

Front Porch

Camp
Guide
2013

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

DENVER, COLORADO

STAPLETON

MARCH 2013

Study Supports Moving Forward with Community Arts Center



In the large photo, Stapleton Master Community Association (MCA) Executive Director Keven Burnett, at a Zoning and Planning committee meeting, presents a model of the existing tower and office building with potential future development in the area represented by the brown structures. A needs assessment

by a community arts center consultant generated a list of facilities that could be utilized by this community. The tower building, with renovations, could support many of those needs. In the smaller photos above, Burnett shows one idea for how a 250- to 350-seat theater could be added next to the existing building.

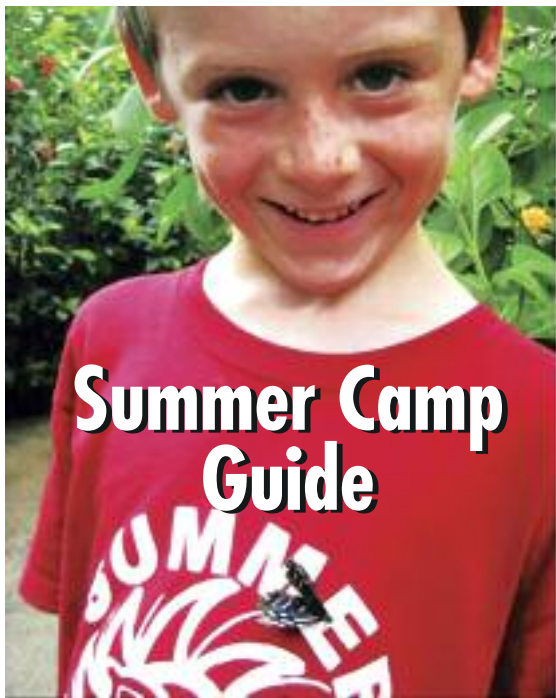
By Carol Roberts

When Keven Burnett, Stapleton's Master Community Association executive director, reviews the numbers, he sees an exceptionally high level of interest and participation in the MCA's community events.

About a year ago, he and his staff began pondering how they could best meet what they saw as a growing demand in the area of cultural arts programming. At the same time, Councilman Chris Herndon was organizing a community discussion of a future use for the old control tower/office building

at MLK and Central Park Blvd. A recurring theme was that an ideal use would bring neighbors together in the iconic structure.

As Burnett's group moved forward, a community cultural center at the tower began to look *(continued on page 21)*

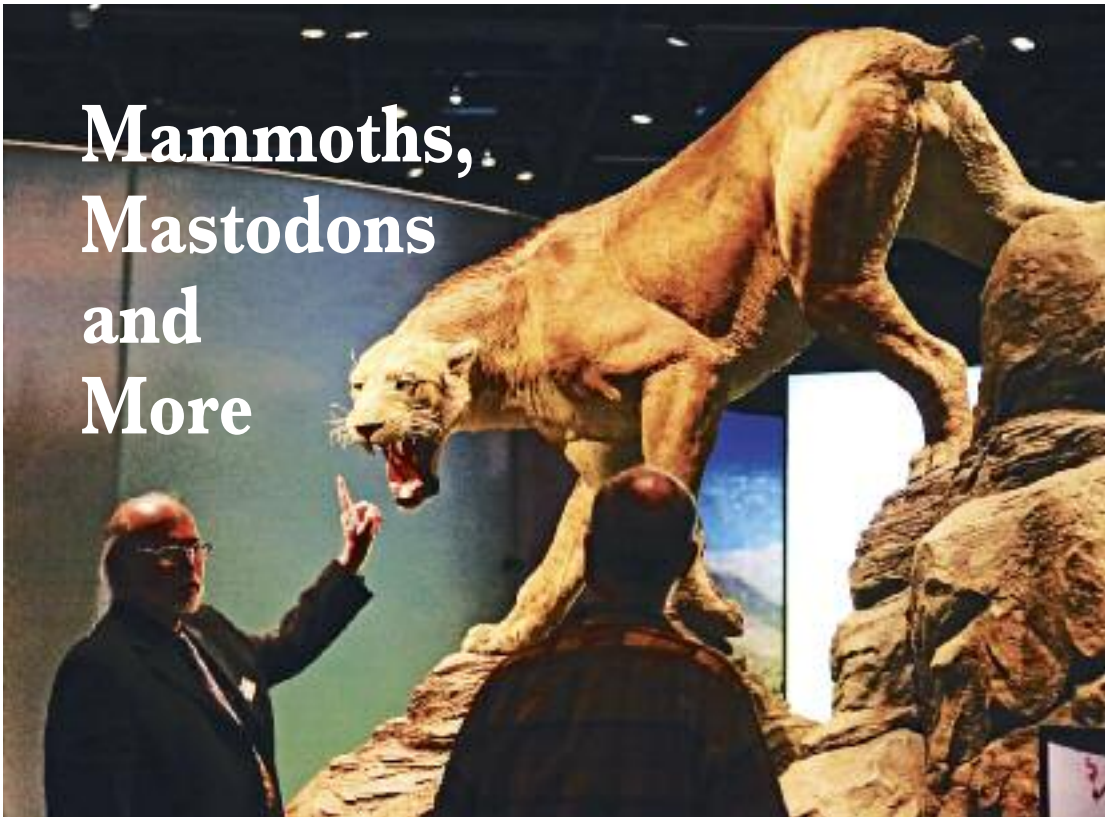


Summer Camp Guide

Check out the wide range of local summer camps starting on page 25. Photo courtesy of Montclair International School.

Jeff Stephenson points toward a life-sized model of the American scimitar-toothed cat in the exhibit *Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age*, at the Museum of Nature and Science. Stephenson is the collections manager in the zoology department at the museum. The exhibit, created by The Field Museum of Chicago, opened in mid-February and will run until May 27.

View more photos on page 31.



Mammoths, Mastodons and More

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

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Like us at
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It's always summer at the Central Park Rec Center pool.



CALENDAR

Events listed below are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC or support nonprofits.
(Additional events are listed on pages 16-19. Recurring events are listed on page 18.)

MARCH

Saturday, March 2

Kids' Night Out. 6-9pm. Central Park Rec Center* events@stapletoncommunity.com

Saturday, March 2

Neighborhood Partners Environmental Team (NPET): Season Kick-Off
Volunteers needed to help clean up Sand Creek Regional Greenway, Bluff Lake, Westerly Creek and Montview Park in Aurora. All are welcome, including children. Meet at Sand Creek trailhead. More info: CFry@Sandcreekgreenway.org or Lcorrell@dotnet.net

Saturday, March 2

Denver Art Museum—SCFD Free Day
720-865-5000 www.denverartmuseum.org

Tuesday, March 5, 12 & 19

Yoga at the MCA. 5:45-6:45pm. MCA Community Room* events@stapletoncommunity.com

Wednesday, March 13

Aurora Planning Board hearing on proposed 26th Ave Park, Aurora Municipal Bldg, 6pm
15151 E. Alameda Parkway, first floor

Wednesday, March 13

Stapleton Community meeting with City Councilman Chris Herndon
City officials will be present and feedback will be solicited about marijuana regulation
6pm Swigert-McAuliffe School

Thursday, March 14

Active Minds Seminar "Native Americans of Colorado" 7-8pm. MCA Community Room* events@stapletoncommunity.com

MARCH

Tuesday, March 19

Park Hill Community meeting with Councilwoman Susman (720-337-5555) and Councilman Herndon (720.337.7711)
Call to confirm and get time and location

Thursday, March 21

DPS Board meeting
Check board calendar at board.dpsk12.org (meetings link-upper right) for likely vote on Stapleton TIF-funded school

Wednesday, March 27

Denver Botanic Gardens - SCFD Free Day
720-865-3500 www.botanicgardens.org

Thursday, March 28

Active Minds Seminar "Venezuela" 7-8pm.
MCA Community Room* events@stapletoncommunity.com

Saturday, March 30

Egg Scramble on The Green. 10-11:30am. The Green* events@stapletoncommunity.com

*More information at Events@stapletoncommunity.com
Stapleton MCA Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St.
Central Park Rec Center, 9651 MLK Jr. Blvd.
The Green, E. 29th Ave. and Roslyn St.

**The Front Porch welcomes submissions of upcoming local events and story ideas (see information on p.17).
Deadline is the 15th for the next issue.**

STAPLETON

Events & Announcements

MARCH

Please Update Your ActiveNet Account at StapletonCommunity.com Today!

The MCA's ActiveNet registration system was recently upgraded and will now require residents to update the birthdates for all members in their households. Residents will need to update all birthdates in the system before they register for any MCA programming, renew Resident Membership Cards or reserve facilities in Stapleton. Your account can be updated anytime online from March 1-17. We appreciate your cooperation and are looking forward to an amazing summer season! If you have questions regarding your account, please email signup@stapletoncommunity.com or call the MCA at 303.388.0724.

Swim Team Registration Dates

Online registration for the Metro and SSL will open for returning swimmers at noon on March 13. Online resident registration will open for new swimmers on March 15. Nonresident registration will open at noon on April 1. For more information, visit the "Swim Team" page listed under "Aquatics" at www.stapletoncommunity.com.

Swim Lesson Registration Dates

Stapleton MCA swim lesson registration will be open to residents at noon on March 15. Registration is available at www.stapletoncommunity.com. Nonresident registration will open at noon on April 1. Nonresidents must complete the registration form, located at www.stapletoncommunity.com. Please send all completed forms to the MCA via fax (303.388.1673), email (signup@stapletoncommunity.com) or in person.

Egg Scramble on The Green

The MCA's annual Egg Scramble is scheduled for Sat., March 30 from 10-11:30am at The Green. Our traditional scramble will be divided into four age groups. Candy and toy-filled eggs will be spread along The Green and children will be free to journey through the course and collect up to 10 eggs. The Easter Bunny will also be joining us for complimentary spring-time photos at the bunny booth! Event details will be announced in upcoming MCA emails.

Kids' Night Out

Kids' Night Out will be held from 6-9pm at the Central Park Recreation Center on Sat., March 2. This event will include competitive games, arts and crafts, pool time and a chicken nugget dinner (if your child has special dietary needs, please plan accordingly). Due to the nature of the event and safety of our participants, all participants must be 7-12 years old on the day of the event. Registration is now open and pre-registration is only \$10/child (cash, credit cards and checks accepted). Enrollment will be capped at 200 participants per event. Register your child today at www.stapletoncommunity.com. Pre-registration will end at 4pm on Thurs.,

Feb. 28. Participants interested in registering for the event after the pre-registration date must visit Central Park Rec to sign up for the event (if space is available, cash or checks only).

Active Minds

Native Americans of Colorado

Join Active Minds as we tell stories of the original inhabitants of Colorado. From Mesa Verde to the high plains, we will trace the civilizations of the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Pueblo and other tribes to understand Colorado's Native American history and legacy. This event is sponsored by MorningStar Senior Living and will be held in the MCA Community Room (2823 Roslyn St.) from 7-8pm on Thurs., March 14.

Venezuela

Join Active Minds as we explore the origins of this conflict and what the future holds given Chavez's health issues. This program is sponsored by Juniper Village at Aurora and will be held in the MCA Community Room from 7-8pm on Thurs., March 28.

Active Minds events are free and open to everyone. For more, visit www.activeminds.com.

2013 MCA Event, Aquatic & Swim Team Sponsorships

The MCA has created a variety of sponsorship packages for events, aquatics and the swim team. Aquatic (pool) sponsorships will be chosen by lottery. To apply for a sponsorship, email sponsorships@stapletoncommunity.com. All aquatic sponsorship applicants or their representatives must be present at the mandatory Aquatic Sponsorship Lottery, to be held on Wed., April 17 from 6:30-7:30pm in the MCA Community Room. Lottery winners will be announced at the meeting. Event and swim team sponsorships will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to sponsor an event, pool or swim team, email sponsorships@stapletoncommunity.com.

Concession Stand at Movies on The Green

The MCA is looking for nonprofit organizations to work the concession stand at the Movies on The Green this summer. This is a great opportunity for nonprofits to raise money for their organizations! To sign up for the concession stand, email events@stapletoncommunity.com.

Dani Mead
Communications Coordinator



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By Courtney Drake-McDonough

Driven by our state's relatively easy referendum process (signatures don't have to geographically represent the whole state and the constitution can be amended with a simple majority vote), Colorado passed Amendment 64, which legalizes the recreational use of marijuana. This has created a host of challenges for Colorado's elected officials. Together with people representing all areas of our community, elected officials are scrambling to figure out how to regulate marijuana while avoiding a minefield of problems including the fact that marijuana use remains illegal at the federal level.

Where things stand now:

Discussions of how to regulate marijuana under Amendment 64 are underway at many levels of state and local government—and the process is turning out to be like peeling back the layers of an onion. Each reveals new issues of its own including permitting, licensing, residency rules, tax revenues, increased police resources, the potential for a black market, anti-trust laws and the ability for cities to opt out. And the fact that marijuana is banned under federal law is a big



Medical marijuana dispensaries along Colfax near Stapleton.

Regulating Marijuana—It's Complicated

issue, says Denver City Council President Pro Tem Chris Herndon, who represents District 11 and is a Stapleton resident. "We could certainly put forth a lot of effort and time to craft ordinances and legislation and then a year from now (the federal government) could come in and possibly sue the state or the city for what we've done. Absolutely, that is a possibility and we're hoping to get some guidance from the federal government to prevent that from happening."

Who are the players?

A Regulatory Framework Working Group has been assigned to consider regulations, receive recommendations from all other working groups and make recommendations to the Implementation Task Force formed by Gov. Hickenlooper.

The working groups and task force are comprised of elected offi-

cials from all levels of government; representatives from government planning, taxation and revenue including medical marijuana and liquor licensing; law enforcement; health care; business owners; and attorneys.

Mary Beth Susman, Denver City

What's the timing?

The calendar for implementing Amendment 64 is:

May 8: State legislature must complete passage of enabling legislation for implementation of adult-use marijuana under Amendment 64. **July 1:** Colorado Department of Revenue shall adopt necessary regulations.

October 1: Colorado Department of Revenue shall begin accepting and processing license applications.

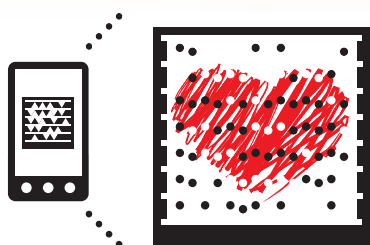
January 1, 2014: Colorado Department of Revenue must begin issuing licenses (the law requires a 90-day turnaround of applications to Department response).

(continued on page 28)

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HUMAN SERVICES

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Community Turns Out to Learn

By Carol Roberts

A year ago in the DPS community engagement process with Stapleton and Park Hill, participants were frustrated because people thought DPS had an agenda but wasn't revealing it. At the February 6 community meeting, Superintendent Boasberg addressed that subject straight on, though he called it a "damned if you do, damned if you don't" situation. "If I say, here's my best thinking to achieve the goals of quality, diversity and equity, folks will say, 'His mind's made up, what are we doing here?'" If I don't say anything, folks will say, 'I know you're thinking something, why don't you share it with us and we can at least have a dialogue about

it?" That said, Boasberg launched into a presentation of his "best thinking as we sit here today." He proposed doing away with Quebec as a dividing line and create one enrollment zone encompassing the McAuliffe and Smiley boundaries. Any student who lives in that zone would have the opportunity and priority to attend any of the middle schools in that broader community. With five high quality middle schools—McAuliffe IB at Smiley, a new middle school program at Swigert, a new middle school north of I-70, Bill Roberts and DSST Stapleton—Boasberg says their calculations show there will be more seats than there will be 6th graders in 2014 and they are confident that a very high percentage of families will get their first choice.



