

# Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

STAPLETON

JULY 2013



## Everybody Loves the Farmers Market

Reagan (Ray-Ray), an English bulldog, pants due to the warm weather at Stapleton's first farmers market, held every year on Father's Day on the green in Stapleton's 29th Ave. Town Center Stapleton resident Sarah Beck says she named her dog after the president and also to make a statement about

fiscal conservation.

Although the number of fresh produce vendors was limited at this time of year, the crowds turned out to buy from food trucks, enjoy a meal on The Green, and to peruse the many specialty vendors offering handcrafted items, food and more.



Stapleton resident Henry Tate, 3, checks out the artichokes and tomatoes.



## Stapleton's New Elementary Takes Community by Surprise



Dr. Amy Gile (left) and Lisa Ortiz (right) stand at the site where the new High Tech Elementary will be built between Verbena and Willow Streets at about 51st Avenue. Gile will be the principal and Ortiz the assistant principal. The two understand the community's frustration in the decision process of the new school for Stapleton. They look forward to building trust and excitement in the community for the new program.

By Madeline Schroeder and Carol Roberts

After five months of community involvement with DPS about middle-school capacity, programs and boundaries, the Stapleton community was taken by surprise with DPS' last-minute selection of an elementary school for Northfield. The sudden decision raised questions in the community about why they were left almost entirely out of the process.

"Why weren't we allowed more time to provide input as to whether or not this was the right type of school for our community? Why weren't there more options? This lack of commu-

nication between DPS and Stapleton is frustrating and disappointing," says Jennifer Knowles, parent of a two-year-old. But, she adds, "Having said that, now that the school has been approved, I plan on getting involved in the school planning committee to ensure that our children's educational needs are met."

School board member Happy Haynes explains that new school proposals are due in April, and DPS then goes through an intensive effort to determine the best program for each new school. As it turned out, DPS staff thought the two strongest programs were ones that both applied for a Green Valley Ranch school. With the short, intensive (continued on page 6)

Coming Soon!

## Front Porch Guide to Local Music and Arts Teachers

The *Front Porch* will print a guide to local music and arts teachers in our September issue. All teachers who live or teach in our distribution area can submit information at no cost. Please include: business name (if applicable); teacher name; instruments taught; a brief description of your philosophy, expertise and credentials; whether child/adult lessons or both; pricing; and contact information. If you don't receive a confirmation within three days, please re-send.

Email to: [FrontPorch3@gmail.com](mailto:FrontPorch3@gmail.com) by August 10.



*I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning.*  
-Plato

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

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Like us at Front Porch Newspaper for updates on local news and events.





The Central Park fountain is open again now that the filtration problems have been resolved.



## CALENDAR

Events listed below are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC or support nonprofits.  
(Additional events are listed on pages 16-20. Recurring events are listed on page 18.)

### JULY

See additional MCA activities at right.

#### Every Sunday

City Park Jazz Summer Concert Series. 6–8pm,  
July 7: Sam Mayfield Blues Band  
July 14: Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts  
July 21: Kenny Walker Sextet; July 28: Los Bohemios  
August 4: Henry Butler

#### Mon, July 1 & Sun, July 21

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

#### Thursday, July 4

Pancake Breakfast & Parade, 9–11am. Central  
Park Fountain Pavilion\*  
events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Friday, July 5

First Friday Flight - "California," 6–8pm. West  
Crescent\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Saturday, July 6

Concert on The Green - Hazel Miller, 6–8pm.  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Saturday, July 6, 13 & 20

Pilates in the Park, 9am. Mat Pilates on Founder's  
Green. Free. andrea\_ludwig@yahoo.com

#### Sunday, July 7

Farmers Market, 8:30am–12:30pm  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Tuesday, July 9

High Tech Elementary at Northfield - First infor-  
mation & planning meeting. 5:30 - 6:30pm. West-  
erly Creek School. www.hightechelementary.com  
(see page 1 article)

#### Tuesday, July 9

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

#### Thursday, July 11

Active Minds—"Hinduism," 7–8pm. MCA Com-  
munity Room\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Friday, July 12

Movie on The Green - "The Sandlot," Dusk. The  
Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Sunday, July 14

Farmers Market, 8:30am–12:30pm  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Sat & Sun, July 20–21

8th Annual Stapleton Garage Sale  
www.BuildingStapleton.com/garagesale  
Michael@KearnsTeam.com, Diana@KearnsTeam.com

#### Saturday, July 20

Concert on The Green - 6 Foot Joe & RHR,  
6–8pm. The Green\*  
events@stapletoncommunity.com

### JULY

#### Sunday, July 21

Active Minds Music Seminar & Potluck Brunch  
- Explore The Music of the Movies, 9–11am  
F15 Pool\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Sunday, July 21

Corny Corn Community Cookout. Park Hill  
Community Center, Holly Square, 1 pm. Corn,  
burgers, hot dogs provided—potluck items  
welcomed. Celebrate Holly Square develop-  
ment. Sponsored by Senator Mike Johnston and  
The Prodigal Son Initiative.

#### Sunday, July 21

Farmers Market, 8:30am–12:30pm  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Thursday, July 25

Free Stress Management Workshop, 7–8pm.  
Stapleton MCA Community Room,\* by Sandra  
Thebaud, www.StressIntl.com

#### Friday, July 26

Movie on The Green - "Brave," Dusk.  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Saturday, July 27

Sweet William Market, 9am–2pm.  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Sunday, July 28

Farmers Market, 8:30am–12:30pm  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Monday, July 29

Ideal Life JumpStart, 7–8:15 pm. Free class with  
life coach to inspire positive changes. MCA  
Community Room\*. Register at  
www.myideallife.com or call 303-321-0783.

### AUGUST

#### Saturday, August 17

Stapleton Beer Festival & Concert, 4–8pm.  
The Green\* events@stapletoncommunity.com

#### Saturday, August 24

Inaugural NEWALKFEST—9am–1pm  
Stapleton, Park Hill and Montclair residents  
walk within and between neighborhoods with  
activities in three parks. (see page 20)

\*Stapleton MCA Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St.  
The Green, E. 29th Ave. and Roslyn St.  
F15 pool: 2831 Hanover St.  
West Crescent: Fountains on 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.**

## Events & Announcements at Stapleton

#### 4th of July Pancake Breakfast & Parade

The annual Pancake Breakfast will begin at 9am at the Fountain Pavilion in Central Park. Tickets will be sold for the pancake breakfast at the event. Tickets will include pancakes, sausage, and water or juice. All donations will benefit the Stapleton Stingrays Swim Teams.

Bring your decorated bicycles, tricycles, wagons or scooters for the parade, which will begin at 10:30am at the Fountain Pavilion in Central Park. Participants should line up along the promenade at the fountain and head east toward the lake, looping around back to the fountain area. There will be parade leaders at the start of the parade to guide participants through the course.

Following the parade, the pools will open as scheduled. There will be a DJ at each pool from noon until 4pm and all pools for open swim will close at 6pm.

#### First Friday Flights

The second wine flight will be held at the West Crescent and will showcase wines from California. The next flight will begin at 6pm on Fri., July 5. This event will be divided into 4 sections—featuring a new wine (provided by The Grape Leaf), sommelier and an assortment of cheese and charcuterie plates (provided by Whole Foods Market—Cherry Creek). Tickets are \$15 each for residents and \$20 each for nonresidents.

Participants will need tickets for this event. You may pick up your tickets at the MCA office prior to the event (includes online registrants). Tickets will be available for pickup from Wed.-Fri., 9am–5pm each week. If you cannot pick up your tickets at this time, please visit the will call station on the day of the event. The will call station will open at 5:30pm on Fri., July 5 at the West Crescent. Space is limited. To register, visit www.stapletoncommunity.com or call 303.388.0724.

#### Concerts & Movies on The Green

Bring your family and friends to our annual music and movie series on The Green. The first concert of the series will begin at 6pm on Sat., July 6 and feature The Hazel Miller Band. Six Foot Joe & the Red Hot Rhinos will play at 6pm on Sat., July 20. Local food trucks will be parked at The Green during all concerts and movies.

*The Sandlot* is scheduled for Fri., July 12. We need to change two movie dates due to summer restrictions from Disney. *Brave* will be featured on Fri., July 26. *Lincoln* will now be presented on Fri., August 9. All movies will begin at dusk.

The concession stand will be open during all movies and will benefit local nonprofit organizations. Popcorn, candy, sodas and water may be purchased at the stand—cash only.

#### Active Minds

##### Hinduism

Join Active Minds for an examination of its origins, teachings, beliefs and practices. This seminar will begin at 7pm on Thurs., July 11 in the MCA Community Room.

##### The Music of the Movies

Join Active Minds as we explore this delightful genre. No prior musical or movie knowledge is required—only a curiosity and love of both. This seminar will be held at 9am on Sun., July 21 at the F-15 Pool (2831 Hanover St.) and will be followed by a potluck brunch at 10am. Please bring a dish to share.

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

#### Stapleton Beer Festival

SBF tickets are now on sale! Mark your calendars for the 4th annual Stapleton Beer Festival. This event will be held on Sat., August 17 at The Green. VIP tickets will include an extra hour of beer tasting (includes specialty craft beers), souvenir glass, tasting glass and food truck vouchers. General admission will include a tasting glass, food truck vouchers and tastings during the event. Residents may register for this event through their online ActiveNet account. Nonresidents must complete a "Nonresident Registration Form" (available on our website, www.stapletoncommunity.com) to register for the event. This is a ticketed event. Tickets may be picked up in the MCA office on Wed.-Fri., 9am–5pm prior to the event.

#### 2013 Kids Triathlon

The 2013 Kids Triathlon will begin at 8am at the Jet Stream Pool on Sun., August 25. Details regarding the triathlon will be posted to the MCA website, email blasts and Facebook page (facebook.com/StapletonMca). To register your child, visit www.stapletoncommunity.com. Space is limited.

Dani Mead

Communications Coordinator  
DMead@stapletoncommunity.com  
Stapleton MCA  
www.stapletoncommunity.com  
Facebook.com/StapletonMca  
303.388.0724

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## Front Porch

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The Stapleton Front Porch is published by Stapleton Front Porch, LLC, 2566 Syracuse St., Denver, CO 80238. 35,500 papers are printed. The free paper is distributed during the first week of each month to homes and businesses in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, Hale and East Colfax.



# Countdown to New Natural Market



Store manager, Mike Rogers (right), with a group of new Sprouts employees from nearby neighborhoods including Stapleton and Park Hill. Left to right: Heather, Sherri-Stapleton, Jamie-Park Hill, Bobby, Sirena, Della, Javay-Stapleton.

By Madeline Schroeder

A long-awaited natural food grocery store is opening in northeast Denver. At 7am on Wed., July 10, a new Sprouts store will open on Colfax three blocks west of Colorado Blvd. The 25,000-square-foot store will be metro Denver's third Sprouts store.

Sprouts is not your conventional grocery store, explains store manager Mike Rogers. It started as a produce stand in 1943 in Arizona by its founders, the Boney Family. The new Denver store includes a soup/olive bar and sushi station as well as the large bulk foods section Sprouts is known for. The store will have both full-service and self-service meat departments.

Mike Rogers, a veteran of all aspects of running grocery stores, says his staff is hard at work in preparation for opening day.

When he was 16 years old, Rogers worked as a bagger at a grocery store. He enjoyed the business so much he never left. He has worked at grocery stores his entire life and worked every job from stocker to meat cutter to store manager.

"It's great; you get to work with people, and it keeps you very busy," he said. "There's definitely no

sitting around."

In 2005, Rogers got into the natural food business. He worked at Sunflower Market before it merged with Sprouts, and then worked at the Sprouts Market in Grand Junction. Now he's the manager of the new Sprouts Farmers Market opening on Colfax Ave. between Monroe and Garfield streets on July 10.

A Lincoln Elementary and Kennedy High School graduate, Rogers is thrilled to be back in the Denver area, and Sprouts makes a great fit for him.

"I love good food. All-natural beef chicken and pork, fruits and vegetables have always been a big part of my diet," Rogers said.

Sprouts has special plans for opening day including giveaways, music and big sales. The market also offers regular weekly deals. Sale flyers will overlap on Wednesdays when shoppers can save on both the previous and current weeks' specials.

The new store has hired 101 employees, including Park Hill and Stapleton residents, and is still hiring more.

To learn more about events during the store's grand opening or regular deals, visit <http://sprouts.com/>.



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The directory is updated monthly at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com) -> Business Directory

# Summer Boredom? Just Zoo It



Clockwise from upper left:  
  
Denver Zoo visitors watch the elephant show.

A trainer tosses Groucho the elephant a piece of fruit in the Elephant Passage demonstration.  
  
Seal and sea lion trainer Jessica Jenkins hangs out by her favorite spot at the zoo—The Northern Shores.  
  
Animal shows not only entertain but also help maintain animal health. A trainer checks Nick the sea lion's flippers in the daily sea lion show.

Denver Zoo shows are interactive. Instructor Lora Gillock calls a young visitor to feel the shell of Sir Shellin' the armadillo.



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By Madeline Schroeder

Seal and sea lion trainer Jessica Jenkins permanently smells like fish but doesn't care; she loves her job at the Denver Zoo. "I don't even smell it anymore," she said and laughed. Jenkins has worked with the seals and sea lions at the Denver Zoo for eight years and thinks it's a great place to visit, especially now.

The Denver Zoo has several animal shows this summer. When summer boredom sets in, families can stop by to watch Nick the sea lion jump for food, Groucho the elephant cool off in a hose bath, and Sir Shellin' the armadillo pose

for photos. Daily events entertain families but also educate about conservation, animal health, and how to become an animal trainer. The shows allow trainers to inspect the animals' health, like having Nick smile with his mouth wide open to check for dental problems.

"People can come and see the magnificent animals, and I want them to leave the show thinking, 'What can I do to help, what can I learn about these animals?'" Jenkins said.

To see the full list of summer events at the Denver Zoo, visit <http://www.denverzoo.org/>.



