

Walnut Hills Newsletter

A Beautiful Community of Families, Friends and Neighbors for over 50 years

Diverse, Accomplished and Scholarly 2015 Walnut Hills' Scholarship Winners

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we announce the five winners of the 2015 Walnut Hills' Scholarships. They are a very accomplished and dedicated group of students. The students receiving this year scholarship are recognized as some of the top students at Cherry Creek High School. All five are Creek students.

Due to the increased support of the residents of Walnut Hills, the Walnut Hills Civic Association, the Walnut Hills Newsletter, some private donations and the increased quality of the Walnut Hills seniors, the Scholarship Committee decided last fall to offer five \$2,500 scholarships. The \$12,500 amount is the largest amount ever offered and five scholarships are the most scholarships ever offered.

The winners of the 2015 Walnut Hills' Scholarships, in alphabetical order, are:

Nicola E. Benfield, daughter of William and Kimberly Benfield of Walnut Hills, Centennial. There are many things that set Nicola apart, but three things that stand out are her volunteer activities, her love of music and yoga. She says that her yoga studio is, "the only place in this world where I truly feel content with every part of myself." Her active participation in four different choirs and thespian talents at Cherry Creek High School speak to her love of music and theatre. Nicola's community contribution is best exemplified by her volunteerism at Sky Ridge Hospital and The Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Her counselor describes Nicola as, "witty and articulate and brings a lot of enthusiasm to her studies and love of learning." She has taken a total of ten honors and Advanced Placement Courses with a 4.093 grade point average. Her ACT test scores, especially English/Writing, place her in the top 2% in the nation. Nicola has held several positions of leadership in choir which she takes seriously and with a real sense of purpose, maturity and determination. Her counselor describes her as, "caring, talented, smart, and motivated." Nicola plans to attend the University of Washington in Seattle and pursue a combined major in design, marketing and advertising.

Elizabeth B. Fugikawa, daughter of Edward Fugikawa and Mary Stansbury Fugikawa of Walnut Hills, Centennial. While academics could easily be used to describe Elizabeth, there is so much more to this young lady. Academically she has successfully completed a top academic program - she satisfactorily completed with a 4.295 GPA, five Advanced Placement courses in her Junior year which helped her become a National Merit Finalist and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. She ranked in the top 0.5% of the nation on her ACT scores and missed having a perfect score by 1 point. Music is a love. She is in the Cherry Creek School District Honor Orchestra and plays in the top level orchestra at Cherry Creek H.S. As Co-president of Creek's Diversity Task Force and a tutor in National Honor Society, she exemplifies her leadership and care about others. She has received Bronze and Silver awards in Girl Scouts, academic letters all four years and a National Latin Exam Gold medal three years. She was selected to serve as an intern in Representative Andy Harris' D.C. Office during the summer between her junior and senior year. Her counselor states that, "Elizabeth is mature beyond her years as evident in her poise, vocabulary, and ability to relate to others." Elizabeth plans to attend Macalester College in St. Paul Minnesota with a major in social sciences and education. Her goal is to become a teacher.

Thomas E. Fugikawa, son of Edward Fugikawa and Mary Stansbury Fugikawa of Walnut Hills, Centennial. Thomas is a unique and distinguished young man. There is little doubt about his academic ability. He has completed 18 Honors and Advanced Placement Courses with a 4.35 GPA, placing him in the top of his class at Cherry Creek High School and earning him honors as an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. He completed the first three years of high school math while in middle school and took honors pre calculus as a freshman at Creek. His ACT

scores rank him in the top 0.5% in the nation and only 1 point from a perfect score. Thomas has been an instrumental member of the American Computer Science League (ACSL) since his sophomore year and as a junior competed in the ACSL competition in Nationals and won fifth place in the nation. While Thomas' academic record is without question, one of his real loves is Scouting. He is an Eagle scout. He attended the Boy Scout National Youth Leadership Training program three times, once as a participant and then he was asked back as a staff member two times. The joint experiences helped him to cope with setbacks, settle disputes, plan ahead, communicate, and listen. He says, "It encompassed my life for only a few weeks yet set ideas in me that I will carry for a lifetime." Thomas plans to attend The University of Colorado - Boulder, with a major in Mechanical Engineering.

Kaitlyn M. Lupinetti, daughter of Richard and Mary Lupinetti of Walnut Hills, Centennial. Kaitlyn has a number of qualities that set her apart from her peers, but the highlight of her life is the tremendous amount of volunteer time that she has spent over the last five years as a volunteer at the Denver Zoo. She started as an eighth grader, spent hundreds of volunteer hours, and progressed with responsibilities where she was responsible for over 130 teens. She has also been a volunteer for several years at the Cherry Creek Arts Festival. Kaitlyn was selected to a very competitive Peer Ambassador program at Cherry Creek High School that works with new students and mentors struggling students. A member of National Honor Society and Big Sisters has rounded out an outstanding volunteer program for her. Academically, Kaitlyn has maintained an outstanding academic record with eight honors courses and six Advanced Placement courses for which she received an Advance Placement Scholar Award. She scored in the top 0.5% nationally and received a perfect score of 36 on the Science section of the ACT Test. After her experience with falconry, hand feeding a porcupine and a red legged seriama, and having worked with a Abyssinian ground hornbill, it is not surprising that she plans to major in animal biology leading to a Veterinarian Degree. She plans to attend University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri.

Andrew C. Saiz, son of Christopher and Denise Saiz of Walnut Hills, Centennial. It is difficult to know just where to start with Andrew; he has so many talents, expertise, and accomplishments. He is at the top of his talented graduating class at Cherry Creek H.S. with 4.468 GPA in nine honors courses, six Advanced Placement Courses, two selective choirs which he sometimes accompanies on the piano - which is his real love. He started playing the piano at age 5, had his first competition at age 9, where he took second place, since then he has won 1st place in both the Yamaha Piano Competition and the Kawai Piano Competition. His counselor says, "Andrew is a musician at heart." Andrew says, "Music soothes the soul. It strengthens the heart, stimulates thought, calms the body, and opens the mind." As president of Creek's National Honor Society, his teachers comment what a quiet, confident and effective leader he is. Andrew is not afraid to tackle something new. In his senior year he started running Cross Country and became a contributing member of the team. He also had the chance to lobby South Suburban Parks and Recreation for some much needed maintenance and repair for the Walnut Hills Tennis Courts, which was recently completed. He does not quit. He has been named a National Hispanic Scholar and an Advanced Placement Scholar. His neighbor says, "In the future people will say with pride, Andy Saiz lived in my neighborhood." Andrew plans to major in biology and music in the Honors Program at The University of San Diego on his way to becoming a physician.

