By John Babick

Driving streets of Denver’s Montbello neighborhood Industrial Park one sees countless non-descript prefabricated one and two-story buildings. Signage of all styles reflects the names of hundreds of companies. Some are recognizable Fortune 500 companies, while others leave you wondering what is the nature of the business being conducted behind the tall exterior walls.

One of these is Gibson Athletic, located on quiet Lima Street in the middle of the park. While it may not be a name brand to most, it is held in high regard by competitive athletes, and is known around the globe as one of the company which currently has over 40 employees. Tamara manages marketing and finance while Brian is in charge of product development, manufacturing and operations.

Gibson Athletic equipment, used throughout the world for ballet, gymnastics, fitness and children’s therapy is made in northeast Denver. Gibson Athletic equipment, used throughout the world for ballet, gymnastics, fitness and children’s therapy is made in northeast Denver.

By John Babick

SDC Votes to Take Affordable Housing Issue to City

In an important and emotional meeting on January 26, the Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) voted to communicate to the City and County of Denver that Forest City is not on pace to meet its requirement that 10% of all for-sale homes in Stapleton be affordable housing. At this time only 5.6% of for-sale units in Stapleton are affordable housing.

Michael Kearns, a member of the SDC Board, presented the findings of a committee (Kearns along with Justin Ross and Stephen Miller) on the current state of the Affordable Housing Program in Stapleton. The report stated, “Frustrations within CAB and Housing Diversity had gotten so bad that they had jointly requested that SDC suspend future land sales to Forest.

By Carol Roberts

Locally Made Sports Equipment Used Worldwide

Gibson Athletic equipment, used throughout the world for ballet, gymnastics, fitness and children’s therapy is made in northeast Denver. Gibson Athletic equipment, used throughout the world for ballet, gymnastics, fitness and children’s therapy is made in northeast Denver.

By Carol Roberts

By Jon Meredith

By Jon Meredith

City Librarian Shirley Amore says her staff has been instrumental in the design of all the new facilities. “Libraries have always evolved to keep up with the times. Modern libraries are...”

Like us at Front Porch Newspaper

Printed with soy-based ink. Paper contains 40% postconsumer waste.
The Stapleton Front Porch is published by Stapleton Front Porch, LLC, 2566 Syraneau St., Denver, CO 80238. 33,000 papers are printed. The free paper is distributed during the first week of each month to homes and businesses in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, Hale and East Colfax.

What is your Community DNA? This month we would like to challenge the community to remember to show their gratitude when something is done well. It is common for the disgruntled to express their opinion; however, those who are satisfied say nothing. We want to challenge you to let a teacher, instructor, waiter or staff person know when you appreciate something.

If you are at the Rec Center and the staff greets you with a smile, let them know you appreciate it! If you take a class and the instructor does a great job, let them know! If you order at one of the restaurants and they do a good job, acknowledge it! Let’s make it a point this month to comment on the little things we appreciate, but often take for granted. This will help to offset the 10 percent who complain about everything.

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 Soviet Union: The Road After Collapse

What was known as the Soviet Union dissolved in December 1991. Join Active Minds as we explore the history of the Soviet Union as well as the causes of its failure. In addition, we will discuss the continued relevance of the Russian Federation, the influence of Vladimir Putin, and ongoing challenges to democracy in the region.

The seminar begins at 7pm on Thursday, Feb. 9 in the Stapleton MCA Community Room located behind King Soopers at 2823 Roslyn St. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit www.ActiveMindsFordLife.com.

2012 Stapleton Swim Team

It is that time of year to prepare for the upcoming swim season. It’s hard to believe the summer will be here before we know it. We will be holding a parent information meeting on Tuesday, March 6, at the Central Park Rec Center from 6-7pm. We will provide details of our upcoming season and the registration process at this meeting.

We will have three registration dates this year. For all returning swimmers, registration begins at noon on March 8. For all new resident swimmers, registration will begin at noon on March 15, and for all nonresident swimmers, registration will begin at noon on April 1. If you have any questions, please email pools@stapletoncommunity.com.

2012 Summer Movies

Well, planning is underway for the summer outdoor movie season. If you have suggestions for movies you would like to see on The Green this summer, email them to events@stapletoncommunity.com.

SAVE THE DATE—Saturday Night Live... for kids only!
The Stapleton MCA and Central Park Recreation Center are partnering during 5280’s Restaurant Week. Drop your child off at the Rec Center and go grab dinner. The event is from 6-9pm on Saturday, February 25 and Saturday, March 3 “Saturday Night Live” is designed for all children ages 7-12. The cost is $10 per child per night. There will be a variety of fun activities including access to the swimming pool! For more information, go to www.stapletoncommunity.com or email events@stapletoncommunity.com.

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

Diane Deeter
Director of Programming and Events
FALL HEAD OVER HEELS...

..at Northfield Stapleton.

Come cozy up to a delicious dinner and a romantic comedy or simply stroll through Main Street and browse for the perfect gift that says “Be Mine”. Make your date night even easier by taking the new Central Park Blvd. exit off I-70.

Fall in love with over 60 specialty shops and restaurants:
Texas de Brazil • Macy’s • La Sandia Tequila Cantina • JCPenney • Ling & Louie’s • Improv Comedy Club • Harkins Theatres 18

Check out our NEW Mini Sessions!

KAREN RUBIN
childhood revolving

www.karenrubin.com 303.755.5501

LING & LOUIE’S
ASIAN BAR AND GRILL

15% off Your food bill. Expires 2/20/12

Daily Happy Hour 3:30–6:30pm
Northfield Mall • 303.371.4644

Adopt a new friend at the Dumb Friends League adoption center at Northfield Stapleton.

8316 Northfield Blvd., Suite 1660, Denver, CO 80230 | ddfl.org

ERGO
AVEDA
Salon & Spa

$30 Off
Cut AND Color

Call 303-373-5455 for an appointment
First time clients only. Offer good through 2/29/12.

Stapleton Front Porch
Food Bank Supports Projects
Feeding From Ten to Thousands

On Friday mornings, volunteers at Westerly Creek School fill backpacks with food for students who, without breakfast and lunches at school, might lack enough nutritious food over the weekends. Boone Moskowitz, 4 (front) and Gina Belich (left) place food in a pack as Willa, 7, and Maisie Moskowitz, 9, JoNell Herndon and Emilie Vivian pause to watch. Boone and Willa recently had birthday parties at which they asked their guests to bring food for the Westerly Creek Food Pantry.

By Carol Roberts

"People should never feel bad about asking where to get help. I know there are a lot of folks out there that are newly unemployed that have never been in this situation before and we definitely want them to get help and not be hungry and struggling," says Jamie Gianotoss of the Food Bank of the Rockies.

Westerly Creek Elementary school parent JoNell Herndon echoes Gianotoss’ sentiment. “Everyone needs help at different times. I know of single moms whose husband left or families who suddenly have no job. More families are struggling than people realize. It’s super cool to have a way to help people in our community at those times.”

Herndon suggested at a PTA meeting that the school start a food pantry to be sure every student can thrive—and volunteers, including Jen Seward and Ann Margaret Donnelly Williams stepped up to help make it happen.

With $375 in seed funding donated by local businesses, backpacks donated by Wal-Mart and weekly bagels donated by Einsteins, the program got off the ground quickly.

Herndon says donations have come in from a wide range of

(continued on page 9)
The Congresswoman
Rep. Diana DeGette on Why Congress Is So Dysfunctional

Editors Note: This interview with Congresswoman DeGette is the first in a series by the Front Porch with individuals we believe will be of interest to our readers.

Jon Meredith: Congress now has an approval rating of about 10 percent. Is that good or bad and do the legislators care?

Congresswoman DeGette: Well, it certainly isn’t a good thing. We have serious issues which legislators really do care about. Institutionally there are serious problems and we have to improve the comity Congress. There has to be a real willingness on both sides to compromise on important issues. This year is the worst I have ever seen with the 87 new Tea Party Republicans who will not find middle ground. Voters need to vote for people who work to get things done.

JM: Is this the way the Founding Fathers envisioned the legislative branch?

DeGette: The Founders said that the House is hot tea and the Senate is the sauce to cool it off. The rampant use of the cloture rule has slowed all Senate business to a standstill. The Senate’s rules need to be changed so that key legislative issues can pass with 50 plus 1 votes.

JM: Is the Norquist tax pledge that Republicans have signed a big part of the problem because any Republican who raises taxes will be primaried out?

DeGette: The Norquist Pledge is part of the problem. Eighty-seven Tea Party members have an absolutist view on every issue. When Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) is worried about a primary, the Tea Party has gone too far.

JM: Should there be term limits so that legislators will not be so tied into getting re-elected every two years?

DeGette: We have term limits; they are called elections. Voters need to look closely at their representative’s record and be sure they can in fact work in a bipartisan manner.

JM: What would help Congress get things done?

DeGette: It is important for members to socialize and get to know one another. It used to be that members would stay in Washington on the weekends and get together socially. That was when most members were men. Now there are many women members who want to be with their families on weekends and male members often have wives who work in their districts. We need the opportunity to get to know each other as individuals. The Tea Party members would sit together and never interact with other members, even Republicans, when they first came in.

JM: Is spending by third-party groups in the recent presidential primaries a sign of what is to come during the 2012 election and how do these advertisements affect elections?

DeGette: Ever since the Citizens United decision, Congress has been concerned about huge corporate and wealthy individual donations. Millions were spent recently in Iowa to bring candidates down. We need to pass a bill where disclosure is required so people know where the money for the ad came from.

JM: How difficult a job is Speaker of the House?

DeGette: It is the most difficult job in Washington. Speaker Boehner has to deal with 78 ideologically, logistically, and impossible.

JM: What exactly does a Whip do?

