

Walnut Hills Newsletter

A Beautiful Community of Families, Friends and Neighbors for 55 years

Walnut Hills
There Is No Better Place
To Trick Or Treat!
Have A Great Halloween!



Walnut Hills Dumpster Day, 14 October

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

Our next event will be the 14 October Dumpster Day at Walnut Hills School, 8-11 am or full. No bricks or cement pieces, please. Line up going east from the eastmost driveway entrance to the school parking lot. Please, don't line up before 7:30 am to respect the folks that live on Costilla Blvd. The requirement is that you must be a paid member of the Walnut Hills Civic Association to use Dumpster Day. You go to www.walnuthillscolorado.org and either print off a membership form and mail a check or you pay by credit card. This is another one of our expensive events that counts on WHCA dues to pay for it.

We are not doing electronic recycling this year due to the expense. We're moving to an every other year schedule. It will be back in 2018. Please, hang onto your dead electronics for a year. And, remember, it's illegal to discard anything electric in the trash.

We're sorry about cancelling our Disc Golf Tournament and we hope to hold it in 2018, but we do have an October event coming up. We hope to see many of you on 14 October!

Walnut Hills Civic Association Thanks Metrum Community Credit Union

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

The Credit Union has been a great friend to the WHCA over the years. They give us a free place to hold our association meetings; they give away money at our National Night Out/ Walnut Hills Block Party; they have given us grants to help build our disc golf course, and they sponsor some of our events with monetary donations.

People who are members of the Walnut Hills Civic Association are eligible for accounts at the Credit Union.

We could not find a better partner than Metrum Community Credit Union for what they do with us and for us. Many, many thanks!



Photography: Jesse Alcorta

The Walnut Hills Civic Association Needs A Board Member

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

As it happens, the Board of Directors of the Civic Association has a vacancy. We are really looking for someone from the Dry Creek School enrollment area (south end of Walnut Hills) to balance the board north to south. If anyone is interested, give me a call or email and I can tell you more about the job.

Generally, it's a two year commitment. We meet the second Thursday of every month, 7 - 9 pm, at Metrum Community Credit Union on S. Holly Circle. Please, contact me, I'd love to talk with you.

Snow Shoveling Volunteers

Jeryl Tippets, organizer, jeryltippets@gmail.com, 303-946-7648

It's time once again to put the Walnut Hills Civic Association plea for volunteers to shovel walks for those who are not able to do so. Jeryl will match shovelers with an older person who lives nearby. In the past two years we have not had enough shovelers for all the older folks who need help.

Jeryl will match shoveler to shovelee, an older or disabled person who lives nearby, and will give everyone contact information. They'll need to get in touch to make their arrangements.

We want to thank the many volunteers who already help, and have helped for several years, and the many other residents out there who are helping neighbors. This is a much needed service in our neighborhood.

Walnut Hills Civic Association, Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund, And Walnut Hills Newsletter Are Joining Forces

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

These organizations are coming together to apply for a 501(c)(3) (federal nonprofit) designation. We have been meeting with the Scholarship Fund trying to work out all the kinks. There's a lot more work to do and it will take about a year to be so named, but it's something we've wanted to do for a while. We will let you know more as time goes on. We hope to get the paperwork in by the end of the year and then we wait.

You may ask me or Apple Udell (303-740-4895, teamudell303@gmail.com) any questions about this.

Walnut Hills Civic Association 2017 Calendar of Events

Fall Dumpster Day October 14, Walnut Hills School 8 - 11 am or full
Holiday Lighting Contest (cash prizes, 1st, 2nd, 3rd)
Week of December 18
WHCA Family Movie Night January 27, 2018

The Walnut Hills Civic Association (WHCA) Board of Directors' regular monthly meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of every month at Metrum Credit Union, 6980 S. Holly Circle, at 7 pm. Board meetings are open to all Walnut Hills residents. We have a paid member blast email list to keep members informed! We also collect donations to the Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund.

Better Auto Loans



- **Lower your interest rate —**
Up to 1% APR* or even more depending upon your credit.
 - **No Payments for 90 Days —**
Keep More money in your pocket for THREE months!
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We'll PAY you to get a better deal!
- Count on your local credit union for great rates and the excellent service you deserve!**

Bring your existing auto loan to us

New, Used or Refinancing — We Are Your Best Auto Loan Option



New or Used

In today's market, auto dealerships currently offer very competitive pricing, and if you finance with us, you get the best all-around deal. Visit us first for pre-approval, and shop as a "cash-in-hand" buyer for maximum bargaining power.