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High Tech Elementary Selected for New School in Northfield

(continued from page 1) time frame for assessing proposals, it was early June when they concluded they should recommend one of them, High Tech Elementary, for Stapleton. As a district-run neighborhood school (rather than a charter), High Tech was the better fit, given the Stapleton community's desire to work in an advisory role with the principal in planning a new school.

"All of us, and I include myself, could have been a little bit more diligent to get the word out to the community," says Haynes. She added that initial calls for a committee to plan the new school had a limited response, and, in hindsight, they should have pushed harder to get that committee going. Haynes explained that she and other board members agreed it would have been best to have more community involvement, but they voted yes because experience has shown that schools need at least a full year of planning. Delaying the vote would have handicapped the school by shortening the start-up time...and DPS would still have recommended High Tech as the strongest applicant.

The sudden decision left most of the community without knowledge of the new program, so the *Front Porch* asked Dr. Amy Gile, principal of the new school, to share her vision for High Tech Elementary School. "The High

Tech vision of a school is that students participate in instruction that is not only rigorous and academically focused, but also part of their day will be spent in learning how it connects to the real world. I hear my daughter say, 'I have no idea why I'm doing this,'" says Gile. She believes the High Tech model gives kids a purpose and a meaning behind what they're learning. And, she says, "It's focused on learning how to think and problem solve and work within our 21st century changes."

Gile, who worked for six years as a curriculum coordinator in the central DPS office, three years as an assistant principal, and many years as a teacher throughout Colorado, is thrilled to now head this new school. "What we're hoping is that people realize that the timeline was out of our control, and that isn't held against us...the more I get to know the community, I hope people feel like they can trust me and that I'm committed. Just because it was a last-minute change (in the selection process) doesn't mean that's the way I am as a professional. Wherever I am working, that's MY community. I know the families, the kids; I embrace it completely."

The basic curriculum focuses on reading, writing and math skills taught using the Singapore math program and the Imagine It! reading program. Gile says the widely used reading program accommodates varying reading levels and allows kids to work at their highest level, whether above or below their actual grade level.

"High Tech" refers to using computer programs to track student progress and pinpoint where specific students need extra instruction. It does not refer to a curriculum that has a primary focus on technology.

"High Tech" also refers to the program's goal of teaching students to be 21st century thinkers and learners through project-based learning (PBL). Themes will be selected for six-week units, and students will devote a minimum of 45 minutes a day to working on a project of their own choosing within that theme. Students will also have one 45-minute period a day of specials (music, physical education, art, library, technology). When possible, these special classes will be tied to the current theme, adding another 45 minutes to the PBL time.

"We want to use those specials as more than just a stand-alone. We believe when learning is connected and we are really studying one theme and understanding it deeply, that is going to help make learning meaningful to kids," Gile says.

"Especially if it (the project) is of their own choosing," Assistant Principal Lisa Ortiz added. "Because then it becomes more personal. They're more interested."

Students will be required to produce individual projects, but they will take a course called Kagen to learn how to hold each other accountable and work effectively in groups. "No matter where you end up or what career

path or life path you take, the ability to consume information accurately, to problem solve, to collaborate, to network is essential," Gile says. She believes PBL offers students a setting where they will learn critical thinking, communication and collaboration as they gather information and present their projects.

Gile and Ortiz believe PBL will support gifted students who need to be challenged because there are no limitations on how students pursue their projects. Students can get as creative or ambitious as they are able. At the end of the six-week units, parents will be invited to view students' work.

Parent involvement is very important to Gile and Ortiz. They have a strong commitment to and belief in their core program, but they welcome input from the community as they flesh out the many parts of a new school program. They welcome parent volunteers to be on the Parent Advisory Committee, to help plan themes for PBL units, after-school enrichment options, rewards programs, and other areas in which parents are (continued on page 13)





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DPS Chief of Innovation and Reform Alyssa Whitehead-Bust presents DPS recommendations for NE Denver at a June 10 community meeting at Smiley School

2014) brought together all the pieces of the five-school shared boundary plan.

#### SMIS

At the June 10 DPS community meeting, DPS Chief of Innovation and Reform Alyssa Whitehead-Bust announced that DPS is searching for a principal for a new program at SMIS. Parents are invited to participate in the principal selection process and subsequently the program planning. At this time, the district does not have more specific information on the SMIS program, but hopes to have more information to share in the August Front Porch.

Whitehead-Bust also announced on June 10 that DPS staff would be recommending the now-approved DSST program for the new school that will open in Northfield in 2014. This announcement brought both pro and con comments from the audience at the June 10 meeting—though at the board hearing on June 13, all speakers were in favor of the DSST program.

#### DSST-Northfield

Whitehead-Bust also announced on June 10 that DPS staff would be recommending the now-approved DSST program for the new school that will open in Northfield in 2014. This announcement brought both pro and con comments from the audience at the June 10 meeting—though at the board hearing on June 13, all speakers were in favor of the DSST program.

Stapleton resident Chris Fickel, an engineer who appreciates the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) curriculum, points out, “We need a standard liberal arts education that is well



Chris Fickel

rounded in both the sciences and arts.” He went on to say that artistic kids may suffer from academic discomfort if they get placed in a STEM program. Celeste Archer echoed the same sentiment. “There are a lot of students who want STEAM (STEM with arts added) and not STEM. I know DSST very well—it wouldn’t work for my child. I think...there’s a frustration that DSST is exploding and it’s not necessarily what is the wish.”



Celeste Archer



Dwayne Holloway

Park Hill resident Dwayne Holloway pointed out that while a number of people spoke out to say there’s not a demand for DSST, “I don’t think these individuals speak for the entire proposed boundary. I think it’s a little different in certain places.”

Following the meeting, DPS staff confirmed that when shared boundaries go into effect in 2014, it is expected that all students will have equal priority for DSST, giving Park Hill students equal access to those programs.

After the board decision approving the new DSST and SMIS programs, the Front Porch followed up with DPS to learn more about the balance of middle school seats. With two DSST programs and (per DSST’s

charter) approximately 45% of DSST seats set aside for free and reduced lunch students (FRL), will there be a good balance of seats so that families can find a program that suits their student?

In 2014, DPS projects there will be a total of 640 sixth grade seats in the five schools. Of those, 126 DSST seats will be set aside for FRL students and there will be 154 unrestricted DSST seats. In the non-DSST programs, there will be a total of 360 seats.

The Front Porch also asked Bill Kurtz, CEO of DSST Public Schools, to address the concerns expressed at community meetings that although DSST has a quality STEM program, there appears to be a desire for more STEAM programming.



Bill Kurtz

Kurtz says the DSST program at Northfield will have a focus on computer science/digital design, “the digital world of both creating and designing software and digital art. It’s going to be more of a design focus than an engineering focus.”

Kurtz also points out that DSST has always had a studio arts program and now with the 2012 mill (*continued on page 26*)

## Board Decisions for NE Denver

—Shared boundaries for Stapleton/Park Hill middle schools

—New district-run middle school at SMIS building

—DSST Middle School at Northfield

By Carol Roberts

The June 20th Denver school board decision on shared boundaries reshaped the middle school landscape for Stapleton and Park Hill. During six well-attended community meetings from February to June, where DPS presented and explained the new concept, parents had numerous opportunities to view presentations, ask how the new system will work, and hear about potential new programs.

#### Shared Boundaries

Starting in 2014, students in the former Smiley attendance area and students in Stapleton will be guaranteed a seat at one of five schools: (1) McAuliffe IB at Smiley, (2) DSST-Stapleton, (3) DSST-Northfield, (4) a new district-run middle school at Swigert-McAuliffe (SMIS) in Stapleton, and (5) Bill Roberts middle school. The board approval of DSST for the new Northfield middle school and a new program in the SMIS building (which will be vacated when McAuliffe IB moves to Smiley in

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# Opening in Stapleton Eye Care for the Entire Family

By Nancy Burkhart

The Stapleton Family Eye Center, opening July 1, is providing a full range of eye care services for all ages at their new facility located at E. 23rd Ave. and Central Park Blvd.

Lynette Bridges, CEO of the Stapleton Family Eye Center, explains that the center's full-time optometrist is trained to provide care for everyone from babies to seniors. Stapleton Family Optical offers a full array of eyewear from single vision and bifocals to prescription sunglasses for the whole family. And for children with any kind of eye condition that requires medical care, pediatric ophthalmologists will be on-site two days a week.

## Optometry Services

Optometrist Amanda Huston will be in the eye center Wednesdays through Saturdays. "I'll be seeing children, adults, elderly—anyone who wants to come in," Huston says. "I've specialized in pediatrics over the last year, and I'm happy to see kids. But I also was trained to see adults and the elderly."

The Stapleton Family Eye Center is moving to Stapleton to bring eye care closer to the community and allow family members to all go to the same place for eye care.

"We'll see drop-ins, and if it's more convenient to make appointments, we offer that too," Huston said. "We have made a big effort to be very accessible and convenient for people. Referrals aren't required, unless a patient's insurance demands it."

Besides being open on Saturdays, early and late-in-the-day appointments can be scheduled, she added. If Huston identifies a possible medical problem as she performs children's eye exams, she'll refer them to a pediatric eye physician, who will be at the Sta-

pleton Family Eye Center on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Huston and her husband, Chad, have just moved to Stapleton from Cincinnati, Ohio, where Huston completed her residency specializing in children's optometry at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

"I love Colorado," Huston said. "My family lived in Missouri and would go to Colorado for vacations during the summer. And I spent a summer doing an organic chemistry project that was a research experience for undergraduates at CSU. I'm a runner, but I'm more recreational than a competitive runner. I run for fun and I'm interested in doing more biking."

"If it's time for a check-up or if you aren't seeing a computer well, it's time to come in to see us," Huston adds. Walk-ins are accepted. Or to make an eye examination appointment, call the Stapleton Family Eye Center at 303.597.1640.



Optometrist and Stapleton resident Amanda Huston

## Optical Store

Greg Files, an optician for 17 years, will fit, sell and dispense eyeglasses at Stapleton Family Optical. Files will assist patients in choosing appropriate eyeglass frames for their prescriptions and to fit their faces. "I'll be adjusting the eyewear so that it fits the patient correctly."

"We offer everything from boutique styles down to basic eyewear for everyone. We market for high-dollar and low-dollar optical and everywhere in between—and all the choices of eyewear are selected by me. I will carry everything from Oakley sunglasses to protective sports eyewear."

If a patient has seen eyeglasses online that they would like to have, or desires eyewear for children or adults for use in sports, Files will be happy to obtain the requested eyewear.

"I want to treat eyewear as if it were a piece of jewelry on the face," he explained. "It's all about the focal point and being able to offer

Optician Greg Files fits, sells and dispenses glasses and contacts at the optical center.



nicer frames at a lower dollar, as well as boutique frames.

"I want to make sure the eyewear works with the prescription lens. Some won't fit a rimless design. I'll work one-on-one with everyone and help them choose the frame and make it something that they like."

Files encourages people to come into the Stapleton Family Optical to shop for eyewear even if they have other optometrists because he offers such a wide range of options. And, he says, once people come into the Stapleton Family Eye Center, they will learn how much easier it is for them. "It's one-stop shopping," Files explained.

Stapleton Family Optical will accept most insurance, he said.

"I will be able to fill 80 to 90 percent of the eyewear prescriptions with insurances," he noted. "We will work hard to make sure that your insurance will find it acceptable. Medicaid will be one of our prime focuses. The Vision Service Plan (VSP) and EyeMed Vision Care will be the plans used 90 percent of the time."

"I want to offer a very wide range of ophthalmic glasses and a wide variety of sunglasses, including Oakley, Ray-Ban and Nike," Files said. "I will be able to offer any type of corrective lenses to help you with any sports activities. If I don't have it, I will get it."

Files said people should ask for him, "The Big Guy," when then come in for eyewear.

"I think I'm the biggest person in the company, but I'm a teddy bear," he said. "I'm ready to answer any question. I'm a doctor's assistant as well, so I've done every aspect of the optometric and ophthalmology world."

To inquire about orders for eyeglasses or con-

tact lenses, call Stapleton Family Optical at 303.597.1650. Appointments are not necessary for selection of eyewear.

## Pediatric Eye Physicians

Dr. Adrienne Ruth is one of seven pediatric ophthalmologists who will rotate through Stapleton Family Eye Center to provide specialty medical services to children. The seven physicians from the Children's Eye Physicians practice also work at Children's Hospital and other clinic locations throughout the Denver community, and they will be at the Stapleton Family Eye Center on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Children's Eye Physicians will allow the Stapleton Family Eye Center to offer board-certified experts in a variety of areas, so if a surgeon or advanced eye care is needed, an expert will be available.

"We manage both complex and routine eye problems, including the more complicated glaucoma, cataracts, eye tumors and vision problems that may be associated with systemic diseases and brain tumors," Ruth explained. "We consider Dr. Huston to be the first line because she's there more often, but a patient can see one of the seven pediatric eye physicians if they like. Our goal is to provide the care that is most appropriate for everybody. Our main goal is to touch the lives of everyone who walks through the door, and make their lives better."

"We (Children's Eye Physicians) have patients from out of state and internationally," she said. "We have approximately 30,000 patient visits per year, and perform about 1,000 eye surgeries."

As a pediatric eye expert, Ruth emphasizes the need for children with vision problems to see a pe-



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Dr. Adrienne Ruth is one of seven pediatric ophthalmologists who will rotate at the Stapleton Family Eye Center to provide specialized care for children.



diatric eye physician early.

“It’s important for kids to have their eyes checked,” she said. “Vision continues to develop until seven years old, but in the first seven years, cataracts can cause blurred vision or there can be a lack of normal visual development. Up until the age of seven is a critical period for vision development,

and if not checked, the child won’t have good vision permanently. Even a simple intervention like glasses for a four-year-old can make a difference for life.”

Ruth adds that Children’s Eye Physicians is excited to be a part of the new Stapleton Family Eye Center where close-to-home eye care is now available for all ages.

**RTD Approves Moving I-225 Rail Station to Fitzsimons Pkwy.**

Due to concerns about electromagnetic interference (EMI) and vibration near sensitive research equipment at the Fitzsimons/Anschutz campus, CU officials requested the I-225 light rail line and station planned along Montview be moved to Fitzsimons

Parkway. RTD has approved the requested change. The new station location will be determined in a joint effort by CU, the city of Aurora and public input to meet the needs of persons who are transit dependent to access the Anschutz Campus.