One can hardly read about the involvement and dedication of these fine students without taking great pride in them and their accomplishments. The other applicants, while not selected, were outstanding candidates. The scholarship committee is proud of the manner in which these students represent their families, our community, and their school. Congratulations!

Submitted by the Walnut Hills' Scholarship Committee



Nicola E. Benfield



Elizabeth B. Fugikawa



Thomas E. Fugikawa,



Kaitlyn M. Lupinetti



Andrew C. Saiz,

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Mark Trenka: Helping to Strengthen Community

Mark Trenka moved into Walnut Hills in 1994 as a single guy. At the time he was working for Burt Automotive as their Finance Director. Over the years he added a wife, Erin, and two daughters, Lauren (age 17) and Sarah (age 14) to his household and our neighborhood. And he changed careers a couple of times – going from auto financing to mortgage financing before taking over his late father’s real estate company, Trenka & Associates in 2004. Today he leads a team of successful REALTORS® who have handled more than 800 real estate transactions valued at over \$150 million.

Sitting on the sidelines has never been Mark’s style. “One year our house took either second or third place in the neighborhood Christmas lights competition,” he recalls. “I went to pick up the check we won and before I knew it I was staying for the Association Board meeting. It wasn’t long after that I joined the board. During my time on the board I was involved in everything from scooping ice cream at the annual event to loading trash bins at dumpster days.”

Mark began advertising in the Walnut Hills newsletter when he was in the mortgage business and continues to support the organization through his recently renamed company. TRENKA REAL ESTATE.

As to today’s real estate market, Mark reports that “we are clearly in a seller’s market with very low inventories and plenty of buyers.” Like many of his neighbors, Mark was both pleased and dismayed when he received his latest property assessment from the assessor’s office. “Sure, we all like to see our property values go up but with that comes more taxes for us and lower affordability for people looking to buy,” he said.

“I believe Walnut Hills is a great location – which is why I live here – and that we will see some new and exciting growth in this area in the coming years.”

As a REALTOR® with an exceptional track record in Denver’s condominium and loft markets, Mark has also taken on leadership roles in his own profession. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ReColorado.com (formerly known as Metrolist), Denver’s multiple listing service. He’s been President of the Denver Board of REALTORS® and a Director for the Colorado Association of REALTORS®, among many other leadership positions.

Mark has deep roots here in Colorado and contributed in many ways to the state, the city and our community of Walnut Hills. Along the way he’s received many awards including Broker/Manager of the Year, REALTOR® of the Year and the highest level rating (Platinum) by his clients as reported by Quality Service Certification, Inc.

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Hello Walnut Hills Neighbors!

We wanted to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and our business!

My name is JD Murphree and alongside my brother Jeremy and our father James (Dennis), we are the proud owners of Triple J Armory, Inc. We are a family oriented firearms retail outlet located in Littleton off C-470 and Broadway. The three J’s coming from our first name.

Having been Walnut Hills residents for almost 17 years now, we are excited to share our store with you!

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Residents of Walnut Hills

John Fuller, Chair - Walnut Hills Scholarship Board

On behalf of the Walnut Hills Scholarship Board, it is my pleasure to express our sincere thanks for the wonderful support the residents of Walnut Hills have given to the Scholarship Program. It has truly been one of the highlights of our area. The Board joins the 130 Walnut Hills high school seniors who have received the scholarships over the past 43 years for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Our first scholarship was one scholarship sponsored by the Newsletter under the auspices of Diane Graham for \$300.00 in 1972. Starting in the 1980s we opened up the opportunity for residents to contribute directly and increased the number of scholarships to four with an award of \$500.00 each. Since then, due to community support, we have been able to gradually increase the amount of the scholarships to \$2,500.00 and this year scholarships were awarded to five excellent students.

This goes to show what a community like ours can do - something no other community our size, that we know of, has ever undertaken. The scholarship program is something for which every contributor can be very proud. Including this year, 2015, we will have given out \$176,500.00 to high school seniors living in Walnut Hills to attend the college of their choice.

As college costs continue to rise, it is our hope that we can gradually increase the amounts of the awards to show our students how very proud we are of them and their accomplishments. What a wonderful investment in our future.

While over 75% of the support for the scholarship comes from the residents, the Walnut Hill's Newsletter and the Walnut Hills Civic Assn. (WHCA), also support the scholarship program. The Newsletter supports the scholarship program from its advertising income. In addition to all the fine events that the WHCA sponsors, they have continued to increase their support over the past several years.

John Fuller, Chair - Walnut Hills Scholarship Board
Diane Graham
Eric Schultz
Joan Rowe

Walnut Hills Garage Sale June 5 & 6

Andrea Suhaka, Walnut Hills Civic Assoc. Chair, 303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

We urge folks in Walnut Hills to have garage sales this weekend because the Civic Association pays for the general advertising. We don't hold the sale in one location. You have your own sale at your house.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation Alerts Public to Graffiti's Financial Impact

Graffiti is writing or drawings scribbled, scratched or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place. South Suburban Park and Recreation District is experiencing an uptick in graffiti throughout the District and wants to alert residents about the problem and the financial impact of graffiti removal.

In 2007, the District began tracking graffiti within its boundaries. Since then, the District has incurred 1,269 incidents for a cleanup cost of \$301,145. Since Jan. 1, there have been 43 incidents District-wide. Time and money spent removing graffiti could have been spent on upkeep and enhancements to parks, trails, open space and facilities. Graffiti cleanup not only costs the District, but ultimately impacts those the District serves. South Suburban has installed security cameras in frequently-hit locations to help curb the problem; however, no area in the District is immune to this activity.