Refinancing

If you already have an auto loan from a dealership or another financial institution, you could be paying more than you should — every month. Don't keep throwing money away. Bring us your loan paperwork and let us lower your rate, your payment or both!

Act Now

Don't wait — Contact us today to get the most for your money!

- Call (303) 770-4468
- Visit www.metrumcu.org
- Stop in to your nearby branch

Metrum Community Credit Union

6980 S Holly Cir • Centennial, CO 80112
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* Interest rate floor is 2.99% APR (Annual Percentage Rate). Member will receive \$50 after auto loan is closed for loans up to \$9,999.99, or \$100 for auto loan amounts over \$9,999.99 when closed at a Metrum Credit Union. New money only; existing Metrum Credit Union loans not eligible. Limited time only. Rates effective as of 06/22/17. With approved credit. For tax purposes, \$100 incentive will be reported on Form 1099-INT.



Walnut Hills Residents Honored

Holly Job has been named Female Athlete of 2017 by Special Olympics Colorado. She will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at a luncheon at the Hyatt Downtown on Sept.28th, 2017.

Holly has been participating in Special Olympics for 20 years. She participates in bowling in the fall with Cherry Creek Pin crushers, Snowshoeing in the winter with Cherry Creek Nordic, Track and Field in the spring with Cherry Creek and Cycling in the summer also with Cherry Creek. Her mom is a Nordic coach for her team and her dad is the Cycling coach. Holly graduated from Cherry Creek High School in 2009 and continued in the Transition Program through Cherry Creek Schools until 2012. Holly's entire family have been volunteering with Special Olympics Colorado for 20 years. Her sister Heather has been a unified partner in Alpine skiing and is also a Cherry Creek graduate- Class of 2011.

Holly has learned many skills over the years of her participation and has made many friends. Special Olympics Colorado has given our family a safe and encouraging place to spend time participating in a variety of sports, learning new skills and developing lasting friendships.

Holly also enjoys delivering the Walnut Hills Newsletter and has 4 routes.



Special Olympics October Family of the Month- Sherry, Jim and Holly Job

The Job Family, James, Sherry, Holly and Heather, have been involved with Special Olympics Colorado for 17 years! Holly is a Special Olympics Athlete and participates in athletics, cycling, bowling and snowshoeing. Her parents, Sherry and James, are involved with SOCO year-round and consider themselves "lifers" with Special Olympics Colorado! James coaches the Cherry Creek Cycling Team and Sherry volunteers with the team as well. Sherry also participates as a Unified Sports® Partner with Holly in bowling and will be co-coaching her snowshoeing team in 2017. The Job Family attends the regional and state events each year with SOCO and is grateful for the opportunities Special Olympics Colorado has brought to their family. Holly has grown significantly over her years of being a Special Olympics Athlete. She has developed an increased self-esteem and become more confident socially, as she has come to initiate social interactions with her peers and fellow athletes. Holly's younger sister, Heather, has also been involved with SOCO over the years. Heather has been able to connect with other siblings of athletes and found a supportive and welcoming network for herself. Sherry describes SOCO as a safe and nonjudgmental environment for her family and encourages any family interested to get involved now, as each member of her family has been enriched through their involvement with SOCO. The Job Family has truly found a community within Special Olympics Colorado and are thankful for all it has brought to their lives.

Vote Mike Sutherland for Centennial City Council

I am running for City Council because Centennial Needs

Neighborhoods safe for seniors and young families to live, work and play

Economic Development focused on developing and retaining jobs for our citizens

Transportation that takes cars off Centennial's traffic choked thoroughfares

My Experience and Qualifications

- * Over 30 years practicing law in both the private and public sectors
- * Small business owner in three law firms while in the private sector
- * Serve on the Centennial Planning and Zoning Commission as chair
- * Founding Member of the Centennial Council of Neighborhoods
- * Vice - Chair of the South Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce Legislative Action Committee

for more information go to www.sutherlandforcentennial.com



Mike
Sutherland
For Centennial City Council

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Kyla is a licensed REALTOR® and a seasoned professional, with 20 year's experience in marketing and management. Her specialty is the South Denver Metro Area.

