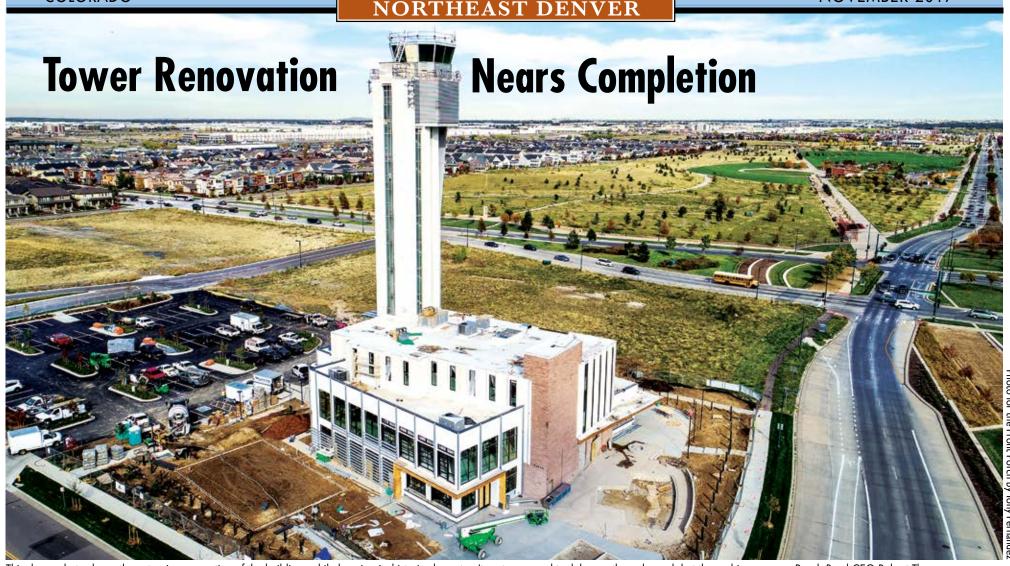
**COLORADO** 

## Front Port For Collow Nov. 7

Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, East Colfax, NW Aurora

NOVEMBER 2017



This drone photo shows the extensive renovation of the building, while keeping its historic character. It cost more and took longer than planned, but the end is near says Punch Bowl CEO Robert Thompson.

By Courtney Drake-McDonough

In the building where air traffic controllers once coordinated landings and takeoffs for the old Stapleton Airport, Punch Bowl Social will open on Nov. 18 at 7pm with an open-to-the-public ticketed event to support the local charity We Don't Waste (WeDontWaste.org). Get tickets online at PunchBowl Social.com). At 9pm doors will open to non-ticketed guests.

Standing vacant since 1995, attracting graffiti and other forms of vandalism, the new incarnation of the building by

the tower is a restaurant and entertainment venue with 15,000 square feet inside and 14,000 square feet outside. Although tearing down the building and starting from scratch might have been easier, CEO and founder Robert Thompson is committed to renovating old structures and loves the historic character that comes with them. "We accept the responsibility of designing *inside* history, not always wiping history clean and starting a new story," he says. So, when Councilman Chris Herndon brought the idea of the renovation project to him three years ago, after a

brief analysis, Thompson says, "I came to a quick 'yes."

The Stapleton location is Thompson's second Punch Bowl Social in Denver (the Broadway location was the first for the Colorado-based company), and 10th in the country. With construction delays and the care (continued on page 38)

#### RTD Tells Frustrated Residents: It's Now Up to the PUC

By John Fernandez

Rough TD told a crowd of frustrated area residents that implementation of a quiet zone along the A Line rail corridor now depends on action by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC). An open house hosted by RTD Oct. 23 was structured to address a wide range of issues including status of the B and G Lines. Local residents ignored those issues and instead huddled around RTD spokesmen Nate (continued on page 7)



Workers continue to monitor A-Line crossings and trains continue to sound horns day and night. At an RTD public meeting on Oct. 23, locals pressed for an answer when the horns will end.

## **Best Sports Bars for Watching College Football**



Michigan State fans gather at Blake Street Tavern to cheer on their team among kindred spirits. The team went on to win the game against Minnesota 30 — 27. Blake Street Tavern, named best sports bar in the country at the Las Vegas Night Club and Bar Show, allows local alumni clubs to reserve the space for such gatherings. Story on page 12.

Fall weather cooperated this year, giving Denver neighborhoods brilliant color through October and lots of leaf raking ahead in November.



## Contents

- Tower Renovation Nears Completion
- Best Sports Bars for College Football
- RTD Tells Frustrated Residents: It's Now Up to the PUC
- LimeBikes Bring Dockless Bikesharing
- Up Close with Refuge's More Unusual Wildlife
- Conversations Continue about the Name Stapleton
- Indie Prof: November is Denver International Film Festival (DIFF) Month
- 18 Solar Decathlon Brings New Ideas for Home Innovations
- 22 Noted Author Speaks to Children's Hearts
- Where does your Denver tax money go?
- Women Impressionist Artists:



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- 26 School Performance Framework: What Does it Measure in 2017?
- Recognitions: -Scholars Unlimited Students -Book Drive Donations
- 29 Event List— And find more online at FrontPorchNE.com
- 32 Recognitions: -Three Local Restaurants in 5280's Top 25 List -Annual Toy Drive for Children's Hospital
- Op-Ed: Mayor Says "Vote Yes" on Denver Bond Questions
- 34 Stapleton Update -Affordable Housing –New Fire House -Shops at Northfield Has Been Sold
- Stapleton United Neighbors
- Letters to the Editor
- Urgent Care Facility Opens in Eastbridge

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#### CORRECTION

"Strengthen, Balance and Relieve Pain with Pilates," October, p. 28

The information on Pilates instructor certification should have stated: Pilates instructors complete anywhere from 450-950 hours of training, and then can take the PMA exam to become certified.

Kinesis Pilates does not work directly with other specialists, although some Pilates students choose to work with a variety of practitioners and therapists. For more information about Kinesis Pilates call 303.921.7017

#### Events & Announcements at Stapleton



#### Wine Education Series at The Cube

Wednesday, Nov. 1, at 7pm The MCA's fall wine education series will feature an educational aspect to wine tasting. This sit-down tasting will feature different wines from different regions with a wine educator leading the discussion. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at stapletoncommunity.com.

#### Concert at The Cube—Hazel Miller

Thursday, Nov. 2, 6:30pm Hazel Miller will be performing at The Cube! Concerts start at 6:30pm and are free and open to the public. The Cube is located at 8371 Northfield Blvd.

#### **Winter Welcome**

Friday, Nov. 17, 6-8pm



Join the MCA at the West Crescent to kick off the holiday season! The MCA will host a night of festive traditions including the lighting of the trees and streets of the 29th Ave. Town Center. Holiday lights will be strung across the street's trees and we will have a Christmas tree on the West Crescent and menorah on the East Crescent. Participating Town Center retail shops will be open and many will feature holiday specials. The streets will be lined with booths that will include a roasted almond vendor, fire pits complete with s'more makings, hot chocolate, and much more. All event proceeds will benefit local nonprofits.

#### **Active Minds Seminar**

This is a free, no-reservation-needed public program brought to you by the Stapleton MCA. Location: Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

#### Thursday, Nov. 9, 6:45-7:45pm Veterans Day

Veterans Day originally honored the military personnel who served in WWI. Currently, the holiday celebrates the contributions of all living U.S. veterans, of which there are over 20 million. Join Active Minds as we explore the significance of this holiday and the issues and contributions of those who have served our country in war and peacetime.

#### Thursday, Nov. 16, 6:45-7:45pm **South Korea**

The Korean peninsula is a challenging part of the world. While North Korea gets lotr of attention for their nuclear ambitions and anti-Western rhetoric, their neighbor to the south is making headlines of its own. The recent election of Moon Jae-in as president of South Korea is likely to bring some significant shifts in regional policy and create ripples throughout the world. Join Active Minds as we explore the country of South Korea, past, present and future.

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

Jennifer Olsen Communications Manager jolsen@stapletoncommunity.com



#### Santa's Best Christmas Trees

Visit your local tree lot for your 2017 Christmas tree! Santa's Best Christmas trees will be located at each of The Greens starting the Friday after Thanksgiving. The Greens are located at 29th Ave. and Roslyn St., and 49th Place and Valencia St.

Get the latest on **1** 



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#### **PUBLISHERS:**

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wwww.FrontPorchNE.com FrontPorch@FrontPorchNE.com 303-526-1969 2566 Syracuse St., Denver, CO 80238 Letters to the Editor: Editor@FrontPorchNE.com The Front Porch – NE Denver distributes 35,000 free papers during the first week of each month. Papers are delivered to homes and/or racks in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, East Colfax and NW Aurora.

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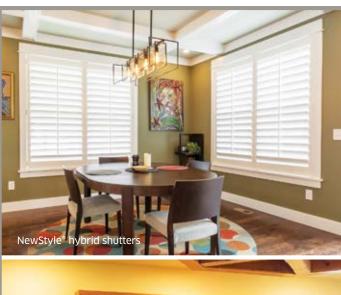
Auto	Autowash at Stapleton	34
	DART Auto	36
	Suba Performance	35
<b>Blood Donation</b>	Bonfils Blood Center	39
Children's Activities	Neighborhood Music Stapleton	22
Churches	Augustana Lutheran Church	34
	Denver Presbyterian Church	36
Community Organization	Stapleton Master Community Association	2
Dance Classes	Dance Institute LLC	20
	Your Soul's Movement	23
Dental	Clair Family Dentistry	26
	Lowry Family Dentistry	8
	Nestman and Eng Orthodontics	35
	Stapleton Dental	33
	Stapleton Orthodontics	28
	Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics	3
	Trommeter Orthodontics	38
	Williams Family Dentistry	18

Design and Remodeling	Diane Gordon Design	15
	Three Week Kitchens	16
Dispensary	Trill Alternatives & Trill Evolutions	12
Entertainment	Firehouse Theater Company	34
Events	2017 Holiday Food and Gift Festival	17
	Shops at Northfield Stapleton	24
	Sweet William Market	5
Fitness	Bladium Sports and Fitness Center	27
	FIT-36 Fitness - Lowry	32
Health and Wellness	Hand and Stone Massage at Northfield Stapleton	8
	New Day Acupuncture	34
	Stapleton Foundation - be well Health and Wellness initiative	40
Home Builders	Boulder Creek Neighborhoods	9
	David Weekley Homes	19
	Infinity Home Collection	6
	Infinity Home Collection	7
	Parkwood Homes	30
	Thrive Home Builders	25
	Thrive Home Builders	32

Home Furnishings	Smart Spaces	15
Home Improvement	Bath & Granite	15
	Reflection Windows & Doors LLC	30
Home Services	Dr HVAC - Plumbling, Heating and Air Conditioning	16
Hospitals	St Joseph Hospital	28
Housecleaning	Number 1 House Cleaning	35
Insurance	Kenny Plank - State Farm	36
Lawyers	Livelihood Law LLC	7
Medical Doctors	CareNow Urgent Care	37
	HealthONE Premier Integrated OBGYN	31
	Med-Fit, PLLC-Weight Loss Specialist	33
	Rose Medical Center	13
	Sapphire Pediatrics	31
	SCL Physicians - Stapleton OB- Gyn	17
	Stapleton Pediatrics	33
Museum	History Colorado Center	23
	Wings Over The Rockies Air & Space Museum	25

Painting	Ciechanowicz Painting	14
Political Ad	Our Denver	36
Pre-Schools/ Childcare	Denver Preschool Program	21
Psychologists	Trauma Resolution Colorado	33
Real Estate	Mindy Milligan, Realtor with Realty Trends, LLC	30
	RE/MAX Momentum Stapleton	38
	The Kearns Team, RE/MAX Alliance	37
	Wolfe & Epperson Real Estate	35
Restaurants	It's Brothers Bar & Grill	10
	Next Door Eatery, Stapleton	11
	North County	10
Retail	Eastbridge Town Center	27
Schools	International School of Denver	22
	Monarch Montessori	20
Window Coverings	Budget Blinds	16
	Flatiron Window Fashions	14
	Rocky Mountain Shutters	4
Service Directory & Classifieds	Service Directory & Classifieds	37

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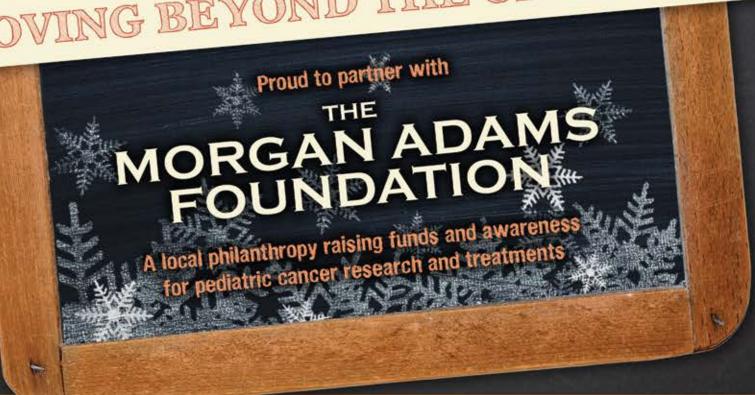
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RTD spokesmen Nate Currey (arms outstretched) and Scott Reed explain to area residents the steps remaining to achieve an A Line quiet zone.

(continued from page 1) Currey and Scott Reed with one basic question—when will the A Line trains be allowed to stop blowing their warning horns?

The good news, according to Currey, is that RTD recently secured approval of its Positive Train Control (PTC) system from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

The FRA decision occurred on Sept. 28, the day after the PUC rejected RTD's application for approval of three of the 12 street crossings. RTD was requesting authority to add 15 seconds to the federal standard minimum warning time of 20 seconds. PUC "orders" explaining the rejection were issued October 25. In a communication that day to board members, RTD General Manager David Genova said, "The orders do include a process for us to request a rehearing and submit additional information which we will be doing... At this time we are uncertain of the timeframe for the rehearing process."

So, the bad news is that no one knows at this point what the PUC will ultimately decide or when that decision might be made. Currey said he has no explanation for the PUC's rejection of the RTD applications but did comment that the PUC commissioners appear to be "not well informed" about commuter rail systems in the sense of not having as much information as the FRA.

Once PUC approval is obtained, the quiet zone applications prepared by Denver and Aurora could be

acted on within 60 to 90 days. Upon approval of a quiet zone by the FRA, trains (both commuter and freight) will be allowed to travel through the at-grade crossings without sounding the LONG-LONG-SHORT-LONG horns that have plagued the A Line since testing began late 2015.

Open house attendees complained of not being able to sleep through the night. Some questioned whether a class action lawsuit is an appropriate course of action, and others asked rhetorically whether RTD would pay to upgrade their homes' windows to block the horn noise.

Speaking off the record, an RTD employee opined that the two agencies, which operate independently of each other, seemed to be reluctant to be the first to approve the first-ever PTC designed from the ground up for a new rail facility since it could set the template for PTC nationally. PTC was mandated by the National Transportation Safety Board as a failsafe train collision avoidance system in a 2008 decision following a fatal train crash in California.

Unhappy residents likened the A Line PTC to Denver's costly experience with a

computerized DIA baggage system that never functioned properly.

A Line Also Impacts Bridge-widening Project. A project to widen the Central Park Blvd. bridge will be delayed at least a month as RTD and the Park Creek Metro District (PCMD) negotiate cost-sharing on a new switch required to minimize the "bus bridge" required during construction. Because of the high voltage and proximity of the train's catenary line to the new construction, power must be shut down under the bridge during critical construction sequences occurring in and around the A Line right-of-way. This may occur 25 times during construction. Buses will bridge the gap in service caused by the closure as patrons are shuttled between stations. Without the new isolation switch at the construction site, the bus bridge would extend from the Colorado station all the way to DIA. The new switch would shorten the bus bridge from Colorado to Peoria. A cost estimate for the switch is still being developed but is expected to be in the low six figures. The total bridge widening project cost is \$8.4 million.