Tina Turner Walters, Lori Pace, Miki Wilde and Karla Rehring participate in a small group discussion focusing on the challenges and opportunities offered by the Smiley facility.

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About Smiley's Future

(A member of the audience disputed that and Boasberg made a commitment that his staff would meet and go over their numbers down to the finest detail). The regional enrollment plan would include transportation provided by DPS.

Boasberg went on to explain that neighborhood schools may reflect the immediate community around them, but they do not reflect the diversity of the broader community. By having a larger enrollment area, schools are more likely to capture the diversity of the city. "It's a value I care about deeply, it's a value many parents care about, it's a value I hear from kids. When I talk to kids, they overwhelmingly say, 'I want to be in a school that looks like my city.'"

A parent expressed concern that kids need to "feel known" and in a large school that might be a problem. Boasberg pointed out that many schools in this city are large, but, "We don't want to have our academic programs sized to fit our buildings. We want to have our academic programs sized to fit our kids." What this means is that since McAuliffe, for example, has an ideal size of about 600, it will have to share a building whether it moves to Smiley or to North Stapleton because DPS can't leave empty seats in the schools and they won't change the ideal program size. DPS staff also pointed out that with McAuliffe at approximately 600,

Above: DPS Superintendent Tom Boasberg points to a PowerPoint presentation as he speaks to a large crowd of parents about future use of the Smiley building.

Above right: Ivonne Tovar, a Spanish translator arranged by DPS, speaks into a microphone for the Spanish speakers using earphones.

there would be no need for Venture Prep High School to move out of Smiley because there is room for both programs.

A long time Park Hill resident pointed out that Smiley has had an unhappy history with programs and principals starting and leaving frequently and asked (to loud and long applause) if the district would make a meaningful commitment to this school (McAuliffe) in this building (Smiley). Boasberg acknowledged that Smiley hasn't thrived in the past, though they have tried to bolster the school through strong leaders and programs. He said Smiley now gets more additional resources per student than any other school in the district except North. But he added that the district would absolutely commit to supporting the next program in the building.

A second community meeting was held on February 26 (while this paper was at the printer) for DPS to respond to questions that were submitted at the earlier meeting and discuss the process that will ensure high-quality middle schools for NE Denver.



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Serenade in Blue

Swing band keeps toe-tapping big band music fresh for all ages

By Laurie Dunklee

Dr. Bill Valentine and his Serenade in Blue Swing Band dare you to keep still in your seat while they're on the bandstand.

The 14-piece big band plays classic arrangements from the bands of the 1930s and '40s, as well as a smattering of Latin, rock and blues tunes.

"We keep the music of World War II's big band dance music alive: the music of bands like Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, Count Basie and Duke Ellington," said leader Bill Valentine. "The music is an American treasure that stays fresh because it helps people have fun together."

Serenade in Blue is gaining a following among listeners, and especially among dancers.

"We're a dancers' dance band," said Valentine. "Dancers in their 20s like the fast East Coast swing, the jitterbug moves where the girls get thrown in the air. Couples in their 'elder youth years' prefer the slower tempos. Others like Latin. We play it all."

Performances often include a dance lesson taught by a professional. Last summer the band performed at Stapleton's Founders' Green and teacher Maggie Francucci had all ages dancing.

"Even though it was hot, hundreds of people were out there dancing," Valentine said.

The band is comprised of a diverse group of players ranging in age from 47 to 82. They are retired music teachers, doctors and other professionals who share their love of music and the joy of playing together. The instrumentation represents the traditional big band lineups: three saxophones, three trumpets, four trombones, a four-piece rhythm section and often a female vocalist. They rehearse each week in Valentine's 1,400-square-foot, soundproof Stapleton basement.

"Our members are all top-notch, 'first chair' players, and our ensemble is very tight," said Valentine, adding that the band has almost no turnover and he has 74 musicians on his "sub" list (substitute players willing to step in if needed).

Valentine has amassed more than 3,000 written arrangements for big band. Most of them match the arrangements that were played in the '30s and '40s, but some are new.



Check out the video of Serenade in Blue at www.FrontPorchStapleton.com

Above: Director and saxophone player Bill Valentine leads the Serenade in Blue Swing Band in the rehearsal space he has created in the basement of his Stapleton home.

Right: Donna Oliver sings with the band.

Far right: Ron Malpiede, also a saxophone player, grew up in Park Hill. Behind Malpiede, playing the guitar, is Bill Wassmund, who was a software engineer at the old Stapleton airport.



"We like some of the new arrangements best, and we also write some of our own," he said. Several of the players have roots in the local neighborhoods. Serenade in Blue guitarist Bill Wassmund was a software engineer at Stapleton International Airport and enjoys sharing historic photos of the area before it was re-developed. Tenor saxophonist Ron Malpiede grew up in Park Hill. Leader Dr. Bill Valentine—the "Dr." title refers to his PhD in management—formed the band four years ago when he and his wife moved to Stapleton from Dallas, Texas. Valentine first played alto sax in a big band when he was 18, stationed at Fourth Army headquarters in San Antonio in the 1960s. "Since then I wanted to start a big band," he said. "I told

my wife I'd do it once I retired and we settled somewhere." They moved to Denver to be near their two grandchildren in Evergreen. Denver is a good place to be because its musical history includes a healthy tradition of big band music, Valentine said. "During the big band era from 1935 to 1945, most of the big bands played in Denver," he said, adding that Denver had its share of homegrown talent. "Paul Whiteman, one of the first big band leaders, was raised in Denver. His

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dad, Wilberforce Whiteman, was choir director at Trinity Methodist Church at 18th and Broadway.”

Before moving to Denver, Valentine spent most of his professional career as an investigator with the U.S. government’s Office for Civil Rights in Dallas. In the 1970s he worked with the U.S. Department of Education to desegregate the schools.

“It was not easy because there was still a lot of hostility around desegregation,” he said. “The historic Central High School case in Little Rock, Arkansas, was in our district. We stopped using government cars and started using rentals because the Ku Klux Klan made it dangerous for us.”

In the 1980s he went to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where he investigated cases of labor discrimination. One case involved a school bus driver with a prosthetic leg. “He proved he was strong enough to do the job by carrying his physician up the stairs,” said Valentine.

Valentine advocated for fair treatment for minorities, children with disabilities, women and older people. “In order to see change for the betterment of society,

mindsets need to change,” he said. “Things are better than they used to be, but we’ll always have people who are unwilling to change.”

Valentine and his wife, Sherry, married 47 years ago on Valentine’s Day, are enjoying the changes brought about by grandparenthood. They belong to a grandparents’ group in Stapleton that meets every Tuesday.

“The women walk together and the men—we call ourselves ‘the geezers’—meet at Panera for coffee,” he said. “We talk about everything under the sun. We’re a diversified group, a conglomerate of different backgrounds. We have intellectual discussions but we also talk about getting a bocce ball court here in Stapleton.

“We are loving what we do, like the band loves playing great music. The music really reflects people’s inner needs because it was written during wartime. It communicates with the soul.”

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Just the Facts

Insights from a Not-so-mad Scientist
by Whitey Hagadorn



Science is all around us. It impacts us every day. So does scientific thinking—a process where we separate fact from fiction, where we filter data from common knowledge, and where we address issues in an evaluative framework that is free from preconceptions. This approach empowers us to make informed decisions based on “the facts.”

But doing so isn't easy. Thinking like a scientist, and using data to decipher complex problems, to evaluate “sides” of an issue, or to explore future investments requires us to set aside what we believe in order to consider and filter all the available evidence. Scientific thinking also requires us to dig deep to the roots of issues and make sure we're comparing apples to apples whenever possible. At the crux of this process is separating our observations from our interpretations—and never letting our “hunch” color our reading of, or selection of, the evidence.

Sometimes boiling things down to the facts is the most straightforward part of a problem, but is only the beginning of a larger, thornier process that spans politics, business, religion and societal concerns. For example, scientists all agree that human-induced global warming is occurring, but knowing this does not make clear how to best slow or halt these changes, especially given our profoundly diverse individual needs and national goals.

In this column, we'll use the scientific process to explore issues that matter to you—whether they are science-related or not. We'll mine complex data

to seek answers, but not get mired in jargon and terminology. We'll have fun and poke fun, while exploring the underbelly of hot-button issues. I'll try to write in a way that is understandable to non-scientists, in hopes this will help you communicate with your kids and colleagues about approaching things scientifically. As we embark on this journey, I'd be honored if this column becomes your monthly pit stop—for learning, for questioning common knowledge, and for becoming better-informed citizens of the planet.

The focus of this column will be broad. Topics might include your health, the environment, technology, science, or anything in between. One month we might debunk the health hazards of using marijuana whereas in another we'll identify which sports are the most risky for our kids, and at what age(s) and why. Sometimes we'll explore environmental issues, like whether we should worry that our houses sit atop the largest toxic waste plume in the Rockies...or if fracking is the DDT of our time, or just a new siren song for tree-hugging blowhards. Sometimes we'll get economic, evaluating if a proposed bus line near your house is a noisy recipe for decreased home equity, or if it's a boon to your bottom line. At other times we'll report on new discoveries, like the recent meteor shower in Russia, the new fossils in Sand Creek, or reports that sunscreen is dangerous for adolescent girls.

For these journeys, I'll be your host—a scientist and parent with admittedly broad interests and too much curiosity for my own good. Trained as a geologist, I've

(continued on page 14)



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The Transformer

The Front Porch has interviewed many different people in this space: our congresswoman, the former chancellor of Colorado State University, well-known musicians and the man the Stapleton library is named after. “People Who Make a Difference” can and do show up in unexpected places in our lives. You never know when the person who is simply standing outside a local coffee shop can be inspiring or their story somehow transformative for your life.

John Alexander, 63, grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. By the age of 17, he was on the streets running a life of crime, despite parents who both worked and had much greater plans for his life. His criminal life included forging currency and food stamps. He gave up his criminal activities, found regular employment and became addicted to crack. His life went into a long downward spiral because of his addiction and he lost his wife and children as well as his home and all his possessions.

Today he has been drug-free for three years, has started his own outreach ministry, lectures on issues of crime and addiction at Metro State and, yes, sells *The Voice* (a Denver-based newspaper sold on street corners around town) in front of the Stapleton Starbucks almost every morning. Alexander takes responsibility for his missteps in life and tells a compelling story about what his life is about now.



John Alexander sells *The Voice* in front of the Stapleton Starbucks.

Jon Meredith: What led you to a life on the streets and crime at the age of 17?

John Alexander: I didn’t grow up in a dysfunctional family at all. My Mom worked and my Dad ran a recreation center in St. Paul. They did their best to teach me right from wrong but they felt everyone has their own God-given path.

JM: What kinds of crime did you become involved with?

JA: I had the ability to reproduce anything on a piece of paper. I sold the old food stamp booklets at wholesale all over the country. Distributors would then resell them to people who would use them to buy food.

became homeless. I lost my wife and kids as well. I wandered around Denver for years, doing whatever I could to buy crack, and living in crack houses.

JM: How did you come upon *The Voice* and selling it when you were so deep into addiction?

JA: I saw some people selling the paper on the 16th Street Mall and I went to *The Voice* offices. They will give you 10 free papers to start and the money you make from that allows you to buy the paper the next day. They tell you how to manage your small business and how to sell. I looked at it as a way for me to have my own business.

JM: However, you were still buying crack with the proceeds?

JA: Yes, when I started that is true. People would come by and tell me to keep the paper but would hand me \$5, \$10 and even \$20. They would tell me that the money was a “vote” for me and they would offer encouragement. People kept coming back and treating me like the man I intended to be. The clash between the turmoil of my drug life and the life I was building selling the paper, made me resolve to quit drugs. Now it has been three years since I have done crack. I am now here in Stapleton every day selling very early in the morning. If I were still doing drugs I certainly wouldn’t be here every morning.

JM: Do people say horrendous things to you and accuse you of being a beggar?

JA: Every day. You can’t print half the things that are said to me each and every day. On the other hand many people greet me every day and are friendly and courteous. They ask me about my life and I ask the same of them. I figure if someone is rude or ignores me, that really is their problem and I shouldn’t worry about them. I find in the long run I learn from someone who is rude. At Metro a man kept coming by and saying the nastiest things to me. Every day this happened for months, something different but always nasty. I would avoid him by talking with someone else or looking the other way. One day he came right up to me; I thought he was going to hit me. He stood a foot from me and said, “I want to apologize to you, I am dying of cancer and I have taken my anxiety out on you.” He then gave me a large donation and I became what he called his “unofficial therapist.” My life has been made up of many chapters, not just one. I have had a life of crime, a life as a drug addict and now a life of giving to God. The gentleman who was so nasty became a close friend and then one day he didn’t come around. I haven’t seen him since but he remains an important chapter in my life.

Mr. Alexander is now reunited with his wife and he has relationships with each of his three children and his six grandchildren.

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Each month, the Indie Prof reviews a current film in the theater and a second film that is available on DVD or an instant-streaming service.

Inescapable (2012)

This new film directed by Canadian Ruba Nadda starts with a flourish—Toronto banker and Syrian national Adib (Alexander Siddig) finds that his daughter has gone missing in Syria. Immediately, he sets off to find her. Yes, this sounds very much like the plot of (two) recent Liam Neeson films, but *Taken* this is not. Writer/director Nadda imbues the film with a darkness and emotional heft that we rarely see in American action films—if we should even label this film as such. The film moves slowly at points and defies easy labels, but in the end, satisfies.

Complementing Siddig is Marisa Tomei, who plays his Syrian ex-fiancée Fatima and assists him upon arrival in Damascus. I initially feared Tomei was miscast as a Syrian woman, but she wins the part. She is brooding, angry, hurt, and charged with energy as the woman he left behind; she and Siddig have an immediate chemistry that underscores their past. We soon learn more about Adib's backstory and why he left Fatima behind.

The tension plays out not only through the action but through the emotions of the characters—both psychological and sociological. The political is also omnipresent: as Adib and Fatima argue upon their reunion, they stand

at a distance from each other. In the background, in-between them, is a banner of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The idea is obvious but powerful: the president is separating the people.

Simple touches add to the careful atmosphere—a Mary Cassatt painting in the background of Adib's Toronto home; crossed swords hanging on the office wall of his old nemesis in Damascus; constant soldier patrols in the streets; a single shaft of light in a bathhouse. All add symbolic depth.

The film has its flaws, such as thinly drawn secondary characters and some unnecessarily claustrophobic cinematography at times. It also suffers from shooting on location in South Africa as a stand-in for Syria (both Egypt and Syria denied shooting requests), where the setting is alarmingly Western at points. The film is good, not great, but it is worth a visit to the Sie FilmCenter. *Inescapable* starts March 1 at the Sie FilmCenter, 2510 E. Colfax Ave.

Rarely do we get to see films directed by women. Rarer still do we get to see solid foreign films directed by women.