DeGette: A whip counts votes to ensure that when legislation comes to the floor there are enough votes to pass it. I have to make sure there are 218 votes to pass or defeat legislation. The Tea Party caucus put Speaker Boehner in a horrible position prior to the holiday recess by refusing to pass the Senate bill to keep the Social Security payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits. Other Republican members did not want to go home and face constituents after increasing taxes and ending unemployment benefits at Christmas time.

JM: Who is your best friend on the Republican side? Why and how did you get to know them?

DeGette: My closest Republican friend is Jo Ann Emerson of Missouri. We both have been in the House for almost the same amount of time. The women in the House try and get together for dinner a few times a year and that is how I got to know Jo Ann.

JM: What changes are necessary to make Congress more functional?

DeGette: There need to be more mothers in Congress. Moms have a way of getting things done by consensus.

JM: Do you play much golf with the Speaker?

DeGette: When I was first elected my children were 2 and 6. Now they are 18 and 22. There hasn’t been a lot of time for golf.

JM: What will you do after Congress?

DeGette: I would like to become a chef or be a professional musician.

Congresswoman DeGette won a Congressional cook-off last year. The recipe that won, Adobe Chicken Tostadas con Crema, is on the Front Porch website.

Get comfortable in the neighborhood.

New Perspective Real Estate

Since 2005, agents at New Perspective Real Estate have helped more than 150 families get comfortable in Stapleton. Let us help you with your buying, selling, or property management needs in 2012.

Jody E. Dealey Broker/CEO
Jaryd Takushi
Urban Market Advisor
Melinda S. Howlett Realtor®
Susan Y. Ingle Realtor®
Leasing/Property Management
Dannelle L. Morgan Realtor®

New Perspective Real Estate
2330 Central Park Boulevard
Denver CO 80238
303-394-4526
www.NPERe.com

npre

Stapleton Front Porch
February 2012

5
By Carol Roberts

The landscape architecture and design firm Civitas, hired by Stapleton Developer Forest City, unveiled their preliminary ideas for the parks in Stapleton north of I-70 at a community meeting on January 25. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and offer input. Most of the park area shown on the map is trunk park that will be maintained by Denver Parks. The darker colors represent higher intensity use. The east-west area marked above as first phase development is proposed as a higher intensity area for informal sports, picnics and gatherings for the adjoining homes. It is 1/3 wider than the 29th Ave. Parkway. The colors also convey the idea that landscaping will be designed in a way that offers visual variety as walkers or bicyclists move through the area on paths that will rise and fall with variations in the topography. The north-south section marked as first phase on the west side of the map is an example of this. Portions of the parks are designed for drainage during heavy rains, with some detention ponds that may hold water for temporary periods but would generally be dry and expected to be home to local wildlife.

Stapleton Parks North of I-70

Stapleton Parks
274 acres north of I-70
50 acres, phase 1 park area
(red dashed line)
Phase 1 construction starts Aug. 2012 and will be completed Aug. 2013

300 acres south of I-70
75 acres, Greenway Park
30 acres, Central Park
30 acres, Fred Thomas Park
10 acres, Recreation Center
105 acres, Westerly Creek (Montview to Sand Creek)

Although most of the green area is trunk park, the area directly north of Macy’s is an in-tract park that may have uses similar to Founder’s Green in the 29th Avenue Town Center.

Ovarian Cysts
by Valerie B. Ginsburg, MD

Stapleton OB-GYN
303-403-6153
Open: Mon. & Tues. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

What are ovarian cysts?
Ovarian cysts are fluid-filled sacs that can form in the ovaries. They are very common, particularly during the childbearing years.

What are the symptoms of ovarian cysts?
Often, the cysts don’t cause any symptoms. You may not realize you have one until a routine pelvic exam. Ovarian cysts can, though, cause problems if they twist, bleed or rupture. If you have any of the symptoms below, it’s important to have them checked out, because they can also be symptoms of ovarian tumors:
• Pressure, swelling or pain in the abdomen
• Pain during sex
• Pain in the pelvic area
• Pelvic pain

Can cysts be prevented?
No, unfortunately, cysts cannot be prevented. Fortunately, most cysts do not cause symptoms, are not cancerous and often go away on their own. However, you should consult with your doctor if you notice any of the following:
• Changes in your period
• Pain in the pelvic area
• Pelvic pressure or in the abdomen or pelvic area

How are they treated?
Most functional ovarian cysts will disappear without treatment. Your doctor may schedule a second pelvic exam in one to three months to see if the cyst has changed size. If the cyst has not disappeared after several menstrual cycles, gets larger or causes pain, your doctor may suggest surgically removing the cyst.
Another option is to take birth control pills, which can prevent ovulation. This may prevent new cysts from forming.

If you would like to make an appointment with Dr. Ginsburg, please contact the Stapleton OB-GYN office directly.
Senator Michael Bennet came to New Town Builder’s net zero home in Stapleton for a press conference to explain how his proposed SAVE Act would make such a home more affordable. SAVE stands for Sensible Accounting to Value Energy. Under the SAVE Act, federal mortgage loan agencies would consider a homeowner’s expected energy costs when determining the homeowner’s ability to make monthly mortgage payments.

Simply put, if energy-saving features built into a home save a homeowner $100 a month on utility bills, for example, mortgage lenders would be allowed to consider that $100 as money the homeowner would have to put toward a mortgage. Bennet says it would lead to more complete and accurate mortgage underwriting, encourage investments in home energy improvements, and create more than 80,000 jobs.

The bill is a bipartisan effort sponsored by Colorado’s Democratic Senator Michael Bennet and Georgia’s Republican Senator Johnny Isakson. Isakson, who has 30 years experience in the residential real estate industry, states he supports the bill “because it has the potential to create jobs without any cost to taxpayers, and it will also improve mortgage underwriting in this country by including energy as a factor in the process.”

Bennet says of the SAVE Bill, “It’s very, very simple. It all says is that people who lend money for projects like this can calculate in the cost of that borrowing the energy savings that are produced. Right now, home lenders are precluded from including energy costs in their calculations, which means there’s not an incentive (continued on page 9)
New Dog Park in Lowry

A new, first of its kind, five-acre dog park opened in Lowry in December. The dog park has three distinct fenced areas including a high-energy play area, a low-energy play area, and an agility area, which is set to open once native grasses have been established and agility equipment has been installed in approximately two years.

The dog park has a four-foot high fence around the perimeter, two shade structures with benches, old recycled fire hydrants and rolling hills. The surface is a mixture of squeegee and sand, providing a soft play surface for the dogs that is made to drain well and keep the park mud free. It is located adjacent to 16 acres of open space.

This project was paid for with tax increment financing in a partnership between Denver Parks and Recreation and the Lowry Redevelopment Authority.

The park is just south of the traffic circle at Lowry Blvd. and Yosemite Street (near Big Bear ice rink). From the traffic circle go south on Yosemite Way, turn right (west) on Sports Blvd., and park along Sports Blvd. The path to the dog park heads south from Sports Blvd. starting where it crosses Westerly Creek. Visitors are asked to stay on the path when walking to the enclosed area and stay off the dam. The open space native grasses are not yet established.

Information courtesy of Denver Parks and Recreation.

Left: The Westerly Creek Dam is visible just south of the dog park.
Lower left: The dog park uses old fire hydrants as traditional “doggie decor.”
Bennet Bill

(continued from page 7) for a lot of home buyers who would like to be in energy efficient homes. What this will allow people to do is put the fixed costs at the beginning to be able to afford to get into a place that’s energy efficient. It’s going to be a long time before the housing market comes back. But there’s going to be a lot of retrofitting to existing real estate that would put people back to work, cost the federal government and the taxpayer absolutely nothing, and generate job growth in Colorado and across the United States.”

Gene Myers, President of New Town Builders, explains that new homes get a HERS rating (Home Energy Rating System) by a government-sanctioned independent third party to quantify the energy savings of the home. Under Sen. Bennet’s proposed bill, the traditional PITI (principal, interest, taxes and insurance) formula used by mortgage lenders could be expanded to add an energy (E) factor to the formula. Myers used the following example to show how the bill would enable home buyers to qualify for a more expensive zero energy home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Typical home</th>
<th>Zero energy home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase price</td>
<td>$368,500</td>
<td>$424,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal and interest*</td>
<td>$1,407</td>
<td>$1,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$305</td>
<td>$354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy cost from HERS Rating</td>
<td>$260</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Monthly Ownership Cost</td>
<td>$2,047</td>
<td>$2,049</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on a 4% interest rate 30-year fixed first mortgage for 80% loan.

Food Bank

(continued from page 4) sources. A grandparent, who at one point in life had relied on a food bank, donated $100. Cassie Moskovitz’ three children Maisey, Wills and Boone, have chosen to have birthday parties where their guests bring donations to a non-profit organization. Wills and Boone recently had parties and donated four large boxes of food to the Westerly Creek Food Pantry. “We’re a lucky family,” says Cassie. “We don’t need anything. When we started talking about how they could use their birthdays to do some good in the world, this was something they were really excited about.”

Another source of food is having individuals and groups volunteer at the Food Bank to earn credits for a member agency. Each three hours worked earns a credit and each credit is worth 20 pounds of food. Volunteers need to give the name of the organization when they sign up. Children need to be at least 14 and under 16 need to be with an adult.

The Food Bank’s program allows non-profit organizations to become member agencies, which allows them to obtain food at a fraction of the cost of buying at the grocery store. Although the Food Bank works with 11,000 agencies and provides over 84,000 meals a day, they also allow 1,000 agencies to obtain four meals or five pounds of food. A non-profit organization interested in becoming a member agency should call Cindy Mitchell at 303-371-9250 x 250. People in need of food can visit FoodBankRockies.org/findhelp and enter their zipcode to find the nearest food pantry.

The food can’t be sold and it can’t be required that someone feed the people that come and need it.” Agencies can go online and select the products they want and the food bank pulls the order and has it ready for them; the produce and bread selection varies so agencies select those when they pick up their food.