The project adds two traffic lanes and a second pedestrian walk over the UPRR tracks and the RTD A Line. Bridge approaches will also be widened. The construction schedule is approximately 12 months. Construction was originally slated to begin in November.

Timing and durations of these A Line shut-downs will be coordinated between RTD, its private contractor Denver Transit Partners, the bridge contractor Kraemer North America LLC and the PCMD's construction manager, Mortenson Construction.

PCMD is the Stapleton special district charged with designing and constructing major infrastructure in the former airport. PCMD says the city and RTD are negotiating how the switch will be paid for and that it is "likely that some cost will be borne by the project."



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## LimeBikes Bring **Dockless Bikesharing**

By John Fernandez

t first glance, a LimeBike is unremarkable: a brightly colored three-speed comfort bike with a front-wheel basket, warning bell, head lamp, reflectors and wheel fenders. But it represents a paradigm shift in the bikesharing industry.

LimeBike is a "dockless" bikesharing service that started recently in Aurora, including at Stanley Marketplace. This is the first such

dockless bikesharing program in Colorado. Unlike traditional bikesharing services such as B-Cycle in Denver, a LimeBike is not tethered to docking stations but can be picked up and left anywhere within the

company's service area. Just as with car-sharing services such as ZipCar, users download an app that locates nearby GPS-enabled LimeBikes. The rider then scans the QR code on the bike to unlock it. At the end of the ride, the bike is parked in any suitable location and secured by pressing down the back-wheel lock to finish the trip. Rides cost \$1 per 30-minute time block (50 cents for students with a valid ".EDU" email address) assessed to the user's credit card in the LimeBike

app. LimeBike hopes to implement a cashbased payment system for people without credit cards.

For cities, this dockless technology eliminates the need for structures where bikes are parked and the subsidies that have



A LimeBike left on the sidewalk at the Central Park rail station drew curious looks from passersby.



Cesar Cardona of LimeBikes shows the QR code that is scanned into the LimeBike app on the rider's phone to unlock the bike.

typically been required to support bikesharing services. For users, there is the convenience of picking up a bike at any number of locations and leaving the bike wherever a trip happens to end. LimeBike will use data gathered from its GPS-enabled bikes to continuously "re-balance" the distribution of its bikes so that they will be located in high-demand areas.

LimeBike has the potential to help solve the "first mile/last mile" problem that has long been viewed as a missing link in making mass transit trips more convenient since a rider's ultimate destination may be one to two miles from a station. Aurora's LimeBike program began on Oct. 6 with 250 bikes in a dockless service area focused on northwest Aurora and the nine R Line stations. LimeBike is a California-based company founded earlier this year.

Denver is evaluating the feasibility of such a program. Eric Herbst of Northeast Transportation Connections (NETC) says his organization has approached Denver to ask if the city would be interested in using Stapleton as a pilot project for introducing dockless bikesharing. Already, LimeBike bicycles have been spotted parked at the Central Park rail/bus station. (When this happens, LimeBike has to

relocate the bike back to its service area in Aurora if not returned by a rider in a given amount of

Bikesharing began in Paris in 2007 and since has expanded to many cities around the world. Denver was the first U.S. city to offer bikesharing at a large scale when it partnered with B-Cycle in

The system now has 89 stations and 700 bikes focused in the central core of the city. Denver subsidizes B-Cycle, with \$175,000 budgeted in 2017. Public Works staffers Cindy Patton and Alyssa Alt say Denver is watching dockless systems recently deployed in Seattle and Washington, D.C., to determine whether to move forward with a program in 2018. Considerations include bike distribution and maintenance, ways to avoid excessive sidewalk congestion, and whether a dockless system could complement the station-based approach used by B-Cycle.

Aurora has granted a second dockless bikesharing permit to "ofo," a Beijing-based company with bicycle fleets in 180 cities in 15 countries (squint at ofo and it looks like a bike rider). Ofo rides cost \$1/hour.

Apps for the two Aurora services can be downloaded at www.limebike.com and www.ofo.com.



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## Up Close with Refuge's More Unusual Wildlife

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge offers 15,000 acres of prairie, wetlands and woodlands that are home to a wide range of wildlife that includes bison and the endangered black-footed ferret.





**Above:** A ferret pokes its head out of a prairie dog hole on the day they were introduced to the Wildlife Refuge in October 2015. **Right:** The bison roam free in the plains of the Refuge and, if visitors are lucky, they might find them walking along the road right beside their car. Annually in December the Refuge has a bison round-up for testing and management of the herd.

By Anne Hebert

ison are an important part of plains ecology," says Dave Lucas, manager at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge—and the public has great opportunities to visit the wildlife refuge and see these huge animals, weighing about 2,000 pounds each.

The refuge also boasts the world's only indoor/outdoor black-footed ferret exhibit giving visitors a chance to observe the nation's most endangered mammal. The reintroduction of black-footed ferrets is considered a success with the birth of babies at the refuge this year.

#### Bison Round-up

The bison are on the move during round-up time in December at the Wildlife Refuge. A yearly event, it provides an opportunity for staff to get an accurate count of the herd and assess the health of the animals. Calves are "chipped" to provide each animal with unique identification in much the same way our pets receive implanted microchips at the veterinarian's office. In addition to disease surveillance, random hair and blood sampling provides genetic and antibody information about the animals.

The round-up also offers the chance to introduce new animals from one of the other seven refuge locations in the U.S. This year, 14 females and

## FOOD & DRINK



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11 males from Montana will join the Colorado herd. Selected for their rare, historic genes, they will enhance the existing herd in Colorado.

Lucas says the herd is treated in a "hands-off" manner to allow them to exist the way they would have years ago. Animals living in the wild are generally healthier and stronger than those in captivity and will breed and reproduce naturally. A reported plan to expand the bison habitat to include 200 acres of airport land along Peña Blvd. is still under discussion with no action planned at this time.

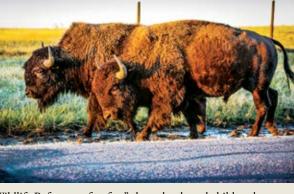
#### How about those endangered ferrets?

Disease is problematic among rodent populations in the U.S. and at the Wildlife Refuge, so surveillance and mitigation efforts are undertaken as needed. Canine distemper is 100 percent fatal to wild animals and sylvatic plague can have a catastrophic effect on wild rodent populations. Historically, plague has been a problem for the prairie dogs at the arsenal.



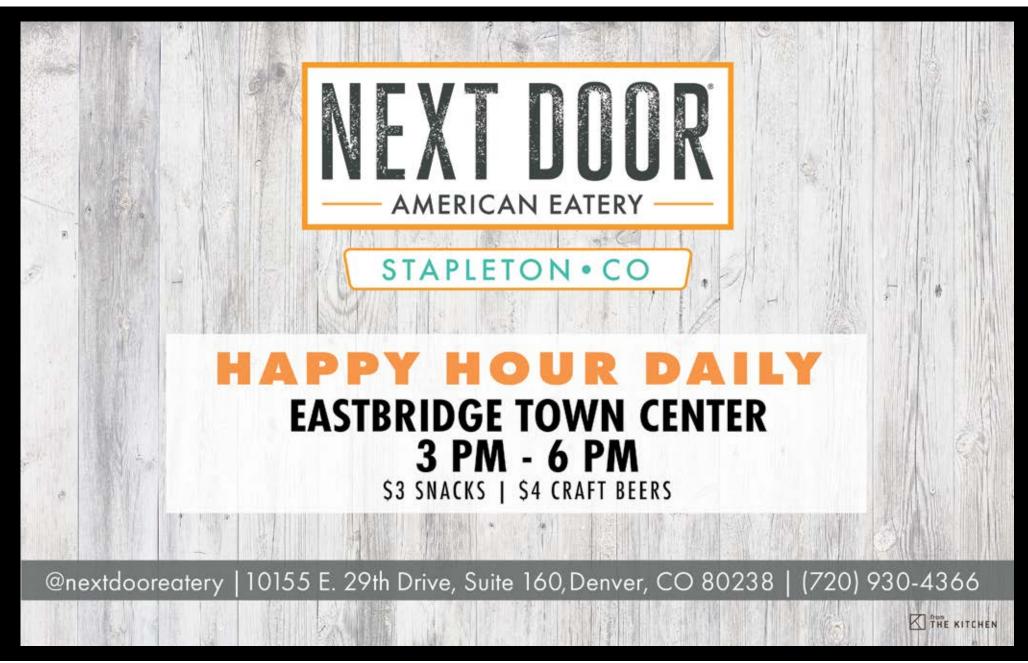
Since ferrets eat prairie dogs, which can transmit lethal plague, young ferrets are captured for microchip implantation, vaccinations and the administration of an antibiotic. To ease the stress of being handled by humans, they are anesthetized during the procedures. To minimize the risk of disease and maintain the ferret's food source, the Wildlife Refuge sprays prairie dog holes to kill fleas that carry plague.

In addition, prairie dogs at the Wildlife Refuge get an oral vaccine to protect them from plague. It is a blue, peanut butter-flavored pellet given in the fall when there is less vegetation for them to eat, making it more likely that the pellets will be eaten. Because the pellets turn the animal dung blue, Refuge staff can easily tell when it's been eaten. Lucas points out that blue dung is an "especially



fun fact" that school-aged children learn when they visit.

The refuge teaches respect for the animals and asks visitors to abide by the rules that protect both visitors and animals. "These are wild animals," Lucas says. "If they sense danger, their fight-or-flight instincts kick in."



## Like college football? Here's where to find kindred spirits.



Local fans enjoy college games at It's Brothers Bar in The Shops at Northfield. Brothers offers most college conferences, except Pac-12, on a huge array of big screen TVs.

#### Want to go watch your favorites at a local bar? See page 17 for your options!

Atla	ntic Coast Conference
Clamaan	Cowboy Lounge, 1941 Market St.
Clemson	Lodo's Bar & Grill, 1946 Market St.
Florida State	Brother's Bar & Grill, 1920 Market St.
North Carolina	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
	Casey's Bistro & Pub, 7301 E. 29th Ave.
Notre Dame	Milwaukee St. Tavern, 201 Milwaukee St.
Syracuse	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Tulsa	Stoney's Bar & Grill, 1111 Lincoln St
Vincinia Task	Jackson's Sports Bar, 1520 20th St.
Virginia Tech	Sloan's Lake Tap & Burger, 1565 Raleigh St.
Wake Forest	Lodo's Bar and Grill, 1946 Market St.

Then the leaves fall from the trees, college flags rise across the city as fans of NCAA football embrace their favorite sports season. Across Denver perhaps most noticeably in Stapleton—signs of the area's diverse heritage become evident. If you are among the proud, flag-displaying aficionados of college football in Denver, just where can you go to watch a game in the company of your fellow fans? Or, conversely, if you and your hodge-podge of neighbors want to throw back a few cold ones and catch an assortment of college games, what are your best bets locally? The Front Porch rounded up college game-watch options in Denver (and beyond) to help readers find like-minded fans.

We also did a highly scientific neighborhood survey of north and south Stapleton that revealed Stapleton boasts more diversity than most demographers have credited. While the preponderance of CU Buffs fans was no surprise (10 flags), the Big 10 was well represented (16 flags), with alums from Nebraska (3), Ohio State (3) and Michigan (3) proudly displaying their Midwest heritage. Other neighborhood





faves included the Sooners (3), the Trojans (3) and the Gators (3), laying bare the coast-tocoast origins of residents. Oddly, no CSU Rams flags were on display at the time of the study...

Big Twelve Conference		
Baylor	Tavern Downtown, 1949 Market St.	
Iowa State	Society Sports and Spirits, 1434 Blake St.	
	Stoney's Bar & Grill, 1111 Lincoln St	
Kansas	Chopper's Sports Grill, 80 S. Madison	
	Cap City Tavern, 1247 Bannock St.	
Kansas State	Highland Tap & Burger, 2219 W. 32nd Ave.	
Kansas State	Clock Tower Grill, 9360 Station St., Lone Tree	
Oklahoma	Stoney's Bar & Grill, 1111 Lincoln St	
Oklahoma State	Dive Inn, 1380 S. Broadway	
тси	The Elm, 5001 E. Colfax	
100	Tavern Wash Park, 1066 E. Gaylord	
Texas	Chopper's Sports Grill, 80 S. Madison St.	
Гехаз	Burnt Barrel, 1201 16th St.	
Texas Tech	Govnr's Park Tavern, 672 Logan St.	
West Virginia	Hopper's Sports Grill,	
West virginia	10051 W. 48th Ave, Wheat Ridge	



A smattering of one or two flags from SEC, ACC, Pac-12 and Big 12 conference teams added to the diversity, with a lone U.Mass flag as a conference outlier. (Three iconoclastic homes also displayed blue on white "W" flags to celebrate a win by the Cubbies.) The sober and well-trained observers also noted a higher rate of NCAA fandom in the northern reaches of Stapleton, or perhaps it was just that fewer trees obscured the flags.



В	ig 10 Conference
Indiana	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
	Sports Column, 1930 Blake St.
	Jefferson Park Pub, 2445 Eliot St.
	Pub on Pearl, 1101 S. Pearl St.
lowa	Blackbird Public House, 305 S. Downing St.
	Ester's Neighborhood Pub, 1950 S. Holly
	Prohibition, 504 E. Colfax Ave.
Michigan	Lodo's Bar and Grill, 1946 Market St.
	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Michigan State	The Original Brooklyn's, 2644 W. Colfax Ave.
	Giggling Grizzly, 1320 20th St.
	Capital City Tavern, 1247 Bannock St.
Minnesota	The Dam Grille, 8000 E. Quincy Ave.
	Three Dogs Tavern, 3390 W. 32nd Ave.
	Cap City Tavern, 1247 Bannock St
	Pub on Penn, 1278 Pennsylvania St.
Nebraska	Burnt Barrel, 1201 16th St.
	Seedstock Brewery, 3610 W. Colfax
	Noonan's Sports Bar & Grill,
	13521 E. Illiff Ave., Aurora
Northwestern	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
	Hayter's & Co, 1920 Blake St.
Ohio State	The Dam Grille, 8000 E. Quincy Ave.
	Twin Peaks Restaurant,
Penn State	8840 E. Arapahoe Rd., Centennial  Larimer Beer Hall, 2012 Larimer St.
Purdue	
ruruue	Icehouse Tavern, 1801 Wynkoop St. Badgers Pub, 76 S. Broadway
Wisconsin	Highland Tap & Burger, 2219 W. 32nd Ave.
	Swanky's, 1938 Blake Sc. Milo's Sports Tavern, 6495 E. Evans Ave.
	Timo 3 Sports Taretti, 6473 E. Evans Ave.





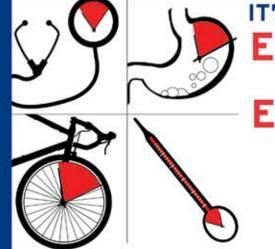
Pac-12 Conference	
Arizona	Milwaukee Street Tavern, 201 Milwaukee St. Jackson's, 1520 20th St.
Arizona State	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Cal	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot, 2907 Huron St.
Cai	Jake's Food & Spirits, 3800 Walnut St.
cu	Stoney's Bar & Grill, 1111 Lincoln St. Burnt Barrel Colorado Spirits and Sports, 1201 16th St. Blake St. Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Oregon	Jackson's Sports Bar, 1520 20th St.
USC	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Utah	Lodo's Bar and Grill, 1946 Market St.
Washington	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St. Thirsty Lion Gastropub & Grill, 201 Columbine St.