South Suburban wants the public's help in reducing graffiti throughout the District. Remind your teenagers that graffiti is illegal, and those who are caught will be issued a citation and a bill for the cleanup costs. Subsequent offences could lead to higher fines, community service or possibly more severe consequences, such as felony convictions. To report graffiti, please call Senior Park Ranger Dan Scheuerman at 303.435.8225, or 303.435.8227 afterhours; or South Suburban at 303.798.5131.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Neighbors,

Remember that driveways are private property and U-turns in the middle of a blind residential street are dangerous. We have recently witnessed kids on bikes and people walking dogs almost hit on the sidewalk because of U-turns that couldn't be done within the boundaries of the street. Over the past few months we've had 2 sprinkler heads ruined and a water meter damaged from people using our driveway and front area to turn around in instead of driving the short distance to the corner to make turns. Please use caution when making turns in the middle of a street and don't use someone's private driveway as a turn around, be a careful and courteous neighbor and proceed to the corner to make directional changes. Help keep WH a safe place for our children and neighbors to walk on the sidewalks.



Troop 257 has been active inside and outside of the neighborhood lately. Our most recent campout in mid-April, took place at Boyd Lake State Park out in Loveland, Colorado. We stayed for one night and enjoyed many activities such as fishing, hiking, ladder golf, and hanging out around the camp fire. Although we had some difficulties with the wind, other campers and lots of rain, the campout was a success. The troop spent a lot of time around the lake, enjoying the scenery and spending time in the great outdoors which is why we do our best to go on campouts as much as possible.

In order to stay involved in the neighborhood, the troop always makes sure to take part in events in the community. This spring the troop spent two of their past Saturdays selling first-aid-kits at the semi-annual Dumpster Days. The Scouts braved the rain and early mornings to fundraise for their future events and were very successful thanks to the support and donations of those who came to Dumpster Days. The troop sold donuts, coffee, and first aid kits at both Saturdays and we plan to do the same at this fall's Dumpster Days in October. Other than Dumpster Days, Troop 257 also helps out at the 4th of July Parade/ Ice Cream Social, Envelope Packing for Walnut Hills Civic Association membership drive, and we host flag ceremonies for WHCA meetings. Troop 257 will always play an active role in the Walnut Hills community and we hope to see you at future neighborhood events.

This summer Troop 257 will be going on a canoe trip to the Ozark Rivers in Missouri. This trip will be a great experience for scouts new and old and it will teach them a lot about teamwork and dealing with tough tasks such as porting a canoe for a mile or traveling all day on the water. If you are interested in attending this trip and others like it, or you would just like to learn more about Troop 257 and the Scouting movement, come visit us at one of our meetings or try and contact us. We meet every Thursday at Walnut Hills Elementary at 7:00 pm during the school year, otherwise we meet at Walnut Hills Park. Troop 257 is a great way to learn about the great outdoors and leadership and we invite you to join and share in our great experiences.

For more information contact Scoutmaster Berke at andrewberke@earthlink.net



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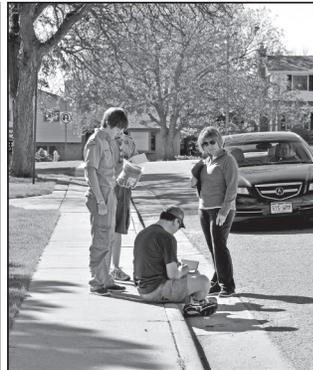
Walnut Hills Civic Association Sponsored Dumpster Days

Andrea Suhaka, Walnut Hills Civic Assoc. Chair
303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

The Dumpster Days on May 9 and 16 can be termed a success. Though May 9 was cold and rainy, 45 intrepid residents (one, twice) turned out to clean up their yards and/or their homes. Fourteen new members joined the association and we collected \$50 for the Walnut Hills Scholarship. The men that came with the The Garbage Man's trucks worked very hard for about 3 hours, helping people empty their cars, pick-ups, and assorted other vehicles.

As always, Donna Senn, the WHCA Board member responsible for Dumpster Days, greeted everyone with a smile and gladly took the money from new members.

We followed that up with another Dumpster Day on May 16, to much better weather. I was a bit disappointed that only 42 (6, twice) residents took advantage of the second, beautiful day. We did get 7 new WHCA members and we collected \$85 for the Scholarship Fund. We'll be back again on Oct. 10 for our fall clean up Dumpster Day with electronic recycling. I hope to see more of you then!



AP Images

Jesse J Alcorta
Photographer
Walnut Hills Newsletter

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Love

Our love flows from the gracious relationship we have with God through faith in Christ. It is the outward manifestation of our inward transformation. The world will know we are His disciples by our love for one another.

Community

Our community is the natural outcome of each one's personal love relationship with the Lord. He has called us out of the world to be joined to Him and to each other in a body or family of believers. We labor together as His Spirit has gifted us to serve Him, each other, and the world.