With a $1 donation, the Food Bank can provide four meals or five pounds of food. A non-profit organization interested in becoming a member agency should call Cindy Mitchell at 303-371-9250 x 250. People in need of food can visit FoodBankRockies.org/findhelp and enter their zipcode to find the nearest food pantry.

PITI + E Comparison

303.446.4892  •  denvercenter.org/education

Swing, Wine and a Good Time

Happening At The Berk’

Super Bowl Party at The Berk'
Come watch the big game on the big screen! Enjoy drink specials from 4-7 and 50 cent wings during the game!

Celebrate Valentines day at The Berk'
Lover’s Entree, Appetizer and Dessert Specials all night long on February 14th

5280 Restaurant Week
February 25th - March 9th
2 people, 3 courses, $52.80!
How can you miss it?

Berkshire Brunch
Come brunch with us at Denver’s premiere Bacon restaurant. Bottomless Mimosas for $8.50!

7352 E. 29th Ave.  •  www.TheBerkshireRestaurant.com  •  p: 303 321.4010

Denver Center Theatre Academy
Get into the Act!

Spring & Summer acting classes
Now Enrolling!

Theatre Days • March 26 – 30
Single day acting classes during spring break

303.446.4892  •  denvercenter.org/education

January 2012 Stapleton Front Porch

Visit FoodBankRockies.org/findhelp and enter their zipcode to find the nearest food pantry.
Baby Blues? You Are Not Alone!

Hormones of pregnancy and child birth can drive imbalances, especially when a second child is born within 2-3 years of the first. Regaining balance for you and your family is easier and safer than you think. Medication-free solutions to ensure continued nursing while regaining balance. Don’t waste one more good day, suffering.

Postpartum meet-up with Dr. Daennel and hosted by Naturally Loved

Come share, support and get ideas on how to make this important time everything it can be.

Thursday, February 16th 5-7 pm
Space is limited. Please call 303.399.8050 to RSVP

Western Creek Park

Editor’s Note: Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) submitted to the Front Porch a letter and position paper on the completion of the Western Creek North Park. They also made a statement at the North Stapleton Parks Meeting on Jan. 25 and at the SDCC meeting on Jan. 26 (see story above). SUN’s concerns and Forest City’s response are summarized below.

SUN Statement Summary

SUN strongly supports the development of the Western Creek North Park without any further delay.

Missing Link—Without that park, Stapleton’s planned system of trails and parks will remain unfinished, and thousands of residents will be left without safe and practical access to Sand Creek and its trail system.

An Unfulfilled Commitment—From the beginning of Stapleton redevelopment, potential home buyers were sold on promises of an extended system of walkable green space and parks.

A Safety Risk—The area has high, steep, and unstable banks, considerable airport construction debris, including extensive large concrete rubble, rusty wire and rebar, and discarded lumber.

Forest City Response Summary

The land where the North Westernly Creek “signature park” is to be located along the Sand Creek Greenway is not yet available for development because Denver International Airport, which still owns the land, must first conduct an environmental investigation to determine if contamination exists and what it may take to remediate that area before a park can be built. Forest City pledged to make a $5.4 million contribution to the cost of constructing that park, but that money was redirected to fund the Sweets-McAuliffe International School (SMIS), which was urgently needed to accommodate Stapleton’s rapidly growing population of young families.

The full SUN position paper and response from Forest City are posted at www.frontporchstapleton.com.
go back to reports of 2007 and 2008, we were very much closer to the 10% goal. Right now it’s very difficult to make it work. I don’t know of anyone in the city that makes this program work today. It’s not because we haven’t tried. We can’t sell houses with some of the constraints in the program.

“We welcome the opportunity to work together to figure out what’s the right solution, because we don’t have it by ourselves. That is paramount to moving this issue forward. And we are as committed as ever, and that’s why we continue to hold our land for future for sale programs to make sure we haven’t missed that opportunity. I know we’ve debated this time and time again, but I think the best thing is to move forward as John (Moye) and Happy (Haynes) have put forth in the motion. Let’s get everybody together and let’s figure it out. Let’s do it with the people who can control the answer, and then we can go see if we have any other partners to bring in. I am fully on board with that approach.”

Above: SDC votes to have Forest City meet jointly with the city and SDC to address the issue of reaching affordable housing goals.

Above left: John Lehigh, President, Forest City Stapleton, says he supports the motion to meet with the city about the affordable housing program.

Left: SDC Board Chairman King Harris listens as Michael Kearns presents a committee report on contract terms regarding affordable housing.

“Do I want to stop development in my neighborhood? Absolutely not. It doesn’t bode well for my business. It doesn’t bode well for anyone. But I think it’s time to put the ball in Forest City’s park and make them do something about it. We’ve been complaining and talking about this for a very long time and the only response we get is, ‘Yes we want to, but the process is broken.’ I feel like their drive is much more focused on single-family residences. When there’s a bump in the road with single family, we clear it really fast. But this affordable housing bump, not so much.

“We want to know that you (Forest City) are working in that direction. The last thing we want to do is be here 20 years from now, still sitting at 5.6% and you’ve built your 12,000 homes. Do you know that this is happening, that we’re failing the contract? What can we do about it?”

John Lehigh, president, Forest City Stapleton, spoke at the SDC meeting about the motion to meet with the city regarding affordable housing:

“We worked painstakingly to come up with the (affordable) plan we arrived at. We did that before the city had an inclusionary zoning plan. What we put in there we all believed in. We still do. And I will tell you that I welcome the opportunity to have a dialogue between the city and the board and ourselves about how we can figure out a way to make something work. Today the program that’s in place on (affordable) for-sale simply isn’t working. It worked when the market was going like this (up). If you
Opinion Versus Fact

Fishwrap has been an outlet for me to spout whatever comes to mind over the last few years. The good people at the Front Porch never tell me what to write and, for the most part, they publish whatever I do write (and they are still in business). But when I write news articles for the paper, I seem to have difficulty separating my opinion from the facts surrounding the issue I am covering.

Just like Jack Webb of Dragnet fame, my editor sends me out to cover a political or educational issue and says, “Remember, just the facts, Jon.” Invariably, I submit an article I believe is worthy of a Pulitzer only to have it returned in a subsequent email with enough corrections to get any high school freshman an F for the assignment.

I have a difficult time separating my opinion from the facts—the simple who, what and when of events. Is it that I am stubborn and headstrong, partly (my wife would say for sure), or is it that we live in an age where it is difficult to separate fact from opinion?

When Dragnet was airing, Walter Cronkite would come on the evening news and give us a half-hour wrap of the day’s news followed by a statement saying, “And that’s the news on the evening news and give us a half-hour wrap of the evening news.”

Finally, the radio dial, which is nonstop blathering strictly for entertainment purposes, is opinions or entirely fiction and certainly are not fact.

More than ever before, we will be inundated with advertisements which will espouse a defamatory version of one side’s candidate with an unrealistically positive version of their own. Almost all Americans disdain the amount of money there is in politics. If you feel this way, don’t listen to ourselves and realize the commercials aired by PACs are opinions or entirely fiction and certainly are not fact.

Walter Cronkite would come on the evening news and give us a half-hour wrap of the day’s news followed by a statement saying, “And that’s the news on the evening news and give us a half-hour wrap of the evening news.”

Today, “news” is mostly opinion and not fact, along with loads of sensationalism. There is the “conservative” TV news station and the “liberal” one. The local Denver paper carries AP, Washington Post and New York Times national stories and columns with few written by their own staff. And then there is the blogosphere, where anyone can and does have their opinions, no matter how little sense they might make (I fit in there quite nicely).

Finally, the radio dial, which is nonstop blathering strictly from one side or the other.

So where and how do we find the facts? How will Obamacare really affect me and my taxes? Is Iran truly a national security threat such that we may need to go to war with them? Can we really cut the deficit and create jobs at the same time? The only way to really find out is to choose publications which you trust and to get involved yourself. Last month, I interviewed State Representative Angela Williams and she asserted “individuals getting involved makes a big difference.” Diana DeGette, our U.S. Congresswoman, confirms this point, saying, “Members of Congress always listen closely to their constituents.”

This brings all of us, very unfortunately, to this year’s Presidential contest and our statewide general election. More than ever before, we will be inundated with advertisements which will espouse a defamatory version of one side’s candidate with an unrealistically positive version of their own. Almost all Americans disdain the amount of money there is in politics. If you feel this way, don’t listen to the political action committee (PACs) ads come on.

They are the ones where a candidate doesn’t state their approval of the ad. Basically, there are absolutely no restrictions on what these ads can say or how much money these organizations can pour into political races.

The only way to counter this duplicitous effort to sway public opinion in order to alter elections is to think for ourselves and realize the commercials aired by PACs are opinions or entirely fiction and certainly are not fact.

With my skill for manipulating opinion and the seemingly unlimited amount of money involved, maybe I should get into the attack ad business. Then again, I would have to become the type of person who thinks these things up, and hopefully, I am not that person.

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

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

It is that we live in an age where it is difficult to separate fact from opinion?
Colorado Youth Water Polo Club
Making a Big Splash

On Monday evenings a dozen or so Denver youth can be found bobbing like apples in the indoor pool at the Hiawatha Davis Jr. Recreation Center in the North Park Hill neighborhood. While they are not playing “Marco Polo,” they are in a state of constant motion, swimming back and forth in heads-up freestyle, treading water, banging bodies and excitedly communicating plays, while chasing, throwing and catching a colorful water polo ball. Beneath the assortment of synthetic waterproof skull caps that neatly conceal their hair are the young, high-energy, co-ed members of the Colorado Water Polo Club.