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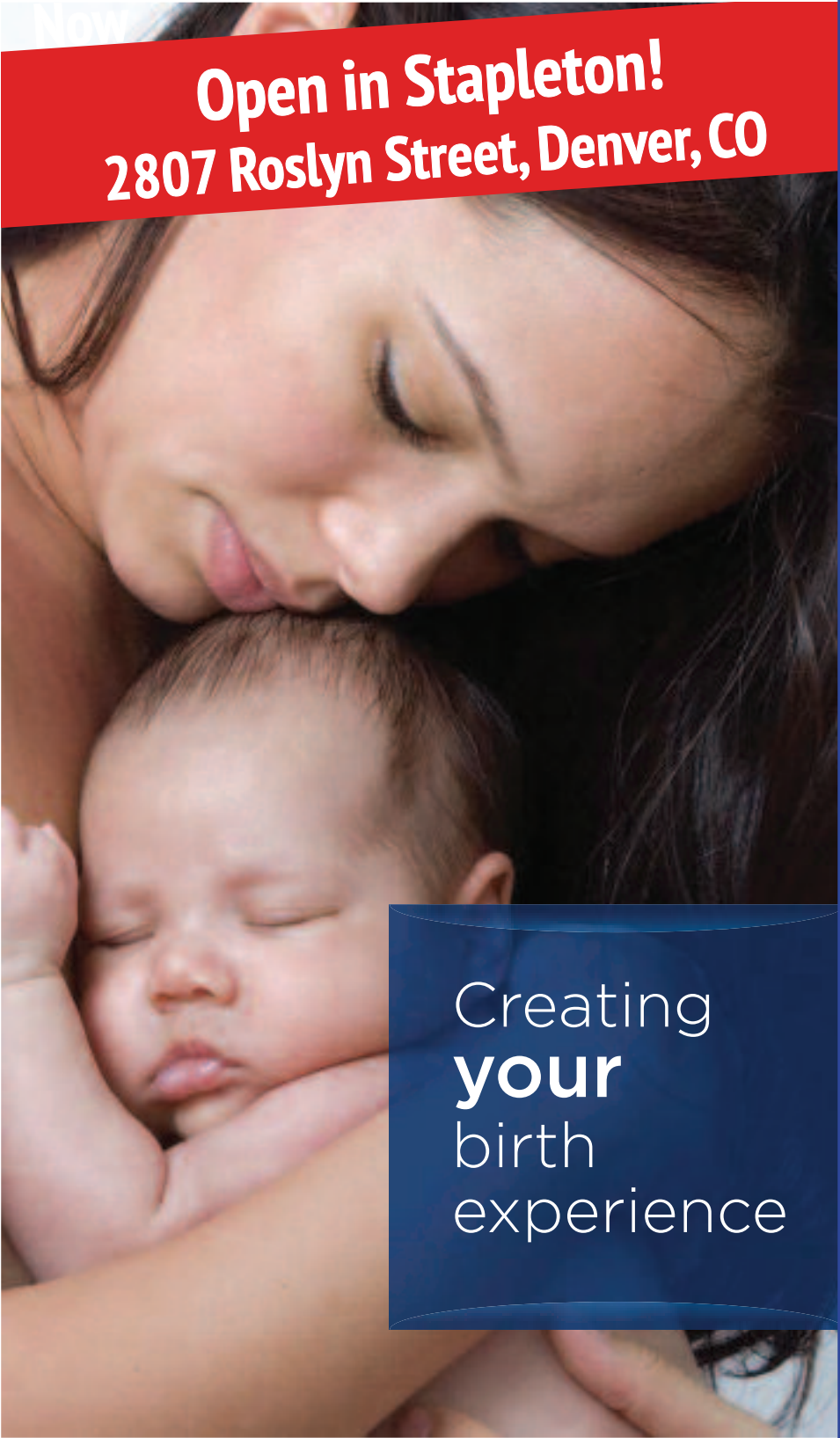


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# Stapleton Family Taps into a New Business

By Courtney Drake-McDonough

The buzz started months ago when news started brewing that there was going to be a tap house serving craft beer in Stapleton. The first pours of up to 30 local microbrews will start in mid-July with the grand opening celebration on July 27 or “727” in honor of Stapleton’s airport history.

The old control tower is part of the Stapleton Tap House logo, which has led people to ask the owners why they didn’t open the Tap House there, instead of in Northfield, a few doors down from the Harkins Theatres. Co-owner Michael Kearns responds, “Other than costing several million dollars and not being for sale, we wanted to be in the middle of the community, and as Stapleton continues to grow, Northfield will be right in the middle.”

If Michael Kearns’ name sounds familiar, it’s because he and his wife, Diana Kearns, have been deeply involved in the community since moving to Stapleton in 2004. In addition to being “The Kearns Team,” husband and wife RE/MAX Realtors whose signs are often seen around Stapleton, they have served on many boards including Stapleton United Neighbors, the Master Community Association, Westerly Creek Metropolitan District and the MCA Executive Board. Michael Kearns is also a mayoral appointee to the Stapleton Development Corporation. The couple organizes and spon-



Aydan Kearns, holding a rendering of the Stapleton Tap House, is shown with her parents, Diana and Michael Kearns, at the family’s new business.

ent breweries at a time considered micro-brewers producing in small batches. The selection will rotate depending on demand and what the brewer provides. Customers can order a beer flight to sample five and can then order a “full pour” of a beer they like.

According to Diana, “It’s a way for people not familiar with beer to expand their horizons. And it’s a way for people who are ‘beer geeks’ to have tastes and decide what they want to enjoy that day.” The Kearns hope the opportunity to try a variety of beers will inspire people to visit the breweries they have sampled to see the brewery in action.

sors the Stapleton Community Garage Sale every year. And they are parents of a 9-year-old daughter, Aydan. If all of that wasn’t enough, they wanted to add a brand-new venture to their already busy lives.

It started a couple of years ago when Diana told her husband “You need a hobby!” Home-brewing became that hobby, which inspired Michael to entertain the idea of opening a brewery or some variation on the theme. Eventually, Michael, whose title on his Stapleton Tap House business card reads “Optimist,” and Diana, whose title is “Realist,” decided to open a place where people could try a variety of Colorado’s small-batch brews.

“Our goal is to have beers that are a little more difficult to find so we can introduce people to new (ones) and their breweries,” says Michael. There will be beer from up to 30 differ-

While the Stapleton Tap House will serve a limited snack food menu, customers are welcome to bring in food from neighboring restaurants, some of which will deliver. People can even bring in food from home, but the hope is to help support local businesses. The Tap House’s neighbors have been very supportive. The owners of Marco’s Pizza and Jim ‘N Nick’s Bar-B-Q even spoke in support of the Tap House at their liquor license hearing.

The atmosphere will be like an indoor beer garden with patio-inspired furniture seating up to 75 people and strings of lights across the ceiling. Three screens above the tap wall and bar will show the menu of beers and provide announcements about the breweries and upcoming events. There will be one large TV screen on one wall for those times when people want to follow along with a big game. But the Kearns want the beer to be the focus, not TV.

They also see Stapleton Tap House as a neighborhood gathering place where families are welcome. It’s certainly a family project for the Kearns whose daughter has been busy taste-testing snacks to serve and asking what her job can be in the newest family business. “So far she thinks helping to clean will be fun,” reports Michael. “I’m not counting on that lasting very long.” Diana will focus on the real estate business while Michael focuses on the Tap House, but they will help each other out with both businesses and consider this a joint venture and a labor of love.

“When you want to do something, you want to do something you really enjoy,” says Michael. “So this was an opportunity to do that. It feels like less work if you really enjoy what you’re doing.”

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Evan Dreyer, Stapleton resident and senior advisor to the mayor, is pictured making a presentation about the aerotropolis concept at a meeting in Stapleton in February.

*"The U.S. and Western Europe often view airports as nuisances and environmental threats rather than as critical infrastructure to compete and prosper. This has resulted in their maligning and neglecting airports while Asia and the Middle East invest heavily to leverage them. Such neglect comes at the long-term economic peril of the West."*

By Carol Roberts

The above statement was made by John Kasarda, who is considered the developer of the aerotropolis concept. Kasarda calls airports "powerful economic engines" that can attract all types of aviation-linked businesses. In 2011, Time called Aerotropolis "One of the Ten Ideas that Will Change the World."

The Front Porch interviewed Kasarda in January 2012, and Kasarda said he views DIA as an ideal candidate airport for the first U.S. aerotropolis built from the ground up. With 53 square miles of land surrounding it, DIA is the third-largest international airport in the world (in land area). Kasarda added, "The City of Denver must get their planning of an aerotropolis right. If there is not appropriate planning, airport-area development will be haphazard, economically inefficient, and unsustainable."

What has happened with aerotropolis planning in the past year and a half to take advantage of this "powerful economic engine" in far NE Denver?

The short answer is that all parties involved in aerotropolis planning must come to agreement before the plan can move forward—and that hasn't happened yet. Because the potential for revenue and economic development is so great, negotiations between Denver and Adams County are moving

slowly, with both parties', of course, taking seriously their responsibility to represent their constituents. The big difficulty in finding agreement on a mutually beneficial plan lies in differing interpretations of the 1988 intergovernmental agreement (IGA) signed when Denver annexed 53 square miles of Adams County land to build DIA.

In early May, Adams County sent a letter to Denver stating that Denver had agreed in the IGA not to develop the annexed land in a way that would compete with more distant Adams County developments. They also requested that Denver propose a sharing of tax revenues that would benefit Adams County.

Denver responded that they had not violated the terms of IGA, "nor do we intend to." However they pointed out that airports around the nation and globally are moving forward quickly. "If we fail to develop an economically sustainable and mutually dependent regional plan, we will fall behind." In a subsequent letter (May 31) Denver proposed a special district that would impose a mill levy on projects on or around airport property and use the revenue to pay for public infrastructure in an off-airport area in Adams County, Aurora, Commerce City and Denver.

Adams County rejected the proposal and responded that Denver must strictly adhere to restrictions in the IGA. In response to a request from the Front Porch for the specific clauses in the IGA that Adams County thinks Denver is violating, they referred to a clause that specifies that airport land can be used only for purposes that are directly related to the operation of (continued on p. 26

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# Just the Facts

## Smoke and Brown Clouds

by Whitey Hagadorn



I used to live in smoggy Los Angeles where on summer days breathing air required a spork. Colorado's air has been a refreshing respite—until a couple of weeks ago. As I drove home from the mountains, I could barely see downtown Denver. One double-take and a change of radio stations later, it was confirmed—a new forest fire roared to the south.

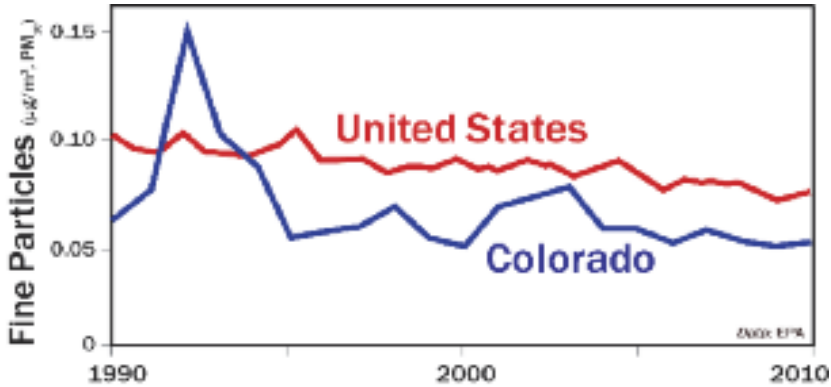
While this haze was understandable, today I noticed that our air still wasn't very clear. Are there more forest fires? Or is the "brown cloud" returning to smog our cities? Is our air safe to breathe, or should we be concerned?

Fortunately, unless you're fighting or fleeing a fire, smoke is an infrequent and nonthreatening risk. For those more than about a mile away, the biggest dangers from inhaling wildfire smoke are getting soot lodged in your lungs or inhaling PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons). If inhaled regularly and/or in high doses, these nasty compounds can cause cancer, mutations, childhood disorders, or retardation—particularly in fetuses. Sounds scary, but

ter, your local brewpub.

Far more concerning and less visible than smoke are the four horsemen of air pollution: fine particles, ground ozone, carbon monoxide and nitrous oxides. These compounds surround and impact us every day.

Fine particles mostly come from engine and power plant exhaust; they are like shrapnel or minuscule time bombs that get lodged in the



such risks are low because your eyes, nose and throat will give you irritating alarms that you're breathing too much smoke. If this happens, move to a place where the air is filtered—whether it is your home, a library, or even bet-

ter, your local brewpub.

bleach or hydrogen peroxide for your lungs. Carbon monoxide mostly comes from tailpipes; it suffocates your red blood cells. Nitrogen oxides mostly come from cars; they act like acid in your lungs and help form the

"smog" that you see weekday afternoons.

Together, these compounds act as invisible and visible toxins in the air we breathe. They don't just affect people who have asthma, bronchitis and emphysema. They affect the active, the sedentary, the old, the young, and even the unborn.

The good news is that we control how much of this stuff is emitted into the air, and Coloradans have done a remarkable job of improving air quality from the days where the Front Range was shrouded in the "brown cloud." Even given the haze of late, Colorado has better air quality now than it had 10, 20

cases municipalities have fostered cleaner air by expanding vehicle inspections, by restricting wood burning, and by making available more shared transportation.

There is much left to do, and the remaining improvements are up to us. Some changes are as easy as filling up your car at night, not topping off your tank, and postponing that summer painting project until the fall. (I never thought I'd get to invoke "the environment" to procrastinate further on my most overdue house project!)

But the big kahuna of change involves the use of your car, and tips for what you can do



Where did the mountains go? Evening views of Denver the day before and after the Black Forest fire. Camera is ~1 mile southeast of downtown. Images courtesy of CDPHE.

and even 30 years ago—despite adding more than two million new residents. For example, Colorado's Front Range cities have, on average, fewer fine particles in their air than most comparable U.S. cities, and levels of ozone and nitrous oxides have annually decreased in lockstep with levels in many formerly smog-shrouded cities in the U.S.