Southe	astern Conference
Alabama	College Inn, 4400 8th Ave.
	Highland Tap & Burger, 2219 W. 32nd Ave.
Arkansas	Society Sports and Spirits, 1434 Blake St.
	Chopper's Sports Grill, 80 S. Madison St.
Auburn	Irish Snug, 1201 E. Colfax Ave.
Florida	Jackson's Sports Bar, 1520 20th St.
riorida	Lodo's Bar & Grill, 1946 Market St.
Georgia	Mellow Mushroom, 1201 16th St.
	College Inn, 4400 8th Ave.
Louisiana State U	Bayou Bob's, 1635 Glenarm Place
	Krewe BBQ, 1109 Lincoln St.
Mississippi	Blake Street Tavern, 2301 Blake St.
Minamul	Arch Pizza, 6110 E. Colfax Ave.
Missouri	Whiskey Bar, 2203 Larimer St.
South Carolina	Don's Club Tavern, East Denver
Texas A&M	Fainting Goat Pub, 846 Broadway

	Mountain West
CSU	The Dam Grille, 8000 E. Quincy Ave.
CSO	C.B. & Potts, 43 Centennial Blvd., Highlands Ranch
Wyoming	Jackson's Sports Bar, 1520 20th St.

(continued on page 17)

## **HOLIDAY PAINS GETTING IN THE WAY?**



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"What we're talking about is racism. What we're talking about is white supremacy."

By Carol Roberts

ctober was the third month of community discussions about the name Stapleton. In the prior two months, the conversations were dominated by those who favored changing the name and representatives of five Stapleton organizations listened to those views. This month brought an emphasis on having a community conversation in which all voices would be heard, making a decision in an orderly, respectful manner, and moving the community forward in a positive way.

A leader in the name change group, Genevieve Swift, opened the conversation at the Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) meeting. "The most important thing is all of the conversations are happening. Let's move together and make this a positive thing and listen to our neighbors ... it's a symbolic change that we're asking for. It's like taking down a 'Do Not Enter Sign' and saying welcome."

Multiple members of Stapleton's organizations voiced their concern that residents who favor keeping the name now feel uncomfortable speaking out in public. Longtime Sta-

## Conversations about "Stapleton" Continue

pleton United Neighbors (SUN) board member Bryan Penny proposed setting up a means for residents to provide SUN with anonymous input to be sure SUN gets the full range of opinions on keeping or changing the name. Councilman Herndon added, "I really appreciate this expanded time so that we actually have conversations. I hope we can do so in a manner...that people can express themselves without being demonized. I've talked to residents who are saying, 'I feel a certain way, but I don't want to be labeled racist because I believe that.' Brian is not racist if he chooses to say I'm comfortable with the name Stapleton. I

can't be racist if I choose that, 'Hey, I'm comfortable as an African-American with the name.' Let's not personalize this."

Gregory Diggs, an outspoken supporter of the name change responded, "What we're talking about is racism. What we're talking about is white supremacy. What we're talking about is the legacy of gentrification... currently going on in Stapleton now. We're going to use

those terms where they come up. No, we're not going to have the safe forum where these terms are not used. I actually agree with your end point, but in order to do that, well, we're going to have to have conversations that are uncomfortable and that are personal."

A SUN board member voiced agreement with Councilman Herndon, saying the biggest message he has heard is, "'I don't want to come out and be public about it, but I don't want to change the name.' Whatever the discussion is, yes, I think there needs to be an end point. We need to make sure that there's a coming together."

But heartfelt statements were a reminder that the conversations won't be easy. A woman from Conservatory Green said emotionally, "My

> neighbors of color are getting followed home by white men, told that they don't belong here—they need to go home."

Sixteen-yearold Cora Galpern, a junior at George Washington High School said when the word Stapleton is spoken, "... people do not think good things. People send rants about the name...how it's just white, white, White Peopleton. I don't care that they say that because I agree with them." She says her friends say change the name to Entitleton. "My generation, the people who live in Stapleton, don't view it in a diverse and inclusive way...I really just don't think a bunch of white people should get

"I have no problem with that,

chooses to say, 'I'm comfortable

but Bryan is not racist if he

with the name Stapleton.'"

Councilman Herndon spoke of his children. "Talk about racial injustice. I have a white daughter and a biracial son. My wife's white daughter and my biracial son are going to have two totally different lives. That bothers me to my core. How can I help change that?"

to make this decision."

Following that SUN meeting, representatives of multiple Stapleton organizations met to make a plan for a community conversation with a facilitator skilled in talking about a very emotional, contentious subject like race and diversity. Such a meeting, and its goal to create a community conversation where no



Councilman Chris Herndon reaches out to thank16year-old Cora Galpern, a junior at George Washington High School, after she spoke at the SUN meeting.

Galpern, whose family was one of the first to move to Stapleton, is in favor of a name change. Herndon opposes it.

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one would be demonized, was discussed extensively at the October Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting.

New SUN Board member, Jeff Ederer, a recently retired professor said, "For most of the time I've lived here, it's been about a great place to live. It's been the new urbanism. What's happened, though, is a small group, mostly well-meaning, I think, has taken control of the name Stapleton. Can't we take the power of the name Stapleton back? It doesn't mean you ignore what's happened. Whether the name Stapleton is changed or not, there's still going to be this open sore of the past." Ederer called this an opportunity. "It [Stapleton] used to mean these other things, but now this is what Stapleton is. There is absolutely privilege that exists in Stapleton. We need to acknowledge that. That's how you're going to heal the wound that's been opened through this current public dialogue."

Landri Taylor, president of the Stapleton Foundation, said he organized the five-group meeting, at least in part, to "take control of



CAB chair Jim Wagenlander hopes the conversation about the Stapleton name, however it turns out, will support CAB's goal of a more diverse community in Stapleton.

the conversation and not let us be managed by entities that really, in my opinion, don't have as deep a stakeholder interest in the name and Stapleton. At the same time, we want to acknowledge that this conversation needs to be had and needs to, in some of our opinions, be deprioritized and get back to the conversations of those things that really make a sustainable impact on the lives of this... and other communities...

Speaking for CAB, chair Jim Wagenlander said, "This is an opportunity to continue to address housing and community diversity. Whatever the outcome is, we want it to continue to support what we have been striving for, which is a more diverse community in Stapleton."

A date has not yet been set for the community conversation with a facilitator. When the date is announced, it will be communicated via email from SUN and the MCA. The Front Porch will post it on Facebook and on our website. Additional information is in SUN Spot on page 36.



Jeff Ederer, a recently retired professor and a new SUN board member, likens the discussion to student protests, and says, "Can't we take the power of the Stapleton name back?"



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views.Follow "Indie Prof" on Facebook for updates about film events and more reviews.

November is Denver International Film Festival (DIFF) month, and so our column takes a break from the normal reviews as we look at several selections from the Festival. If you love films or you are just a casual fan, this is

the best time of the year for film-going in Denver! DIFF takes place from Nov. 1–12 this year, and the selections are once again fantastic. There is something for everyone: big films with big stars, older films, and gems from all over the globe. I prefer the films we don't get to see elsewhere very often: (slightly) obscure foreign films, documentaries, and shorts. I have included short reviews of such films. For a full program, check out the Denver Film Society's website at denverfilm.org.

#### Under the Tree (Iceland—2017)

The films from Iceland have always struck me as very much the product of the island itself: dark, quirky, humorous, and insightful. Despite the intermittent harsh weather, there is an underlying warmth

that pervades the people and the island, and that dichotomy comes through in



most of its

films. Under the Tree is no exception.

The story begins as Antli is summarily kicked out of his house and not allowed to see his daughter. He moves in with his

parents in a seemingly tranquil suburb, but they have their own problems with a neighbor, about a tree. It seems the large tree is

throwing shade on the neighbors' house, and they don't like it. They've asked for a trim. It is all wonderful black comedy that

provides insight into our own daily lives and the increasingly smaller world around us. This is exactly what DIFF is all about: we get a peek into cultures and societies we rarely see, and art from that world which may otherwise go unnoticed. You should notice it.

Shows at 9pm 11/9, 7pm 11/10, and 9pm 11/11 at the Sie Film

#### Quality Time (Netherlands/ Norway—2017)

If the films of Iceland track closely to the country itself, the same may be said of Dutch films. This new film from director Daan Bakker is stylish, quirky, irreverent, and cool. It tells the story of four young, contemporary men, all of whom are having trouble adjusting to adult life: Koen, represented only by a dot on the screen, almost overdoses on ham and milk at a family reunion; Stefaan, who takes up photography after a crisis; Kjell, who time-travels back to his childhood; and Karel,

Quality

Time

who is abducted by aliens and comes back as a mutant. Seriously.

Shows at 6:45pm 11/10, 4:35pm 11/11, and 7pm 11/12 at the Sie Film Center.

#### Strad Style (USA—2016)

In recent years,

documentaries have become more accessible, more diverse, and more interesting. It is a golden age of documentaries and film festivals

> benefit from the plethora of material. As viewers, we are the ultimate beneficiaries. Strad Style is a perfect example of this dynamic: the

story concerns Danny Houck, a reclusive Stradivarius enthusiast from Ohio who has somehow convinced a famous European violinist to engage him in making a copy of the famous violin.

The film is at times maddening and at



time suspenseful; it is equal parts confounding and alluring. Are we being manipulated? Is our curiosity warranted? And how in the heck did we even get here in the first place? Perhaps the film delves deep into our yearning to be the underdog and chase comet-like success. Or perhaps it is just folly. Sounds a bit like life to me.

Shows at 4pm 11/3, 9:15pm 11/4, and 6:15pm 11/5 at the UA Pavilions Theater.

#### Retouch (Iran—2017)

This is a disarming and surprising short film from Iran, one of the most verdant na-



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Excludes shutters. Must present at initial estimate. Lifetime limited warranties Not valid with any other offers. Offer expires 11/30/17. tional cinemas in the world today. It starts simply enough, and then takes a quick turn into shocking territory. All I can tell you is that the main character works for a company that touches up American photographs,

making them suitable for distribution in Iran. In one scene, we see her covering up Angelina Jolie's bare arms in a publicity

for ee, eer up a tree a The Incident

still. We get few more details about her job, which in and of itself brings up a plethora of political, social, and religious issues. And that isn't even the focus of the story!

Shows at 4:15pm 9/11 and 1:45pm 9/12 as part of the Shorts 4 Program at the UA Pavilions.

#### The Incident (USA/Lebanon—2017)

This student entry from Lebanese-American director Meedo Taha is a fascinating Rashomon-esque story of a man and woman who are arrested after an incident at a bus

stop. The witnesses, a busload of women on their way to the mosque, all have different accounts of the incident. What really happened? It is left for us to decide in this strong short film that meditates on the nature of truth in a crazy world.

Shows at 1:30pm 11/10 and 1:30pm 11/11 at the Sie Film

Vincent Piturro, Ph.D., is an associate professor of Cinema Studies at Metropolitan State University of Denver. He can be reached at vpiturro@msudenver.com.



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(left to right) Alexa Fuller, NP, Katie Rustici, MD, Sarah Shepard, DO and Peter Kim, MD



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## College Football: What Local Bars Offer

(Continued from page 13)

(Continuea from page 13)	
Local	Bars That Show College Games
Bar Louie	
8270 E. Northfield Blvd.	Shows college games available wtithout special packages.
It's Brothers	{
Bar & Grill	Opens 10am on Saturdays for college football. DirectTV, so all games
8264 E. 49th Ave.	except Pac-12. Drink specials. Florida and Oklahoma fan favorite.
Casey's	
8270 E. Northfield Blvd.	Notre Dame games, college football except Pac-12
Lowry Beer Garden	
7577 E. Academy	Shows college games available without special packages.
Tavern at Lowry	Shows general college games on conference networks, usually with no
7401 E. 1st Ave.	sound; can request games or to be seated to watch certain games
The Abbey	As long as Liverpool Football isn't playing, they show college football
5151 E. Colfax Ave.	games; no special packages.
Buffalo Wild Wings	Subscribes to many packages and shows most games, including SEC and
7607 E. 36th Ave.	Pac-12.



# Solar Decathlon Brings New Ideas for Home Innovations



Above and right: The Missouri University of Science and Technology team traveled to Denver in this van adorned with their mascot featuring a pickaxe and slide rule. Their SILO house

(Smart Innovative Living Oasis) will return to campus joining six previous Decathlon entries in an eco-village. Designed for empty nesters, SILO features farmhouse architecture, grey-water systems,

a water wall and clay plaster as a wall paint alternative. The team said the large windows were designed specifically for Colorado to "allow occupants to fully appreciate the state's natural beauty."

By John Fernandez

hat is the best design for a livable home powered entirely by the sun that can be transported anywhere in the world and assembled in just a few days? This is the design challenge of the Solar Decathlon, the brainchild of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Nine collegiate teams from throughout the U.S. and two from Europe competed in the 11-day international event held this year in Northeast Denver in October. The teams designed, built and operated full-sized, solar-powered houses to demonstrate state of the art energy-saving technologies across 10 criteria including innovation, market potential, and energy and water efficiency. In the end, "winners" were selected, but in a broader sense, everyone is a winner. Since the first Solar Decathlon was held in 2002, ideas generated by the students have begun entering the marketplace and the students themselves

have brought their energy and expertise to the homebuilding industry. This article concludes with examples of innovations from this year's Decathlon.

Global interest in the Decathlon has been so great that the next Solar Decathlon in the U.S. has been pushed back to 2020 to give space and time for Solar Decathlons to take place in Europe, China and Africa. A professor from Hungary went along with one of the jury teams to observe the Denver event in order to help organize Solar Decathlon Europe.

#### The Scope of the Solar Decathlon

The Solar Decathlon event is impressive along many dimensions, from the time invested by the student and other volunteers to the range of innovations in the homes.

**Time:** selected teams spend nearly two years from inception to demonstration of their concepts at the

actual competition.

**Commitment:** Often these undergraduate and graduate students take reduced academic loads to bring their ideas to life. Teams ranged in size from 20 to 100. Each team brought a core group to Denver and stayed with their house throughout the competition.

**Finances:** fundraising for the house projects ranged up to \$4 million and was undertaken by the students themselves.

**Scope**: the structures were first built and tested at the home institutions, then broken down, packed and transported to Denver where they were then re-assembled in less than a week.

**Ideas**: this was the real magic of the event, with each house in the temporary "solar village" demonstrating a cornucopia of innovations, some ready for the marketplace, others still in development or just so far out there that the rest of us will just have to mull it over before deciding whether to become an early adopter.





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Above and above right: Northwestern's Enable house is likely headed back to Evanston to become a private residence, with a sale pending to a couple representative of the target market: baby boomers wanting to age in place. Team leaders were proud to say that fund-raising was easy:

"It sold itself". The house was transported to Denver on eight trucks, a cost absorbed by FedEx, a team sponsor. Its interior walls can be easily reconfigured. Sliding sun room panels allow three-season living. Roof-integrated solar panels help avoid the choice between beauty and sustainability.



an energy recovery ventilator system that exchanges heat and moisture between fresh, outdoor air and conditioned air in the house to minimize energy loss. The prototype "house kit of parts" cost \$470,000. The team believes future versions could cost as little as \$270,000.

#### Adapting to Mother Nature

Weather was a theme in this year's competition, both in the planning of the houses and in transporting them. Homes were designed to address specific needs based on climate in different regions of the country. Students on the Alabama team remembered the April 2011 "Super Outbreak" of tornadoes and incorporated a safe room able to withstand winds of 250 miles per hour in their southern vernacular house. The University of California Davis team designed their house to maximize water conservation in a state suffering through drought and used "drought wood" (from trees that died due to the drought) for the furniture and wood finishes. The University of Las Vegas team, coming from a desert region, likewise focused on water efficiency with their system for greywater reuse and collection of rainwater and condensation. The St. Louis team, with adequate rainfall in their (continued on page 20)



Above and right: The University of Maryland ReACT house made use of solar heat for in-attic dryers to slow cook or de-hydrate food or dry clothing. The Resilient Adaptive Climate Technology structure incorporates a composting system, hydroponic garden, moveable living walls covered in plants and a central courtyard that pre-heats air as part of



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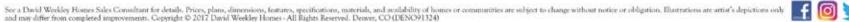
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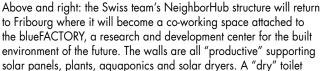
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uses worms to treat and recycle waste. Spaces are multi-functional allowing for conference rooms, dining, bicycle repair and sleeping. Team members said local residents like the look of the 1,800-square foot structure even though it looks nothing like a Swiss chalet.