INVESTMENT SEMINAR – JOIN US!

- How to buy now!
 - How to get out of the rat race and into real estate investing!
 - Strategies for becoming financially independent!
- WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 1ST, 2017
6:30PM - 7:30PM
KOELBEL LIBRARY
5955 S. HOLLY ST.
CENTENNIAL, CO 80112**

INFO/RSVP: TeamVivi.com/Investment

"Kyla is extremely knowledgeable, patient and always professional. We could not be any happier." - Keith and Erica, Littleton, 2016

"We had such a wonderful experience working with Kyla! Kyla was attentive to our needs and answered all of our questions quickly and honestly." - Westley and Ryan, Centennial, 2016

"Kyla was always patient and respectful and put our wishes and needs first. I'd highly recommend Kyla to anyone looking to buy or sell a home in the Denver area." - Jim and Fei, Parker 2016

Your Walnut Hills Market Snapshot!

| Status | Address | \$List/Sold | Ttl Sqft | Listing Office |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Active | 6754 S Willow St | \$412,000 | 1,514 | RE/MAX Cherry Creek |
| Under Contract | 7324 E Hinsdale Dr | \$415,000 | 2,016 | MB CORNERSTONE HMS |
| Under Contract | 7226 S Quebec Ct | \$407,500 | 2,016 | THE KENTWOOD COMPANY |
| Under Contract | 6962 S Ulster Cir | \$350,000 | 2,464 | HomeSmart Cherry Creek |
| Sold | 7333 S Tamarac St | \$495,000 | 2,654 | LIV Sotheby's International Realty |
| Sold | 8881 E Briarwood Blvd | \$400,000 | 2,742 | MB BRYANT AND ASSOCIATES |
| Sold | 7504 E Costilla Blvd | \$392,500 | 2,160 | COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL 24 |

Based on information from REcolorado®, Inc. for the period 08/14/2017 through 09/14/2017. Not all properties were listed and/or sold by Team Vivi. This representation is based in whole or in part on content supplied by REcolorado®, Inc. REcolorado®, Inc. does not guarantee nor is it in any way responsible for its accuracy. Content maintained by REcolorado®, Inc. may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

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I OWN IN CENTENNIAL » I SELL CENTENNIAL

Dear Walnut Hills Community,



Welcome back to the 2017-2018 school year! I hope you all have had a wonderful start to the fall and school year. I am thrilled to have begun my second year as principal. Walnut Hills kicked off the year with great energy and enthusiasm both inside and outside of the classrooms. We had a Back School Bash to welcome all students as well as informative Back to School Night.

Our new mission of Walnut Hills states, "In partnership with our community, we empower ALL students through academic excellence and innovation to be inspired, confident, and happy in a safe and inclusive learning environment." We thrive by providing ALL of our students with the optimum-learning environment wherein all children can feel confident as learners and contributors. Regardless of race, culture, background, and circumstance, children feel welcome, loved, and served. Walnut Hills is committed to educating EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY. Our goal is to prepare our students for middle school, high school, college and beyond. We believe in making all decisions based on what is BEST for kids!

We expect academic excellence for ALL children. We achieve this by teaching a rigorous curriculum. Each grade level has defined expectations for students that meet or exceed the state academic standards. Teachers acknowledge that students learn in a variety of ways. We are committed to academic excellence through teaching our Colorado Academic Standards by integrating S.T.E.A.M. (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, MATHEMATICS) and Innovation into instruction.

We intend to create a safe respectful and inclusive environment where teachers can teach, and children can learn. We expect all children to be a part of the caring community so that they may feel more comfortable taking risks in social and academic settings. We work on social problem-solving skills, bully proofing, mindfulness, and having a growth mindset. Our one school rule based on the PBIS (Preventative Behavioral Interventions & Supports), is R.I.S.E: Respect, Integrity, Safety, Excellence. R.I.S.E guides all our children to remember to do what is right each day so they can learn!

We look forward to all of our fall events including READ4FUNDS(Oct 4), the all school pajama party(Oct 20), RISE assembly (Oct 20) and our S.T.E.A.M. project-based LAUNCH Day(Oct. 31).

I feel truly grateful for this opportunity to lead such a fine school. I welcome you to stop by this fall and visit Walnut Hills...our doors are always open!

