- Ages 6-18, various sessions through summer. Discover wonders of plant world as you plant, paint, eat, dig and discover your way through the Garden. 1070 York St. 720-863-3580; botanicgardens.org/programs@botanicgardens.org

Dance Institute Summer Camps- 2011 Summertime at the First Tee of the Denver metropolitan area. 720-249-2977

Dance Institute Summer Camps- Offers fun, educational and affordable dance camps for ages 4 and up. Weekday and evening classes available at www.DanceInstituteDenver.com for complete schedule and pricing. Creating skills and memories that will last a lifetime. 4041 Quebec St. CA & 903-525-001

Darson’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Ad\nemental ener Summer Camps-Big Bear Ice Arena-

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.

Dardano’s School of Gymnastics Adventure Camps- Ages 3-5, years old. Two 4-week sessions begins June 6 and July 11. Mon.-Thur. 9:30am-1:30pm. Puddle walking, climbing, balance, handstands, gymnastics and more. Boys ages 6-12, $195 per week. 2900 Quebec St. 303-355-0080 or www.darson.org.
Community Recreation Summer Day Camp

Denver Zoo Summer Safari 2011: Zooper Meow!-We get kids out of classrooms and onto the wild, as we explore our connections to nature. Uncover environmental challenges that face animals today; take crafts, games, stories, projects, encounters and observations, and cover environmental challenges (French, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese), sports, cultural exploration and creative arts. Register: www.dmcschool.com or 303.340.3647. 

Denver Museum of Nature & Science Camps-Numerous options ranging from week-long to half-day, for ages 4-13. $250, scholarships available. Compete in an "Apprentice Business Week" (June 14-18), learn from business professionals from Denver metro area, stay in real college dorms, meet new friends from all over Colorado. Many unique topics each week. Call 303-749-5018 or visit www.pmizelmuseum.org or mizelmuseum.com. 

Numerous fun and enriching two-week, six-day Camps—Ages 3-9) June 20–24 and July 11–15, $125/week. Times: 9am – 12pm or 1–4pm. In Stapleton’s Quebec Times: 9am – 12pm or 1–4pm. In Stapleton’s Quebec 

Open Air Academy Summer Camps- Six-week camps May 30–August 19. Focus on specific theme (Summer, Performing Arts, Botany/Visual Arts, Architecture and Construction, and Animal Safari) that children will experience through activities, field trips and workshops. $460 for each mini-camp (include all field trip and activity costs). Downtown Denver, 3505 Ringsby Court. Contact Stacey Shields, (303) 296-8300. 

Odyssey Summer Camp -The Odyssey School has partnered with over 10 vendors including A Bright Idea, City Strings Guitar, Denver Writing Projects, Executive Arts, fun and Formations, Movement Madness, Pizzaz Math, Playful Trolls, School of the Poet, City Science Matters, Stan Yan, and Young Rembrandts to offer both half-day and full-day summer camps. Additional programming added for middle school students. Odyssey will also offer its own extended learning programs of Summer Skill and Minds@Work-Click here. 

The Weikel Building Co. 

333 N. High Park Blvd. 
303.240.8255 
info@weikel.com 
Schedule your FREE custom design that stays within your timeline & budget! 

Edward Jones Investments 
3840 E. 21st Ave. 
303-222-7702 
www.edwardjones.com 

Natalie J Robbins 
Financial Advisor 
8500 E 12th Ave. 
303-222-7702 
www.edwardjones.com 

Denny’s Saltapet - A WILDE SMILE 720.945.1234 

Phenomenal Smile Care 
- Board Certified Pediatric Dentist: Jason Wilhite, DDS 
- Preventative focus, giving you education for informed decisions 
- Most insurance & PPOs accepted 
- Payment plans available 

PHENOMENAL SMILE CARE 
- Board Certified Pediatric Dentist: Jason Wilhite, DDS 
- Preventative focus, giving you education for informed decisions 
- Most insurance & PPOs accepted 
- Payment plans available 

2011 Summer 

Retirement May Be Far Off, But the April 18 Deadline for IRA Contributions Isn’t. 

The Weikel Building Co. 