(Continued from page 19) region, designed a house with vertical hydroponic planters watered by rain that could grow food all year-round.

Team Daytona Beach lost 10 days of crucial construction time when Hurricane Irma hit Florida. And the Netherlands team had to scramble when Hurricane Harvey delayed the shipment of their structure through the Port of Houston.

During the competition itself, Hurricane Maria's devastation of Puerto Rico and the raging wildfires in northern California seemed to emphasize the importance of withstanding the greater weather extremes associated with climate change. And that's not to mention the wild swings Colorado weather visited upon the Solar Village in early October. In a postevent press release, DOE referred to the heat, cold, wind, sun, rain, fog, snow and mud as the 11th contest. The Missouri team's "Crete" house earned extra points when the thermal mass of their concrete structure radiated enough heat through a cold night to allow interior comfort without use of a heating system, said juror Bill Rectanus, vice president of operations with Thrive Home Builders.

#### Solar Decathlon Contests

The "student athletes" competed in 10 categories: architecture, market potential, engineering, communications, innovation, water conservation, health and comfort, appliances, home life and energy. Each category was

worth a maximum of 100 points, for a potential competition total of 1,000 points. The four top-scoring teams were the Swiss Team (872 points), the University of Maryland (822), the UC Berkeley/University of Denver team (807) and Missouri University of Science and Technology (758).

Teams could earn points three ways:

Task Completion—Teams complete tasks that simulate modern living. They perform household chores such as cooking and doing laundry. They host dinner parties and game nights for fellow competitors. And, they are required to log miles driving an electric vehicle charged by the house's solar electric system.

Monitored Performance—Team houses and appliances perform to specified criteria, such as maintaining indoor temperature and humidity within a tight range, ensuring refrigerators maintain appropriate temperatures, and carefully controlling the flow of electricity between the house and the utility.

*Jury Evaluation*—Jurors who are experts in fields such as architecture, engineering, homebuilding, water use and reuse, and communications, award points for features that cannot be measured, such as aesthetics, design inspiration and innovation.

Juror Bill Rectanus, whose company Thrive Home Builders was one of the sponsors, said, "I'd do it again in the blink of an eye. The students were very impressive, really inspirational."

Team Netherlands, with the house they named "Selficient," won the People's Choice

egh it looks nothing like a

award. Middle school students who visited the solar village selected Northwestern's "Enable" house for the Students' Super Awesome House Award.

The competition returns to Denver in three years. If you can't wait that long to further explore the students' ideas, the DOE

website, http://solardecathlon.gov/, contains descriptions of each team's submittal. DOE also issued a report in October detailing the design innovations presented at the seven prior decathlon competitions. It can be accessed at www.nrel.gov/publications ("Insights on Technology Innovation – A Review of the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Competition Entries 2002-2015"). The list of all 11 teams and their scores is on the *Front Porch* website at FrontPorchNE.com.









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Left: The Las Vegas house had radiant floor heat using water heated by the solar system shown at left. Half of the blue hot water tank below holds water for the floor and a separate half is for household use. Below: A Tesla Powerwall for battery storage is on the outside of the house

behind a garage-style door.



Above: The Netherlands team designed the Interior plumbing to make use of gray water. Their "upflow shower" treats, recycles and reheats shower water in a closed loop.

**UPFALL SHOWER** 



Above: Energy display and control systems allow homeowners to make time-of-use decisions to reduce energy costs. Above is the UC Davis team's water usage displayed in the bathroom mirror.

Innovations at the Solar Decathlon

Left: Many of the homes had improved

wall insulation through better wall con-

concrete panels, and the sheep's wool

used in the DU/Berkeley house.

struction techniques and materials such as

rock wool, foam sandwiched between thin

Below: The Alabama team built a secure closet in their "surviv(AL)" house that would be a safe shelter in a tornado up to 250

mph, even if the rest of the house was destroyed.





Below: Wall panels in the DU/Berkeley house quickly and easily glide on a ceiling track—making the adjoining living room and bedroom/study spaces bigger



Below and right: The Washington University - St. Louis "Crete" house was built of pre-cast insulated panels of ductil concrete, a super strong material used in bridge abutments. The gutters of



the Crete house collect rainwater and serve as vertical planters in their hydroponic system that doubles as exterior landscaping.



Below: Modular construction techniques allow some housing elements to be pre-fabricated, enabling "cleaner, easier, faster" on-site construction, such as this electrical wiring at the Netherlands house.





## Noted Author Speaks to Children's Hearts



Katherine Applegate, author of *The One and Only Ivan*, visited Isabella Bird Community School and conducted a writer's workshop where students read essays. At the all-school as-



sembly, she told students she almost gave up on writing *Ivan*, but persisted, learning that "When you get frustrated in your writing, hang in there. You always have hard times when you write or when you're doing anything new."

"For every one of

you, there's a book

out there that's the

book that's meant

—Katherine Applegate

for you."

By Melinda Pearson

ast month, Newbery award-winning children's book author, Katherine Applegate, visited Isabella Bird Community School (Izzi B) for a writer's workshop and an all-school assembly.

#### Izzi B Connection

Applegate's visit to Izzi B was serendipitous. Assistant Principal Laura Glaab said that teachers at the school, which enrolls many refugee students, had read Applegate's earlier work, *Home of the Brave*, over the summer. *Home of the Brave* chronicles the experience of an African refugee student who arrives in Minnesota and learns to connect with his new home.

When Glaab heard Applegate's new book, *Wishtree*, was coming out this fall, she called upon connections from a previous job in Houston where she helped arrange author visits. She also worked with the Tattered Cover to bring Applegate to Izzi B, where the themes of her work resonated.

#### On Becoming an Author

At the assembly, Applegate charmed students and teachers alike as she recounted her journey to becoming a writer. Telling the adults in the room to cover their ears, she shared an unlikely confession with her young listeners: "When I was your age, I really, really, really hated to read." As the students gasped in shock, she continued, "It wasn't my fault. I just had not found the right book."

Revealing that the "right book" for her was *Charlotte's Web*, she urged students to keep searching for their own right book. "Maybe for you it will be a graphic novel, or maybe it will be nonfiction, or maybe it will be a picture book," she said. "It's like your best friend, and it's waiting for you to find it."

Applegate also encouraged the young audience to

embrace their differentness "because that sometimes turns you into the most interesting person when you get older." In fact, her differentness was the reason she became an author. "Writers are weird. I am weird," said Applegate. "If you are weird, if you're an oddball, if you look at the world a little bit differently, then you may be an author."

A prolific author of over 150 books, Applegate's career began in ghostwriting, of which she said, "You don't get any of the glory, but you don't get any of the blame either." Her

early works included 17 Sweet Valley Twins series books, Disney books, and the *Animorphs*, which she co-authored with her husband.

When Applegate began writing her own books, she discovered how much she liked it. "I liked writing things that made me really, really, really mad, really, really passionate or about something I wanted to know lots and lots about."

That is what led her to write *Crenshaw*, *Home of the Brave* and her most famous work, *The One and Only Ivan*, which won the Newbery award in 2013. Based upon the true story of a gorilla who

spent his first 27 years on display in a small glass cage at a mall in Tacoma, Wash., Applegate created a tale of inspiration and heroism

FOR KIDS (cont')







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#### Latest Work: Wishtree

Applegate's latest work is *Wishtree*, a story about a neighborhood tree that people tie with rags and ribbons to make a wish on "wishing day." The story is told from the point of view of the oak tree, named "Red."

Applegate described writing *Wishtree*: "I wrote it and wrote it really fast. I'm usually a very slow writer. I wrote this in the middle of the election. I was really mad," she said. "Everybody was being really mean to everybody else. People were saying horrible things about each other. People were being very unkind, and it didn't feel like our country anymore. So, I decided to write a book about it."

Right before wishing day, a teenaged boy with a screwdriver comes along and carves "LEAVE" on Red's bark. The community quickly realizes it is a hate crime, because it is directed at a newly arrived Muslim family. Samar, the daughter of the family, acutely feels the pain. "Nobody will talk to her family, people will throw eggs at her house, people yell things about leaving. She is so lonely. She is different and she feels so different," says Applegate. "And even the little boy next door, named Steven, can't talk to her. His parents won't even talk to her family."

Samar herself makes a wish—a wish for a friend—and Red decides she is going to make that happen for Samar, even though, as a tree, she is unable to move or speak. But Red recruits the animals that gather in her hollows. With their help, Steven, Samar's reluctant neighbor, "steps in and he decides that he's going to help Samar find some friends," recounted Applegate.

Samar finds a friend, and Steven becomes a hero—what Applegate calls a "welcomer." *Wishtree* is dedicated to both the newcomers and the welcomers, "because the world could use some more welcomers," said Applegate.

Looking around at what she called the "best audience on the entire tour," Applegate told them, "I have a feeling that there are a lot of Stevens in this room, people with empathy, people who see someone needs a friend, people who might step up and help ... and that's my wish for you—a world full of welcomers."

## Where does your Denver tax money go?

By John Fernandez

tomed to getting
a receipt when
we spend money on just about
everything else, so why not get a
receipt when you pay your city
taxes?" So says Brendan Hanlon,
the city of Denver's chief financial
officer. Taxpayer Receipt, a new

tool on Denver's website, makes

the city's budget more transparent

by educating residents on how and

where their money is spent.

If you want a "receipt" for your Denver taxes, you can now get it by answering four questions: annual income, age, estimated percent of shopping done in Denver for goods and products, and whether you own a home.

The instantaneous output, based on Denver's 2017 budget, is a long list of how your tax dollars are spent. It's arranged alphabetically starting with "Affordable Housing" and concluding with "Technology Services." The 15 major categories cover the wide range of expenses associated with a full-service urban municipality. The list is intended to look like the receipt one might be given at the grocery store and is available in English or Spanish.

The tool works only with Denver sales tax and Denver property tax (currently 30.531 mills). It does not address services and programs that are exclusively supported by non-local tax dollars, such as federal or state grants. Additionally, taxes paid that support other entities, such as the state or

Affordable Housing	\$20.95
Capital Projects	\$458.98
Bond Principal and Interest Property Tax Mill 0	\$268.51
Capital Improvement Projects ()	\$35.70
Improvement and Maintenance Property Tax Mills	\$154.77
Community Planning and Development	\$21.78
Courts/Legal	\$41.75
Economic Development	\$9.31
Finance	\$88.12
Governing	\$5.74
Health	\$35.19
Independently Elected Agencies	\$30.06
Internal City Services	\$86.26
Parks, Recreation & Culture	\$91.14
Public Safety	\$487.99
911 Emergency Services ()	\$5.69
Fire Department 0	\$142.94
Police Department 0	\$218.09
Safety Programs (Including Office of the Independent Monitor)	\$17.63
Sheriff Department 0	\$103.64
Public Works	\$81.57
Social Services & Community Advocacy	\$164.13
Technology Services	\$60.27
TOTAL: 0 \$1	

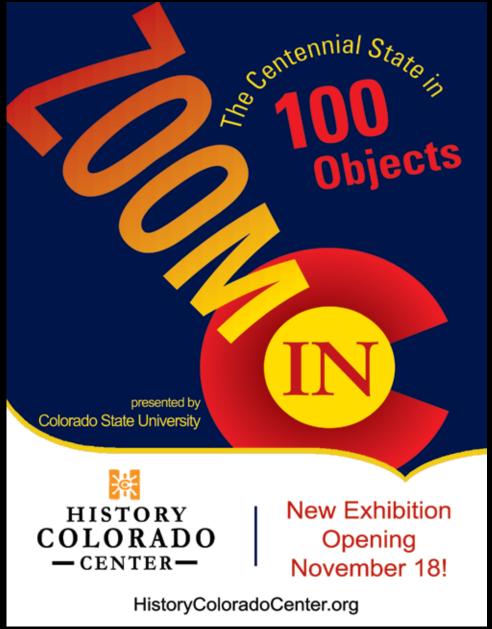
The tax receipt above has been simplified to show primarily main categories, but with subcategories included for the two largest items, Capital Projects and Safety. It is for a 40-year-old who earns \$85,000, lives in a \$400,000 house, and does 75% of shopping in Denver. Pop out boxes explain the subcategories.

federal governments, Denver Public Schools and special districts are excluded. Those, of course, can be significant. For example, the DPS mill levy is 50.396 and the special district mill levy for Stapleton infrastructure (Westerly Creek Metropolitan District) currently stands at 56.899 mills. Other entities, such as the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, apply a small sales tax to purchases in Denver.

Those exclusions represent an opportunity, says Stapleton resident Chris Adams, president of Engaged Public, the firm whose software powers Denver Taxpayer Receipt. He would ultimately like to see taxpayers have access to a unified application that would generate taxpayer "receipts" that cover expenditures made by all taxing entities to which a homeowner is subject. Such information, he said, is critical to achieving "realistic conversations" about tax policy and government budgeting in general.

While the "front end" of the Denver Taxpayer Receipt application is exceedingly simple, the "back end" is more complex. "Dynamic" calculations are made estimating the market basket of goods that a person of a given age and income might purchase within the city limits of Denver. Adams says the opportunity provided by the online calculator to see where tax revenues are spent "may be an encouragement to buy local. Why buy someone else's sidewalk?"

Search for Taxpayer Receipt at denvergov.org to find where your tax money goes.





## Women Impressionist Artists:



Her Paris

Right: "The Artist Venny Soldan-Brofeldt" by Hanna Pauli. The artist looks confidently out of the canvas, unlike the demure expressions typical of the time.

Below left: "Peasant Woman from Normandy" by Asta Nørregaard.

Below right: "Children Playing on the Beach" by Mary Cassatt, a popular depiction of children directly observed from life.



Above: A wall-size mural of the Eiffel Tower welcomes visitors to the Her Paris exhibition at the Denver Art Museum. Below: Women weren't allowed to enroll in the pre-eminent state-run art school, the École des Beaux-Arts, so many attended the private Académie Julian, along with foreign students who were not allowed at the L'Ecole.

By Laurie Dunklee

aris was the hub of the art world in the latter half of the 19th century, with some of the best art produced by women. Some of the women artists are well-known to us, while others' work

has recently been brought into view.

"Some of the paintings in this show have only been out for 10 years, and they are in great demand," said Laurence Madeline, curator of

"Her Paris: Women Artists in the Age of Impressionism," at the Denver Art Museum through Jan. 14. "So much is still in storage, in disrepair or lost. Where are these paintings?"

The exhibition features more than 80 paintings by 37 women artists from across Europe and America, who migrated to Paris between 1850 and 1900 to further their careers. Represented are well-known artists such as Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassatt and Rosa

Bonheur, as well as painters lesser known in the United States, including Anna Ancher and Paula Modersohn-Becker.

A wall-size mural of the Eiffel Tower greets visitors.

"How did Paris appear to women of the time?" Madeline asked the group during a media preview. "Paris was enjoying a renaissance during the Second Empire [1853-70], under Napoleon III," Madeline said. "Liberal



reforms were introduced. The new Paris, with its beautiful public parks, made an impression on young women artists and they were infused with love for the city."

Unfortunately, Parisian society was still very restrictive for women. They were not allowed to attend the École des Beaux-Arts (Academy of Fine Arts)—the country's most important art academy—until 1897, and it was not socially acceptable to frequent the



public cafes, where artists congregated to work on their art and share ideas.

At L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts, a state-run school, men learned art fundamentals, including figures. Male models were used and women were not allowed in the room with a nude. "It was said that with women in the room, 'the men could not behave freely,'" Madeline said. "The reality was that women were a threat because their



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Left: "Among the Flowers" by Louise Abbéma portrays A *Parisienne*, a fashionable lady. Women artists, who knew the art and practice of fashion, were adept at painting women as works of art in clothes.

