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# Denver Parks and Recreation Newsletter



## Editorial Calendar - Upcoming Issues

**January** - Golf/Parks

**February** - Natural Areas/Forestry/Mountain Parks

**March** - Recreation

**April** - Planning/Marketing/Manager's Office

**May** - Golf/Parks

**June** - Natural Areas/Forestry/Mountain Parks

**July** - Recreation

**August** - Planning/Marketing/Manager's Office

**September** -- Golf/Parks

**October** - Natural Areas/Forestry/Mountain Parks

**November** - Recreation

**December** - Planning/Marketing/Manager's Office

## September 2009

### September Public Meeting Schedule

## September 2009

For information contact (720) 913-0623

**9/9/2009**                      **7:00 - 9:00pm**

### River South (RISO) Greenway Master Plan

Overland Golf Course Clubhouse  
1801 S. Huron Street

Public invited to hear about general planning for the RISO Greenway Master Plan area.

**9/12/09**                      **1:00pm - 3:00pm**

### City Park Circulation Plan Update

City Park near Dustin Redd playground  
(look for white tents)

### In This Issue

[Recreation Pilot Sites Selected](#)

[Denver One of Most Sustainable Cities](#)

[Parkfield Lake Park Groundbreaking](#)

[Denver Named Best Trails in the Nation](#)

[Learn to Ski and Snowboard Opportunities for Youth](#)

[City Park Golf Course Named Best in State](#)

[Critter Corner](#)

[Lincoln Exhibit Comes to Four Mile House](#)

[Rec Center Happenings](#)

[RISO Master Plan](#)

[DPR Partners with DOSE](#)

[Ranger Summer Interns](#)

[Denver Lifeguard Saves Life](#)

[Big Brothers and Sisters Needs Volunteers in Dist](#)

[11](#)

[Lowry Great Lawn Opening](#)

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### Quick Links

[Register Now](#)  
[News](#)

[Related Topics](#)  
[More On Us](#)

Initial public open house to present the current state of circulation through City Park (walking, biking and driving), To get public input on any issues with the current circulation plan.

**9/15/09**

**6:00pm - 8:00pm**

### Central Denver Recreation Center Site Selection

Botanic Gardens - Mitchell Hall 1005 York Street

Denver Parks and Recreation will host an open house to gather public input on site selection for a new recreation center in the central Denver area. In early April 2008, the Department of Parks and Recreation conducted an initial public meeting about the planning process for this future facility. Through the 'Better Denver' bond program, approved by Denver voters in November 2007, a total of \$11 million was designated for land acquisition and design services for a new recreation center in the central Denver area. DPR Public Meeting Schedule

### Recreation Pilot Sites Selected

### Denver Parks and Recreation to begin selection of Community Advisory Committee Members

Denver Parks and Recreation announced at its August 13, 2009 Board meeting the pilot sites identified as part of the Recreation Center Task Force recommendations. A recreation committee, comprised of DPR recreation center staff members, has chosen the pilot sites to be used to focus on developing collaborative partnerships with like-minded organizations in order to enhance programming and amenities in Denver recreation centers.

The seven centers for the pilot program, selected by the recreation committee, are Harvey Park Recreation Center, St. Charles Recreation Center, Hiawatha Davis Recreation Center, Scheitler/Highland Recreation Centers (combined), Globeville Recreation Center and the Central Park Recreation Center (Stapleton Development).

The Denver Recreation Center Task Force (Task Force), a group comprised of community leaders, neighborhood activists, Denver Parks & Recreation staff and citizens, was formed in 2008 to make recommendations for the future of Denver recreation, which will guide decision-making for the next 5-10 years.

Among the Task Force recommendations, which focused on

the value of the system, programs and opportunities, location/transportation and fee structure, was the recommendation of developing collaborative partnerships for all centers to enhance programming opportunities. The criteria used to select the pilot sites included: Services or lack of services provided in the neighborhood Has center received community request for additional services or is there a lack of services provided in the center/neighborhood due to budget constraints.