From the Heart-
Teolyn Bourbonnise
Principal

Walnut Hills Elementary PTCO

Walnut Hills Elementary is a small but mighty school. I'm not sure that you have noticed, but the school is changing. For starters, check out the banners on the exterior. That's just the tip of the iceberg. If you are curious, check it out. Walk in the front doors, meet the front office staff, talk with the principal and learn all about what is going on in this mighty school.

One way of ensuring that Walnut Hills stays mighty is by fundraising. PTCO is the fundraising arm of Walnut Hills Elementary. Currently, we help fund salaries for teacher assistants, provide reading materials and plan fun community events. The PTCO utilizes easy ways for members of the community to get involved. Take a look at how you can make a big difference.

Do you buy Kleenex brand tissues, Cascadian Farms cereal, Ziploc storage products and other brands that support Box Tops for Education? Did you know they are worth 10 cents? That seems like a small amount, but all together the school raised \$1,135 last year. Clip your Box Tops and either drop them off at the school or send them through the mail. There are also easier digital ways to donate. See the links at the end of article.

Do you love Amazon? Do you use Amazon Prime? Have you heard of AmazonSmile? Consider shopping through the Walnut Hills Elementary PTO page. Every purchase donates 5% to the PTCO. See the link at the end of the article.

If you are excited about education and want to see your neighborhood school grow, consider a flat donation. It's easy to donate by check or via our website through our secure square account. We will send you a tax deductible receipt you can apply to your taxes.

Why is the PTCO reaching out to the community? My son, your neighbor kids and kids who will move into this neighborhood in the years to come are the future of our city and the larger global world. Providing the best education gives everyone the best chance for a successful future. If you have any questions on these fundraisers or any other ways to be involved, please don't hesitate to contact the PTCO.

Thank you,



Photo Credit: Danielle Kamis

Rebecca Maddison - President
whptco.president@gmail.com
Sarah Murr - Vice President
whptco.vp@gmail.com
Holly Solomon - Secretary
whptco.secretary@gmail.com
Beth Seppala - Treasurer
whptco.treasurer@gmail.com

Walnut Hills Elementary
8195 E Costilla Blvd
Centennial, CO 80112

Box Tops
<http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products>
<http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp>

AmazonSmile
Information: <http://smile.amazon.com/about>
Search for Walnut Hills Elementary PTO

Flat Donation
<https://mkt.com/walnut-hills-elementary-ptco/>
Adjust the quantity of \$5 donations to create your desired donation



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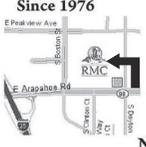
First Friday's at Mauzie's
3-5pm starting, Dec. 1st !

- *Enjoy complimentary wine and cheese!
- *New designs every month
- *Free Clean and Polish of one ring
- *\$15.00 Rhodium plate over white gold (\$45.00 value!)

Annual Open House is MOVING UP!
Nov. 4th, 10 a.m.- 8:00pm
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AP Images

Jesse J Alcorta
Photographer
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alcortje@pcisys.net



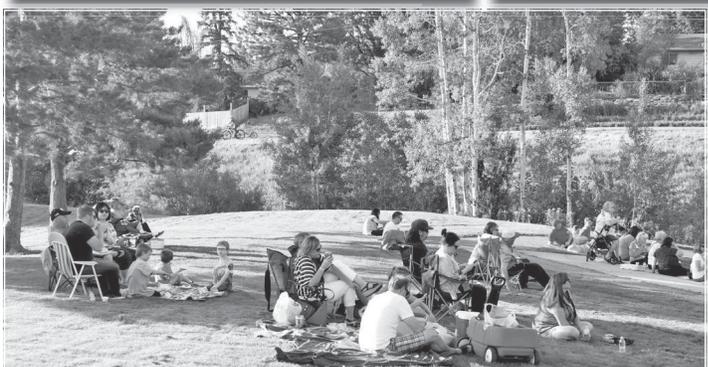
Portraits, Sports, Books and Documentation

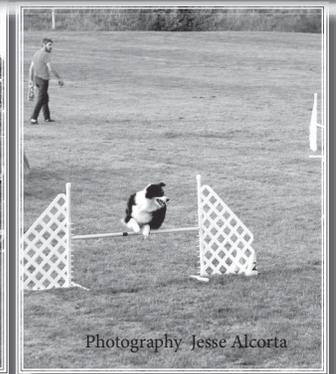
Walnut Hills National Night Out / Walnut Hills Block Party Was A Great Time

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

Thanks to great preparation by Board member Myra Garcia and the help of three or four board members and a spouse, we've had another wonderful National Night Out/Walnut Hills Block Party on 1 August. This event was sponsored by the Walnut Hills Civic Assoc. and Metrum Community Credit Union. We had about 150 attendees.