Below: "Evening, Interior" by Harriet Backer.
One of three paintings depicting readers that highlight the life of the mind.







Right: "The Meeting," a portrait of Paris slum children by Marie Bashkirtseff. Bashkirtseff is best known as a diarist. Her journal has been called 'a strikingly modern psychological self-portrait of a young, gifted mind.'

Far right: "Echo," by Ellen Thesleff, shows a young girl discovering, in a single cry, the power of her own voice.



ir about the moment ir a woman," said Da of self-doubt, as we

art competed with the men's. So it was an economic issue."

Women attended the private Académie Julian, along with foreign students who were not allowed at L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts.

The artists also formed their own organizations, including the influential Union des Femmes Peintres et Sculpteurs. The Union distributed a weekly publication to its members to foster mutual support and campaigned

for women's entry into state schools and competitions. Its annual exhibitions, the Salons des Femmes, were reviewed in the daily and art press and became a catalyst for hot debates of women's potential contributions to art.

The restrictions put on women artists resulted in a move forward into modern art styles. "Since women could not wander freely in Paris, their paintings inhabit an intimate, indoor world," said Angelica Daneo, curator

of painting and sculpture at the DAM. "Their figures are mostly family and friends and their landscapes are their own gardens."

"It's ironic that other greats of the time, like Monet and Manet, were leaving the traditional L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts styles to focus on small subjects and paint their own gardens," added Madeline.

The final gallery gathers paintings of girls and young women. "These paintings are

about the moment when a girl transitions into a woman," said Daneo. "The subjects are full of self-doubt, as well as hope for the future. They are symbolic of the trajectory of women's art. Women were ready for full recognition as artists."

"All women artists are ready, thanks to the ladies who paved the way," said Madeline.
"This show is not about women, just very good artists."



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### **School Performance Framework:**

#### **NE Denver Elementary Schools**

School Name	% Earned Points	SPF Rating	Academic Gaps	Growth	Status (Proficiency)	Parent/Student Engagement & Satisfaction
Ashley Elementary School	45.49%	Accredited on Watch	50%	52%	34%	29%
Hallett Fundamental Academy	29.57%	Accredited on Probation	25%	34%	14%	21%
High Tech Elementary School	76.60%	Meets Expectations	77%	78%	75%	38%
Isabella Bird Community School	58.89%	Meets Expectations	56%	62%	54%	46%
Lowry Elementary School	59.20%	Meets Expectations	52%	62%	57%	33%
Montclair Elementary School	59.51%	Meets Expectations	56%	61%	55%	54%
Park Hill Elementary School	70.90%	Meets Expectations	53%	70%	73%	63%
Polaris at Ebert Elementary School	80.25%	Distinguished	77%	70%	100%	71%
Roots Elementary	46.48%	Accredited on Watch	40%	52%	35%	44%
Smith Elementary School	35.14%	Accredited on Priority Watch	42%	36%	34%	21%
Stedman Elementary School	35.65%	Accredited on Priority Watch	32%	46%	10%	33%
Swigert International School	75.38%	Meets Expectations	76%	71%	88%	67%
Westerly Creek Elementary	73.05%	Meets Expectations	60%	71%	76%	67%

#### **NE Denver K-8 Schools**

	Denver Language School	63.00%	Meets Expectations	61%	64%	63%	50%
ı	Odyssey School of Denver	60.78%	Meets Expectations	56%	58%	68%	56%
	William (Bill) Roberts K-8 School	67.06%	Meets Expectations	54%	62%	79%	72%

#### **NE Denver Middle Schools**

Denver Discovery School	44.26% Accredited on Watch		32%	44%	48%	38%
DSST: Conservatory Green Middle School	73.50%	Meets Expectations	72%	68%	94%	58%
DSST: Stapleton Middle School	73.77% Meets Expectations		69%	69%	93%	42%
Hill Campus of Arts and Sciences	50.82%	Accredited on Watch	43%	56%	33%	29%
McAuliffe International School	hool 77.32% Meets Expectations		62%	77%	77%	67%

#### **NE Denver High Schools**

NE Denver High Schools							Growth	Status
Denver School of the Arts	81.73%	Distinguished	78%	70%	94%	75%	90%	98%
DSST: Stapleton High School	86.19%	Distinguished	92%	84%	93%	92%	78%	94%
East High School	58.60%	Meets Expectations	53%	48%	70%	71%	41%	87%
George Washington High School	50.27%	Accredited on Watch	42%	39%	47%	54%	45%	77%
Northfield High School	62.64%	Meets Expectations	64%	48%	55%	46%	100%	86%

**Status**: Proficiency—how a school is doing at a fixed point in time. **Growth**: How a school is doing over a period of time. **Parent/Student Engagement**: How effectively a school connects with parents and families. **Post Secondary Readiness**: How well a high school is preparing students for college and career. **Academic Gaps**: How at-risk students' growth and status compare with other students in that school and in the district.

By Melinda Pearson

enver Public Schools (DPS) released results of its School Performance Framework (SPF) measure last month. The SPF provides a color-coded "report card" for each of the nearly 200 schools in DPS. This year brings a marked increase in the number of schools deemed to be meeting or exceeding expectations.

The SPF includes student proficiency and academic growth, as well as student and family engagement and in high school, college and career readiness.

Growth is measured by how much a student improves academically on standardized tests over a year compared to peers who started at the same place. In the SPF, growth is approximately three times as important as academic proficiency in elementary and middle school and twice the weight of proficiency in high school. These are the same ratios as used last year.

What this means is that schools that are academically "growing" their students—regardless of their overall proficiency—can perform better in the SPF ratings than schools whose students are meeting or exceeding expectations but simply maintaining that proficiency. This reflects the district's emphasis on increasing student progress, particularly at historically low-performing schools.

#### **Local Schools Performance**

Post-Secondary Readiness

The charts included here give an overview of how schools in the northeast Denver area performed on the SPF this year. There are five levels on the rating scale: blue/distinguished, green/meets expectations, yellow/accredited on watch, orange/accredited on priority watch, and red/accredited on probation.

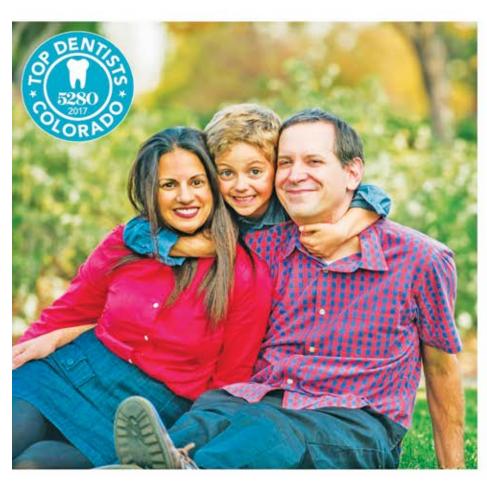
The SPF is used by schools and the district to evaluate school performance, and it is also a resource for families to understand how schools are educating their kids compared to district expectations. But it can be a challenge to serve both purposes. "We are really trying to provide that information in ... a more graphical way or just a way that our parents and families want that information to be provided," said Katherine Beck, senior manager of accountability for DPS's Accountabil-

ity Research and Evaluation division. To that end, DPS provides summary reports and detailed reports on each of its schools, available here: http://spf.dpsk12.org/en/2017-spf-ratings/.

But Van Schoales, CEO of A+ Colorado, a nonprofit organization that analyzes educational efforts statewide, says that truly understanding all that goes

into the SPF is "so complicated [that] I compare it to the IRS tax code." Once you start to delve into the data—and there are hundreds of data points that go into each school's rating—it can get overwhelming for families.

According to Schoales, for "good" schools that are in the high green/blue range "the difference really comes down to what the needs of that family and that child are." He cautions against putting too much emphasis on differences of just a few





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### What Does it Measure in 2017?

points between schools. But in the range of "low green, red, yellow and orange, unfortunately, that's a murky area. It's hard to know how bad things are," he added.

#### **Changes This Year in SPF**

Each year, DPS adjusts the formula used to

determine SPF results to better align with district goals and community needs, said Beck. The ambitious 2020 plan emphasizes five specific areas: increasing quality schools, early literacy, college and career readiness, whole child support, and closing the opportunity gap.

Academic Gaps *Indicator* 

Included within the proficiency and growth scores are measures of "academic gaps," which evaluate the performance of underserved students—such as poor students, English language learners, students of color, and special education students—compared to

their peers. This year, the academic gaps rating is not only made evident with its own indicator, but schools that have failed to meet criteria in that area have been penalized. This is in line with DPS's emphasis on closing opportunity gaps.

Districtwide, nine schools that would otherwise have achieved a "green/meets expectations" overall rating were knocked down to "yellow/accredited on watch" based on their academic gaps, according to Beck. "Even at some of our highest-performing schools, are all of the students in that school performing at that equally very high level?" asks Beck.

For example, Bromwell Elementary, which has historically been a high green schooland in fact this year achieved a very high 74.48 percent of points on the SPF—has been downgraded to a "yellow" rating due to academic gaps between underserved students and their classmates.

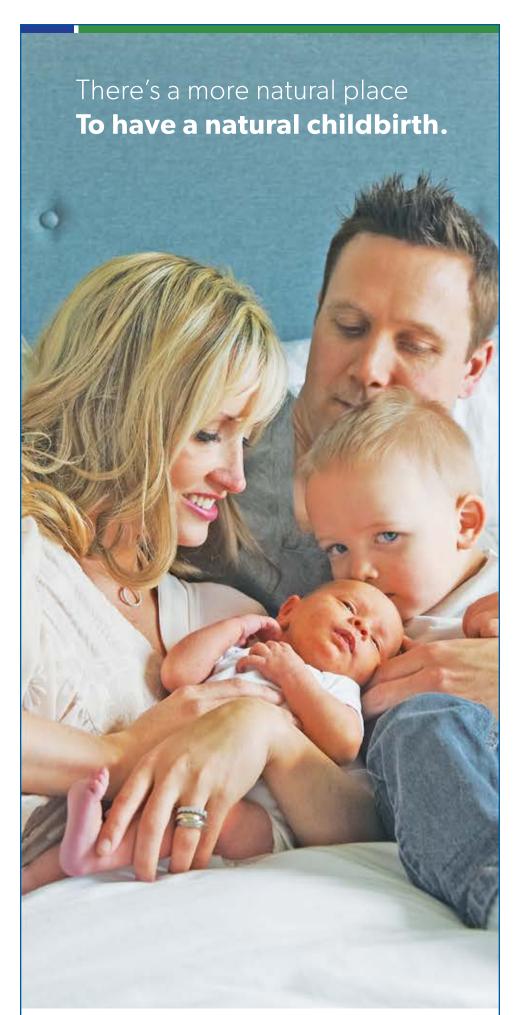
> Eight schools in the east Denver area—including Denver Discovery School, Hill Campus of Arts and Sciences and George Washington High School-did not meet expectations for academic gaps, but none lost a green rating based on the indicator alone. Those equity gaps were factored into their overall performance, among other markers, and the aggregate scoring resulted in lower ratings.

Schoales believes the district overemphasizes the importance of the gaps between students. "We think it's a [bigger] levels of growth and

"The SPF should be the first thing you check out to make sure it's a safe place and kids are learning... And then you have to figure out to what degree... and what are they learning, and that requires a lot more







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#### **RECOGNITIONS**

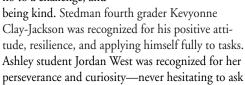
#### **Scholars Unlimited Honors Local Students**

By Carol Roberts

esilience. Perseverance. Positive attitude. Kindness. Curiosity. Never saying no to a challenge. Working at being a positive role model. These are the traits colleges and bosses look for. Recently four students were honored by Scholars Unlimited for their academic accomplishments and

for exhibiting these kinds of traits that will help them find success in school and in life—and that make our community a better place.

Ashley fifth grader London Foster was recognized for her interest in trying new things, never saying no to a challenge, and



Cyndi Kahn presents an

award to London Foster

Kevyonne Clay-Jackson

a great question. Stedman student X'Zaveious Pittman was honored for his efforts to be a positive role model and his academic improvement.

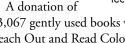
Scholars Unlimited, started almost 25 years ago by two Park Hill Women, Cyndi Kahn and Jessica Pearson, has, in that time, provided academic instruction and enrichment to almost

> 30,000 low-income students. Scholars Unlimited's after-school and summer programs focus on literacy as the foundation for academic successbut blends that with support for other important life skills.

The program uses a pre- and post-test at the beginning and end of their programs to rigorously monitor the progress of their young learners yielding data that has shown the impact of their work. For more information or to volunteer visit scholarsunlimited.org or call 303.355.0290.

#### **Book Drive Benefits Local Organizations**

By Anne Hebert undraising, donating gen
donating gently used books, and providing new books and toys was the focus of three charitable projects undertaken by the Goddard Schools in Stapleton and across the Front Range, says Lance Shimomura, Stapleton Goddard School owner.



13,067 gently used books was given to Reach Out and Read Colorado, a charitable organization that distributes books to health care provider partners and clinics around the state. By "prescribing" books to low-income



Stapleton Goddard School owner Lance Shimomura (far right) and Goddard teachers present \$1,711 to High Tech Elementary School.

patients and their families, children are given a foundation for success by improving literacy skills.

Over 1,000 new Teddy Bears and 2,024 new books were donated to Children's Hospital Colorado through fundraising and a book drive. Books were purchased at Scholastic Book Fair events held at Denver Goddard School loca-

tions. The Stapleton Goddard School also raised an additional \$1,711 to donate to Denver's High Tech Elementary School, with the monetary donation designated to purchase books and classroom supplies.









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## November & Early December Events

#### NORTHEAST DENVER/ NW AURORA EVENTS

To 11/15—DAVA Innovation in Art. Focus on innovation in art with works by DAVA youth solving problems, inventing new devices, presenting new ideas. All DAVA exhibits free, open to public. 1405 Florence St. www.davarts.org, gallery@davarts.org

To 11/26—7th Annual Refuge Amateur Photo Contest. Vote for favorite in Rocky Mountain Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center; winners announced early Dec. www.fws.gov/refuge/rocky\_mountain\_arsenal/

II/I Wednesday—Aurora Fox Theater Cultural Concert. 12-1 pm. Monthly ethnic and folk arts programs (Oct. to May) free for local schools and community. Debut event honors Native American Heritage Month and Dia de Los Muertos with Aztec Groupo Huitlzliopotchli, Native American storyteller David Young and Mexican Folklorist Rita Wallace. Aurora Fox Theater, 9900 E. Colfax. 303.739.1970.

**11/1 Wednesday—Wine Education Series at The Cube.** 7pm. Sit-down tasting features different wines from different regions with wine educator leading the discussion. Tickets \$10 at stapletoncommunity.com.

I I / 2 Thursday—Concert at The Cube-Hazel Miller. 6:30pm. Free. 8371 Northfield Blvd. stapletoncommunity.com.

11/3 Friday—Full Moon Hike. Morrison Nature Center at Star K Ranch. 5:45-6:45pm. www.auroragov.org/nature

11/3 to 11/5—Park Hill Art Club. Show and Sale. Reception 11/3 4:30pm-8:30pm; 11/4 10am 6pm; 11/5 9:30am-4pm. Park Hill United Methodist Church, 5209 Montview. www.parkhillartclub.org/park-hill-art-club-shows

11/4 to 11/25—Cookies and Cocoa. 1-3pm, Boulder Creek Neighborhoods. 720.726.1785. www.LiveStapleton.com

II/9 Thursday—"A Bad Mom's Christmas"-A Mom's Night Out Film Event.