#### Equity

Equity addresses the need to make sure pilot centers are distributed throughout the City, are on different tiers (RCTF - regional, local, neighborhood) and/or can enhance services to specific demographics such as youth, seniors, community surrounding the center

#### Neighborhood and Citywide Focus

Centers that have other opportunities occurring outside of DPR that may affect the community surrounding the center, such as re-structuring of Kunsmiller Middle School near Harvey Park Recreation Center. Other considerations included future development of the area around the center.

#### Potential partners

The recreation committee looked at centers that have existing partners currently that can be expanded, have potential partners who have currently expressed interest in partnering at a specific center and centers that have no existing partnerships, but which could be developed at the center.

With the pilot sites selected, the recreation committee is now implementing the RCTF recommendation to establish a Community Advisory Committees (CACs) for each of the pilot centers. These CACs will be tasked with identifying the needs of community around each of the pilot centers, reporting to the DPR leadership and assisting DPR in selecting partners for each center. Citizens interested in participating on the CAC committee for pilot centers can visit the Denver Parks and Recreation Web site at [www.denvergov.org/parksandrec](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrec), where an application and more information will be available.

#### **Grist Names Denver One of 15 Most Sustainable Cities**

#### **Extensive Park System Cited as one of main reasons**

Denver, August 18, 2009 - Denver placed 9th in list of 15 most sustainable cities by Grist, a Seattle-based nonprofit established in 1999 that monitors and reports on environmental news.

Seattle is the most sustainable big city in the nation,

according to a list compiled by Smarter Cities, an NRDC project that looks at the progress American cities are making toward going green. Not surprisingly, San Francisco and Portland are the runners-up.

"Greenprint Denver has worked very hard with all of our City agencies to implement a more sustainable form of government," said Scott Morrissey, Deputy Director of Greenprint Denver. "From our extensive parks system and their staff who have implemented natural areas and enhanced sprinkler systems to Public Works and its biodiesel street sweepers, Denver is working on multiple fronts to implement 'green' changes. It is nice to see these efforts recognized nationally."

Using data from the EPA and the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as some voluntary survey responses from city governments, the project identified the top 15 large, medium, and small cities according to 10 different environmental criteria, from air quality to recycling to transportation.

The Mile High City was selected for its many water conservation programs ("Denver conserves water like nobody's business," ), as well as the new B-cycle bike sharing program and extensive system of city parks.

The full list of 15 Cities is:

- 1) Seattle
- 2) San Francisco
- 3) Portland
- 4) Oakland
- 5) San Jose
- 6) Austin
- 7) Sacramento
- 8) Boston
- 9) Denver
- 10) Chicago
- 11) San Diego
- 12) New York
- 13) Los Angeles
- 14) Dallas
- 15) Columbus, Ohio

### **Deserving Community Celebrates Groundbreaking at Parkfield Lake Park**

On Thursday, August 20, Denver Parks and Recreation and Councilman Michael Hancock held a groundbreaking ceremony for Parkfield Lake Park, located at the intersection of Chambers Road and 53th



Avenue.

Parkfield is one of the most isolated and fastest growing communities in Denver, located in the far northeast corner of the city. This often underserved community currently lacks existing park facilities despite its growing population. The new park and amenities will serve over 50,000 residents from these northeast Denver communities and will complement the available indoor after-school programs available at Denver Parks and Recreation's Montbello Recreation Center, already built on the Parkfield Lake Park site. In addition, because of the new park size and the variety of play elements that will offered, it is hoped that the park will fill a huge void for this fast growing part of Denver. It is an amenity that will help bring communities closer together and bridge cultural differences.

Due to funding by the Better Denver Bonds program and Great Outdoors Colorado, Denver Parks and Recreation is able to begin construction of Phase 2 of Parkfield Lake Park, which includes trails, road and access improvements. Phase 3, funded by the Better Denver Bond program, will begin later this year and will include football, softball, baseball and soccer fields, picnic sites, additional trails, an amphitheater, basketball and tennis courts, a dog park and a state-of-the-art playground.