The club welcomes girls and boys between the ages of 6–18. It serves “aquatic-oriented” kids who, when on land, play basketball, soccer, lacrosse or baseball, and enjoy wrestling or playing the catching and throwing technique. Benoît and his parents “to view and even join in on a practice session,” says the enthusiastic club’s head coach. Isenburg, a USA Water Polo-certified coach, serves as the club’s NE Denver base of operation. Tragically, Laughlin died in an automobile accident. But his vision for the club and its members is being carried out by Park Hill resident Mark Isenburg, who serves as the club’s head coach. Isenburg, a USA Water Polo certified coach, is supported by three assistant coaches and one adjunct volunteer coach, Craig Ackley, an art teacher at Denver East High School, who lives in Lowry and found the new pool locations.

On any given weekday evening, Isenburg and his assistants can be found training their players and, on weekends, supporting club teams during their scrimmages. Games are played against teams from within the club, as well as teams from opposing clubs from Fort Collins and Loveland. In addition, Colorado Water Polo teams participate in tournaments held locally or out of state.

“A great way for a child to be introduced to the sport is to join our 12 and under youth league,” says the enthusiastic Isenburg. However, first he encourages prospective players and their parents “to view and even join in on a practice session at any one of our practice pool locations, and then decide if water polo is for you.” The Hiawatha Davis Jr. pool plays host to youth league practices on Monday evenings from 5:30–6:30pm. The pool also serves as the training site for competitive 13–18-year-old players on the same night, from 6–7:30pm. Children do not necessarily need to be great swimmers or stellar athletes to join a team. Being able to swim 25 yards without resting or stopping, and practicing safe behavior in a pool are the principal prerequisites. “One aspect to our club, and a credit to the kids, is how welcoming they are to interested or new members, girl or boy, and the camaraderie that exists between the teammates,” adds Isenburg. Team members and families often participate in social events and perform community service projects.

For more information about the Colorado Water Polo Club, its offerings and fees, as well as the sport of water polo, visit coloradowaterpolo.com or contact Mark Isenburg at misenburg@comcast.net. The Hiawatha Davis Jr. Rec Center is located at 3334 Holly St. in North Park Hill.
Focuses on Safety

Always written after a product is developed, regulations are for a fee. He explains, “Regulations are US government uses for military vehicles, to have it tested at the crash test lab the Naval Air Warfare Center contracted with the Naval Air Warfare Center to have it tested at the crash test lab the US government uses for military vehicles, which also provides tests for private companies for a fee. He explains, “Regulations are always written after a product is developed, not before. Innovation leads to regulation. With Ride Tight, we crash tested it to the booster seat standard and it actually outperformed the booster seat.” Conaway then took the data to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and for several years petitioned them to take his product and his data and update the standard under which child restraints are regulated. The response: “We’re not going to change the regulation but you are free to sell the product. It’s a good product. It meets all the performance requirements. But, you can’t cite a regulation that it’s an alternative to a booster seat because we don’t have a classification for anything besides booster seats.”

Conaway explains that Colorado requires that children be in a booster seat until their 8th birthday, when they can graduate to seatbelts. He cites U.S. traffic safety statistics that show that “children ages 9 to 15, all women and all seniors are killed at twice the rate of others due to improperly fitting seatbelts.” So, because booster seats are required until age 8, Conaway’s target market is 9 to 90. He says, “If you’re a short person, seatbelts don’t fit you and research shows they don’t protect you.”

Conaway, who was a childhood friend of Odyssey School Director Marcia Fulton (both grew up in Iowa), now is a reading buddy at Odyssey school to determine if they had objections similar to his daughter’s—that seat belts are uncomfortable. He found that the students he tested were much more likely to use the seatbelt properly when strapped in with the Ride Tight because the shoulder strap did not bother them, and, he says, the belt will remain in the proper position and will be correct the next time that passenger uses it. After observing Odyssey students’ impressions of the product, Fulton commented, “As a parent and educator, I am always thinking about the safety of kids. Anything that helps children be safer is good.”

Conaway points out that he is a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician and throughout his career has developed many other devices with safety in mind. He says, “I have a passion for protecting people.”

Conaway, thinking of himself more as an inventor than a marketer, originally made an arrangement with a company to sell the Ride Tight in retail locations. However, the company did not meet the terms of their agreement and Conaway took back the license to sell it. In the meantime, he obtained an MBA and, with the encouragement of his wife Diane, has now taken on the job of marketing the Ride Tight, which he originally invented 12 years ago. Conaway has had experience with manufacturing in China and has decided that, in many cases, it is cheaper and more efficient to manufacture in the United States. The Ride Tight is being produced in Commerce City.

The Ride Tight is available at RideTight.com and costs $24.95 for two. For more information visit RideTight.com or call Brian Conaway at 303-399-3071.

Entrepreneur, inventor and Park Hill resident Brian Conaway, noticed, when his daughter was ready to graduate from a child safety seat, that the seat belt didn’t fit her properly. His engineering knowledge and inclinations kicked in—and he designed and built a product to solve the problem. The device, which he calls the Ride Tight, is a seatbelt adapter that, according to Conaway, factory seat belts in cars are designed to fit a 5’7” male weighing 175 pounds. He points out that children who have recently graduated from child safety seats, as well as many shorter people, often put the shoulder strap behind them because the belt chafes their neck—an improper use of the belt that compromises safety.

Before selling the Ride Tight, Conaway contracted with the Naval Air Warfare Center to have it tested at the crash test lab the US government uses for military vehicles, which also provides tests for private companies for a fee. He explains, “Regulations are always written after a product is developed, not before. Innovation leads to regulation. With Ride Tight, we crash tested it to the booster seat standard and it actually outperformed the booster seat.” Conaway then took the data to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and for several years petitioned them to take his product and his data and update the standard under which child restraints are regulated. The response: “We’re not going to change the regulation but you are free to sell the product. It’s a good product. It meets all the performance requirements. But, you can’t cite a regulation that it’s an alternative to a booster seat because we don’t have a classification for anything besides booster seats.”

Conaway explains that Colorado requires that children be in a booster seat until their 8th birthday, when they can graduate to seatbelts. He cites U.S. traffic safety statistics that show that “children ages 9 to 15, all women and all seniors are killed at twice the rate of others due to improperly fitting seatbelts.” So, because booster seats are required until age 8, Conaway’s target market is 9 to 90. He says, “If you’re a short person, seatbelts don’t fit you and research shows they don’t protect you.”

Conaway, who was a childhood friend of Odyssey School Director Marcia Fulton (both grew up in Iowa), now is a reading buddy at Odyssey school to determine if they had objections similar to his daughter’s—that seat belts are uncomfortable. He found that the students he tested were much more likely to use the seatbelt properly when strapped in with the Ride Tight because the shoulder strap did not bother them, and, he says, the belt will remain in the proper position and will be correct the next time that passenger uses it. After observing Odyssey students’ impressions of the product, Fulton commented, “As a parent and educator, I am always thinking about the safety of kids. Anything that helps children be safer is good.”

Conaway points out that he is a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician and throughout his career has developed many other devices with safety in mind. He says, “I have a passion for protecting people.”

Conaway, thinking of himself more as an inventor than a marketer, originally made an arrangement with a company to sell the Ride Tight in retail locations. However, the company did not meet the terms of their agreement and Conaway took back the license to sell it. In the meantime, he obtained an MBA and, with the encouragement of his wife Diane, has now taken on the job of marketing the Ride Tight, which he originally invented 12 years ago. Conaway has had experience with manufacturing in China and has decided that, in many cases, it is cheaper and more efficient to manufacture in the United States. The Ride Tight is being produced in Commerce City.

The Ride Tight is available at RideTight.com and costs $24.95 for two. For more information visit RideTight.com or call Brian Conaway at 303-399-3071.

Entrepreneur, inventor and Park Hill resident Brian Conaway, noticed, when his daughter was ready to graduate from a child safety seat, that the seat belt didn’t fit her properly. His engineering knowledge and inclinations kicked in—and he designed and built a product to solve the problem. The device, which he calls the Ride Tight, is a seatbelt adapter that, according to Conaway, factory seat belts in cars are designed to fit a 5’7” male weighing 175 pounds. He points out that children who have recently graduated from child safety seats, as well as many shorter people, often put the shoulder strap behind them because the belt chafes their neck—an improper use of the belt that compromises safety.

Before selling the Ride Tight, Conaway contracted with the Naval Air Warfare Center to have it tested at the crash test lab the US government uses for military vehicles, which also provides tests for private companies for a fee. He explains, “Regulations are always written after a product is developed, not before. Innovation leads to regulation. With Ride Tight, we crash tested it to the booster seat standard and it actually outperformed the booster seat.” Conaway then took the data to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and for several years petitioned them to take his product and his data and update the standard under which child restraints are regulated. The response: “We’re not going to change the regulation but you are free to sell the product. It’s a good product. It meets all the performance requirements. But, you can’t cite a regulation that it’s an alternative to a booster seat because we don’t have a classification for anything besides booster seats.”

Conaway explains that Colorado requires that children be in a booster seat until their 8th birthday, when they can graduate to seatbelts. He cites U.S. traffic safety statistics that show that “children ages 9 to 15, all women and all seniors are killed at twice the rate of others due to improperly fitting seatbelts.” So, because booster seats are required until age 8, Conaway’s target market is 9 to 90. He says, “If you’re a short person, seatbelts don’t fit you and research shows they don’t protect you.”

Conaway, who was a childhood friend of Odyssey School Director Marcia Fulton (both grew up in Iowa), now is a reading buddy at Odyssey school to determine if they had objections similar to his daughter’s—that seat belts are uncomfortable. He found that the students he tested were much more likely to use the seatbelt properly when strapped in with the Ride Tight because the shoulder strap did not bother them, and, he says, the belt will remain in the proper position and will be correct the next time that passenger uses it. After observing Odyssey students’ impressions of the product, Fulton commented, “As a parent and educator, I am always thinking about the safety of kids. Anything that helps children be safer is good.”

Conaway points out that he is a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician and throughout his career has developed many other devices with safety in mind. He says, “I have a passion for protecting people.”