We had barbecue and hot dogs for supper; a great band, Encore Music; and many booths. South Metro Fire brought a fire engine, Arapahoe County Sheriff, South Suburban Parks & Rec., Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority had cool rubber duckies and their robot camera that checks out pipes, City of Centennial Code Compliance were all there. Six residents took advantage of the ability to have a booth for their home business, and our sponsor Metrum Community Credit Union was giving away money! Shar Henry & Norm Lende, of Fly'n Paws, did a wonderful exhibition of working dogs. We have some fascinating people in our neighborhood.





Photography Jesse Alcorta



ting.com/centennial

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Placing a \$9 pre-order doesn't just cast a vote for your neighborhood and in Centennial at large, it also secures you free installation for Ting gigabit fiber Internet to the premises.

Map of Centennial, CO

Where will network construction begin?

Pre-order and get it in Walnut Hills first.



Alternative Gift Market at Our Father Lutheran Church



6335 S. Holly Street Centennial, CO 80121
 Saturday, November 18, 5:30-6:30 pm
 Sunday, November 19, 9:15 am – 12:15 pm

The Alternative Gift Market offers people a chance to purchase gifts benefiting mission efforts worldwide to provide food, water, shelter, safety, and resources to those less fortunate. It also gives people an opportunity to buy a charitable gift for someone in lieu of a present. During the event at Our Father Lutheran Church, there will be booths setup with information on the various gift opportunities.
www.oflc.net

Items of Interest

John F.

The Many Roads Of Life And A Few Words Of Wisdom...

Great Truths That Little Children Have Learned:

1. No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats...
2. When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
3. If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
4. Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
5. You can't trust dogs to watch your food...
6. Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair...
7. Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
8. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
9. Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
10. The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

Great Truths That Adults Have Learned:

1. Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
2. Wrinkles don't hurt.
3. Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
4. Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
5. Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
6. Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

Great Truths About Growing Old:

1. Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
2. Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
3. When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
4. You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
5. Its frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
6. Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
7. Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

The Four Stages Of Life:

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus.
3. You are Santa Claus.
4. You look like Santa Claus.

Success:

At age 3 success is . . . How to use the bathroom.
 At age 12 success is . . . Having friends.
 At age 17 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
 At age 35 success is . . . Having money.
 At age 50 success is . . . Having money.
 At age 70 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
 At age 75 success is . . . Having friends.
 At age 80 success is . . . How to use the bathroom.

Always remember to forget the troubles that pass your way;
 BUT NEVER forget the blessings that come each day
 Have a wonderful day with many *smiles*

Author Unknown



C.J. WHELAN

FOR CENTENNIAL MAYOR

EXPERIENCED. INNOVATIVE. LEADER.

As your **mayor**, I will lead Centennial's **next stages of growth** and **develop a strategic vision** for our future generations.

- **Traffic:** ease traffic and congestion
- **Safety:** maintain our city's top-ranking safety
- **Smart Growth:** devise a comprehensive plan for continued development

“I've known C.J. for around 20 years. He has such a warm, welcoming smile and way of letting you know he's glad to see you. His deep intelligence is always creatively one step ahead of problems. He's extremely hard working, with his own business, and a good friend. If you need help with something, he's there for you. I am proud to endorse him for Mayor of Centennial.”

~ **Andrea Suhaka**
 Centennial City Council member, District 3, 2001-2008

You can find out more about C.J. Whelan and his campaign at:
www.cjwhelanformayor.com
 Tell C.J. Whelan what's important to you at: 303-690-4065

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Qualifying Member




Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund Update:

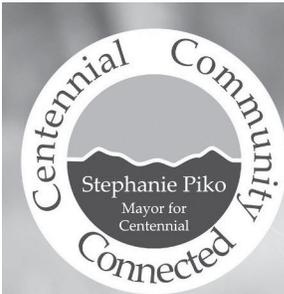
The Walnut Hills Scholarship Fund is honored to have been able to provide high school seniors in our neighborhood scholarships totaling almost \$200,000 since 1972. This year's recipients have already begun their first semester and it's because of the generosity of this great community that allows us to help them along their path to success. Next year will be no different and we look forward to seeing another fantastic group of applicants for the 2018 scholarships. To contact the WHSF please email us at scott.w.bess@gmail.com or call 303-770-6592.