### **Denver Parks and Recreation Named Best Trail System in Nation**

The July 2009 edition of Parks and Recreation, the official publication of the National Recreation and Parks Association, has named Denver as Best Trail Parks in the United States. The honor comes during National Parks and Recreation month.

"If a city is a great tourist destination, you want its parks to be a part of that," says Peter Harnik, director of the Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence in the article. "Parks have so many components, and people love parks for so many different reasons. From natural ambiance to recreational opportunities to the unexpected things that just happen there when strangers interact."

Denver has one of the biggest biking, hiking and jogging trail systems in the nation, a network of 100 miles of paved, off-road trails that cross the City. The paved bike trails connect to hundreds of additional miles of dirt trails, many of which head up into the mountains and offer mountain biking adventures and scenic views.

In addition to Denver being named Best Trail Parks, other winners were:

Best Destination Parks - Chicago, IL  
Best Dog Parks - Seattle, WA  
Best Arts and Entertainment Parks - New York City  
Best Natural Area Parks - Philadelphia, PA  
Best Urban Plazas - Detroit, MI  
Best Water Park - San Antonio, TX

People interested in exploring Denver's bike trail system can download a free hike and bike trail map at [www.denvergov.org/parksandrec](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrec).

### Learn to Ski and Snowboard Opportunities

#### **DPR Invites Youth Groups Leaders and Organizers To Come Get More Information**

**PLANNING MEETING  
SCHEDULE  
Sept. 30th  
Harvard Gulch Recreation  
Center (550 E Iliff Ave 80210)  
4:30 PM**

#### **Program for ages 7-17**

Denver Parks + Recreation is teaming up with Winter Park Resort for a tremendous "LEARN TO SKI & SNOWBOARD" opportunity! This weekday program is designed specifically for groups of first-time and beginner-level skiers and snowboarders, ages 7-17 years old. The program runs November 2009 through March 2010. Winter Park will provide lift tickets, rental gear, and an all-day lesson. Instruction will be provided by the professionals at the Winter Park Ski & Ride School. The cost of the program will vary from \$15-\$25 per student depending on the transportation needs of your group. Organized groups of up to 40 students are invited to participate in this unique program. These weekday trips depart from Denver at 6am and generally return between 5pm-6pm the same day. Children will be accompanied and supervised by your school and a DPR staff member throughout the day at a 1-10 staff/student ratio. This is an incredible opportunity for your child to establish a life-long interest in winter snow sports.

Groups leaders and group organizers should contact Outdoor Recreation at 303 370 6668 or [outdoor.recreation@denvergov.org](mailto:outdoor.recreation@denvergov.org) for more information. Interested individuals can call their local recreation center or Outdoor Recreation to learn of participating centers.



## City Park Golf Course Named Best in State

Less than a month after being named as having the Best Trail Parks in the U.S., Denver Parks and Recreation has again been nationally recognized. The August 2009 edition of Golf Digest.com has named City Park Golf Course Best Public Golf Course in the State.

City Park Golf Course was selected by using a combination of star ratings from Golf Digest's Best Places to Play and Best in State rankings. With fees starting at \$33 to play a round of golf. City Park Golf Course offers a great urban setting with a wonderful backdrop of Downtown Denver and the Rocky Mountains. The small sloping greens, unique bunkering, and tight fairways make this course deceptively difficult.

City Park also includes a Junior Golf course, Pro Shop and the restaurant Bogey's on the Park. The junior course, which features four, par-three holes, is free and open to children except during classes. The Pro Shop has a limited number of loaner clubs for kids, which are also free of charge. Bogey's on the Park is an affordable eatery with a great atmosphere.

Denver Golf's seven locations offer five 18-hole courses, one 27-hole golf complex, two 9-hole par 3 courses, and one 18-hole miniature golf course with driving range and three pro shops.

For more information on City Park Golf Course or any of our neighboring courses, go to [www.denvergov.org/golf](http://www.denvergov.org/golf)

## Critter Corner

### Baby Boom!



This is the summer to enjoy seeing baby wild animals, or to marvel at how many rabbits have recently inhabited your yard! Wild animal population sizes and births are can be directly associated with, believe it or not, the weather!