We've earned some of these improvements by implementing new technology, such as oxygenated gas and road de-icing agents. In other

forecast to plan your activities. Be sure to look at the AQI (Air Quality Index), a handy metric that synthesizes the effects of all four major air pollutants into one number.

In the meantime, let's keep on keeping that brown cloud at bay. We all share the air, including the parts we can't see.

*James W. Hagadorn, PhD, is a scientist at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Suggestions and comments welcome at [jwhagadorn@dmns.org](mailto:jwhagadorn@dmns.org).*

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# Century Riders Pick Their Challenge

By Madeline Schroeder

More than 1,600 cyclists joined the 4th Annual Denver Century Ride on Saturday, June 15 that started and ended in Northfield Stapleton Town Center.

The ride’s motto is “Choose Your Challenge” and offers courses of all difficulties and terrains along bike-safe paths. “We’ve got options for extreme long distance and options to leisurely cruise around,” Media and Marketing Director, Jeannie McFarland Johnson, said.

This year, the 25-mile loop, appropriate for families and groups of friends riding with child trailers, went along the Cherry Creek Bike Path. The routes appropriate for experienced cyclists ranged from 62 to 100 miles. Every route was fully supported with aid stations every 15 to 20 miles that provided food, drinks, sports bars, medics, technical assistance, and more.

“We want to make sure every cyclist is taken care of,” Johnson said. The day provided an option for every cyclist, including children who could decorate their bikes and ride in a parade hosted by Macy’s along Northfield Main Street.

Proceeds went to BikeDenver, a non-profit that promotes biking as an energy-efficient, enjoyable transportation and works to make Denver a more bike-friendly city through creating legislation and building infrastructure. The Century Ride previously donated the largest single donation BikeDenver has ever received and raised \$12,380 this year.

Early bird registration for the 2014 ride is now open. To register or learn more about the Century Ride visit <http://www.bikedenver.org/>.



The long distance riders take off from the Northfield Main Street in the 2013 Century Ride.The ride attracted cyclists of all skill levels.

## High Tech Elementary

(continued from p.6) willing to share their expertise.

On July 9, from 5:30 to 6:30pm at Westerly Creek school, Gile and Ortiz will hold a public meeting to further explain the program, answer questions and solicit parent involvement. Gile says she sees this school as an “amazing” opportunity to work with parents who want to be involved, even when it means working with parents who are unhappy.

“At my core, being a parent, I know that even the most upset parent is there because they love their child and they want what is best for them,” Gile said. “And I will love their child and want what’s best for them because that’s how I work as a leader. So please call me. Please say what your concerns are.”

For more information, visit [www.hightechelementary.com](http://www.hightechelementary.com).

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## Premium Fishwrap\*

by Jon Meredith

### A Young Man's Courage

The email hit me as if someone had taken a 2x4 to the back of my head. For an hour each week, I volunteer at a local middle school helping children with reading. The librarian wrote to me in March, "I want to let you know why Carson was absent last week. He went into the hospital for lack of energy and inflammation around his heart. As he was being evaluated, it was discovered that he has childhood leukemia. He will be living in the hospital for six months while he receives chemotherapy and other necessary therapies."

Just a few weeks prior Carson had been a typical 7th grader, a lacrosse and hockey player who was appropriately disinterested in anyone "helping" him with reading. He was much more interested in talking hockey or Broncos.

Lots of people get cancer, many are survivors, and many don't make it. Both of my parents and a brother passed away from it. However, there is something about this young man, embarking on what should be the best years of his life, that struck me as an utterly unfair hand dealt by whoever has the higher power to do such things.

I was not alone. I witnessed a mother visiting the school library break down in tears upon being told the news of Carson. I surprised myself with the strong emotions I was feeling. Is there anything I could do or any way to help?

Carson's parents are divorced but remain friends. Carson was in the middle of his first treatments and had been vomiting all night. When I ran into Carson's father, Carl, normally a handsome outgoing guy, he looked as if his last breath had been sucked out of him. The ordeal was testing this man, who is a microbiologist, to his core, but he is determined to win the battle no matter what it takes.

Carson's mom, Kathy, is a yogi, a person who lives by keeping her life in balance. Upon hearing the news when the initial results came back, she felt as if the walls of the hospital were closing in on her. She left, screaming at the top of her lungs as she drove home. The next day

she was back at the hospital, centered and ready for what lay ahead.

Carson is now starting his fourth and final chemo treatment. The first two went as well as can be expected. The third caused him to have fevers that reached almost 107F, during which his body convulsed horribly and his providers were concerned about brain damage.

At one point, Kathy told Carson while he was in the middle of a chemo session that the procedures were causing more pain for her than they were for him. Carson responded that she was just sitting there, and he was the one having chemicals pumped through his body causing him to be constantly sick.

On a recent night, I visited the family. Carson would be back in Children's the next morning and really wanted to play video games, but we talked for more than an hour. I noticed a change in him, a maturity, an ability to lead, a show of strength and above all, courage. He understands that he is able to help others by being himself, allowing people to understand what he and his parents have been through. It has made him stronger and he has given that strength to every person that sees him, especially his parents

I asked about how the insurance company has handled the claim. Carl said that as of the end of May the bill was almost half a million dollars and insurance claimed they would only cover 70% of the total. By the time Carson is through, that could be hundreds of thousands of dollars, yet another unfair detail of this story.

On July 20, there will be a fundraiser for Carson at the Thin Man Restaurant, 2015 E. 17th Ave., starting at 4pm. For more information, contact Kathy at khiiliker@boundlessnetwork.com.

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

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

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**DISCLAIMER:**The Front Porch obtains event information through websites and press releases and cannot guarantee that events will occur as listed. Please use contact information to check for updates.

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

**7/3 Wednesday- Civic Center Park Independence Day Eve Celebration.** 8pm. FREE community concert; patriotic favorites by Colorado Symphony, lightshow, fireworks. Denver Civic Center Park. [www.civiccenterconservancy.org](http://www.civiccenterconservancy.org)

**7/4 Thursday- Aurora's 4th of July Spectacular.** 6-9:30pm. Live music, largest fireworks display in metro area, fireworks 9:30pm. Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda P'kway.

**7/4 Thursday- Evergreen 4th of July Celebration.** Evergreen Music Festival, art show, kids' activities. 10am-8pm. Tickets \$10; 12/under free. Evergreen Lake House. [www.evergreenmusicfestival.org](http://www.evergreenmusicfestival.org)

**7/4 Thursday- 2013 Freedom Run 5K.** Evergreen. [www.mtevans.org](http://www.mtevans.org)

**7/4 Thursday- Liberty 4 Mile and Firecracker Kids Run.** 8:30am. Wash Park, [www.hallucinationsports.com](http://www.hallucinationsports.com)

**7/4 Thursday- 3rd Annual Park Hill 4th of July Parade.** 1:30pm. 23rd Ave., Dexter to Kearney. [www.parkhillparade.org](http://www.parkhillparade.org)

**7/4 Thursday- Colorado Rapids v. New York Red Bulls.** Fireworks after game. 18th annual 4th Fest Family Activity Zone begins 5pm. [www.coloradorapids.com](http://www.coloradorapids.com)

**7/4 Thursday- Denver Outlaws Lacrosse v. New York Lizards.** Fireworks after game.

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

**7/4 Thursday- Colorado Rockies v. Dodgers.** Fireworks after game.

**7/4 Thursday- Olde Town Arvada Spirit of America 4th of July Festival.** Free family events; classic car show 4pm; fireworks at dusk. [www.arvadafestivals.com](http://www.arvadafestivals.com)

**7/4 Thursday- Old-Fashioned 4th of July Celebration at Four Mile Park.** [www.fourmilepark.org](http://www.fourmilepark.org)

**7/4 Thursday- Elitch Gardens.** Fireworks at dusk.

**RECURRING ARTWALKS**

**First Fridays**

**Santa Fe Arts District.** Santa Fe Dr. between 10th and 6th. 5-8pm. [www.artdistricton-santafe.com](http://www.artdistricton-santafe.com)

**North Denver's Tennyson Art Walk.** Tennyson St. and 44th Ave. 6-10pm. [www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com](http://www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com)

**River North (RiNo) Art District,** 6-9pm. RiNo starts at Broadway and Walnut St. [www.RiverNorthart.com](http://www.RiverNorthart.com)

**Golden Triangle Museum District.** 5-9pm. [www.goldentriangleofdenver.com](http://www.goldentriangleofdenver.com)

**Navajo Street Art District.** 5-9pm. [www.navajostreetartdistrict.com](http://www.navajostreetartdistrict.com)

**Third Friday**

**Santa Fe Arts District.** Santa Fe Dr. between 10th and 6th. 5-8pm. [www.artdistricton-santafe.com](http://www.artdistricton-santafe.com)

**DENVER METRO EVENTS**

**Denver Public Art Tours.** FREE tours by foot, bike, scooter, for art/architecture lovers.

Reservations required. Schedule/signup: [www.denvergov.org/publicart](http://www.denvergov.org/publicart). Also download PDF of Denver's Public Art Guide.

**Through 7/14- Hats Off to Dr. Seuss!** Dr. Seuss' never-before-seen hat collection at Clayton Lane Fine Arts Gallery. 11am-7pm, Mon-Sat, closed Sun. 110 Clayton Lane. [www.claytonlaneart.com](http://www.claytonlaneart.com)

**Through 7/23- Colorado Renaissance Festival.** Larkspur. [www.coloradorennaissance.com](http://www.coloradorennaissance.com)

**Through 8/11- Colorado Shakespeare Festival.** CU Boulder campus, various plays, times. [www.coloradoshakes.org](http://www.coloradoshakes.org)

**Through 8/25- Arvada Center Summer Gallery Exhibitions.** "Perception/Color/Line/Pattern"; 21 artists. FREE. [www.arvadacenter.org/galleries](http://www.arvadacenter.org/galleries)

**7/5 Friday- Concerts at Clyfford Still Museum.** The Haunted Wind Chimes. FREE. 5:30-7:30pm. [www.swallowhillmusic.org](http://www.swallowhillmusic.org)

**7/5 Friday to 7/7 Sunday- Cherry Creek Arts Festival.** [www.cherryarts.org](http://www.cherryarts.org)

**7/6 Saturday- Drums Along the Rockies.** 7 pm. Tickets \$15-\$35. Sports Authority Field at Mile High. [www.bknights.org](http://www.bknights.org)

**7/7 Sunday- Free Movie at Denver Film Society, Mon Oncle.** 2pm. Free classic movies select Sundays through Dec. [www.denverfilm.org](http://www.denverfilm.org)

**7/11 Thursday- Larimer Square Summer Film Series.** [www.larimersquare.com](http://www.larimersquare.com)

**7/11 Thursday- Denver Film Society Raise the Roof Block Party.** FREE. Live music, entertainment; food and drink for purchase. 6-10 pm. Lowenstein Complex rooftop, 2510 E Colfax. [www.denverfilm.org](http://www.denverfilm.org)

**7/11 Thursday- Urban Market Skyline Park.** 11am-7pm. FREE. [www.coloradoevents.net](http://www.coloradoevents.net)

**7/12 Friday to 7/14 Sunday- 31st Annual Colorado Gay Rodeo.** Jefferson County Fairgrounds. [www.cgra.ws](http://www.cgra.ws)

**7/12 Friday to 7/14 Sunday- Colorado Black Arts Festival.** City Park West. [www.colbaf.org](http://www.colbaf.org)

**7/12 Friday to 7/14 Sunday- Colorado Irish Festival.** Largest Irish celebration in Rocky Mountains: traditional Irish music, dancing, drama, storytelling, crafts, games, food/drinks at Clement Park, Littleton. [www.coloradoirishfestival.org](http://www.coloradoirishfestival.org)

**7/13 Saturday- CatFest at Dumb Friends League.** Celebrate cats. 10am-3pm. Dumb Friends League, 2080 S. Quebec St. [www.ddfl.org](http://www.ddfl.org), 303.751.5772

**7/13 Saturday- Cockpit Demo Day.** Wings Over the Rockies Museum, Lowry. 10am-2pm. [www.wingsmuseum.org](http://www.wingsmuseum.org)

**7/13 Saturday- International Resale Day.** Consignment Crawl. Environmentally friendly shopping alternative. Check [www.consignmentcol-](http://www.consignmentcol-)

[orado.com](http://orado.com) for participating stores offering refreshments, special promotions, giveaways. 12-6pm.