Conaway, thinking of himself more as an inventor than a marketer, originally made an arrangement with a company to sell the Ride Tight in retail locations. However, the company did not meet the terms of their agreement and Conaway took back the license to sell it. In the meantime, he obtained an MBA and, with the encouragement of his wife Diane, has now taken on the job of marketing the Ride Tight, which he originally invented 12 years ago. Conaway has had experience with manufacturing in China and has decided that, in many cases, it is cheaper and more efficient to manufacture in the United States. The Ride Tight is being produced in Commerce City.

The Ride Tight is available at RideTight.com and costs $24.95 for two. For more information visit RideTight.com or call Brian Conaway at 303-399-3071.
Today, North America is home to well over 100,000 bald eagles. Their population has recovered from near extinction. In the 1960s their numbers were reduced to 417 breeding pairs in the lower 48 states. Hunting and extensive use of pesticides, particularly DDT, nearly doomed the creature. DDT altered the hormones that regulated calcium metabolism. Thin shell, calcium-deficient eggs were laid and then broke under the weight of nesting adults. Other interesting facts include:

- While courting, eagles playfully flit in the sky. They often pair for life. Their aerial ballet inspired Whitman to scribe his dalliance poem.
- The bald eagle became our national emblem in 1782. Ben Franklin preferred the wild turkey.
- Their body is covered with 7,000 feathers and an adult’s wingspan is 6–8 feet.
- An eagle can see a rabbit from one mile and an eagle’s nest can weigh up to 4,000 pounds.

In Colorado, the best time to view nesting and transient bald eagles is between October and March. As many as 1,200 eagles spend their winters here. It is not unusual to find dozens gathering and roosting on trees near reservoirs, lakes and rivers. Excellent viewing and interpretive programs can be experienced at the annual Eagle Festival (February 3–5, 2012) held at Pueblo Lake Colorado State Park, through the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory’s Bald Eagle Watch program and at Barr Lake State Park, both in Brighton. You can also study a bald eagle in the Denver Zoo’s Condor and Eagle Aviary exhibit. A great way to take in the life of a nesting pair is to view them through an online bird camera. Marko and I like to visit the Xcel Energy Bird Cam website. We spy on many nesting raptors including a bald eagle pair that live in a 6-foot-wide by 5-foot-deep nest at the Fort St. Vrain Generating Station in Platteville, Colorado.

Marko and John Babiak are Stapleton residents. Marko, 10, is an avid wildlife photographer. John teaches Nature Rangers ecology classes to students at Steck, Roberts Westerly Creek and Odyssey. He also leads a summer-long nature day camp at the Rocky Mtn. Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge. He can be reached at NatureRangerJohn@aol.com.
DENVER METRO EVENTS


ArtWalks and Exhibits:
2/2 Friday- Santa Fe Arts District. Santa Fe Dr between 10th and 6th. www.santafeartsdistrict.com
2/2 Friday- Highlands Square First Friday. 32nd and Lowell, North Denver. www.highlandsquare.com
2/10 Friday- Aurora’s East End Second Friday Art Walk. Gallery openings, music, theater and food and more. 5-8pm. Free to venues at Retcher Plaza/MILK Library. (E Colfax at Elura).
2/24 Friday- Final Friday at Denver Art Museum. 10-6pm. Untitled- Denver Art Museum’s Final Friday series. Local music, cash bar, munchies, cheat art entries, unique tours of the DAM collection. General admission applies; members free. www.denverartmuseum.org

2/11 Saturday to 2/12 Sunday- Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs. 2/11 Saturday to 2/12 Sunday- Advance Auto Parts Monster Truck Tour. 2; tax/tip not included. w w w .denverrestaurantweek.com
2/12 Sunday- Living History Day. 2/12 Sunday- Colorado Garden and Home Show Colorado Convention Center; Downtown Denver; Expo with flowering gardens, 1,400 booths, spring landscaping, patio and outdoor projects. Tickets $14, $12 at King Soopers; children 12 and under free. www.gardeningcolorado.com or 303.932.8100
2/12 Sunday- Living History Day. Historical demonstrations, sewing, quilting, blacksmithing, wagon rides, etc. 12-4pm. General admission applies. www绯greenfarm.org
2/25 Saturday to 2/25 Friday- Denver Restaurant Week 2012. 200 restaurants offer multicourse meals for mil-high price. $32.80 for 2 tax/ tip not included. www.denverrestaurantweek.com

2/26 Sunday- Boxes of Life: Keepsakes as Art. Create one-of-a kind box of Life with found objects, collage and photography. MLo, 400 S Kearny St. 10am-3pm. $41 members/$55 nonmembers; www.museumlo.org

Denver Urban Homesteading Farmers Market. Indoor, year-round farmers market and homesteading school specializing in local and organic foods. Thursdays and Fridays 3-7pm. Saturday 9-3 200 Santa Fe Dr FREE. www.denverurbanhomesteading.com for classes and seminars.

Denver IDEA Cafe. FREE. Workshop on social issues and speakers presented by Small Business Chamber of Commerce. 3-3:30pm. Fridays. Panera Bread, 13th and Grant. www.SmallBizChamber.org or 303.861.1447


Volunteers of America Foster Grandparent Program. Seeking adults 55+ with lower incomes who love working with kids and can give 15/ more hours/week. Small stipend given; transportation reimbursed. www.voalodging.com or 303.297.0608 (Naomi Taggart)

Live Music at The Soiled Dove. 7401 E 1st Ave, Lowry. www.soileddove.com


Denver 2 for 1 Tix provides weekly for 2 for 1 ticket and admission dis

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
2/7 Tuesday- Children’s Hospital Colorado Free Parenting Series. Taking Care of Your Teen: Dating Ups and Downs. Don’t ignore signs your child is in a bad relationship. Children’s Hospital Colorado expects many operations, give warning signals and how to discuss it. 6-30pm FREE. Free child care if pre-register. Children’s Hospital Colorado, 1312 E 16th Ave. Aurora. Registration required. www.childrenshospital.org
2/16 Thursday- HIV testing at Rocky Mountain Cares nonprofit for holistic HIV care. FREE. 1-5pm. 3rd Thursday monthly. 4545 E 49th Ave, #120. 303.393.8050, Adrián Pflastick

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

2/7/2 Tuesday- U.S. Internment of Japanese-Americans. 10:15-11:15, Jewish Community Center. 150 S Dela C St. Lite Kids. 303.316.6359
2/19 Thursday- The Soviet Union: The Road After Collapse. 7pm. Stapleton Master Community Assoc. 2823 Roslyn St. RSVP. 303.388.0724
2/21 Tuesday- Spain. 1-11am-12pm (1:05 refreshments). Temple Emanuel, 51 Grape St. RSVP: 303.388.5013 x307
2/22 Friday-Sunday- U.S. Interment of Japanese-Americans. 5:30-6:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2236 E. Colfax. 303.322.7777

LIBRARIES
For more library programs, check events calendar at denver-publiclibrary.org.

2/25 Saturday- Storytime for Toddlers. 10am. Tattered Cover, 2236 E. Colfax. 303.322.7777

February 2012
16
Stapleton Front Porch

DENTISTRY FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY

Steele Dentistry of Stapleton

3545 Quebec St, Ste 110
Denver, CO 80210

Behind Sonic on Quebec
303-278-3353

All PPO Insurance Plans Accepted

Refer a New Patient & receive a FREE Custom Bleaching Kit or $100 credit towards future treatment (limited enrollments excluded.)

Make a lunch date with us.
Mention this ad and get a panini + cookie for $5.99. (req. 2/99)
One per visit. Expires 2/29/12

16
Stapleton Front Porch

COMFORT DESIGN INTERIORS
Sharon Comfort - ASID
303.266.4205

Visit www.comfortdesigninteriors.com for this Month’s Special
KIDS CAMPS AND CLASSES

Aurora Fox Academy- Drama classes ages 4 and up. Fill out the form at www.aurorafax.org or call 720.865.5000 to reserve your space.

Stapleton Front Porch - Drama classes and workshops for kids ages 3-12. Fill out the form at www.summervacations.com or call 303.377.5433 to reserve your space.

DMIS Summer Camp 2012

Discover our summer camps!

Day Camps for Boys and Girls, ages 3-12

- Language camps in French, Spanish and Mandarin
- Sports camps including karate, in-line hockey, badminton, soccer, basketball, lacrosse and tennis
- Arts and drama, science, math, technology, and more
- Highly qualified summer camp counselors

Register online at www.dmischool.com or call 303-340-3647 with any questions.

206 Red Cross Way-Lowry, Denver, CO 80230
Events and Announcements
Beginning Feb. 1—Urban Farm Reservations for Garden Plots
Starting February 1, new gardeners will have access to all unreserved plots at the Urban Farm’s community garden (current gardeners’ renewal period ended 1/31). Community members may secure plots ranging in size from 8’x10’ to 10’x15’. Seasonal fees are small: $60; medium: $70; large: $85. Community garden participants are required to have an Urban Farm membership, which costs $45 and includes immediate family members. The membership year is Jan. 1–Dec. 31. A garden plot application can be downloaded from http://dcplanurbanfarm.org or call 303.307.9332. The Farm is located at 10200 Smith Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 2—Dine Out for Girl Scouts
In honor of the Girl Scouts’ 100th anniversary and to celebrate Dine Out for Girl Scouts, more than 70 restaurants statewide will donate 20 percent of their sales on Thursday Feb. 2 to the organization. Nearly 30 percent of Colorado Girl Scouts are from economically disadvantaged, underserved and at-risk communities. Northside’s Ling and Louis’s and Jim ‘N Nick’s B-B-Q are among the participating restaurants. For all participating restaurants visit www.girlscoutsofcolorado.org/dine-out-for-girl-scouts.