Private viewing for Denver-area moms/women at Harkins Theater (Shops at Northfield Stapleton). Attendee gets swag bag with offers valued \$300+. Check-in 6:30pm. Film 7:30pm. Live drawings/give-

Visit our online calendar to view more events or submit events

FrontPorchNE.com > Events

aways.Tickets: \$25 (http://badmomsxmas.brown-papertickets.com). \$9 donated to school PTA of attendee's choice.Tricia Campbell: campbell@momsnightout.buzz, 720.841.2545. http://www.momsnightout.buzz

11/11 Saturday—Santa's Northfield Arrival Parade and Holiday Celebration. 4:30pm. Parade starts 46th near Harkins Theatre, ends at Bass Pro. Free carriage rides, giveaways, etc. www.northfieldstapleton.com

II/II Saturday—Bill Roberts FUN RUN. Annual 5K and I-mile Fun Run, at Stapleton Bill Roberts school, 2100 Akron Way. Check-in 8am, race 9am. Food, prizes, family fun. Register: http://billroberts.dpsk12.org/fun-run/

**II/18 Saturday—Denver Parks and Rec Holiday Craft Show.** Central Park Rec Center, 9561 MLK Blvd. 9am-3pm. Free admission. 720.865.0750

11/23 Thursday—3rd Annual Harvesting Hope 5K. Stapleton's Turkey Trot at Central Park. www.harvestinghope5K.com

**12/2 to 12/3—Sweet William Market.**Northfield Event Center, 8371 Northfield Blvd. #C. 9am-6pm. www.sweetwilliammarket.com

**12/4 to 12/10—Tiny House Holiday Village.** The Shops at Northfield, Stapleton, NorthfieldStapleton.com. 303.375.5475

#### CIVIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

II/16 Thursday—League of Women Voters Denver presents Denver's Status and Future. First-term City Council members Jolon Clark (Dist. 7), Kevin Flynn (Dist. 2), Stacie Gilmore (Dist. II) and Paul Kashmann (Dist. 6) discuss current issues and forecast how city needs to prepare for growth. Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St., McCollum Rm. 5:30pm. coffee/networking, 6pm presentation. http://lwvdenver.org

#### SEASONAL/ HOLIDAY EVENTS

To 11/11—13th Floor Haunted House. www.13thfloorhauntedhouse.com

To 11/12—Miller Farms Fall Harvest Festival. Corn maze, petting zoo, tractor rides, etc. .9am-6pm daily. 9040 Hwy 66 Platteville. www.millerfarms.net

**II/9 to II/II—Botanic Gardens Winter Gift Market.** Thurs. 4-8pm. Fri/ and Sat. 9am-6pm. Free Gardens and event admission. www.botanicgardens.org

11/9 to 12/23—Colorado Railroad Museum's Polar Express. Performances/ train rides weekends and select days. Tickets/ info: www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org

II/I0 to II/I2—Junior League Holiday Mart. Gates Field House, Univ. of Denver. Hours vary. www.JLD.org

11/17 to 11/18—40th Annual L'Esprit de Noel Home Tour. Cranmer Park/Hilltop neighborhood. 10am-4pm. Tickets: www. lesprithometour.com

II/17 to II/19—29th Annual Holiday Food and Gift Festival. National Western Complex.Admission discount coupon on website. www.hfgf.com

11/17 to 12/23—Denver Christ-

kindl Market. Vendors from Germany and elsewhere, local artisans, carolers, traditional German food/drink. Skyline Park, 16th and Arapahoe. Hours vary. www.denverchristkindlmarket.com

11/18 to 11/19—Sugar Plum Bazaar. Handmade vintage boutique holiday market. Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12am-5pm. www.sugarplumbazaar.

#### 11/18 to 11/19—World Gift Market.

World Gift Market at 1st Plymouth and 1st Universalist churches, Hampden and Colorado. Fair trade, eco-friendly gifts handmade by artisans from developing countries and local nonprofits. Fri. 5-8pm First Universal only. Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-2pm both churches. Free admission. www. firstplymouthchurch.org

#### II/I9 Sunday—The Denver Concert Band Presents: Harvests & Holidays.

Concert with harvest theme and seasonal favorites. Santa too. Lone Tree Arts Center, 10075 Commons St., Lone Tree. Tickets: 303.83.MUSIC; https://denverconcertband.org, www.lonetreeartscenter.org/showinfo.php?id=930

11/22 Wednesday—Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship. Food drive and 38th annual pie fest with live music. Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave. 303.388.4678, www. augustanadenver.org

11/22 to 2/14—Southwest Rink at Skyline Park. FREE ice skating in downtown Denver; bring skates or rent: \$2/pair. www.downtowndenver.com

11/24 Friday—9News Light the Lights, City and County Building. 6:30pm. www. downtowndenver.com

II/24 Friday—Downtown Denver's Grand Illumination. Union Station, Downtown Denver. 6:30pm. www.downtowndenver.com

11/24 to 12/24—Santa's Village at Chatfield Farms. Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms. www.botanicgardens.org

11/25 to 12/24—The Nutcracker. Presented by Colorado Ballet. Tickets: www. coloradoballet.org

**12/1 to 12/2—9News Parade of Lights.** Marching bands, giant balloons, floats. Fri. 8pm and Sat. 6pm. FREE. Parade info: www.downtownden-

**12/1 to 12/31—Zoo Lights.** 5:30-9pm. Preview weekend 11/24-11/25. Denver Zoo. 720.337.1400. www.denverzoo.org

**12/1 to 12/2—Sing We Now of Christmas.** Holiday favorites by Colorado Choir. Augustana Lutheran Church. Tickets: www. augustanaarts.org

(continued on page 30)



(continued from page 29)

12/2 Saturday—Brunch with Father Christmas. Four Mile Historic Museum, 9am-12pm. Reservations required. 715 S. Forest St. www.fourmilepark.org

12/2 to 12/10—57th Annual Georgetown Christmas Market. European-type market: handcrafted gifts, carolers, horse-drawn wagon rides, roasted chestnuts, and St. Nicholas. First 2 Dec. weekends. 10am-6pm. FREE. www. georgetown-colorado.org

**12/2 to 12/31—Olde Golden Christmas.** Historic Downtown Golden, Washington Ave. Santa, parades (12/2, 12/9, 12/16), carriage rides, dog cart rides, carolers, etc. www.visitgolden.com

#### **DENVER METRO EVENTS**

**To 12/8—Denver Recycles LeafDrop 2016.** Free leaf compost drop-off weekdays
8am-2pm, weekends (Nov. 7-22) 11am-3pm.
720.865.6810 or website for locations/info. www.
denvergov.org/denverRecycles

**To 1/14—Women Artists in Paris.** Denver Art Museum; exhibit ticket required. www. denverartmuseum.org

II/I to II/3—Denver International Wine Festival. Denver Marriott Westminster. Tickets: www.denverwinefest.com

II/I to II/I2—Denver International Film Festival. 200+ films, panels, workshops, Danish cinema focus. www.denverfilmfestival. denverfilm.org

II/3 Friday—Teen Art Show. Museum of Contemporary Art. Art by Denver-area high-schoolers. 6-9pm. 18 and under free. Free snacks/drinks, entertainment. I485 Delgany St. www.mcadenver.org

II/4 Saturday—Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Celebration. Mexican celebration remembers deceased loved ones. Traditional Aztec dancing, crafts, face painting. 9am-3pm. Free with admission. Denver Botanic Gardens. www.botanicgardens.org

II/3 Friday—First Friday Art Walks.
Santa Fe Art District, Tennyson Cultural Art
District, River North (RiNo) Art District, Golden
Triangle Creative District (Final Fridays JuneSept.), and others. www.denver.org/things-to-do/
denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts/

II/3 to II/I3—Denver Arts Week.
Celebrate Denver-area cultural scene and vibrant arts with over 200 events. Art walks; I2+ museums host extra hours. FREE admission Sat. night, II/8; weeklong deals, Film Festival, discounts and

special performances. www.denver.org/Denver-ArrsWeek

11/4 Saturday—Rock A Belly Festival. 5-9pm. Local hunger awareness and fundraising event with Hazel Miller. Tivoli, Auraria Campus. Tickets: www.foodforthoughtdenver.org

11/4 Saturday—Saturday Night at the Museums. Extended hours till 10pm and special activities at selected museums to celebrate Denver Arts Week. www.denver.org/ denver-arts-week/events

11/10 to 11/12—Colorado Ski and Snowboard Expo. Coupon on website. Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th St, downtown Denver. Tickets: www.bewisports. com/expos/denver

**II/II Saturday—Ballet Ariel Open House.** 5-7pm. Meet the dancers performing Ariel's season's ballets, tour facility, free refreshments. 7808 E. Cherry Creek S. Dr., Ste. 209, balletariel.org

II/II Saturday—Denver Veterans Day Parade. 10am. Civic Center Park. Broadway and Colfax, followed by Festival at Civic Center Park, 12-6pm. www.denverveteransday.com

II/II Saturday—TEDxMile-High:Wonder. Three live speaker sessions and interactive exhibits lounge to spark imagination. http://tedxmilehigh.com, http:// Facebook.com/TEDxMileHigh

II/II Saturday—Urban Holiday Market. Skyline Park, Downtown Denver. www. coloradoevents.net

11/16 to 11/18—Castle Clay Show. Features Castle Clay Artists and guests. Wood, clay, ceramics, glass jewelry, more. Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 W. 32nd Ave., Golden. www.castleclayartists.net

II/I7 to II/I8—Daydreams and Nightmares. Stratus Chamber Orchestra and Augustana Chancel Choir. Augustana Lutheran Church. Tickets: www.augustanaarts.org

II/18 Saturday—Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects. New ongoing exhibit at History Colorado Center presented by Colorado State Univ. www.historycoloradocenter.org

11/18 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day. Free with admission. Wings Over the Rockies Museum, Lowry. 10am-2pm. www.wingsmuseum.org

11/25 to 11/26—Rocky Mountain Toy Train Show. Ranch Events Complex, Loveland. www.rockymountaintrainshow.com I 1/26 Sunday—Drums of the World.

Boettcher Concert Hall, Denver Center for the Performing Arts. I pm. Half notes family activities

symphony.org

1/2 hour before concert. Tickets: www.colorado-

11/30 to 12/3—Denver Potters Association Show. Features Castle Clay Artists/ guests. Wood, clay, ceramics, glass jewelry, etc. 6th Ave. United Church at Adams St. www.castleclayartists.net

12/2 Saturday—1940's White Christmas Ball. Magical '40s and '50s holiday party. Mingle/dance among vintage vehicles, movie set lights/props, re-enactors, sleighs. Big bands, vintage acts; special appearance by Hollywood's 1940's tap dancing/singing troupe The Satin Dollz. Hyatt Regency Denver. Discount tickets \$67 till 11/25. http://1940sball.org/1940sball/1940s\_christmas\_ball

#### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

To 12/20—Jewish Aging Mastery Program for Older Adults. 12-week program each Wed. 10-11:45am. Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center. To achieve sustainable behaviors to improve health, financial security, well-being, community connectedness. \$150. www.jccdenver.org/event/jamp/

To 12/27—Aging Mastery Program (AMP) Classes. Free. Helps older adults/boomers build own aging well playbook. 10 core classes in peer-supported environment. The House Worship Center, 2150 S. Holly St. RSVP requested: 303.355.3423, x105. Joann Thompson (jthompson@caahealth.org). 26-participant limit.

I 1/5 Sunday—Denver Veterans Day Run. 8am. City Park, www.runningguru.com

11/18 Saturday—Pumpkin Pie 5K/10K. Denver's City Park. 9am. www.pumpkinpie5K. com

II/23 Thursday—43nd Annual Mile High United Way Turkey Trot. Washington Park, I0am. Competitive and fun runs. www. unitedwaydenver.org

#### **KIDS AND FAMILIES**

To 11/26—Denver Puppet Theater.
BABA YAGA, The Boney Legged Witch from
Russia. 3156 W. 38th Ave. www.denverpuppettheater.com

11/4 Saturday—Four Mile Historic Park Hay Bales and Tall Tales. 12-1pm free with admission. 715 S. Forest St. www. fourmilepark.org 11/4 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

11/7 to 11/28—Tuesdays in November Four Mile Historic Park Small Settlers.

Ages 2-5 accompanied by parent/caregiver. No session 11/22.9-10am. \$5/child adults and members free. 715 Forest St. Advance register: 720.865.0814 or education@fourmilepark.org, www.fourmilepark.org

11/30 to 1/27—Denver Puppet Theater. The Snow Queen. 3156 W. 38th Ave. www.denverpuppettheater.com

#### **LECTURES AND CLASSES**

II/I Wednesday—Logan Lecture: Chido Johnson. DAM Contemporaries (DAMC) presents artist whose work locates cultural spaces identified as other/different to transform new sense of self, place, belonging. 6-7pm (doors open 5:30pm). DAM Hamilton Bldg. Sharp Auditorium, 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy. Free: DAMC members, students (valid ID); \$10 DAM volunteers, \$15 DAM members, \$20 nonmembers. www.denverartmu-

II/4 Saturday—Artists' Book Show and Tell/Critique. Bring your book creations for group discussion/critique with curator Alicia Bailey. 2-4pm.Art Gym Denver, 1460 Leyden St. Free/open to public. http://artgymdenver.com

11/4 Saturday—Montview Distinguished Lecture Series. Rev. Teresa Fry Brown explores "Living Boldly with Compassion and Justice in Uncertain Times." 9am-12pm, Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St. 303.355.1651. www.montview.org

11/9 Thursday—Active Minds (Free)— Veterans Day. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. 720.865.0325. www.ActiveMinds.com

II/14 Tuesday—Active Minds (Free)— Turbulent Waters: Conflict in the South China Sea. 12:30-1:30pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E. Colfax. 303.322.7727 www.ActiveMinds.com

11/16 Thursday—Active Minds (Free)
-South Korea. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn
St. 720.865.0325. www.ActiveMinds.com

**11/21 Tuesday—Active Minds (Free)— Native Americans of Colorado.** 10:1511:15am. Jewish Community Center, 350 S Dahlia St. 303.316.6359. www.ActiveMinds.com

11/28 Tuesday—Active Minds (Free)—Buddhism. 5-6pm. Tattered Cover, 2526 E. Colfax. 303.322.7727 www.ActiveMinds.com

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#### 11/29 Wednesday—Logan Lecture: Xiaoze Xie.

DAM Contemporaries (DAMC) presents artist born in Chinese Cultural Revolution, explores China's book banning, censorship, social memory, political discourse. 6-7pm. Doors open 5:30pm. DAM Hamilton Bldg. Sharp Auditorium, 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy. Free: DAMC members, students (valid ID), Asian Art Assoc. members; \$10 DAM volunteers, \$15 DAM members, \$20 nonmembers. www.denverartmuseum.org

## MUSEUMS—DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE

#### www.dmns.org

IMAX. Dream Big 3D: Engineering Our World; Conquests of the Sky 3D

To I/I—Nature's Amazing Machines. Free with admission.

To 1/15—Ultimate Dinosaurs. Free with admission.

**11/16 Thursday—Science Lounge.** Cocktails/entertainment 3rd Thurs. monthly. 6:30-9:30pm. \$8/members; \$10/nonmembers.

#### MUSEUMS—FREE DAYS

**II/3 Friday—Denver Zoo Free Day.** SCFD Free day. www.denverzoo.org

**II/4 Saturday—Denver Art Museum Free Day.** SCFD Free day. www.denverartmuseum.org

II/5 Sunday—Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys Free Day. SCFD Free day. www.dmmdt. org

**II/6 Monday—Denver Zoo Free Day.** SCFD Free day. www.denverzoo.org

II/7 Tuesday—Children's Museum Free Target Tuesday. 4-8pm. www.cmdenver.org

11/10 Friday—Denver Botanic Gardens Free Day. SCFD Free day. www.botanicgardens.org

11/10 Friday—Four Mile Historic Park Free Day. SCFD Free second Friday, 12pm-4pm. www.fourmilepark.org

II/II Saturday—Denver Botanic Gardens Free Day. SCFD Free day. www.botanicgardens.org

11/13 Monday—Denver Museum of Nature and Science Free Day. SCFD Free day. www.dmns.org

11/24 Friday—Clyfford Still Museum. SCFD Free day. Free admission last Friday monthly all day. Free admission every Friday 5-8pm. 1250 Bannock St. www.clyffordstillmuse-

**12/2 Saturday—Denver Art Museum Free Day.** SCFD Free day. www.denverartmuseum.org

12/3 Sunday—Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys Free Day. SCFD Free day. www.dmmdt. org 12/5 Tuesday—Children's Museum Free Target Tuesday. 4-8pm. www.cmdenver.org

#### **THEATRE**

**To 11/11—Buyer and Cellar.** Spotlight Theater Company at John Hand Theater, 7653 E. 1st Pl. in Lowry. www.thisisspotlight.