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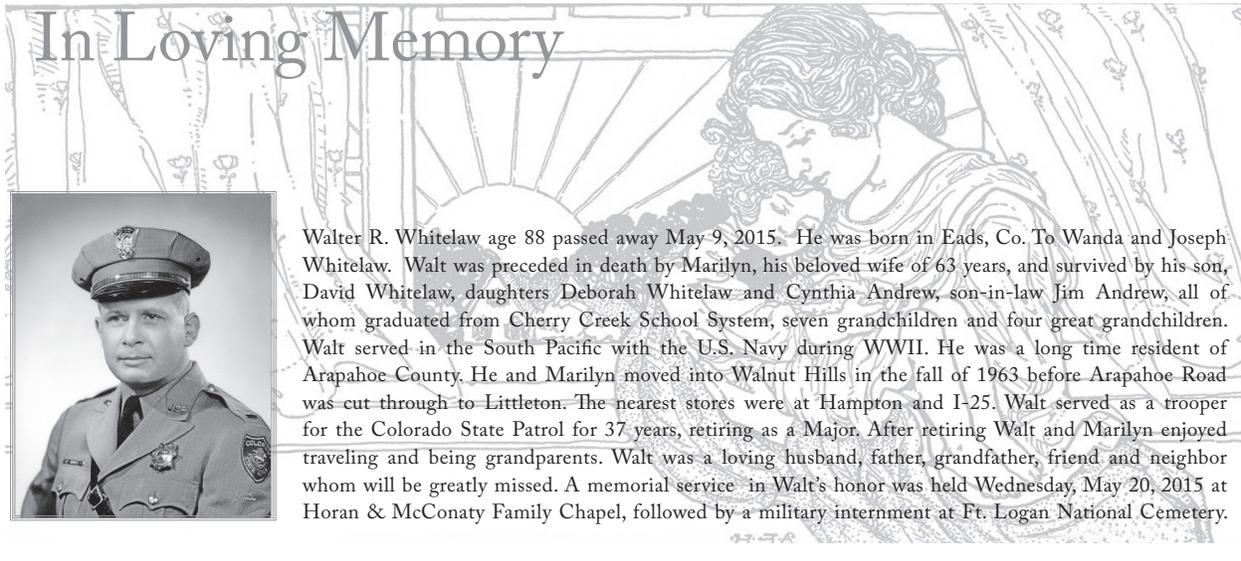
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In Loving Memory



Walter R. Whitelaw age 88 passed away May 9, 2015. He was born in Eads, Co. To Wanda and Joseph Whitelaw. Walt was preceded in death by Marilyn, his beloved wife of 63 years, and survived by his son, David Whitelaw, daughters Deborah Whitelaw and Cynthia Andrew, son-in-law Jim Andrew, all of whom graduated from Cherry Creek School System, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Walt served in the South Pacific with the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was a long time resident of Arapahoe County. He and Marilyn moved into Walnut Hills in the fall of 1963 before Arapahoe Road was cut through to Littleton. The nearest stores were at Hampton and I-25. Walt served as a trooper for the Colorado State Patrol for 37 years, retiring as a Major. After retiring Walt and Marilyn enjoyed traveling and being grandparents. Walt was a loving husband, father, grandfather, friend and neighbor whom will be greatly missed. A memorial service in Walt's honor was held Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at Horan & McConaty Family Chapel, followed by a military interment at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

Dear Neighbors Who Deliver the Walnut Hills Newsletter



Donna Senn
Ilsa Gregg

52 year ago the Women's Club of Walnut Hills enlisted the help of neighbors and friends to hand deliver the Walnut Hills Newsletter to each home. As the subdivision grew to nearly 1,200 homes, volunteers stepped forward to continue this tradition. To this day, we have the very best neighbors! Children and teen volunteers, family volunteers, volunteers with tons of routes, and volunteers for many decades. You are all appreciated for your generous gift to the community.

If you would like to join this amazing group of people and volunteer to deliver the newsletter 6 times a year, you are guaranteed to have a nice walk and meet your closest neighbors. Give us a call or write us a note. 303-741-2065 walnuthillsnewsletter@gmail.com

Thank you so much!

Betty Foley
Monica Danfelter
Randy Lutton
Jana Lutton
Diane Emily
The Prouty Family
Marge Ruoff
Lynda Koenig
Dave Wilson
Diana Miller

The Medlock Family
Karen D'Amboise
Ben Tittleman
Will Senn
Darcy Miccio-Pace
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Congratulations Class of 2015



Nicola E. Benfield



Andrew C. Saiz,



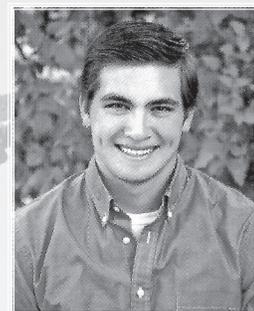
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Al & Carol Zuber
And 34 anonymous contributors.
Thank You!

Thanks Eric Schultz

We are sad to announce that Eric Schultz will be leaving the Board of the Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund since they will be moving out of Walnut Hills. Eric, thank you for all your help.

Eric has been a valuable board member of The Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund for several years and we will miss his input.

Since moving into Walnut Hills in 2003, Eric has been a very active member of our community. For several years he was one of the leaders of one of the local boy scout troops. He also served on the Executive Board of the Walnut Hills Civic Association for several years.

The Schultz family moved to Walnut Hills in 2003. One of the motivating factors for the move was so that their children could attend Walnut Hills Elementary School.

Due to Eric's moving, the Scholarship Board will be seeking someone to replace him on the board. We would appreciate it if any interested parties would send a brief note of their interest to: Walnut Hills' Scholarship Fund, 7219 S. Tamarac Ct. Centennial Colorado 80112.

Summer Fun

4th of July Parade & Ice Cream Social

We've been doing this for a number of years now. It's a good, old fashioned Fourth of July! The Walnut Hills Scholarship Committee will distribute the neighborhood scholarships around 11 am, during the Ice Cream Social.

It will be held on Saturday, the 4th of July and, for those interested in walking in the parade from Dry Creek School to Walnut Hills Park, we'll begin staging at Dry Creek School at 9:30 am. You may just walk with us and wave to your neighbors, in costume or not, but if you choose to take part in the annual Costume Contest you will need to check in at the Parade table, around 9:30 am to get a pinney with a number on it.

Awards will be given to 1st and 2nd places in (1) most patriotic costume, (2) most patriotic group costume, (3) most patriotic bike or trike, (4) most patriotic wagon and (5) and favorite old/classic car. It sure was wonderful to see those old/classic cars last year, I hope they join us again! Judging forms are distributed just prior to the parade to folks lining the route and should be turned in immediately after the parade at the shelter in the park.

It would also be wonderful to have a real band to play us on our way, or even a couple of drums. I know we've folks in the neighborhood that play, we'd love to have you join us.

We will step off from Dry Creek School at 10 am and end at Walnut Hills Park about 10:30 for the Ice Cream Social. (Route: west on Hinsdale at Dry Creek School to north on Quince to east on Fremont to east on Tamarac Ct. to north on Uinta to the park entrance on Uinta.)