Saturday, Feb. 4—Free 2040 Health Summit Invites Community to Share Ideas
People living and working in NE Park Hill, greater Park Hill, Stapleton, E. Montclair, NW Aurora and the University of Colorado’s Health Sciences campus are invited to a free Neighborhood Health Summit focusing on discrimination in health care, health care information and a new Health Stories project. The summit will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, 8am–1:30pm at the Denver School of the Arts, 7111 E. Montview. Speakers include medical students in family medicine who recently completed a study about minorities and discrimination faced in their health care experiences. The keynote speaker is State Senator Irene Aguilar, MD, addressing the importance of community involvement in health care change. Also, the Latino Aging Wave Initiative will discuss current research about the aging Latino population. Breakout groups will cover insurance exchanges proposed changes to state policies on aging and long-term care, and The Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved will sign up people to tell their stories for the new Health Stories project.

Tuesday, Feb. 7—Beth McCann Town Hall Meeting
House District 8 Representative Beth McCann will host a Town Hall meeting on the state and local economy on Tuesday, February 7 from 7 to 8:30pm. The Budget Directors for the city of Denver and the state of Colorado, as well as the Director of DU’s Strategic Issues Program will discuss economic trends and the tough budgetary choices facing the city and state. Free. Montview Presbyterian Church - McConnell Room, 1980 Dahlia Street, Denver, CO, 80220. Contact: 303.866.2955.

Friday, Feb. 10—Anchor School’s “Visions of Love” Wine and Chocolate Event
The public is invited to “Visions of Love: Chocolate and Wine Experience” at Anchor Center for Blind Children on February 10, 2012 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. Visions of Love features an exploration of fine wines, decadent chocolates, and hors d’oeuvres while allowing participants to see the school’s facilities and learn about their mission. Proceeds from the event will help Anchor School offer services to visually impaired children, young children and families, providing hope and a nurturing environment where children can reach their highest potential. Tickets are $45 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.AnchorCenterEvents.com.

Saturday, Feb. 11—2nd Annual Read and Romp Kids’ Event and Benefit
Read and Romp is a family event that benefits Reach Out and Read Colorado. The storybook-themed activities for children 2–8 include games and arts and crafts based on classic children’s storybooks. The event will be held Saturday, Feb. 11 at the PPA Event Center (www.dppa.com/EventCenter), by Invesco Field. Tickets: $10/person, ages 2 and up. Call 303.623.3800 or visit www.readoutandreadco.org/read-romp. A free lunch is provided, but space is limited; reservations required. Call or tour today! Hours: M–F 8:30-5:30, Sat 10-3

Luxury on a limited income! ~ Grand Opening Special Offer ~
Six Weeks Rent Free!
Open to all seniors in need!

- Gated Community in Great Location
- Lovely 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
- Extensive Amenities, Activities & Events
- RTD at the corner; 10min to I-70 & I-25

Limited number remain. Call or tour today! Hours: M-F 8:30-5:30, Sat 10-3
3421 Elm St, Denver, CO 80207
www.dahliasquare.com
303-333-2126
Professionally managed by ComCap Asset Management, Inc.

Affordable Housing for Independent Seniors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gated Community in Great Location</td>
<td>New Denver Health clinic next door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovely 1 &amp; 2 Bedroom Apartments</td>
<td>Head of Household must be 62 or older</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensive Amenities, Activities &amp; Events</td>
<td>Income Limitations apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTD at the corner; 10 min to I-70 &amp; I-25</td>
<td>Housing Vouchers are accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Memorial Pavers for the Stapleton Library
Families and businesses can support programming at the new Stapleton library by purchasing a sandstone paver for the walking path at the front of the library. Names and messages will be engraved on the red paver.

Construction and Renovation on Colfax
More than $20 million in construction and renovations are underway on East Colfax including: Phoenix on the Fox at Colfax and Poplar with 50 apartment units and Pasquini’s Pizza on the ground floor with a 4,500 square foot space that will include a patio and delivery to surrounding neighborhoods. Ace on the Fox, a new Ace Hardware store at Colfax and Pontiac, which is in a renovated 1947 building with a restored Art Deco façade; and GB Fish and Chips next to Mod Livin’, the third location for this local restaurant.

Watch for upcoming Front Porch stories about these businesses as they open.

Do you want to improve your smile but have put it off for too long? Do you want a more self-confident smile? Do you want to change your life?

Dr. Dominguez may be a difficult way to enhance your smile. Schedule your consultation today.

- Cosmetic, Bonding and Orthodontics for a Happy Spectacular Smile
- Invisalign and Lingual Braces that Relied Into Your Hair and Amoung People
- General Dentistry to a barmending Life

New accepting refinanced now patients

TOWNCENTER MINISTRY
303-321-4445
Located in the heart of Stapleton nears Stapleton Financial Center.
big goal of mine to go to the Olympics in dressage, which is a sports discipline for horseback riding." Her horse, Lucero, is at the farm, and that’s where she practices. “I’ve been riding for my entire life... like from the womb! The Urban Farm is truly my home away from home. My school is very rigorous. Every time I get stressed and feel like I’m going to break down, just putting my feet on the gravel road, I relax. There’s a spirit in the farm that’s strong and therapeutic. Each one of those animals is my friend. I truly couldn’t live without it. In fact I’m kind of scared to go off to college.”

Emmalle Gale, 18, (far left) attends DSST and wants to study equine management in college. She has been going to the farm for eight years. “I’ve been obsessed with horses since I was little. Before I moved to Denver I lived in Chicago and there were no stables around. So when I came here it was my first priority to find a stable. I started as a beginning rider. I didn’t know anything about horses at all. Over the years I moved up in the different levels. Now I’m working at the farm as an assistant instructor and I’ve been riding at jumping shows.”

Jerry Nepp, 12, (center front) lives in Park Hill and attends Morey Middle School. He says, “I first went to the farm when I was six. It’s a really fun experience. You get to make tons of friends and learn about all kinds of stuff. Not just animals but sometimes even politics and a bunch of stuff.” Jerry will compete at the stock show next year. “I just want to place and have fun and learn about responsibility and a bunch of things I have to learn because I’m not quite ready for stock show yet. I want to know that I’ve improved. I’m going to bring a horse that I borrow from Donna. The event is called 4-H Western pleasure.”

Three to five TUF kids are expected to show horses next year, says Garnett. “The Stock Show is the big deal. This is the Super Bowl for the kids.”

TUF still has a few openings in the Embracing Horses winter/spring program that runs February to April. And they are already taking registration for the summer riding camps that start in June (but are usually filled by March) for kids who want to be in 4-H and take the horsemanship or other programs. The Urban Farm is located at 10200 Smith Rd. in Stapleton. For more information visit www.theurbanfarm.org or call 303-307-9332.

TUF Kids Share Their Enthusiasm with Stock Show Visitors
DSST Students Build Basketball-Playing Robot
By Margo Warnock

Forty-two students from DSST (Denver School of Science and Technology) have committed to a six-week challenge, applying all they know about physics, math and computer science. They are participating in the FIRST Robotics Competition (For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology), a global contest for 9th- to 12th-graders with the goal of exposing students to science and engineering. Each year, teams of students around the world work for six weeks to design and construct a robot that can participate in a game designed by FIRST. This year’s game is a version of basketball where the robots must score points by shooting hoops.

After the season kickoff on January 7, the students of Team Brute Force jumped into six weeks of planning and building, devoting more than eight hours of their time each week to achieve their goal. These students work with adult mentors from a variety of industries applicable to this competition. They get the chance to use the skills they learn in school in a real-world situation.

Additionally, students get the opportunity to learn an assortment of new skills including hands-on building, design, real-world sales and marketing, and team organizational skills. All of the students agree that Brute Force is “more than a team, but a family.” DSST’s Brute Force will be competing at the University of Denver March 22–24. They are posting their progress weekly on their YouTube channel: DSSTRobotics “Hot Shots Know Balance” or at www.dsstrobotics.org. DSST Stapleton (www.dsstatpublicschools.org), located at the corner of Valenta and Monview, is known for academic rigor and for pushing students to uphold a set of six core values: respect, responsibility, curiosity, integrity, courage and doing your best.

Margo Warnock is a sophomore at DSST and part of Brute Force’s PR and Support Team.
By Brett Kessler, DDS

"How long will my dentistry last?"
This is a question that I frequently get asked. The best answer that I can give is, “Nothing lasts forever, but it could last a really long time if you take care of it.”

Teeth are subjected to a series of daily occurrences that can hinder longevity. First: Chewing. Most restorative materials (silver, tooth-colored fillings, porcelain fillings and crowns) are made to withstand the forces of chewing food up to a certain limit over time. This being said, the more you chew, the more quickly things can break down. For example, if you chew a lot of gum, grind or clenches your teeth, your dental work (and your teeth) will break down sooner. The stress is cumulative—meaning it adds up over time. If a crown or tooth breaks while you eat a sandwich, it means it has reached its limit and the sandwich was the proverbial “straw that broke the camel’s back.” If you must chew gum, do it 5 minutes to get your breath freshened, then spit it out.

Your teeth should only touch if you are chewing food. If you are not chewing food and your teeth are touching, that is considered clenching. Stop it! If you can’t stop, see your dentist to help manage the forces of your bite. Your dentist may see signs of clenching or grinding and may alert you to these concerns.

Second: Home care. How well do you brush and floss your teeth? The better the home care, the more likely your dentistry (and your teeth) will be long-lasting. There is one great truth in dentistry: “clean teeth do not decay.” You should go to the dentist regularly for checkups and cleanings as recommended. Your teeth will be clean when you leave but the plaque (bacteria) starts to grow quickly and must be removed carefully, thoroughly and regularly by you or it’s doom sday for your restorations (and teeth)! Professional fluoride treatments are recommended by the American Dental Association for both children and adults to reduce dental decay. It really helps.