You will like this film if you enjoyed:

- *Incendies*
- *Drive*
- *In a Better World*

Martha Marcy May Marlene (2011)

Martha Marcy May Marlene is a quiet film that boils beneath the surface. For much of the film, we observe the characters and engage their state of mind. The pacing is deliberate, but at the



Elizabeth Olsen (left) plays Martha in her screen debut in *Martha Marcy May Marlene*. Sarah Paulson plays her estranged older sister Lucy.

same time there is an underlying menace to the story that rears up every so often, and at just the right moments. It is the work of first-time director Sean Durkin with the screen debut of actress Elizabeth Olsen. Both knock it out of the park.

The story centers on the main character, Martha, played by Olsen, who at the beginning of the film escapes from a cult where she's been living for several years. Her sister picks her up and takes her in, and the plot proceeds to tell Martha's story in flashbacks. The cult is a small collective living on a farm in upstate N.Y., ruled by the charismatic and dangerous Patrick (wonderfully played by John Hawkes). The similarities to the Manson "family" cult are obvious, but quietly played. The men seep out into the night to rob and harass rich homeowners. The women play domestic roles. Eventually, Martha runs away. The title of the film is derived from the multiple identities of the main character: her given name, her "cult name," and the name all the women at the collective use

when answering the phone. It also speaks to the underlying conflict within the main character herself.

The film's strengths are in its intense character studies and its insistence on simple camerawork and other filmic elements that don't distract from the story and the acting out of that story. Every character, no matter how small, is given a chance to live. This is a film that wants you to sit with

those characters, understand their thoughts, walk in their shoes, and then feel what they feel. It asks a lot of the viewer, but it pays off—even with a very ambiguous and possibly frustrating ending. The stories of our lives don't always end so neatly. The film is available on DVD, Comcast on-demand, and at the Denver public libraries.

You will like this film if you enjoyed:

- *Winter's Bone*
- *The Descendants*
- *Take Shelter*

Vincent Piturro, PhD, teaches Cinema Studies at Metropolitan State University of Denver. He can be reached at vpiturro@msudenver.edu.



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Kyle and Brooke Fabra, seated, and their manager, Jon Evans, show off a sample of the fresh ingredients and just-baked bread used in the sandwiches at the new Fat Jack's sub shop that recently opened in the shopping center on the west side of Quebec at 35th St.

Hip & Healthy Subs

By Nancy Burkhart

Fat Jack's Super Subs started about 13 years ago with a shop at East Colfax Ave. and Lafayette St. and two stores were subsequently added. About a year ago, when Kyle Fabra and his wife, Brooke, took over Fat Jack's, they decided Stapleton should become the fourth location to feature the hip super sub shop—and they opened at 3535 Quebec St. (behind the Sonic) in February.

"We were fortunate to get Fat Jack's, and saw an opportunity to grow the business," Kyle explained. "Stapleton was the next logical choice. I've been fascinated with the great community. I have lots of friends who live in the community and who say how much they love it."

Freshness and healthy choices are featured on the Fat Jack's Super Subs menu.

"We bake our bread fresh every half hour to an hour," Kyle said. "We bake all our French bread and rolls in-house. We use top-quality meats and cheeses. We have low-carb wraps, if bread is something people want to stay away from. We have a delicious sliced wheat that is a healthier option than the French roll. We're

going to start offering an assortment of different salads. And, instead of offering bags of chips, we offer fresh fruit with a sandwich or meal. We have started offering hummus and fresh vegetables like cucumbers and carrots for a healthier option."

Children also have healthier choices at Fat Jack's. The "Little Jack" menu offers a half sandwich, fresh fruit and a small drink or water for \$4. On Sundays, children under 12 years old eat for free from 10am to 6pm.

There is no minimum order for delivery from Fat Jack's.

"Delivery is a very big part of our business," Kyle said. "We deliver from the time we open to the time we close. We'll deliver just one sandwich. We know that not everybody can get away from the office or home to eat."

Catering also can be arranged through Fat Jack's for business lunches or birthday party meals.

For those who want an interesting meal in an interesting environment, Fat Jack's Super Subs provides the atmosphere too.

"We have local (continued on page 14)



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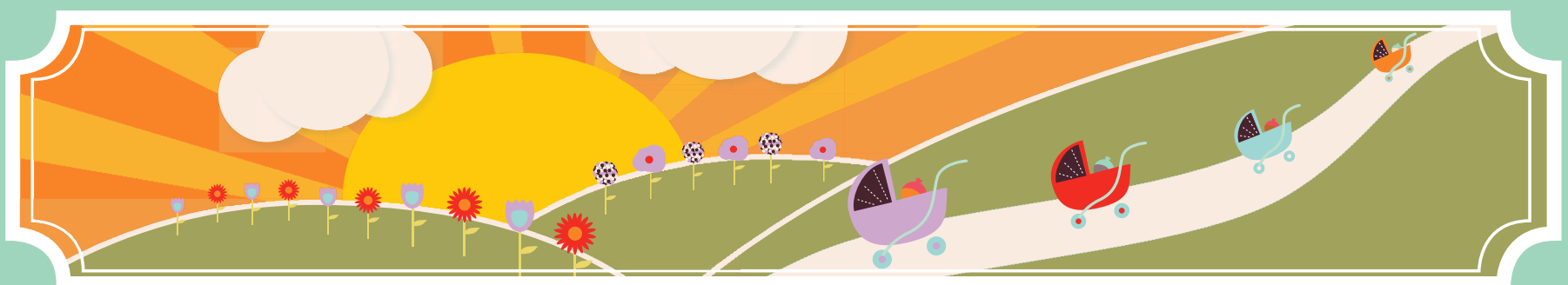


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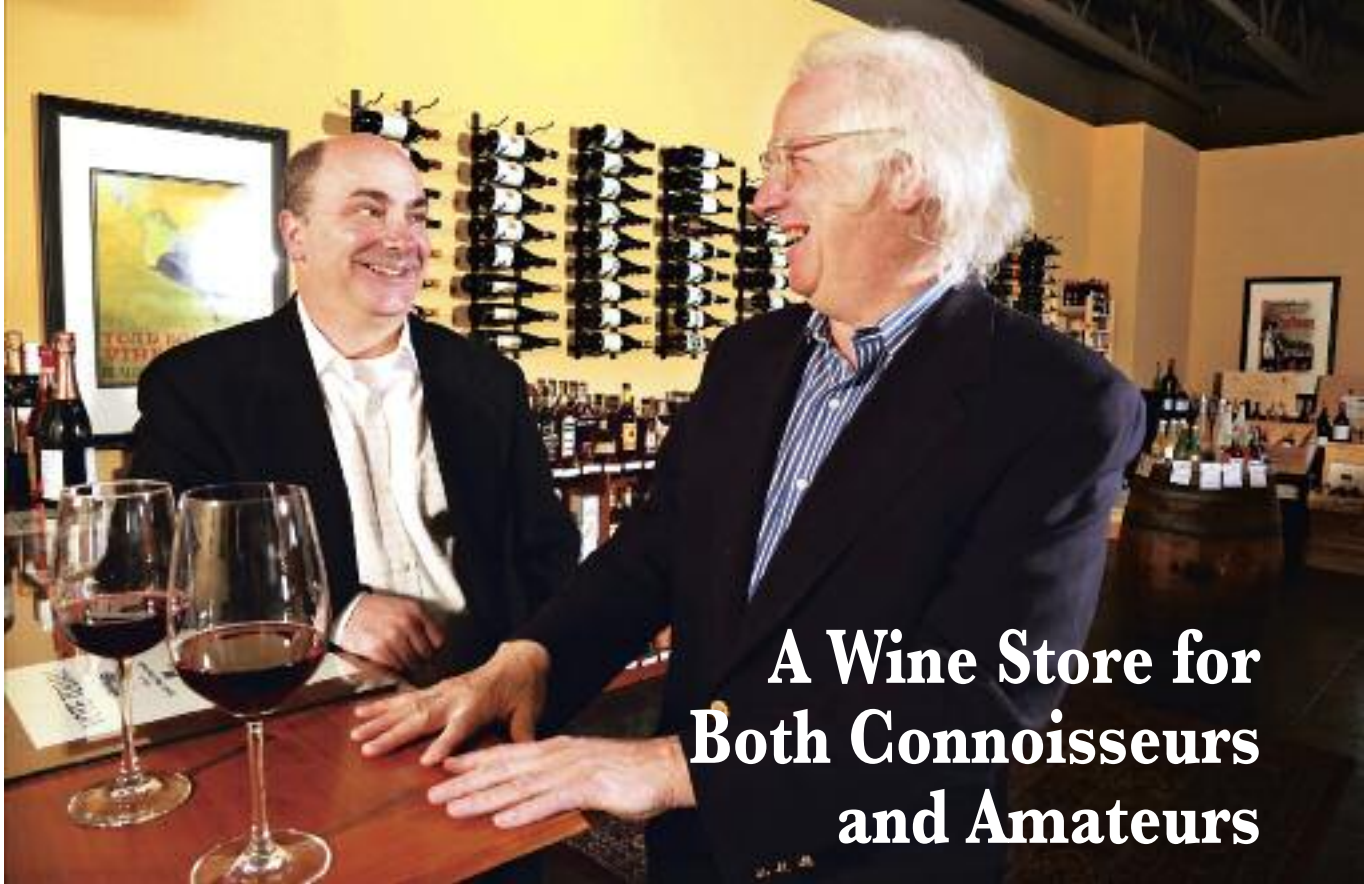
Dr. Felle moved to Stapleton in 2008 where she lives with her husband and 2 children.



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A Wine Store for Both Connoisseurs and Amateurs

By Nancy Burkhart

Both the wine pro who knows the expensive French vineyards and has an extensive collection in his home wine cellar and the amateurs who search for the best \$9 bottle of wine can feel at home at Wine Cellars the Bottle Shop of Stapleton.

Rich Motarjeme and Carl Brotsker have owned Wine Cellars about a year at 2955 Ulster St. They are just moving the bottle shop to the unit next door and, in late April, plan to open a new bistro concept in the Wine Cellars' original space.

Both Motarjeme and Brotsker have studied wine most of their lives.

"I grew up with food and wine in my family as a personal interest and passion," Motarjeme said. "My father was an avid collector from the late '70s on. I owned a commercial construction company in California that designed and built personal and commercial-sized wine cellars. I spent a lot of time in Napa Valley working with the major wine sellers, such as Mondavi. During that time, I became an avid collector of wine."

Brotsker lived in Europe, where he came to know wines. He and Motarjeme have traveled throughout Europe and South Africa.

"We have been getting our feet dirty on the ground with wine makers, walking the vineyards," Brotsker said. "We know about the costs. We like to know where the wine comes from, about the soil. It helps us transfer that

Rich Motarjeme and Carl Brotsker, co-owners of Wine Cellars the Bottle Shop of Stapleton, look forward to their imminent move of the wine shop into the adjoining unit so they can remodel the current space into a bistro.

emotion, that passion, to the customers when they ask us about the wines of the world.

"Rich and I have had restaurant experience as well, as have many of our staff. We're very good at wine pairings. We understand food and wine. We have a great feel for being able to pair food and wine together."

"We are upscale in our knowledge, but we're casual in our approach to our customers," Motarjeme explained. "We regularly lead customers to a great bottle of \$9 wine. And, we have some of the top wines in the world. We can work on both sides of that fence with comfort..."

"And with a degree of panache and joy," Brotsker added.

Wine Cellars offers free wine tastings on Fridays and Saturdays from 4-7pm.

"We taste wines with a pretty good price range at different levels," Motarjeme said. "We also have the ability to do specialty tastings on Saturday

(continued on page 14)

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Wine

(continued from page 13) from noon to 2pm, and we will do beer tastings and specialty spirit tastings. Once the bistro opens, we'll be able to provide parties. We also provide a sommelier for home tastings, and we'll be able to provide a chef when the bistro opens."

Specific requests for wine favorites are readily accepted at Wine Cellars.

"We love it so much that we will try to track down a wine like sleuths," Brotsker said. "We have been very successful at finding them. We're more than happy to do that service."

Wine Cellars also features a climate-controlled wine room where people can rent lockers.

"If people are thinking of starting a collection and want the wines to be stored while they are building a cellar in their home, they can use our personalized, small lockers," Motarjeme said. "There also are larger wine lockers that can accommodate from one to three cases of wine. We can consult on home wine cellars if they want to have one built."

Motarjeme and Brotsker also will act as consultants to assess and value wines.


"We will be able to assess and review wines that they may currently have," Motarjeme said. "Sometimes a parent

passes away and leaves a basement of wine. We can go in and assess it and give them an idea of value.

"As owners, we don't just own the store. We live here as well. We reside right here on the Stapleton 'island.' Everybody we've hired lives here in Stapleton too. We are firm believers in keeping it super local and supporting our community."

Wine Cellars the Bottle Shop of Stapleton is open at 10am seven days a week. Closing is at 9pm Monday through Thursday, 10pm Friday and Saturday, and 8pm Sunday.

Information is available by calling 303.780.9463 or emailing carl@winecellarstapleton.com.



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Just the Facts

(continued from page 8)



Whitey Hagadorn in the field in Saudi Arabia, recording the characteristics of 600-million-year-old rock strata.

me, and I'm writing this column as a fellow Coloradan, hoping to learn more about issues that impact all of us, and that influence our next generation. If there's a topic that you'd like me to address here, please let me know—we'll try to get straight to the facts.

James "Whitey" Hagadorn, PhD, is a scientist at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Suggestions and comments welcome at jwhagadorn@dmns.org.



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Subs

(continued from page 11) artists come in and paint the tables into some type of creative work that has to do with Fat Jack's in either a straightforward or abstract work," Kyle said. "Every six months or a year, we will hold a charity auction where people can buy the tabletop and all the money will go to whatever charity we're working with at that time."

"We have a very big music theme," he said. "Most of our employees are in bands. We find it to be a fun environment. There's a sound system throughout. We always have music from the '60s up until now playing. At Stapleton, we have random LPs lining the walls. It's a cool environment. We've got artists from the '70s, '80s and '90s. We want people to not only have a sandwich, but a good experience."

"We're also going to have a couple of arcade games there. The old arcade games have solidified their place in Denver culture. It's a family environment. We try to keep things fun, vibrant and fresh as we can."

Kyle is at the Stapleton Fat Jack's Super Subs every day. Brooke is there during rush hours. The rest of the time she is looking after their children: Ariella, 15; Lucille, 3; and Jack, 1½ years old.

Fat Jack's Super Subs is open 10am-10pm Sunday through Wednesday and from 10am-midnight Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

For information, go to www.fatjackssubs.com. To place orders, call 303.322.SUBS (7827) or email info@fatjackssubs.com.



Messiah Community Church, ELCA

Lent and Easter - You are invited!

*Wednesdays during March, Lenten Services at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.;

*Palm Sunday, March 24, joined service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Park Hill;

*Maundy Thursday, March 28, and Good Friday, March 29, Services at 6:30 p.m.;

*Easter, March 31, Festive Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Easter Service in the German language at 5:00 p.m.

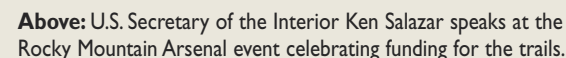
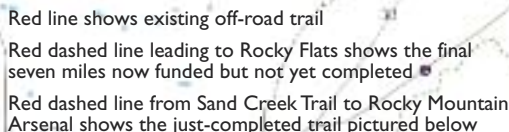
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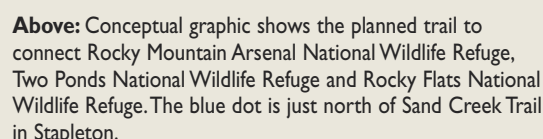


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www.messiahdenver.org

Map courtesy of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.