The Ice Cream Social will start when the parade reaches the park. Please, put these two dates on your calendars.

Walnut Hills Civic Association National Night Out / Neighborhood Block Party

Andrea Suhaka, Chair, 303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

On Tuesday, 8 August, your Civic Association will again sponsor National Night Out. We'll have many, many informative booths, fun things for the kids to do, hopefully a band, and a hot dog supper. Anyone with an in-home business and paid membership in the WHCA, may have a booth to advertise themselves.

We've moved this event an hour earlier to start at 6 pm and end at 8 pm. That should help folks with younger children to take part. We also hope to have live music for your listening enjoyment, with family friendly music.

Many of our special districts will be there to show you what they do and give you a chance to interact with them: South Suburban Parks & Recreation, Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority, Arapahoe County Sheriff, among others.

So, put this date on your calendar and plan to join us for information and fun!

Disc Golf in Walnut Hills!

Brian Bern - Neighborhood 12 Representative



The Walnut Hills Civic Association is teaming up with South Suburban Park and Recreation to bring disc golf to the Walnut Hills neighborhood! Through the winter and early spring, the Civic Association worked with park staff to come up with a plan to install a few disc golf baskets that would benefit residents of Walnut Hills while respecting private property and other park users. After conceptual plans were agreed upon, the Civic Association submitted an application to the 2015 South Suburban Matching Gifts Program. The Walnut Hills Civic Association is excited to announce that we were selected as one of the 2015 recipients.

The agreed upon concept is for the Civic Association to install a total of six disc golf baskets. Three of the baskets will be installed along the south edge of the creek between Quebec Street and Spruce Street. The other three baskets will be installed along the perimeter of the Walnut Hills Park away from the playground and offset from backyards of residents. The exact locations of the baskets will be coordinated with adjacent residents. The basket locations are intentionally grouped in this manner to provide an amenity to residents while discouraging large groups from entering the neighborhood such as the 18-hole course at David A. Lorenz Regional Park.

For those that have never heard of disc golf, as DiscGolf.com puts it, "Disc golf is one of the best lifetime fitness sports. It is easy to learn, a healthy activity and accessible to people of all ages and fitness levels. If you can throw a Frisbee® and you like to have fun, you can play disc golf." It is basically like regular golf, but instead of hitting a ball to a hole, players throw a Frisbee® or "disc" towards a basket hanging from a metal pole. The object of the game is to complete each hole in the fewest number of throws. The player with the lowest total cumulative score wins.

If you have noticed some wooden markers along the open space with pink flagging tape attached, these are the potential disc golf basket locations. The wooden stakes say "potential disc golf basket." As previously mentioned, these locations will be coordinated with adjacent residents in the coming weeks. The intent is for this to be an informal disc golf course similar to what has been in use for almost ten years within the Willow Creek HOA's property. The course would not have tee-boxes, but would instead encourage groups to take turns picking the spot to throw from.

Please keep an eye out for the August-September issue of the Walnut Hills Newsletter for the next update which should include construction pictures and a course map. If you have any comments or questions about the potential project, please feel free to contact Brian Bern at BrianBern@gmail.com.

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Summer Events and Farmers Markets

June 7 9am - 12:00 noon Lucky Mutt Strutt
Sponsored by Maxfund Animal Shelter Cheeseman Park, Denver

July 18 9am-2pm
August 15 9am-2pm
Centennial Artisans & Farmers Market
Centennial Center Park 13050 E. Peakview Ave.

September 12 9am - 6pm & September 13 10am-5pm
Colorado 25th ArtFest Downtown Historic Castle Rock

Lawn & Landscaping Contest

You must be a paid member of the Walnut Hills Civic Assoc. to be eligible for the cash prizes we award. We award three places: 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$75, 3rd - \$50. Sometime during the week of June 22, three Board judges will peruse the whole neighborhood looking for glorious lawns and landscaping. They will choose three winners and the money will be distributed at our July 9 WHCA Board meeting.

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South Suburban Events for June

FREE! Summer Music Patio Concerts
Fridays, June 5, 12, 19, 26, 6 pm.

The Lone Tree Grill , 9808 Sunningdale Blvd., Lone Tree.
The Club at South Suburban, 7900 S. Colorado Blvd., Centennial.

Sit back and relax to local bands on summer Friday evenings at these adult-suited events. Enjoy drink and dinner specials on the patios with free admission and free parking. For more information, call 303.790.0202 and see full summer schedule of concerts on the Patios at ssprd.org.

Tantalizing Tastes, Tuesday, June 9, 6-8 pm, Lone Tree Golf Club & Hotel, 9808 Sunningdale, Lone Tree.

June brings a back-to-summer BBQ prepared by Executive Chef Joseph Westley, CEC. Cost is \$36 per person or \$26 for non-alcohol reservations including tax. Guests must be over 21. Call 303.790.0202 for your required reservations and for more information. Seating is limited.

FREE! Ice Skating Exhibitions, Friday, June 12 & 19,
5:15-6:45 pm, South Suburban Ice Arena, 6580 S. Vine St., Centennial.

These exhibitions (also July 3, 10, 24, 31 and August 7) feature skaters enrolled in our Summer Skating School programs. They give the skaters an opportunity to practice their routines in front of an audience as they prepare for skating competitions throughout the summer and for skating tests. For more information, contact Gerry Lane at GerryL@ssprd.org.

FREE! Prairie Sky Park Summer Walk Concert Series,
Thursday, June 18, 5 pm, 9381 Crossington Way, west of the Lone Tree Recreation Center, 10249 Ridgegate Circle Lone Tree.

Enjoy the June concert featuring The Parlor Pickers (Old Americana Folk) and family fun event in partnership with RidgeGate Development. In addition to great tunes (6-8 pm), enjoy outdoor fitness activities, food trucks and art activities. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. For more information, contact Iris Gregg at Irisg@ssprd.org

FREE! Annual Flag Day Celebration, Friday, June 19, 1-3 pm, Douglas H. Buck Community Recreation Center, 2004 W. Powers Ave., Littleton.