333 N. High Park Blvd. 
303.240.8255 
info@weikel.com 
Schedule your FREE custom design that stays within your timeline & budget! 

Edward Jones Investments 
3840 E. 21st Ave. 
303-222-7702 
www.edwardjones.com 

Natalie J Robbins 
Financial Advisor 
8500 E 12th Ave. 
303-222-7702 
www.edwardjones.com 

Denny’s Saltapet - A WILDE SMILE 720.945.1234 

Phenomenal Smile Care 
- Board Certified Pediatric Dentist: Jason Wilhite, DDS 
- Preventative focus, giving you education for informed decisions 
- Most insurance & PPOs accepted 
- Payment plans available 

PHENOMENAL SMILE CARE 
- Board Certified Pediatric Dentist: Jason Wilhite, DDS 
- Preventative focus, giving you education for informed decisions 
- Most insurance & PPOs accepted 
- Payment plans available 

2011 Summer
Camp Guide


School of the Poetic City: $275, ages 5-14. Art Camp June 6-10 or 13-17 (morning trips to galleries; afternoon puppet-making) Aranations. See the Odyssey School, 6550 E. 21st Ave. Questions: peter@ schoolofthepoeticcity.com; registration C amp June 20–24 (m aking cartoons) at

Spanish is Fun Fiesta C amp—Children ages 4-10 can improve, maintain or practice their Spanish while making preparations for Fiesta Day, an unforgettable experience. Starts in June. spanishatdenver.net or 303-230-0622 or email info@spanishatdenver.net. Closest camps are in Centennial and SE Denver.

Summer at Stanley—Child-centered program offers half/full-day programs for campers entering grades 1-9 and features programs in the arts, sports, science, technology, workshops, theater, swimming and more! Cost per camper: $165/day half-day and $270/week full-day Extended care available at Stanley British Primary School, 350 Quebec St. www.samsammy.org for brochure and registration. 303.360.0803.

Summer in the Parks—Ages 7-12, 6/16-7/29, $450 plus field trip fees for 8-week program, Fri-Sun, 10am-3pm. Quality licensed child care providers offer comprehensive recreational programming including arts & crafts, active games & sports, squashafrica, field trips & special events, all within a park setting. Registration for residents of City and County of Denver begins May 23. More info including park locations: call Community Recreation at 720-865-0800, www.denvergov.org, website or email communitytrec@denvergov.org.

Team Adventures—Ages 13-16, 6/16-7/29 on Thursdays and Fridays. $82 program fee plus $5-10 per week held trip fee. Family-friendly, integrally integrated recreation program targets teens with and without disabilities, a collaborative effort between Community Recreation and the Special Needs Dept. Most field trips begin at 1949 S. Classroom St. with various destinations. Registration for residents of City and County of Denver begins Monday, May 16. More info call Community Recreation at 720-865-0800, or go to www.denvergov.org website or email communitytrec@denvergov.org.

Stapleton Fellowship Church Stapleton Summer Day Camp at Hangar 61 July 26, 27, 28, 1-3:30pm Ages 3 to 3rd grade. www.StapletonChurch.com for details.

Summer at Stanley—Child-centered program offers half/full-day programs for campers entering grades 1-9 and features programs in the arts, sports, science, technology, workshops, theater, swimming and more! Cost per camper: $165/day half-day and $270/week full-day Extended care available at Stanley British Primary School, 350 Quebec St. www.samsammy.org for brochure and registration. 303.360.0803.

Summer in the Parks—Ages 7-12, 6/16-7/29, $450 plus field trip fees for 8-week program, Fri-Sun, 10am-3pm. Quality licensed child care providers offer comprehensive recreational programming including arts & crafts, active games & sports, squashafrica, field trips & special events, all within a park setting. Registration for residents of City and County of Denver begins May 23. More info including park locations: call Community Recreation at 720-865-0800, www.denvergov.org, website or email communitytrec@denvergov.org.

Team Adventures—Ages 13-16, 6/16-7/29 on Thursdays and Fridays. $82 program fee plus $5-10 per week held trip fee. Family-friendly, integrally integrated recreation program targets teens with and without disabilities, a collaborative effort between Community Recreation and the Special Needs Dept. Most field trips begin at 1949 S. Classroom St. with various destinations. Registration for residents of City and County of Denver begins Monday, May 16. More info call Community Recreation at 720-865-0800, or go to www.denvergov.org website or email communitytrec@denvergov.org.