Thank you!

Scott Bess, Peggy Castle, Laura Klee and Bill Philpott

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| Listing of and Amount of Walnut Hills Scholarship Awards 1972-2017 | 1986 - \$500 each William Archuleta Kerry Lee Laura Teall Ted Ayres | Neil MacPherson Adrian Massaro Tim Reiman 1994 - \$500 each Tim Barnes Susannah Clark Mellanie Maynard 1995 - \$600 each Erin Husk Jennifer Larned Heather Parsons 1996 - \$600 each Scott Geraghty* Hillary Herndon Anna Vaughn Nathan Cejka 1997 - \$600 each Sean Endsley Suzanne Reiss Lindsey Rosso 1998 - \$700 each Ryan Friese Lisa Keagy Ian MacPherson 1999 - \$800 each Patrick Reiman Lauren Hill Melanie Koeneke 2000 - \$1,500 each Ian McCarty Adam Rowe Holly Smutka 2001 - \$1,700 each | Tyler DeWeese* Nicholas Eyl Megan Mader Paige McAuliffe 2002 - \$1,700 each Andrea Craven Nicholas DeWeese Christine Hoffman Hilary Rowe 2003 - \$1,800/\$900 Anton Bondrenko Jeffery MacKinnon Amy Seng Laura Shunk Brittany Szczech 2004 - \$2,000 each Megan Craven Aaron Eisenberg Colin McAuliffe Emily Milian * 2005 - \$2,000 each Heather Amen Rebecca Brofft Suzanne Settambrino Kailani Yaksich 2006 - \$2,000 /\$1,000 Olivia Gallion C.J. Hoover Grant Pettegrew Adam Shunk Graham Career Award Charles Amen 2007 - \$2,500 each | Leah Brinks Ashely Harmening David Lee Molly Nowels 2008- \$2,500 /\$1,000 Gregory Barnes Lauren Greenwell Arian Moghtaderi-Zadeh Zach Plunkett Graham Career Award Tamara Daniels 2009 - \$2,500 each Kelly Bernardis Kelly Brofft Weston Sherwood Charissa Standage 2010 - \$2,500/\$1,000 Rachel Barnes Darin Lammers Allison Loyer Erica Lux Hannah Johnson 2011 - \$3,000 each Heather Job Dennis Mai Brian Styerwalt 2012 - \$3,000 each Mikayla Caldwell Alison Lammers Austin Smith 2013 - \$2,500 each Alexander Hamilton | Joyce Ling Austin Strain Brian Zuber 2014 - \$2,500 each Steven Benfield Yao Li Connor McPherson Stacey Zuppa 2015 - \$2,500 each Nicola Benfield Elizabeth Fugikawa Thomas Fugikawa Kaitlyn Lupinetti Andrew Saiz 2016 - \$2,500 each Cailey Bosman Lacey Gottschall Paige Koenig Dakota Wolner Chereen Zahner 2017 - \$2,500 each Lucas Martin Engelken Kara Henry Eva V. Anderson Haley Snowden |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|

Totals equal 139 students from 1972 through 2017 equaling \$199,000.00



Elect Stephanie Piko Mayor for Centennial

A member of City Council since 2012 and current Mayor Pro Tem- Stephanie is a proven leader that is dedicated to our community.

As an instructor in Cherry Creek Schools since 2005, Stephanie understands the importance of building safe communities for families.

As Mayor, Stephanie will find innovative solutions to:

- Strengthen infrastructure
- Reduce traffic congestion
- Hold city contractors accountable
- Enhance broadband investments that benefit residents & businesses

PickPiko
www.stephaniepiko.com
 Election Day- November 7, 2017



What's Happening in South Suburban this Halloween?

Looking for family-friendly Halloween events in Centennial and Littleton this year? Join us for a frightening round of mini golf, spooky trick or treating, bone-chilling hay rides, Zombie laser tag, a harrowing 5K, hair-raising ghost stories and more!

Oct 1 - 31 Hole-o-ween

Colorado Journey Miniature Golf is getting in the Halloween spirit this year. All 36 holes are decked out with glow ball lighting and eerie decor. Enjoy a frightful round of golf the entire month of October. Regular admission rates apply. Please note on Halloween night the course closes at 6 pm.