**7/18 Thursday to 7/21 Sunday- Denver Post Underground Music Showcase.** Local/national bands play in 25-30 venues on S. Broadway. [www.theums.com](http://www.theums.com)

**7/24 Wednesday to 7/28 Sunday- Buffalo Bill Days.** Buffalo Bill celebrated with Wild West show, car show, mutton bustin' competition, golf tournament, entertainment, free kiddie train rides, duck race, arts/crafts, etc. Downtown Golden, Parfet Park and other historical museums and parks. [www.buffalobilldays.com](http://www.buffalobilldays.com)

**7/26 Friday to 7/28 Sunday- Evergreen Jazz Festival.** [www.evergreenjazz.org](http://www.evergreenjazz.org)

**7/27 Saturday to 7/28 Sunday- Colorado Dragon Boat Festival.** 12th annual at Denver's Sloan's Lake Park. [www.cdbf.org](http://www.cdbf.org)

**7/29 Monday- Annual Summer Sight-Singing Romp.** Join Colorado Hebrew Chorale and area conductors where you're the chorus! 7:30pm. \$5. Hebrew Educational Alliance, 3600 S. Ivanhoe St. 303.355.0232, [www.coloradohebrew-chorale.org](http://www.coloradohebrew-chorale.org)

**8/9 Friday to 8/11 Sunday- Denver County Fair.** National Western Complex. [www.denvercountyfair.org](http://www.denvercountyfair.org)

**Monday Movie Madness at Infinity Park.** FREE movies at Infinity Park in Glendale, 8pm. [www.infinityparkatglendale.com](http://www.infinityparkatglendale.com)

**Wednesdays in July- Shady Grove Concert Picnic Series at Four Mile Historic Park.** 6:30-8:30pm. \$10/adults; \$7 members, seniors, cyclists; \$2 kids 12/under. Swallow Hill Music Assoc. [www.swallowhillmusic.org](http://www.swallowhillmusic.org)

**Mile High Movies in Skyline Park.** FREE. 7/6 *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, 7/13 *A League of Their Own*, 7/20 *Lion King*, 7/27 *Finding Nemo*. Skyline Park, 16th St Mall at Arapahoe. At dusk. [www.denvergov.org/parksandrec](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrec)

**Free Bowling for Kids-** Up to 2 games per day, Monaco Lanes. [www.amf.com](http://www.amf.com)

**Civic Center Bike-In Movie Series.** FREE family-friendly movies in downtown Denver's Civic Center Park, begins 7/18. [www.civiccenterconservancy.org](http://www.civiccenterconservancy.org)

**Tuesdays through 8/20- Free Tours of Governor's Residence at Boettcher Mansion.** 1-3pm. 400 E 8th Ave. No reservations required. [www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov)

**Colorado Rapids Women Professional Team July Home Games.** Dick's Sporting Goods Park. Schedule: [www.coloradorapids.com/women](http://www.coloradorapids.com/women)

**Denver Film Society.** Daily movies/programs. Lowenstein Complex, 2510 E Colfax and various locations. [www.denverfilm.org](http://www.denverfilm.org)

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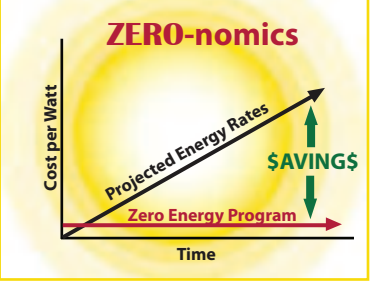


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July 2013

16

Stapleton Front Porch



**FREE Wednesday Senior Activities.** 1st Wed., 10am, crafts/light lunch; 2nd Wed., 12pm, big lunch/entertainment; 4th Wed., 12pm, light lunch/bingo. RSVP: 303.439.7554 for big lunch, 303.807.0619 for other services. Bosworth House, 1400 Josephine St. Sponsor: Assistance League of Denver

**Tuesdays through 8/13- Film on the Rocks.** Open 6:30pm. Live music 7pm. Movies at dusk. [www.redrocksonline.com](http://www.redrocksonline.com)

**Denver Urban Homesteading Farmers Market.** Indoor, year-round farmers market and homesteading school with local/organic foods. Thurs/Fri 3-7pm, Sat 9am-3pm. 200 Santa Fe Dr. FREE. [www.denverurbanhomesteading.com](http://www.denverurbanhomesteading.com) for classes/seminars

**Live Music at The Soiled Dove.** 7401 E 1st Ave, Lowry. Tickets: [www.soileddove.com](http://www.soileddove.com)

**Denver Botanic Gardens Summer Concert Series.** Tickets: [www.concerts.botanicgardens.org](http://www.concerts.botanicgardens.org)

**Denver 2 for 1 Tix.** Weekly 2 for 1 ticket and admission discounts for metro Denver arts and entertainment. [www.denver2for1tix.com](http://www.denver2for1tix.com)

**More ideas on what to do in Denver:** Visit [www.denver.org](http://www.denver.org) or [www.GalleryGuideDenver.com](http://www.GalleryGuideDenver.com).

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**Saturdays through 8/10- Bluff Lake NaturallyFit Outdoor Fitness Classes.** 8:45-9:45am, except 7/6. 3400 Havana Way. \$15/class. Benefits Bluff Lake. <http://NaturallyFitChallenge.eventbrite.com>, 303.503.9335

**7/13 Saturday- Sand Creek Half Marathon and 5K/10K.** Stapleton Central Park. Packet pickup 5:30am. 1/2 at 7am. 5K/10K 8am. [www.runningguru.com](http://www.runningguru.com)

**7/13 Saturday- 3rd Annual Highland Running of the Bulls 1K.** Try to outrun Rocky Mt. Rollergirls team wielding whiffle ball bats. Race at own risk, wear white + red accents. Benefits Tennyson Center for Children. Music, food, dancing. 32nd at Tennyson, \$25. [www.highlandbulls.com](http://www.highlandbulls.com)

**7/14 Sunday- 3rd Annual Possibility 5K Run/Walk & CYAR Community Picnic.** Benefits Colorado Youth at Risk;

helps teens make positive life choices. 8am start; 6:30am register. \$20 youth/seniors, \$30 adults. Stapleton Central Park. [caroline@coloradoyouthatrisk.org](mailto:caroline@coloradoyouthatrisk.org), [www.active.com/running/denver-co/cyar-5k-possibility-run-walk-2013](http://www.active.com/running/denver-co/cyar-5k-possibility-run-walk-2013)

**7/18 Thursday- Free HIV testing at Rocky Mountain CARES nonprofit for holistic HIV care.** 1-5pm, 3rd Thurs. monthly and by appt. 4545 E 9th Ave, #120. Shannon Southall: 303.951.3694

**7/21 Sunday Dash for Smiles 2nd Annual 5K Walk/run.** Stapleton Central Park. Cassandra Rocha: [dashforsmiles@gmail.com](mailto:dashforsmiles@gmail.com), 720.231.3124, [www.dashforsmiles.com](http://www.dashforsmiles.com)

**7/27 Saturday- Kaiser Permanente Moonlight Classic.** Charity bike ride through city at night. Family wave 10:30pm. [www.moonlight-classic.com](http://www.moonlight-classic.com)

**8/4 Sunday- Tri for the Cure.** Women's sprint triathlon race benefits Susan G. Komen Foundation. Cherry Creek State Park. [www.triforthecure-denver.com](http://www.triforthecure-denver.com)

**9/29 Sunday- Race for the Cure.** Registration now open. [www.komendenver.org](http://www.komendenver.org)

**To submit Front Porch "Local Event" Listings**

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

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

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

**FREE Car Seat Inspections.** Most car seats are used incorrectly. Children's Hospital Colorado offers free inspections at Aurora Main Campus by child passenger safety professionals. Wed. 1-3pm, Sat. 9am-12pm. Schedule appointment: 720.777.4808

**Base Fitness Denver.** Boot camp classes, indoor/outdoor: 7565 E. Academy Blvd., Lowry. [info@basefitnessdenver.com](mailto:info@basefitnessdenver.com), 303.539.4877

(continued on page 18)

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3939 Newport St, Denver, CO 80207  
Daycare starting at \$9/day, boarding starting at \$22/night



(continued from page 17)

**LECTURES AND CLASSES**

**Denver IDEA Café.** FREE startup workshop and speakers presented by Small Business Chamber of Commerce. 2-4pm, 2nd & 4th Fridays, Tony's Market, 950 Broadway. 303.861.1447 or [www.SmallBizChamber.org](http://www.SmallBizChamber.org)

**7/16 Tuesday- Wills & Trusts Class.** Info on wills, trusts, vital estate-planning tools (medical power of attorney). 12-1pm. Free. 1041 Acoma St. Must register: 303.573.1170, [www.denvercommunity.coop/clearmoney](http://www.denvercommunity.coop/clearmoney)

**Active Minds – Info on all sessions:**  
**[www.ActiveMinds.com](http://www.ActiveMinds.com). FREE.**

**7/2 Tuesday- Affirmative Action.** 10:15-11:15am. Jewish Community Center, 350 S Dahlia St. 303.316.6359

**7/9 Tuesday- Free Speech and Islamic Faith.** 12:30-1:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E. Colfax. 303.322.7727

**7/11 Thursday- Hinduism.** 7pm. Stapleton Master Community Assoc., 2823 Roslyn St. 303.388.0724

**7/21 Sunday- Music of the Movies.** 9 am program, 10 am potluck brunch. Stapleton F15 pool, 2831 Hanover.

**7/23 Tuesday- The Great Depression.** 5:30-6:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax. 303.322.7727

**LIBRARIES**

Visit [www.denverlibrary.org](http://www.denverlibrary.org) for children's story hours, book club info, Summer of Reading programs, crafts sessions and complete program list. All closed Thurs., July 4th.

Summer of Reading through 8/10. Read and win prizes! Sign up at any DPL branch.

**Park Hill Library,** 4705 Montview Blvd. 720.865.0250. Closed Sun.

**Pauline Robinson Library,** 5575 E. 33rd Ave. 720.865.0290. Closed Sun.

**Sam Gary Library,** 2961 Roslyn St. 720.865.0325.

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

**NORTHEAST DENVER/AURORA EVENTS**

**Tuesdays through September- Lowry Farmers Market.** 4pm-dusk. at Hangar 2, 7581 E. Academy Blvd.

**7/6 Saturday- Temple Micah's 2nd annual Golf Tournament.** Shotgun start 9am. Emerald Greens, 597 S. Clinton St. (Windsor Gardens). Families/golfers all abilities welcome. \$40/person; lunch \$20 each. Register: [www.micah-denver.org](http://www.micah-denver.org); Elaine Lee, 303.388.4239 x1.

**7/12 Friday- Concert in the Park.** Sunset Park, Lowry, 2nd and Olive. 6-9pm. [www.lowry.org](http://www.lowry.org).

**7/14, 7/20 and 7/28- Free Neighborhood Walking Trips.** Discover local retail centers, public transportation stops, restaurants, rec areas, groceries and community service centers on foot. NW Aurora/E. Montclair (Sun 7/14, 2-5:30pm); Stapleton/NW Aurora (Sun 7/28, 2-5:30pm); 4 Neighborhood Walk, 11 miles (Sat 7/20 9-4). Space limited. RSVP: [jonathon@walk2connect.com](mailto:jonathon@walk2connect.com), 303.908.0076.

**Fridays and Saturdays- Wine Tastings.** Wine Cellars, the Bottle Shop of Stapleton. 4-7pm. FREE. [www.facebook.com/WineCellarsatStapleton](http://www.facebook.com/WineCellarsatStapleton)

**Central Park Recreation Center.** Info: [www.denvergov.org/recreation](http://www.denvergov.org/recreation), 750.865.0750 or Facebook Central Park Recreation Center. Registering for sports programs.

**BLUFF LAKE NATURE CENTER**  
**3400 Havana Way, Denver.**  
**[www.blufflakenaturecenter.org](http://www.blufflakenaturecenter.org)**

**7/11 Thursday- Fireside Chat "Stars of Bluff Lake."** 6-7:30 pm. Plus marshmallow roast. Suggested \$1 donation. [keith@blufflake.org](mailto:keith@blufflake.org). Repeats Thurs. 7/25 with Secret Lives of Moths.

**7/15 Monday to 7/19 Friday- Summer Camp Take Flight!** 8:30am-12:30pm (add time with purchase of more hours). Learn about animals that fly like airplanes! \$175. Camps also 7/22-7/26 and 7/29-8/2. [keith@blufflake.org](mailto:keith@blufflake.org), [www.blufflakenaturecenter.org](http://www.blufflakenaturecenter.org)

**DENVER ART MUSEUM**  
**100 West 14th Ave Parkway, [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)**

**Through 9/8- Rocky Mountain Majesty: Paintings of Charles Partridge Adams**

**Through 9/22- Spun: Adventures in Textiles**

**Final Friday at Denver Art Museum.** 6-10pm. *Untitled* is museum's Final Friday series, Jan.-Oct. Music, cash bar, munchies, offbeat art encounters, unique de tours of DAM collection. General admission applies; members free. [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)

**ARVADA CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

**6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada.**  
**[www.arvadacenter.org](http://www.arvadacenter.org)**

**7/11 Thursday- Colorado Symphony presents Tribute to Arthur Fiedler and Boston Pops.** 7:30pm. \$20-\$45.

**7/18 Thursday- Jazzfest with Hazel**

**Miller, Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra and Neil Bridge 7+ with Karen Lee.** 7:30pm, \$10-\$18.

**7/19 Friday- Ballet Nouveau Colorado- Wonderbound and Colorado Symphony present Perpetual Beauty.** 7:30pm. \$15-\$32.

**7/26 Friday- Colorado Symphony presents Mozart Under Moonlight.** 7:30pm, \$20-\$45.

**DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE**  
**Montview and Colorado Blvd.**  
**[www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org), 303.370.6000**

**7/18 Thursday- Science Lounge.**

Cocktails/entertainment every 3rd Thurs. monthly. 6:30-9:30pm. \$8/members; \$10/nonmembers

**Planetarium- Passport to the Universe; Realm of Light, Black Holes, One World, One Sky, Cosmic Journey: A Solar System Adventure.**

[www.dmns.org/planetarium/current-show](http://www.dmns.org/planetarium/current-show)

**IMAX Movies- Titans of the Ice Age 3D, Flight of the Butterflies 3D, Galapagos 3D, Hubble 3D Deep Sea 3D. Great White Shark 3D. Rocky Mountain Express 2D.** Various times. Tickets: \$8/3-18; \$10/adult

**NORTHFIELD EVENTS**

**The Shops at Northfield Stapleton:**

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

Hunting, fishing and marine seminars offered throughout month.