Stapleton Fellowship Church Stapleton Summer Day Camp at Hangar 61 July 26, 27, 28, 1-3:30pm Ages 3 to 3rd grade. www.StapletonChurch.com for details.

Camp Guide

Letter to the Editor

Spending on 17th Ave Parkway

There is an increasing problem with spending on 17th Avenue Parkway, and I am asking for the readership’s help with this matter. Many people do not seem to realize that 17th Avenue Parkway is just another residential street within the South Park Hill neighborhood. 17th Avenue Parkway is not a 2-line highway, and the speed limit clearly supports this distinction with a low 30mph threshold. However, I see gross infractions of the 30 MPH speed limit daily, as cars traveling at high rates of speed flash in front of my home on 17th. Noise levels from increased speeds on the parkway becomes invasive to the 17th Avenue Parkway residents’ homes and can affect home values overall—a topic to which all homeowners are very sensitive.

For those who do not wish to obey the law (Unfortunately, there are always some!), be forewarned: work has begun with the Denver Police Department to increase patrols and radar van enforcement along the Parkway. Moreover, additional and different traffic/speed control devices will likely be requested and stressed within the auspices of Denver Traffic Engineering, given support from other South Park Hill residents.

For all readers who frequent 17th Avenue Parkway: the next time you are tempted to exceed the speed limit, please respect this wonderful historic residential street and remember those who have homes along its beautiful divided roadway.

B. Patton, 17th Avenue Parkway homeowner
SUN Board Announces 2011 Elections

By Andrew Schurger

Are you new to the neighborhood? Have you hoped that more voices from the community would be represented in development decisions? Want to help make Stapleton a better place to live and work? Do you have talents and skills that could be put to good use in planning future development in Stapleton? Are you a current resident who has been looking for an opportunity to get involved with neighborhood issues? If your answer is “yes” to any of these questions, please consider running for a leadership position in the Stapleton United Neighbors Board of Directors.

The first Board of Directors of SUN was elected in the spring of 2004. During the past seven years, much has been accomplished. SUN supports community participation through a block captain network of over 70 community leaders. SUN now hosts regular forums with Forest City representatives and officials from the City to help keep Stapleton residents up to date on the state of our neighborhood. SUN also organizes the annual Block Party Day and the Kickball Tournament to help bring the mission of SUN to life through work in the community by:

- Attending monthly meetings (currently scheduled from 7:30pm on the fourth Monday of each month)
- Serving on or chairing a SUN committee (Transportation, Education, Outreach, Safety, Kickball, Fundraising and Sustainability)
- Serving as a SUN liaison on a Stapleton Citizens’ Advisory Board (CAB) or Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) Board

What is the mission of SUN, and what role does it play in the neighborhood?

The mission of SUN is to work for the betterment of the Stapleton neighborhood and the City and County of Denver by providing: (a) a forum for residents living within the boundaries of SUN to discuss and resolve issues; (b) a network of communication; (c) a means of acting on matters of importance to the community as a whole. Check out the SUN website at www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com for more information.

What are the obligations?

SUN board members are responsible for helping bring the mission of SUN to life through work in the community by:

- Serving on or chairing a SUN committee
- Attending monthly meetings
- Helping SUN be represented in development decisions
- Serving as a SUN liaison to InterNeighbor Cooperation (INC)

Authorizing at least one article per year for the SUN Spot section of the Front Porch
- Attending and helping out with SUN-sponsored community events and forums
- Promoting the work of SUN and the ethos of SUN’s mission in the community.

What is the time commitment involved?

Monthly board meetings typically last an hour and a half to two hours. SUN, CAB and SDC committee meetings are usually once a month and run about an hour and a half and INC meetings are the second Saturday of the month for three hours. Beyond that, keeping up with voice mail, email, other events and meetings can add as little as a few minutes to as many as several hours per week. As a general rule, SUN will involve about 10–15 hours a month of time commitment, and potentially more depending on the calendar of events.

What do I need to do to run for the board?