Below: Cyclists head out on the newly christened trail from the Arsenal to Sand Creek Trail.



Left: Kate Kramer, Executive Director, Sand Creek Regional Greenway, Secretaries LaHood and Salazar and Gov. Hickenlooper get ready for the ribbon cutting to celebrate the new connection of the Sand Creek Trail to the Arsenal.



By Carol Roberts

“Trails in the Rocky Mountain Greenway network are the super highways of the future,” says Kate Kramer, Executive Director of the Sand Creek Greenway Regional Greenway. “Instead of getting in a car and driving to Grandma’s house on the Interstate, children now are getting Grandma on her bicycle and riding together to see our bison, eagles, and other treasures of our Refuges and Parks.”

The Rocky Mountain Greenway (RMG) is a proposed trail and open space network that will connect hundreds of miles of trails in the Denver metropolitan area. Part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Program, the Greenway will create an uninterrupted link between three urban national wildlife refuges—Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Rocky Flats and Two Ponds—as well as Rocky Mountain National Park and community trail systems. The grant just given to the regional US Fish and Wildlife Service by the U.S. Dept of Transportation will build the last seven miles of the trail, linking existing trails to the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

The RMG is a partnership between local governments, the State of Colorado, the Department of the Interior, and other agencies to reconnect residents of the metro Denver area with the outdoors by creating a comprehensive and vibrant trail network that provides the public with improved access to open space and wildlife-dependent recreation.

Information on the Rocky Mountain Greenway provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Cycling directions to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

Cross the Central Park Blvd bridge (sidewalk on east side).

At the light south of I-70, cross to the west side of CPB.

Just north of I-70, look for signs along the paved bicycle trail that heads west toward Bass Pro.

Just past Bass Pro, turn north and follow the trail on the the east side of Northfield Pond Park. Continue north on the trail, going under Northfield Blvd. and onto the sidewalk along Spruce Way.

Just before Trenton St. (south of the Post Office distribution center) turn west into a park area with a paved trail. Follow the trail to the sidewalk along Quebec St and go north along Quebec.

At E 56th Ave, turn east on the sidewalk on the south side.

At Valentia Street, cross at the light and continue east on the north side of E 56th.

About 1/2 mile past Valentia (at the east end of Dick's Sporting Goods Park), there are signs on a paved trail heading north to the Rocky Mtn. Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

Distance one way approximately 5 miles. A map of the route is posted at FrontPorchStapleton.com > Article Supplements.



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3/5 Tuesday- No Regrets Parenting. Pediatrician Dr. Harley Rotbart provides advice for parents to maximize time with children. 6:30-8pm Mitchell Hall, Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St. Registration required: www.childrenscolorado.org/events

3/18 Monday- Baby Boomers as Elders and Public Policy Issues. 9:30am. Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St. FREE. Presented by League of Women Voters. info@LWVDenver.org or 303.321.7571

LIBRARIES

Visit www.denverlibrary.org for children's story hours, book club info, crafts sessions and complete program list. A few selected programs are shown below. All libraries closed 3/25 Monday for Cesar Chavez Day and 3/31 Sunday for Easter.

Peep Your Colorado Contest! Sponsored by History Colorado and Denver Public Library. Create a shoebox-sized diorama of Peeps engaging in Colorado activities or posed at popular Colorado landmarks. Submit your creation (on open days) from 3/18-3/28 at Ross-Broadway, Ross-University Hills, Schlessman Family, Ross-Cherry Creek, or Sam Gary libraries. Then come for viewing/judging at Ross Cherry Creek on Sat., 3/30 at 11am. See participating branches for rules and entry forms.

Central Library, 10 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy. 720.865.1111

Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. 720.865.0250. Closed Mon. Wed. and Sun.

Pauline Robinson Library, 5575 E. 33rd Ave. 720.865.0290. Closed Fri., Sat. and Sun.

Monday to Thursday weekly- After School Is Cool. 4-5pm. Crafts, games and more. See website for specific daily programming.

Mondays- Computer Basics. Teens and adults, 6-7:30pm.

Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. 720.865.0325. Closed Tues., Thurs. and Sun.

Mondays- Tales for Twos Story Time. 10:30-11:00am.

Wednesdays- PJ Story Time. 7-7:30pm.

To submit Front Porch "Local Event" Listings

Email information in the following format by the 15th of the month to FrontPorchEvents@gmail.com. Events will be run subject to space available.

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

Press releases for suggested stories should be sent separately to FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com

Fridays- Book Babies. 10:30-11am.

3/16 Saturday- Feng Shui in the Garden. 11am.

3/23 Saturday- Learn to Play Panflute: Andean Folk Music. 11am

3/30 Saturday- Facing Loss and Finding the Mustard Seed. 11am

Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St (1st and Quebec). 720.865.0000. Closed Wed. and Fri.

3/9 Saturday- Diane Armstrong: Somewhere South of Tuscany. 11am.

3/10 Sunday- Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History. 2pm.

3/11 Monday- Eating the World: Dishes Immigrants Brought to America. 6:30-7:30pm.

3/16 Saturday- Make and Take: Felt Bunny. 10am

3/17 Sunday- Living Between Worlds-Building Bridges of Welcome. 2-4pm.

Special community program for holocaust survivors and descendants, refugees of modern-day genocide and American-born participants sharing stories. With Susan Kaplan.

3/23 Saturday- One Million Bones Project.

Make a cloth bone to be part (continued on page 18)



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(continued from page 17)

of collaborative art installation recognizing millions of genocide victims and survivors in Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Burma. 10am. onemillionbones.org.

NORTHEAST DENVER EVENTS

3/14 Thursday- Guided Seasonal Tour of Bluff Lake Nature Center. 5-6pm. Sunset tour of nature center with historical/ecosystem interpretation. Gather at Welcome Station on parking lot north side. Free. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 3400 Havana Way. **Repeats 3/23 Saturday for morning tour, 10-11am.** REklewis@blufflake.org, www.blufflakenaturecenter.org

Fridays and Saturdays- Wine Tastings. Wine Cellars, the Bottle Shop of Stapleton. 4-7pm. FREE. www.facebook.com/WineCellarsatStapleton

Central Park Recreation Center. Info: www.denvergov.org/recreation, 750.865.0750 or Facebook Central Park Recreation Center. Registering for sports programs.

Denver School of the Performing Arts. Various dance and music performances; many free! See website for details. Quebec and Montview. www.dsa.dpsk12.org/performances

March events- Unity on the Avenue, 4670 E. 17th Ave. www.unityontheavenue.org or 303.322.3901.

March events- Center of Light, New location at 2528 Clermont St, Denver@CentersOfLight.org or 720-384-3001

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE

Montview and Colorado Blvd. www.dmns.org, 303.370.6000

Through May 27 Monday- Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age. Special exhibit ticket required.

3/8 Friday- Ice Age Social. Live entertainment, try cave painting, learn to throw an atlatl. \$27/members, \$33/nonmembers includes admission to Mammoths and Mastodons, and 1 drink at ice bar. 7:30-11pm

3/21 Thursday- Science Lounge. Cocktails/entertainment every 3rd Thurs. of month. 6:30-9:30pm. \$8/members; \$10/nonmembers

Planetarium- Wildest Weather in the Solar System; Super Volcanoes; Black Holes, One World, One Sky, Cosmic Journey: A Solar System Adventure. www.dmns.org/planetarium/current-shows

IMAX Movies- Titans of the Ice Age 3D, Flight of the Butterflies 3D Rocky Mountain Express. Various times. Tickets: \$8/3-18; \$10/adult

NORTHFIELD EVENTS

3/9 Friday and 3/10 Saturday- University of Colorado Hospital Mobile Mammography Unit. 10am-7pm. Walk-ins welcome. Visit NorthfieldStapleton.com for details.

Bass Pro Events- 720.385.3600, www.BassPro.com

To 3/10- Spring Fishing Classic Hunting, fishing and marine seminars offered throughout the month. Call or visit BassPro.com for details.

Harkins Theatres 18- 720.374.3118, www.HarkinsTheatres.com. New Releases:

3/1- 21 and Over, The Gatekeepers, and Jack the Giant Slayer

3/8- Admission, Dead Man Down, Oz: The Great and Powerful and A Place at the Table

3/15- The Call, Genius on Hold, The Incredible Burt

Wonderstone, and Stoker

3/22- The Crows, The End of Love, Ginger & Rosa, Olympus Has Fallen, On the Road, and Spring Breakers

3/29- 3D G.I. Joe: Retaliation, The Host, Mental, Tyler Perry's Temptation: Confessions of a Marriage Counselor, and Wrong

Improv Comedy Club and Dinner Theatre- Tickets: 303.307.1777, www.ImprovDenver.com. Ticket prices vary based on comedian and show time. Call for details.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Reservations required for events marked* at 303.289.0930. Free unless noted. Hours: Mon.-Sun., 6am-6pm. Visitor Center: Tues.-Sun., 9am-4pm. Refuge closed federal holi-

days. Directions/ events: www.fws.gov/rocky-mountainarsenal/

Last Saturday of month- Wild Rides.* 9:30-10:30am. 1-hour guided viewing tour.

Self-guided Wildlife Drive Auto Tour Route. Daily 6am-6pm

Saturdays- "Wild" Talks. 1pm. Join a naturalist every Saturday for 10-minute mystery "wild" talk.

THEATRE

3/8 to 3/17- Those Crazy Ladies in the House on the Corner. Festival Playhouse, 5665 Olde Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada. www.festivalplayhouse.com

3/8 to 3/31- Doubt. Cherry Creek Theatre, 2414 East 3rd Ave. www.cherrycreektheatre.org

Through 3/10- Consider the Oyster. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax Ave.

RECURRING MEETINGS

Business Groups

GREATER STAPLETON BUSINESS ASSOC. 3rd Tuesday, 8am. MCA, 2823 Roslyn St. 303-393-7700 www.stapletonbusiness.com

STAPLETON AND BEYOND LEADS & NETWORKING GROUP—First Tuesday, Smart Space, Aaron.Ktafoya@farmersagency.com, 303-955-0861

WORK-FROM-HOME GROUP. 1st Wednesday, 12-1pm. SmartSpace, 2373 Central Park Blvd #100. Brown bag or group order for lunch. www.stapletonhomebusiness.com

Civic Groups

BLUFF LAKE SITE STEWARDS. Every Wednesday, 8-11am. Bluff Lake Nature Center. 303-945-6717

NPET: First Saturday Clean Up Activities. 9am-12noon. Contact Caroline Fry, Sand Creek Regional Greenway CFry@Sandcreekgreenway.org or Lucia Correll Lcorrell@dotnet.net for place each month.

P.E.O. INTERNATIONAL LOCAL CHAPTER MEETING. Supporting women's educational opportunities. 2nd Thursday, 7pm. copeojc@gmail.com

STAPLETON ROTARY CLUB. Every Tuesday, 7:30am. Stapleton Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St. www.denverstapletonrotary.org

Interest Groups

BLUFF LAKE BIRDERS. 1st Saturday, 7-9am. Nature Center. BluffLakeNatureCenter.org

COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS. 3rd Thursday. Grace, 303-455-0839

COLORADO SYMPHONY GUILD. Every 3rd Thur. at St. Luke's Church, 13th & Quebec, 10am-12pm. macregar@gmail.com or 303.333.2707

CYCLETON BIKE REPAIR CLINIC. 2nd Tuesday, 6pm. 7480 E. 29th Ave. www.cycleton.com 303.329.0069.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. 3rd Saturday. Adagio Bed and Breakfast, 1430 Race St. Prospective members welcome- rsvp to Helen Strader, 303-997-6788

HOUSE DIST 7 REPUBLICANS. 7pm, 1st Mon. after 1st Tues. Islamorada Fish Co (inside Bass Pro). chrismaj@gmail.com

LOWRY PEAK SPEAKERS TOASTMASTER CLUB. 2nd and 3rd Wednesday, noon-1pm. Pinnacle Assurance, 7501 E. Lowry Blvd, Denver 80203. lowrypeak.freetoasthost.org lpstoastmasters@gmail.com

STAPLETON WINE APPRECIATION GROUP. Periodically. stapletonswag@gmail.com

Stapleton Groups

PARKS ADVISORY GROUP. 2nd Tuesday, 7:30am. 7350 E 29th Ave, 3rd fl. Lcorrell@dotnet.net

STAPLETON CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD MTG. 3rd Thursday, 7:30-9am. 7350 E. 29th Ave., 3rd fl. 303.393.7700

STAPLETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MTG. 4th Thursday, 7:30-9am. 7350 E. 29th Ave., 3rd fl. 303.393.7700

SUN TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE. 2nd Wed. (odd-numbered mos.) 6:30pm. MCA 2823 Roslyn St. stapletonneighbors@msn.com

Support Groups

AA OPEN DISCUSSION MTG. Every Tuesday, 7:30pm. MCA, 2823 Roslyn St. 303-912-7075

AA OPEN MEETING. Every Tuesday, 6pm. St Thomas Episcopal Church, 22nd and Dexter. Shirley 303-726-2998

ADOPTERS IN SEARCH GENERAL MEETING. 4th Tuesday, 7:30-9pm. Montview Presby. Church, Study Group Room. AISCTC.org 303-232-6302

ADOPTERS IN SEARCH SUPPORT GROUP. 2nd Wednesday, 7-8:30pm. Montview Presby. Church, Robinsom Rm. AISCTC.org 303-232-6302

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP. 1st Tuesday, 5-6:30pm. AF Williams Family Medicine Clinic Conf Rm. (West entrance) 3055 Roslyn (at MLK). 720-848-9000

NE DENVER/PARK HILL MS SELF-HELP AND SUPPORT GROUP. 2nd Saturday, 10:15-11:45am. Dist. 2 Police Station, 3821 Holly St. 303-329-0619

PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP IN NORTHEAST DENVER. 4th Saturday, 9:30am. Hiawatha Davis Recreation Center, 3334 Holly St. www.parkinsonrockies.org Regina Jones 720-298-5760

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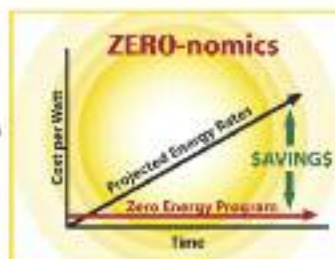


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Through 3/10- Kiss Me Kate. Eugenia Rawls Theatre, King Center, Auraria Campus. Tickets \$20 adults, \$10 students, 303.556.2296

Through 3/10- Catch Me if You Can. Stage Theater, Denver Performing Arts Complex, www.denvercenter.org

3/15 to 3/31- The Athena Project. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax Ave. www.aurorafoxartscenter.org

3/22 to 4/14- Man of La Mancha. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada. www.arvadacenter.org

Through 3/30- His Girl Friday. Spotlight Theatre Company at John Hand Theater. www.johnhandtheater.com

Through 3/30- What's Wrong with This Picture. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St, Aurora. 303.856.7830, www.vintagetheatre.com

Through 4/12- No Dogs Allowed. Arvada Center Children's Theater, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada. www.arvadacenter.org

Through 5/12- Motherhood Outloud. Avenue Theater, 417 E. 17th Ave. www.avenuetheater.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Project Worthmore. Volunteers needed to be on teams (6-month commitment) to assist refugees from Burma by "cultural mentorship" (how to ride the bus, shop for groceries, bank, enroll kids in school, navigate government paperwork, etc.). www.projectworthmore

Single Volunteers of Greater Denver. Visit www.svgd.org for volunteer opportunities for singles: local projects, charitable social events and working vacations abroad.