With the wet spring and summer, populations of area herbivores or plant eating animals are booming. And it may be even more

exaggerated this year due to last summer's drought. During last years dry summer, populations of rabbits, prairie dogs, and many of the animals at the bottom of the food chain went significantly down throughout Colorado as grasses dried out and disappeared. Open spaces and native habitats were hit the hardest. And while urban areas are somewhat sheltered from this, with the amount of irrigation on both public and private property, even Denver saw a decrease. But animals are adapted to survival, and with this year's rain and abundance of plant growth, mothers of all species have responded with larger and healthier litters. Last years drought opened up space and reduced competition so there are resources for the births of more individuals. With enough food and water a female cottontail rabbit can become pregnant again within one hour of giving birth!

The effect moves up the food chain, more prey animals leads to more predators too. Don't get too nervous yet though, as weather gets hotter and drier and resources diminish populations tend to even back out again. Only 20% of cottontail rabbits born t his year will survive to create the next generation.

Populations are dynamic, and have many influencing factors in addition to the weather. Urban areas in particular have changed the amounts of resources available. Planting trees, shrubs and grass provides more food and shelter than would exist in our natural prairies. Man made lakes, drainage canals, ponds, bird baths and pet water dishes provides ample water year round. Buildings and infrastructure creates thousands of potential shelters. The average city can actually support higher numbers of individual animals than almost any natural ecosystem.

Being aware of factors influencing resources in Denver can help give us a better understanding of the wildlife we see. So this year, watch for babies!

### **Abraham Lincoln BiCentennial Exhibit at Four Mile Historic Park**

**From October 24 - November 11**

Abraham Lincoln is coming to Four Mile Historic Park in Denver.

A world-class traveling exhibit featuring reproduction artifacts from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois may viewed free of charge each day from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

"The Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America exhibit was created to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the

birth of America's greatest president by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum," said Executive Director Rick Beard. "The 'We, the People' program of the National Endowment for the Humanities provided major financial support for the exhibition and accompanying programs. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation and the History Channel provided additional financial and in-kind support."

The exhibit covers Lincoln's childhood, his self-education, his careers as a surveyor and lawyer, his family life, the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, the 1860 Presidential election, the Civil War, the 13th Amendment, the Emancipation Proclamation, his assassination, and other important periods and events in his life. The reproduction artifacts on display, all modeled from originals in the Presidential Library and Museum, include: Lincoln's favorite books; his son Tad's toy cannon; the nameplate from his Springfield home; his stovepipe hat, which he used like a briefcase to hold important papers; a Presidential campaign banner; an axe that Lincoln used to chop wood; the bloody gloves found in Lincoln's pocket the night of his assassination; and many other unique and interesting items.

The traveling learning station exhibit is being displayed in 40 public libraries and historical societies over the next two years, with Four Mile Historic Park being the only location in Colorado. It was one of just two "We, the People" programs for the Lincoln Bicentennial funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"Abraham Lincoln, the son of a subsistence farmer, came of age during a dramatic transformation in America's economic life. Like many of his contemporaries, he embraced a new emphasis on personal initiative, risk-taking, and ambition. He was only 22 when he left his family home to find his own way," said Beard. "After enduring a series of personal failures in business, he became a prosperous attorney, devoted husband and father, successful politician, and, finally, the 16th President of the United States. While Lincoln benefited from close association with a number of powerful friends, his own talents and ambitions combined with hard work and a dedication to self-improvement to produce a unique American specimen - the self-made man."

Four Mile Historic Park will be hosting a variety of special events and lectures coinciding with this exhibit. Please visit [www.FourMileHistoricPark.org](http://www.FourMileHistoricPark.org) for information on these events.

The American Library Association of Chicago and the Tribeca Film Institute of New York made strong contributions to the exhibit programming. For more

information about the "Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America" exhibit, visit [www.PresidentLincoln.org](http://www.PresidentLincoln.org).