To 12/29—A Year with Frog and Toad. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd. www.arvadacenter.org

**To 12/31—Comedy Sportz.** Avenue Theatre, 417 E. 17th Ave. www.avenuetheater.com

11/3 to 12/17—Honeymoon in Vegas. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St., Aurora. www.vintagetheatre.com

II/I7 to I2/23—Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd. www. arvadacenter.org

11/24 to 12/23—Hattie: A Musical Biography. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave, Aurora. www.aurorafoxartscenter.org

**11/24 to 12/24—The Santaland Diaries.** Denver Center for the Performing Arts, www.denvercenter.org

11/25 to 12/23—The Miracle Worker. John Hand Theater, 7653 E. 1st Pl. www.firehousetheatercompany.com

11/25 to 12/24—A Christmas Carol. The Jones Theater, Denver Center for the Performing Arts. www.denvercenter.org

12/1 to 12/24—Santa's Big Red Sack. Avenue Theatre, 417 E. 17th Avenue www.avenuetheater.com

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Ronald McDonald Family Rooms at Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children. At Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital for once-a-week commitment, 6-month minimum. www. ronaldhouse.org under "How You Can Help" for info.

**Single Volunteers of Greater Denver.** Volunteer, not-forprofit singles group, meet others and assist nonprofit organizations for events/activities. www.svgd.org

**Reading Volunteers Needed.** For students in K-8 grade. I hour, I student, Ix week. During school hours. julie@partnersinliteracy.org or 303.316.3944 ext. 241.

**Project Worthmore.** Nonprofit organization of committed community members give, volunteer, mentor, befriend refugee neighbors. 1532 Galena St., Ste. 380. 720.460.1393





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Left to right: Christopher Marrey, COO/owner; Lon Symensma, chef/owner; Luke Bergman, executive chef/owner; and Jose Rodriguez, general manager, are shown at Concourse Restaurant Moderne in Eastbridge shortly before they opened.

Elise Wiggins, owner/chef of Cattivella, an Italian restaurant in Eastbridge.



By Courtney Drake-McDonough

hen the Eastbridge Town Center opened in the spring of this year, along with it came almost instant recognition in the local foodie world. Experienced chefs and restaurateurs, some of whom are Stapleton residents, opened their restaurants, feeling both that there was a need for additional dining options and that they could attract guests from all over the metro area who are interested in chef-driven concepts.

Concourse Restaurant Moderne, helmed by Chef Lon Symensma and Chef Luke Bergman serving New American cuisine, and Cattivella, an Italian restaurant owned by first-time restaurant owner Chef Elise Wiggins, were recently included in 5280 magazine's "25 Best Restaurants." For the first time, the list did not rank restaurants numerically but instead included them based on the type of experience diners can have. Ranked or not, inclusion in the list provides a lot of clout.

Also on 5280's list was The Stanley Marketplace restaurant, Annette, owned by another first-time restaurateur, Caroline Glover. The Aurora restaurant located just outside of the Stapleton neighborhood, which serves scratch-to-table and woodfired food, was also featured as one of the best new restaurants

#### 5280 Top 25 List Recognizes Three Local Restaurants



Caroline Glover, owner/chef of Annette, a scratch-to-table restaurant at Stanley Marketplace.

in 2017 in the August issue of Bon Appétit magazine.

Such recognition is helping to put northeast Denver on the map of restaurant destinations, joining the ranks of RiNo, Highlands, Cherry Creek North and other neighborhoods known for their thriving restaurant scenes. For residents in NE Denver, the new dining options cut a long swath stretching south to include The Stanley Marketplace and north to include new restaurants in Stapleton north of I-70. With the Shops at Northfield being purchased by QIC, an Australian investment firm whose vision is to "provide a vibrant destination offering lifestyle, entertainment and dining experiences," even more dining options may arrive in the not-too-distant future.

While the flurry of newer restaurants brings excitement to the area, and likely does draw diners from other parts of town as the restaurateurs hoped, they may also bring attention to other restaurants in the area, including a variety of ethnic eateries along Colfax and Quebec that have been staples of the locals for years. With the addition of these newer restaurants, NE Denver has become an eating destination for the full range of options from street tacos to elegant bistros.

#### Annual Toy Drive Sustains Children's Hospital Year 'Round



Motorcycle riders representing Colorado Harley Davidson dealerships ride in a procession to the Children's Hospital Colorado to celebrate the annual Harley Toy Ride.

By Anne Hebert

n Dec. 3, the rumble of motorcycles and metro area firetruck engines will signify the start of the 2017 Annual Harley Toy Ride, a yearly event that helps Children's Hospital patients and their families experience the magic of the holiday season.

Bearing gifts of new toys, riders from Harley Davidson dealerships around Colorado join metro area firefighters at the Aurora Sports Park where hospital patients get a chance to ride on a fire truck. Santa Claus ushers a procession to the hospital campus where volunteers host a party and distribute toys.

Director of Volunteers Kathleen McBride has been with the hospital for 30 years and says she's only missed one Toy Ride due to illness in all that time. "It's an opportunity for the community to come together each year to touch patients and their families facing a hospital experience during the holidays," she says.

Toy donations are also distributed at the Snow Pile, a two-day event that enables families of inpatients and outpatients in financial need to select holiday gifts at no cost. Toys are sorted by age and gender. Gift cards, art supplies and games are also popular.

Toy donations are used to stock the hospital playrooms and the network of care sites, sustaining facilities throughout the year.

To donate, see the donation guidelines and a wish list by visiting www.childrenscolorado.org/community/donate-volunteer/donate/in-kind/donation-wish-list/. For more information about the Harley Toy Ride, call 720.777.6489.





#### Op-Ed

#### Mayor Says "Vote Yes" on **Denver Bond Questions**



Mayor Hancock talks to citizens at the Cabinet in the City at Johnson and Wales in late August

To keep pace with the growth and opportunity Denver is seeing, I hope you'll join me and vote YES on measures 2A thru 2G on Nov. 7. Funds from the measures would go toward maintaining and repairing Denver's infrastructure before it breaks down. The best part: we can do this and keep your tax rates the same.

Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Mayfair, Montclair and East Colfax stand to benefit from the measures. A major focus would see improved transportation and mobility around the city, and that means less time sitting in traffic.

Rapid transit bus service along East Colfax, with a \$55 million local match for an \$135 million project, would ultimately service an estimated 50,000 riders per day and save travelers up to 15 minutes on their commute.

The measures would fund the planning, design and construction of this new bus service, including exclusive bus lanes to speed up the ride, new passenger stops, and related traffic and roadway improvements.

Another \$20 million would go to provide East Colfax with new medians, curb extensions and enhanced crosswalks at key intersections.

To improve safety and relieve congestion, \$27 million would be spent on 56th Ave. between Peoria St. and Peña Blvd., widening it from two lanes to four lanes, and would include a median.

The project would include new traffic signals at Uvalda St. and Crown Blvd., would upgrade the signals at Peoria St. and Chambers Rd. and would include additional street lighting.

Public safety funding is also on the ballot. District 5 police station, which serves Stapleton, would be rebuilt at 12025 E. 45th Ave. at a cost of \$17.3 million. Less than 10 years ago, District 5 was the home of 57 officers and staff, and today it's at 117.

This police district has seen some of Denver's largest increases in new residents, which has required more officers for patrols, and the current location has insufficient space and doesn't even have enough toilets.

The station would also have a new community room for public meetings and use by residents, a feature which is very popular in other district stations.

Please join with me and help get projects like East Colfax, 56th Ave., and District 5 the support they need. VOTE YES on Measures 2A thru 2G. We need them all, and to do it, Denver needs your support.





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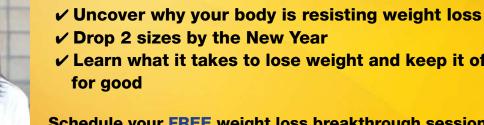
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#### School **Performance Framework**

(continued from page 27) SPFs." She added that the measures used were "ones that are focused on historically disadvantaged learners students of color, students on free and reduced lunch, English language learners, and special education students."

But according to Schoales, "those [early literacy] tests don't line up with what the district and the state have said is standard in terms of kids' reading and writing.' In fact, he continued, "we've found that there is over a 30 percent difference between results from those tests and state tests/CMAS. That, in turn, dramatically increases the scores on the SPF." His organization's analysis found that many schools that were rated highly based on early literacy tests—which students can take repeatedly—show growth and proficiency that are below state benchmarks. "The SPF misrepresents what a quality school is because of those indicators," said Schoales.

#### **Future Changes**

With DPS's ambitious goals to ensure that 80 percent of the district's third-graders are reading at or above grade level and 80 percent of its students attend a green or blue school by 2020, the district will be setting the bar higher next year. Beck said that the district is moving to more rigorous SPF standards for the statewide testing measures in 2018 and then for early literacy measures in 2019, giving schools plenty of advance notice to rise to the challenge.

**180 Affordable Apartments to Come** 





The apartment building, designed to look like townhomes, sits on a triangular lot between MLK, Moline and 26th Ave. The numbers in the plan at left show (1) interior garden/courtyard; (2) building entrance/ common room, and (3) playground.

By John Fernandez

ortheast Denver Housing Center (NHDC) plans to begin construction of a 180-unit affordable housing project in January at the southeast corner of MLK Blvd. and Moline St.

Occupancy is anticipated 14 months later, timed to coincide with the completion of the MLK Blvd. extension from Havana St. to Peoria St. The project will be constructed as one 165,125-square-foot building, topping out at three stories configured to look somewhat like townhomes. Intermittent one-story connectors will further reduce the overall building massing.

NHDC Deputy Director Dominique Acevedo told members of the Stapleton Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP) Oct. 10 that the project is modeled closely after the Northfield Apartments that it developed at 4900 Trenton St. The target market is the same—affordable to households at 30 to 60 percent of Denver's area median

Forty-two of the units will be three bedrooms with the balance split between one- and two-bedroom units. The building fronts Moline, MLK and a future extension of 26th Ave. Vehicular access will be from 26th and from Moline via an alley. The building will sit on a

The Moline Street Apartments are designed to promote healthy living where residents can rest, gather and play in areas located within as well as outside of the building.

The project will be financed in part with 4 percent low-income



housing tax credits. The project architect is the Cuningham Group and the contractor will be Palace Construction.

#### **Dayton/Emporia Connection Opens At Last**

By John Fernandez

The Dayton-Emporia street connection between Stapleton and northwest Aurora has opened. It is the fourth of four street connections between Denver and Aurora stipulated in a 2006 intergovernmental agreement (IGA) that carried out the Green Book vision of reconnecting the former airport property to surrounding neighborhoods. It opened a few months late due to protracted negotiations between Aurora and the Dayton Industrial Park property owner regarding vehicular and pedestrian access. Agreement on a retaining wall, fencing and curb cuts helped Aurora avoid the need to condemn any land for the project. That 2006 IGA contemplates a fifth street connection near Oswego Street when development of the farthest east portion of Stapleton (Moline to Peoria) occurs. Dayton-Emporia allows on-street parking to serve the adjacent park and ballfield and could help with overflow parking from Stanley Marketplace.











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## Two More Affordable For-Sale Projects Are Underway in Stapleton



Eight rows of townhomes with 5 units each will be built perpendicular to Central Park Blvd. south of 21st Ave.

By John Fernandez

ortheast Denver Housing Center (NDHC) has begun site work for two affordable, for-sale housing projects in the southwest quadrant of Stapleton: 40 units along the west side of Central Park Blvd. between 21st Ave. and Xanthia Way, and 23 units on the north side of 21st Ave. between Spruce and Tamarac streets. Dominique Acevedo, NDHC deputy director, says all of the units are under contract with an estimated move-in scheduled for late summer through fall of 2018. The building architecture will be very similar to the NDHC townhomes completed along Montview Blvd. between Trenton and Ulster streets. All of the units will be affordable to families earning 60 to 80 percent of the area median income. The buildings were designed by DAO Architecture and will be built by M & B Construction.

#### **Stapleton Townhomes Phase 7**

These townhomes will be attached in eight groups of five units set at right angles to Central Park Blvd. 19 of the units will be two-bedroom; 21 will be three bedrooms. Prices range from \$166,500 for a 950-square-foot unit, to \$235,500 for a 1,353-square-foot unit.



23 townhomes will be built, most in groups of five, facing 21st Ave. just west of Tamarac St.

#### **Stapleton Townhomes Phase 8**

These 23 units will front 21st Ave. and have alley access to garages. Prices will range from \$172,000 for a 1,003-square-foot unit to \$181,500 for a 1,059-square-foot unit.

NDHC is one of the two primary providers of affordable housing in Stapleton and is a nonprofit community development corporation. The group is completing construction of a 40-unit, for-sale project on the east side of Central Park Blvd. near the Central Park station. Acevedo says 20 of those units have been completed and sold. The remaining 20 units are under contract and scheduled to be sold in November and December of this year.



Construction is expected to start on the Northfield fire station in spring 2018 with completion by June 2019.

By John Fernandez

he Stapleton Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP) endorsed the view of city project manager Brandon
Gainey that the new Northfield Fire Station
No. 39 will be a "functional and aesthetic attribute of the community." Construction on the 13,900-square-foot building will begin next spring. It is slated to be open by June 2019.

The new fire station will be located at the southeast corner of 50th Ave. and Central Park Blvd. It is angled to the street to facilitate fire truck exit from the site. Chief Steven Ellis of the Denver Fire Department told ZAP that the city is currently deficient in terms of meeting its fire response time standard in this

area (roughly, 6-minute response time for 90 percent of calls). Response time will also be improved by the addition of a traffic signal at the 50thand CPB intersection, triggered by firefighters as they leave the site.

Features of the building, designed by OZ architects Joe Levi and Eric Becker, include design symmetry, brick detailing, clerestory windows, patios and screening walls.

ZAP members did ask the city to consider consolidating a proposed 125-ft.-high communications tower with the 50-ft.-tall hose tower. City staff said they would raise this matter with the safety manager's office but gave the impression such a design change is unlikely. They noted the proposed communications tower is the same size as those found at other city fire stations.

The facility will be initially staffed with four firefighters and one fire truck. PCL Construction will build the fire station.

The project budget is \$9.4 million approved through a complex "five-party finance agreement" for Stapleton's remaining trunk infrastructure needs approved last spring. See the April 2017 *Front Porch* article: https://frontporchne.com/article/five-party-agreement-reached-section-10-financing/.

#### Shops at Northfield Sold to Australian Firm

By Carol Roberts

he Shops at Northfield has been sold to Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC), a large investment company owned by the Queensland, Australia government. In response to a *Front Porch* email inquiry about their plans for the shopping center, Steven Leigh, Managing

Director of QIC Global Real Estate, replied, "...we take an active approach to managing our properties to provide a vibrant destination offering lifestyle, entertainment and dining experiences, in addition to fantastic retail. Our guiding philosophy centers on creating places at the heart of their communities, and we look forward to *(continued on page 37)* 

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SUN Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm (Block Captain meeting) and 7:30pm (Board meeting) 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

#### **November SUN News and Events**

#### Denver Talks Discussion of Claudia Rankine's Citizen: An American Lyric

Central Park Recreation Center, Nov. 14, 6:30-8:30pm - a discussion facilitated by Erika Wurth. Ms Wurth is a writer of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, she teaches creative writing at Western Illinois University and has been a guest writer at the Institute of American Indian Arts. Participants in this discussion will join the citywide conversation about race, social justice and Claudia Rankine's Citizen: An American Lyric. Attendees will discuss what we can learn from the experiences presented in Citizen, and how can we use what we learn to create a more inclusive and accepting community. Lighthouse Writers Workshop, the City & County of Denver, and NEA Big Read want Denver-area residents to read the book and start talking.