**Harkins Theatres 18- 720.374.3118**  
New Releases

**7/3 – 3D Despicable Me 2, Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain, The Lone Ranger**

**7/5 – Augustine, Byzantium, Just Like a Woman**

**7/12 – Grown Ups 2, Pacific Rim; The Way, Way Back**

**7/17 – Turbo**

**7/19 – The Hot Flashes, Only God Forgives,**

**RECURRING MEETINGS****Business Groups**

**GREATER STAPLETON BUSINESS ASSOC.** 3rd Tuesday, 8am. MCA, 2823 Roslyn St. 303-393-7700 [www.stapletonbusiness.com](http://www.stapletonbusiness.com)

**STAPLETON AND BEYOND NETWORKING GROUP.** First Tuesday, 8:30-10am, 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](http://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](mailto:copeojc@gmail.com)

**STAPLETON ROTARY CLUB.** Every Tuesday, 7:30am. Stapleton Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St. [www.denverstapletonrotary.org](http://www.denverstapletonrotary.org)

**Interest Groups**

**BLUFF LAKE BIRDERS.** 1st Saturday, 7-9am. Nature Center. [BluffLakeNatureCenter.org](mailto: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](mailto:macregar@gmail.com) or 303.333.2707

**CYCLETON BIKE REPAIR CLINIC.** 2nd Tuesday, 6pm. 7480 E. 29th Ave. [www.cycleton.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:lowrypeak.freetoasthost.org) [lpstoastmasters@gmail.com](mailto:lpstoastmasters@gmail.com)

**STAPLETON WINE APPRECIATION GROUP.** Periodically. [stapletonswag@gmail.com](mailto:stapletonswag@gmail.com)

**Stapleton Groups**

**PARKS ADVISORY GROUP.** 2nd Tuesday, 8:30am. 7350 E 29th Ave, 3rd Fl. [Lcorrell@dotnet.net](mailto: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 BOARD MTG.** 4th Monday, 7:30pm. Central Park Rec Center, 9651 MLK Jr. Blvd. [stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com)

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

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

**ADOPTEEES 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](http://www.parkinsonrockies.org) Regina Jones 720-298-5760

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**R.I.P.D., Red 2**  
**7/26 –The Hunt, The To-Do List, 3D The Wolverine**  
**7/31 – The Smurfs 2**  
**Improv Comedy Club and Dinner Theatre- Tickets:**  
**303.307.1777, www.ImprovDenver.com**  
Prices vary based on comedian and show time.  
**Toby Keith’s I Love This Bar & Grill – 303.728.9468,**  
**www.countrybarco.com**  
Local and regional live music nightly.

**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 holidays. Directions/ events:**  
**http://www.fws.gov/refuge/rocky\_mountain\_arsenal/**  
**7/19 Friday- Summer Hike N Bird.\* 8:30-11:30am Adults.**  
**7/20 Saturday and 7/21 Sunday- Wildlife Viewing Tours.\***  
**11:30am**  
**7/27 Saturday- Nature Drawing for Kids.\* 10-11:30am.**  
**7/28 Sunday- Art Safari Sunday.** Kids’ art projects in Discovery  
room from 9am-3pm.  
**Self-guided Wildlife Drive Auto Tour Route.** Daily 6am-6pm  
**2013 Fishing Season- Catch and Release.** Tuesdays, Saturdays,  
Sundays 6am-6pm. \$3 fee.  
**3rd Annual Refuge Amateur Photo Contest.** Entries due  
9/29.

**THEATRE**  
**Through 7/21- Closer.** Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St,Aurora.  
303.856.7830, www.vintage theatre.com  
**Through 8/3- Minimum Wage.** Avenue Theater, 417 E. 17th Ave.  
www.avenue theatre.com  
**7/5 to 7/21- The Athena Project presents Tell Martha**  
**Not to Moan.**Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax Ave. www.auro-  
rafoxartscenter.org  
**7/5 to 7/28- Curtains.** Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd,Ar-  
vada. www.arvadacenter.org  
**7/9 to 7/25- The Hobbit.**Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax  
Ave. www.aurorafoxartscenter.org  
**7/26 to 8/17- Sordid Lives.** By Illumination Theatre Productions at  
John Hand Theater. www.johnhandtheater.com

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**  
**Cooking Matters-** Kids/families free course on budget shopping  
and preparing healthy, affordable meals.Volunteers needed at multiple  
locations/days to help. Learn Share our Strength Cooking Matters and  
all opportunities at covolunteer@strength.org.  
**Project Worthmore.** Volunteers for teams (6-month commit) to  
assist Burmese refugees by “cultural mentorship” (how to ride bus, gro-  
cery shop, 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 reim-  
bursed. www.voacolorado.org, 303.297.0408 (Naomi Taggart)  
**Assistance League of Denver.** Seeks members to help un-  
der-served in metro Denver. Programs for victims, students, children, sen-  
iors. www.denver.assistanceleague.org or 303.322.5205

**KIDS AND FAMILIES**  
**Through August 22- Just Add Water at Children’s Mu-**  
**seum.** Innovative outdoor exhibit: swirling, whirling, geyser-filled ad-  
ventures about wildly unpredictable elements of water. Included with  
museum admission.Weather permitting. www.mychildsmuseum.org  
**7/5 to 8/25- Aesop’s Fables.** Denver Puppet Theatre, 3156 W  
38th Ave.Tickets: \$7 ages 3 and up. 303.458.6446, www.denverpup-

pettheater.com  
**7/10 Wednesday- Create Playdates at Denver Art Mu-**  
**seum.** Kids 3-5 roar, bang, stomp 2nd Wed/month. 10am.Art, story times,  
scavenger hunts. Included in museum adm.; 5 and under free. 100 W 14th  
Ave Pkwy. www.denverartmuseum.org or 720.865.5000  
**Through 7/31 - Tornado 1966-1992 at Forney Transporta-**  
**tion Museum.** \$6-\$8. 303 Brighton Blvd. www.forneymuseum.org  
**Thursdays in July- 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  
**7/14 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  
**7/26 Friday- Denver Botanic Gardens Family Fun Night.** 4th  
Friday each month explore nature at night in Mordecai Children’s Garden.  
Monthly themes with performers in Sagebrush Stage,snacks by campfire,  
etc. \$20 member/family of 4, \$3 each additional. \$25 nonmember/family of  
4, \$4 each additional. Kids 2 and under free. www.botanicgardens.org

**KIDS CAMPS AND CLASSES**  
**Aurora Fox Theater-** Drama classes ages 4 and up. Lisa Mumpton:  
303.739.1573 or www.aurorafox.org  
**Art Students League of Denver-** Programs for kids/teens.  
303.778.6990, www.ASLD.org  
**Spark It Studios-** Art classes in Stapleton. www.sparkitdenver.com  
**Start Art-** Art classes. Startartkids.com  
**Play On Executive Arts-** Camps through 7/26 at Westerly Creek El-  
ementary. Drama, film, musical theater.A.m. and p.m. camps available. Ages  
4-14  
**The Art Garage-** Classes ages 4 and up. Now offers adult evening  
classes. 6100 E 23rd Ave, Park Hill. www.artgaragedenver.com  
**Saturdays through 8/24- Tribal Tots Camp.** 10-10:45am.  
www.solidadance.com  
**Western Tennis Academy (WTA) Summer Program.** 7/5 to  
8/12 M/W/F 3-6pm.Ages 10-18 Smiley Middle School. Kerry Nash:  
303.322.912, kerrynash@gmail.com

**7/6 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  
**7/6 Saturday- Red Cross Babysitters Training.** 8am-3pm,  
Stapleton MCA, 2823 Roslyn. www.redcross.org/take-a-class. Repeats  
Sat. 7/6.  
**7/9 Tuesday to 7/12 Friday- Star K Nature Camp.** 9am-  
12pm,Ages 6-12, Morrison Nature Center. \$50/child. Register:  
www.auroragov.org or 303.739.2428.  
**7/12 and 7/26 Saturdays- Lowe’s Build and Grow Kids**  
**Clinics.** Bring kids to 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 Work-**  
**shops.** Museum adm.: \$6/adults, \$4/kids 5-16/under 5 free. 1880  
Gaylord St. www.dmmdt.org for current workshops  
**The Urban Farm- Embracing Horses.**  
info@theurbanfarm.org  
**Neighborhood Music Stapleton-** Private and group instruc-  
tion, piano, voice, guitar, ukulele, mandolin, violin and drums.Ages 3  
and up. Skye Barker Maa. 720.353.6622, www.neighborhoodmusicsta-  
pleton.com  
**Music Lingua Musical Spanish Classes-** Ages newborn-6  
years. Learn Spanish with your child in interactive parent/tot classes.  
samanthabensoncox@hotmail.com, www.musiclingua.com  
**Jewish Community Center-** Variety of camps and other pro-  
grams for kids grades K-5. www.jcc.org  
**Stapleton All Sports-** Registering for summer tennis, multi-  
sports, golf. www.stapletonallsports.com  
**City Strings Guitar Summer Camps-** Guitar Mash-Up and  
Flash Mob, July 15-19, all levels, ages 7-14. 10am-3pm. Denver’s East  
High School. www.CityStringsGuitar.com or Jen: 720.341.9737  
**Sol Vida Dance Studio and Dance Camps-** Kid/adult classes,  
workshops, camps, etc. www.solidadance.com



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# Check Out These Events

## July 12–Poultry Fun Day

On Fri., July 12, Stapleton's 4-H program from the Urban Farm will host a free event. From 4 to 7pm at Founder's Green (29th and Roslyn), children will share what they've learned about poultry. They will bring various birds including chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese. Stations will have information, games and demonstrations like how to walk a goose, candle eggs, wash a chicken, hold a duck, and burp a turkey. Come to learn more about poultry and 4-H programs, which teach youth about nutrition, leadership and citizenship. For more information contact Caroline Batorowicz, at caroline@dvierow.com with any questions.



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(10am-6pm, 12 & Under)

## July 13–Sand Creek Half Marathon/5K/10K

Explore the trails in Northeast Denver at this Sat., July 13 mid-summer half marathon and 5K/10K. The course goes through Central Park in Stapleton, along Sand Creek Regional Greenway, and through Bluff Lake Nature Center. The half marathon and 10K begin at 7am, and the 5K at 8am. The 5K costs \$35, 10K costs \$40, and the half marathon costs \$50. Proceeds go to the Bluff Lake Nature Center. To register, go to [www.runningguru.com/event/schm2013](http://www.runningguru.com/event/schm2013).

## July 13–Consignment Crawl

From 12 to 6 pm on Sat., July 13, hop from store to store in a summer Consignment Crawl. The crawl promotes resale, which is an environmentally friendly shopping alternative. Stores will provide refreshments, special promotions and giveaways throughout the day. Northeast and Central Denver locations include: Plum Consignment, Zoe's, A Chic Resale Boutique, Athena's Closet and Koru Consignment Furniture Boutique. Check [www.consignmentscolorado.com](http://www.consignmentscolorado.com) for other Colorado locations and information.

## July 17–Biennial of the Americas

Tuesday, July 16 kicks off Biennial of the Americas, a four-day series of thought-provoking workshops, discussions, and exhibits about energy and sustainability held at Sustainability Park (29th and Arapahoe). An exhibit called Imagined Realities on July 17 hopes to open dialogue about sustainability in the 21st century. Artists will discuss the challenges and solutions to sustainable living and show their art to the public. To see the list of artists or other Biennial of the Americas events, visit <http://www.biennialoftheamericas.org/>.

## July 20 and 21–Stapleton Yard Sale

The 8th Annual Stapleton Garage Sale invites the community to get rid of unwanted items in one of the state's biggest yard sales. Started by Diana and Michael Kearns in 2006, the sale has grown to more than 333 registered homes in seven years and is expected to reach 400 this year. Register online for one or both days at [www.BuildingStapleton.com/garagesale](http://www.BuildingStapleton.com/garagesale). Everyone who signs up will be added to the yard sale map and participant list, which is posted before the sale. Sign up or stop by. Hours are 8am to 1pm both Sat. and Sun.

## July 21–Dash for Smiles, Central Park

Many people think cleft lip and palate is a foreign issue, but the Dash for Smiles program aims to correct that misconception. The third annual Dash for Smiles 5K walk/run takes place Sun., July 21 in Stapleton Central Park. The charity raises social awareness about cleft lip and palate, which 1 in 600 are born with each year

in the U.S. Dash for Smiles also helps fund craniofacial programs for underprivileged patients and raised \$14,000 in the past two events. Join the race or find out more at [www.dashforsmiles.com](http://www.dashforsmiles.com).

## July 27–Destination Health: Walk/Run/Learn

The Sat., July 27 5K/one-mile family-friendly run and walk benefits The Center for African American Health, which is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the African-American community. It includes a Health Education Expo, an interactive Children's Health and Safety Zone and entertainment by the Mary Louise Lee Band. Cost (includes T-shirt and customized bib): \$30/adults; \$25/team members, seniors 50+ and kids ages 6–17; \$10/kids 5 and under. Location: Denver's City Park, Colorado Blvd. and 23rd St., adjacent to Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Contact: [info@caa-health.org](mailto:info@caa-health.org) or 303.355.3423.

## August 1, 8, 15, 22–Civics for Citizens

Have you forgotten what you learned in civics courses? That's OK. Civics for Citizens is a free refresher course on federal, state and local government that is open to the public. From 7 to 8:30pm the first four Thursdays in August, Representative Lois Court will teach at Montclair Civic Center.

## August 3–11–Denver Days

This summer Mayor Michael B. Hancock is launching a new citywide tradition called "Denver Days" in an effort to create more united neighborhoods. Mayor Hancock invites Denver residents to work with neighbors to organize community service projects or host social gatherings. These activities can be anything from community yoga classes to block parties to starting Neighborhood Watch programs. The inaugural event runs from August 3 to 11. Visit [www.denvergov.org/denver-days](http://www.denvergov.org/denver-days) for more information or planning ideas.

## August 24–NEWALKFEST

NEWWALKFEST is a free event dedicated to bringing together communities and showing the convenience and benefits of walking to destinations. People of all ages in Park Hill, Stapleton and Montclair are encouraged to join from 9am–1pm on Sat., August 24 for a fun stroll. Participants can choose either a 30-minute, one-hour or two-hour walk through the neighborhoods. Activities hosted by businesses are held along the way and help teach pedestrian safety, as well as build connections among the community. For more info, go to [www.newwalkfest.com](http://www.newwalkfest.com).

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# Recognitions

## Stapleton Boy Scouts Improve Santa Fe Trail

Most people kick off their summers by going to the pool, having a barbeque, or relaxing with family. Five 11-, 12- and 13-year-old boys from Stapleton experienced a different kind



of Memorial Day weekend. They traveled with their Boy Scout troop to Prowers, Colorado, and did service work for the Santa Fe Trail Association, which works to preserve

and protect the trail. In 1821, the Santa Fe Trail became America's first international commercial highway and is now a historic landmark.

The boys helped improve the trail by digging holes, pouring cement and putting signs along it. They spent a night in a kiva at the Koshare Indian Museum and a night in La Junta. On Saturday they learned how to harness horses and took rides in draft carts.