## Upcoming Events

### FOUR MILE HOUSE

#### Hay Bales & Tall Tales

When: Saturday, Sept. 5  
11am - Noon

Where: Four Mile Historic Park  
715 S. Forest St.  
Denver, CO 80246

What: Pioneer Story Time for kids of all ages! Free for all to enjoy a story, craft, and Four Mile Historic Park!

#### Living History Day

When: Sunday, Sept. 13  
11am-2pm

Where: Four Mile Historic Park  
715 S. Forest St.  
Denver, CO 80246

What: Come see our Quilting, Sewing, Cooking, and Blacksmithing demonstrations and join in on a horse-drawn wagon ride and tour of Denver's oldest home, the Four Mile House Museum!

#### Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America Exhibit

When: October 24 - November 11  
Daily: Noon - 4pm

Where: Four Mile Historic Park  
715 S. Forest St.  
Denver, CO 80246

What: Colorado's only exhibition of the Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America exhibit that was created to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of America's greatest president by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. More info & article attached.

### PLATTE PARK RECREATION CENTER

1500 S. Grant St.  
720-865-0630

Platt Park will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 7th

Registration for Fall classes starts on Tuesday, August 25th

Fall Classes start Tuesday, September 8th

**Friday, September 25th "FALL COLOR TRIP" to Cripple Creek**

\$30.00 includes:

Continental breakfast, transportation, \$5.00 cash, coupon book, drawing for prizes, free shuttle. Limited Space!

**Lecture Series:** Older & Wiser - an incredible experience of sharing. Wed. Sept. 9th, 16th, & 23rd. 12:30pm - 2:00pm FREE!!!!

**Friday, October, 9th FLU SHOTS 10:00am - Noon**

**Dance to Live Music:**

1st, 2nd, 3rd, Mondays - 7:00pm - 9:30pm. \$4.00 per person includes dance lesson from 6:00-7:00pm includes refreshments.

Sept. 7th - No Dance ...Center is Closed

Sept. 14th - Tom Yook

Sept. 21st - Hal Rarick Trio

Tea Dance - Live Music on the last Friday of the month.

1:00pm - 3:15pm \$4.00 includes refreshments.

Sept. 25th - Bev Bucci

**Cooking Classes:**

10:00am - Noon Cost : \$6.50

Wed. Sept. 9th TBA

Friday, Sept. 25th- Chicken Alfredo on Baked Potatoes

Friday, Oct. 16th- Hens de Potato

Wed. Oct. 28th TBA

**Food Bank is September 11th at 1:00pm \$2.00**

**Line Dance** - Tuesday 11:00am - 12:30pm and Thurs.

10:00am - 11:30am \$2.00 senior/\$3.00 under 65. Drop in

**Ballroom Dance** - Thursday 1:00pm - 3:00pm \$2.00 senior/\$3.00 under 65. Drop in

**Bingo** - Tuesday 1:00pm - 3:00pm \$2.00 senior/\$3.00 under 65. Drop in

**Call for dates and times:** 720-865-0630

\* Exercise Classes: Yoga, Tai Chi, Stretching, Swimnastics, Weight Training

\* Language Classes: Spanish, German, French

\* Craft Classes: Jewelry, pottery and more

\* Artreach: What a great Program - Don't miss the chance to get tickets weekly to sporting events, symphony etc.

\*Cards: Bridge, Pinochle

## **COLLEGE VIEW RECREATION CENTER Coping with Computers**

This lecture series will help you understand computers and how they impact our lives. Topics include history, vocabulary, the internet, Goggle, eBay, 419 scams and more. Conducted by Rob Granhold, an educator of many years.

Cost: \$10 seniors, \$15 adults

Dates: 9/17 - 10/15

Day/Time: Thur, 10:30 - 11:30 am

Please register by Sept. 14 by calling 3/937-4630

## **Public Outreach Meeting**

### **River South (RISO) Greenway Master Plan Public Outreach Meeting**

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Overland Golf Course Clubhouse

1801 South Huron Street

The public is invited to hear about general planning concepts being envisioned for the RISO Greenway Master Plan area and to seek public input.