The application process entails submitting a 200-word statement of interest and bio to Andrew Schurger (aschurger@gmail.com) by April 1, and attending the SUN Forum and Election on May 18. The statement of interest and bio will be posted on SUN’s website at www.StapletonUnitedNeighbors.com.

SUN B oard A nnounces 2011 E lections

Stapleton United Neighbors Board Election FAQs

Since

Q. I’ve heard that 40 acres of “open space” was sold to become part of the interchange. Will that be lost in the overall plan of Stapleton?

A. Title to the approximate 40 acres of Stapleton land required to complete the right-of-way north and south of the existing I-70 corridor for the new Central Park Boulevard interchange was held by the City of Denver’s Department of Aviation. That title was transferred to the City of Denver’s General Fund. It will continue to be counted as part of the 1.116 acres of open space at Stapleton.

Q. What is the plan for the Sand Creek Park and for completing the development of Westerly Creek so that there is a continuous trail from MLK to Sand Creek?

A. The question refers to the North Westerly Creek Park planned at the confluence of Sand Creek and Westerly Creek (also referred to as a “signature park” in the Sand Creek Regional Greenway). Kate Kramer, executive director of The Sand Creek Greenway is working with Denver International Airport, nonprofit stakeholders and the U.S. Environment Protection Agency to evaluate the extent of environmental remediation that would be required before a park can be constructed. The Forest City...
Parks Update

ward. Delays in the environmental survey are being addressed and expected to be resolved soon so the redesign can be completed in the next few months. Construction is still several years away since original funding was used to build Stapleton’s third elementary school. The delay in funding is slowing the development of the park, but it is not expected to change the park’s final amenities.

Martin Luther King Blvd. Extension: The concept for the extension of Martin Luther King Blvd from Iola to Ponta is progressing. The plan for the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Trail along the north side of the existing Havana Way will include a paved pedestrian and bike path and a soft surface equestrian trail, as well as a berm to protect trail users and Bluff Lake from vehicles and traffic noise. When the Environmental Assessment is approved by CDOT, there will be opportunity for the public to voice any concerns about this project. Our parks can only benefit from your interest. If you would like to be involved or keep up on what is happening with our parks and open space, email Lorrilore@dot-net for more information.

Lucia Carroll is a member of the Parks Advisory Group (PAG), a committee of the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) that advocates for parks and open space following the Green Book and Stapleton Parks and Recreation Master Plan goals. The PAG advises the Stapleton Development Corporation (on parks, recreation, and open space matters).

**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.

**Display Advertising**

To place a display ad, please visit ourfrontporchstapleton.com. Choose the link for ADVERTISING, then CLASSIFIEDS and follow the online instructions. The deadline is the 5th of the month for an ad in the next issue. (See our ad on page 6.)
plundered from more than 50 ships when it went down in a storm 500 feet off shore from Cape Cod. The exhibit offers the opportunity to walk through a replica of the Whydah and see some of the treasures recovered from the wreckage.

By Carol Roberts

Real Pirates weaves a story as compelling as any fiction! In the early 1700s Sam Bellamy was a young sailor from a poor family in love with a young woman whose parents wouldn’t allow her to marry him. So he went off to find sunken ships, but then turned to a more lucrative job—piracy. A common trait among pirates was that they had little to lose—many had been slaves. As part of a pirate crew they got to share in the decision making as well as the loot.

At about the same time a fast, armed, well-constructed new ship called the Whydah was being built in London to bring captives from the west coast of Africa to sugar plantations in the Caribbean. National Geographic and the exhibition companies brought in historians to show the interrelationship between piracy and the slave trade. Exhibit visitors learn about the small, hot, foul spaces the slaves were forced into, where many died from disease, poor diet or hunger on the 8-12 week journey. For the Denver exhibit, a local advisory panel of community leaders and educators was formed to give advice on how to communicate with the public on the sensitive topic of slavery. After the ship dropped the captives, it took on a cargo of sugar and tobacco and likely was carrying jewelry, elephant tusks and other commodities from Africa. In the early 1700s, the Caribbean was a trading center with numerous cargo ships passing through, including firearms and liquor from Europe and gold and silver from Spanish mines in Peru. It was in this setting that Sam Bellamy became a successful pirate and captured the Whydah in 1717. The ship contained booty plundered from more than 50 ships when it went down in a storm 500 feet off shore from Cape Cod.

