

Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

STAPLETON

DECEMBER 2013

Winter Welcome Kicks Off the Holiday Season



Nearly 3,000 people gathered in the 29th Ave. Town Center for the 2013 Winter Welcome, a Stapleton holiday tradition. This year the Girl Scouts made 1,000 s'mores and all but 30 were eaten. Proceeds from the event will go to The Urban Farm, Bluff Lake Nature Center and Sand Creek Regional

Greenway. New to Winter Welcome this year: the MCA closed 29th Avenue from Quebec to Roslyn to have more room for the festivities, and a reindeer and a snowboard simulator were added. Look on page 35 for another perspective on the holidays—the carbon footprint.

Stapleton Reacts to Elementary Boundary Changes



Sarah Lipka speaks at a November 19 meeting at Bill Roberts school where a quorum of board members (Taylor, Rowe, Seawell, Haynes) came to hear community members speak. Open choice versus priority for proximity became a hot issue after DPS proposed a priority zone system for elementary boundaries. The majority of speakers favored Stapleton's established tradition of choice, whereby everyone in Stapleton has equal access to all elementary schools. Some speakers, however, favored a system that would give preference to those living near a school.

By Carol Roberts

In the rest of DPS, and in most public school districts across the country, school attendance is established by boundaries. The location of a person's home determines their assigned neighborhood school.

However, from the time Stapleton opened its second elementary school, a different kind of system was established—one that allows everyone in the community to select from all the schools. That system was chosen based on a community preference at that time. In return for having a variety of programmatic options, residents give up the certainty that comes with boundary schools.

Now, as the empty lots dotting the neighborhoods have filled with homes and new families, some who have moved

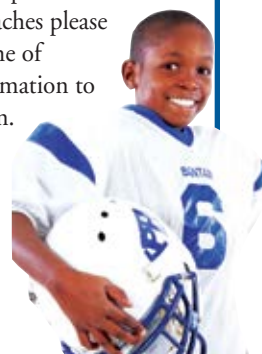
(continued on p. 4)

Check out our new interactive website and comment on articles.
www.FrontPorchStapleton.com

Guide to Kids' Sports

In January the *Front Porch* will print a directory of NE Denver sports teams for kids. Parents and coaches please send name of sport, name of league and contact information to FrontPorch3@gmail.com.

If known, please also include ages, whether boys, girls or both, seasons, and a contact person who could provide additional information. The guide will also include teams in other areas for sports that are not offered locally.



Camp Guide in Feb. Issue

Summer camp registration starts early so the camp guide will be moved to February starting this year. Send camp suggestions to FrontPorch3@gmail.com.

Groundwater Lawsuit

6

A Reimagined City Park

10

HOA Bans Farmyard Animals

13

Guide to Middle Schools

15

New Apts. for Ages 55+

30

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



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

Each year the Menorah at the far east end of The Green along Syracuse is lit for the eight nights of Chanukah, November 27 to December 5 this year.



CALENDAR

Events listed below are FREE and open to the public or support nonprofits. (Additional events are listed on pages 24-27. Recurring events are listed on page 26.)

DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 4

Wine on Wednesdays. *MCA Community Room. For more info or to register visit www.stapletoncommunity.com

Friday, December 6

Winter Movie - "Elf" 6pm. *The Green info@stapletoncommunity.com

Friday, December 6

Holly Days on 16th Street Mall. 11am-7pm. Repeats 12/7 and 12/8. McNichols Building, Civic Center Park. www.coloradoevents.net

Friday Dec 6 & Saturday Dec 7

Park Hill Arts Weekend. For more information contact the Art Garage at 303-377-2353, artgaragedenver.com (See page 6)

Friday Dec 6 & Saturday Dec 7

9News Parade of Lights. 8pm Fri, 6pm Sat. Marching bands, balloons, floats. www.downtowndenver.com

Saturday, December 7

Free or 1¢ on first Saturdays at:
—Denver Art Museum, 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver
—Museum of Contemporary Art (with art-making space for children) 1¢ admission 1485 Delgany St.

Monday, December 9

Stapleton Community Meeting on Elementary Enrollment, 6:00pm. (See page 1)
AngieSwim@dpssk12.org

Monday, December 9

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

Tuesday, December 10

Colorado Gives Day
For 24 hours starting at 12am, visit www.cogivesday.org to find Colorado Charities. Last year, the website raised \$7.4 million.

CORRECTIONS:

Announcement of Kristen Atwood as principal of the new Stapleton middle school (page 7 of the September issue)—The photo caption referred to "the new McAuliffe middle school." It should have stated, "the new middle school that will be located where McAuliffe now resides." The McAuliffe IB program is moving to Smiley and Atwood's program has been named Denver Discovery School.

The update on the Denver budget from Councilman Chris Herndon (page 29 of the November issue) stated \$550 had been cut from the general fund each of the past few years. It should have stated "\$550 million."

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 12

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

Thurs, Dec 12 to Sat, Dec 14

Denver Public Library Winter Used Book Sale Central Library, 14th and Broadway www.dplfriends.org

Saturday, December 14

Kidpreneurs Marketplace at Clayton Early Learning Center, 10am - 2pm (See page 6)

Monday, December 16

DPS Choice website opens (see p. 15 for info about middle schools and p. 18 for enrollment info)

Tuesday, December 17*

High School Principal Learning Walk & Community Forum. Meet the top candidates for the Stapleton High School principal. Location TBD, 5:30 - 8pm
*Subject to change, pending confirmation of finalists. Updates at <http://communityrelations.dpsk12.org/>

Wednesday, December 18

Modern Conversations—"Lessons in Mindfulness to Get You Through the Holidays" 7-8:30pm. *MCA Community Room. (See page 9)

Thursday, December 19

Public comment to DPS Board on Stapleton elementary enrollment, 6:30pm. Register for comments by 5pm 12/18 at 720-423-3210. Board vote after public comment.

JANUARY

December 31 to January 11

"Treecycle." Set out your tree on your trash collection day. Real evergreens only, with no decorations. DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles or call 311.

*More information at Events@stapletoncommunity.com
The Green is located in the 29th Ave. Town Center in Stapleton at E. 29th Ave. and Roslyn St.
Stapleton MCA Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St.

The Front Porch welcomes submissions of upcoming local events and story ideas (see information on p.27). Deadline is the 15th for the next issue.

Events & Announcements at Stapleton



The MCA would like to wish each and every one of you a very merry holiday season. We have many gifts to buy and so many parties to attend. When making your lists and plans, remember those who are alone in this world. Bring joy to them with an act of kindness. We hope you are able to enjoy a safe and wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

WOW: Wine on Wednesday Wine Tastings

The MCA and the Wine Cellars at Stapleton have paired up to host another series of WOW (Wine on Wednesday)! The next indoor wine tasting will be held at 6pm on Wednesday, Dec. 4 in the MCA Community Room. This evening educational tasting will feature artisan tapas and a variety of wines. Registration is only \$10 per person! For more information or to register for the next tasting, visit www.stapletoncommunity.com.

Winter Movie on The Green and Our Inaugural Christkindlmarkt

Bundle up and join us for our first Winter Movie on The Green. We will be featuring the holiday favorite *Elf*! The movie will begin at 6pm on Friday, Dec. 6 and is free to attend. The MCA will be providing fire pits and s'more stations, along with hot beverages. Gigi's Cupcakes, Coaches Scoop, Crock Spot and Funnels are planning to bring their food trucks to the event, so remember to bring some extra cash.

The inaugural Christkindlmarkt will begin at 5pm on Friday, Dec. 6 on The Green. The market will feature handmade holiday gifts by local artists and craftspeople, traditional German holiday refreshments, a prize drawing and festive entertainment. For more information about the market, visit www.stapletonchristkindlmarkt.splashthat.com.

Active Minds

The American West

Join Active Minds for an exploration of how the West was opened and won. We'll tell the story from a variety of perspectives—from early explorers who ventured into the

unknown to fortune seekers who raced to the Gold Rush. We'll also include the often brutal elements of what was known then as Manifest Destiny, including conflicts with Native Americans and Spanish Mexico, all of which added significant territory to the U.S. This program is sponsored by Juniper Village at Aurora.

Date: Thursday, Dec. 12

Time: 7-8pm

Cost: Free

Location: MCA Community Rm. (2823 Roslyn St.)

For more information, visit www.activeminds.com.

Modern Conversations

Lessons in MINDFULNESS to get you Through the Holidays

Do you get stressed out? Does your family drive you crazy? Do you overindulge in food, drink or spending? Come enjoy a brief lesson in mindfulness that will help you manage all of these difficult life challenges.

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 18

Time: 7-8:30pm

Cost: Free

RSVP: hsilver33@gmail.com or call 720.935.7393

Stapleton Holiday Cards

The MCA will be offering festive holiday cards to support three local organizations. Cards can be purchased at the MCA office during normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm). All proceeds will be distributed to the Bluff Lake Nature Center, Sand Creek Regional Greenway and The Urban Farm.

Santa's Best Christmas Trees

We are excited to welcome Santa's Best Christmas Trees back to the Stapleton community. Trees will be sold at The Green (29th Ave and Roslyn St.), now open through the holiday season.

If you have any questions about the information above, please call 303.388.0724.

Dani Mead

dmead@stapletoncommunity.com

Get the latest on

Master Community Association



Sponsored by Stapleton MCA

EDITORS and PUBLISHERS:

Carol Roberts & Steve Larson

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR/WRITER:

Madeline Schroeder

PHOTOGRAPHY: Steve Larson

AD SALES: Karissa McGlynn 303-333-0257

KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com

Front Porch

www.FrontPorchStapleton.com
FrontPorch@FrontPorchStapleton.com 303-526-1969

The Stapleton Front Porch is published by Stapleton Front Porch, LLC, 2566 Syracuse St., Denver, CO 80238. 37,000 papers are printed. The free paper is distributed during the first week of each month to homes and businesses in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, Hale and East Colfax.

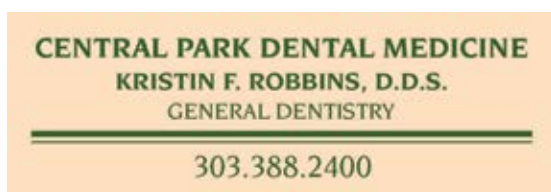
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

~ from the businesses at ~

2373 Central Park Blvd



303.355.6424(MICI)



Guide to Our Advertisers

Appliances	Reliable Appliance	33
Auto	Autowash @ Stapleton	24
	DART Auto	31
Childcare	KidsTown Drop-In Child Care Center	21
Churches	Augustana Lutheran Church	32
	Central Presbyterian Church	27
	Denver Presbyterian Church	28
	Messiah Community Church	13
	Montview Blvd Presbyterian Church	25
	Park Hill United Methodist Church	22
	Stapleton Fellowship Church	20
Community Organization	Denver Recycles	7
	Stapleton Master Community Assoc	2
Dance Classes	Dance Institute LLC	23
Dental	Lowry Family Dentistry	28
	Quebec Square Family Dentistry	4
	Stapleton Children's Dentistry	31
	Stapleton Dental	26
	Steele Dentistry of Stapleton	34
	Williams Family Dentistry	12
Design	Diane Gordon Design	31
Entertainment	Denver Museum of Nature and Science	36
Family Entertainment	FunScoop	28
Financial	Edward Jones	33
Fitness	Bladium Sports and Fitness Center	10
Hardware	Ace on the Fax Hardware	9
	Gaia Plant Based Medicine	8
Health and Wellness	IMAGE Research Group	27
	New Day Acupuncture	33
	Restor Medical Spa	11
	Stapleton Foundation / be well Health and Wellness initiative	19
Help Wanted	High Tech Elementary School	33
Holiday Gifts	Young Americans Center for Financial Education	6
Home Builders	Boulder Creek Neighborhoods	21
	New Town Builders	10
	Wonderland Homes - Terrace Homes Collection	12
Home Furnishings	Rare Finds Warehouse	29
Housecleaning	Number 1 House Cleaning	30
	Stapleton Home Services	32
Insurance	Farmers Insurance	29
Jewelry	William Crow Jewelers	5
Karate classes	Stapleton Family Karate	6
Lawyers	Bachus & Schanker, LLC	5
	Karen B Best, Family Law Attorney and Mediator	31
	Zaner Harden Law, Personal Injury	23
	Quebec Liquors	30
Liquor Store	Vic's Liquors	35

Medical Doctors	Ascent Family Medicine	25
	Colorado Institute for Maternal & Fetal Health	13
	Denver Dermatology	26
	Exempla Essential Women's Care	28
	Exempla Physician Network	15
	Foothills Urogynecology, PC	27
	Med-Fit, PLLC- Weight Loss Specialist	27
	Mile High Plastic Surgery	34
	Mountain Spine & Pain Physicians	31
	Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children	18
	Sapphire Pediatrics	32
	Stapleton Pediatrics	14
	University of Colorado Advanced Reproductive Medicine	33
Murals	Custom Creations	30
Music Lessons	Forte Music Education	30
	JLstudios, Vocal & Performing Arts	34
Optical	Stapleton Family Eye Center	22
	XCEL Energy	7
Personal Services		
Pets	Denver Dumb Friends League	18
	Happy Dog Daycare	35
	La Dame Animaux LLC	29
	Stapleton Dog Club	23
Plumbers	Blue Sky Plumbing & Heating	20
Psychologists	neuroAgility, PC- Attention and Performance Psychology	30
Real Estate	Jim DeCesaro, Weichert Realtors	8
	Kim Kouba, Perry & Co.	24
	ERA Herman Group Real Estate, Kimberly Austin	14
	Neir Team-Kentwood City Properties	29
	Wolfe & Epperson Real Estate	22
Remodeling	Best Builders	28
Restaurants	Delectable Egg	29
	Fat Jack's Supersubs	
	The Grubbery	16
Retail	The businesses at 2373 Central Park Blvd	3
Schools	Denver Montclair International School	11
	High Tech Elementary School	33
	Monarch Montessori	34
	St. Mary's Academy	27
	Stanley British Primary School	24
	Venture Prep	16
	Sew Creative Stapleton	30
Sewing Classes		
Therapists	Alder Grove Wellness Group, LLC	32
	Kristen Canfield, LCSW	30
Transportation	Golf Tournament Incorporated	22
Window Coverings	Budget Blinds	25
	Exciting Windows by Decor & You	28
	Rocky Mountain Shutters	9
Service Directory & Classifieds	Front Porch Classified	33

The directory is updated monthly at www.FrontPorchStapleton.com -> Business Directory



Landri Taylor's face registers surprise as campaign staff inform him that returns indicated he was winning the DPS District 4 seat by a landslide (final results were 65% for Taylor and 34% for Roger Kilgore). Standing in the left corner is

Mike Johnson who won the District 3 seat that includes Lowry, Mayfair, Montclair, Hale and East Colfax (final results were Johnson 57.1% and Meg Schomp 42.8%).

Stapleton Elementary Boundaries (continued from page 1)

close to schools with a dream of walking have been disappointed. With the priority for siblings and for ECE students, new families that live next to a school are discovering that they may end up at the furthest away school in Stapleton since the one across the street is already full.

Stapleton United Neighbors, in response to a request from DPS to determine the wishes of the community on boundaries versus choice in the future, came up with a recommendation to set aside 25% of seats in each school (after siblings, students in ECE and school staff's children) for those who live in a priority zone for that school.

When DPS came back to the community with a recommendation that 50% be priority zone seats, with that number rising another 10% a year until it reached 100%, the community exploded. In five meetings on the same night in five different schools, the vast majority of speakers expressed anger, many saying they moved to Sta-

pleton because they wanted the open choice system.

Another community meeting was set for six days later, this time not to have DPS propose a plan, but to have DPS board members hear feedback directly from the community. How many seats should be set aside for those who live in a proximity zone near a school? And should there be a separate priority for those who live north or south of I-70 based on proximity? Since the choice system increases transportation costs, DPS also proposed priority zones for transportation.

Although a few speakers favored giving a preference for proximity, the majority of speakers favored the open choice system. Comments included: "No one has addressed how setting boundaries will help kids." "We've invested in homes based on the ability to choose." "We chose Stapleton for our education choices. Boundaries cause division."

"DPS' first core value is putting students first. How do proximity zones put students first?" "Proximity zones would work fine if all the programs were the same. But our schools have dramati-

Stapleton Community Meeting on Elementary Enrollment Policy
Monday, Dec. 9, 6:30pm
Swigert School
Send comments to: board@dpsk12.org
DPS Board Public Comment and Vote
Thurs, Dec. 19

QS Family Dentistry

2013 TOP DENTISTS 5280

Quality care in a nearby, comfortable, bright, modern setting
IN NETWORK with most insurances • Early morning appointments
Now offering BOTOX® and Invisalign!
Accepting new patients of existing patient's family members

303-322-2081 • www.qsfamilydentistry.com

35,700 NEWSPAPERS DISTRIBUTED IN NE DENVER

LIKE US AT FRONT PORCH NEWSPAPER

THE PAPER THAT'S ON THE COFFEE TABLE...
...NOT IN THE RECYCLING BIN

VISIT FRONTPORCHSTAPLETON.COM FOR: Online videos • Community info • Past issues • Advertiser contact list • Advertising info
Advertising: KarissaMcGlynn@gmail.com or 303.333.0257 • Editorial: FrontPorchStapleton@gmail.com or 303.526.1969



Sweep Board Election

Newly elected board members (left to right) Mike Johnson, Landri Taylor and Barbara O'Brien are joined by Mayor Michael Hancock and incumbent school board member Anne Rowe at a "watch party" at the Irish Snug on Colfax. Now the excitement of the

election has given way to the reality of the thorny issues facing the school board. One of the first on Taylor's list was the DPS' priority zones proposal for elementary schools in Stapleton.

cally different programming and we've all chosen based on our children's needs."

Board District 4 representative Landri Taylor, after the Nov. 19 meeting, said he and Happy Haynes told DPS staff they believe there doesn't

need to be a transportation discussion right now. "That's a separate conversation than choice for the Stapleton community and they don't need to make a transportation decision now that would be set in concrete for years to come. I'm going to vote



Stapleton parent Karen Conklin-Johnson speaks at Westerly Creek Elementary, one of five contentious meetings

on Nov. 13 about school boundaries. She supports open choice for all Stapleton residents over priority zones.

to approve that transportation doesn't change (for next year). It doesn't really have to be part of the motion that's presented to us. In December we're going to vote on an enrollment choice policy to include Conservatory Green and Isabella Bird schools. Where

I sit, I am going to vote in the affirmative for one Stapleton regardless of where your residence is" (giving everyone equal access to every school).

Taylor says he has asked staff for projections if proximity preferences are given. "It may not be a

number that's worth making a change at all if it's only going to impact a dozen people. I think the community can make a good decision when they have the right data."

DPS has already prepared a chart (posted at FrontPorchStapleton.com) showing that if 25% of seats (after other priorities) had been set aside in the 2013-14 kindergarten class of 100 students, 12 students would have gotten in under that priority and 33 from the overall Stapleton boundary would have gotten in.

Projections for next year will be posted on the *Front Porch* website when available.

To us, it's personal. Every case. *Your case.*[®]



BACHUS & SCHANKER, LLC
COLORADO'S INJURY LAW FIRM

800-JUSTICE | ColoradoLaw.net



Celebrate your first holiday as a family!

Making Denver (and new moms)
Sparkle...Since 1924

William Crow
JEWELERS
SINCE 1924

910 16th St Ste 320 Denver, 80202 • www.williamcrow.com • 303-592-1695

Check Out These Holiday Events



Dec. 6-8—Park Hill Arts Weekend

An **opening reception and auction** will be held at the Art Garage from 5-8pm, Friday, Dec. 6.

Family workshops will be offered at the Art Garage from 10am-3pm on Saturday.

Tours of eight artists' studios will be held Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 & 8 from 10am-6pm. Begin studio tours by picking up a map at the Art Garage, 6100 E. 23rd Ave., and meet the new executive director, Katie Moran. The eight studios include: water-colors; a blend of street painting art styles; finely crafted functional and artistic pottery; zenOgram and paper casting; unique organic clothing; hand-hammered vessels and metal sculpture; large playful metal sculptures; and "junk" art.

Local artists will also be showing their work at **Share Denver's Fairfax Holiday Market** at 2829 Fairfax St. and **Sacred I Yoga's 5th Holiday Art and Craft Show** at 2212 Kearney St. in Park Hill. Hours are: Friday, Dec. 6 from 5 - 8pm; Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10am - 6pm; and on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 10am - 6pm.

Nine Colorado artisans will show their work at the **Holiday Market at 2233 Ash Street**. Items for sale will include: handcrafted cards by Katy Shaw; porcelain ceramics by Lynda Ladwig; crazy and cuddly monsters by Genevieve Turner; and unique clothing and accessories for children and adults by Melanie Weiss Turner, among other artists. Hours are: Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10am - 9pm; Sunday, Dec. 8 from 12-5pm.

For more information on the Park Hill Arts Weekend call 303-377-2353 or visit artgaragedenver.com. A percentage of all profits will be donated to the Art Garage for future programs.

Dec. 14—Kidpreneurs Marketplace

Where kids sell their products and shoppers find unique items made by kids

The public is invited to the Kids' Marketplace to find one-of-a-kind holiday gifts and decorations on Saturday, December 14, 2013, from 10am-2pm at Clayton Early Learning located at 3801 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. A new Virtual Kids' Marketplace will allow shoppers outside the metropolitan area to support our kidpreneurs online.

Kids who want to sell need to apply for space by December 7—vendor fee is \$15. Applications are available at www.thekids-marketplace.com. Questions? Contact Tammi at 303.564.8308.

By Carol Roberts

“Whatever you do, this problem is going to exist,” says Stapleton resident Tad Rogers, who recently received a judgment from a jury trial that included \$242,000 to replace his clogged drainage pipes and \$552,000 for the hassles and inconvenience he has experienced in dealing with the drainage problems. The only real solution, he says, is something that's not feasible—a “de-watering well” that would pump out the groundwater under his home. Or a historic drought like the one when the original groundwater testing was done in 2001/02.

Rogers says his sump pump runs every six minutes—and if his sump pump stopped working the basement would flood quickly. He paid for an extra high basement ceiling when he bought the house in 2006—but now, he says, the level of moisture in his basement slab is too high to put a floor covering on it. A groundwater test in 2011 showed the water table at his house was at seven feet—and his basement is 10-11 feet underground.

In 2008, when Rogers first became aware that his sump pump was running almost continuously, he discovered that the water was being discharged near his house, where it soaked into the ground and re-entered the drainage system. He solicited help from Forest City and from his builder, Infinity. Infinity responded and changed how his sump pump discharges so it goes into the city's storm water system (city permits are required for this) and not into his yard.

That piece of the problem was solved, but a new issue was discovered. A camera inserted into Rogers drainage pipes revealed that calcite from the groundwater is forming a coating within his drainage pipes. The pipes, which are built into the perimeter of the foundation, have holes so any groundwater at the foundation will flow into the pipes and be carried by gravity to the sump pump. With the in-



Above left: Calcite is visible in Rogers' sump pump pit both in the bottom of the pipe and along the wall of the pit. Above right: A video camera inserted in Rogers drainage pipe shows the accumulation of calcite that is coating the inside and clogging the holes at the bottom of the pipe. The holes are designed to let excess water seep into the pipe and get carried by flow of gravity to the sump pump.