Third: Diet. Plaque (bacteria) loves sugar. It processes the sugar and lactic acid is produced as a byproduct. Lactic acid lowers the pH of the oral cavity, making the teeth more susceptible to breakdown. Soda (even diet soda) is a restorative killer. It drops the pH of the oral environment immediately. Once the pH falls below 5.5, the enamel (the hardest substance in your body) starts to melt away. The average pH of regular or diet sodas ranges from 2.47–3.35. If you sip on the soda, the buffering power of your saliva to bring the pH back up is never fully realized, leaving your restorations (and your teeth) susceptible to problems. Medical conditions such as gastric reflux and bulimia will also further melt your teeth away. Ask your dentist for special toothpastes and other adjuncts that may help keep the pH of your mouth in a safe range.

There are several other minor factors. If the top three—chewing, home care and diet—are addressed, your new restoration (and your teeth) will predictably last for years to come. Brett H. Kessler, DDS, is co-owner with his wife, Gina Kessler, DDS, M.S., of Town Center Dentistry and Oribodentics in the 29th Ave. Town Center. Contact them at 303.321.4445 or www.makemyoursmilegreat.com with any questions. They are pioneer business owners and residents of Stapleton.

Bad Pet Breath May Be a Bigger Stink than You Realize

By Dr. Deanna Miller

We all love kisses from our beloved pets, but sometimes the breath behind the kiss leaves us wondering what they are eating. The stinky breath is not only a problem for our noses. Bad breath is a sign of periodontal disease, which can cause many problems for our pet’s health. Statistics show that 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats over the age of three suffer from periodontal disease. The hidden bacteria in the dental tartar causes the smell to turn around our nose, but also, it gets into your system and begins damaging the heart, liver and kidneys as well as causing bone infections. Could your pet have the start (or an advanced case) of periodontal disease? Pets rarely, if ever, give obvious signs of mouth pain, or problems. We only notice how bad it must have been once we take care of the problem and see how well they are acting. So how do you know if there is a problem requiring attention? Things to look for in your pet’s mouth are a dark pink or red line at the edge of the gums where they contact the teeth, uneven tartar buildup (worse on one side or tooth), pink or tan teeth, broken or missing teeth, gum swelling or sorer. As the disease progresses, you can see red, inflamed or bleeding gums, gum recession, halitosis (bad breath), decreased appetite, not playing with toys, and teeth loosen ing or falling out. Despite advanced periodontal disease, in most cases the pet is still eating and seems “fine.”

Since our pets are not brushing and flossing daily, it is up to us as pet owners to take charge of our pet’s dental health to protect them from the problems of less than stellar dental hygiene. Prevention of arthritis, heart, liver or kidney disease starts with regular dental care at home, with an occasional periodontal therapy and teeth cleaning done by your veterinarian.

Most vets offer cleaning and polishing to remove the tartar and disease-causing bacteria. Since over 15 percent of dental disease is below the gum of a normal-looking tooth, talk to your vet about dental X-rays to ensure that unseen problems are detected and rectified before they become more serious. Anesthesia is required for dental work. Ask your vet about “low impact” anesthesia and other safety precautions that ensure your pet goes home without a hangover. Once a pet’s mouth is restored to the best possible condition, there are many options to delay the recurrence of dental disease. Brushing daily with a pet-safe toothpaste is recommended; however, if your pet or lifestyle disagrees with this, products are available to delay the return of disease-causing bacteria. Dental chews, dental rinses or dental diets are good options to clean the teeth if your pet won’t tolerate a toothbrush. Keeping your pet’s mouth clean and healthy will help your pet live a longer and healthier life.

Dr. Deanna Miller, the owner and lead veterinarian of Rising Sun Animal Care, an Animal Hospital Association-certified (AAHAA) veterinary clinic located in Lowry (303.577.0195), is dedicated to serving the needs of their patients in the northeast Denver area. She lives in Stapleton and has a 10-year-old daught er and 7-year-old son.
Jan. ‘12, Aerotropolis

Thank you for the recent article on the “Aerotropolis” concept for future Denver/ DIA development. In my opinion the idea has potential only if supported by a futuristic Intermountain to Gulf Coast Freeway (a.k.a. the COLO-GULF). More specifically, Denver needs to connect directly to Dallas, TX via interstate to tap into the vast human capital of the nation’s most populous state as well as the deep sea port of Houston, one of the nation’s busiest ports. The ability to better move goods and services from the Gulf of Mexico to Denver must be included in any serious “Aerotropolis” proposal.

West Hammond

Jan. ‘12, Pediatrician Interview on Vaccines

I just read your article and am very concerned. I wonder if you or doctor O Leary have done any research outside of the mainstream media on vaccines? (obviously not). Knowing through extensive research how dangerous these vaccines are, I am appalled at this article.

Either you or the doctor were paid or bribed to write this article, or you really have no idea what is actually in vaccines. I recommend doing some REAL research before you release such a dangerously biased article.

Do you really know anything about these vaccines? Please ask yourself this before sending thousands of innocent children to go get these vaccines? Please ask yourself this before sending thousands of innocent children to go get these vaccines?

Some think that the control tower is unsightly and unwelcoming, that it looks like watchtowers seen in prison yards or like guard towers seen in Holocaust camps, the dark windows at the top are gloomy and intrusive.

Jan. ‘12, Views From the Tower

Smiling happy faces make a nice front page. Not everyone will be happy with preserving the control tower complex.

Some think that the control tower is unsightly and unwelcoming, that it looks like watchtowers seen in prison yards or like guard towers seen in Holocaust camps, the dark windows at the top are gloomy and intrusive.

I am in favor of tearing down the control tower complex and installing a park with green grass, trees, bushes, park benches with room for our children to explore, learn and grow through play. Many of the great cities of the world are people close to the ground, like Florence, Italy.

Let’s create a beautiful space that represents the best that life can be. Where we can smell the green grass, see the beauty of the blooming trees, feel the warm sun on our faces. Now that will give cause for many people to smile.

Nancy McCurdy, Denver Resident

Response from Dr. Sean O’Leary

Mr. Cousino’s letter illustrates how passionately some people feel about immunizations. To answer his specific concerns:

1) I gain nothing financially by researching, promoting, or administering vaccines. Further, several studies have shown that most pediatricians and family physicians at best break even from giving vaccines, and many actually lose money in the proposition. They give vaccines to improve the lives of children.

2) The ingredients of vaccines are publicly available and most have been in use for more than 50 years and have been shown to be extremely safe.

3) Regarding sources of information, most of the accurate information about vaccines comes from scientific journals, which means the information is scrutinized extensively by experts in the field prior to publication. This is in contrast to much of what is available on the Internet, where anyone can claim anything as “fact,” with no outside scrutiny. I have visited many of the anti-vaccination websites. Some are quite well written and convincing, but unfortunately are filled with claims that are completely false. It can be hard for a parent who doesn’t review medical literature on a daily basis to separate truth from fiction in such a setting.


Jan O’Leary, MD, MPH

Response from the Front Porch

The publishers of the Front Porch have no financial interest in children’s vaccines. We rely on interviews with medical experts whose knowledge is based on peer-reviewed scientific research.

Jan. ‘12, Aerotropolis

Further, several studies have shown that any serious “Aerotropolis” proposal must be included in any serious “Aerotropolis” proposal. The ability to better move goods and services from the Gulf of Mexico to Denver must be included in any serious “Aerotropolis” proposal.

Gulf of Mexico to Denver must be included in any serious “Aerotropolis” proposal.

Tom Gleason

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

In response to concerns expressed by residents who live north of a proposed auto wash planned for the area noted for commercial uses north of Hangar 61, Forest City and the developer, a Stapleton resident, will move the car wash to the east, placing it on the frontage of Central Boulevard. This location eliminates the direct interface between the car wash and the residences to the north. It is also a compatible use with DSST and Bill Roberts because car wash trip counts are generally low and peak operations are on weekends when the schools are closed. As with all commercial development, the design of the car wash had to secure approval from the Stapleton Design Review Committee, a group of design professionals and citizens who review the design of all commercial development at Stapleton.

Forest City retail brokers are talking with other potential retailers for the area south of Hangar 61, including a coffee shop and convenience store with gasoline pumps—uses allowed under that parcel’s DSST and the SDC to maintain high standards, better collaboration with residents, and engage in transparent communication that puts residents first and continues to make Stapleton an international model for urban development.

We learned a lot through this experience. Residents must be proactive to shape this community we love. Projects take months or years to be realized, and we must be engaged from the beginning, not just when stakes are put in the ground. Please get involved with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) to shape our future and Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) to be an influence on our current community.

Dan & Erin Oltersdorf

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

In response to concerns expressed by residents who live north of a proposed auto wash planned for the area noted for commercial uses north of Hangar 61, Forest City and the developer, a Stapleton resident, will move the car wash to the east, placing it on the frontage of Central Boulevard. This location eliminates the direct interface between the car wash and the residences to the north. It is also a compatible use with DSST and Bill Roberts because car wash trip counts are generally low and peak operations are on weekends when the schools are closed. As with all commercial development, the design of the car wash had to secure approval from the Stapleton Design Review Committee, a group of design professionals and citizens who review the design of all commercial development at Stapleton.

Forest City retail brokers are talking with other potential retailers for the area south of Hangar 61, including a coffee shop and convenience store with gasoline pumps—uses allowed under that parcel’s DSST and the SDC to maintain high standards, better collaboration with residents, and engage in transparent communication that puts residents first and continues to make Stapleton an international model for urban development.

We learned a lot through this experience. Residents must be proactive to shape this community we love. Projects take months or years to be realized, and we must be engaged from the beginning, not just when stakes are put in the ground. Please get involved with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) to shape our future and Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) to be an influence on our current community.

Dan & Erin Oltersdorf

Response from the Front Porch

Jan. ‘12, Pediatrician

Jan O’Leary

Response from the Front Porch

Jan O’Leary

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

In response to concerns expressed by residents who live north of a proposed auto wash planned for the area noted for commercial uses north of Hangar 61, Forest City and the developer, a Stapleton resident, will move the car wash to the east, placing it on the frontage of Central Boulevard. This location eliminates the direct interface between the car wash and the residences to the north. It is also a compatible use with DSST and Bill Roberts because car wash trip counts are generally low and peak operations are on weekends when the schools are closed. As with all commercial development, the design of the car wash had to secure approval from the Stapleton Design Review Committee, a group of design professionals and citizens who review the design of all commercial development at Stapleton.