All ages welcome to this unique event that offers a better understanding of the importance of our national flag. Ice cream and a variety of yummy toppings will be served. For more information, contact Nikki Crouse at NikkiC@ssprd.org.

Gift cards for Father's Day, Sunday, June 21.
Our Gift Cards are accepted at most South Suburban facilities and can be used for admissions, classes, pro shop items and more (not for food or beverages) and are valid for 5 years. You can purchase online and have them sent directly to your friends, family or yourself! For more information about purchasing or sending, call 303.347.5999.

Youth and Adult TRYathlon, Sunday, June 28, Goodson Recreation Center, and deKoevend Park, 6315 S. University Blvd., Centennial.

TRY your skills at swimming, biking and running!
TRYathlon is open to participants 6 years and up. Distances vary depending on age in this recreational TRYathlon. The next TRYathlon is Sat. Aug. 1 at Cook Creek Pool, 8711 Lone Tree Parkway, Lone Tree. For more information, please call 303.347.5999 or register at ssprd.org.

Ready, Set... Register for Summer Reading



"Every Hero has a Story," this year's theme for Summer Reading, will ignite a love of reading in babies (ages 0-3), toddlers and children (ages 3-11), and "Unmask!" will do the same for teens (ages 11-17).

Register Now for Summer Reading. Reading records can be picked up from any ALD library beginning Saturday, June 6. The last day for registration is Sunday, July 19.

Summer Reading is paid for by the Friends of the Arapahoe Library District. Please explore the many summer reading programs offered for children and teens throughout the summer.

Teens interested in volunteering for the Summer Reading Program must sign up for the Teen Volunteer Orientation.

Kick off Summer at Centennial Center Park June 6

Kick off summer with live music, children's activities and great food at Centennial Center Park. Local favorites Amyz and Pandas & People will be opening the event with live performances. The Dave Matthews tribute band The Trippin Billies is the event headliner.

This FREE event is not something to miss. Don't forget your blanket and chairs!

Alcohol may not be brought to the Park, although it will be sold courtesy of the Centennial Rotary Club. No tents, canopies or oversized umbrellas are allowed in the Park.

Centennial Center Park is located at 13050 E. Peakview Avenue, adjacent to the Centennial Civic Center between Revere Parkway and Potomac Street off Arapahoe Road.

For more information about the City of Centennial's summer events visit www.CentennialCo.gov/Events



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Parking Changes for Recreational Vehicles

The Centennial City Council recently approved new guidelines for the parking of recreational vehicles on City streets, agreeing to amend the Municipal Code. With summer approaching it is important for those with camping trailers, fifth wheels, recreational trailers and motor homes be aware of these changes.

The change most relevant for the majority of the Centennial residents allows camping trailers (including fifth wheels), motor homes, recreational trailers (which includes boat trailers) to be parked adjacent to the home of the registered owner of the vehicle for up to 48 hours at a time. There is a new required 24 hour "off-the-street" intervening period before a new 48 hour period commences. It is no longer limited only to time for active loading or unloading or being prepared for storage or service. In addition, the location restrictions which requires parking adjacent to the property of the RV or trailer owner is new.

Recreational Vehicles of visitors may be parked adjacent to the residence being visited for up to 48 hours at a time (with the same required 24 hour "off-the-street" intervening period before a new 48 hour period commences) but may not be occupied as sleeping quarters. Previously, there was no time limit on visitors as long as they were in an out-of-state registered vehicle.

Unattached camper tops or boats may not be parked or placed in the street. This was not previously made explicit. Attached camper tops are not regulated.

Any vehicle may be parked in an emergency situation, not to exceed 4 hours. This provision is unchanged.

The opening of slide outs and the protrusion of any part of the recreational vehicle or trailer over or on the sidewalks, including the placement of any cords or hoses used for servicing, are prohibited from placement across the sidewalk. This was previously unaddressed.

The placement of tarps or vehicle covers on RVs, boats or trailers parked in the street is prohibited except that custom fitted boat or recreational trailer covers or shrink wrap which are secured around the entire perimeter of the boat or recreational trailer are allowed.

"The hope is these changes balance the desires of those that find recreational vehicles in the street hinder the quality of life in our neighborhoods," says District 3 Council Member Mark Gotto. "Council also wanted to address safety issues that increase by RVs blocking traffic lanes and limiting clear paths of vision for children playing, traveling vehicles and pedestrians."

When Lilacs Last

Bruce Ferguson

It isn't often the towels don't dry and the doors stick due to the wood swelling but that is what this season has wrought. Exuberant growth tempered by the five inches of snow on Mother's Day. It's been a hard time for plants harmed by the early cold last fall and I have an apple tree that never lost its leaves and is destined for the chain saw. Most of the roses had to be cut back to the ground but they are responding well. Though I was disappointed to find the fox tail lilies (eremurus) bent and broken under the snow the grass has rarely looked better. Well at least if you drive by quickly. Cold nights continue to be a problem and I am reminded that Memorial Day really is the reliable frost free date. Perhaps the best part of this spring has been the fact that transplanting things has never been easier. You don't even need to water them in.



I saw a chickadee tempted by the bird house but apparently she was looking for something better. The wrens however have returned and seem generally to be more tolerant of my presence. They don't seem to feel the same about the neighbor's back and white cat. We continue to have no shortage of rabbits though the one in the dooryard has shrunk. The two that frequent the backyard in the mornings could easily fill a large stew pot. Early this morning one of them was snacking on the plants I potted as if I had prepared him a serving dish. The other one has discovered the blue fescue growing in the herb garden. This grass is a favorite of mine and it is simply astounding to see how much blue fescue is sold that isn't blue at all.