Stapleton Gr
Tied to Clog



Holiday and New year's special!

4 weeks of Karate

Classes FREE + a FREE Uniform!

Call 303-928-0043 to Enroll your child Today!

Offer valid Starting 12/1/13 - Offer expires 2/28/2014
Offer is only valid for new members upon enrollment

STAPLETON
FAMILY KARATE

Young Entrepreneurs Marketplace

Saturday, December 7, 2013

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Young Americans Center - Denver

3550 East 1st Avenue

Shop for hundreds of unique gifts created by entrepreneurs, ages 6 to 21. Support local young business owners while getting your holiday shopping done early! Free parking and admission.



Saturday, December 14, 2013

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Young Americans Center - Belmar

401 South Pierce Street

More details at www.yacenter.org



Young Americans
CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION

Supported by





Groundwater Lawsuit Clogged Pipes

take holes in the drainage pipes getting clogged, less water will flow in, and the drainage system designed to protect the foundation of his house will become less and less effective.

Rogers sued Forest City—and a key question in the suit hinged on the source of the calcite clogging his drainage system.

The geotechnical engineer hired by Rogers’ lawyers said, in his report, “The primary source of the calcite is the recycled concrete aggregate base course placed below the pavements.” He further stated that water can escape from the pavement through sub-grade percolation and through pavement cracks and joints. The report cites a 1997 study that showed recycled concrete as pavement base was the cause of calcite accumulation in pavement sub-drainage systems and foundation drain systems, and states this is the reason some states don’t allow recycled concrete to be used as a road base. His report also says that as the roads get older the calcite leaching problem will only get worse.

His recommended fix for the problem is to shore up the foundation, remove the basement slab, install new drainage pipes, build a sub-basement crawl space that has access to the drainage pipes so they can be accessed and replaced as needed due to future build-up (projected to be every 6-8 years), and build a structural basement floor that does not rest on the ground, with a moisture barrier beneath it.

The *Front Porch* asked Forest City if they were aware of reports from the late 80s and 90s about calcite leaching from recycled concrete used in road



An April, 2000 photo shows the recycling of old runway from Stapleton airport into material used for construction at the new Stapleton development.

bases. Hubert Farbes, attorney for Forest City, provided their response to these studies. “Forest City is aware of no evidence of calcite leaching from the placement of RABC (recycled aggregate base course) in the road base used at the Stapleton development.” Farbes explained that, while earlier studies have shown calcite leaching occurred when RABC was used in a wet, or drained environment (“drained pavements”), recycled concrete is authorized for use in Denver only in dry base course pavements. These pavements are designed and constructed with the intent that the road base will remain dry, unlike drained pavements where base course is designed to drain water from the road to an outfall. Roads in the Stapleton filings, and throughout Denver, are **not** designed as drained pavements; and RABC is installed in Denver only as dry structural support for a road pavement. Cracks that appear (and are routinely sealed) in dry base course pavements are normal and do not create wet conditions in the road base.

Farbes also said, “Forest City does **not** believe it is appropriate to comment publicly on a matter pending in the trial court (the Judgment and Award in this matter is **not final** until the trial court has ruled on outstanding motions respecting the jury verdict and award); and Forest City will **not** comment on the statements made to you by Plaintiff’s counsel respecting a pending court ruling.”

The plaintiff’s attorneys, Clyde Faatz and Ashleigh Mason of Hamilton Faatz PC, say that under Colorado law a home builder has an implied non-waivable warranty of habitability. They made the case that the implied warranty should extend to Forest City. As master developer, Forest City controlled what lots Infinity could buy, what model they could build, what price point homes would have, and they received a part of the gross price as a marketing fee. They have two seats on the Park Creek Metro District board, which signed the contracts for the development of the roads. Faatz points out that not all lots are suit-

able for having basements and Rogers’ home should not have been sold as a home with the potential for a finished basement.

Faatz says, “We asked the judge to imply a warranty from the lot developer to Mr. Rogers. If that ruling is appealed by Forest City and is upheld by the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court of Colorado, that will be the first time, to our knowledge that the court has implied a warranty from the lot developer to the first home buyer.

“Now it’s Judge Stern’s district court ruling that other judges can follow or not follow. However once the Colorado Court of Appeals

or the Colorado Supreme Court affirms that decision, then it becomes binding on all district court trial judges.”

For now, Rogers says his sump pump continues to run almost continuously and he worries about the basement flooding if the sump pump stops, though he does have an alarm that would warn him if he’s at home. All he can do is wait and see how long the existing system will keep pumping out the groundwater. At some point, the experts tell him, the drainage pipes will become fully clogged and non-functional.

SUN Spot, on page 32, offers an FAQ on sump pumps.



Treecycle 2014

January 6 – 17

RECYCLING YOUR HOLIDAY TREE IS AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3!

1

Remove all decorations and the tree stand.
NO artificial or flocked trees. Real evergreen trees only!

2

Set your tree out for collection during the first two weeks of January. Your tree will get picked up by a *special tree collection truck* for recycling.
Set-out day and location depends on your trash service type. **Manual & Barrel** customers should set trees out near your normal set-out location by 7 a.m. on one of your trash collection days during the two-week collection period. **Dumpster** customers should set trees out by 7 a.m. on either Monday, January 6th **OR** Monday, January 13th for collection sometime during that week.
Please do **not** place trees in dumpsters. Trees should be placed at least 4 feet away from dumpsters and other obstacles for collection.

3

Reclaim free mulch made from your tree at the annual Mulch Giveaway in the spring!





DENVER PUBLIC WORKS



DENVER RECYCLES



Questions?
Call 311 or visit
DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles

SUPPORT | YOUR WHOLE COMMUNITY | SWITCH *with one*



xcelenergy.com/SaversSwitch

© 2013 Xcel Energy Inc.
Xcel Energy will donate to the American Red Cross \$25 per Colorado customer, up to \$100,000, signing up for Saver's Switch between the dates of October 15, 2013, and December 31, 2013. This donation is not tax deductible. The American Red Cross name and emblem are used with its permission, which in no way constitutes an endorsement, express or implied, of any product, service, company, opinion or political position. The American Red Cross logo is a registered trademark owned by the American Red Cross. For more information about the American Red Cross, please visit www.redcross.org.

SIGN UP FOR SAVER'S SWITCH.®

Saver's Switch is a free program that helps manage short-term electricity demands on extremely hot days. We install a small box next to your central air conditioner and give you \$40 off your October energy bill for signing up. It's just that simple. Sign up by December 31, 2013, and we'll donate \$25 to the American Red Cross. Good for your community. Good for you. Good for us all. So, why wait?

To find out more or sign up, visit xcelenergy.com/SaversSwitch.



TRY OUR AWARD WINNING CONCENTRATES!

OUR SHATTER WAS A SILVER MEDAL WINNER AT THE 2013 DENVER CANNABIS CUP
AND OUR LIVE RESIN WON THE RECENT SECRET CUP!



TRY IT TODAY!

MENTION THIS ADD TO
BUY 3 GRAMS AND
GET 1 FOR A PENNY!

WHAT IS LIVE RESIN?

LIVE RESIN IS CREATED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF
HARVEST TO PRESERVE THE SMELL, TASTE,
AND POTENCY OF A LIVE PLANT. WITHOUT
THE DEGRADATION OF CURING OR OTHER
PROCESSING, LIVE RESIN IS PERHAPS THE
MOST PURE CONCENTRATE ON THE MARKET.

EXPERIENCE LIVE RESIN TODAY!



CHRISMUKANZAA DECEMBER EXTRAVAGANZA

CELEBRATE THE SEASON
WITH 31 DAYS OF DEALS!
CHECK OUR WEBSITE
& FACEBOOK STARTING
DECEMBER 1ST!



QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO BECOME A MMJ PATIENT?

GAIA IS HERE TO HELP
CALL US AT 303-573-6337

GAIAPBM.COM



DENVER

5926 E COLFAX AVE
DENVER, CO 80220
303-573-6337

COLORADO SPRINGS

417 N CIRCLE DR
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80909
719-597-4429

BERTHOUD

HERB'S MEDICINALS
1017 N 2ND ST
BERTHOUD, CO 80513
970-344-5060



Each month, the Indie Prof reviews
a current film in the theater and a sec-
ond film that is available on DVD or an
instant-streaming service. Follow "Indie
Prof" on Facebook for updates about film
events and more reviews.

Mother of George (2013)

This beautiful, sensuous film is the sec-
ond feature from director Andrew Dosun-
mu, a Nigerian photog-
rapher and filmmaker
who got his start in music
videos. His first feature
film, *Restless City* (2011),
premiered at Sundance.
This second feature,
Mother of George, also
premiered at Sundance,
and it shows not only
exponential growth as a
filmmaker but also the
promise of a future master
filmmaker.

The film opens on the
wedding of Nigerian couple
Ayodele and Adenike, now
living in Brooklyn. The cinematography is
stunning: lush colors, stunning close-ups,
and lingering shots that allow us to enjoy
the moment and meet the characters. Few
films can open so powerfully and enigmat-
ically, at once telling us everything without
saying very much at all. We feel the love,
the intimacy, and the cultural depth of the
ceremony while also feeling the weight of
expectation and tradition that will bear
down on them—most of it resting with the
bride, Adenike. The groom's mother tells
Adenike that she will bear a son, and that

son will be named George.

Months go by, however, and Adenike does
not get pregnant. She tries tribal remedies,
but nothing seems to work. The couple gets
frustrated, the groom's mother increases the
pressure on them, and Adenike finally visits
a fertility doctor—against the wishes of her
husband and his mother; Ayodele's man-
hood is called into question, and he will not
participate. Finally, it is Ayodele's mother



Scene from *Mother of George*

who comes up with a shocking proposal to
settle the issue, and I will say no more about
the plot.

While that plot is interesting and the
actors inhabit their roles with ferocity and
emotion, it is the way the plot is visualized
that invigorates the screen. The aforemen-
tioned cinematography of the opening
sequence remains the star of the film; most of
the time the film is in a soft focus that keeps
only a part of the scene in focus—a face,
a hand, legs—while the remainder of the
screen remains just a bit blurry. The result is a

Weichert, Realtors®

Professionals

720-934-5474

jim@iDenverHomes.com

Season's Greetings from your Stapleton Realtor



Jim DeCesaro
Stapleton Neighbor
and Realtor®

iDenverHomes.com
Independently Owned Franchise



mesmerizing intimacy from which we cannot turn away. It starts November 8 at either the Esquire, the Mayan, or the Chez Artiste Theater. Check the listings.

You will like this film if you enjoyed *Upstream Color* and *War Witch*.

Bicycle Thieves (1948)

You may know this classic Italian film by another name—*The Bicycle Thief*. The original Italian title of the film, *Ladri di Biciclette*, is literally translated as *Bicycle Thieves* (the plural form). But when the film was released in the United States, the translation was *The Bicycle Thief*. Why the change? I don't think it was a simple mis-translation; rather, I believe it was an attempt to define a very non-Hollywood film as a Hollywood film. The title was changed back to its original for a recent release of the Criterion Collection DVD. It can now rest in peace.

The Italian cinema of the 1930s under Mussolini was not very dynamic—the majority of the films were period pieces, light comedies, or romantic comedies. All that changed after WWII. Filmmakers, now freed of the restrictive policies of Fascism, developed a new type of cinema, called Neorealism, that told the stories of everyday Italians—the poor, the disenfranchised, the struggling masses in the wake of the War. The films were usually simple stories with a great deal of social commentary, and cinematography that highlighted the people in relation to their surroundings.

The story is about a man who gets a job and needs his bike for that job. His bike is stolen on his first day of work, and he is left to wander the city with his son trying to find it. He enlists help from the local union, but they fail. The police cannot be bothered with “just a bicycle.” When he spots an accomplice of the thief, the accomplice takes refuge in a shelter and eventually gets away. He finally does find the actual thief, but satisfaction is elusive in this society. I won't tell you how it ends.



Scene from *Bicycle Thieves*

The film is not only one of the great films of all time, but it is also one of the most influential. Many future directors would be directly impacted by the film, for example, Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola. The film is noteworthy for its honest portrayal of people dealing with difficult circumstances and indifferent institutions. The realism is heart-wrenching, pure, and unsentimental.

You will like this film if you enjoyed *A Better Life* and *A Separation*.

This film, along with all other films I've reviewed, can be found at the Sam Gary Library. Look for the Indie Prof display at the end of the DVD racks. You can also find this film under the Criterion Collection on Hulu Plus.

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

December 18 — Modern Conversations “Lessons in Mindfull-ness to Get You Through the Holidays”

It's easy to get stressed or overindulge during the holiday season. Licensed Clinical Social Worker Hilary Silver knows ways to ease that stress. On Wednesday, Dec. 18, from 7 to 8:30pm she's hosting “Lessons in Mindfull-ness to Get You Through the Holidays.” The free MCA-sponsored event invites the public to pause and consider what mindfulness really means. What are the benefits of being mindful? How is it different than meditation? The event will be discussion based and hands on—people will learn three or four exercises they can use when they feel stressed. “I'm really excited about this one. People always hear about mindfulness but don't really know what it is or if they're capable of it,” she says. Silver will be joined by LCSW Beth Barta. The session, held at the Stapleton MCA Community Room, 2823 Roslyn St., is for parents only—no kids allowed. All parents welcome, but space is limited so reserve at hsilver33@gmail.com or call/text 720.935.7393. Also see www.SilverTherapyGroup.com.



Hilary Silver

May all your holiday wishes come true!

This holiday season, unwrap The Ultimate Cooking Experience.®

Grilling, Baking, Roasting and Smoking ...
no other outdoor cooker can match the quality and versatility of a Big Green Egg!



Ace on The FAX
1 block West of Colfax & Quebec
7100 E. Colfax, Denver, CO 80220
720-484-8585

© Big Green Egg Inc. BigGreenEgg.com



EXTRA 10% OFF

Palm Beach Shutters®

December Only

Call Today for a **FREE** in-home estimate

We are a local family owned business. Call us today and you will see how we make customer service our #1 priority



Installed in Three Weeks. Or Less. Guaranteed.

Call for details

Stop by our Gallery Showroom!
Located just off I-70 at Havana

303-534-5454
www.rockymountainshutters.com





Rocky Mountain SHUTTERS & SHADES

HunterDouglas Gallery®

'TIS THE SEASON FOR FUN!



School Out? Camps In!

Bladium camps make holiday breaks fun for kids and easy for parents.

Affordable Rates • Flexible Schedules • Tons of Activities

Learn more. Call (303) 320-3033 or email DenverCamps@Bladium.com



THE GIFT OF FITNESS!

Get Healthy & Happy

Start your New Year's fitness resolution right now! Bladium's group classes make it easy to get in shape fast. Nothing beats feeling great, so join the fun today.

Over 60 Group Exercise classes each week, including Les Mills and Bladium Barre classes!

- BodyPUMP
- BodyATTACK
- BodySTEP
- RPM (cycling)
- BodyCOMBAT
- BodyFLOW
- Zumba
- Barre
- Yoga, Bootcamp, Dance & more!

TREAT A FRIEND

Members: Give your friends the gift of fitness with a free 5 class card. Details at Bladium.



WE'VE GOT CROSSFIT!

Be Healthier. Be Happier. Be Better.

71 Classes per Week • Now Offering CrossFit Kids: Ages 5-10 & 11-15

Contact Alex at (303) 320-3033 ext 1016 or CrossFitInfo@Bladium.com

BLADIUM®
SPORTS & FITNESS CLUB

2400 Central Park Boulevard • Denver • Located in Stapleton

(303) 320-3033 Bladium.com
DenverMemberships@Bladium.com

Find us on
Facebook

Parks and Rec Reimagines City

By Madeline Schroeder

Raised glass walkways, flexible tubes to crawl through, talking abstract structures—this is not the City Park people know, but it is fast approaching. Denver Department of Parks and Recreation plans to make City Park a regional attraction. The estimated \$5-million “Reimagine Play” City Loop project will cover 13 acres, although most of that will remain open space. Denver officials are targeting Spring 2015 to begin construction.

“We thought ‘let’s not just do some patchwork but reimagine what this park can be.’ It’s very exciting,” Dist. 8 Councilman Albus Brooks said.

The idea budded from the old Dustin Redd playground at the west end of the park. Built in 1996 by Denver volunteers, the playground has been a favorite for nearby families. Over the years, wornout parts of the largely wooden playground have been removed rather than repaired.

“For many years now, folks have said the playground is falling apart,” Brooks said, who has often brought his 6-, 4- and 2-year-olds there to play.

In January 2011, Parks and Recreation started soliciting proposals to redesign the playground. In 2012 they held a design competition for the public to vote. About 12 designs were submitted—some replaced the existing playground with a plastic one and others went more outside the box. In October 2012, they announced the winning design by PORT Architecture + Urbanism, based out of Chicago.

The conceptual design transforms the park’s underused space. It removes the Dustin Redd playground and adds a modern play area equipped with super-sized swings, artificial rain, giant tunnels, climbing structures and boulder fields.

As the name implies, the preliminary design has a loop around a 13-acre plot of land. It has a rubberized track for running,

walking, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing.

The plan also adds a city plaza where people can meet and socialize. The plan includes bike racks, movable furnishings, food trucks, holiday markets, parties and a performance stage. An activities kiosk has Wi-Fi access, a book-share library and equipment rentals—everything from giant foam blocks to Ping-Pong tables.

“We’re going to have the best intergenerational play area. It’s going to be part of the whole experience of City Park,” Brooks said.

Parks and Recreation spokesperson Jeff Green says the idea started by reimagining the word play. “If you go to the park and ride your bike or run, you might call that play. If you go to relax and read a book, that might be play. If you go to climb



Twenty-two-foot high climbing nets will be part of the City Park West Cluster where adults and kids can play.



Crawling tubes and slides will be big enough for adults and kids, which makes residents wonder about sanitation and monitoring people sleeping in the tubes.



What would you do
with \$260 in your pocket
every month?

Ten years in a New Town Builders Z.E.N.™ home
means \$31,000 saved in energy bills!

Imagine your home going to work for you each day. Saving Energy. Producing energy.
And all the while, you pocket money once spent on utilities -- for more important things.
Like college for your kids.

that's

The Power of
ZERO™
Net Energy Expenses

in every
Z.E.N.™
Zero Energy Now
Home

Visit Our Two Model Homes
to find out more about Z.E.N.
homes in Conservatory Green.

Zero Energy homes are also
available at our Solaris Collection.

THE Z.E.N. COLLECTION -- 303.665.6100
Single Family Homes from the \$400's

THE SOLARIS COLLECTION -- 720.941.0359
Single Family Homes from the \$400's

CENTRAL PARK ROWS -- 720.949.1696
Rowhomes from the \$200's

newtownbuilders.com
303.707.4444

**NEW
TOWN
BUILDERS**

Want Unique? Check Out Giraffe

By Nancy Burkhardt

The day has come when you take a good look at your home and feel like it has taken on a “blah” feeling. It doesn’t need to be totally redone. It just needs some pizzazz. That is the day to stop in at Giraffe’s Design at 2231 Oneida St.

Giraffe’s Design, owned by Glenn Ross, offers furniture and collectibles from model homes and estate sales. There is silver, artwork, unique old trunks, terracotta replicas in clay and leather furniture—some of which has never been used and comes from model homes.

“I have very unique bedroom furniture,” Ross said. “On the model home furniture, the price is half of what you would pay retail and it’s never been used. On the estate sale items, I just try to make a little profit on it.”

Ross has designed cocktail tables and headboards for beds, and his designs will always be in stock. Items from model homes and estate sales change often. The giraffe that stands on the floor watching you shop is not for sale. It has been in Ross’s family for years and represents the name of the shop.

Currently, Giraffe’s Design has in stock a huge, collectible

ship that would be perfect for a library or a sitting room and sells for \$600. A desk lamp with a leather look is priced at \$110. Terracotta Chinese soldier replicas done in clay are \$50 each. The same soldiers sell elsewhere for \$75 to \$100, Ross said.

“Maybe one item out of 10 is antique, but I don’t like antiques,” he explained. “I try to look for people that do special things in Colorado. I have a guy that makes tables and I have a well-known artist—Jess Dubois. I have his original works.

“Right now I have three people whose pieces are here,” Ross



Owner of Giraffe’s Design, Glenn Ross, holds a Chinese terracotta soldier replica, one of the many unique finds at his antique store at 2231 Oneida St.

There are row homes, and then there are *Terrace Homes*.



Choose yours on MLK across from Central Park in Stapleton.

Introducing brand new row homes designed to reflect the best of historic architectural styles blended with all the modern conveniences you expect.

The four unique Terrace Homes plans offer stunning exterior detailing alongside sought-after special features like loft levels and rooftop decks. With wide-open interiors featuring kitchens that flow seamlessly into living areas. And extensive design options and optional finished basements allowing you to personalize each home making it uniquely yours.

Terrace Homes from the high \$300s. Move in Spring 2014.

WonderlandHomes.com | 720.524.3591 | pirkil@wonderlandhomes.com



Pricing is subject to change without notice and subject to prior sale and availability. 🏠

added. “I want to have 10–15 local artists, regardless of what they make—bath bits, horn pieces, whatever—just a local person from Colorado. It’s not an art gallery. It’s a place with unique things.”

Giraffe’s Design would be a great place to hunt for a unique gift for the person that leaves you with no idea what to give them for Christmas. There are leather boxes for men and jump ropes with stainless steel handles for the woman in your life who has a passion for exercise workouts.

Ross retired from mortgage banking and moved to Denver from California’s Bay Area. He opened Giraffe’s Design in June. He chose Park Hill for his shop because “Park Hill is my favorite community. I have friends that live in Park Hill. I like Park Hill because all of the houses don’t look alike. The older houses don’t have garages in front of them. I just like all of that.”

To see about 100 items that Ross offers, become a friend on Facebook to Giraffe’s Design Denver, CO. Ross also buys items. If you have something you want to sell, call Ross at 720.638.0174 for a Saturday appointment.

Giraffe’s Design is open Sunday through Friday from 11am to 4pm. The shop is open Saturdays by appointment only.



Giraffe’s Design currently has in stock a collectible ship.

Treating ALL
members of the family



WILLIAMS

FAMILY DENTISTRY



**Early morning,
late afternoon & Friday
appointments available.
Massage chairs & streaming
music in every room.**

2979 N. Iola St. Denver CO 80238

**Our new office was designed and built from the
ground up with every patient comfort and
convenience in mind**

www.MargieWilliamsDDS.com

• 303-945-2699

Debate Ruffles Feathers in Stapleton HOA No. 7

By Madeline Schroeder

For 10 months, a chicken war has been brewing in Stapleton Home Owner's Association No. 7, resulting in the ban of farmyard animals from all outdoor areas in the 118-home association. After consulting real estate agents and neighbors, the HOA board voted 4:1 for the ban.