The exhibit offers the opportunity to walk through a replica ship, touch some of the loot, and see what life was like for the pirates on board the ship. You’ll also learn about Barry Clifford, who discovered the wreckage. As a child he heard stories of a pirate ship that had sunk near Cape Cod—and he grew up to discover the only pirate ship ever found in U.S. waters. A section of the exhibit describes the processes used to recover the artifacts, which are still being brought up from the ocean floor.
By Carol Roberts

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) has one of the nation’s most comprehensive collections of American Indian art, including 18,000 artworks that span 2,000 years of art. The museum temporarily closed the collection, renovated and recently reopened it. The “new” American Indian art collection focuses on Native American objects as art, rather than artifacts, and focuses on individual artists and how their creations reflect their evolving cultures. And visitors can watch a video called Meet the Artists.

Curator Nancy Blomberg says they are posing the question, “What is American Indian art? The stereotype is, it has to be old, it has to be made of traditional materials (whatever those are), you have to learn from your grandmother, and it’s no longer being made. We’re trying to expand people’s notion of what constitutes American Indian art.”

Teacher of Native Arts for the museum, Heather Nielsen, points out, “We are trying to involve people in the conversation, knowing that there really is no answer... and there are many, many different perspectives. People can ask themselves these questions as they explore?”

Blomberg tells a story about Oscar Howe, a famous Sioux artist who worked in the 1950 and ’60s. He created his own style—a very cubist style. He entered the paintings in a contest for an exhibit of American Art and they were rejected because they weren’t considered “Indian enough.” He then wrote a protest letter that is shown along with his painting. “Are we to be treated like children and only the white man knows what’s best for him?,” he writes. “I’m not going to stand for it. I only hope the art world will not be one more contributor to holding us in chains.”

Blomberg went on to say that a year later Fritz Scholder also entered his painting in the contest and it was rejected. He then demanded to be a judge the next year— and he was.

The “dolls” such as the photo shown of Maternal Journey are done in intricate beadwork, quillwork, painted leather and other techniques. Rhonda Holy Bear, a doll artist, described how she came to make the authentic pieces. “I was pretty poor when I grew up. There wasn’t a bead in my house. When I got older I started doing research because we had lost so much of our culture going to boarding school. They were trying to get us to transition into the main culture and forget about our culture. So when I got older I lived in Chicago and went to the Field Museum. What unifies the dolls is that they are very researched.”

Live artist talks and demonstrations along with interactive technology, videos and hands-on activities help visitors understand and appreciate the artistic process behind many of the pieces.

By Carol Roberts

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) has one of the nation’s most comprehensive collections of American Indian art, including 18,000 artworks that span 2,000 years of art. The museum temporarily closed the collection, renovated and recently reopened it. The “new” American Indian art collection focuses on Native American objects as art, rather than artifacts, and focuses on individual artists and how their creations reflect their evolving cultures. And visitors can watch a video called Meet the Artists.

Curator Nancy Blomberg says they are posing the question, “What is American Indian art? The stereotype is, it has to be old, it has to be made of traditional materials (whatever those are), you have to learn from your grandmother, and it’s no longer being made. We’re trying to expand people’s notion of what constitutes American Indian art.”

Teacher of Native Arts for the museum, Heather Nielsen, points out, “We are trying to involve people in the conversation, knowing that there really is no answer... and there are many, many different perspectives. People can ask themselves these questions as they explore?”

Blomberg tells a story about Oscar Howe, a famous Sioux artist who worked in the 1950 and ’60s. He created his own style—a very cubist style. He entered the paintings in a contest for an exhibit of American Art and they were rejected because they weren’t considered “Indian enough.” He then wrote a protest letter that is shown along with his painting. “Are we to be treated like children and only the white man knows what’s best for him?,” he writes. “I’m not going to stand for it. I only hope the art world will not be one more contributor to holding us in chains.”

Blomberg went on to say that a year later Fritz Scholder also entered his painting in the contest and it was rejected. He then demanded to be a judge the next year— and he was.