Volunteers of America Foster Grandparent Program. Seeks adults 55+ with lower incomes who love working with kids and can give 15/more hours/week. Small stipend given; transportation reimbursed. www.voacolorado.org, 303.297.0408 (Naomi Taggart)

Assistance League of Denver. Seeks members to help underserved in metro Denver. Programs for victims, students, children and seniors. www.denver.assistanceleague.org or 303.322.5205

KIDS AND FAMILIES

Through 4/28- Silly Wishes. Denver Puppet Theatre, 3156 W 38th Ave. Tickets: \$7 ages 3 and up. 303.458.6446, www.denverpuppettheater.com

Through 4/30- Woodie Station Wagons at Forney Transportation Museum. \$6-\$8. 303 Brighton Blvd. www.forneymuseum.org

Thursdays in March- Star K Kids. Puppets, stories, activities, outdoor explore, ages 5 and under. 9:30 & 11am. Morrison Nature Center, 16002 E Smith Rd, Aurora. 303.739.2428, www.auroragov.org/nature

3/10 Sunday- Music Train Family Concert Series- Celtic: The Indulgents. Presented by Swallow Hill. 4pm. Daniels Hall, 71 E. Yale. www.swallowhillmusic.org

3/10 Sunday- Junior Rangers. 1:30-3:30pm. Ages 6-12. Morrison Nature Center, 16002 E Smith Rd, Aurora. Reservations required. 303.739.9428, www.auroragov.org/nature

3/13 Wednesday- Create Playdates at Denver Art Museum.

Kids 3-5 roar, bang, stomp 2nd Wed/month. 10am. Art, story times, scavenger hunts. Included in museum admission; 5 and under free. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. www.denverartmuseum.org or 720.865.5000

Mile Into The Wild Walkway at Wild Animal Sanctuary. Largest carnivore sanctuary in Western Hemisphere: 300 lions, tigers, bears and mile-long, 30-ft-high walkway gets you up close. \$15/adult, \$7.50/kids 3-12. Keensburg, CO. www.wildanimalsanctuary.org

KIDS CAMPS AND CLASSES

Aurora Fox Theater- Drama classes ages 4 and up. Lisa Mump-ton: 303.739.1573 or www.aurorafox.org

Art Students League of Denver- Programs for kids/teens. 303.778.6990, www.ASLD.org

Small Hands Art Studio- Art classes in Stapleton. www.smallhandsart.com

Start Art- Art classes. Startartkids.com

The Art Garage- Classes ages 4 and up. 6100 E 23rd Ave, Park Hill. www.artgaragedenver.com

3/2 Saturday- Home Depot Kids Workshop. 9am-12pm. FREE how-to clinics first Sat. monthly for ages 5-12. Get Home Depot apron, wooden project and project pin. Metro-area Home Depot stores. www.homedepot.com

3/9 Saturday and 3/23 Saturday- Lowe's Build and Grow Kids Clinics. Bring kids to a Lowe's store to build FREE wood project: free apron, goggles, project-themed patch, merit certificate on completion. 10am. www.lowesbuildandgrow.com

Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys Workshops. Museum adm: \$6/adults, \$4/kids 5-16/under 5 free. 1880 Gaylord St. www.dmmtdt.org for current workshops

The Urban Farm- Embracing Horses- info@theurbanfarm.org

Neighborhood Music Stapleton- Private and group instruction. Ages 3 and up. Skye Barker Maa. www.neighborhoodmusicstapleton.com, 720.353.6622

Music Lingua Musical Spanish Classes- Ages newborn-6 years. Learn Spanish with your child in interactive parent/tot classes. **3/23 Saturday- FREE Demo Class** at Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn, 10am. Spring session (at Stapleton residence) meets once a week Tuesdays 9, 10 or 11am or Sat. at 10, 11 or 12 from 3/30-6/15. \$150/10 classes, includes storybook, musical CD, activities workbook and themed toy. Register: samanthabenson-cox@hotmail.com, www.musiclingua.com

Club J- After-school programs at Jewish Community Center for kids grades K-5. www.jcc.org

Stapleton All Sports- Registering for spring baseball, t-ball, early ball skills, cheer and yoga. www.stapletonallsports.com

SolVida Dance Studio and Dance Camps- Kid/adult classes, workshops, camps, etc. www.solvidadance.com

April 13 and 14—Doors Open Denver 2013

On Sat. and Sun., April 14 and 15, Doors Open Denver will present its free citywide annual celebration and open the doors to the greatest architecture Denver has to offer in over 60 sites. This year's theme is Denver the City Beautiful. From 10am-4pm, 75 tours will be offered with architects and design professionals as well as suggested self-guided tours through civic buildings, schools, mansions, transportation hubs, parks, museums, animal shelters and neighborhoods. Tour participants must register on day of tour (many tours offered more than once). A free program guide with descriptions of each site with a guide map is available at locations. Drop-in style family programs also offered. For complete information on the event, go to www.DoorsOpenDenver.org or denverarchitecture.org/resources/newsletter/doors-open-denver-2013.

Now on View at the Denver Art Museum—George Partridge Adams and Georgia O'Keeffe

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) has two unique exhibitions on view. Rocky Mountain Majesty: The Paintings of Charles Partridge Adams, showcases 37 of his works that depict magnificent landscapes of Colorado, including Longs Peak near Estes Park and other Colorado mountain ranges. DAM is the only venue for this show, which runs through Sept. 2, 2013. Also on exhibit through April 28 is Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico: Architecture, Katsinam, and the Land, which brings to light O'Keeffe's deep respect for the diverse and distinctive cultures of northern New Mexico through 53 of her works, including 15 rarely seen pictures of Hopi katsina tihu. Both shows included in museum admission. For more, call 720.865.5000 or visit www.denverartmuseum.org.

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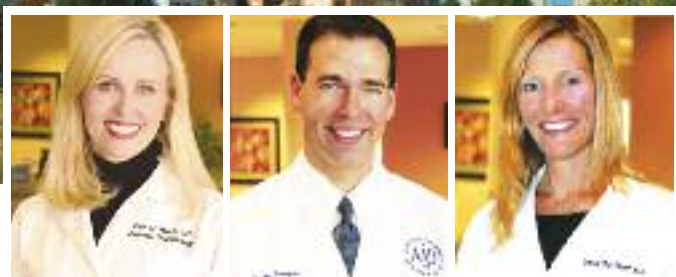
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Food Fight Outcome

The Colorado Genetics Lab set up a competition to find northeast Denver organizations to compete with them in a non-perishable food drive during the month of January. Three organizations participated and



Colorado Genetics Lab staff receive the trophy for most items collected in food drive competition.

a total of 941 items were collected. Colorado Genetics Lab, located in Stapleton, collected 527 items; Children's Hospital Colorado Laboratory collected 375 items; and Natural Balance Integrative Health collected 39 items. Organizations that want to participate next year should contact Susan Mountain Morgan at foodfight2013@gmail.com.

Beard Growing Raises Funds for WeeCycle



Carlos Migoya



Jayme Ritchie

North City Park resident Carlos Migoya has made it his personal mission to raise \$10,000 for WeeCycle by not shaving until that goal is reached. WeeCycle, founded in 2008 by Stapleton resident Jayme Ritchie together with Sunny Heydorn, collects new and gently used baby gear and donates the gear to qualified families in need through partnerships with other non-profit organizations.

Migoya says of his idea to raise funds by growing a beard, "I have come to know WeeCycle over the years through various friends and connections. In fact, I have a friend who runs an organization that depends on WeeCycle to help the families he serves.

This year, while I was thinking about ways I could help my community and give back, I simply looked in the mirror and realized the solution was staring at me in the face!"

Ritchie says Migoya's donation could provide 250 car seats, 1,000 cans of formula or 45,500 diapers to families living without these basic essentials. To donate money towards the "Shear the Beard" campaign, please visit the fundraising page

online at <https://www.givingfirst.org/weecycle-shearthebeard>. To date, \$700 or 7% of the \$10,000 has been raised. The fundraiser won't end until the \$10,000 goal is reached.

Angie Malpiede Selected to Nationwide Group Discussing Transportation Opportunities in the Hispanic Community

Stapleton Transportation Association manager and RTD Director Angie Rivera-Malpiede was chosen to participate in a group of 15 transportation officials from around the country to discuss barriers and opportunities for elevating the importance of transportation in the Hispanic community and how to engage Hispanic leaders to develop transportation solutions.



Angie Malpiede

Malpiede believes she can share the experience RTD has gained as they overcame challenges and moved forward with the country's largest voter-approved transit expansion program. Malpiede cites RTD's Workforce Initiative Now (WIN) employment development program that provides training opportunities for those who live in the neighborhoods through which RTD is building rail and bus lines.

Letter to editor

Neighborhood Petition on RTD Bus Route 89

On January 7th, 2013, RTD Bus Route #89 began operating down the quiet streets of Stapleton. The route was developed to connect Stapleton to the park-and-ride and the Anschutz Medical Campus. The route travels in and out of Stapleton via Martin

Luther King Boulevard ("MLK") but detours down our quiet streets on 29th Avenue between Beeler and Central Park Boulevard. It is for this reason we are writing to you. Our group is seeking to reach out to the members of our community via *The Front Porch*.

The route has been in service for a month and half and in that time homeowners

have witnessed mostly empty buses, traveling well above the speed limit, weaving in and out of the bike lanes, running stop signs. The buses pose a safety hazard to walkers, joggers and bikers as well as impose environmental hazards such as diesel emissions and noise pollution. Our narrow streets and quiet neighborhood are now experiencing more bus traffic than any other kind of traffic.

Concerned Stapleton residents have requested information from Forest City, SUN, The Stapleton Foundation and RTD about this route and other issues and have received either little to no response at all.

A petition has been organized by concerned homeowners to have Route #89 remain on "MLK," a main thoroughfare where it best serves our community. We have had a good response with lots of positive input. With your help we can bridge the communication gap on this and future issues that affect our community.

We are organizing a meeting in April to include concerned citizens, the various entities that represent our community and RTD. We will utilize the information collected from the petition to contact concerned citizens about the upcoming meeting and the status of Bus Route #89.

Debra Mickelson

Editor's Note: A link to download the petition is at FrontPorchStapleton.com > Article Supplements. When a meeting date is set that information will be added to the petition and announced in a future issue.

Tower

(continued from page 1) like a viable option. They hired a local architecture firm experienced in urban restoration and other arts and theatrical consultants to determine if the tower building, potentially with an addition, could be renovated for such a use. They crunched the numbers with projections of Stapleton's future growth (The current population is only 40% of the projected population when the development is completed.). Finally, last fall, they hired an expert on community arts facilities to determine if this community would support such a facility and, if so, for what specific uses.

Now, after a full year of intensive exploratory efforts that encompassed analyzing the physical facility, the costs and the demand in the community, Burnett has the final piece of information—the recommendations identified in the needs assessment. First and foremost, it substantiates the demand and says Stapleton has the ability to support a cultural arts center. It lists eight specific facilities needed. Burnett says the existing tower's office building, with renovations, could meet six of those needs:

- A performance space to accommodate up to 100 people, more oriented to theatre but also usable for meetings and special events.
- A space for up to 50 people suitable for dramatic theatre, music and meetings, and also usable for rehearsals, classes and meetings.
- An additional dance studio/music rehearsal room.
- A pair of wet and dry classrooms for internally driven programs and rentals.
- Catering and concession facilities able to manage multiple events.
- Exhibition space with proper security, lighting and environmental controls.

In addition, the tower building has space to accommodate the MCA administrative offices.

To provide these facilities, the existing building would need, among other building requirements, a new roof and interior renovations customized for these uses, including construction that meets specifications for theatrical performance facilities.

The needs assessment also identified the importance of an outdoor plaza that can be used as an additional performance space for

music, theatre, film and other festival-like events, but The Green in the 29th Ave. Town Center already meets that need.

The final identified need is for a more formal performance space seating 250–350 people for music, dance and live theater. The front-page photos illustrate one possible option for creating a performance space at the tower location. That concept adds 6,000 square feet to the existing 15,000-square-foot building for a total of 22,000 square feet. Burnett believes such construction, if undertaken, would take about two years.

Since the airport had another structure attached to the west side of the existing tower building, the MCA says it's possible that new construction in that location wouldn't jeopardize historic designation status that can offer additional financing options, although he stressed that the subject of historic designation remains to be studied.

When the MCA originally calculated costs, they determined they would be financially able to purchase the tower and adjoining building, but Forest City has now proposed a long-term lease arrangement. Forest City and the MCA released the following statement on Feb. 12 regarding the current status of their negotiations:

"The Stapleton MCA and Forest City both believe that the best course forward is for Forest City to take ownership of the administration/office building at the base of the former control tower with the MCA as its tenant. Forest City is currently underwriting the economics of that scenario in order to provide financial feedback to the MCA. Further, Forest City and the MCA agree that the control tower should remain in place for perpetuity. In support of that goal, Forest City is currently researching possible alternatives for public ownership."

Burnett says the MCA Board is looking for community input as it considers whether to move from concepts to more concrete plans. Detailed information is available to the public at StapletonCommunity.com >About Us >Community Arts Center and questions or suggestions can be emailed to kburnett@stapleton-community.com. A community meeting(s) about the proposed arts center will be held this spring.

Announcements

Longer Hours for Libraries

By Jen Morris, Denver Public Library

The passage of ballot measure 2A will allow Denver Public Library to increase their hours by approximately 40%, allowing all branches to be open a minimum of 48 hours per week (6 days), and restoring Saturday morning hours at the Central Library.

They are currently in the process of interviewing for the new staff required to expand hours at the remaining branch libraries. As soon as a branch library has hired the appropriate staff, the expanded hours schedule and effective date will be announced.

Changes to library hours in the Front Porch distribution area are:
Sam Gary—32 current hours to 52 hours
Pauline Robinson—32 current hours to 48 hours
Park Hill—32 current hours to 48 hours
Schlessman Family—36 current hours to 48 hours

Free Tax Help Ends Soon

Trained accounting students and AmeriCorps volunteers will prepare and e-file tax returns free of charge for individuals with household incomes less than \$50,000 a year. Many may be eligible for tax benefits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

The closest locations for NE Denver residents are:

Through March 21 on Thursdays, 4:30–9 pm at **Montbello High School**, 5000 Crown Boulevard, Library

Through March 9 on Saturdays, 8 am–2 pm and Thursdays, 5–8 pm at the **Community College of Denver at Manual High School**, 1700 E. 28th Ave., 2nd Floor, Library

Bring the following documents:
All W-2s, 1099s and any other income-related documents.

Proof of mortgage interest, property taxes, daycare payments, charitable contributions and all other taxdeductible expenses.

For college expenses: In addition to Form 1098T from your college, it is important to bring your own records of expenses paid for tuition, books, fees and supplies.

Social Security Cards (or ITINs) for all family members and a photo I.D.

A copy of last year's tax return, if available and bank account number and routing number to direct deposit your refund.

For more information and the locations of ALL free tax sites in Colorado, dial 2-1-1 (a free call), go to www.piton.org/eitc or Tax-HelpColorado on Facebook.

Denver Parks Postpones Field Openings for Sports Teams

Denver Parks Deputy Assistant Scott Gilmore, at Stapleton's Community Advisory Board meeting, reminded the community that due to drought conditions, no soccer or lacrosse teams will be allowed to practice on city fields, though softball teams will be allowed since they have less impact on the condition of the field. Gilmore pointed out, "The fields are a long term asset for the city," and would be damaged due to the lack of moisture this winter. He said the city will ticket violators.