"I feel good about the decision. We acted in the best interest of the association," HOA Board President Jerry Dowdy said.

The board acted upon complaints from other residents regarding resident Caroline Vierow and her two chickens and rabbit, which she often brought to a shared courtyard. She also owned roosters at one point, but was cited by the city.

Dowdy supports urban farming and sustainability when it makes sense for the home, like the new Conservatory Green homes that have more outdoor space and offer a garden box or chicken coop. But Vierow lives in a Green Court home that has five to seven feet on either side—too close to neighbors to have farmyard animals outside, according to Dowdy. Three renters and five homeowners share the courtyard.

"Their kids run around with the animals and chase them, and the neighbors don't think it's appropriate," Dowdy says.

The ban is a sacrifice necessary for living in a covenant-controlled community, according to Dowdy. "The majority gets to make the rules, and it's unfortunate if you're in the minority, but the board has the responsibility to the entire association, not to the one homeowner."

Denver's city ordinance allows for up to eight chickens or ducks and two dwarf goats in residential areas, but there is no restriction on bringing the animals outside. An HOA board can make stricter rules within the ordinance. If the HOA declaration already does not allow or does not address farm animals, the board has the authority to regulate



Caroline Vierow holds Mozart, a French Lop rabbit. Her son Vincent holds Madame Butterfly, a White Crested Black Bantam Polish chicken and her daughter, Trinity, holds Parmella, a Buff Bantam Silk-o-rama chicken.

them, according to State Representative Angela Williams who worked on state-level legislation to license HOA managers.

"Frankly, it's not typical to see declarations that permit most types of farm animals in suburban HOAs," she says. She advises only adopting a potentially controversial rule if there are complaints.

Neighbors say the chickens and "dog-sized" rabbit attract predators, lower home values and impact marketability. All five homeowners on the courtyard told the HOA they do not want the animals outside.

Vierow argues the animals add to the sustainable life advertised in Stapleton. She says the chickens are quiet, provide organic food and their poop fertilizes the grass. When she first bought her chickens in December, she asked neighbors if they were okay with the animals, and they said no. She bought the chickens anyway. An urban farming advocate, she offered to give the neighbors eggs and tours of chicken coops, but they weren't interested. In April, she submitted a chicken coop design to the HOA, and it was denied. "I don't understand this area of Stapleton I'm living in."

Vierow says she could accept not having a coop, but it's insane to prohibit letting her pet rabbit out on her own property. She calls dogs a bigger nuisance.

"Would most people have a problem with a rabbit being outside? Probably not," Dowdy says. "But where does it stop? They've also talked about getting a pig. If it's considered a farm animal, then it's covered by our guidelines." However, Williams advises keeping the restriction as narrow as possible and only regulating what is currently a problem in the neighborhood.

Prior to the chickens, Vierow has had prior problems with her neighbors and the HOA. She says they have always had bad communication.

"The Vierows are passionate about their cause; you've got to give them that," Dowdy says, pointing out that Stapleton needs passionate people like them. "We value their opinion as a homeowner in Stapleton, but unfortunately, they're in the minority."

This issue is not over, according to Vierow. She plans to start door-to-door polling to build support. If there is an overwhelming support, the HOA will readdress the issue.

Experienced, personalized care for this extraordinary time in your life.

Pregnancy is a special time in your life. Our close-knit group of physicians specialize in obstetrics and gynecology. We each take time to meet you during your pregnancy, so you'll have a familiar face by your side when it comes time to deliver.

Ask for any of us by name when you call to schedule an appointment.

**Dr. Sarah Appleton • Dr. Jaime Arruda • Dr. Christine Conageski
Dr. Maryam Guiahi • Dr. Jennifer Holmes • Dr. Stephen Rotholz**

We have two locations to serve you:

- » University of Colorado Hospital, Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion
- » University Internal Medicine & Specialty Care, Lowry

720-848-4265



Get to Know Dr. Jennifer Holmes

Jennifer attended medical school at the University of Utah and trained at University of Colorado. Most recently, she was in private practice in Salt Lake City. She enjoys all aspects of obstetrical care, working closely with her patients throughout their pregnancy journey. A resident of Centennial, Jennifer enjoys spending her free time with her husband and two children.

Messiah Community Church, ELCA

**Fresh-cut Christmas Trees for sale at Messiah Church!
Nov. 23 through Dec. 22, Lots of sizes, freshest trees!**

**Dec. 14 & 15, Fair Trade Marketplace Great gift ideas!
Our annual sale of fairly-traded coffee, beads, handcrafts, olive oil, and more!**

**Dec. 22, Christmas Service in the German Language 5 pm
Okumenischer Weihnachtsgottesdienst. 17 Uhr. Hinterher Empfang im Foyer!**

**Dec. 24, Family Candlelight Services 5 and 7:30 pm
Reception following each service**

Dec. 29, Lessons and Carols 9:30 am

We are an inclusive, progressive church community



Sunday worship and Sunday School every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.



**1750 Colorado Blvd. Denver
Located in Park Hill/Stapleton
(across from Denver City Park/IMAX)
303-355-4471
www.messiahdenver.org**

KIMBERLY

Top Realtor®
Remarkable Results

www.AnotherJustSold.com

FREE home search here!

Austin



My gift to you...

List before March 1st
and receive
FREE STAGING

SOLD



ERA

ERA Herman Group
Real Estate

KIMBERLY
Austin

303.360.6400


Curious to know what your home is worth in 2014?

Call me to find out

2012 **HELPED** nearly 50 families buy/sell a home
\$18 million in sales

So far over \$20 million in sales
this year... (and we still have one month to go!)

ERA Herman Group Real Estate | 201 Columbine Street, #300 | Denver, CO 80206
Independently owned and operated. Terms and conditions apply to the free staging.



Why did voters crush Amendment 66?

And what lies ahead for school finance reform?

State Senator Michael Johnston explains Amendment 66 to voters before the election.

By Carol Roberts

State Senator Michael Johnston, a former educator, devoted the past few years of his life to finding a remedy for the inequities and inefficiencies in Colorado's school finance system. But voters were not on board for the tax hike needed to implement the reforms and voted down Amendment 66 by almost a two to one margin (65% to 35%). We asked Sen. Johnston what happened.

Johnston says they did a lot of polling and were up three or four points until "we had the government shutdown and then the Obamacare difficulties. We went through about three weeks where in every single news cycle the top stories were: government can't manage its own budget or government can't manage to put a website together and the stuff they tell you isn't true. We literally saw the floor drop out of our polling in those last 10 days as people just lost faith in government.

"People are skeptical of taxes in Colorado anyway. We knew there's never been a statewide tax to pass in Colorado history. Referendum C was the closest thing to pass and that wasn't even a tax increase, it was just a continuation of the current tax rate. We knew we had the deck stacked against us—but of all the things we tried to anticipate, we didn't anticipate running into a buzz saw of a national loss of faith in government."

"The frustrating part is the loss was so much larger than we thought. We raised more money than any statewide ballot in history. We had support of a popular governor, we had support of business leaders. We hit a lot of the benchmarks we wanted to hit and there was still a big defeat. What we're trying to

figure out is, 'How many of those problems can be solved and will it still be undoable?'

"We still have five more years to bring this to voters. But voters have made it clear they're not willing to support a tax increase of anywhere near this scale. What we have to do is figure out what we can do out of existing revenue. Are there ways we can start implementing pieces of this? Is there a way to build a five- to ten-year plan?

"There are still structural problems in the constitution, the overlapping mandates of Amendment 23 and Tabor and Gallagher, which means the state has our foot on the gas and the brake at the same time. We're at some point going to have to solve that. They (the structural problems in the constitution) are complicated and most people don't understand them, so that's something we have got to work on.

"Even the people I debated liked a lot of the policy in the proposal. They didn't say, 'I hate the idea of full day kindergarten or of transparency in spending or longer school days and school years for districts that want them.' It wasn't that they didn't like the policy, they just didn't like the tax. They'd say, 'Let's try to do this out of existing revenues.'

"The hard truth is there's still a scarcity problem—but we're going to try to do the best we can with the resources we have. What are the most important parts that will have the most impact the most quickly?" Johnston says he's hopeful that without the tax issue they can get bipartisan support for incremental changes.

Visit FrontPorchStapleton.com and search for "Gordian Knot" to better understand the structural problems in the state's constitution.

Available during cold and flu season with extended hours!



Noah Makovsky, MD
Brandon Davison-Tracy, MD
Amy Nash, MD
Richard Gustafson, MD
Megan Lederer, MD



Open Saturdays



2975 Roslyn Street, Unit 100
Denver, CO 80238

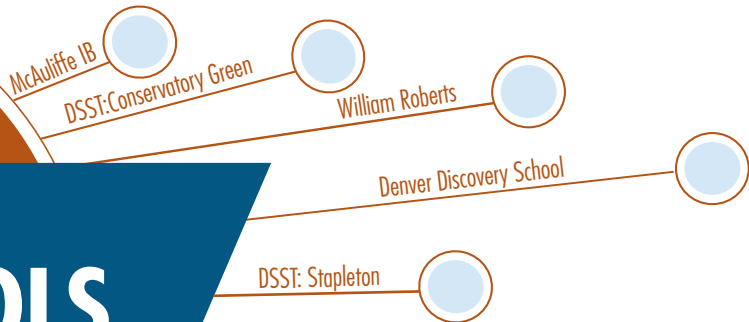


www.stapletonpeds.com

303-399-7900

FIVE SHARED-BOUNDARY MIDDLE SCHOOLS

For Park Hill & Stapleton



For the first time, Stapleton and Park Hill families will have equal priority for five middle schools, including two brand new schools. These schools are options as “choice” schools for families outside of the Stapleton/Park Hill boundary area.

The pages that follow provide the five principals’ responses to common parent questions, a brief summary

of the enrollment process, and interviews with the two new principals.

The five schools have many similarities: uniforms or dress code, college preparatory classes, competitive sports teams, service learning opportunities, after school programming, English Language Learner Services and PE. Our five-column chart on pages 18 and 19 will help families identify some of the differences. An extended version of this guide, including a map showing the schools’ locations and daily schedules, is online at FrontPorchStapleton.com.

The DPS transportation policy for the middle schools in the Greater Park Hill/Stapleton shared boundary for 2014-15 will be available in January 2014.

What do (will) you do to ease the transition from elementary to middle school?

Denver Discovery School—We have a 10-day, Discovery RECRUIT program: Ready for – Excellence by showing our kids how to be – Confident in being a – Remarkably – Upstanding and – Impressive – Team of sixth-graders. This will include how to organize ourselves, our lockers, our school materials, and our thoughts each morning to prepare for seven daily classes: four core and three electives. We will meet three times between February and August: to welcome our new Discoverers, to discuss transportation options and create bicycle co-ops, carpooling and bus transit options, and over the summer when we host a pool party and “survivor” game night.

DSST: Conservatory Green—We believe that a small, values-based community will help students succeed at each stage of their educational experience. DSST offers a highly supportive culture for all students, regardless of background. From their first day, students will have an advisor who they will meet with daily, and go to for academic and personal support. This advisory model will also allow students to meet and get to know their peers as friends and community members. Teachers and advisors will work closely with parents to ensure a positive transition to middle school.

DSST: Stapleton—Our advisory structure pairs a teacher with a small group of students. Advisories allow students to develop lasting friendships with members of the community and work closely with a staff member who becomes an advocate for their success. The advisor is in constant communication with parents. Above all, DSST is committed to developing well-rounded students in a positive (and fun!) environment.

McAuliffe IB—All sixth-graders attend a three-day orientation where they learn organization, time management, and study skills. Students receive support in managing the social and emotional challenges they sometimes experience when transitioning to middle school.

William Roberts offers a unique team-building experience at the beginning of 6th, 7th and 8th grade that develops strong relationships between students and staff. Our small class size supports our philosophy that social and emotional growth is essential in supporting the whole child.



Stefan McVoy,
DSST: Stapleton

How do (will) you deal with issues that go beyond what the teacher can handle in the classroom (homework, discipline, needs for extra personal support)?

Denver Discovery School—We will have a part-time counselor on staff to provide extra support socio-emotionally for our students. Our after-school “PREP” program is both punitive in holding students accountable to our dress code and academic excellence as well as supportive in that students will stay after school to be provided extra academic and organizational support. We will have a Special Educator, a Gifted and Talented itinerant teacher as well as a full-time Interventionist on staff to support our learners. No more than 45 minutes of homework will be given per evening and never to be a combination of more than one subject area at a time.

DSST: Conservatory Green—We will have high expectations for our students that will be met with a

high level of support from teachers and the community at large. Each day, students will meet with their advisory, a teacher and a small group of students, which is designed to keep students on track with their daily assignments and encourage social connections. Our dean will be working with students regularly to ensure that they have the necessary skills to be successful in the classroom. Our teachers are committed to supporting students before and after school with tutoring or extra support, to assist students in their personal development.

DSST: Stapleton has high expectations for all students, and those expectations are coupled with high support from the entire community. This support comes from the student’s advisory group, which is the front line for any academic or behavioral challenges a student might face. Teachers and administrators offer before- and after-school tutoring daily for all students, and genuinely spend time to get to know each student to ensure they have success at DSST.

McAuliffe IB—We have very high expectations and place a great deal of emphasis on systems and accountability for both students and staff. Positive relationships and a strong school culture allow us to deal with issues proactively when they arise.

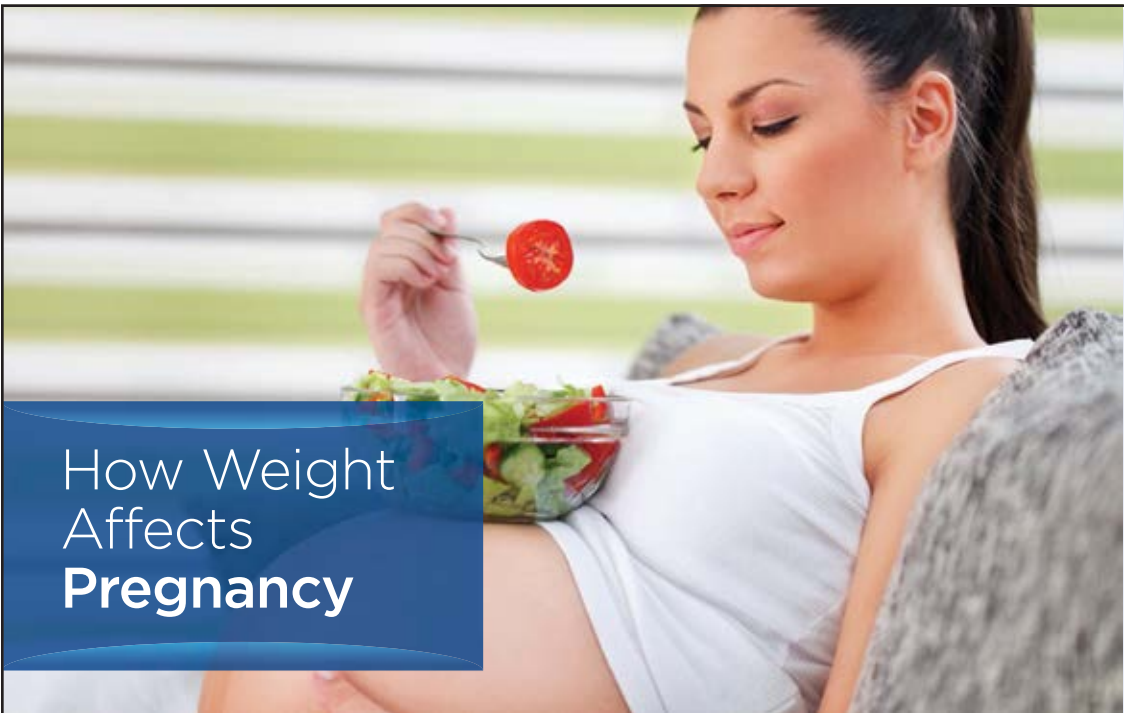


Kristen Atwood,
Denver Discovery
School

William Roberts—We provide numerous interventions and enrichment programs to support students’ needs. Homework clubs, leadership opportunities, and specialized instruction are unique to our upper grades.

What do (will) you do to accommodate students who move at a pace faster or slower than the group?

Denver Discovery School—In our professional development we will discuss *(continued on page 16)*



How Weight Affects Pregnancy



Stapleton OB-GYN

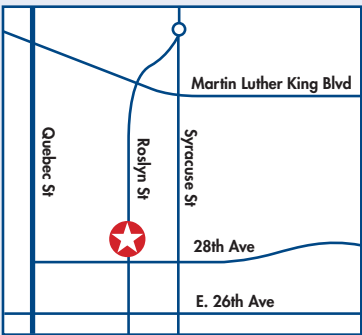
PHYSICIAN NETWORK



Valerie B. Ginsburg, MD, FACOG
Katie Rustici, MD
2807 Roslyn Street
(behind King Soopers)
www.stapletonobgyn.com
www.exempladoctors.org

Open Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If you would like to make an appointment with Dr. Ginsburg or Dr. Rustici, please call Stapleton OB-GYN at 303-403-6333.



Like us on Facebook

Congratulations, you’re pregnant! And now that you are, you can eat anything you want, right? Not so fast. While it is true that pregnancy is a time of weight gain and some weird food cravings, it doesn’t mean that it’s time for an anything goes diet.

It is an outdated misconception that pregnant women should be eating twice as much. In reality, growing a new baby uses up only an extra 300 to 350 calories a day. What is more important is consuming quality foods, those that are high in nutrients but low in calories.

Excessive weight gain during pregnancy can increase your risk of gestational diabetes, high blood pressure, and possibly needing a cesarean birth due to a large baby size.

Conversely, gaining too little weight during pregnancy is also of concern. It can lead to low-birth weight, premature delivery and potential chronic health problems for your baby.

So how much weight should you gain? Gaining between 20 and 25 pounds is typically a safe range during pregnancy, but this also depends on your pre-pregnancy weight. Discuss your appropriate weight gain with your doctor.

NEW HOURS

☆ OPEN 7AM-9PM | MON-FRI ☆
8AM-3PM | SAT & SUN



A CHEF INSPIRED SPIN ON AMERICAN CLASSICS

SERVING
**BREAKFAST,
LUNCH, DINNER, HAPPY HOUR
& BRUNCH**



BRUNCH DRINK SPECIALS

\$9.99 **\$3.00**
BOTTOMLESS MIMOSAS **AND** **BLOODY MARY'S**

4800 HAVANA ST. DENVER | 303.407.9040
GRUBBERYDENVER.COM | FACEBOOK.COM/GRUBBERYDENVER

**BY ONE TO ONE
BRUNCH FREE**

DINE IN ONLY, MUST PRESENT COUPON | EXP. 01.04.14

Guide to Middle Schools

(continued from page 15) strategies to ensure that we are tiering our lessons to address the varying levels of learners. Teachers are highly qualified in their contents and can focus solely on their one subject each day, allowing them to instruct students who need extra support or modified lessons or perhaps are ready for more accelerated lessons. Project-based learning allows students to work at their own cognitive capacity as they create, explore, debate, research and finally present their findings. Students can work in groups or individually during these opportunities.

DSST: Conservatory Green—We work hard to ensure that every student is challenged and constantly growing to reach their full potential. Our teachers differentiate their lessons every day to meet the individual needs and abilities of students, and push them to do their best. DSST: Conservatory Green will offer an advanced math track. While all middle school students will be on track to take calculus in high school, students in the advanced track will have an opportunity to take a second year of college-level math before graduating. DSST schools welcome students of all ability levels.

DSST: Stapleton—Every school in the DSST network has a growth mindset, meaning we work hard to ensure that every student is challenged and constantly growing to reach their full potential. At DSST: Stapleton Middle School, teachers differentiate their lessons daily to meet the individual needs and abilities of every student and push them to do their best. The technology DSST uses in the classroom allows teachers to provide extra support to students who need it, and additional challenges to students who excel.

McAuliffe IB—In mathematics, students are grouped based on their level of mastery. In all other courses, teachers differentiate their instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Students below grade level in literacy or math receive additional support through intervention courses.

William Roberts—Teachers differentiate their instructions so that all children can be challenged or supported. If a child is identified as GT, learning plans give teachers guidance to support those needs. Interventionists are available in math, reading and writing to support middle school students.

What is (will be) special about your school that makes it a place where kids learn, grow and thrive?

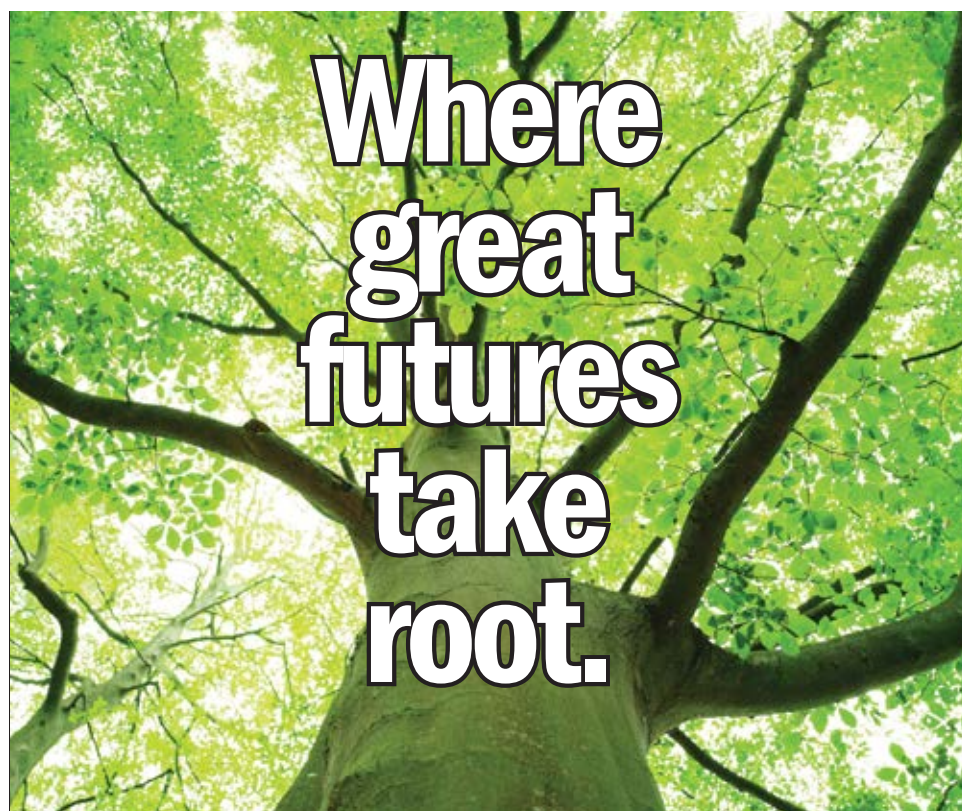


John Clark, DSST: Conservatory Green

Denver Discovery School—We celebrate the individual. From 8am during our student-led morning meeting that is musical, celebratory and positive to our small classrooms—no more than 27 students per class—and our service learning education opportunities that speak to the heart in each and every one of us, we value and celebrate the inner child and developing leader each and every day.