The troop has also done service work at Bluff Lake, Four Mile Historic Park, and they have helped at various Denver events and parades.

## Neighbors Recycle What Denver Recycling Doesn't Take

On June 20, a group of Stapleton residents helped sort trash that will be sent to TerraCycle, an international recycling company that collects hard-to-recycle items and repurposes them into innovative products. Community members drop off bags of items that Denver Solid Waste Management cannot accept. The volunteers sort the items and ship them (at

no cost) to TerraCycle. The contents of the trash bins shown in the photo are worth about \$100, which the volunteers will donate to the Urban Farm at Stapleton. The group previously donated \$500 to the Urban Farm, as well as \$500 to Stapleton United Neighbors, which helped plant new trees in the neighborhood. Nico Nagel-Gustafson (shown in middle) says she makes the effort "not for the money to the charities, although that's good, but for the good of the environment."

In photo at right (left to right): Trinity Vierow, 3, Caroline Batorowicz-Vierow, Nico Nagel-Gustafson, Darr David, 12, and Marcel Batorowicz, 12, sort trash TerraCycle Recycling.



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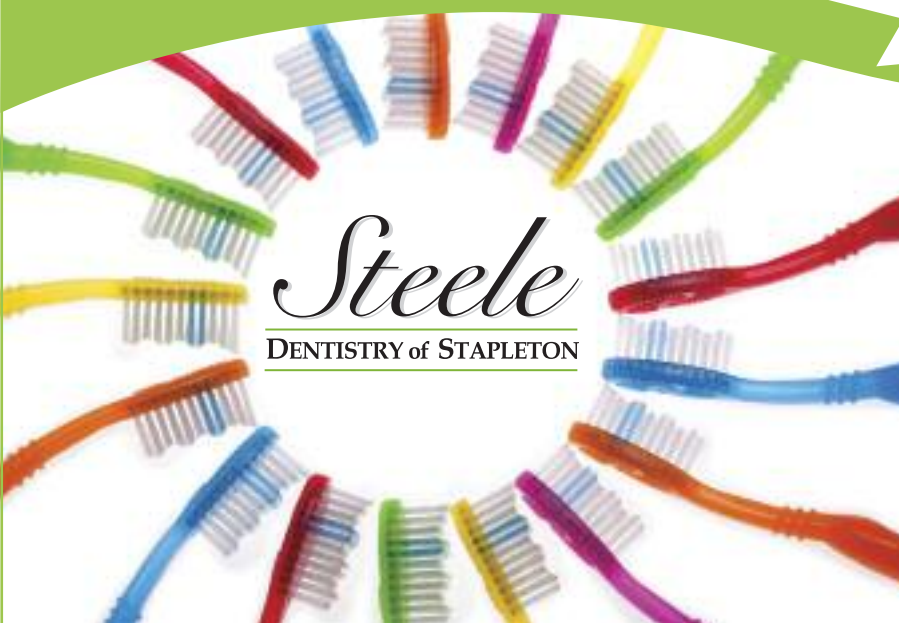
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## Co-op Market in Eastbridge?

By Madeline Schroeder

Despite living across the street from one another and both working on the Anschutz Medical Campus, Juli Pearson and Amanda Allshouse didn't meet for two years. Something more unconventional brought them together.

When Pearson heard rumors that retail development in the Eastbridge neighborhood of Stapleton wouldn't begin until an anchor, like a grocery store, was found, she jumped on the idea of bringing a natural market. She began research and presented at a meeting of Eastbridge residents in January.

"I was sitting there listening and thinking, 'Wow, we are really on the same page,'" Allshouse said. "After that meeting was when we really started working together." The two discovered they also both went to graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill in North Carolina and both shopped at a favorite co-op there. They agreed Stapleton needs a natural market like it.

Pearson and Allshouse call the Stapleton area a "food desert." The nearest natural grocery stores are 15 to 20 minutes away. They began pursuing natural markets but faced a frustrating stint of calling grocery stores that showed interest but couldn't commit. "So we thought 'Why can't we create it ourselves?'" Pearson said.

They believe a co-op grocery store, specifically, offers exactly what Stapleton needs. A co-op is owned by the community and can operate as a nonprofit. It provides natural, local, sustainable foods. They explain that a neighborhood co-op fills a different niche than a large grocery store and would not be

in competition with other grocery stores.

"It's not just about a grocer. It does serve that need but fills other needs around Stapleton," Pearson said.

Pearson and Allshouse think people live in this area because they believe in the values the community promotes like biking, walking, sustainability and conservation. They believe a co-op matches those values.

"A co-op is a synergistic connection between food and community where you go to get really yummy healthy food and learn about food and see familiar faces and spend some time there. It's a more authentic feeling of community and food together," Pearson said.

Another benefit, according to Pearson and Allshouse, is the co-op may draw people who work at the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Pearson and Allshouse have researched and are ready to move to the next phase of planning. They continue to receive positive feedback through social media. Eighty-six volunteers have agreed to help start the co-op and a six-person board has been formed. They are building interest and support but have struggled moving past the negotiating phase. They plan to meet with architects soon and with Forest City on July 24 to hopefully move forward with plans. "We hope for a letter of intent to claim a hold on the land that allows us to begin fundraising," Allshouse said.

The two remain hopeful and plan to continue their research and efforts to build public support for an Eastbridge co-op market.

To get involved or learn more about the possible co-op, email [SUN Outreach@gmail.com](mailto:SUN Outreach@gmail.com) or like "Stapleton Co-op Market & Cafe" on Facebook.

## Eastbridge Site for Community Center?

By Carol Roberts

"The tower is not going to be, for a myriad of reasons, a site that is viable for us to pursue (for a community arts center)," says Stapleton Master Community Association (MCA) Executive Director Keven Burnett. "For what we were trying to put in and what the development plans were for that parcel, those two things did not work together. It was not from lack of effort on our part. We tried to make it work and there were just too many development issues that precluded us from moving forward with the control tower site."

The arts center planning committee evaluated other site options and has concluded that a 2.5 acre plot in the Eastbridge town center, near Knowledge Beginnings, meets or exceeds their expectations for a site. Their criteria include lot size that fits their proposed facility, cost, access (walkable, bikeable and transit), parking and whether they could own the land. "The MCA is not slated to go away, ever," says Burnett. "It certainly is in the best interest of the MCA and the community to be the owners of this facility because this is what it's going to operate out of for the next hundred years."

Another consideration for the arts center site is adjacent uses. The Eastbridge location is near the rec center, Bluff Lake and the Urban Farm, nonprofits the MCA could partner with—and it's also near parks. The plans for a town center with nearby retail would also complement the arts center. Knowledge Beginnings operates all day on weekdays. Many of the arts center activities that draw a crowd would be evenings and weekends. Initial concerns that

they couldn't get a liquor license due to the nearby preschool appear to no longer be an issue.

Burnett also points out that Forest City is a supporter of the project, "and (they) are looking for ways they can help in that process. When we both end up on the right piece of land, I think, certainly, favorable conditions are going to exist for that land to be conveyed."

Currently Forest City has agreed to hold the Eastbridge property for a 90-day period in which the MCA can further investigate building an arts center on that site, i.e., their space needs, where the building sits on the site, and how it would be accessed. If, after 90 days, the MCA believes the property merits further investigation, they will renegotiate time to take the next steps.

"Everything that we are moving forward with is consistent with the budgeting and the financial forecasting that we have previously looked at." Burnett points out that all the research they did to determine if the tower was an option is still applicable. "Our vision planning, our feasibility study, our basic program outline—we're just trying to lock in on a site that makes sense given all the work that we've done to this point. We are truly evaluating this site based on the parameters that go into a successful community arts facility."

Armed with that level of information, the arts committee will decide if it's a good enough plan to take to the community and, if so, what materials they need to develop to communicate the potential for the site.

Stay tuned.



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Plans for the Uplands, the future open space park just south of Sand Creek between Westerly Creek and Havana, will be drawn up at the same time North Westerly Creek park plans are completed. City officials Bar Chadwick (foreground)—Department of Finance, and Dave Erickson—director of the department of environmental health (back right) look at the steep cliff in the Uplands that is held up by debris from the old Stapleton airport. They are joined by (from left) Kate Kramer—Sand Creek Greenway; Paul Casey—environmental consultant to Park Creek Metro District; and Charlie Nicola—Forest City. All the entities are concerned about environmental and safety issues in the area.

process that is being worked out now, the three parties (CCD, PCMD and FCS) will identify a way to finance the improvements of Westerly Creek North as well as the design of the Uplands. The Sand Creek Regional Greenway will raise funds for the confluence of Sand Creek and Westerly Creek, and some amount of TIF funding will be available for the development of the Uplands. The timetable has yet to be determined pending resolution of environmental issues.”

## Excessive Alcohol Use Creates Problems at Pools

By Madeline Schroeder

The Stapleton pool staff says over the past two summers excessive drinking among adults has increased, causing safety concerns and disturbances at the pool.

“The pool is not the place to be doing this,” Keven Burnett, executive director of the Stapleton Master Community Association, said. “We understand if people want to come in and be able to drink a beer or a glass of wine, but the pools are not the right environments for lengthy and excessive consumption of alcohol.” The staff says overconsumption has become a recurring problem on weekends, holidays and family fun nights.

According to pool staff, there have been incidences of loud behavior and angry interactions due to drinking. Last season, pool staff members made more than one alcohol-related 911 call. One guest passed out after drinking too much; another guest overconsumed and was rude to children for splashing him in the pool.

Burnett emphasized that the pool staff’s main job (continued on page 25)

## Uproar Over Unfinished Uplands

By Carol Roberts

When the City of Denver negotiated the contract with Forest City to buy and develop the land from the old Stapleton Airport, over 1,000 acres (30%) were designated to be parks. When Forest City buys Stapleton land to be developed, they also pay an additional \$15,000 per acre for parks development. However, it was known from the beginning that additional money beyond those fees would be needed to develop all the parks shown in the plans, a gap estimated to be about \$30 million today. Tom Gleason, VP for public relations at Forest City, says there are ongoing discussions at the city to fund parks that are planned at Stapleton, but the funding doesn’t exist now.

A number of buyers at Stapleton, however, were not aware of that funding gap and bought homes near park land, expecting park develop-

ment to happen soon after they moved in.

John Meurer bought a home near the Uplands open space in 2007 and says he understood from the builder’s sales person that the area would soon be developed to look like Westerly Creek open space. It’s not just the lack of the park, he says, it’s that he expected the park as well as a school and retail in Eastbridge and he ended up with none of the three amenities. His wife Carrie says they paid a lot premium and they’re mad now that they see Forest City building parks in the north of Stapleton and not finishing a park neighbors have been waiting for for years—and now it looks like they’ll be waiting another five years.

Gleason points out that Forest City has kept their commitment to keep the land designated for a park and suggests that buyers who purchase near unfinished space need to

do research beyond what builder’s sales people may tell them.

Another Uplands neighbor, Paul Frohardt, wrote to the Front Porch, “I believe that moving forward with development of the new areas of Stapleton, particularly before the TIF provision expires, is terribly important economically for the community. At the same time, there needs to be a reasonable balance between facilitating new development and honoring past commitments.”

The following information about the current status of the Uplands and Westerly Creek North was provided by Tom Gleason: “The City, Park Creek Metro District and Forest City have agreed that when the environmental issues have been resolved and the land is transferred from DIA in a

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## SUN Invites Volunteers to Join Committees

By Mark Mehringer

Every year after SUN's annual election meeting, the SUN Board picks officers for the organization, as well as chairs for each of the various SUN committees. This year, SUN has decided to form two new committees and invites all community members to join either of these new committees, or the longer-standing committees listed on SUN's website: [StapletonUnitedNeighbors.org](http://StapletonUnitedNeighbors.org)

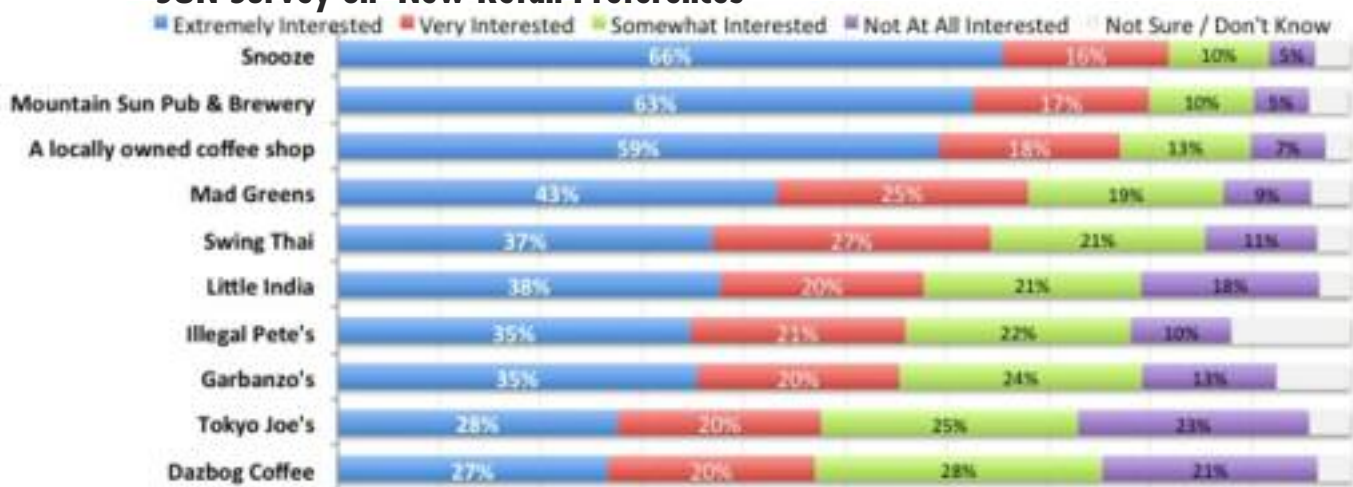
One of the new committees will focus on reevaluating the elementary school selection process in Stapleton to see if there is a consensus approach that can be developed to balance the desire of some residents to be ensured that their child can go to the closest school to them, and the desire of others to be able to choose their children's elementary school, regardless of location within the Stapleton boundary. SUN President Mark Mehringer convened the first meeting of this committee on June 24 at Westerly Creek Elementary School. The goal for the committee is to develop a community-supported proposal by October that the Denver Public Schools Board could vote on in time for the

2014-2015 school year.