Forest City retail brokers are talking with other potential retailers for the area south of Hangar 61, including a coffee shop and convenience store with gasoline pumps—uses allowed under that parcel’s DSST and the SDC to maintain high standards, better collaboration with residents, and engage in transparent communication that puts residents first and continues to make Stapleton an international model for urban development.

We learned a lot through this experience. Residents must be proactive to shape this community we love. Projects take months or years to be realized, and we must be engaged from the beginning, not just when stakes are put in the ground. Please get involved with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) to shape our future and Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) to be an influence on our current community.

Dan & Erin Oltersdorf

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

In response to concerns expressed by residents who live north of a proposed auto wash planned for the area noted for commercial uses north of Hangar 61, Forest City and the developer, a Stapleton resident, will move the car wash to the east, placing it on the frontage of Central Boulevard. This location eliminates the direct interface between the car wash and the residences to the north. It is also a compatible use with DSST and Bill Roberts because car wash trip counts are generally low and peak operations are on weekends when the schools are closed. As with all commercial development, the design of the car wash had to secure approval from the Stapleton Design Review Committee, a group of design professionals and citizens who review the design of all commercial development at Stapleton.

Forest City retail brokers are talking with other potential retailers for the area south of Hangar 61, including a coffee shop and convenience store with gasoline pumps—uses allowed under that parcel’s DSST and the SDC to maintain high standards, better collaboration with residents, and engage in transparent communication that puts residents first and continues to make Stapleton an international model for urban development.

We learned a lot through this experience. Residents must be proactive to shape this community we love. Projects take months or years to be realized, and we must be engaged from the beginning, not just when stakes are put in the ground. Please get involved with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) to shape our future and Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) to be an influence on our current community.

Dan & Erin Oltersdorf

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

In response to concerns expressed by residents who live north of a proposed auto wash planned for the area noted for commercial uses north of Hangar 61, Forest City and the developer, a Stapleton resident, will move the car wash to the east, placing it on the frontage of Central Boulevard. This location eliminates the direct interface between the car wash and the residences to the north. It is also a compatible use with DSST and Bill Roberts because car wash trip counts are generally low and peak operations are on weekends when the schools are closed. As with all commercial development, the design of the car wash had to secure approval from the Stapleton Design Review Committee, a group of design professionals and citizens who review the design of all commercial development at Stapleton.

Forest City retail brokers are talking with other potential retailers for the area south of Hangar 61, including a coffee shop and convenience store with gasoline pumps—uses allowed under that parcel’s DSST and the SDC to maintain high standards, better collaboration with residents, and engage in transparent communication that puts residents first and continues to make Stapleton an international model for urban development.

We learned a lot through this experience. Residents must be proactive to shape this community we love. Projects take months or years to be realized, and we must be engaged from the beginning, not just when stakes are put in the ground. Please get involved with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) to shape our future and Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) to be an influence on our current community.

Dan & Erin Oltersdorf

Response from Tom Gleason, Vice President Public Relations, Forest City Stapleton, Inc.
DPS Forms Committee to Discuss Education Issues Facing Park Hill and Stapleton

By Sophia Briegleb, SUN Education Committee

By Chris Roberts

Passing on Colorado’s Legacy of Skiing

By Sophia Briegleb, SUN Education Committee

MLK Bike Lanes To Be Extended from Quebec to Central Park Blvd.

By David Vogel
New Stapleton Resource Center to Focus on Alternative Transportation & Neighborhood Safety

By Angie Malpiede

A new, free and open to the public community resource center will open in Stapleton on February 6. Activities and resources at the center will primarily focus on alternative transportation and neighborhood safety. The goal of the center is to serve as a catalyst for behavioral change among residents, employees and employers that will lead to a safer, healthier community. Sponsored by the Stapleton Transportation Management Association (TMA), the Denver Police Department, the COP Shop and the Major Taylor Cycling Club of Denver, programs and resources will include:

• “Try Transit Program” — a “hands-on” experience on how to find transit information and resources and a direct experience using the Denver metro area transit system
• Purchase of RTD bus passes
• Information and resources on carpooling, vanpooling and Go CarShare
• Walking clubs and biking programs
• Saturday classes to introduce biking to participants, young and old
• Cycling 101 — teaching riders how to maintain their tires, brakes and chain
• Cycling Safety — helping riders learn trail safety
• Once-a-month Saturday bike rides for families, June through October
• Neighborhood Watch Program training
• Training on crime prevention techniques for business owners and employees and in and around their businesses

In Business for 17 Years

HOUSE CLEANING
Stapleton and Park Hill References

Detail Oriented • Ironing Included • Window Washing • Carpet Cleaning • Upholstery Cleaning • Frames/Bookcases • Basem ent finish design and construction. Call today

Call Michelle Johnson at 303-224-1198

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED...

Savio House is looking for temporary foster homes for teens with a troubled background. Training, 24 hour support and $1900 per month provided.

Call Michelle Johnson at 303-225-4073

www.saviohouse.org

New Day Acupuncture

Treating: Pain • Allergies • Stress, Anxiety & other Emotional Complaints
Diet Aliments • Women’s Health Issues • Children’s Health

Bruce Stoeberl, L.Ac. • 720-838-7918
Free consultation • Herbal pharmacy
www.acupuncture-in-denver.com
2840 Xanita Ct., Stapleton

New Day Acupuncture

Treating: Pain • Allergies • Stress, Anxiety & other Emotional Complaints
Diet Aliments • Women’s Health Issues • Children’s Health

Bruce Stoeberl, L.Ac. • 720-838-7918
Free consultation • Herbal pharmacy
www.acupuncture-in-denver.com
2840 Xanita Ct., Stapleton
Within Gibson's modest industrial space, Tamara Smith leads marketing and finance, while Brian Smith oversees product development, manufacturing and operations. Their cooperative inventiveness spurs them to look at ways to leverage their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrication and sewing capabilities, in hopes of discovering ways to grow the company. Their efforts led them to establish a new business division, Gibson Athletics, and to expand their in-house woodworking, steel fabrica...
Library

(continued from page 1) designed to be like beehives, where people can see and be seen, congregate for conversation and learning.” Amore goes on to say, “Specifically, we need to have facilities that promote a love of reading by children ages 0 to 3 to get them started on a life of learning.” The library is also busy with people looking for jobs and learning languages. Amore points out that most of the immigrants to this country in the early 1900s learned English at public libraries.

The new branch has been funded by Better Denver Bonds, passed by voters in 2007. The bonds have allowed renovations for many libraries and the construction of three new branches, Green Valley Ranch, Colfax at Irving and Sam Gary. Quentin Rudwell, the owner’s representative for construction of the three new facilities for Denver Public Library, notes, “All three new libraries are designed by different architects, and due to the input from the library staff and community members, they each have their own feel and amenities. They are all built to promote the use of libraries by today’s library patron.”

Councilman Chris Herndon states that the new Green Valley Ranch branch is “beautiful, well-designed and much needed; however, it is never open.” That branch is open four days a week for eight hours, the same hours as many other Denver branch libraries.

The libraries are a service provided by the City of Denver to its citizens and funded through the city budget process each year. Budget issues have affected services in all areas of the city. The library has specifically had to reduce hours and employees. A Structural Financial Task Force Report was originally ordered over a year ago by then Mayor Hickenlooper to address the constant revenue problems that have caused decreases in city services. On January 23, 2012, the final report was issued and it proposed creating separate districts for some city services, including libraries and parks. Creating separate districts for city services would require approval by Denver voters, but passage would guarantee funding for those services outside of the general city budget process. The funding would most likely come from increased property taxes.

With the Internet widely available, detractors of additional funding for libraries, such as Vincent Carroll in a recent Denver Post column, ask why more money should be invested into what are becoming relics. Do we need the library open for additional hours when circulation of books will surely decrease in the coming years as more people move toward eBooks?

At this time, Mayor Hancock has not committed to a campaign for a separate library district although most cities surrounding Denver have them. Shirley Amore points out, “Colorado Springs can’t even keep streetlights on but as a result of being a separate tax district, their libraries are open on average 60 hours a week.”

Mike King, a Stapleton resident, former president of SUN and president of the Denver Library Foundation Board, is committed to finding the funding to allow libraries to remain open enough hours to serve their customers. He says, “What good are these buildings if they are not open enough hours to serve the public? Walk into any library, anywhere in the city and you will see a flurry of activity throughout the day.”

Amore is adamant about the value of libraries to early childhood education, saying, “I have never seen a parent curled up with a child reading a story from a Kindle.”
COLORADO FUSION SOCCER CLUB

Where Denver Families PLAY!
Programs for children 3-18 from the beginner to the most advanced.
Register for spring soccer now.

ALL OUT, ALL GAME, ALL FUSION.

Register Today at:
www.coloradofusion.org
COLORADO FUSION SOCCER CLUB • 303.399.5858

Nanna’s Teas

♥ Two for One ♥
Valentine’s Day Dinner
Special all month long!
Reservations ONLY online www.nannasteas.com
Offer good the 2/13/12. Dine here Tues. nights only.
1637 W 26th Ave. Denver, 80211 • 303.647.8327

We can help with BAD BREATH!
303.388.2255
www.parkhillvet.com
for more information on our dental specials.

For more than 20 years, Montessori Children’s House of Denver has made a difference in the lives of children by providing education techniques that engage your child’s interest, in a stimulating environment where children can thrive. Call today to learn how we can uncover the genius in your child. 303.322.8324 x 29

Now Enrolling 18 Months - 6th Grade
Hilltop - Mayfair - Park Hill - Stapleton
www.mchofdenver.org uncover the genius

February 2012