DSST: Conservatory Green will have an authentic literacy experience. Our school will first build a culture of reading, where students are encouraged to enjoy books, and are given time each day to focus on literacy. In conjunction, students will also be taught literacy skills, which include rigorous text-dependent analysis and questioning. As a STEM school, we will focus on computer programming. Currently, in the United States only 10 percent of our schools focus on computer science, leaving up to 1 million jobs vacant each year. We will give students access to the skills they need to develop as computer programmers.

DSST: Stapleton—As a science, technology, engineering and math school (STEM), DSST: Stapleton Middle School has a focus on creative engineering and a unique partnership with the University of Colorado Boulder and Lockheed Martin. While DSST is a successful STEM school, we are also dedicated to providing a strong liberal arts education. Writing, reading, and social studies are subjects that students attend every day, along with math and science.



Venture Prep is a Denver charter high school with a lofty goal— to ensure that each and every student succeeds academically, develops character, and leaves with a college-bound or career-driven mindset.

Join us at one of our open house events starting at 5:00 pm at the Venture Prep school. We're enrolling students NOW for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

- December 11th
- January 15th

Call us at 303-893-0805 for more information.



Expect more from yourself...
expect more from your education.

2540 Holly St, Denver, CO 80207
www.ventureprep.org





McAuliffe IB—The “extras” are what set McAuliffe apart. In addition to field trips, outdoor education, community service and enrichments, McAuliffe has the most robust offering of course electives and athletics of any middle school in DPS.

William Roberts—Our small environment allows teachers to know kids and families on an individual level. We focus on cognitive thinking strategies to promote deeper level thinking. Students are encouraged and expected to be able to explain their thinking. Our educators share a common belief in teaching the whole child; supporting children academically, socially, and emotionally.

Are there areas in which you expect change in the future?

Denver Discovery School—We are waiving two DPS curricular programs: math and science. In their place, we will adopt Singapore Math and Foss Science. Foss Science offers our students an inquiry-based approach to scientific learning that stimulates inquiry and curiosity. The FOSS proposition is that students learn science best by doing science. By the second year of Denver Discovery School, we expect to add a “Robotics” program. Otherwise, our startup funds will allow for a robust elective program offering music, art, PE and Spanish.

DSST: Conservatory Green—The biggest change we will see going forward will be the addition of a seventh grade in 2015, eighth grade in 2016, and a high school after that. While we are always adapting and changing practices based on what is best for our students, there will not be any large systematic or programmatic changes that we can foresee in the future.

DSST: Stapleton—DSST Public Schools is always adapting and changing practices based on best practices, and what will help stu-

dents grow in the classroom. At this time, we do not foresee any large systematic or programmatic changes.

McAuliffe IB—The move to the Smiley Campus in 2014 allows McAuliffe to continue to grow and meet student demand. Smiley’s 630-seat auditorium, two gyms, historic library and 19 acres of playing fields will better meet the needs of our diverse programming and allow us to expand our offerings.

William Roberts—We are working together with the Strategic School Design office to explore possible opportunities for changes in the near future to make better use of money, time and people.

What is your philosophy on teaching your curriculum? What is the balance of teacher-directed and student-directed learning, project-based learning, or other approaches?

Denver Discovery School—My philosophy of education is rigor, routine and relevance. Connections between what is real world and what is abstract must continuously be bridged for our kids in order for deep metacognition to solidify. Learning should be 70 percent student centered—once teachers directly instruct between 15–20 minutes per lesson, the rest is facilitation of the learning. Project-based learning allows our students to show what they know in a constructivist fashion.

DSST: Conservatory Green—At DSST, we do not use textbooks or workbooks to drive instruction. Instead, our teachers will use common core or school-based standards to design their curriculum. While we hold teachers accountable for teaching those standards, we also believe they need freedom in order to meet students where they are on their educational path and push them as necessary. We believe that learning should be student-centered, meaning that students should constantly work in ways that require exploration and inquiry with a teacher as their guide.



Kurt Dennis, McAuliffe

DSST: Stapleton—We allow our teachers to drive instruction and they work together closely to share best practices; always exploring new ways to bring lesson plans to life in the classroom. Our teachers use school-based standards as a guide for content and skills-based instruction, rather than prescriptive off-the-shelf curriculum. This approach allows DSST to differentiate lessons in order to challenge students at all levels.

McAuliffe IB—Students learn by doing. The majority of the learning at McAuliffe is student centered, but facilitated by the teacher. Teachers use interactive technology to supplement their



Patricia Lea, William Roberts

curriculum and to individualize the scope and pace of student learning.

William Roberts—We use several curriculums and instructional approaches to support different learning styles for students. If you were to visit a M.S. classroom, you would observe environments and instruction that support teacher facilitated learning.

Tell us about yourself.

Denver Discovery School, Kristen Atwood—I am pleased to announce that this will be my 18th year working in Denver Public Schools. I have two young children, Willem and Ella, a husband who is one of the most creative and talented individuals I know, and a new foster dog, Earnest, who continuously brings true laughter to our children daily. I love hosting gatherings of family and friends and watching new connections formed.

DSST: Conservatory Green, John Clark—I graduated from the University of Notre Dame where I earned a BA in English and a MA in education. For two years, I worked for the Alliance for Catholic Education, which serves under-resourced parochial schools in Denver. I joined DSST: Stapleton Middle School in 2010 and taught eighth-grade English for two years. This year, I was one of three people selected to the first cohort of Associate School Directors at DSST. This role has been instrumental in providing leadership in instructional support, school culture and parent outreach. I have been married to my wife, Megan (who is currently a law school student), for three years. In my free time I enjoy reading, skiing, the outdoors, and watching Notre Dame football.

DSST: Stapleton, Stefan McVoy—I taught middle-school science for seven years; one year at Kent Denver, three years at KIPP, and three years at DSST. This will be my third year as director at DSST: Stapleton MS. I love to be outside and travel. Mountain biking, snowboarding and skiing are some of my interests outside of academics.

McAuliffe, Kurt Dennis—My wife, two daughters and I have lived in Stapleton for more than 10 years. She works at Swigert and the girls go to school there. We enjoy commuting on our bikes together when the weather allows. I speak Spanish and taught English as a second language for eight years before becoming a principal.

William Roberts, Patricia Lea—I have been an administrator in DPS for the past ten years. I taught in Douglas County and also was an assistant principal. I attended college on an athletic scholarship. Still today, health, fitness and living a healthy lifestyle is a priority for me. I love being outdoors, enjoying the Colorado outdoors although my heart has a strong connection to the ocean.

What's the right size?



Kids are more than mini adults.
Their growing bones need special attention. Our **board-certified pediatric orthopedists** are experts in treating everything from common sports injuries to complex orthopedic conditions. And because we **tailor care** specific to each child's age, needs and size, it's just the right size.

www.RockyMountainHospitalForChildren.com

Rocky Mountain Pediatric Orthopedics
A program of Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children
19th Ave & High St | 303.861.2663



**Rocky Mountain
HOSPITAL for CHILDREN**
At Presbyterian/St. Luke's



Parent Comments:

Denver Discovery School—I argued at every middle school meeting last year for additional rigorous, comprehensive liberal arts focused programming, and Mrs. Atwood has developed just that. Through project-based themes, inquiring-based science and student interest-based electives, she has done a brilliant job at pulling together a curriculum that focuses on making middle school education both relevant and engaging all while adhering to the core state standards. My son is very enticed by the small community, the neighborhood location and of course the possibility of having a mind craft programming elective. —*Renee Allen*

DSST: Conservatory Green—The vibe seems to be that people are thrilled to have a high-quality middle school within walking distance. There are some who are a bit concerned about the approach, but they won't argue with the success of the model. My daughter is intrigued by the paycheck reward system and can't wait to spend her "money" in the school store. —*Chris Englert*

DSST:Stapleton—The teachers and staff at DSST are positive, encouraging, enthusiastic, and have high expectations of the

students' academics and behavior. The students really respond to that and rise to the challenge. The six core values are at the center of what the school is teaching. DSST teaches how to excel at being a student, something required to learn how to learn. What DSST is teaching them will help them in higher education and all aspects of their lives. —*Jean Johnson*

McAuliffe IB—The "vibe" at McAuliffe International School (MIS) is energetic and engaged. The students work hard and play hard. For the work, students are motivated to grow and push their limits. For play, whether it's sports, music, drama, community service, foreign language, and other enrichments, there are opportunities for the students to explore what appeals to them. —*Karla Rehbring*

William Roberts—The vibe at the school is one of excitement, commitment, and endurance!!!! We are building a community that fosters the whole child. We believe that academics are important but the social emotional development is important as well. My kids love the teachers at Bill Roberts. They care and appreciate each student for who and what they are. —*Ginny Creighton*

Five Shared-Boundary Middle Schools



School name/contact info	DSST:Conservatory Green 8499 E. Stoll Place 303.524.6398 http://dsstpublicschools.org
Principal	John Clark
Type	Charter
Grades in 2014	6 (adding a grade each year until 6-8)
Estimated Enrollment in 2014	150 (full enrollment will be 450)
Music	TBD
Arts	yes
Foreign Language	Spanish begins in 9th grade
Tutoring	yes
STEM focus	yes
Project-based learning	no
Focus on values	6 Core values-responsibility, respect, curiosity, courage, integrity and doing your best
SPF overall	new
Academic growth	new
2013 TCAP Overall	new
Free or reduced lunch	50%
Diversity	new
School day/school year	8 am - 4 pm; Closely follows DPS calendar
Homework per night	1 hour
Avg # of kids per class	25 – 28
Technology	Computer programming
Engineering	Computer programming
Math	yes

Choice Enrollment Overview

- Sign up for an online account at your child's school or at <https://myportal.dpsk12.org/Pages/Default.aspx>
- Allow 5-7 days to create your account. A student ID# and email address are required.
- Research schools and choose your top five. (Families in shared boundary schools need to list all five schools in order of preference. Families with only one neighborhood boundary school—Hill Middle School for Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, East Colfax—can choose to list only their neighborhood school and omit the other choices, if desired.)
- Submit your choice form at any DPS school or online between Dec. 16 and Jan. 31 at 4pm. If you don't receive an online confirmation please contact the Choice & Enrollment Office at 720.423.3493. If you turn in a paper form, ask for a date-stamped copy.
- You will receive a letter with school placement approximately March 1.



Every homeless pet
deserves a
second chance...

and second chances
start with YOU.

Please donate today
ddfl.org/give



2080 S. QUEBEC ST., DENVER | 4556 CASTLETON COURT, CASTLE ROCK | 5540 E. HWY. 86, FRANKTOWN | 303.751.5772 | DDFL.ORG



DSST:Stapleton Middle School 2000 Valentia St 303.320.5570 www.dsstpublicschools.org	Denver Discovery School 3480 Syracuse St (720) 424-4840 Denverdiscoveryschool.dpsk12.org	McAuliffe IB 2540 Holly St. (720) 424-4790 http://mcauliffe.dpsk12.org	William Roberts 2100 Akron Way (720) 424-2640 http://billroberts.dpsk12.org
Stefan McVoy	Kristen Atwood	Kurt Dennis	Patricia Lea
Charter	Pursuing innovation status	Innovation	Pursuing Strategic School Design status to make better use of money, time and people
grades 6 to 8	6 (adding a grade each year until 6-8)	grades 6 to 8	grades 6 to 8
450	100 (full enrollment will be 300)	630 to 720	145 Middle School (834 total school)
no	Yes, only string instruments	Choir, band, orchestra	yes
Film, visual arts	yes	Art, drama	Art, drama, music, technology
Spanish begins in 9th grade	Spanish	Mandarin for fluents, French, Spanish	Spanish
yes	yes	no	yes
Yes, STEM, engineering emphasis with CU school of engineering and Lockheed Martin	no	Liberal Arts	no
no	yes	no	yes
6 Core values-responsibility, respect, curiosity, courage, integrity and doing your best	yes	IB Character Education	PROUD-prepared, respect, outstanding effort, united community and determined
Distinguished - 82%	new	Distinguished - 95%	74% for middle school
77%	new	91%	70%+
80%	new	90%	67%
49%	new	25%	33%
34% Latino, 34% White, 21% African American, 4% Asian	new	37%	24%
8 am - 4 pm; Closely follows DPS calendar	8:00am-3:55pm;Traditional DPS calendar	8:00am-4:00pm; Aug. 11 - June 5	8:10am-3:15pm;Traditional DPS calendar
1 hour	No more than 30-45 minutes/night	minimal	60-90 minutes
25 – 28	25-28	30	25-28
yes	yes	Project Lead the Way	yes
yes	Yes - starting 2015-2016	Project Lead the Way	yes- Robotics
yes	Singapore Math	Singapore Math	Connected Math



Get Covered!

Health insurance is now required (by law) for everyone with few exceptions!

Assistance is available for you to “Get Covered!”

Connect for Health Colorado is a new marketplace to shop for affordable insurance for you and your family. It’s the only place where you can determine if you qualify to receive financial assistance.

Call 303-468-3228 or email getcovered@stapletonfoundation.org to schedule your one-on-one appointment. Or, visit or call one of the **be well** Centers listed below.

Hiawatha Davis Rec Ctr.
3334 Holly St.
Denver, CO 80207
720-317-3753
M: 4-8pm
W: 12-8pm
Sat: 10am-1pm

Central Park Rec Ctr.
9651 E. MLK Blvd.
Denver, CO 80238
720-317-3802
M: 12-8pm
W: 4-8pm
Sat: 10am-1pm

Moorhead Rec Ctr.
2390 Havana St.
Aurora, CO 80010
720-987-5592
Tues: 2-6pm
Thurs: 11am-6pm
Sat: 12-4pm

Speak with your be well Health Coverage Guide at your neighborhood be well Center.

To learn more about Connect for Health Colorado, please visit www.ConnectForHealthCO.com or www.bewellconnect.org.



Conseguir cobertura

Ahora se requiere un seguro de salud (por ley) para todo el mundo con pocas excepciones!

La ayuda está disponible para que usted pueda **"Conseguir cobertura!"**

Connect for Health Colorado es un nuevo mercado para comprar un seguro asequible para usted y su familia. Es el único lugar donde se puede determinar si usted califica para recibir ayuda financiera

Llame al 303-468-3228 o mande correo electrónico a getcovered@stapletonfoundation.org para programar su uno-a-una cita o visite o llame a uno de los Centros de be well que se enumeran a continuación.

Hiawatha Davis Rec Ctr.
3334 Holly St.
Denver, CO 80207
720-317-3753
M: 4-8pm
W: 12-8pm
Sat: 10am-1pm

Central Park Rec Ctr.
9651 E. MLK Blvd.
Denver, CO 80238
720-317-3802
M: 12-8pm
W: 4-8pm
Sat: 10am-1pm

Moorhead Rec Ctr.
2390 Havana St.
Aurora, CO 80010
Hablo espanol
720-987-5592
Tues: 2-6pm
Thurs: 11am-6pm
Sat: 12-4pm

Hable con su Guía de be well de Cobertura de Salud y en su be well centro de recreo.

Para obtener más información acerca de Connect for Health Colorado, por favor visite www.ConnectforHealthCO.com o www.bewellconnect.org

What to Expect at the Two New Stapleton/Park Hill Middle Schools

By Courtney Drake-McDonough

As current fifth-graders contemplate, with mixed feelings, their move to middle school next year, two new principals are spending the year creating new schools, making daily decisions about curriculum, staff, rules and the very culture of the schools they will open next year. In the absence of a physical building to walk into and tour, Kristen Atwood, of the Denver Discovery School, and John Clark, of DSST: Conservatory Green, give a sense of what life will be like in their new schools.

Denver Discovery School

In this year of school planning, Principal Kristen Atwood is driven by being a mother of two young children who approach the world and learning in very different ways. She says that every time she adds an element into the development of the school, or interviews a teacher, she thinks about the variety of children she will have in the Denver Discovery School (DDS).

Atwood stresses that DDS will be a place where “identities will be formed and celebrated and where the true inner child is able to be heard.” She feels the relatively small size of the school will facilitate that. As an example, Atwood paints the picture of morning meetings, which will be student lead and driven. “Kids will be playing African drums, singing the school chant as everyone walks in. Four students will stand up and acknowledge their peers based on the character values they witnessed in the previous day or week in the school. So it’s really about finding ourselves and developing ourselves as leaders and having opportunities to shine,” she explains.

Strong Academics

Each student’s experience in the classroom will consist of a blend of enrichment classes and 60- minute core classes. During the core classes, Atwood says students will be fully engaged with 100 percent involvement in the classroom. Students of every level will be addressed during portions of class time where there will be opportunities to work individually, in groups and with the teacher when a little extra instruction is needed.

Creating a Love of Learning

Throughout the school year, students will have the opportunity to meet professionals currently doing what the kids are learning in school to help make the connection between school and life.



Kristen Atwood, principal of Denver Discovery School

Atwood feels kids are engaged when you “talk to them in their interest areas and show them this could be their gift one day. So you bring people in and fill kids’ minds with these ideas around those different topics.

Atwood also feels students will enjoy learning when they are given the structure and predictability she feels they crave while enabling them to see teachers and fellow students happy and excited about school. The school day schedule, as well, balances opportunities to express creativity, work hard, and get exercise, all things that Atwood says activate different parts of middle-schoolers’ brains.

The Right Student for the School

With three opportunities for project-based learning during the school year, Atwood says projects are a relatively small part of their curriculum. “At the end of the day, it’s really a traditional middle school that offers thematic units and culminating projects that require critical-thinking skills, problem solving and the opportunity to work collaboratively. Any child would blossom here!” She adds that students will be challenged and the curriculum will adhere to college preparatory standards. Supports will be in place for children who are struggling. “What sets us apart is that students will have the time in their day to be leaders through morning meetings, advisory, service learning and just being in a small school,” says Atwood. “It’s going to be a tightknit group.”

Denver School of Science and Technology: Conservatory Green

DSST: Conservatory Green, led by Principal John Clark, will be the newest addition to the Denver School of Science and Technology “network.” There are variations between each school that give them their own personality, including a specific focus within the STEM curriculum. Conservatory Green’s focus will be on computer programming. However, Clark wants to provide a well-rounded education “that allows (students) to invest in different avenues in the world because the world is a more global place and it’s more important that we know a variety of things and not just one set of skills.”

“We believe that whatever you want to do with your life, wherever you want to go, that if you have confidence, if you have values at the heart of it all, you can be successful,” he says. That said, Clark says it will be “a relationship school” with students, families and the community. “That relationship is what will hold (everyone) accountable to learning so that both students

and families feel confident that their child is getting an excellent education. DSST’s core belief is that we want to help you contribute and affirm what you’re doing,” says Clark.

Strong Academics

Like its sister schools, DSST: Conservatory Green will be college preparatory with what the school considers to be brain-based learning. Clark says “we believe kids learn best when they do hands-on investigation in science or applying real concepts through math problems. It’s about putting that problem in context. If you give kids essential questions that are challenging, they’ll have to use the knowledge they’ve been given to figure it out. It’s about how do you go deep with your knowledge to solve problems.”

Creating a Love of Learning

To engage students, Clark says teachers will always be open and honest with them about why the things they are learning are important. “I think we do a great job of teaching our staff it’s as much about the ‘why’ as the ‘what.’” Students will be encouraged to connect what they are learning with future careers by connecting with a yet-to-be-determined local university based in computer programming and by bringing in members of the community to speak.

The Right Student for the School

The DSST schools have the reputation of being challenging both academically and in terms of rules. However, Clark feels the

school will be a good fit for any student, regardless of their academic level. “We don’t teach to a set curriculum that we live and die by,” says Clark. “We meet kids where they are to help them reach the standards they need to meet to succeed.” He cites opportunities to work with teachers on a voluntary or mandatory basis as an example. “Every kid can learn at our school and every kid can succeed.”

Rules such as no talking in the hallways between classes and a required uniform are an adjustment for kids and parents at first. Clark defends the concepts saying that silent hallways give the teachers and students time to get ready for class without the distraction of “gossiping and note-passing where the cruel behaviors can happen.” And he feels uniforms help both the students

and teachers focus on what’s going on in the classroom. “It’s easier for kids. It’s one less thing for them to worry about, and it’s a great equalizer.”



John Clark, principal of DSST: Conservatory Green

CAROLS

Special Christmas Series
Beginning December 1st

Stapleton Fellowship Church
www.StapletonChurch.com
8700 E. 21st Ave. Denver, CO Sunday 9:00 & 10:45 AM. Tuesday 6:30 PM.

Christmas Eve Services
December 24, 2013
4:00 & 5:30 pm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

BEST WISHES TO ALL
FRONT PORCH READERS FOR
A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Blue Sky **PLUMBING & HEATING**
AIR CONDITIONING & DRAIN CLEANING

303-421-2161
BLUESKYPLUMBING.COM

Happy Holidays from Jesse Lanyon,
4th Generation Owner
Blue Sky Plumbing and Heating

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER BBB A+ RATED

New Swigert Principal Weighs in on the Changing Landscape of Education

By Laurie Dunklee

Newly appointed principal of Swigert International School Liz TenCate is upbeat about the changing landscape of education and shared her thoughts on some of the issues facing educators today.

Swigert International School, located at 35th and Syracuse St., serves 600 students, from early childhood education through fourth grade. TenCate has been an educator since 2000 and at Swigert since 2011. She replaces retiring Principal Charles Raisch.

TenCate believes the Colorado teacher bill (Senate Bill 191) is a positive step for the Denver Public Schools. Passed in 2010 and implemented this school year, the bill specifies expectations for teachers and requires annual teacher evaluations.

“The new system provides a much clearer way to look at instructional practice,” TenCate said. “It’s about providing the very best for our students.”

The bill calls for basing 50 percent of teachers’ and principals’ performance on supervisor reviews and the other half on student growth on standardized tests and other measures. It also changes the way teachers achieve tenure.

“The old evaluation system was loose, not defined,” TenCate said. “The district spent lots of time and thought to create the Denver Public Schools framework for effective teaching. It supports teachers and administrators who want to grow kids. It provides for professional development, including visiting other classrooms to observe exemplary teachers. The process emphasizes individual teacher strengths that teachers can develop on their own.”

She said the student evaluation piece is being refined and will be most effective once standard data is available for multiple years. “It’s important to look at student growth over time: where they came in and at what level they leave,” TenCate said. “It’s a complex process but DPS is leading the way.”

Like many Denver Public Schools, Swigert

shares its building. Middle school McAuliffe International School shares the space until the end of this school year; beginning next year Denver Discovery School, another middle school, will move in.

Growing schools system-wide find sharing buildings a challenge. But the arrangement can have real advantages too, said TenCate. “It’s a real benefit having a middle school partner because the older kids can mentor and be models for the younger ones,” she said. “Sharing space can be difficult but we work together to make sure kids feel safe and happy. The potential to build relationships between schools is exciting.”