The second committee will focus on recruiting new businesses to Stapleton, either in the vacant lots near Central Park Blvd. and Montview, or the planned Eastbridge Town Center. The most recent SUN survey included a section to gauge resident interest in a variety of retail options to help guide efforts for the community to be more proactive in attracting businesses to the area. The SUN Board hopes to show some of metro Denver's more popular retail options that they can thrive in Stapleton. The chart below shows the top ten choices. The full survey (including other questions) is posted at [www.StapletonUnitedNeighbors.com](http://www.StapletonUnitedNeighbors.com) > Education and at [www.FrontPorchStapleton.com](http://www.FrontPorchStapleton.com).

In addition to these two new committees, SUN welcomes volunteers for the Transportation, Safety, Outreach, Sustainability, Education, and Kickball Tournament Planning committees. Details about each, including the chair, are listed on SUN's website. If you have further questions, please email SUN President Mark Mehringer at [Mehringer@gmail.com](mailto:Mehringer@gmail.com).

### SUN Survey on New Retail Preferences



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## Guest Column

### What the DOMA Ruling Means

*DOMA instructs all federal officials, and indeed all persons with whom same-sex couples interact, including their own children, that their marriage is less worthy than the marriages of others.* —Justice Anthony Kennedy, *U.S. v. Windsor*, June 26, 2013

#### DOMA Is Now Unconstitutional

On June 26, 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court held that part of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was unconstitutional. Under DOMA, the word “marriage,” when used in any federal law, meant a legal union between a man and a woman, and “spouse” could only be of the opposite sex. Although the case questioned a specific tax issue, the Court observed that DOMA’s definition of marriage affects the application of over 1,000 federal laws and held it violates the fifth amendment’s equal protection clause, treating same-sex marriages as “second-class marriages.”

#### Effect on Coloradans?

The Court did not rule that states must recognize same-sex marriages. Rather, it left it to states to determine their own laws on the issue. Thus, same-sex marriages are still banned under Section 31 of Article II of Colorado’s Constitution. So, the question is whether the DOMA decision affects Colorado’s same-sex couples. The answer is “no”...and “yes.”

In Colorado, not much changes. Although unable to marry, same-sex couples can enter into a “civil union”. As a result, they will enjoy the rights of married Colorado opposite-sex couples. Also, same-sex couples lawfully married in another jurisdiction (such as the current 13 U.S. states and D.C. that currently permit same-sex marriages) who move into Colorado will be treated as Colorado civil union partners, enjoying the rights of Colorado opposite-sex couples.

That said, as civil unions partners are not married under Colorado they will NOT enjoy the rights given to “spouses” under federal laws, despite the Supreme Court’s DOMA decision, including the unlimited estate tax deduction for spousal gifts, Social Security survivor’s benefits or being buried at military cemetery, next to a veteran partner.

Until a repeal of Colorado’s ban on same-sex marriages, Colorado same-sex couples who want federal spousal benefits may want to marry in a jurisdiction that recognizes same-sex marriages. However, the effect of living in a non-same-sex jurisdiction is not clear from the DOMA decision. That will be the subject for another legal battle.

*Allen E.F. Rozansky, Esq. is a Stapleton resident and 20-year attorney with the Denver firm of Hutchins and Associates, practicing in the areas of wills, trusts, probate, tax planning and business entities.*

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Stapleton Front Porch





Excessive drinking at the pools has become more common and has initiated safety concerns.

## Alcohol Problems at Pools

(continued from page 23) is to watch the pool, but their ability to do that is affected when situations like this occur. “If our staff is dealing with an overserved individual, it takes their energies to manage that when they should have their eyes on the pool and be attentive to swimmers,” he said.

The lifeguards are typically teenagers or in their early 20s. Burnett doesn’t want to put his young employees into these situations. “We look to residents and patrons to be responsible for their own consumption, but if visitors notice someone drinking excessively and causing problems, they should tell a pool manager,” he said.

Pool managers have asked several people to leave when they have had too much to drink. The pools have a policy that the guest cannot return for 24 hours.

The lifeguards want people to understand the effects of alcohol in the sun. A couple hours in the sun dehydrates the body even without alcohol. “And if you’re drinking alcohol, which dehydrates you more, then those effects are

increased,” aquatics assistant Racheal Vincent-Newell said.

“We don’t want to spoil people’s fun; that’s not what we’re here to do,” Vincent-Newell said. “We just want people to have safe drinking practices and know their limits, and know that their limits could be different in an outdoor setting.”

Glass is not allowed but remains a concern. Plastic cups are provided to pour alcohol from bottles, yet once in a while glass bottles still make it into the facility. Last Fourth of July the pool shut down for three days when late-night pool hoppers broke a glass bottle of vodka.

Although excessive drinking has become a concern at pools, the staff hasn’t reached the point of changing the rules on alcohol. Burnett and Vincent-Newell each said they might address the issue in the future if the problems continue.

“So many of our residents and non-resident guests enjoy their beverages in a responsible fashion. It’s unfortunate that we have to have this conversation because there are people who don’t,” Vincent-Newell said.

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DPS Board Decisions

(continued from page 7) levy money for arts, they will be adding a performing arts program at every DSST. “We believe we have very well rounded schools. We have a full complement of the arts, a full complement of athletics and frankly, a great liberal arts program with a much fuller complement of science than most schools.”

Kurtz says the specific arts classes to be offered at the Northfield program have not yet been determined, but DSST is opening a new program at the Byers campus this summer (200 S. University) with a similar focus on digital arts. Parents are welcome to visit that program (perhaps waiting until fall, when the new school has been open for a few months).

Finally, Kurtz says he would be happy to sit down with the community and have a conversation with people who would like to share the types of arts they’d like to see integrated into the DSST program.

Letter to the Editor

Venture Prep HS to Stay at Smiley

We understand the community’s concerns about the middle school closures within the Smiley Campus. I am also aware that there has been mis-information posted online, in the press, and in community meetings regarding the status of Venture Prep HS. To be clear, Venture Prep High School is a strong school and

plans to remain in the Smiley Campus. We are excited to work with the McAuliffe program in a shared-space capacity. As a high-achieving, highly rated high school in Park Hill, we are currently accepting applications for 9th-12th graders for the 2013-2014 school year. Please contact me at kburdette@ventureprep.org or at 303-893-0805 to set up a tour and/or meeting. Ken Burdette, Principal

Aerotropolis

(continued from page 11) the airport and a clause that states “Denver shall take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that no other use of the new airport site occurs.”

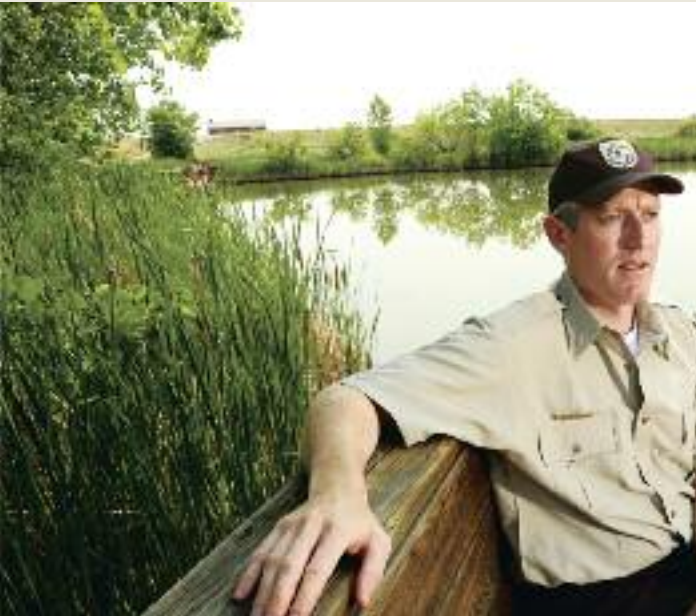
In a June 7 letter to Denver, Adams County wrote that other than direct operations of the airport, “The IGA requires all economic development around DIA to take place on Adams County land.” They further stated that if the annexed property ceased to be used “only for aviation purposes,” the Annexation Agreement called for the land to revert to Adams County. A separate letter on June 7 said, “We demand that Denver stop its planning efforts to develop airport property in a manner that would violate the IGA...the annexed land must be returned to Adams County in order for such development to take place on the airport property.”

Evan Dreyer, senior advisor to the mayor, believes Adams County’s statement about de-annexing is a bargaining position—not a serious counter proposal. Amber Miller, press secretary for Mayor Hancock released the following statement: “We are in discussions with our regional partners and hope these will continue to be productive conversations about how we can all move forward with a mutually beneficial plan. Denver’s goal is to work with our neighbors to create a regional infrastructure plan and economic development plan that foster major economic growth in the region.”

Although Adams County commissioner Chaz Tedesco says, “The airport city, right now, is a violation of the IGA,” he also says, “I’m willing to have a conversation to air those topics,” and that they are working on scheduling that conversation.

For more information about Denver’s Aerotropolis concept visit AirportCityDenver.com For more Adams County information visit <http://storify.com/adamscountygov/giving-flight-to-dia-the-historical-pact-between-d>.

David Lucas Brings Passion for Nature and Conservation to the Arsenal



David Lucas, acting refuge manager, enjoys a peaceful spot at Lake Mary, one of the refuge’s several lakes.

By Madeline Schroeder “How do you think that deer got on the island?” Stapleton resident and Rocky Mountain Arsenal Acting Refuge Manager, David Lucas, asks a young boy visiting the arsenal with his grandfather on a bright, clear morning at the arsenal.

The curious young boy silently mulls over the question. He stares out from the dock at the deer lying on the island in the middle of Lake Mary, one of the arsenal’s several lakes.

After thinking silently for nearly 30 seconds, he shouts, “Deer paddled!” He swings both arms like a helicopter and runs in place.

Lucas, a tall, fair-skinned man dressed in a freshly ironed uniform, laughs and explains that unbeknownst to most people, deer can swim. The deer swam to the island to safely have her fawn.

Times like this constantly remind Lucas why he loves his job. He is wild about conservation and education. While growing up in Kentucky, he was always interested in wildlife. He spent almost all his time outdoors and at age 10, he knew he wanted to work for the Department of the Interior.

After graduating with a degree in biology from Denison University in Ohio, Lucas went on to get his master’s and worked at the state Division of Natural Resources. He worked in the tall-grass prairie in Kansas, the mangroves in Florida, and in subtropical dry forests in Puerto Rico. Then six months ago he brought his passion for nature and conservation to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge (RMANWR). Lucas believes the arsenal is the premier urban wildlife center. Only a bike ride

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Right: Isabel Claire Roman, and her grandfather, John Lindemann, spot a deer as Lucas looks on.



Below: The Rocky Mountain Arsenal is home to 78 bison. That number will double in the next ten years.



Left: Amanda Allen, a student from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota and summer volunteer at the refuge talks with Lucas about her work.  
Photo courtesy of Rich Keen - DPRA



During winter, nearly 80 bald eagles can be seen at the arsenal.



Photo courtesy of Rich Keen - DPRA

Lucas stops for a bison to cross the road.

## Tuesday, July 30 Public Meeting on Future Plans for the Arsenal

"We're soliciting the public's advice and input in the direction we want to go with this place for the next 15 to 20 years. That's important. We need to hear from them. We want to design a plan that best supports what they're after," Lucas says.

The NE Denver meeting will be held on July 30 at the Central Park Recreation Center, 9651 E. MLK Blvd., 5:30-7:30pm. Arsenal staff will make a presentation in the first half hour; feedback from the audience will follow.

from Stapleton and a short drive from downtown, the arsenal is an easily accessible resource that allows people to connect with nature.

The 16,000-acre expanse equals four Stapletons, or the size of Manhattan. The refuge provides environmental education and interpretive programs, catch-and-release fishing, 10 miles of hiking trails, wildlife viewing and site tours. More than 330 species of animals including deer, coyotes, prairie dogs and burrowing owls live on the refuge. Seventy-eight cinnamon-colored genetically pure bison roam the site. During winter, nearly 80 bald eagles can be seen.

"From bugs to bison, every wildlife component plays an important role in balancing the ecosystem. Everybody out here has a niche," Lucas says with a smile.

The goal of the arsenal is to create a balanced prairie ecosystem. With its transition from farmland to wartime chemical manufacturing to refuge, the site is a conservation success story. But, to maintain a functioning ecosystem in an urban area takes a highly managed system. "Our goal is to get as close to what we call biological integrity, which allows systems to function the way they are supposed to naturally without human input," he says.

Reaching that biological integrity is an important function of a refuge. Lucas wants people to understand the difference between park and refuge. All aspects of a park are open to uses until the superintendent says they are not allowed. On a national wildlife refuge it is the opposite. "This entire property is here for

wildlife first and (other) uses are opened," he says. "We go through a process of opening uses and determining if that use is acceptable and compatible with wildlife."

The refuge operates under a Comprehensive Conservation Plan that identifies specific goals for reaching the vision of the refuge. When the original plan passed in 1996, the needs and goals were very different from those of today. It was managed by the U.S. Army, and the focus was on cleanup from chemical manufacturing. With the completion of the cleanup plan in 2012 and the new visitor center in 2011, it's time for a revised plan. A Master Revision Plan is in the works, which will consider adding more uses by people, like riding bikes.

Lucas is excited about the possibilities a new plan brings. Arsenal staff hopes to reintroduce the most threatened animal in North America, the black-footed ferret. They also plan to add more bison, renovate an old army building for environmental education, and more.

"We want to use this urban wildlife refuge to connect millions of people to conservation and the outdoors," Lucas says. "There is no other place in America we can connect with people in such a great way."

To check out what's happening at the arsenal, visit: [rockymountainarsenal.fws.gov](http://rockymountainarsenal.fws.gov). Also see upcoming events listed in the events list on page 19.

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