Friday, Oct 13 Spooktaeular

Our annual safe "trick or treat" family experience at Goodson. This year's event will feature a little monster's mansion, a haunted house, cookie walk, arts and crafts, face painting, trick or treat street, and carnival games. Sponsored by the City of Centennial.

Who: Ages 12 and under (children must be accompanied by an adult 18 or over)
Where: Goodson Recreation Center
When: 5:30 - 8 pm
Price: \$4 until 6 pm Sun, Oct 1; \$6 beginning Oct 2 and at the door; free for 1 year and under

Sat, Oct 21 Family Sports Center Zombie Fest

Enjoy a zombie hunt laser tag challenge, the eXerGame Zone, inflatable obstacle course, bumper cars, climbing wall, and more!

Who: Ages 6 - 13
Where: Family Sports Center
When: 12 - 3 pm (Sat; Oct 21)
Price: \$12 Resident; \$15 Nonresident

Sat, Oct 21 Hoofin' It Through the Hollows 5K Run/Walk

Bring the entire family out for this family and dog friendly 5K Run/Walk Halloween celebration. Dress in your Halloween best for a chance to win various costume contests. Stay after for the s'more campfire.

Who: All ages
Where: deKoevend Park along the High Line Canal Trail
When: 5:45 pm (Sat; Oct 21)
Price: \$20; \$10 ages 14 and under; early registration, \$15 adults, \$5 ages 14 and under expires Oct 5

Fri, Oct 27 Haunted Hay Rides

Listen to a spooky tale while you rumble down a trail inhabited by pirates for 30 minutes of family Halloween fun. Enjoy food concessions and a petting zoo inside the barn before or after your ride.

Who: All ages (ages 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult)
Where: Stockton Stables
When: 6 - 9 pm (rides start every half hour up to 8:30 pm)
Price: \$12 (free for ages 2 and younger riding on a lap)
Additional days: Sat, Oct 28
Online registration ends at 3:45 pm on days of rides, afterward register at the stables

Sat, Oct 28 Spooky Stories Campfire

Gather close to the fire and enjoy refreshments as a storyteller weaves spooky tales for Halloween. Refreshments included! The weather will determine if held in the forest or inside the Nature Center.

Who: Ages 8 and up
When: 7 - 8:30 pm
Where: South Platte Park
Price: \$10 Resident, \$15 Nonresident



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Oh Rats!

Ilsa Gregg

I have always considered myself a "live and let live" kind of person. I put bugs outside, I don't kill spiders, and I think snakes are pretty, even when they get in the garage. Then there are rodents. That is a complicated relationship.

Last week, I was completely panicked when every warning light on the dash of my car was on and wouldn't go off, including the gas tank light, even though the tank was full. I carefully, drove to the mechanic, with someone following me just in case. Later that day, diagnosis, rodent damage. I'm pretty sure that was a squirrel. They like the salt taste in the wiring this time of year. I've had run ins with them before.

Then there are the mice that get into the house, for whatever reason. Chia power bars are apparently irresistible to field mice, but I can catch and kill them in old fashion snap traps. I also sometimes get a house mouse, which is way too little to get caught in snap traps; only the tip of their tail ever gets caught. I have live traps behind the refrigerator for them. Just a little black plastic rectangle with a door that closes when they walk inside it. Easy and simple. Catch and release. They always seem really relieved to be out of that trap when I take them outside.

Then there are the rats. These I have underestimated on more than one occasion. They walk around snap traps and glue traps, unimpressed. They are extremely intelligent and, in my experience, cannot be outsmarted. I used a live metal trap once and caught a baby rat in it. It screamed and cried so much, I just let it go. Baby rats are pretty cute. Most babies are.

That being said, babies grow up and there is an aggressive side to rats. They really love to kill baby birds in their nests. I don't know if it is for food or fun, but the nest I found was very much like a horror movie and I was finally compelled to try to get rid of the rats. First I tried the kind of rat poison that is just extra salty food. It's safe for the environment and it's just a "death by salt" plan. I bought four bags, not cheap stuff, and they just ate it up like dog food, not one rat harmed.