TenCate came to Swigert in 2011 as International Baccalaureate (IB) coordinator and assistant principal. IB for elementary schools, called the Primary Years Program, helps students develop the intellectual, personal and social skills to live in a rapidly globalizing world.

“High school IB programs have a specific curriculum; in elementary schools it’s not a curriculum but a philosophy and approach that is dovetailed with the Denver Public Schools curriculum,” she said.

“IB builds on student interest around universal big ideas and it encourages the inquiry process,” TenCate said. “For example, fourth graders studying Colorado history learn about Mesa Verde, then take it deeper as an inquiry project. They might investigate how the people there in ancient times created such a sophisticated civilization—or why they left their home behind.

“The purpose of IB is to engage kids and excite them about the world around them. Kids are so amazingly capable.” Swigert is working toward full IB accreditation by next fall.

TenCate said the character education aspect of IB is having a positive impact at Swigert. “Character education includes learning about attitudes like perseverance, creativity and empathy. Our kids are making connections to abstract attributes; they have a vocabulary around what good behavior looks like.”

TenCate’s plans include developing an instructional model that effectively blends DPS standards and IB philosophy. She also intends to focus on developing community and being visible to students, parents and the administration. Growing teachers is a priority too.

“Our school is growing quickly and I want to grow our team to be the best,” she said.



Liz TenCate, new principal at Swigert Elementary







Ranch Patio Homes



Take a Virtual Tour at...
STAPLETONPATIOHOMES.COM
 from the high 400s
720.863.6850



8103 E. 49th Pl.
 Denver, 80238

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL
 NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

THE SHOPS
 AT
 NORTHFIELD STAPLETON

QUEBEC ST
 E 49TH PL
 NORTHFIELD BLVD
 CENTRAL PARK BLVD

270
 70

N
 MAP NOT TO SCALE

BY BOULDER CREEK NEIGHBORHOODS

ONE HOUR FREE!

Open days, nights, & LATE on weekends!

- Hourly Care in a Licensed Setting
- Drop-In Anytime • Low Hourly Rates
- Ages 1-13



Santa Visit
 Fri, Dec. 6, 7-7:30pm

303-825-1466
 13th and Krameria
 in the King Soopers Plaza
www.kidstowncenters.com





Meet The Kids

Oddball, endearing and quirky answers to life's questions

Each month *Front Porch* writer Madeline Schroeder will visit one neighborhood elementary or middle school and chat with a group of kids from the same grade. She will rotate schools, talking to a different age group each time. Their best thoughts will be listed in this column. This month's chat was about best

friends with four Isabella Bird students with very different personalities—chatty, shy, energetic and funny. If you are a principal or teacher interested in being a part of "Meet The Kids" please email madeline@frontporchstapleton.com.



Scarlett Fugazy, 5
I help people see smiley faces. I like to see my friends happy so I help them be happy.
What else makes a best friend is you like them. You have to like them.
If I had a robot best friend she would bring me drinks and snacks and play with me. It would talk like a human and look like me.



Sloan Nelson, 5
I have too many friends to list.
I tell my friends jokes like knock knock. Who's there? Banana. Banana who? Orange.
My robot best friend would love to color because I love to color. It could talk like any voice and be pink, purple, white and red. It would be made of clay.

Jacob Howe, 5
Sisters are not BFFs. They're the evilest enemies you can ever think of. I'll crush them! She likes pushing me off the couch. I think it's funny because I always land on a pillow attached to my wall.



L to R: Jacob Howe and Rocco Biviano.

Rocco Biviano, 7
Rocco starts by saying the correct term is "BFF."

I met my best friend at 15 months. We didn't talk. We just wrestled.
If my friend's upset we could go to a quiet place and talk, and sing when we're done.
I'd like 50 friends a day, actually three.
My robot best friend would cook for me and give me a bath and stop my mom from making me go to bed every night.

My robot best friend would be a double-headed robot. It's probotic so it has four eyes and can see anything it wants.
When you fall down, a best friend helps you up.

"O star of wonder,
star of light,
star with royal
beauty bright,
westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to thy
perfect light."

**FOLLOW THE STAR
to PARK HILL UMC
This Christmas**

Sunday Worship Services - 8:45am and 11:00am
Swingin' into Christmas Festival - Dec 15th 6:00pm
"The Grumpy Shepherd" Children's Cantata - Dec 22nd
8:45am and 11:00am

Christmas Eve Family Service - Dec 24 5:30pm
~every child will have a part in the service
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - Dec 24 8:00pm

Christmas Homecoming Service - Dec 29th 10:00am
~lunch for youth alumni

PARK HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5209 MONTVIEW BLVD, 80207 • WWW.PHUMC.ORG • 303-322-1867

\$300 OFF Any New Golf Car in Stock till 12/31/13!
Special gifts & accessories for stocking stuffers too!

RENTALS — for big and small events
SALES — New, Used, Custom, and Accessories
SERVICE AND PARTS — All makes & models

GTI GOLF CARS **EZGO**
A Textron Company

5301 Quebec St, Commerce City, 80022
303-288-1979 • www.golfcarsales.com

**FRAMES TO FIT YOUR
LIFESTYLE, BUDGET
AND OPTIC NEEDS**

Locally owned and not a large national chain, Stapleton Family Optical leads the Denver metro area in fitting personalized eye wear for the entire family. Kids are a special interest of ours - let us help your child preserve their visual development, supporting their buy in for eye wear that's comfortable and fun to wear.

2373 Central Park Blvd, Ste 102
Denver, CO 80238
303-597-1640
www.stapletonfamilyeyecenter.com

**STAPLETON
FAMILY OPTICAL**

Wrap these Homes Up for the Holidays
from Wolfe & Epperson

2600 Curtis St
\$209,500
1/2 Duplex Condo Just Steps from Heart of Downtown*1 Bed*4 Piece Bath*Exposed Brick Walls*Hardwoods*Fireplace* Outdoor Deck*In-Unit Laundry* Great Location with Walk Score of 83 and Bike Score of 98*

2005 S Monroe St
\$499,950 - New Price
Sleek, Contemporary Ranch in DU/University Park*4 Beds*3 Baths*Hardwoods*Vaulted Ceilings*Open Kitchen w/ Stainless Appliances & Granite*Easy Access to DU, Cherry Creek, I-25, & Light Rail

8896 E 35th Ave
Under Contract
Stunning Custom Infinity*4 Beds*4 Baths*Master Suite Oasis*Gourmet Kitchen*Fin Basement w/ Bar*Private Deck w/ Fireplace Perfect for Entertaining*Fantastic Location w/ Adjacent Pocket Park in Central Park North

2050 Rosemary St
\$262,500
Sale Pending

2959 Emporia Ct
\$539,900
Under Contract

2769 Wabash St
\$447,500
SOLD

2972 Joliet St
Buyer Representative
SOLD

**Thank You for Your Business and Referrals
WE Wish You a Wonderful Holiday Season!**

Selling Stapleton since take-off!
Judy Wolfe & Jay Epperson
303.886.6606 | www.wolfe-epperson.com



New Brewery Fires Up

Owner Justin Baccary (left) and Head Brewmaster Wayne Waananen (right) pause for a photo during their first ever brew at Station Twenty Six Brewing Co., a brewery in north Park Hill that will open December 14. Housed in an old firehouse, Baccary says, “We have a cool space. People will be excited to drink here.”

By Madeline Schroeder

Justin Baccary was all smiles on a recent Friday morning as he walked between humming equipment. “We’re making beer!” he cheered, almost skipping. His energy was magnetic. Guys on ladders with paintbrushes cheered. Even Wayne Waananen, head brewmaster with just the right amount of crustiness, surrendered a smile.

After more than a year of preparing, Baccary is opening Station Twenty Six Brewing Co. in north Park Hill. “It’s a little surreal,” he says. They plan to open Dec. 14.

A New Jersey native, Baccary moved to Denver for a finance job in 2007 and started home brewing. Quickly he realized his passion was not finance, and he got a job brewing at Breweria in Aurora. After a couple of years, he decided to start his own brewery and connected with Wayne Waananen, who has won awards at the Great American Beer Festival and helped start the Sandlot Brewery at Coors Field.

While choosing the location, he hunted for an area in Denver that doesn’t have a brewery. “I mapped out all the breweries in town, and Park Hill and Stapleton was one big hole.”

“It’s been a long process from finding the space to raising the money to ordering the equipment. And now we’re brewing,” he says with another smile.

Among nine other beers that will be on tap opening day, their first brew this particular day was Cherry Wood Smoked Amber Ale. Their goal is a variety of beers for every taste—easy-to-drink, hoppy, dark with coffee flavors, and more. “Just good beer. We don’t adhere to a strict box.”

They will brew twice a week and rotate beers on tap every week, often creating variations from already existing brews.

The brewery will not offer food, but people can bring their own, order delivery or

buy from the food trucks that will park out front daily. While enjoying their beer, people will also be able to watch the brew process. Only a bar top separates the pub area from the brewing equipment.



A few weeks before opening, the brewery is abuzz with preparation. After cleaning fermenter tanks, a worker ducks back into the main brewing area. The beer sits in the tanks for one to two weeks and is then transferred to serving tanks for people to enjoy.

“We think it’s cool we’re making beer only 15 feet away. We didn’t want to hide it. It’s sort of an integral part of the space,” he says.

In fact, the space is unique in many ways.

Firefighters vacated the firehouse in 2006. Starting in 2009, artists Ceri Jones Salahadyn and Khabir Salahadyn worked for a year to renovate the firehouse to operate their art and functional metalworks business called “The Collaboratory.” Their renovation included adding a code-required sprinkler system. They lived upstairs, where the firefighters slept, and used the downstairs as their workshop and retail area. Ceri and Khabir collaborated with Swigert principal Chuck Raisch and the school’s landscape architect to build a one-of-a-kind sunshade for the Swigert playground that illuminates the patterns of the constellations. The Salahadyns left the building when Khabir was diagnosed with liver cancer in 2012.

Baccary was thrilled to find the space and says it’s well suited for a brewery. Big

overhead doors made for firetrucks allow easy access for bringing in equipment. Thirteen-foot ceilings give plenty of space for big brewing tanks. The firehouse already has sloped floors and drains originally used to wash firetrucks, which otherwise would have been an expensive addition.

Upstairs, Baccary uses the firefighter dorms as office and storage space, where he predicts he will also sleep some nights.

Although built more than 40 years ago, the space has an edgy feel you may find in the Highlands, where Baccary lives. Stainless steel tanks combined with yellow tiles and red brick are not the typical bar atmosphere. During the summer they will open the overhead doors.

“We have a cool space. People will be excited to drink here.”

Station Twenty Six Brewing Co. opens December 14. It’s located at 7045 E. 38th



Top to bottom, the beginning steps of brewing: Justin Baccary slowly pours kernels into the mill that grinds and transfers them to the mash tun, a large steel pot; using a wood mash paddle, Wayne Waananen stirs the grains, which sit in the mash tun for one hour at about 150 degrees; the two occasionally check grains. After an hour, the liquid is pumped into the boil kettle where hops are added, and leftover or “spent grain” is given to farmers.

Ave. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/S26BC?ref=br_tf.

PERSONAL INJURY LAW FIRM



**AUTO ACCIDENTS
CATASTROPHIC INJURY
WRONGFUL DEATH**

ZH | ZANER HARDEN LAW
YOUR STORY WILL BE TOLD

Super Lawyers
RISING STARS 2013



**WWW.YOURSTORYWILLBETOLD.COM
303.563.5354 | STAPLETON-OWNED**

Dog Walking • Pet Sitting

Amazing Dog Walkers with GPS Tracking App



Stapleton
Dog Club

Schedule A Free Meet & Greet
www.stapletondogclub.com

Your Friendly Neighbor Dance Studio for 9 years.

Dance Institute

DanceInstituteDenver.com

303-525-0011



4601 Quebec Street



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.

NORTHEAST DENVER HOLIDAY EVENTS

12/8 Sunday- Breakfast with Santa. Central Park Rec Center, 9:30-11:30am. Donate a toy valued at \$10 or more and get 2 free entries to breakfast. Register at door, 9651 E. MLK Blvd. 720.865.0750

12/8 Sunday- Lowry Winter Festival. Lowry Town Center. 3-6pm. Santa, horse and carriage rides, crafts, cocoa and more. www.lowry.org/calendar

12/11 Wednesday- Love Unbound. A service of remembrance at the holidays. 7pm. Montview Blvd Pres. Church, Montview & Dahlia St.

12/12 Thursday- Venture Prep Performing Arts Concert. 6pm. Venture Prep Auditorium, Smiley Campus, 2540 Holly St. Coffee and bake goods, teacher meet-and-greet after concert. FREE.

12/15 Sunday- Holiday Caroling. 4-6 pm. Neighborhood Music Stapleton Studios. NMS teachers will lead carolers through Stapleton neighborhood. Carols across religions and themes. RSVP: skeye@neighborhoodmusicstapleton.com

12/15 Sunday- Christmas with St. Martins Chamber Choir- A Salzburg Christmas, Echoes of Christmas Past. 3 pm. Montview Presbyterian Church. Tickets: \$10-\$35. Repeats 12/20, St John's Episcopal Cathedral. 7:30pm. 1350 Washington St. www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

12/15 Sunday- Aurora Symphony presents Holiday Masterworks. 3 pm. Gateway Center for Performing Arts. Tickets: aurorasymphony.org

12/24 Tuesday- Denver Presbyterian Christmas Eve Service. 4pm at Smiley Middle School. www.denverpres.org.

12/24 Tuesday- Christmas Eve Services. 4pm and 5:30pm. 8700 E. 21st Ave. www.StapletonChurch.com.

Park Hill United Methodist Church December Events- 12/15 Festival of Lights Program 6pm; 12/22 Children's Cantata; 12/24 Christmas Eve Family Service 5:30pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8pm; 12/29 Christmas Homecoming Service, 10am. www.phumc.org, 303.322.1867. 5209 Montview Blvd.

Messiah Community Church December Events- To 12/22. Fresh-cut Christmas tree sale. 12/14 and 15- Fair Trade Marketplace. 12/22 German language Christmas service 5pm. 12/24 Christmas Eve family candlelight services, 5pm and 7:30pm. 12/29, Lessons and Carols 9:30am. 1750 Colorado Blvd, 303.355.4471, www.messiahdenver.org

METRO DENVER HOLIDAY EVENTS

Through 12/21 Sunday- Christkindl Market. 11am-7pm Sun.-Wed.; 11am-9pm Thurs.-Sat. Denver Skyline Park. www.denverchristkindl-

market.com

Through 12/21- Santa's Back Room. Holiday bargains on hand-crafted items, toys, games and more. Mon.-Sat., 10am-3pm. Assistance League of Denver Thrift Mart, 1331 E. Colfax. www.denver.assistanceleague.org

Through 12/28 Saturday- The Nutcracker. Presented by Colorado Ballet. Tickets: www.coloradoballet.org

Through 12/31 Tuesday- Hudson Gardens Christmas. Holiday lights, carriage rides, music and more. 5-8:30pm. www.hudson-gardens.org

Through 1/1/14 Wednesday- Denver Botanic Gardens Blossoms of Light. 5:30-9:30pm. Denver Botanic Gardens. 1007 York St. 720.865.3514, www.botanicgardens.org

Through 2/16/14- Southwest Rink at Skyline Park. FREE ice skating in downtown Denver; bring skates or rent: \$2/pair. www.downtowndenver.com

December Weekends- Georgetown Loop Railroad Holiday Trains. Santa, holiday cheer and dinner trains. www.georgetownlooprr.com

12/4 Wednesday- Festival of Lights. Colorado Hebrew Chorale's annual Chanukah concert. 5:30pm. McNichols Building at Civic Center Park, 144 W. Colfax Ave. RSVP: www.coloradhebrewchorale.org

12/6 Friday and 12/7 Saturday- 9News Parade of Lights. Marching bands, giant balloons, floats. Fri. 8pm; Sat. 6pm. FREE. Parade info: www.downtowndenver.com

12/6 Friday- A Broadway Christmas. Presented by Colorado Symphony. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/6 Friday to 12/22 Sunday- Granny Dances to a Holiday Drum. Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Company. World holidays through dance, music, spoken word. Newman Center for Performing Arts, Univ. of Denver, 2344 E. Iliff. Tickets: www.cleoparkerdance.org or www.newmantix.com

12/6 Friday to 1/5/14 Sunday- Zoo Lights. Denver Zoo, 5:30-9pm. www.denverzoo.org

Augustana Lutheran Church Holiday Events- 12/6 Fri. and 12/7 Sun., Colorado Choir Christmas Concert. 12/15 Sun., Christmas Concert, 7:30pm. 12/22 Sun., Children's Christmas Program, 10:30am. 5000 E. Alameda. augustana.com

12/7 Saturday- Denver Brass Holiday Brass Fest. Anyone with a horn is welcome to play in community concert. DPCA Galleria. 10:30am register/check in; 11am rehearsal; 1pm free concert. Register: www.denverbrass.org. \$10 returning musicians w/books, \$20 if music book needed.

12/7, 12/8, 12/14, 12/15 Saturday and Sunday- 53rd Annual Georgetown Christmas Market. European-type market: hand-

crafted gifts, carolers, horse-drawn wagon rides, roasted chestnuts, and St. Nicholas. 10am-6pm. FREE. www.historicgeorgetown.org/Christmas_Market

12/7, 12/14, 12/15 and 12/21- Santa Claus Special at Colorado Railroad Museum. Trains decked out for holidays depart every 30 minutes. 10am-4pm. Santa and Mrs. Claus, hot chocolate. www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org

12/8 Sunday- Holiday Brass. Presented by Colorado Symphony. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/8 Sunday- A Colorado Christmas. Four Mile Historic Park decked out for holidays. 12-4pm 715 S. Forest St. www.fourmilepark.org

12/8, 12/14 and 12/15- The Nutcracker by Ballet Ariel. Sugarplum tea 12/8. Cleo Parker Robinson Theater. www.balletariel.org

12/13 Friday to 12/15 Sunday- The Nutcracker by Denver Dance Conservatory. Colorado Heights Univ., 3001 S. Federal Blvd. Tickets \$20. www.DanceConservatoryofDenver.com

12/13 Friday and 12/14 Saturday- A Brown Family Christmas Tour. Molly Brown House Museum. Tickets: \$10/members, \$12/nonmembers. www.mollybrown.org

12/13 Friday to 12/15 Sunday- Handel's Messiah. Presented by Colorado Symphony. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/13 Friday and 12/14 Saturday- Hammonds Candy Cane Festival. Santa and Mrs. Claus, storytelling, caroling, cookie decorating, face painting, trolley rides, etc. 11am-4pm Fri., 9am-4pm Sat. 5735 N. Washington St. www.hammondscandies.com

12/14 Saturday- Rhapsody Performing Arts Center Presents The Nutcracker. Paramount Theatre 1:30 and 7pm. www.paramountdenver.com

12/14 Saturday and 12/20, 12/21, 12/23 and 12/24- Breakfast with Santa at Wildlife Experience. 9-11am. Tickets: www.thewildlifeexperience.org

Central Presbyterian Church Events: 12/15 Sunday- 7pm, A Service of Lessons and Carols. Childcare provided. 12/24 Wednesday- 5:30 and 11pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. 1660 Sherman St. centraldenver.com, 303.839.5500

12/15 to 1/12/14- Butterfly Pavilion Living Lights. Lights illuminate rainforest and outdoor gardens. 5:30-9pm nightly. Tickets: www.butterflies.org

12/18 Wednesday and 12/19 Thursday- Denver Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert. Jingle Jangle Jive! Fri. 4pm; Sat. 2pm. Repeats 12/20 7pm. Gates Concert Hall, Newman Center for Performing Arts, Univ. of Denver 2344 E. Iliff. Tickets: www.rmarts.org

12/20 Friday to 12/22 Sunday- A Colorado Christmas. Colorado Symphony and Colorado Children's Chorale. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/21 Saturday and 12/22 Sunday- The Denver Brass: Brass of Christmas Past. Newman Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets: \$20-\$24, discounts for kids/seniors. www.denverbrass.org, 303.832.HORN

It's not about the hardwood floors, is it?

A home is less about the beauty of those hardwood floors and more about the place where those kids are taking their first steps, giggling their afternoons away, and getting tucked in at night. Our winter months are still a great time to find the right place to plug in that night light! Give me a shout if I can lend a hand!

Kim Kouba
Broker Associate
Perry & Co.
A Denver Tradition.
303.204.8215

JUST HAVE A POTLUCK FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY THEY SAID

IT WILL BE FUN THEY SAID

Receive a \$10 GIFT CARD! When you order "The Big Easy" (see menu)

'Tis The Season For **FAT JACKS** to make your Office Holiday Party **AWESOME.**

Contact Megan Our Catering Expert to take your order today!

970-310-6707 / megan.adams@fatjackssubs.com
3535 Quebec St.

www.fatjackssubs.com/catering

* One Catering Gift Card per order. Offer Expires 1/1/14. Gift card good toward next catering purchase.

STANLEY
BRITISH PRIMARY SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN TO 8TH GRADE

SCHEDULE
YOUR TOUR TODAY
CALL 303-261-1792

2014-2015 APPLICATION
DEADLINE JANUARY 15TH

350 QUEBEC ST. DENVER, 80230
admission@stanleybps.org

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STANLEY BPS
7 GOALS FOR LEARNERS

SELF AWARENESS ~ COLLABORATION
PERSEVERANCE ~ CURIOSITY
RESPECT ~ ACADEMIC RESOURCEFULNESS
JOYFUL, LIFELONG LEARNING

Autowash
@ STAPLETON

Car Wash & Pet Wash
(303) 927-9061
www.AutowashStapleton.com

LISTINGS

12/22 Sunday- **Tuba Christmas Concert.** 1pm. Skyline Park, 16th and Arapahoe. Register 9am; rehearsal 10am. Auraria Events Center. FREE. www.tubachristmas.com or 303.556.8123

12/28 Saturday- **Too Hot to Handel.** Presented by Colorado Symphony. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/31 Tuesday- **Colorado Symphony A Night in Vienna.** 6:30pm. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. Tickets: www.coloradosymphony.org

12/31 Tuesday **New Year's Eve Downtown Fireworks Display.** 2 shows: 9pm and midnight. 16th St. Mall.

12/31 Tuesday- **Noon Year's Eve at Children's Museum.** 9am-4pm. Ball drops on the hour from 10am-3pm. www.mychildsmuseum.org

RECURRING ARTWALKS

First Fridays

Santa Fe Arts District. Santa Fe Dr. between 10th and 6th. 5-8pm. www.artdistrictonSantaFe.com

North Denver's Tennyson Art Walk. Tennyson St. and 44th Ave. 6-10pm. www.denverartwalk.squarespace.com

River North (RiNo) Art District. 6-9pm. RiNo starts at Broadway and Walnut St. www.RiverNorthart.com

Golden Triangle Museum District. 5-9pm. www.goldentriangleofdenver.com

Navajo Street Art District. 5-9pm, and weekly gallery openings. www.navajostreetartdistrict.com

Third Friday

Santa Fe Arts District. Santa Fe Dr. between 10th and 6th. 5-8pm. www.artdistrictonSantaFe.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. Also download PDF of Denver's Public Art Guide.