Colorado Fusion Executive Director Jon Goldin-DuBois says they have found temporary fields so their teams will still be able to practice and play in March, though players will have longer commutes. "We wish they didn't have to close the fields but we totally understand they need to preserve the fields."

Find a Carpool, Vanpool or Schoolpool Free

The Denver Council of Regional Governments has changed the name of their former "Ride Arrangers" program to "Way To Go." The service is free. Anyone can sign up at www3.drcog.org/WayToGo. The Carpool program will match you with other interested people who live and work close to you. The Schoolpool program helps families find others in their neighborhood to carpool, walk, ride bikes or ride RTD together. They also offer information on vanpools and teleworking.

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Meeting at the historic Hangar 61
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Stapleton Update

By Carol Roberts



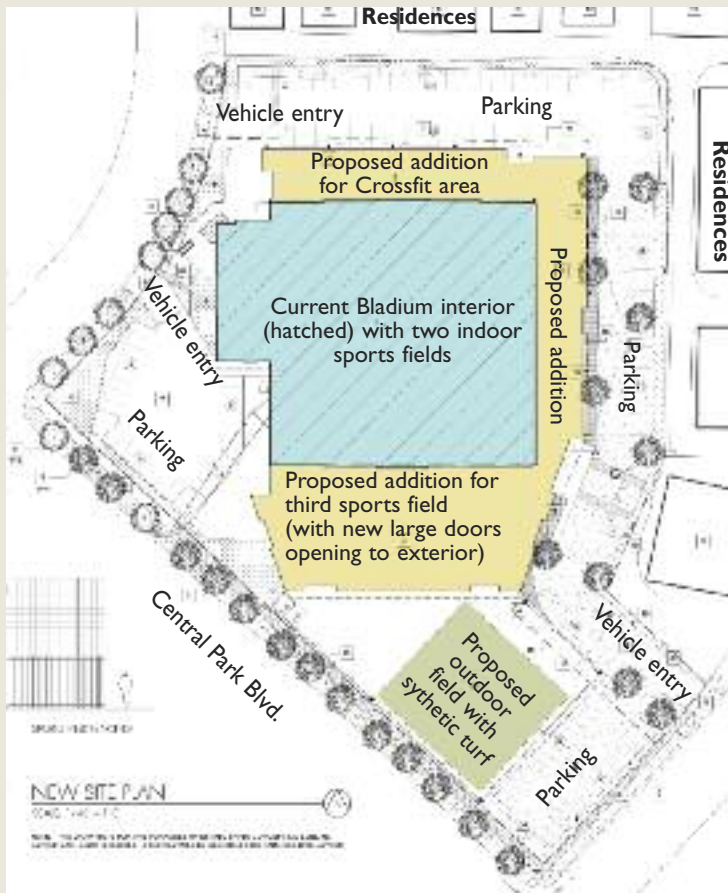
At the February Zoning and Planning Committee meeting, Architect Jeff Parshalle (left) showed plans for the proposed addition at the Bladium (right).

Bladium's Proposed Expansion Gives Them Three Indoor Sports Fields

The Bladium, located at 2400 Central Park Blvd., has purchased the triangular lot south of their existing building in order to expand. The proposed addition will wrap around three sides of the existing building, leaving the front entry substantially unchanged. The addition on the south side is planned to be a third indoor multi-purpose field, usable for soccer, lacrosse and other sports.

The addition will have large doors that open to the exterior when weather permits. A new 100 x 100 outdoor sports field will offer a place for warm-up or half field practices for kids. The addition on the north side will offer a dedicated area for the Bladium's Crossfit program.

Exterior colors will be muted, similar to what is there now, but broken up with different shades and texture so it won't look like a big box. The plans have not yet received final approval from the city but Bladium says they hope to be open by October.



Site plan for Bladium's expansion

26th Ave Park Plans to Be Heard by Aurora Planning Board March 13

The Aurora Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the 26th Ave. Park at 6pm on March 13, in the Aurora Municipal Bldg, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, first floor. Members of the public can make comments to the board at this meeting. Meeting agendas, packets and minutes are posted at <https://www.auroragov.org/CityHall/Board-andCommissions/PlanningandZoningCommission/index.htm>

DPS Board to Vote on Next TIF-Funded Stapleton School/ New Member Represents District 4

The DPS Board will likely vote on Stapleton's next TIF-funded school at the March 21 board meeting. The agenda can be viewed at board.dpsk12.org (meetings link—upper right).

At the end of February (while this paper was at the printer), the current school board members voted on who would fill the empty seat for a District 4 board member who represents all of Park Hill and Stapleton, as well as far northeast Denver. At a community forum on Feb. 20th, the nine candidates for the District 4 seat were asked, "Should another school be built in Stapleton if schools across Quebec have vacant seats?" Four of the candidates voted "No."

Citizens can send board members their opinions about board votes by emailing board@dpsk12.org or calling 720-423-3210.

Other Yes/No questions asked at the forum included:

"Do you support Superintendent Boasberg?" 5 voted yes; 1 voted no; 1 voted yes and no; 2 abstained

"Should creationism be taught in our schools?" 7 voted no; 2 voted yes

"Should evolution be taught in our schools?" 7 voted yes, 2 voted no.

New Life for Stanley Aviation? Maybe...

Off the record, we heard a potential buyer for the big old Stanley Aviation building along the Aurora/Stapleton border is interested in turning it into a movie studio. We'll be watching and provide more information in a future issue.

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Stapleton Ranked Among Nation's Top-Selling Master Planned Communities

California-based John Burns Real Estate Consulting surveyed close to 100 communities to rank the top 50 across the United States. Stapleton was tied for tenth place on that list. "Together, these communities totaled 22,806 new home sales in 2012, which is a 46% increase over the 15,599 new home sales in these communities in 2011," the consulting group stated.

Stapleton's 508 home sales in 2012 were focused in its Central Park West and Bluff Lake neighborhoods.

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Adventures Outside. Day Camps Along River at SPREE Headquarters: kids entering 1st-6th grade, June 3-Aug. 23, \$150/week. Day Camps Along River at Cherry Creek Train: kids entering 1st-6th grade, June 3-Aug. 16. Kids outside, active and learning about environment. Register: www.spreeweb.org/summercamp, 303.743.9720 ext. 830, autumn@spree-email.org.

Altogether Outdoors Summer Camps. Day Camps (ages 5-11); Leadership/Backpacking (ages 11-15) \$320-\$345/week; Sleep Away Camp (ages 7-15). Stapleton ACA accredited camp and MCA partner. Youth development through nature exploration, choice, play: climb, hike, fish, sing, team-building, crafts in best natural areas around! Central pickup/drop-off for day camps. Discounts, payment plans, scholarships available. www.aocamps.com, 720.249.2997

Arvada Center Summer Arts Camps. Fun, creative experiences in theater, visual arts, dance, ceramics, music, creative writing. Storytelling and photography for ages 5-18 and ArtStart camps for ages 1½-4. Highly trained, knowledgeable teachers in safe, fun environment. Camps from June 3 through mid-Aug. Sessions from 1-8 weeks. AM and PM camps. Can sign up for lunch bunch session 12-1pm and/or extended day from 4-5pm. \$50-\$950. www.arvadacenter.org, 720.898.7200

Art Students League of Denver. Drawing, painting, ceramics, mixed media, sculpture. Morning and afternoon camps. Prices vary. 303.778.6990, asld.org

Augustana Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School. For kids going into 1st-leaving 5th grade. Singing, crafts, games and faith. 303.388.4678. Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave.

Aurora Dance Arts Summer Camps. Various locations. Sessions: Fairy Tale Princess, Michael Jackson Dance Camp, Hannah Montana Camp, Teen Hip Hop, Poms/Cheerleading Camp, Ballet Intensive for Nutcracker Auditions and more. Ages 4-18. www.auroragov.org/dance, 303.326.8308.

Aurora Fox Summer Drama Camps. Various locations. Sessions: Teen Acting Camp, Little Foxes Stages and Broadway Bound. Ages, 4-18. www.auro-rafox.org or 303.739.1973

Bladium Kids Camps. June 5-Aug. 23. Full day/full week \$250; Half day/full week \$195. Camp Bladium: ages 5-14. Soccer Academy Camp: ages 6-12. Leaders in Training: ages 11-14. Flexible schedules for parents and healthy lunches/snacks. 303.320.3033 or denvercamps@bladium.com

2013 Camp Guide



Aurora Fox Drama Camp

dium.com. 2400 Central Park Blvd.

Bike Camp. Ages 7-9 and 10-14. Three 2-week sessions: June 10-21, July 8-19, July 22-Aug. 2; 1-week June 24-28. \$400/2-week session; \$225/1-week. Scholarships (full and partial) available. Fun, educational experience incorporates teamwork, service, bicycle maintenance education, safe riding skills, group rides, field trips and capstone mountain biking. The Bike Depot: 303.393.1963, www.the-bikedepot.org, 2825 Fairfax St.

Bluff Lake Nature Center Junior Naturalist Summer Camps. 3400 Havana Way. 8:30am-12:30pm. Ages 6-12. Multiple weeks in June and July. \$175/child; discounts for multiple kids or weeks. Extended time option 12:30-2:30pm, \$100 addl. World of flying, diving, digging animals through science and nature at Bluff Lake! Keith@blufflake.org, 720.708.4079, <http://www.blufflake.org/word-press/programs/summercamps/>

Butterfly Pavilion Summer Camps. Memorable experiences connect to nature, encourage appreciation for science. Camps June to Aug. www.butterflies.org

Camp CALF. Kids entering 3rd-6th grade; June 10-14; \$200/week. Summertime agricul-

tural adventure on real ranch. Kristen Nein at 303.688.1026; kristen@thecalf.org or www.thecalf.org. 2230 S. I-25, Castle Rock, CO

Chess Academy of Denver Chess Camps. 19th annual Denver Rocky Mountain Chess Camps: June 10-14 (Englewood) full- and half-day options and July 8-10 (Englewood). All abilities/ages. 8:1 staff-student ratio. Three 2-day camps offered for specific ability levels. Score-keeping, etiquette, tournament prep, logical thinking, strategic planning for all phases of game from Denver Chess Master, author Todd Bardwick. 303.770.6696 or www.coloradomasterchess.com/

City of Aurora Summer Camps. Various locations. Ages 3-14. www.auroragov.org/recreation or 303.326.8560

Colorado Actors Company and Theater School. 1- and 2-week classes and day camps. Robin Hood day camp (ages 6-12); Give My Regards to Broadway (ages 12-18); Fun with Music (ages 4-7); Shining Stars Drama Class for differently abled actors and actresses, experience for kids with special needs (ages 5-18); Theater classes: Murder mysteries in 1 act (ages

11-18), Creative Drama (ages 4-8). \$80-\$100/session. Various dates. Colorado ACTS Theater, 9460 W. 58th Ave. Arvada. coloradoacts@yahoo.com, 303.456.6772

Colorado Rapids Summer Soccer Camps. If aspiring elite player or starting, offerings will engage and challenge all in safe, enjoyable environment. Highly qualified staff; based on Colorado Rapids youth development curriculum. Full-day camps for 7-14 years, half-day and evening camps for 4-18 years. Locations: Dick's Sporting Goods Park, Stapleton area, Washington Park and Hilltop. Register: www.rapidsyouthsoccer.org/camps

Creative Learning Preschool Camps (Formerly Baby Power). Quebec Square, 7505 E. 35th Ave., Suite 330. Preschool curriculum, gym time, music, crafts, outside play, snack, centers. Ages 2-6. June 10-Aug. 23. On break July 4. 2- and 3-day options from \$60. Limited all day and lunch bunch add on. 303.377.8855, www.creativelearningdenver.com

Dance Institute Summer Camp. 4601 Quebec St. Fun, educational, affordable dance camps for ages 4 and up. Weeklong; divided by age and abilities. Full and half-day camps available July and Aug. www.DanceInstitute-Denver.com for schedule/pricing. Skills and memories to last a lifetime.

Day Art Camps Bicentennial Art Center, 13655 E Alameda Ave. 6-8 years and 9-12 years. E- hjones@auroragov.org, 303.344.1776 or www.auroragov.org/arts

Denver Art Museum Classes & Day Camps. Ages 6-15. Half- and full-day camps. 100 W. 14th Ave. Parkway. 720.913.0130, www.denverartmuseum.org, familyprograms@denverartmuseum.org

Denver Botanic Gardens' Garden Camps. Ages 6-12. Grow your mind, plant a new friend and dig into the Gardens at weeklong day camps. 1007 York St. 720.865.3580, <http://catalog.botanicgardens.org>; registrar@botanicgardens.org

Denver Center Theatre Academy. Learn to act, sing, dance and design sets. Taught by professional actors/directors from DCPA. Scholarships available. Denver Center for the Performing Arts, 303.446.4892, academy @dcpa.org, denver-center.org

Denver Montclair International School Summer Camp. Ages 3-13, June 10-Aug. 16. Cost varies by camp. Language camps: Spanish, French and Mandarin Chinese; sport camps: basketball, tennis, and soccer; and variety camps: Photo Safari, Sounds of Music, Off Broadway and more. Red Cross

Way (Lowry). www.dmischool.com, summercamp@dmischool.com, 303.340.3647, 206

Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Options from weeklong half-day to weeklong full-day camps for age 4 to grade 6. Register online, forms on website to mail to museum or call 303.370.6000. www.dmens.org; Go to Education, Families & Children, Summer Day Camps. Questions: 303.370.6455

DU P.A.S.S. Camp. 12 one-week camps: soccer, rock climbing, swimming, gymnastics, dance, flag football. \$240/week. Discounts available. Univ. of Denver. 303.871.3908, recreation@du.edu; recreation.du.edu/pass-camp

Denver Public Schools 2013 KC Kids Theme Camps. ECE-grade 5. Enriching, memorable summer! New science and technology camps, if you love science or are to discover you do! Special programs explore entertainment, nature, sports, technology, etc. Keep your brain active and ready to go back to school. Curriculum aligned with Colorado Dept. of Education Standards. Licensed Child Care Day Camp, breakfast provided & p.m. snack. Dates: June 10-Aug. 9. Hours: 7am-5:45pm. Staff ratio: 1/15. Cost: \$175/week. Pay for 3 or more camps, get 10% off. (\$140 week 5, no camp July 4). *CCAP accepted by approval only. Camps at schools: Bromwell, Lowry, Southmoor, Westerly Creek & Valdez. Register: 720.424.8260 or kaleidoscope.dpsk12.org

The Denver Waldorf Summer Camp. Ages 3.5 years through rising 5th graders. June 10-Aug. 9 (excluding July 1-5). Magical Waldorf-inspired summer camp exploring weekly themes and workshops (visits to (Continued on page 26)



Enrichment Classes and Summer Camps at Little Discoverer Language Academy

Spanish

Art

Dance

Yoga

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Tommy Feldman
Founder/Director

P.S. We are excited to add **ARCHERY** to the list of great activities available to our campers! Check the web site for more details!

aocamps.com
720.249.2997



Stapleton Front Porch

25

March 2013



Spanish is Fun Camp

Camp Guide

(continued from page 25) Congress

Park Pool). Details: www.denverwaldorf.org or program director, Carla Abate, at camps@denverwaldorf.org or 303.777.0531 ext. 127. Location: 940 Fillmore St.