The Iris has struggled with the snow but all this rain has them bursting with flowers. I don't know of an easier plant to grow in this climate. They grow and multiply and flower with such ease that they make the dandelions seem lazy. Renewing them periodically is simply a matter of lifting them and discarding the old tubers and replanting the new healthy ones, helping them out with a bit of phosphate and some manure or compost while replanting helps a lot. In the drier parts of the garden they don't grow as large nor do they flower as much but in years like this they thrive. The bearded types come in an endless array of colors and sizes. Many of the others do fine with some added moisture, but won't take the amount of drought that the bearded varieties can endure. I have never had much luck with the Dutch bulbs that are the mainstay of the floral trade. The Siberian do well but tend to die out in the center as they spread. I have some copper colored fulva, at least I think that is what they are, and they do well. I used to have some of the small spring reticulata but I think those succumbed to the cold and wet of the winter. Perhaps my favorite is a small lactea if you can find it. Someday I am going to find the large flat Japanese iris, but I haven't found any yet.

I've read a bunch about pruning lavender. I grow the blue Munstead variety and I find it very reliable. In the late summer as it flowers is the best time to prune it. People say you should cut it back hard, but not down to the woody parts. That seems fine, but in the spring

I have taken to cutting back the woody growth once the plants have leafed out in the end of May. This keeps the plants from becoming too woody and overgrown.

As for the lilacs, they had a good year. The secret to growing them is to deadhead them preventing all attempts of the plant to set seed. The hardest part of this spring is finding a time to cut the grass when it isn't raining! I fully expect the next big topic in Colorado gardening is going to be plants drowning.



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How to Relax on Vacation Knowing Your Dog is Safe and Happy in Boarding

By Lorraine May, M.A.
Executive Director of Misha May Foundation Dog Training and Rescue

Although many of us consider our dogs to be part of our family, circumstances do not always allow for them to accompany us on our family vacations. It can be particularly stressful when we think about where to leave our dog, especially if this is the first separation.

Minimally, in our absence, we have expectations that our dog will be:

- *kept safe, treated kindly, contained securely and remain healthy
- *as relaxed (or almost as relaxed) as he is at home
- *equipped to cope because of our preparations

Begin these tasks months ahead of time to find the right facility:

- *Ask your friends, veterinarian and other professionals to recommend boarding establishments with which they are personally familiar.
- *Also ask for those they would not recommend and the reasons why.
- *Call and speak with staff, set up an appointment with those who impress you, and visit without your dog.
- *Request a tour during which you visit the sleeping, playing and outdoor areas, so that you can assess cleanliness, staff-dog interactions, and general ambiance. Inquire into the training that the staff receives, especially regarding canine behavior.
- *When satisfied that an establishment is clean and caring, that the dogs and staff seem relaxed and not stressed, and that the dogs are respectfully taught what is expected of them rather than intimidated, request an appointment to have your dog meet the staff. During this visit, the staff should evaluate your dog to be sure he is a match for their facility.



- *Plan to board your dog for at least one night prior to your vacation to help him know what to expect, including that you will return to get him.
- *Be sure to ask which vaccines are required and make an appointment with your veterinarian as needed.

Integrate the following into your dog's daily routine as early as possible:

- *Put 4 drops of Bach's Rescue Remedy Flower Essence combination in his water bowl each time you change the water to help your dog experience life calmly.
 - *Practice the exercise Relax on a Mat, which teaches your dog to choose to lie down and self-soothe when anxious. The mat can then accompany him to boarding.
- <http://www.wholedogtraining.com/#/relax-on-a-mat/zoom/cv41/imageajm>

*Practice Karen Overall's Relaxation Protocol, which reinforces your dog to remain calm in almost any situation.

http://www.dogdaysnw.com/doc/Protocol_for_Relaxation_-_Karen_Overall.pdf

- *Once you decide upon a boarding facility, visit from time to time, requesting that the staff give your dog treats. To create an even more positive association with the visit, engage in something your dog really likes prior to or following the visit like a walk or play time.
- *During your visits, ask staff members to participate in the Trust Exercise: Dog's owner (A) walks him to staff member (B). Both crouch down with dog and feed treats. Leash is transferred to B while giving treats. Both stand up. A walks away a short distance. B continues to give treats and walks dog back to A. They crouch down and give treats. Leash is transferred back to A. Exercise needs to be adjusted for comfort level of dog. Dog needs to have a very positive experience that builds confidence and encourages bonding with and dependence upon B.
- *Be certain that your dog's collar fits securely and has the appropriate identification / licensing / micro-chip tags.
- *Check that your micro-chip information is correct, current, and adequately updated.

Take care of these just days before the visit:

- *Organize food, bedding, medication, treats and special items that will be of comfort to your dog.
- *Include worn clothing items from members of the human family so that your dog will be comforted by your scents.
- *Include the mat from the Relax on a Mat exercise.
- *Use your cheery voice and accompany these preparations with treats.
- *Don't try to hide the fact that packing is going on. Make it a pleasant experience for your dog by interspersing play time, loving attention and treats.

On the day of the drop-off:

- *Keep your routine and your dog's routine as close to normal as possible.
- *Remain calm, confident and loving but not worried or stressed, as your dog will follow your lead.
- *Use a matter of fact or a jolly voice as you prepare.
- *Allow enough time so you don't have to rush and cause unnecessary stress.

At the facility:

- *Let the dog be led away from you by a staff member feeding treats, instead of you walking away from the dog.
- *Calmly wave, while saying bye-bye in a cheery voice.
- *Go home and watch the video-cam, if they have one, to see how your beloved is doing.



All handouts are complimentary and available from mishamayfoundation@gmail.com. Exercises mentioned are taught in our classes – full schedule at www.mishamayfoundation.org.

Lorraine May, M.A., is the Founder, Executive Director and Head Trainer of the Misha May Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit dog rescue which offers a wide variety of educational classes to the community. The Misha May Foundation was voted #1 Best Dog Training on Denver's A*List 3 years in a row! The 6 week Understanding Dogs Behavior class has a unique individualized approach. The Dog Trainer Apprentice Program is designed for the working person and teaches our effective reward-based, anxiety-reducing techniques. www.mishamayfoundation.org mishamayfoundation@gmail.com 303-239-0382



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 walnuthillsnewsletter@gmail.com

Walnut Hills Newsletter		walnuthillsnewsletter@gmail.com
Editor - Ilsa Gregg 720-514-9755	Advertising Manager Donna Senn 303-741-2065	Distribution Manager Will Senn 303-741-2065

2016-2017 Walnut Hills Civic Assoc. Dues

Andrea Suhaka, Chair, 303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

It's only through dues collection that fun and useful activities can happen. We count on residents of Walnut Hills to support the WHCA and to attend our events. We try to provide ways for you to meet your neighbors and benefit from your membership.