12/6 Friday- **Holly Days on 16th Street Mall.** 11am-7pm. FREE. Repeats 12/7 and 12/8, McNichols Building, Civic Center Park. www.coloradoevents.net

12/7 Saturday- **Four Mile Historic Park Hay Bales & Tall Tales.** Pioneer storytime & ornament-making activity. 12-1pm. All ages. Free; donations appreciated. 715 S. Forest St. 720.865.0800, info@fourmilepark.org, FourMileHistoricPark.org

12/7 Saturday- **Horseshoe Holiday Market.** Denver Pavilions. 10am-4pm. 40 vendors, upscale outdoor market sells vintage and homemade items, antiques, etc. www.horseshoemarket.com repeats 12/14.

12/7 Saturday- **America's Got Talent Auditions.** Colorado Convention Center 700 14th St. www.americasgottalentauditions.com

12/7 Saturday- **Young Entrepreneurs Marketplace.** 10am-2pm. Young Americans Center, 3550 E. 1st Ave. Repeats 12/14 Sat., 10am-2pm, Young Americans Center Belmar, 401 S. Pierce St. www.yacenter.org.

12/11 Wednesday to 12/14 Saturday- **Denver Public Library Winter Used Book Sale.** Denver Central Library, 14th and Broadway, lower level. 30,000+ books, CDs, DVDs at bargain prices. www.dpl.org

12/14 Saturday- **2nd Annual Denver Beer Festivus.** Beer festival showcasing Denver area breweries. McNichols Building at Civic Center Park. 144 W. Colfax, 2-6pm. www.craftbeer.com

12/14 Saturday and 12/15 Sunday- **Denver Handmade Homemade Holiday Market.** 1-7pm Denver Art Society, 734 Santa Fe Dr. www.denverhaho.org

12/14 Saturday and select Dec. dates- **Free Holiday Tours of Governor's Residence at Boettcher Mansion.** Self-guided tours of Colorado's home decked out for holidays. 10am-2pm www.colorado.gov/governor/residence

12/21 Saturday- **28th Annual Winter Solabration.** Celebration of Christmas and solstice customs, storytelling, dance, juggling, more. Tickets: www.solstice.org. Sons of Italy Hall, 5925 W. 32nd Ave. 6-11:30pm.

12/28 Saturday- **Cockpit Demo Day.** Wings Over the Rockies Museum, Lowry. 10am-2pm. www.wingsmuseum.org

1/6 to 1/17 **Treecycle 2014.** Questions: call 311 or visit DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles

FREE Wednesday Senior Activities. 1st Wed., 10am, crafts/light lunch; 2nd

Wed., 12pm, big lunch/entertainment; 4th Wed., 12pm, light lunch/bin-go. RSVP: 303.439.7554 for big lunch, 303.807.0619 for other services. Bosworth House, 1400 Josephine St. Sponsor: Assistance League of Denver

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 for classes/seminars

Denver 2 for 1 Tix. Weekly 2 for 1 ticket and admission discounts for metro Denver arts and entertainment. www.denver2for1tix.com

More ideas on what to do in Denver: Visit www.denver.org or www.GalleryGuideDenver.com

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Walk2Connect Weekly Park Hill Sunrise Walking Trip. 7-8am meet at Camino Coffee at 29th & Fairfax. 3-mile loop. RSVP: www.meetup.com/Walk2Connect/events/149931012, jonathan@walk2connect.com, 303.908.0076.

12/2 Monday- **Exempla Nurse Midwives presents "Prepping for Parenthood."** Three speakers on: Fertility awareness method for conception and contraception; Nutrition in the pre-conception and prenatal period; Challenges couples face when building a family. 7-8:30pm. Free. MCA Community Rm. RSVP: babycatcher365@gmail.com.

12/3 Tuesday- **Stapleton Fertility Clinic.** Sponsored by CU Advanced Reproductive Medicine. FREE. 6-8pm. 3055 Roslyn St. #230. RSVP: UCDenverFertility@gmail.com, 303.724.8089.

12/8 Sunday- **Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis.** 8am-12pm. Washington Park. www.jinglebellrundenver.org

12/14 Saturday- **Santa's Stampede.** 5K/10K and kids' run. 9am. Hudson Gardens, Littleton. www.winterdistanceseries.com

12/21 Saturday- **A Christmas Carol Classic.** 5K Walk/Run, 10K and Tiny Tim 1K. City Park. 9am. www.runningguru.com

12/21 Saturday- **Denver Ugly Sweater Run.** Downtown Denver, 20th and Market. 11am. www.theuglysweaterrun.com

12/31 Tuesday- **Resolution 5K.** 5pm. Washington Park. www.resolution5k.com

1/5 to 1/26 Sundays - **Nurturing the Nurturer.** 4-week mind/body workshop at Harmony Yoga. www.harmony-yoga.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, 303.539.4877

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

Active Minds – Info on all sessions: www.ActiveMinds.com. FREE.

12/3 Tuesday- **Privacy vs. Protection.** 10:15-11:15am. Jewish Community Center, 350 S Dahlia St. 303.316.6359

12/12 Thursday- **The American West.** 7pm. Stapleton Master Community Assoc., 2823 Roslyn St. 303.388.0724

12/17 Tuesday- **Mt. Everest.** 5:30-6:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax. 303.322.7727

LIBRARIES

Visit www.denverlibrary.org for children's story hours, book club info, crafts sessions and complete program list.

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.

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Monarch Montessori December Open Houses: 12/4 (6-7pm), 12/7 (10am-12pm at Evie Dennis Campus), 12/18 (6-7pm.) 4895 Peoria St. 303.712.2001

(continued on page 26)



Budget Blinds
a style for every point of view™

We have the styles you love.
Shutters • Draperies
Wood Blinds • Honeycomb Shades
Roller Shades • Vertical Blinds
Silhouette® • Woven Wood
and more!

Budget Blinds – custom window coverings that fit your style and budget!

- Personal Style Consultants
- Thousands of samples from the best brands
- “Expert Fit” measuring and installation

FREE In-Home Consultation & Estimate

30% OFF
Home or Office
Window Treatments
Call today for details!
303-422-1499
or visit us online at www.budgetblinds.com

Budget Blinds
a style for every point of view™

Excludes shutters. Must present at initial estimate. Lifetime limited warranties. Not valid with any other offers. Offer expires 12/31/13.



ASCENT
FAMILY MEDICINE
Partnering on the path to better health.



Mary Catherine Husney, MD
Jonathan Zonca, MD **"Top Doc 5280"**
Leslie McKenna, NP
Emily Shupe Talley PA-C • McKenzie Kline PA-C

Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
303.322.0212 | www.AscentFamilyMedicine.com

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
AT THE HOLIDAYS

LOVE
unbound

DECEMBER 11 AT 7:00 PM
Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church
Montview Blvd. & Dahlia St.

*A special evening of music and reflection to honor grief, remember loved ones
and find light in the darkness of the holiday season.*



monVIEW CHURCH
Montview Blvd. & Dahlia St. } question think serve grow

(continued from page 25)

Denver Montclair International School Open Houses- 12/4 Wed., Lower school open 9-10:30am. 12/13 Friday, Middle school open house, 9-10:30am. RSVP: admissions@dmischool.com
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School- Middle school parent info meeting, Thurs. 12/5, 7:30-9:30am. 1958 Elm St. 303.377.8835, school.blessedsacrament.net
Venture Prep Open Houses- 12/11 Wed. and 1/15 Wed., 5pm. Smiley Campus, 26th and Holly.
St. Mary's Academy Preview Days. 12/10, 8:30-10am for grades preK-5. 12/12, 8:30-10am for grades 6-8. Call/RSVP: 303.762.8300, www.smanet.org.
Denver School of the Arts- Mandatory pre-audition meetings for each major in early Dec. Check website for info: www.dsa.dpsk12.org

NORTHEAST DENVER/AURORA EVENTS

12/6 Friday- Preschooler and Parent Program: "Bluff Lake Buds." 10-11am. Gifts From Nature. Kids 2-5 years with parent. Make nature-themed crafts, short hike at Bluff Lake to see nature's gifts up close. Circle time and interactive stations. \$5/child if advance registered, adults free. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 3400 Havana Way. Register: amillman@blufflake.org, www.blufflakenaturecenter.org.
12/6 Friday- Mom Time at Montview. Mothers of youngsters learn/support each other. Sessions on parenting, life balance, self-care. Breakfast/childcare provided. Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia. Rm. 305. 9:15-11:15am. www.montview-momtime.wordpress.com; leahcnoliver@yahoo.com; Anna.A.Clark@gmail.com
Denver School of the Arts- December performances, tickets/complete listings: www.dsa.dpsk12.org/performances or www.dsapresents.org. Montview and Quebec
Fridays and Saturdays- Wine Tastings. Wine Cellars, the Bottle Shop of Stapleton. 4-7pm. FREE. www.facebook.com/WineCellarsatStapleton
Central Park Recreation Center. Info: www.denvergov.org/recreation, 750.865.0750 or Facebook Central Park Recreation Center. Register for programs.
December Events- Unity on the Avenue, 4670 E. 17th Ave. www.unityontheavenue.org or 303.322.3901

DENVER ART MUSEUM

100 West 14th Ave Parkway, www.denverartmuseum.org
 Passport to Paris through 2/9/14. This is a ticketed exhibit.

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE

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

MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition. Exhibit ticket required in addition to museum admission.
Planetarium- To Space and Back; Black Holes, One World, One Sky, Cosmic Journey: A Solar System Adventure. www.dmns.org/planetarium/current-show
IMAX Movies- Meerkats 3D, Great White Shark 3D, Mysteries of the Unseen World 3D. Various times. Tickets: \$8/3-18; \$10/adult

NORTHFIELD EVENTS

The Shops at Northfield Stapleton:
Bass Pro Events- 720.385.3600, www.BassPro.com
 Hunting, fishing and marine seminars offered throughout month.
Harkins Theatres 18- 720.374.3118
 New Releases
 12/6 – Out of the Furnace
 12/13 – The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
 12/20 – Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues, Saving Mr. Banks
 12/25 – 47 Ronin, The Wolf on Wall Street
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

Check website for Dec. programming. Hours: Mon.-Sun., 6am-6pm. Visitor Center: Tues.-Sun., 9am-4pm. Refuge closed federal holidays. 303.289.0930. Directions/events: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/rocky_mountain_arsenal/

THEATRE

12/6 to 12/8- A Gilbert and Sullivan Christmas Carol. Presented by Empire Lyric Players. Denver School of the Arts, 7111 Montview Blvd. Tickets: \$12. 303.377.7831 or www.elps.org
12/6 to 12/14- A Christmas Carol. Presented by Prairie Playhouse. The Armory at Brighton Performing Arts Center. Brighton. www.prairieplayhouse.com/christmascarol
12/10 to 12/22- Cirque Dreams Holiday. Cirque du Soleil Christmas. Denver Center for Performing Arts. www.denvercenter.org
12/13 to 2/2/14- Young Frankenstein. Vintage Theatre. 1468 Dayton St, Aurora www.vintagetheatre.com
12/13 to 12/22- Guys on Ice. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax Ave. www.aurorafoxartscen-ter.org
Through 12/15- Snow Falling on Cedars. Vintage

Theatre. 1468 Dayton St, Aurora, www.vintagetheatre.com
Through 12/21- The Christmas Spirit. Firehouse Theater Company at John Hand Theater. www.johnhandtheater.com
Through 12/21- No Dogs Allowed. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd. www.arvadacenter.org
Through 12/22- Jackie and Me. Space Theater 14th and Curtis. Denver Center for Performing Arts. www.denvercenter.org
Through 12/22- A Christmas Carol. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd. www.arvadacenter.org
Through 12/22- It's a Wonderful Life. Presented by Phamaly Theatre. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E Colfax Ave. www.aurorafoxartscen-ter.org
Through 12/24- Santa's Big Red Sack. Avenue Theatre, 417 E. 17th Ave. www.avenuetheater.com
Through 12/29- A Christmas Carol- Denver Center for Performing Arts. www.denvercenter.org
Through 1/25/14- The Travesty of Lear. The Betsy Stage, 1133 S. Huron St. Performances Thurs/Fri/Sat 8pm; Sundays 2pm. All performances FREE, Donations accepted. Thebetsystage.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.
Girl Scouts- With thousands of girls on waiting lists, Girl Scouts of Colorado critically needs adult volunteers. Contact: girlscoutsofcolorado.org, inquiry@gscolorado.org or 1.877.404.5708

Project Worthmore. Volunteers for teams (6-month commit) to assist Burmese refugees by "cultural mentorship" (how to ride bus, grocery 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 reimbursed. www.vocolorado.org, 303.297.0408 (Naomi Taggart)
Assistance League of Denver. Seeks members to help underserved in metro Denver. Programs for victims, students, children, seniors. www.denver.assistanceleague.org or 303.322.5205
Reading Volunteers Needed. At Odyssey School or Venture Prep Middle School for 2013-14 school year to share one-on-one reading. Email Julie@PartnersinLiteracy.org
Summer Scholars. Year-round volunteers needed to read with students/assist in office. www.summerscholars.org, 303.381.3738

KIDS AND FAMILIES

12/3 Tuesday- Four Mile Historic Park Small Settlers Ages 2-5 accompanied by parent/caregiver. Every Tues. from 9-10am. \$5/child, adults free. Members free. 715 S. Forest St. Advance register: 720.865.0814 or education@fourmilepark.org. Repeats 12/10 & 12/17.

RECURRING MEETINGS

BUSINESS GROUPS

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

STAPLETON AND BEYOND NETWORKING GROUP- First Tuesday, 8:30-10am, 303-955-0861, Aaron.Ktafoya@farmersagency.com

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

CIVIC GROUPS

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

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

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

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

INTEREST GROUPS

BLUFF LAKE BIRDERS. 1st Saturday, 8am. Nature Center. BluffLakeNatureCenter.org

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

COLORADO SYMPHONY GUILD. Every 3rd Thursday at St. Luke's Church, 13th & Quebec, 10am-12pm. All are welcome. macregar@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

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

STAPLETON GROUPS

PARKS ADVISORY GROUP. 2nd Tuesday, 8:30am. 7350 E 29th Ave, 3rd Fl. Lcorrell@dotnet.net

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

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

SUN BOARD MTG. 4th Monday, 7:30pm. Central Park Rec Center, 9651 MLK Jr. Blvd. stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

AA OPEN MEETING. Every Tuesday, 6pm. St Thomas Episcopal Church, 22nd and Dexter. Shirley 303.726.2998

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

ADOPTEEES IN SEARCH SUPPORT GROUP. 2nd Wednesday, 7-8:30pm. Montview Presby. Church, Robinson 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

OA OPEN DISCUSSION MEETING. Every Monday 7:00 pm, @ Hangar 61 8700 E 21st Ave Denver CO 80238 Mary 720-291-9065 or Mike 303-325-6650

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

Complete Skin Care as unique as you are

MEDICAL

Skin cancer | Skin checks
 Acne | Eczema | Psoriasis
 Warts | Rash | Phototherapy
 Photodynamic therapy

COSMETIC

Physician-administered
 Botox, Fillers, and
 Laser Treatments
 Intense Pulsed Light
 Resurfacing | Pigment
 Hair and Vascular Lasers
 Chemical Peels
 Microdermabrasion
 Sclerotherapy

SURGICAL

Mohs Micrographic Surgery
 Skin cancer treatment
 Cosmetic excision and
 repair



Erin Welch, MD Joe Simodynes, MD Samantha Ghiselli, MD Carol Alonso, MD

DDC+ Denver Dermatology Consultants, P.C.
Stapleton Laser Center

www.denverderm.com | 303-426-4525

2970 Quebec St Suite 200 - above Bank of the West



LISTINGS

12/5 Thursday to 12/8 Sunday- Disney on Ice Rockin Ever After. Tickets from \$15. Pepsi Center, www.tickethorse.com

12/5 Thursday to 1/5- The Elves and the Shoemaker. Denver Puppet Theatre, 3156 W 38th Ave. Tickets: \$7 ages 3 and up. 303.458.6446, www.denverpuppettheater.com

12/7 Saturday and 12/8 Sunday- Forney Transportation Museum Moffat Modelers Toy Train Layout. Scale toy train layout open first weekend every month. Free with museum admission. 4303 Brighton Blvd. www.forneymuseum.org

12/7 Saturday- Home Depot Kids Workshop. 9am-12pm. FREE how-to clinics first Sat. monthly, ages 5-12. Get Home Depot apron, wooden project and project pin. Metro-area Home Depot stores. www.homedepot.com

12/8 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

12/11 Wednesday- Create Playdates at Denver Art Museum. Kids 3-5 roar, bang, stomp 2nd Wed/month. 10am. Art, story times, scavenger hunts. Included in museum adm; 5 and under free. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. www.denverartmuseum.org or 720.865.5000

12/12 Thursday- Wands and Wishes Character Story Time at The Bookies Bookstore. 2nd Thurs each month, characters read interactive stories, sing song, pose for photos; different character monthly. 10:30am. FREE. 4315 E. Mississippi Ave. wandsandwishesoccasions.com, 303.883.6778

12/14 and 12/28 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

Thursdays in December- 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

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

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

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

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

Neighborhood Music Stapleton- Private and group instruction, piano, voice, guitar, ukulele, mandolin, violin and drums. Ages 3 and up. Skye Barker Maa. 720.353.6622, www.neighborhoodmusicstapleton.com

Music Lingua Musical Spanish Classes- Ages newborn-6 years. Learn Spanish in interactive parent/tot classes. samanthabensoncox@hotmail.com, www.musiclingua.com

Jewish Community Center- Variety of programs for kids grades K-5. www.jcc.org

Stapleton All Sports- Registering for cheer, yoga and basketball beginning Jan. 2014. www.stapletonallsports.com

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

Kim Robards School of Dance- Classes for dancers of all ages/skill levels: modern, ballet, jazz, tap, repertory, hip hop. 9900 E. Colfax Ave, Aurora. Schedule/performance info: www.kimrobardsdance.org

To submit Front Porch "Local Event" Listings

Email information in the following format by the 15th of the month to FrontPorchEvents@gmail.com. Events will be run subject to space available. Date in numerical format (mm/dd), day of week- Name of Event. A one- or two-sentence description. Time. List cost or if free. Location. Contact information.

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

ARE YOU SICK AND TIRED OF DIETS THAT DON'T WORK?



Before

So was she...until she lost 50 lbs & 22 inches at Med-Fit

Get one FREE Body Contouring treatment when you sign up for an OPTIFAST weight loss program (\$250 value)

Offer expires 12/31/13

Call Now for a FREE consultation

with Dr. Angela Tran at 303-321-0023



After

2373 Central Park Blvd, Ste 300, Denver 80238
www.denverweightlossclinic.com



STIMARY'S ACADEMY
FAITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE RESPECT

Join us for a Preview Day

Grades Pre-K - 5
December 10
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Grades 6 - 8
December 12
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Please call or visit our website to RSVP

4545 S. University Boulevard | Englewood, CO 80113
303.762.8300 | www.smanet.org

 **Foothills Urogynecology™**
restoring comfort, confidence & dignity

One Team of Healthcare Providers for Every Stage of a Woman's Life

We offer comprehensive diagnostics and treatment for women's pelvic floor disorders, such as incontinence and sexual dysfunction, as well as general gynecological care.



Terry S. Dunn, MD, FACOG | Welcoming New Patients
Marsha Merry, WHNP-BC | Most Insurance Plans Accepted

303-282-0006 • www.urogyns.com
850 East Harvard Avenue, Suite 285 • Denver, CO 80210

Women's Health Research
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Is your body changing without your consent? Interested in starting an exercise program? Curious about how hormones may play a role?

We are looking for healthy women who are between the ages of 18 and 52 years and:


- Have regular menstrual cycles
- Are not currently using hormonal contraceptives
- Are willing to have estrogen levels suppressed for up to 6 months using an FDA-approved drug

Benefits for Study volunteers include:

- Measurement of body composition & bone density
- Fitness testing
- Personalized and supervised exercise program
- Compensation will be provided for your time (up to \$900)

For more information about Women's Health Research contact Anne:
Phone: 720-848-6399
Email: Anne.Stavros@ucdenver.edu
www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/image

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
COMIRB Protocols. #06-0512; #12-1157; Principal Investigator: Wendy Kohrt, PhD



Central invites everyone to celebrate the hope and joy of Christmas!

Sunday, December 15th | 7 pm
Sing Noel: A Service of Lessons and Carols
Childcare provided

Tuesday, December 24th | 5:30 pm & 11 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

All Are Welcome!

centraldenver.com | 1660 Sherman St. | Denver CO 80203 | 303.839.5500


Central Presbyterian Church
A Fresh Outlook on Faith

Stapleton Home Wins
Top Award for Zero
Net-Energy Homes

By Madeline Schroeder
New Town Builders recently won the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) top Housing Innovation Award for their Solaris II model home in the Conservatory Green neighborhood.

New Town Builders was among six builders nationwide to be finalists in the Production Builders category for "extraordinary level of excellence, quality and innovation leading the way to affordable, zero net-energy ready homes."

The Solaris home, which represents the entire Solaris Collection, is the first Colorado home to receive this recognition. Every home in the collection is built to meet the DOE Challenge Home specifications and is available with a Zero Energy Option. New Town Builders says a Zero Energy home has four goals: to generate as much energy as it uses over the period of a year;

to offer a zero energy home that is attractive and comfortable to live in; to offer the Zero Energy package at an affordable price; and to create a home that frees the owner from complicated systems that require monitoring and maintenance.

The winning home also received other energy-efficient certifications, including a HERS (Home Energy Rating System) score of three, meaning it is 97 percent more energy efficient than the standard code-built home. A building science center located in the Z.E.N model complex at 7909 E. Stoll Place, explains the HERS ratings and what it means for the consumer. Displays show wall insulation and window frames. According to Lisa Hall at Forest City, the sealant on drywall and framing in New Town homes eliminates drafts and helps save on energy bills.

To see the award-winning home from New Town Builders' Solaris II Collection model homes, visit 4950 Uinta Street. To learn more about New Town Builders, visit www.NewTownBuilders.com.

Director Of Psychiatric Nursing Chosen
for National Award of Excellence

By Madeline Schroeder
Stapleton resident Judy Linn recently won the 2013 Award of Excellence in Leadership from the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Linn is the director of nursing at John George Psychiatric Hospital in Oakland, Calif.

According to Reuters, an APNA award is considered the highest form of recognition from the psychiatric mental health nursing community. Linn was selected from among 9,000 candidates.

Linn started working at John George Hospital three years ago. In 2007, she and her husband, Mike Holtby, moved to Stapleton to be close to her work at University Hospital, but the psych unit closed shortly after. She was offered the job in Oakland but didn't move because of Holtby's longtime private psychotherapy practice in Denver. She has commuted for three years, spending every other weekend in Stapleton.