Denver Zoo Camp Summer Safari 2013: Zooper Heroes! Calling all Zooper Heroes! Weeklong day camps for kids pre-K-8th grade run for 10 weeks from June 3-Aug. 9. Fun-filled experience for animal lovers. Campers participate in hands-on activities, zoo exploration, animal encounters/observations, crafts, games, stories, projects, etc. www.denver-zoo.org

Dream BIG Day Camp. Spring Break Camp: March 25-29; Session 1: June 10-28; Session 2: July 1-19; Session 3: July 22-Aug. 9. Specialty Camps: Aug. 12-16. Denver's

traditional, private day camp offers over 20 different program areas. Caring staff create emotional safety net for kids to feel comfortable, take risks. Ages 4-12. 450 Albion St. in Hilltop, SE Denver. mary@dreambigdaycamp.com, 303.377.1805, www.dreambigdaycamp.com

Denver Dumb Friends League Critter Camp. 3rd-, 4th- and 5th-graders learn to be safe around animals and work with a variety of shelter pets. Experienced, enthusiastic staff, guest speakers and some cuddly critters will give your child a week of learning through activities, games, crafts. Various dates at Denver shelter. Critter Career camp for kids in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. 303.751.5772, www.ddfl.org/crittercamp

First Tee of Denver Summer Junior Golf Programs. Instruction for kids of all abilities ages 4 and up. Class info and register at www.thefirstteeofdenver.com.

Four Mile Historic Park. Ages 6-11. July 8-11: Homesteading Camp, 9am-12pm, \$126 member/\$140 nonmember. Learn about early homesteading in Colorado. How the West was Fun: June 17-21 and July 29-Aug. 2, 9am-3pm, \$189 member/\$210 nonmember. Before and aftercare avail-

able. Learn about our nation's westward expansion. Aug. 12-16: Ranches to Railroads, 9am-12pm, \$126/member/\$140 nonmember. Explore jobs of Wild West. Snacks and supplies included. Alameda and Colorado. www.fourmilepark.org, education@four-milepark.org, 720.865.0800

Gymnastics Plus. Weekly summer day camps. Two full-day/weeklong camps (8:30am-4pm) for ages 6-14. Six half-day/weeklong camps (8:30am-1pm) for ages 3-10. Gymnastics, arts & crafts, different weekly themes, water play and special camp shows with awards. June 10-Aug. 5. 6180 E. Warren Ave. www.coloradogymplus.com, 303.512.0799

Heritage Camps for Adoptive Families. Ages 3-18 and parents. Various dates. \$98-\$128/person plus lodging. 11 summer camps for families who have adopted internationally and domestically, with authentic cultural activities and supportive environment for whole adoptive family. Various locations in Colorado. Contact Pam Sweetser, 303.320.4234 or pam.sweetser@heritage-camps.org, for details/register. www.heritage-camps.org

JA Business Week. 9th-12th graders. June 9-14. \$250; scholarships available. Compete in "Apprentice" style project for Jamba Juice and learn from business professionals about interviewing, networking, financing and more. Stay in real college dorms and meet new friends from across Colorado while building confidence, leadership skills and entrepreneurial spirit. Applications and info: jabusinesweek.org or Junior Achievement at 303.628.7377. Location: Johnson & Wales Univ., Denver Campus in Park Hill

Jewish Community Center. Day camps, sports camps and weeklong-themed camps. Before and after care available for additional fee. www.jccdenver.org/camps, [\[tral@jccdenver.org\]\(mailto:tral@jccdenver.org\) or 303.316.6307](mailto:campcen-</p>
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Kathy's Kamp at Lowry Family Center. High-quality program provides affordable childcare for working families with school-age children, giving their children a traditional summer camp program they might not otherwise experience. Ages 5-14. June 10-July 26. Location: High Tech Early College, 11200 E. 45th Ave. \$68 week (9am-3:30pm). One-time fee discount; register in March: \$30; April: \$50; May: \$60; June/late: \$68. Before camp: add \$25/week (7-9am); after camp: add \$25 week (3:30-6pm). CCAP accepted. Breakfast and lunch included. www.LowryFamilyCenter.org, 303.307.0718, ext. 3

Kids' Adventures. Starting May to Aug., Mon.-Fri., 6:30am-6pm. Children ages 5-15. Care at 5 locations throughout Denver metro area. Summer camps at: 1st Ave. and Havana St., Aurora; Airport Blvd and E. 1st Ave., Aurora; Mexico and E. Iowa Ave., Aurora; Evans Ave. and E. Dahlia St., Denver; and E. 104th Ave. & Landmark Dr., Commerce City. Kids enjoy swimming, an educating speaker and fun field trips throughout the week. Also includes two theme days and frequent brain-stimulating activities. 303.699.1561 or tom@kidsadventures.org, www.kidsadventures.org

The Logan School Summer Camp. Ages 4-14. Specialty themed weeks: Star Wars Adventure, Harry Potter Camp, Myth Busters, Olympic Games and more. Geared toward fulfilling adventurous and curious side of life. Multiple field trips per week and hands-on adventure-learning. Overnight camping trips also available for wide age range of children. Located in Lowry. Costs, times, info: www.theloganschool.org

Mathletes are Everywhere: Discovering Math in Literature, Art, Nature and Games. Ages 5-8. Hands-on math camp explores ways we can see math in everyday life. 2 sessions (different topics each session) July 15-19 and July 22-26. 9am-12pm. \$175 + \$25 materials fee. Lowry/Stapleton/Hilltop location TBD. www.mathletesandbookworms.com, mathletesandbookworms@gmail.com, 303.522.1996

Metro State Soccer Youth Day Camp. July 8-12. Boys/girls ages 6-14. \$200, or \$175 if register by May 1, includes camp T-shirt. Ultimate goal is to provide each player the tools to become a more complete player and have fun! Contact camp director Adrienne Almaraz at aalmaraz@msudenver.edu, 303.556.4874 or register at www.MetroStateSoccerCamps.com. Held on Auraria Campus soccer fields in downtown Denver across from Pepsi Center.

Mizel Museum's Summer Camp Programs. Children preschool through 8th grade. Affordable 1-week sessions with renowned teaching artists focusing on visual arts, drama, music, space exploration, science, literature and more. Offered

at multiple locations. Programs guide kids in expressing themselves through fun, creative activities. Camp size limited to allow our teaching artists to work individually with campers. Scholarships available. 400 S. Kearney St. Download the 2013 Creative Journeys brochure at www.mizelmuseum.org/brochure or call 303.749.5018.

Montessori Children's House of Denver Summer Camp. 12 months-6th-grade. Explore, create and engage. Four 2-week summer sessions include art, music, adventure, nature, foreign language and more. Four Denver-area campuses. 303.322.8324, mchdenver.org

A Montessori Summer. Ages 3-6. June 3-28 and July 1-31 (closed 7/3-7/5). 8am-4pm. \$1,200/month. Variety of exciting, stimulating choices, encouraging children to discover new friendships and explore new experiences, while creating an environment that allows them to feel safe to be themselves and follow their personal path of creativity and curiosity. Punum Bhatia Montessori Casa International, 7551 E. Academy Blvd. 720.532.0391, info@mcindenver.edu

Montview Church Summer Sacred Art for Children. From Scribbles to Scriptures is a program devoted to the visual arts in a sacred context. Ages 5-10 create art inspired by sacred texts, sacred spaces and an exploration of world traditions. Weeklong classes begin June 24; 10 sessions. Hours vary. For cost and to register, go to www.montview.org or 303.355.1651.

neuroAgility Brain Training Summer Camp 2013. Ages 7-23. Summer months into fall school year (8-12-week intensive). Specially designed neurofeedback program (neurofeedback recognized by American Academy of Pediatrics as being as effective as medication in



Denver Montclair International School Summer Camp 2013 • June 10–August 16

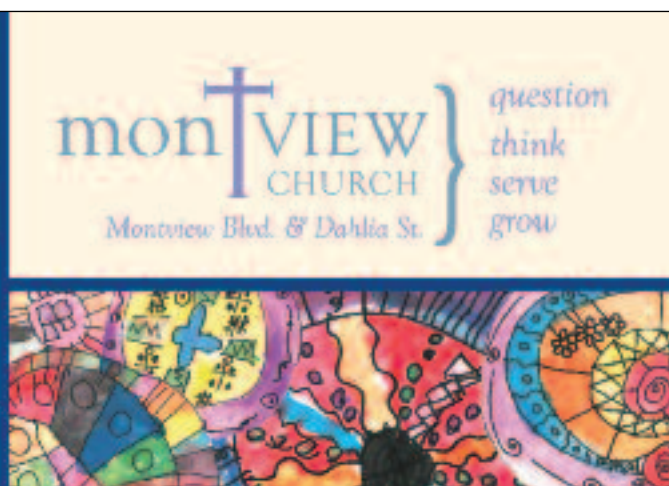


Spend your summer at DMIS! DMIS offers day-camps throughout the summer for children ages 3–13, featuring language camps in French, Spanish or Mandarin, sports such as basketball, soccer, lacrosse, or fine arts including drawing, dance and drama.

Online Registration at
www.dmischool.com

Email
summercamps@dmischool.com
for more information

206 Red Cross Way, in Lowry
303-340-3647



SUMMER SACRED ART FOR CHILDREN FROM SCRIBBLES TO SCRIPTURES

Summer Sacred Art at Montview is a program devoted to the visual arts in a sacred context. Children, ages 5-10, create art inspired by sacred texts, sacred spaces and an exploration of world traditions. Weeklong classes begin June 24 and continue through summer.

To register and for more information go to www.montview.org

Summer Enrichment Camp

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Left: Bluff Lake Camp

Roslyn Blvd., Stapleton. All Sports Multi-Sport Camps (boys/girls ages 4-10) 9am-12pm, July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26 & July 29-Aug. 2. \$150/week or \$500 for all 4 weeks. Participants rotate through soccer, tennis, baseball/tee-ball and football, using fun drills and games to learn skills in each sport. Camps held outside at Westerly Creek Elementary, 26th St. and Akron. Info/register: www.stapletonallsports.com or Gabe Hurley at stapletonallsports@gmail.com or 720.985.6642

Summer at Stanley. Child-centered program offers full/half-day programs for ages 5-9th grade. \$180/wk half-day and \$295/wk full-day. Arts, sports, science, technology, swimming, theater, Hogwarts, academic options and more! Highly qualified teaching staff in safe, fun, creative environment! 303.360.0803, www.summeratstanley.org

Summer Blast at Denver Jewish Day School. Ages 4-16. June 17-Aug. 2. \$125-\$289/session. Camp options include Abrakadoodle Art Camp, CTWorkshops iCamp, Play-Well Technologies (Lego) Camp,

Science Matters Camp, Skyhawks Camp, Smart-Girl Camp, and Todd Shays Basketball Camp. 2450 S. Wabash St. (near Quebec & Evans). To learn more, click "Summer Programs" from home page at www.DenverJDS.org or contact Josh Lake, 720.229.9558 or jlake@denverjds.org.

Summer in the Parks.

Ages 7-12, 6/17 to 8/9; no programs 7/4. M-F, 10am-3pm. \$450 fee for 8-week program (field trips fees extra). Quality licensed child care providers offer comprehensive recreational programming: arts & crafts, active games & sports, aquatics, field trips & special events. Five sites: City Park Pavilion, 23rd & York; Congress Park Pavilion, 8th & Josephine St.; Fred Thomas Park, 26th & Quebec; Rosamond Park, S. Tamarac & Quincy St.; Sloan's Lake Park, 26th & Tennyson St. Registration for residents of City and County of Denver begins March 4. 720.865.0840, www.denvergov.org, or email community.rec@denvergov.org.

Stapleton Fellowship Church @ Hangar



Young Americans Singapore Bank

61 Creative Arts Camp. Kindergarten to 5th grade.

June 17, 18 and 19 from 9-11:45am. www.stapletonchurch.com

Teen Adventures. Ages 13-16. 6/20-8/9 on Thursdays and Fridays, \$82.00 program fee plus \$5-\$30 per week field trip fees. Adventure-based activities to develop lifelong social skills/experiences. Field trips include learning to scuba dive at A-I Scuba & Travel, X-treme Challenge, Discover Science Museum in Fort Collins, etc. Registra- (continued on page 28)

treatment of ADD/ADHD) which optimizes attentional performance in neuroAgility's areas of expertise, including ADD/ADHD, Asperger's, anxiety, mild traumatic brain injury, and athletic performance. Kerri Honaker, MS, LPC, BCIA, neuroAgility, 303.417.1797, www.neuroAgility.com for pricing. Cherry Creek location.

Ninja Camp. Ages 4-12. June 24-28 and Aug. 12-16. Cost: \$199.00 per camp. Your child will have a blast learning how to be a Ninja in this weeklong summer camp! Envision Martial Arts in Stapleton, 4605 Quebec St., Suite B7. Contact: Erin Martin, 303.928.0043, Erin@EnvisionMartialArts.com, www.EnvisionMartialArts.com

Quill Kids Day Camp. Creative writing, recreational program that guides budding authors ages 6-13 through experience of creating imaginative prose and poetry. Each session is 4 half-days, Mon.-Thurs. 9am-12. East Denver: June 24-27, Stapleton. South Denver: July 8-11, Lone Tree. West Denver: Aug. 5-8, Lakewood. \$85 for each 4-day session. (Sibling rates available.) Iretta Bell: 303.618.9701 or quillkids@msn.com; quillkids.com

School of the Poetic City Animation Camp. June 10-14 or June 17-21 (make cartoons); Urban Art Camp June 24-28 or July 8-12 (visit museums and galleries in a.m., make art in p.m.). Ages 5-14. \$300. 2015 Glenarm Pl. www.schoolofthepoeticcity.com

Sewall Child Development Center. Series of inclusive, weekly summer camp programs for children with and without special needs. Also offer programs to include family members of children with special needs to help with life skills. 303.399.1800, patriaciabsmith@gmail.com, sewall.org for more information.

Small Hands Art in Stapleton. We'll spark your kids' creativity! Break out paint, glue, clay, markers, paper, crayons and glitter. Ages 2 and up. Camps in June, July and Aug. DPS days off camps available. www.smallhandsart.com, 303.349.0961, ansleyyoung@smallhandsart.com

Spanish is Fun Fiesta Camps. Exciting and memorable summer programs (beginner & advanced levels) where kids learn Spanish while having fun! Ages 4-10, 1- and 2-week full and half-day camps in June and July; various metro locations. 303.200.0622, info@spanishisfun.net, <http://www.spanishisfun.net/ChildrenSummerCamps.htm>

Stapleton All Sports. Tennis Camp (boys/girls ages 4-10): 9am-12pm, June 17-21 & June 24-28. \$190/week, or \$335 for both weeks. Weekly camps focus tennis fundamentals, including serving, forehands, backhands, ground strokes and volleys. Camps at Greenway Park on Montview and

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Development Camp 1 or 2	June 10-14 or June 24-27
Junior Academy Day Camp	June 10-14 or July 8-12
Junior Academy Skills Camp	June 17-20 or July 22-25
U9-U14 Skills Camp	June 17-20 or July 22-25
Development Camp 3	July 8-11
Boys Elite Preseason Camp	July 22-25
Boys High School Preseason Camp	Aug. 5-8
Goal Keeper Camp	6/13, 6/27, 7/11, 7/25, 8/1
Girls Elite Preseason Camp	July 22-25

To register
visit **rapidsyouthsoccer.org/camps**
or call **303.399.5858**

Camp Guide

(continued from page 27)
tion for City and County of Denver residents begins Mon., March 4. For information, call Community Recreation at 720.865.0840, go to www.denvergov.org, or email community.rec@denvergov.org.