Use the membership form or, to pay by credit card, www.walnuthillscolorado.org under Dues and Scholarship. You may also print out a form from our website to mail in a check. Paid members also get emails (if you send me your email address) to let you know what the WHCA is up to or just to remind you of upcoming events. Your email information is never sold or used by anyone except the WHCA and emails are sent blindcopy. Thank you for your support.

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I-25/Arapahoe Rd. Interchange and Walnut Hills Noise Wall

Andrea Suhaka, Chair, 303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

On May 21, the Walnut Hills GID manager, the WHCA Chair and Treasurer attended a meeting with David Evans & Assoc. (project consultants), CDOT, Greenwood Village, and Centennial to talk about the proposed Walnut Hills noise wall. After four years, this project is about to get off the ground. Construction is scheduled to start in Feb., 2016, on the interchange rebuild and, with luck, the noise wall construction should start in Sept., 2016. Of course, this timeline is dependent upon accruing some land for the interchange and Walnut Hills residents on the north side of Briarwood Ave. and the east side of Willow St. signing off on what will be happening. The project must be completed by Dec. 31, 2017. Arapahoe Rd. will be a major mess during construction for two years and Walnut Hills residents might want to find their way to Dry Creek Rd. east or west to get where you're going. I'll keep you informed as I can through email and this Newsletter.

Walnut Hills Civic Association Membership

www.WalnutHillsColorado.org
 PO BOX 3436
 Englewood CO 80155-3436

Annual Association Dues \$ 25
 (1 April - 31 March)
 Walnut Hills Scholarship Donation \$ ____
 (please keep my donation anonymous) ____
 Total \$ ____

Please complete & return this invoice with your check payable to WHCA.

* Your scholarship donation goes to help Walnut Hills students/residents continue their education or training after high school. Supplemented by the Walnut Hills Newsletter and the WHCA, five scholarship awards will be given to Walnut Hills residents this summer at the Ice Cream Social on July 4th. (You may also pay dues by credit card at www.walnuthillscolorado.org.)

Member Name:

Home Address:

Home Phone:

Email address:

Contact me - I'll help with:

- WHCA sponsored events
- Easter Egg Hunt
- National Night Out
- Shoveling snow for those not able
- Becoming a member of the Board of Directors
- *I need help shoveling snow

Love Where You Live? You Can Make it Even Better! Walnut Hills Volunteer Opportunities

WHCA Board (a "Neighborhood" map is on the WHCA website). Andrea Suhaka, Chair, 303-770-0058, standy@ecentral.com

- Neighborhood 1: Randy Lutton, Treasurer
- Neighborhood 2: Andrea Suhaka, Chair
- Neighborhood 3: Robert Ferrin, Secretary
- Neighborhood 4: Myra Garcia
- Neighborhood 5: Donna Senn
- Neighborhood 6: Julie Gamec, Vice Chair
- Neighborhood 7: Vacant
- Neighborhood 8: Abbas Fazal
- Neighborhood 9: Vacant
- Neighborhood 10: Trish Hoffmann
- Neighborhood 11: Joe Compton
- Neighborhood 12: Brian Bern
- Neighborhood 13: At Large: Jeryl Tippets
- Neighborhood 14: At Large: Vacant
- Neighborhood 15: At Large: Julie Marsicek

Board members are very involved in planning and running events. We have three vacancies on the Board and you don't have to live in the Neighborhood you represent. Please call me if you're interested in a spot on the Board and we'll talk about it, or come to a Board Meeting. The Walnut Hills Civic Association Board Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at Metrum Credit Union 7pm.

2015 Matching Gifts Program Winners

Sharing the cost of purchasing equipment or planting trees, helps minimize expenditures and provides more benefits and amenities for residents and patrons of South Suburban Park and Recreation District. That's the idea behind South Suburban's Matching Gifts Program, a program that allows neighborhoods, homeowner associations, sports groups, businesses and other organizations to partner with South Suburban in the continuing development and improvement of District parks, facilities and programs.

Applications for the Matching Gifts Program were due March 6, and South Suburban's Board of Directors approved staff recommended requests for the Program at the April 8 Board meeting.

The budget for the District's Matching Gifts Program is typically approximately \$10,000. This year South Suburban staff recommended approving projects totaling \$10,847 in matching funds. All projects will be completed in 2015.

Projects selected from applications submitted this year include:

- Installing picnic tables near Ames Elementary in Centennial
- Planting trees and shrubs in TrailMark Open Space in Littleton
- Installing stairs by the Tot Lot in Palos Verdes Park in Centennial
- Adding disc golf baskets along the Little Dry Creek Open Space within the Walnut Hills neighborhood in Centennial
- Purchasing new hockey nets to be used for practices, games and scrimmages at South Suburban Ice Arena in Centennial
- Developing a new website to manage the Ben Franklin Swim Team and updating Meet Manager software
- Adding a new slab roller, shop vacuum, new stools and additional lighting for the South Suburban Pottery Studio in Centennial
- Purchasing backstroke flagpoles and a tent for Holly Parks Sharks Swim Team in Centennial
- Purchasing a portable mirror for figure skating and hockey movement assessments at South Suburban Ice Area

Matching gifts partners include: Nob Hill/Ridgeview Hills Association, TrailMark HOA, Palos Verdes Civic Association, Walnut Hills Civic Association, Littleton Hockey Association, Ben Franklin Swim Team, South Suburban Pottery Guild, Holly Park Sharks Swim Team and the Denver Figure Skating Club. Thank you to all of the gift partners for their help in making these projects happen.

Support the Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund

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