Linn has managed to help transform John George Hospital, an inner-city hospital that was underserved for many years.

When she first began work there, the staff didn't put sheets on the beds and served cold breakfasts. Patients ranked the hospital in the first percentile, the worst ranking among 255 other psychiatric hospitals nationwide. Now



Judy Linn is Director of Nursing at John George Hospital in California.

it ranks in the 75th percentile.

"It is such a huge honor to make a difference. We're helping create something that is very valuable to the people we serve," she says.

In her three years, Linn says she has promoted an environment where nurses can use all of their critical-thinking skills and art of caring to improve patients' experiences.

With education and leadership, she says the nursing staff has really improved. John George is now a hospital where people want to go and people have tried to break in to become patients.

Holtby says Linn is exceptionally perceptive and intelligent. "It sounds so basic, but she treats patients like people and treats them with respect even if they come from a background of being homeless or psychotic."

Empathy and ability to improve health are the two most important things as a nurse, Linn says.

Linn has worked in several psychiatric hospitals in Colorado, and says this is her favorite job. While the commute is difficult, topping 50 flights this year, she and Holtby, who is now retired, have made the arrangement work. People in the neighborhood might know them as the couple who owns the 135-pound Irish wolfhound. The two have a 7pm phone call every night and greatly value their time together and with family in Stapleton even more. They travel often and will be going to Ethiopia this year.

To learn more about the Award for Excellence in Leadership, visit <http://www.apna.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3664>.

exciting!
windows!
by DECOR & You™



Hunter Douglas
Showcase Dealer

**Blinds • Shutters
Shades • Valances
Draperies**

Let our team of
designers create
a space you love!

SAVE \$100 or more!
With qualifying Hunter Douglas window fashion rebates
303-346-2593
www.excitingwindows.com/decorandyou
FREE in-home Consultation and Estimate

FunScoop



A monthly, personalized
calendar of activities selected
Just for Your Family

Get your scoop at
myfunscoop.com

Christmas Eve Service
Celebrate with us Dec 24 at
4pm at Smiley Middle School
www.DENVERPRES.org




**Basement Finish
New Construction
Kitchen & Bath Remodeling**
Jim Baudinat
720.276.7704
www.BestBuildersDenver.com • Licensed & Insured



2011 HBA of Metro Denver CARE Award Winners
Best Builders & Diane Gordon Design
1st and 2nd Place for two Stapleton Basement Remodels!

**FREE Diane Gordon Design
Professional Plan Set with Basement Contract**
Offer good through December 31, 2013



**Providing Minimally
Invasive Treatments
for Gynecological
Conditions**


Dr. Dana Roper treats all gynecological conditions including uterine fibroids, which affect three out of four women. Most women are unaware they have uterine fibroids, which can be discovered during a pelvic exam. Schedule an appointment with Dr. Roper to learn about minimally invasive techniques that are available to treat uterine fibroids and other gynecological conditions.

Dana Roper, MD, FACOG
1960 Ogden Street
Suite 230
Denver, CO 80218-3671
Phone: 303-318-3540
www.exempladoctors.org

Hours: Monday - Friday,
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Specializing in:

- da Vinci Robotic Surgery
- Minimally Invasive Gynecological Surgery
- Family Planning/ Pregnancy & Infertility
- Obstetrical Care in Uncomplicated Pregnancies
- High Risk Pregnancies
- Post-Menopausal Issues

 **Essential
Women's Care**
PHYSICIAN NETWORK

Herndon First Denver City Councilperson to Mentor a Returning Vet

By Madeline Schroeder

Returning to civilian life brings many challenges for veterans—finding a job, figuring out the next stage in life, coping with leaving the camaraderie and adrenaline. “It’s difficult to make that transition. It can be done successfully, though,” City Councilman Chris Herndon said.

Herndon returned from the Army in 2006. He started as a supervisor for an operations manager at United Airlines, worked as a store manager at Walmart and eventually was elected to city council. Herndon is now a mentor in the Boots to Suits program at University of Colorado Denver, where he recently completed his master’s in public administration.

Boots to Suits helps veterans transition into civilian life. CU Denver has the fastest-growing student veteran population in Colorado and the state’s largest Veteran Student Organization.

Boots to Suits pairs a student veteran with a mentor who works in a profession the mentee wants to pursue. (The mentor does not have to be a veteran.) At the end, the mentee is given a custom-tailored suit ready for the professional world.

Nearly 100 students have graduated from the program, with another 39 currently in the program.

Herndon is the mentor for 29-year-old Jeremy Bruce, a marine veteran. Once the program started, they found out they both worked in artillery during their service. One of the reasons the Boots to Suits program has been a good experience is because the two have that in common, Bruce says. He has been out of the service for five years and says the first couple of years were very difficult transitioning from the Marine lifestyle. “I miss the camaraderie, and the feeling of one big family,” he says. He is now studying political science at UCD and figuring out what area of public service he will pursue, which is where Herndon comes in. Over the course of the semester, the two meet every couple of weeks and discuss careers and Bruce shadows Herndon, most recently at budget hearings. “He asks me what I’m interested in and connects me with the right people. I get a much more real-world view of politics from Chris than in classes.”

The two plan to stay in touch after the program ends.

While Herndon also misses the camaraderie of the military and knows it cannot be replicated, he loves what he does now and is confident Bruce will too.

To learn more about the Boots to Suits program, visit ucdenver.edu/BootsToSuits.



Councilman Herndon is a mentor to Jeremy Bruce.

Local Mom’s Holiday Book Written to Inspire Children



Page from *Rosie the Reindeer*

Stapleton resident Chantell Taylor recently wrote and self-published the children’s Christmas book, *Rosie the Reinder*. A determined doe, Rosie aspires to be the first female to fly Santa’s sleigh. It’s a story to empower girls and boys to reach their full potential.

Taylor lives in Stapleton and has two daughters who attend Bill Roberts Elementary. She is a full-time attorney at an international law firm and CrossFit coach at the Bladium. For more information or to order a copy of *Rosie the Reindeer* visit RosieTheReindeer.com.



While cleaning up after the holidays remember:

NO styrofoam, plastic bags, tissue paper, glitter- or foil-coated paper or cards on photographic paper in recycling bins

Recycle plain wrapping paper and non-foil, non-photographic paper cards

Save the landfill—re-use wrapping paper and gift bags

Everyone deserves a healthy, beautiful smile! “beautiful smiles begin here”

- Comprehensive Care Adults & Children
- Your Comfort is our Priority
- General & Cosmetic Dentistry
- Aesthetic Treatments
- State of the Art Dental Technology
- Dental Care for Every Need

LOWRY
FAMILY
DENTISTRY

Voted Top Dentist
5280
Denver’s Magazine
2008•2009•2010•2011•2012•2013

Lowry Family Dentistry • 303.366.3000 • www.lowryfamilydentistry.com

Book now for the holidays!

La Dame Animaux



\$15 Dog Walks
\$15 Cat Sitting
\$40 House Sitting

Schedule visits and pay online
www.ladameanimaux.com
303 495 4976



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
From one neighbor to another...
Here’s to a prosperous and joyful 2014!

Kentwood
CITY PROPERTIES neirteam.com

Happy Holidays!

the **Delectable Egg**
Home of the Denver Omelette

20% Off
your entire ticket!

Lowry Town Center
2nd & Quebec
720.859.9933
Mon-Fri: 6:30-2:00 Sat & Sun: 7:00-2:00

DelectableEgg.com
Must present this coupon. Valid Mon-Sat, dine in only. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Minimum purchase of \$8.00. No cash value. Valid at all Delectable Egg locations. Expires 1/15/14.

FARMERS
INSURANCE GROUP

There is no greater gift,
than the gift of
LIFE INSURANCE for
the Holidays

Call for details—303.955.0861
ktafoya@farmersagent.com

Kevin D. Tafoya

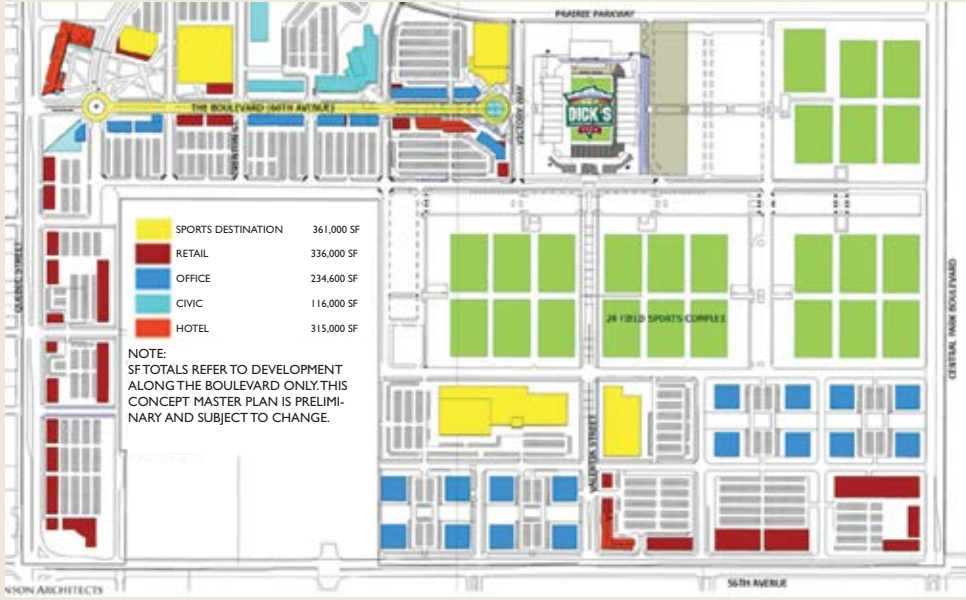
Furniture & Home Décor
ANTIQUE | VINTAGE
RECLAIMED | NEW

from over 10 different countries
Egypt to Colorado

rare-finds.com
303-990-9311
6500 Stapleton Dr. South

RARE FINDS
WAREHOUSE

Kroenke Plans Development Adjoining Stapleton



Victory Crossing, a commercial and retail development at E. 56th Ave. and Central Park Blvd., has been planned for some time,

By David Netz

The November meeting of the Stapleton Zoning and Planning Committee was designed to seek input from major stakeholders on the future development of Section 10, the area of Stapleton north of E 56th Ave and east of the Victory Crossing development. In addition to representatives from Denver, Commerce City, the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge (RMANWR), Montbello and RTD, Mark Lucas, development director for Kroenke Sports & Entertainment, gave an update on the plans for Victory Crossing in Commerce City. The project, shown in the master plan above, is a commercial and retail development project northwest of the proposed East 56th Ave and Central Park Boulevard intersection (diagonally across from the future high school location).

The current plans have been awaiting

awaiting market interest. Now Kroenke Sports & Entertainment says they will be announcing the first tenants in the first quarter of 2014.

confirmation of market interest—and now Kroenke expects to announce the first tenants in the first quarter of 2014. Construction is expected to start in 2015, with a 10-15 year build-out plan. The development will have about a million and a half square feet of buildings—mostly single story, with very few multi-floor buildings planned.

Housing is not an allowed use under the original land transfer agreement between the federal government and Commerce City.

Kroenke is hoping to significantly expand the number of events at Dick's Sporting Goods stadium in the future, with more concerts and sporting events. This, combined with traffic generated by retail and commercial space, will mean traffic will need to flow to either Quebec St. or Central Park Blvd.—and added to this will be traffic from up to a million visitors per year to the RMANWR. How Central Park (continued on p. 32)

Construction of Apts. for 55+ Expected to Start by Jan.



“The Grove at Stapleton” age-qualified apartments for people 55 and older will be located on the southeast corner of Martin Luther King

Bldv. and Syracuse St. The rendering primarily shows the west facing units on Syracuse, as seen by a driver heading east on Martin Luther King Blvd.

The Grove at Stapleton apartment project is expected to break ground by January. With an estimated 15-month construction schedule, the developer, Zocolo Community Development, projects that units will be ready for occupancy in the second quarter of 2015.

The Grove will have 151 one- and two-bedroom apartments, with an average size of 966 square feet. Rents have not yet been finalized. Amenities are expected to include:

- Yoga Studio • Fitness Center • Conference Room • Pool • Year-Round Spa • Gardening Shed • Community Garden • Dog Park • Garage/Workshop • Bike Maintenance Shop • Pub • Interactive Classroom • Wellness Checkup/Exam Room • Clubhouse/ Great Room • Theatre Room • 24-hour amenity access • On-site hotel/guest suite

Additional features offered in the complex include: recycling and composting; indoor hallways; trash/recycle rooms on each floor; elevators; underground parking garage; additional laundry room with commercial sized washer/dryer; and washer/dryer in each apartment.

For information contact Renee Laposa at 303-320-8611 or visit www.zocolodevelopment.com.



“Greenways” Apts. for 55+ Move Toward June Opening

The first of three floors of The Greenways at Stapleton has been framed, as shown above


from the corner of E. 29th Place and Ulster St. The tower is visible in the background.

QUEBEC LIQUOR
BEER WINE & SPIRITS

Great Selection of Craft Beers, Wine, and Spirits. Best prices in area.

10% off 6 bottles of wine
\$5 off purchase of \$50 or more
Must mention ad

303.287.4071 • 5275 Quebec St.
North of I-70, across from Post Office



Custom Creations
By Vanessa Clarke

MURALS

Children's • Florals • FREE estimates
720.289.2266



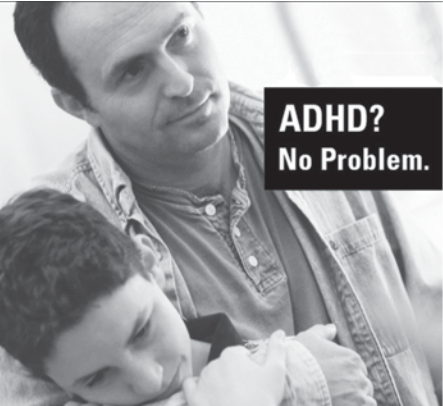
Winter Sewing Camp • Intro to Sewing
Crafty Creations • Weekend Workshops
Parties • Mommy & Me Classes
Festive Felt Projects • Group or Private
Sewing Lessons • Sip-n-Sew for Adults

Traci Gillespie
sewcreativestapleton@gmail.com
sewcreativestapleton.com

Construction is well underway on The Greenways at Stapleton, a 108-unit 55+ independent living apartment building at Martin Luther King and Ulster. The projected opening date is June 1, 2014.

One- and two-bedroom units from 700 to 1200 square feet will be offered with rents starting at \$1000/month. All units will have: A Full Kitchen • 9-foot Ceilings • Private Balcony or Patio • Underground Parking. Community amenities will include: Clubroom with kitchen • Outdoor terrace • Fitness room • Activity Room • On-site Manager • Cafe • Private Meeting Room • Planned Community Events. The apartments are being constructed by Horizon Construction Group, Inc., a company that has been specializing in senior housing since 1984.

For more information contact John Revels at 855.550.0554, greenways@ross-management.com or visit www.greenways-stapleton.com.



ADHD?
No Problem.

Now a diagnosis of ADHD doesn't have to mean prescription medication. Do you or a member of your family have difficulty concentrating or focusing? Are you concerned about hyperactivity or impulsive behavior? Now there is a clinically proven alternative to medication.

Research shows neurotherapy to be an effective, safe, non-invasive way to work with children & adults—without resorting to psychoactive medication. Help you or your child utilize and train the brain to improve performance.



Kerri Honaker, M.S., LPC, BCIA, Clinic Director
Earle Shugerman, MD

neuroAgility

Attention and Performance Psychology

www.neuroAgility.com
303-417-1797

Insurance coverage may apply

2501 Walnut St, Ste 205, Boulder, CO 80302 • 3773 Cherry Creek North Dr, Ste 690W, Denver, CO 80209

ADD
ADHD
BRAIN INJURY
ANXIETY
AUTISM SPECTRUM
ATHLETES

“I finally learned to play guitar!”

- Bill, Forte Guitar Student

It's your turn to play! Guitar lessons for adults at Naturally Loved Monday nights \$16 per half hour once a week



303-455-4896

www.fortemusiceducation.com



In Business for 19 Years



HOUSE CLEANING
Stapleton and Park Hill References

Detail Oriented • Ironing Included • Window Washing • Carpet Cleaning • Bonded & Insured • Offices/Apts./Homes • Park Hill Resident • paulinaleon22@hotmail.com
#1 IN CLEAN: Paulina Leon 720-628-6690 or 303-719-2456



Licensed Clinical Therapist for Adolescents & Adults

Kristen L. Canfield, LCSW

Sliding Scale Fee • Evening & Weekend Appointments
720-295-6393 • www.kristencanfield.com

Flight Line Continues in Holding Pattern



The architectural rendering above is a proposed 300-person, family friendly beer garden that would be managed by Kevin Taylor Restaurant Group. The drawing shows its proposed

About 80 people attended a Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) sponsored meeting on October 24 at Bill Roberts school to hear Mark Shaker describe the beer garden business proposal to the community. Attendees expressed strong support for the beer garden and questioned Tom Gleason, Forest City VP for Public Relations, about why the project couldn't proceed now. Gleason explained that Forest City believes the best plan for the development of Eastbridge is to secure an anchor tenant, then make decisions about the remaining available plots.

location at the west end of the Eastbridge town center, with westbound MLK at the back and eastbound MLK in the foreground.

At a November 21 Community Advisory Board meeting Gleason said, "We are in pretty good discussions with a grocer for the Eastbridge Town Center, but until something is actually signed we don't want to raise expectations."

Visit FrontPorchStapleton.com to read in the November issue how owners Mark Shaker, Lorin Ting and Megan Von Wald came up with their idea for the concept they call Flight Line based on conversations with their friends and neighbors.

For more information about Flight Line visit www.flight-linestapleton.com.

How did the passage of 2A and 3A affect Stapleton?

The October 2012 issue of the *Front Porch* carried an op-ed from Mayor Hancock that stated:

"Measure 2A will benefit neighborhoods spanning from Stapleton to Lowry by helping to:

- Complete parkland construction and restore maintenance.
- Resurface, extend and complete neighborhood arterials like Central Park Boulevard, Smith Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.
- Bring library service back to an average of 48 hours a week for all Denver branches including those in Stapleton, Lowry and Park Hill.
- Increase Denver children's access to pools, recreation centers, after-school programs and child-care."

In response to a request from the *Front Porch* for a one-year update, the mayor's office provided the following response:

"The passage of Measure 2A made it possible for us to catch back up on essential services lost during the recession and gave us the much needed opportunity to also eliminate the annual deficit and restore critical services in neighborhoods all across our city.

"The City forecasts that \$90 million of additional revenue generated by 2A and 3A will be available to fund currently identified Stapleton trunk infrastructure needs over the remaining 12 years of the Stapleton TIF. Trunk infrastructure includes regional street connections and open space/park construction.

"Approx \$4 million of this was generated in 2013:

- Opening the Sam Gary Library Branch Library hours at an average of 48 hours a week, which has led to increased hours, visits, circulation, and program attendance.
- Increasing youth participation and participation diversity in the center from Stapleton and Park Hill neighborhoods. Since

(continued on p. 33)



Get Back in the wing of Things

Relieve Spine, Joint and Nerve Pain Without Surgery


Personalized treatment utilizing the latest minimally invasive procedural techniques, diagnostic test, medications & rehabilitation therapies. Dr. Fuller is a Harvard trained triple board certified physician.




Mountain Spine & Pain Physicians

Brian Fuller, M.D. • 303.355.3700
www.mountain-spine.com
2373 Central Park Blvd, Ste 303, Denver, CO 80238


To our neighbors, we hope you have a wonderful Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!



Dr. Faiyaz with his family



Stapleton Children's Dentistry



Compassionate Comprehensive Care
2373 Central Park Blvd. in Stapleton
P: 303.399.KIDS(5437) - www.stapletonkids.com

DART auto

PORSCHE
Volkswagen
Audi • BMW • MINI

Full Service Repair
Dealer Quality Service for Less

4801 Monaco ST 303-296-1188
Free Shuttle to Stapleton & Park Hill
Loaner Cars Available!

DIANE GORDON DESIGN



303.355.5666
DIANEGORDONDESIGN.COM

BASEMENTS
KITCHENS & BATHS
INTERIORS

Family Law

Divorce & Legal Separation, Paternity & Custody, Modification of Existing Court Orders, and Mediation



Karen B. Best, Attorney at Law
29 years family law & litigation experience
10 years collaborative law involvement

303-708-1300
karen@bestfamilylaw.net
Appointments in Stapleton or Centennial

The SUN Spot

The *independent* voice of Stapleton

Brought to you by Stapleton United Neighbors

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



Sump Pump FAQ

By Sean Tierney

The issue of sump pumps has been source of great confusion in Stapleton. Sump pumps are important in securing the integrity of your foundation, but the source of the water, discharge frequency, and discharge location are important to your pump's long-term functionality. Based on some of the information gathered by SUN, we have put together a FAQ (to the best of our knowledge) to help you understand your sump-pump and what you can do if you suspect there might be problems. This is for information only. SUN is not responsible for sump pump or homeowner water issues. Homeowners should take all of these types of issues directly to their builder—SUN's role is to facilitate information sharing and communication among residents. We are happy to add/amend this information as necessary, so if you have advice that you think homeowners (or potential homeowners) in Stapleton would benefit from, please send that information to stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com.

Do you have a sump pump? And if so, what does it do?

Most homes in Stapleton with a basement (finished or not) will have a sump pump. A sump pump is designed to discharge water that might accumulate around the foundation of the house. Builders place a network of perforated pipes around the house foundation that collect water (from rain, snow, sprinklers, etc). This water is then routed to a sump pit in your basement (probably in the utility closet), and when the water level in the pit reaches a certain level, it activates the pump to discharge the water outside the house (probably into the yard).

Can I see my sump pump?

If you go into your utility closet (most likely), you can see a (round) cover on the ground (the top of your sump pit). You probably can't see through the cover (although some are made of transparent material like plastic), but if you remove this cover, you will find something resembling a bucket. Look into the bucket and you see the drainpipe from the network of pipes that were installed along the foundation of the house. You will also see the discharge pipe which routes the water out of the pump.

How do I know if my sump pump is working properly?

An easy way to determine if your pump is functioning properly would be to place some dirt below the pump outlet pipe (it usually comes out of your basement wall and extends about a foot) and check it daily to see if you have any signs of a discharge. You may also hear it operate in your basement if you remove the cover of your sump pit.

How do I know if my sump pump is working overtime? And if so, should I be concerned?

Since Denver is an arid region, sump pumps are unlikely to discharge more than a few times a year. Keep in mind, the level of water accumulation (for ex: heavy precipitation or excessive sprinkler use) will cause the sump pump to activate more regularly. If your sump pump is working overtime, and the water is being discharged just a few feet from your house, it is likely that the ejected water is settling on the saturated soil and filtering right back towards your foundation, thus causing your sump pit to fill again and activate the pump (a closed-loop system). Continued water presence may eventually compromise the integrity of your foundation. If there has been no rain for a few days, try turning off your sprinklers and check to see if the pump is discharging water. If so, your house may be in this closed loop.