The Denver Public Library system has 10 kits for book clubs to check out; currently, all are checked out and there is a queue of 5 holds. Individual copies of the

book are available through the library as well as Lighthouse Writers Workshop at locations across the city. https://lighthousewriters.org/events/denver-talks

#### Listening Panel in Late November — Stapleton Name

Community meetings in August, September and October of Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN), the Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) and the Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) were attended by residents requesting reconsideration of the community name (i.e., the elimination of the use of the word Stapleton). As opportunities for public comment have been insufficient within the constraints of meeting times, specific times for public comment will be offered to the community at which a professional facilitator will be present and the following organizations will be represented: the Stapleton Foundation, SUN, SDC, MCA, CAB, Forest City, City Council and the Greater Stapleton Business Association. Final arrangements are not yet available for these sessions.

## SUN board timeline for continued review of community feedback on the name Stapleton

Oct. 17–Ongoing through the day of listening (announced above): Gather community input on name change. Community members are welcome to email SUN and/or post comments on SUN website.

TBD – SUN will participate in two meetings with the combined SDC, CAB, MCA, SUN, and Stapleton Foundation (see above) for gathering community input in a dedicated block of uninterrupted time, with assistance and reporting by a professional facilitator.

From electronic and in-person input, the SUN board will begin the development of a pro/con document.

At the subsequent SUN Board Meeting 7:30-8:45pm, Central Park Rec Center– review available feedback.

#### Upcoming SUN Meetings: Dec. 5, Central Park Rec Center

The typical third Tuesday SUN meetings conflict in Nov. and Dec. with holiday schedules. Instead, SUN will meet Dec. 5.

Outreach hour (6:30-7:30) Dec. 5: State Historian Dr. Patty Limerick will join us for a planning hour to discuss the shape and nature of an annual community event centered around the concept of reflection. At such an event, the community would utilize assistance from trained historians who are armed with methods, strategies and techniques for leading conversations, thus allowing attendees to engage in thoughtful dialogue about where we are now and how we can learn from our past.

SUN Board meeting (7:30-8:45) Dec. 5: A vote on SUN board candidate Mandle Rousseau will occur at the meeting's start; biography below.

#### SUN Board Candidate Bio: Mandle R. Rousseau

My wife and I are Stapleton residents. I am also a Denver native. After living in separate states, commuting back and forth between Denver and Arizona, my wife accepted a job in Colorado. We decided to move to Stapleton from the Park Hill area in August of 2016. I am a small business owner. I own and operate Control FREQ, a home automation and systems integration company I launched in 2005. Having weathered the storms of the economic downturns, with the help of others, I have been able to successfully navigate the market and keep

the company prosperous. I was a founding member of the Rotary Club of Five Points Cultural District. It was there that I learned to assess the needs of the community, mobilize and address those needs. I also served in a leadership capacity for more than 14 years at Colorado Christian Fellowship in Aurora, Colo. As Director of Media, I was responsible for a small budget and for managing a team of volunteers, who were responsible for weekly operations of the audio and visual components of the church. While serving in this capacity, I had the opportunity to work with individuals who had experienced the recent loss of loved ones. I worked with these families to produce the media associated with the memorial services for their loved ones. Due to the limited timeline and sensitive nature of the circumstances, this required a high level of professionalism, sensitivity, and interpersonal

Often people have misconceptions about individuals due to their lack of experience in interacting with individuals who are not like themselves. One of my greatest honors is that I have had the opportunity and privilege to work with a wide range of individuals from various socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. I am looking forward to broadening my own experiences serving my community as a board member of SUN.

#### **SUN Board Vacancies**

SUN is comprised solely of community volunteers. SUN board elections occur annually in May, or ad hoc when vacancies exist. If interested in becoming involved with SUN, please attend a monthly meeting and contact: stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com.

Amanda Allshouse, President of the Stapleton United Neighbors Board of Directors

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#### Letters to the Editor

#### Park Hill Golf Course Needs to Include High Density Residential

City Council is considering a proposal to purchase the Park Hill Golf Course from the Clayton Trust and neighbors are already gearing up to oppose any changes to that property. Opposition to any development here is misguided. Because of the proximity to transit, it is critical that the City is able to strike an appropriate balance between housing and green space on the Park Hill Golf Course Property.

Opponents fear that developers are salivating at the opportunity to turn the Park Hill Golf Course into mixed-use housing. They probably are. And we need to welcome them. Denver will be home to 300,000 new residents by 2040. This means that all neighborhoods have to absorb some of those people. The golf course features proximity to both the 40th and Colorado rail station and a high frequency bus route along Colorado Blvd. It's hard to think of a place where housing could be added in a more sustainable way. Indeed, an important and good priority of the new Denver Housing Plan is locating new housing near transit.

If we keep shutting doors to development in Denver where mobility options are realistic, new residents will have to sprawl out to the suburbs where their only mobility option will be their

personal vehicle which they will then drive (through our neighborhoods) to their jobs in the city.

Opponents of development on this site have also expressed concern about how development might contribute to the gentrification of the neighborhood. While many people associate new housing with gentrification, lack of new housing might actually be more to blame. When affluent people can't find housing in traditionally affluent neighborhoods, they use their resources to find it in less traditionally affluent ones, displacing longtime residents in the process. If Park Hill and surrounding neighborhoods shut the door to housing opportunities where housing makes sense and transit is available, we will be contributing to the gentrification of other neighborhoods without even leaving our own.

Welcoming communities should be fighting FOR mixed-use, transit-adjacent, multi-family housing and insisting that affordability is part of any transaction the city enters into related to the Park Hill Golf Course. Instead of saying no to all development, let's talk about the role greenspace plays in the creation of complete neighborhoods. Public greenspace matters. Denver needs housing. We should fight for both.

Andy Sense, Park Hill

#### **Our Golf Course Should Stay Green**

It seems Denver can't get enough of new development. Thanks to a continued short-sightedness and lack of leadership, we are becoming another concrete jungle. We are in the throes of rampaging development.

Now our golf course is on the block, slated probably for development. I moved to Park Hill in the mid 90's from Cherry Creek and the lone voice and efforts of Walt Kimble echo in my mind as he advocated for less development, less density—alas, to no avail. All the people of Park Hill need to do is take a look at some of the other neighborhoods to see how this pans outespecially for the elderly and the less wealthy ... while the dumpsters, the dozers, and the parking all conspire to make life miserable for those of us who wanted a relatively inexpensive, nice, peaceful neighborhood ....You may have noticed the increasing number of "for sale" signs along Montview. Although some readers would call this "white flight" really, it's your tax base getting out while the getting's good—often out of Colorado. Remember, the privilege of wealth is mobility.

There is still time for people to take action, to maintain our sense of community which

really is one of the things I have come to love about living here in Park Hill-not to mention my beautiful old home, a Craftsman Bungalow. Despite all the offers to "buy my home for cash" from the fast bucksters, I will do my best to stick it out until my dying days.

Another thing that will maintain the integrity of our neighborhood—Let's Preserve our Mature Trees! We can only sustain life on this planet, because trees (and plants) do this day in and day out more efficiently than ANYTHING human engineering or technology can compare with ... so let's not take them for granted! So yes, let's petition our city council people and our beloved, tree loving Director of Parks and Recreation to PRESERVE what open spaces we have left with their mature trees, as the tree canopy in Denver is under enough pressure from cars, smokers, insects, and developers.

Let's not take our trees or green spaces for granted ... As for me, I planted 45 trees on my own property. I recommend we all do the same. Really this is one of the simplest things we can do for future generations!

Just sayin, Therese-Marie O'Sullivan

The Shops at Northfield (continued from page 35) becoming part of the community in Northeast Denver."

The two companies have had a partnership since 2013 and expect a smooth transition. Northfield, with 1.1 million square feet, is part of a \$3.18 billion deal—a 10-mall purchase of Forest City's share in the malls.

A Forest City press release states that The

Shops at Northfield Stapleton is the first mall to close as part of the larger QIC transaction. Sales of five additional malls to QIC are expected to close by year end.

QIC is one of the largest institutional investment managers in Australia, with \$62.9 billion in funds under management, over 700 employees and 110 clients in multiple countries.



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Thompson stands in the new addition, in front of what used to be the exterior west wall of the building. The original massive three-story white pre-cast concrete panels, visible by his head, were removed and cut off to open up the ground floor, then replaced on the second and third floors.

Reflecting on the architectural transformation, Thompson says he started from the point of what he needed to make the project work from an economic perspective, then adds, "It helps when you have an architect that shares the vision and understands the programming." Thompson says Oz Architecture did understand his vision—and the process was totally collaborative.



#### **Punch Bowl Tower Renovation**

(continued from page 1) required for renovation, the project has been frustrating. "But we never doubted it was the right thing to do. We knew that we were given a rare opportunity to be the organization that saved that tower," Thompson says. "It couldn't stand there forever with graffiti and broken windows. That building standing there didn't make the neighborhood better."

In addition to the impact on the neighborhood, Thompson says the project also underscores his company's reputation for respecting design and history and for their willingness to invest in preserving a Colorado icon. Perhaps the most iconic feature of the building is the air traffic control tower. The tower's windows will be illuminated at night, becoming what Thompson hopes will be a beacon for Denver. Enabling the public to go to the top is still some years away because it's not ADA-compliant. "It's just preserved now, but we'll discuss a variance with the city down the road," says Thompson.

Some of the challenges faced during the process of renovating the Stapleton building included taking it down to its steel skeleton and strengthening the structure, replacing the floors and the roof, performing asbestos abatement; exhuming caissons from underground that once supported parking structures but had been cut off at ground

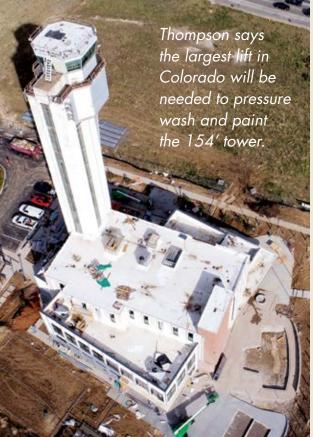


Photo by Tony Fernandez

level when the airport was demolished; and generally bringing a 1950s' building up to 2017 code requirements.

One of the biggest projects, however, was the large vertical pre-cast concrete panels on



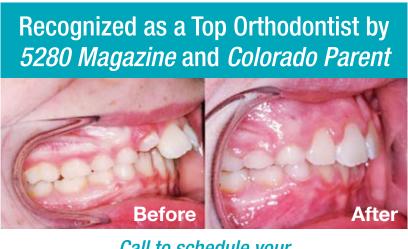
As the Punch Bowl signage is being mounted, he smiles and confidently says it's not the craziest rush to opening he's had and still made the deadline.

the exterior walls of the original building. Thompson wanted to preserve those panels as they expanded the building, which meant carefully removing them with a crane and cutting off the

portion on the ground floor. This opened up the ground level to the new addition and to the outside. "The easiest thing on earth would have been to just crush those old panels," says Thompson. "So that was a lot of work and it

was harder than we thought to pull that off without damaging them.'

With a long renovation behind him and the future of the new location ahead, Thompson is able to reflect. "It's been about 50 percent harder than we thought it was going to be and it took about 50 percent more time," he estimates. "It has been a challenge but it's going to be worth it. When you work on something for three years, it feels really, really good to cross the finish line.'



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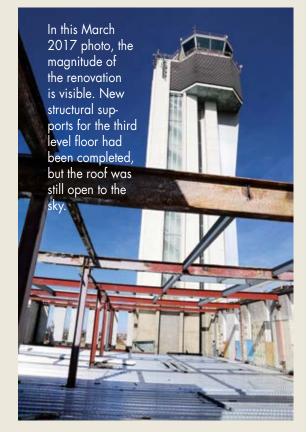
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Garage door style windows were installed in the addition, giving the interior the feel of a covered porch.



Red interior beams are the original structure. The many new gray beams reveal the massive amount of renovation.

## Urgent Care Facility Opens in Eastbridge

By Anne Hebert

ortheast Denver health care options have expanded with the addition of the new CareNow Urgent Care location in Stapleton's Eastbridge Town Center. Affiliated with HealthONE, the clinic's office hours are 8am–8pm Monday through Saturday and 8am–5pm on Sundays. Medical Market Director Mark Montano, MD, emphasizes the clinic is "a family-oriented business." The new clinic is the fifth addition to the CareNow Urgent Care network along the Front Range.

With a physician and three support staff on-site daily, the clinic treats patients of all ages with non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries such as sprains, strains, burns, minor lacerations, sore throats and flu symptoms. Family medicine includes flu shots, vaccinations and youth sports physicals. Laboratory and X-ray facilities are located on-site to diagnose, treat and refer patients quickly and appropriately. Occupational medicine

services are also available providing pre-employment screenings and workers' compensation health care.

To save waiting room time, patients may use online patient check-in and receive notifications about wait and arrival times. CareNow accepts most insurance plans and front desk staff will verify insurance coverage and provide an estimate of costs before treatment

is initiated whenever possible. Insurance co-pays are accepted at the time of



Prateek Saxena, Market Manager (standing) and Mark Montano, MD, Market Medical Director, in the new CareNow clinic's triage bay. Patients can check-in online to reduce waiting room time.

service. For uninsured patients, payment options can be arranged.

Family-friendly movies are shown in the lobby and exam rooms to keep young patients entertained while they wait for care. The clinic has two triage bays for acute injuries and illnesses and 12 exam rooms, including an OB/GYN room with an exam chair like those found in obstetrics and gynecology offices. Montano says rapid screen lab tests can be performed to facilitate timely initiation of treatment and digital X-ray results are read and interpreted by Tele Radiology Specialists in about 20 minutes.



CareNow, at MLK Blvd. and Havana opened in October.

Patients are given a copy of their X-rays to take to their referral physician or primary care

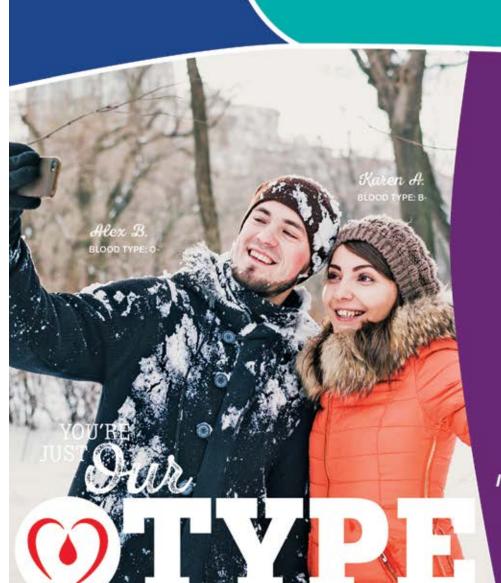
physician. Should transport to an emergency facility be required, patients are taken to the closest and most appropriate location.

Urgent care clinics have become an increasingly popular form of care offering convenient and quick solutions for a variety of medical needs. Expanded office hours, multiple locations and the ability to be seen quickly brings accessible health care to the community—often when they need it most. Urgent Care differs from a free-standing emergency room that provides the level of care needed in true emergencies. Emergency facilities are licensed in the same way as those found in a hospital ER, open 24 hours per day, seven days a week, and are clearly marked as emergency facilities.

To help clarify confusion about urgent and emergency care options, the Colorado Hospital Association is a participant in a communitywide education campaign called *Where for Care*. With tools and information designed to help facilitate informed choices, patients are urged to visit http://whereforcare.org.

To learn about CareNow, or for online check-in, visit www.carenow.com. For further guidance about where to seek care, see https://www.carenow.com/about/urgentcare-and-emergency-care.dot. For additional questions, call 720.458.2576.





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