Temple Emanuel Camp. 51 Grape St. 8am-5:30pm. June 3-Aug. 2. Ages 18 months to 6. Art, crafts, science, open gym, water play, outside time, music, games, story time, afternoon enrichments. 303.321.7258.

University of Colorado Sports Camps. May-Aug. Day and overnight camps for all ages. Sport camp: football, basketball, tennis, golf, ski, volleyball and soccer. A chance to work with CU coaches and athletes, experience life on campus and play where the Buffaloes play, Univ. of Colorado Boulder campus.; 303.492.7931, cubuffs.com/camps

The Urban Farm. A farm experience with various workshops and classes. Embracing Horses horsemanship, education and lessons. 303.307.9332, www.theurbanfarm.org

Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum Summer Camp. Ages 7-13. Fun activities about aviation and our solar system, building



Aurora painting camp

planes and rockets, and using flight simulators. Fee and dates: www.wingsmuseum.org

Youth Learn to Sail Camp at Cherry Creek Reservoir. Youngsters 8-17 learn rigging, sailboat handling, docking, right-of-way rules, capsized recovery, knot tying and marine safety with emphasis on learning the basics and

feeling comfortable. Instruction, sailboats and safety equipment included. Fees and dates: www.sspr.org

YMCA of Metropolitan Denver. Day camps for children 5-15 at various city locations. 720.524.2792 or www.denverymca.org

Young Americans Center for Financial Education Day Camps. Denver, Lakewood and Green Valley Ranch for 2nd-7th graders. June 10-Aug. 2. \$195/week. Weeklong camps include Young American Towne, Girls Can, International Towne, Jr. Money Matters, Running Your Own Biz, Money Sense, and Be Your Own Boss. 303.321.2265 or www.yacenter.org/SummerCamps

Regulating Marijuana

(continued from page 3)

July 1, 2014: Deadline for legislature to enact legislation concerning industrial hemp. What are the main questions to be resolved? Susman expresses the complexity of the issues surrounding how to regulate Amendment 64. "I often think I am living in parallel worlds," she says. "We are creating rules for activities that are federally prohibited. Many discussions concern how we regulate to prevent federal intervention when we don't know what the federal government intends to do about it."

Susman feels the big questions to be considered include, but are not limited to:

Will Denver have a dual licensing opportunity with the state as it does with liquor; i.e., will we be able to create our own regulations as to time, place and manner of the operations of the businesses? Susman explains that, together with city officials, they submitted a recommendation that local authorities be given the authority to license facilities if they so desire. "Amendment 64 requires that the state be the first to respond to an application for a license, so the recommendation includes a proviso that upon application to the state, the state gives a provisional license, subject to the licensing by the local authority. The recommendation for dual licensing that we put forward has been accepted by the Implementation Task Force."

Will there be state residency requirements? Presently, medical marijuana regulations require that business owners and consumers be Colorado residents. Liquor regulations have no such requirement in any stage of production or consumption leading to a question of whether we should adopt similar or hybrid models for adult-use marijuana operations.

Does the state have to come up with regulations? "Yes, Amendment 64 requires the state to come up with regulations at least for industrial hemp and to impose a tax on wholesale sales of marijuana," says Susman. "It also directs the state to create a licensing system for the cultivation and sale of marijuana, and allows other regulations. Even if Denver does not come up

with regulations, or decides to demur on allowing marijuana businesses, it would still be legal for anyone 21 and over to possess an ounce or less; to share it with other adults (but not sell or buy it); to grow plants on their private property; and to use marijuana in private places."



Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman

Can cities and/or counties opt out of the medical marijuana portion or just the recreational portion? Susman explains that cities have the opportunity to opt out of the permitting of commercial cultivation, production and sales of marijuana for both medical and recreational use. If Denver opts to license commercial adult-use operations, Sus-

man feels confident there will be dual licensing that allows the city to make regulations as to the time, place and manner of commercial marijuana activities. If Denver decides to opt out of the commercial production and sales part of Amendment 64, it would not need to abide by any of the licensing regulations imposed by the state because there would be no licensed operations. However, the resource needs of law enforcement would need to be considered to ensure no illegal businesses operate within city borders. Sus-


man asks, "Would we need to make restrictions on co-op grow operations where individuals pool their permitted six plants and assign the cultivation to a friend with a bigger private facility? Would we have issues similar to the sale of fireworks adjacent to our borders? Would it be illegal for Denverites to transport 'bought' ounces from other municipalities into Denver? What about smoking lounges in private clubs?"



Councilman Chris Herndon

Because it is unclear how the federal government will respond to Colorado's marijuana industry, Susman feels it is important to create and maintain regulations that will reduce potential problems. However, she adds that "putting it in the constitution limits flexibility in the regulation of marijuana." Instead of a legislative process where marijuana use was thoroughly debated by the public and elected officials to iron out problems in advance, Colorado is grappling with a lot of unknowns as it accommodates the will of the majority to legalize marijuana through a constitutional amendment.


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SUN Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of every month at 7:30pm at the Central Park Recreation Center, 9651 MLK Jr. Blvd. For information about SUN, visit www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com. To contact SUN or confirm meeting time, email stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com

Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) Outreach Committee Activities

By Amanda Allshouse, SUN Outreach Co-Chair and Instructor at the Colorado School of Public Health

A new resident-led effort to bring businesses to the Eastbridge Town Center was voiced and discussed at the SUN Outreach committee/Block Captain meeting on Jan. 28. Residents who have brought their preferences and concerns to the developer have been told, over five years of continued building since the original promised date, that there is not enough population density in the area to support a grocer. Out of frustration with the stalled commercial development, and passion for a healthy diet and lifestyle, momentum is gaining among residents for a community-owned cooperative grocery store (co-op) while the small-grocer concept is still being pursued.

SUN supports this effort to bring Eastbridge to fruition and will reach out to residents for support as specific needs arise. Updates will be communicated through the Block Captain network as they become available.

Regular topics at the SUN Outreach/Block Captain meeting include: an overview of area crime statistics from our Denver Police Community Resource Officer, and news about upcoming events from the Stapleton MCA and Denver Parks and Rec. Hearing updates firsthand and early allow residents who attend SUN outreach meetings the chance to ask questions, provide feedback directly to people in key roles in our community, and to shape the direction of future events and activities.

A special presentation at the April 22

SUN Outreach/Block Captain meeting will be from a representative from the Denver Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS). We will learn about potential man-made and natural disasters we might face in Denver, and how to plan for these by preparing a communication plan, talking to kids, working as neighbors, what relevant supplies to keep on hand, and how not to rely on the government. In case this 30-minute talk whets your appetite, we will also learn about a monthly 24-hour crash course offered by OEMHS on being a community responder in case of disaster.

If you are looking for a mode of becoming more involved in your community, SUN's outreach committee could be a perfect fit for you. SUN Outreach/Block Captain meetings are open to the public and take place the 4th Monday of the month from 6:30–7:30pm in the Central Park Rec Center Multipurpose Room (5 remain in 2013: March, April, Aug., Sept., Oct.). SUN's objectives in facilitating the Block Captain network include improving communication between neighbors at the block level and across the community, and reducing crime and conflict. Additional promotions include Stapleton traditions like Block Party Day (May 18 in 2013) and block-based teams in the annual summer Kickball Tournament (Sept 21 in 2013).

If you are not in touch with your block's captain, or your block does not have a block captain, email SUNoutreach@gmail.com. We are interested in expanding the outreach activities during the Nov./Dec. break by adding a winter service project. If you are interested in leading this effort, please contact us.

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Growing Pains for Buckley Annex

By Carol Roberts

At a February 5 community meeting in Lowry about the upcoming development at Buckley Annex, it appeared that most of the 60+ attendees came to oppose the project.

“People are worried about change,” says Mary Beth Susman, Denver City Councilwoman for Lowry. “It’s a little more suburban at Lowry than at Stapleton because we were just getting started with the new urbanism concept then. Now we’re well underway with Stapleton and have learned more about creating spaces where you live, work and play. The principles of new urbanism are being applied at Buckley Annex because they work. When Denver is the most popular destination in the country for 25- to 34-year-olds, I think we’re onto something. Whatever we’re doing in Denver is attracting that population. We hear it’s the ability to walk and bike to the places you want to go, along with jobs in our growing economy.”

Buckley Annex is a 70-acre parcel south of East First Ave. between Quebec and Monaco that belonged to the Army until 2005 when the base was announced for closure. It could have gone to another government agency, but there were no takers so it was slated to go up for public auction. The Lowry Development Authority (LRA), the nonprofit group that managed the development of Lowry, stepped in and convinced the Army to let them take over the land, manage the development, and share any revenues over cost, as was done with the original Lowry project (though ultimately there were no excess revenues to share in the Lowry development).

In 2007-08, through a public planning process, a conceptual plan for the 70-acre site was created. With the final transfer of the land from the Army to the



LRA in May 2012, the LRA is now finalizing a General Development Plan (GDP) to submit to the city. The plan calls for a total of 800 residential units including single-family attached and detached homes and apartments, up to 200,000 sq. ft. of commercial, and 14 acres of parks. Building heights are limited to two or three stories on the perimeter to provide a transition area between the nearby neighborhoods that have a more suburban feel. In the mixed-use areas, buildings can be up to five stories.

On Feb. 5, at the last community meeting before the GDP gets submitted, the most vocal participants expressed their desire to preserve the character of their existing neighborhoods, saying the new urbanism-style development is not appropriate for this location. Despite the height limits and setbacks from Monaco, neighbors to the west expressed their unhappiness that they will have a view of this higher-density development.

Speakers also voiced concerns that increased traffic on arterials will cause backups that will result in drivers cutting through neighborhood streets. A traffic consultant explained that, consistent with city traffic engineering, Denver has a series of two-lane and four-lane roadways that disperse traffic rather than having a single larger roadway.

“It (new urbanism) doesn’t work here. Please come up with a development that’s compatible with surrounding neighborhoods,” said a speaker from the Crestmoor Park neighborhood. “Reject the gospel of

new urbanism. That is not what makes East Denver special. We the neighbors are going to rise up if you keep pushing this high density. Please take your head out of the sand on the traffic issue and address it fairly. Prove to us that Monaco and Quebec can handle this incremental level of additional traffic. Otherwise the GDP is worthless and you’re going to get the residents riled up to vote out the mayor and vote out the city council people who support it and to challenge in a lawsuit if necessary....”

Far left: Lowry Redevelopment Authority Executive Director Monty Force addresses the community meeting about the Buckley Annex in the Eisenhower Chapel in Lowry. **Left:** Lowry resident Christine O’Connor speaks in opposition to the Buckley Annex plan currently being proposed. **Below:** City Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman, who was chosen by Mayor Webb to chair the Lowry project in 1992, supports taking a “new urbanism” approach in the Buckley General Development Plan.



The Community Advisory Committee for the Buckley Annex project (which includes many members who also advised on the Lowry development) listened to the comments expressed at the meeting and, following a brief discussion, voted unanimously in favor of the GDP.

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Mammoths, Mastodons and More



Above: Enzo Montelbano, 7, from Park Hill (left) and Jasper Ooms, 8, from the Cheesman Park neighborhood, take a close look at the life-sized model of a Columbian mammoth.

The exhibit is family-friendly with activities and information of interest for all ages. Visitors can choose from numerous brief videos on subjects that range from analyzing dung from extinct animals to conversations with scientists

at some of Colorado's own excavations. One of the videos captures the excitement of finding "Lyuba," the best-preserved baby mammoth ever found...and visitors can see a life-sized replica of her.



Above: Serenity Gilmore, 8, from Montbello, manipulates a mechanical proboscis.



Top: A Wii-like game set in a cave in southwest France offers participants an interactive experience to learn from prehistoric cave paintings.

Above: Touchable models of mammoths, mastodons and elephants show variations among these animals with a proboscis (elongated snout). Visitors learn what may have caused the animals' extinction, what scientists have inferred about extinct animals through their remains, what they've learned from studying their modern relatives, and what impact these animals had on the lives of early humans.

Tickets are available online and are sold for specific times. Daytime prices for nonmember adult/student/senior are \$23/\$14/\$19. Evening nonmember prices are \$13/\$9/\$12. Member prices are \$9/\$5/\$8 at all times.

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Versatile New DMNS VP Speaks a Language Kids Understand

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science (DMNS) announced on Feb. 19 that Scott Sampson has been named Vice President of Research and Collections.



Scott Sampson

Sampson already may be familiar to kids—he appears as Dr. Scott the Paleontologist on the PBS children's television series, *Dinosaur Train* and was the primary scientific consultant and host of *Dinosaur Planet*, an Emmy Award-winning four-part Discovery Channel series made in 2003.

In his new position at DMNS, Sampson will oversee a staff led by 15 PhD scientists and will be responsible for all of the museum's collections, which include nearly 1.5 million artifacts.

Sampson, who holds a PhD in zoology, is the author of *Dinosaur Odyssey: Fossil Threads in the Web of Life*, a book written for the general public. His main research has focused on Late Cretaceous dinosaurs and he has done fieldwork in Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Madagascar, Mexico, the U.S. and Canada.

The Front Porch will interview Dr. Sampson in an upcoming issue.



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Six-week sessions begin at
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the weeks of:
April 15, 2013
June 10, 2013
July 29, 2013

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Class Descriptions & Program Calendar

Physical Fitness Sessions

A 6-week physical activity program packed with fun & energizing activities. Reach your fitness goals fast. Must register for entire 6 week series at one Center.

Hiawatha Davis	Mondays	6 - 8 PM
Central Park	Wednesdays	6 - 8 PM

Healthy Eating with Cooking Matters

A 6-week nutrition program will teach low-cost and healthy cooking to individuals and families. Must register for the entire 6 week series at one Center.

Hiawatha Davis	Wednesdays	6 - 8 PM
Central Park	Mondays	6 - 8 PM

Shopping Matters

A guided grocery store tour to help families by healthy, affordable foods.

At a local grocery store.	1st Wed. & Sat. monthly. Call a Center to register.	10 AM - 11:30 AM
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Heart Health Screenings: Know Your Numbers

Blood pressure, height, weight, glucose, and cholesterol screenings with direct connections to treatment if needed. No registration necessary.

Hiawatha Davis	2nd Saturday Quarterly April, July, November	10 AM - 1 PM
Central Park	2nd Tuesday Quarterly April, July, November	4 PM - 8 PM

Hunger Free Colorado Application Assistance

Receive outreach, referrals, and application assistance to a number of important programs such as Food Assistance, WIC (Women, Infant, and Children), summer food, foodpantries, senior programs, and more.

Hiawatha Davis	2nd & 4th Wed.	2 PM - 6 PM
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Affordable Care Act & Me! (Healthcare reform)

Learn how changes in our health system will impact you and your family at be well share sessions where health policy experts explain new opportunities available through the Affordable Care Act.

Location varies. Call a Center for details.	Quarterly July, August, November	Times vary.
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be well Centers are closed the following weeks: 2013: May 26, June 30.

The be well Centers are a free public service. Participants engage in all activities at their own risk. The Stapleton Foundation for sustainable urban communities, its be well Health and Wellness Initiative, the City and County of Denver nor any of its partners or affiliates will be responsible for any liability related to or arising out of participation in any of the activities of the be well Centers.