If my sump pump is working overtime, is it because I have a high water table?

Not necessarily. The water table in Stapleton varies from block-to-block and neighborhood-to-neighborhood. At the time your home was built, a report should've been prepared to deter-

mine the distance between the top of the water table and your basement slab. The only way to know for sure is to have a ground water engineering company determine your water table level.

What happens if my sump pump breaks?

Pump failure will prevent the discharging of water out of the pit causing the pit to overflow and flood the basement. Alarms can be purchased that will notify you (with a local alarm in your house, or even a text message for more advanced devices) before the pit begins to overflow. Hardware stores and home improvement retailers carry a variety of alarms, with even more options online.

If the pump is discharging on your property, here is what you can do.

To 'open' the loop, you will want the discharge pipe to extend away from the house so that the water leaves the property. One way is to arrange a conduit of PVC piping (downhill and away from the house) so that the discharged water finds its way into the storm sewer (via the street, sidewalk, or alley). For people who do not have a driveway, an alternative discharge destination should be found, but each situation will be unique.

What is the deal with calcite?

Calcite (calcium carbonate) is a material found in the natural environment but it is also used to make concrete. When the Stapleton community was built, the old airport runways were ground up and recycled as a base (subsurface) below the asphalt pavement for the roads.

Does calcite impact my sump pump? And if so, how?

In the fall of 2013, it was successfully litigated that the calcite below the streets mixed with the natural ground water flow. As the water migrated through the soil, some of the water (now containing calcite) was intercepted by the network of pipes around the house foundation. When the calcite got into the pipes, it solidified. Eventually the calcite clogged the pipes (and/or the perforations), preventing the pipes from capturing and discharging the water, resulting in excessive buildup of water around the house foundation.

Do I have calcite build-up in the pipes around my foundation?

The only way to know for sure is to have your system tested by an engineering company, but you can also remove the cap on your sump pit and examine the drainpipe. According to a photograph presented by the engineering experts, calcite accumulation might appear at the end of the pipe and it would look like a roux (when you mix butter and flour on your stove-top).

Sean Tierney is a SUN board member investigating sump pump concerns in Stapleton.



SAPPHIRE PEDIATRICS

*Compassionate,
state-of-the-art healthcare
for your children from birth
thru age eighteen.*

Small. Personable. Perfect.

720.941.1778

4500 E. Ninth Ave, Ste 740, Denver, CO 80220

www.SapphirePediatrics.com



Molly Gilpin, PA • Robin Larabee, MD
Sarah Humphreys, MD • Kim Theobald, NP



Est. 2003

10 years of extremely local service

Maid Service

Recurring, move-out & one-time

Carpet Cleaning

50% off for all 1st time customers (move-out cleans excluded)

Stapleton Home Services

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

303-320-1297



Individual, Couples & Family Therapy

Accepting new clients
Working with children, teens and adults
Managing mental health medication
Free initial phone consult: 720-331-6899

90 Madison Street, Suite 400 | www.aldergrovegroup.com



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 22
10:30 am
"Simply Christmas"

Augustana Festival Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15, 7:30 pm
Choir, Handbells,
Organ, Instrumentalists

Christmas Worship

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24
3 pm • 5 pm • 11 pm
Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25
10:30 am



Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship: 8 am | 10:30 am
5000 E Alameda Ave | Denver CO 80246 | 303-388-4678 | www.augustanadenver.org

Stapleton Update

Kroenke Development

(continued from p. 30) Boulevard and surrounding land uses are designed will be critical to creating a smooth flow of traffic in this area. No transportation studies have been completed yet.

In addition to access from 56th Ave., Commerce City and Kroenke are also in discussions with Forest City and Denver over the design of Central Park Boulevard, which could be a shared roadway, i.e., half in each jurisdiction.

Section 10 will have approximately 195 acres of open space and parks and 2,000 residences. To stimulate the discussion, Dennis Piper, Director of Parks and Environment, Park Creek Metro District, presented several concepts for land use and park designs. Forest City expects to submit a General Development Plan for Section 10 to the city in the spring, and will hold a community meeting to inform residents of the proposed plans and get to solicit feedback before the plan is submitted for final review and approval. (Following Forest City's purchase of the land in Section 10, only a few more parcels of land, including the Aurora sites, will remain to be purchased from DIA.)

A larger version of the Victory Crossing Master Plan is posted at FrontPorch-Stapleton.com, along with a Stapleton land use map that shows Section 10.

More information on Victory Crossing can be found at www.victorycrossing.com.

David Netz is Co-Chair of the Stapleton Citizens Advisory Board and chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee.

2A Update

(continued from p. 30) many local or neighborhood centers are closed or have limited weekend hours, we are working to make Central Park a model for community recreation centers.

"The city continues to be fully committed to the redevelopment of Stapleton as a mixed-use, sustainable neighborhood as envisioned in the Green Book. The passage of 2A and 3A assists us in that goal." A list of citywide changes due to 2A is posted at FrontPorchStapleton.com.

Stapleton Development Corp. To Cease Operations

The Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) is a private, non-profit entity created by Mayor Webb to oversee the disposition of the former Stapleton International Airport—and it was charged with the responsibility to implement the Green Book. The mayor selects most of the board members. SDC's president, Cheryl Cohen-Vader, announced at the November Community Advisory Board meeting (CAB) that the SDC board passed a motion for SDC to cease operations since they have not been able to secure funding from the city or DIA that would allow them to continue. Bar Chadwick, the city's liaison for the development of Stapleton, said the Stapleton contracts specify that the duties of SDC can be assigned to other entities and attorneys will be meeting to determine how SDC's functions will be carried out.

Asked if he is concerned that the community is losing the ability to influence Forest City without the legal structure of SDC, Councilman Herndon said, "I think SUN is an equal partner in influencing Forest City as well as SDC... I don't believe their (the community's) ability will be diluted at all. SUN is an organized and well-established neighborhood organization."

More on this in the January issue of the Front Porch.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

DESIGN/REMODEL/HANDYMAN

BASEMENTS Best Builders-Best in Quality and Design at truly affordable prices. Call Jim at 720-276-7704

DESIGN Diane Gordon Design - Basements, Kitchens/Baths, Interiors - 303-355-5666, dianegordondesign.com

HANDYMAN & REMODELING - Serving Stapleton since 2001. Free Estimates 303-333-4507

HANDYMAN SERVICES expert since 1975. Visa/M-Card. AI 303-995-2585

HANDYMAN- Affordable, No job too small-Bob 720-434-3649 fixedit40@gmail.com

HOME RENOVATIONS/REPAIRS- Painting, Plumbing, Electrical, Tile, Drywall, Wood Floors. Prices Can't Be Beat. B&D Renovations 720.404.2649

LIC. GC. Finish Carpentry, Remodeling, Home Repairs. Small difficult jobs welcome. 22 yrs in Park Hill. Peter 720-291-6089

ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING

MASTER PLUMBER - Mr.Plumber, Est.1978, Licensed, best prices, credit cards ok. Jeff 303-523-6652 www.mrplumberdenver.com

PLUMBING - Brugman Plumbing- I show up on time. I do it right. I don't price gouge. Larry- 303-935-6348

QUALITY AFFORDABLE SOLAR Electric by Curran Electrical Services, a small local Stapleton business. Call your neighbor Frank with any solar questions. 303-917-7425 CurranElectricalservices@gmail.com

HOME SERVICES MISC

COMPUTER SERVICES - On-site residential and small business support located in Stapleton; 720-989-1979

JUNK REMOVAL. Anything goes! 30% off Tad 303-525-5421

MOVING-2 guys, 60/hr labor only. 95/hr for 2 guys & truck. lots of happy customers 720-364-9255

PIANO TUNING, 30 yrs exp., Piano Technicians Guild, David Nereson 303-355-5770

WINDOW AND GUTTER CLEANING-Bob Starr 303-329-8205

HOUSECLEANING

A GLOW Cleaning, Laundry, Errands. Experienced & Insured. 720-323-2499 or 303-341-0616

HOUSECLEANING-Mature-honest-friendly-Dependable. 303-671-9065

HOUSECLEANING-Member BBB ToptobottomCleaning.biz or call Diane 303-668-4014

HOUSECLEANING-White Magic-Excellent rates and references. Weekly, monthly, one-time only. 720-371-3290

PAINTING

HOLIDAY SPECIALS - our slowest time of the year makes for our lowest prices of the year. Start the New Year with a fresh new look. 30 yrs in biz, insured, refs. Mike @ Cherry Creek Painting 303-388-8151

PAINTING-Affordable, Exceptional Results 303-474-8882 / 720-338-1453 - www.jcspainting.com - Stapleton References

PAINTING-Premier Paint Works: Denver's Paint Specialists since 1993. int/ext neat, insured, impeccable refs. John 303-864-9247

PERSONAL SERVICES MISC

DRUM LESSONS- guaranteed results, Eastside drums, 303-320-0514

GIFT-GIVING GREATNESS Wake up to gifting genius! Denise has ideas all will adore and gotta have! 303-355-4612 www.marykay.com/dzaiontz

GUITAR LESSONS at your home, Focus on fun & creativity using songs you love. 15 years exp, local ref's available 303-459-0146/ paul@highcountryguitar.com

HOME COOKED MEALS! Gift Certificates Mangia-PersonalChef.com 303-324-1198

MASSAGE- In your home! 5280 mag's Top of the Town 2013! Call/Text Denise Chew 303-956-1912. Pre/Postnatal & Couples

SUCCESS TUTORING - Stapleton Brainsarefun.com reading, math, study-skills 860-304-3178

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND LEASING - Specializing in Stapleton & Park Hill. Call or email John Carranza - 303-489-6196 jmcarranza@comcast.net, www.stapleton360.com

PROPERTY MGMT- TJC-Management.com-Stapleton/Lowry/ParkHill. Top \$\$ for rentals. Avg vacancy <2days/yr. 303-324-6988

FOR RENT

Park Hill & Stapleton: www.stapleton360.com
RENTALS available-Varied prices/sizes in NE area TJCManagement.com, 303-324-6988

Stapleton Fertility Clinic, World-Class Expertise

Affordable Patient Care, Award Winning Physicians

Come to Our Free Wellness & Fertility Café
Dec. 3, 6-8 pm. Great topics and food!

- How Wellness Affects Fertility
- Egg Freezing
- Reproductive Aging—Time To Worry?
- Weight & Fertility: The Goldilocks Rule
- Choices & Third-Party Reproduction
- PCOS—What Does It Mean?



arm.coloradowomenshealth.com

Advanced Reproductive Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

RSVP:
UCDenverFertility@gmail.com
3055 Roslyn St. #230, Stapleton
303-724-8089

RELIABLE APPLIANCE

SALES * SERVICE * PARTS * RECYCLING

Free Recycling Drop Site
Low Cost Removal
BBB Members ~ We Also Buy!

988 Dayton St., Aurora, CO 80010
303-344-4014
www.reliableappliance.org

New Day Acupuncture



Treating: Pain • Allergies • Stress, Anxiety & other Emotional Complaints
Digestive Ailments • Women's Health Issues • Children's Health

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

HighTech ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Now Accepting Resumes

and letters of interest for the various positions that will need to be filled at High Tech Elementary

If you are interested please visit:
<http://hstrial-agile.homestead.com/Working-at-HTES.html>
or email Principal Dr. Amy Gile at amy_gile@dpsk12.org

Open House Events

An opportunity to share information with parents in the community about High Tech Elementary:

Saturday, November 2nd from 9:00am-1:00pm
Thursday, December 12th from 6:30-8:30pm
Saturday, January 25th from 9:00am-1:00pm

At the Central Park Rec Center in the Community Room
9651 E. Martin Luther King Blvd, Denver, CO 80238

This Year, Stuff Their Piggy Banks Instead of Their Stockings.

Long after most holiday gifts have been forgotten, an investment through Edward Jones can still be valued by those who receive it.

Whether it's stocks, bonds, mutual funds or 529 contributions, your Edward Jones financial advisor can help you decide which investment is most appropriate.

Because when it's the thought that counts, thinking about their financial well-being means a lot.

Contributions to a 529 plan may be eligible for a state tax deduction or credit in certain states for those residents.

To learn about all the holiday gift options available, call or visit today.



Natalie J Robbins, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

2373 Central Park Blvd, Suite 104
Denver, CO 80238 • 303-320-7752

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Denver Dumb Friends League Offers More than Adoptions



By Courtney Drake-McDonough

Although the Dumb Friends League's (DFL) shelter is located at Quebec and Evans, prospective pet owners don't have to leave their homes to see what animals are available—their website, www.DDFL.org, is updated hourly. And if a dog or cat isn't the right fit, other small animals, including guinea pigs and rabbits, are also at the shelter awaiting families. But DFL doesn't just help their adoptive pet owners, they also offer free advice and information to people who already have a pet (whether or not adopted from the League) and need help dealing with pet behavior issues. Animal Behavior Manager Matt Levien and his staff run a Pet Behavior Helpline where anyone can leave

Debi Wendt, pictured with her German shepherd Kasey Kane, after the NASCAR driver, at the Dumb Friends League, also adopted two cats and became a volunteer for the Dumb Friends League.

a recorded message and receive a call back from a staff member. Levien says questions range from issues of "house soiling" (going to the bathroom where they shouldn't) to aggressiveness. The staff does up to 120 consultations each month, and last year had 2,700 Behavior Helpline cases.

Levien and his staff also offer classes for adoptive owners and evaluate incoming animals to determine whether or not they are ready to be adopted. If they have

minor issues such as fear and stress, the staff will work with the animal on their issues while they are up for adoption. In more serious cases such as aggression, the staff will work behind the scenes to help ready an animal for adoption.

During the adoption process, Levien and his staff provide whatever information is known about the animal's history, including health or behavioral issues, and tips for dealing with them. Staff members also ask questions of the prospective adopter to get a better sense of which animal might be best for the family and vice versa. Adoptive families are encouraged to

The Dumb Friends League does not recommend giving animals as gifts. Pets should be placed as lifetime companions and chosen according to the expectations and lifestyle of the new family, as well as the animal's needs. DFL recommends giving a gift card that can be used toward an adoption or bringing the person to the shelter to select their own pet and fully enjoy the adoption process.

spend one-on-one time getting to know a pet in a quiet meet-and-greet area where they can also introduce the new pet to an existing one. "You want them to become a family," says Rita Aragon, caravan and satellite adoptions coordinator for the Dumb Friends League. "There are reasons why animals fall into place and are the appropriate match."

When East Colfax resident Debi Wendt saw one particular German shepherd's photo and information posted on the DFL website, she hurried to meet him. "I fell in love," says Wendt. "I was there knocking on the door when they opened."

Because Wendt had owned German shepherds before and because her dog didn't have any major issues—just a lack of formal training—the adoption was a quick process. "I walked in the door, he got in my lap and then it was a half hour for paperwork," Wendt says.

Wendt's adoption experience motivated her to become a volunteer at DFL. "There is a huge need to place our animals so I feel like I am making a difference in their lives," Wendt says. She currently volunteers three hours a week as a cat care tech. "And, of course, while I'm doing that, I spend time cuddling them. Spending all day in a cage can make them stir crazy, so I hold them as much as I can." Now Wendt has three adopted pets, Kasey Kane, her German shepherd, and two cats who, she says, get along just fine with their big dog sibling Kasey.

All cat and dog adoptions include a spay/neuter surgery if it hasn't already been done, initial vaccinations, a microchip ID implant, a free office visit with a participating veterinarian and a one-hour consultation with a behaviorist done either over the phone or in

person after the adoption.

If the animal has already had the surgery, vaccinations and implant, the process for completing the adoption just requires that forms be filled out and the fee is paid—and the animal and owner can "go off into the sunset," as Aragon puts it.

Aragon says a frequent question Dumb Friends League (DFL) staff hears is about the use of the word "dumb" in the organization's name. "Kids will say, 'But animals are really smart!'" She tells kids that the word means being unable to talk and that that the Denver Dumb Friends League, which is almost 103 years old, is modeled after a shelter in London.

The closest Dumb Friends League shelter is at 2080 S. Quebec St. and they have an equine center near Franktown. The shelters are open seven days a week, excluding major holidays. For more information, visit DDFL.org, call 303.751.5772, or follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

MILE HIGH

plastic surgery



NATHAN ROESNER, D.O.

milehigh-plasticsurgery.com

720.358.2614 | 2975 Roslyn St., Suite 140, Denver, CO 80238

Offering Complimentary Consultations and both Cosmetic and Reconstructive services including:

Breast Augmentation | Breast Reduction | Breast Lift | Eyelid Surgery

Facelift | Liposuction | Nose Surgery | Extreme Weight Loss Surgery

Tummy Tuck | Botox® | Facial Rejuvenation

STAPLETON | THORNTON | LAKEWOOD

DENTISTRY FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY

FREE WHITENING

Call for details



Steele

DENTISTRY of STAPLETON



3545 Quebec St, Ste 110
Denver, CO 80238
Behind Sonic on Quebec
303-278-3353
All PPO Insurance Plans Accepted.
 Check out our Facebook page for monthly specials

So you don't have insurance? We offer great new patient specials!
Offering IV Sedation, Wisdom Tooth Extractions, Implant Dentistry, Dentures and Invisalign

Enrolling Kindergarten through 4th Grade for Fall 2014

Authentic Montessori Charter through DPS



One of the most sought-after models in the country!

Come to one of our Parent Information Meetings in December:

4th (6pm-7pm)
7th (10am-12pm—at Evie Dennis Campus)
18th (6pm-7pm)

303.712.2001
4895 Peoria St. Denver CO 80239



JLStudios

Voice Lessons

Now Accepting Students

Performance Coaching
Vocal Health & Longevity
Range Extension
Career Development

All Styles, All Levels

310.570.9041
www.jillianleesoprano.com

December 2013

34

Stapleton Front Porch



Just the Facts

Lighting Up the Holidays: Costs & Carbon Footprints

by James Hagadorn

Shortly after I finished off the last of my kids' "yucky" Halloween candy, holiday lights began popping up around the neighborhood. One by one appeared twinkling icicles, walkway candy canes, and bobbing reindeer. Soon they were joined by a jolly inflatable Santa and his best bud, Snoopy.

My inner elf yearned to put up our lights, too. Yet my environmental and frugal sides cautioned—aren't we supposed to wait until Thanksgiving? Arrggh. Waiting is difficult, especially when every time I go to the store there's another pre-Black Friday sale! Internally I schemed—should I go all-out this year and buy an inflatable dancing Santa in a hula skirt? Or max out the credit card with some spiffy new LED lights? Hey, aren't LEDs supposed to be good for the environment? If so, maybe I can make our house look like the one in National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation* while saving the planet at the same time!

To figure this out, and sift through the sales pitches, I studied the lights in our 'hood, analyzed usage patterns, and did the math. The answer wasn't what I expected.

Holiday decorators fall into four main categories: 1) *Minimalists*, who have a few strings of lights around their tree; 2) *Conservatives*, who brandish a mix of exterior and interior lights; 3) *Martha Stewarts*, whose light displays make Martha proud; and 4) *Clark Griswolds*, whose homes can be seen from 747s overhead.

Not surprisingly, the average celebrant of Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, uses even less energy than the most minimalist Christmas participant. Ditto for Kwanzaa and non-Christmas celebrants. In Colorado, the average Minimalist's holiday lighting habit only costs about \$2/year in extra electricity, presuming they are using incandescent lights. Conservatives and Marthas who are using such lights tend to spend between \$7 and \$40 extra per year, and the average Griswold tops up their holiday electric bill by about \$250. Were all of them to convert to LEDs, their annual holiday electricity increases would only be 10¢, \$1, \$10 and \$40. Sounds like we all ought to run out to buy LEDs, right? Maybe not.

The ads say holiday LED lights pay for themselves. For interior mini-lights, it takes between six years (for Minimalists) and 30

years (for Marthas) for the amount of electricity cost savings to equal the amount you paid for them. In part this duration of LED "payback" is because: a) interior LED lights tend to cost three to four times as much as incandescents, not twice as much, as most energy models presume; b) most Colorado electricity is relatively cheap (4.6¢/kWh; also see http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_5_6_a); and c) because actual user habits for holiday decorations differ from estimated usages used in manufacturer/seller's cost-benefit analyses.

But what about exterior lights, also known as C9s? For the Conservatives and Marthas out there, they can pay for themselves in 1 to 5 years. Even if you buy expensive ones and use them sparingly, they ought to pay for themselves in less than 14 years. So if your old holiday lights are worn or broken, exterior LEDs are a no-brainer. If you're a first-time buyer, don't even think old-school—you can shop your favorite big-box and find LEDs that cost the same as incandescents.

And those inflatables? My wife will be happy to know (at least, this is how I intend to argue for purchasing that kitschy hula Santa) that most use low-voltage blower motors and LEDs, yielding a total hourly energy consumption that is usually less than an outdoor floodlight.

How do these decorations impact our planet or our neighbors? Aesthetics aside, the biggest impact of holiday lights is on our air.

Generation of extra electricity produces planet-warming CO₂ gas, acid-rain-causing SO₂ and lung-etching NO_x gas. In Colorado, each Minimalist's incandescent holiday lighting causes new production of gaseous pollutants equivalent to driving our minivan to Rocky Mountain National Park. Conservatives produce pollutants equivalent to a 225-mile ride in our swagger wagon, and Marthas create nearly as much pollution as a road trip to Vegas. Depending on your mix of lighting decorations, a LED switchover can make a 4- to 15-fold dent in your emissions. But unless you can see your house from space, or you have so many interior lights on that you don't run your furnace in December, don't lose sleep over it.

So what to replace, what to buy, and what to do? With some of the facts above, you can make your own calculations. The final decision may not lie with your inner economist or environmental conscience, but with the pleas of your loved ones.

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



How do holiday lights impact our planet and our neighbors? The answer is unexpected.



Big pool,
big yard,
big fun!

Happy Dog Daycare

Daycare, boarding, swimming, training & bath service
www.happydogdenver.com • 303-331-1364
3939 Newport St, Denver, CO 80207
Daycare starting at \$9/day, boarding starting at \$22/night



VIC'S LIQUORS IS TOP DOG IN STAPLETON!

DECEMBER IS OUR GRAND OPENING MONTH!
Check in the future for off-the-leash specials!
Join our Man's Best Friend Loyalty Program!



Mention Vic the giant malamute for 10% off any bottle of wine purchased in December. Excludes already-discounted wines.



Like Vic's Liquors,
Fine Wines and Beers
on Facebook and follow
the adventures of Vic!

VicsLiquors.com

FINE WINES & BEERS

VIC'S LIQUORS



Quebec Square, 35th Ave and Quebec
7305 E. 35th Ave., #120
Denver, CO 80238
303-322-VICS

Where R Liquors used to be - but a whole lot better!



YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES.



MYSTERIES OF THE UNSEEN WORLD

PRESENTED BY LOCKHEED MARTIN

BUY TICKETS @ DMNS.ORG/IMAX