The “dolls” such as the photo shown of Maternal Journey are done in intricate beadwork, quillwork, painted leather and other techniques. Rhonda Holy Bear, a doll artist, described how she came to make the authentic pieces. “I was pretty poor when I grew up. There wasn’t a bead in my house. When I got older I started doing research because we had lost so much of our culture going to boarding school. They were trying to get us to transition into the main culture and forget about our culture. So when I got older I lived in Chicago and went to the Field Museum. What unifies the dolls is that they are very researched.”

Live artist talks and demonstrations along with interactive technology, videos and hands-on activities help visitors understand and appreciate the artistic process behind many of the pieces.

By Carol Roberts

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) has one of the nation’s most comprehensive collections of American Indian art, including 18,000 artworks that span 2,000 years of art. The museum temporarily closed the collection, renovated and recently reopened it. The “new” American Indian art collection focuses on Native American objects as art, rather than artifacts, and focuses on individual artists and how their creations reflect their evolving cultures. And visitors can watch a video called Meet the Artists.

Curator Nancy Blomberg says they are posing the question, “What is American Indian art? The stereotype is, it has to be old, it has to be made of traditional materials (whatever those are), you have to learn from your grandmother, and it’s no longer being made. We’re trying to expand people’s notion of what constitutes American Indian art.”

Teacher of Native Arts for the museum, Heather Nielsen, points out, “We are trying to involve people in the conversation, knowing that there really is no answer... and there are many, many different perspectives. People can ask themselves these questions as they explore?”

Blomberg tells a story about Oscar Howe, a famous Sioux artist who worked in the 1950 and ’60s. He created his own style—a very cubist style. He entered the paintings in a contest for an exhibit of American Art and they were rejected because they weren’t considered “Indian enough.” He then wrote a protest letter that is shown along with his painting. “Are we to be treated like children and only the white man knows what’s best for him?,” he writes. “I’m not going to stand for it. I only hope the art world will not be one more contributor to holding us in chains.”

Blomberg went on to say that a year later Fritz Scholder also entered his painting in the contest and it was rejected. He then demanded to be a judge the next year— and he was.

The “dolls” such as the photo shown of Maternal Journey are done in intricate beadwork, quillwork, painted leather and other techniques. Rhonda Holy Bear, a doll artist, described how she came to make the authentic pieces. “I was pretty poor when I grew up. There wasn’t a bead in my house. When I got older I started doing research because we had lost so much of our culture going to boarding school. They were trying to get us to transition into the main culture and forget about our culture. So when I got older I lived in Chicago and went to the Field Museum. What unifies the dolls is that they are very researched.”

Live artist talks and demonstrations along with interactive technology, videos and hands-on activities help visitors understand and appreciate the artistic process behind many of the pieces.
“We had always dreamed of owning a condo in the mountains as a retreat for our family. After looking for several years, we found Base Camp One at Granby Ranch. It is truly everything we hoped for -- a ski-in ski-out condo with great fishing, hiking, golfing, and easy access to Winter Park and Grand Lake. It is a wonderful family-friendly community that is truly a retreat from the city. What made it perfect was that it was finally something we could afford.”

Eric Eisenman, Stapleton Resident and new Base Camp One Homeowner

1-970-887-5250 | BaseCampLiving.com | LISTED BY THE GRANEY RANCH GROUP

This is not intended to be an offering or solicitation for sale in any jurisdiction where the project is not registered in accordance with applicable law or where such offering or solicitation would otherwise be prohibited by law. Offer applicable to select residences only. Obtain the property report required by Federal Law and read it before signing anything. No federal agency has judged the merit or value, if any, of this property.

Rebate Offers up to $300 Per Unit NO Maximum expires April 30th
Free Upgrade to UltraGlide Lifting System on Select Hunter Douglas Products expires March 31st

Call Today for a FREE in-home estimate

TAX SALE
10% OFF ALL HUNTER DOUGLAS PRODUCTS March ONLY

Stop by our NEW Gallery Showroom! located just off I-70 at Havana
303-534-5454 www.rockymountainshutters.com

Rocky Mountain Shutters & Shades
HunterDouglasGallery