Finally, I got bait stations with poison. They are plastic cases with the bait inside so other animals can't reach the bait. I bought three and set them around where the rats had been seen. This worked and soon the stench was quite apparent. I found a few bodies and used nitrile gloves and garbage bags to dispose of them in the trash.

There's no one answer to handling rodents. Live and let live is perfectly acceptable for the squirrel, I just park in the garage now. Live catch in the house where the other pets hang out works great. Snap traps in the garage and around the trash is easy for medium size mice. Rats are really smart though and reluctantly bait stations were necessary in my case.

All the recent construction on Arapahoe Road has rats relocating to Walnut Hills and it isn't a problem that will go away by itself. If there is any food at all, any warm place to hang out, they will multiply, naturally. One thing for sure, they won't be ignored, so pick a strategy. Good luck!

Where There Is Smoke.....

Bruce Ferguson

After its brief sojourn in front of the sun, the full moon returned in early September red from the fires burning in the American West. The smoke was thick enough here so that on Labor Day we couldn't even see the foothills. It seems ironic that while Houston flooded, we baked in a late summer string of almost constant 90 degree weather. Usually this time of year, the grass revives from the summer swelter, but not this year. As usual, however, the crickets filled the nights with their pulsating rhythms and the sunflowers were filled with goldfinches harvesting seeds.

I have mixed feelings about Russian Sage. Tending to it causes my throat to close and makes breathing difficult. I did find that wearing a simple disposable dust respirator solved that problem, but still it is not something I like to do. In late summer however, the large blue flower spikes fill large areas when most everything



Rudbeckia & Asters - photo Bruce Ferguson

else is failing. The plant needs very little water and for that reason can flourish in places that the sprinklers don't quite reach. So I grow it in those spaces and avoid it for most of the year except in the spring when I cut the whole mess down to the ground and toss the branches into a large leaf and litter garbage bag. So called blue spirea (Caryopteris) has many of the same attributes, can be tended to in the same way though it doesn't grow as large.

Rudbeckia triloba is a tall, so called, brown eyed Susan with hundreds of smaller yellow flowers that bloom in the late summer and fall. Along with the Asters (Symphyotrichum, New England or, so called, Michaelmas Daisies) that flower at pretty much the same time and reach essentially the same height they make a fall display that rivals anything the spring can bring. Fall flowering bulbs are another possibility. I grow Colchicum which make a leafy mess in the spring, then die back and flower in the fall.

Cyclamens are another possibility, though they are a bit difficult in this climate. Fall flowering crocus, of course, include the North African Crocus sativus from which the spice saffron is plucked.



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I-25 Update Project Update

The I-25 and Arapahoe Interchange Reconstruction project has progressed significantly since breaking ground in spring 2016. A few of the major accomplishments to date include: completing I-25 bridge work and I-25 paving, shifting Arapahoe Road and Yosemite Street into final alignment, building retaining walls on the south side of Arapahoe Road, relocating multiple utilities and improving business access in the northeast quadrant.

All major traffic impacts are expected to be complete by late fall 2017 and the project will likely finish ahead-of-schedule. Key project elements such as median work, final paving and final striping still remain and will require closures. In addition, intermittent lane restrictions will be needed for landscaping, irrigation and traffic signal and sign installations.



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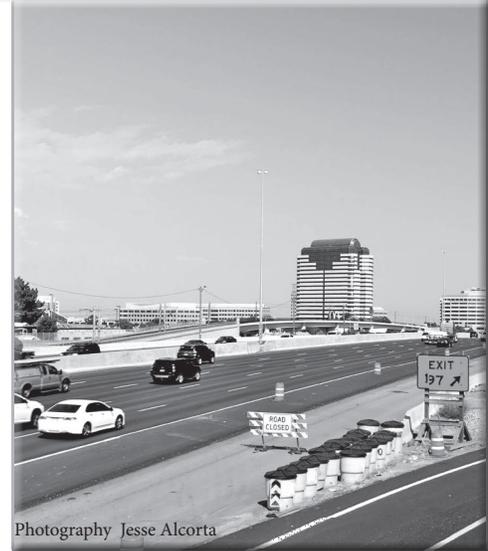
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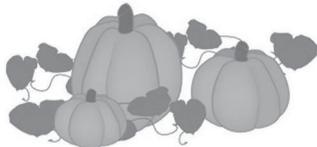
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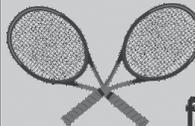
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