The objective of the River South Greenway Master Plan is to generate a park, recreation and open space plan that sets a vision for the South Platte River and creates development, financial and regulatory guidelines for parkland along the River between 20th Street to the Denver-Englewood/Sheridan city limits on the south. The project boundary for developing master planning proposals is defined as the South Platte River and all properties located adjacent to and/or contiguous with the River, approximately 200 feet from the top of the riverbank in either direction. Consideration will be given to opportunity linkages brought about by river improvements in the area between Federal Boulevard on the west to Broadway on the east.

For more information, contact Jeff Shoemaker:

303-818-8078

## **Denver Recreation Centers Part of DOSE for Teens Study**

Eight Denver parks and Recreation Centers will soon be part of a study funded by the National Institutes of Mental

Health (NIMH) to investigate the effects of exercise on depressed adolescents. As we all know, major depression is a serious condition that affects all ages and a large proportion of teenagers. Typical symptoms include problems with mood, irritability, and physical complaints such as problems with sleep, energy, appetite, and concentration.

This study is called DOSE forTeens (Depression Outcomes Study of Exercise for Teens). Klein Buendel, Inc. and the University of Colorado Denver are partners in this study involving 40 adolescents over the next 16 months. These teens (12 to 17 years of age) will receive 1-year memberships to a Denver rec center and attend exercise sessions 3 - 5 times a week for 12 weeks. After 12 weeks, the hope is that teens will continue to participate in a wide variety of rec center activities. A Recreation Therapist will oversee all of the exercise sessions. There are eight Denver Parks and Recreation Centers participating including:

- Cook Park
- Green Valley
- Montclair
- Montbello
- Rude
- Scheitler
- Twentieth St. Gym
- Washington Park

Participants are NOT eligible if they:

- Are currently receiving treatment for depression
- Have had past or present hypomanic or manic episode(s)
- Are having active symptoms of psychosis such as hallucinations or delusions
- Are having significant problems with alcohol or street drug use
- Are pregnant
- Live outside of the Denver city limits

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact Jennifer, the Project Coordinator, at 1-877-730-0852 Option 2. There will be rolling admission into the study until December 2010. This study is being funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH R34MH082153).

### Thanks to Ranger Summer Interns

The Denver Park Ranger Program



has been the recipient of several students from Red Rocks Community College this year. Gwen Ganow, a native of New Mexico and Sandra Hill, who grew up in the foothills of Golden Colorado, have completed their internship and will be moving on to Metropolitan State University to continue their education. Both Gwen and Sandy have been valuable additions to the Park Ranger Program. Starting in June they attended the Park Ranger training at the Denver Police Academy along with the other Park Rangers. They participated in Department sponsored events including Spring into Health, Movie in the Parks, Get Outdoor Day, and the Berkeley Fishing Derby. They patrolled with other Rangers in both the Urban and Mountain Parks providing visitor assistance and information to park users. They toured the City Greenhouse, Zoo, Botanic Gardens, city offices and the urban and mountain park systems. They also worked with Wildlife Biologist, Ashley Delaup on projects at Bear Creek Park. Gwen and Sandy provided environmental education to park users at Berkeley and Greenway Off Leash dog parks where they promoted the value of pet owner responsibility. for picking up dog waste. The also provided a one day event to the visitors at O'Fallon Park in the Mountain Parks focusing on environmental stewardship and wildlife appreciation.

Red Rocks Community College offers a 2 year program in the field of being a Park Ranger as well as Environmental Interpretation. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with Red Rocks Community College for future interns and seasonal Rangers. Mountain Park Rangers Jessica Miller and Scott Bostick also have completed education at Red Rocks Community College. We wish both Gwen and Sandy the best as they pursue advanced degrees and thank them for their many contributions to our Park Ranger Program. They displayed a unique passion for the environment and their interactions with our park visitors were significant and much appreciated.

### Denver Lifeguards Celebrated for saving life

**The quick action of Atzlan Lifeguards made all the difference**

The Denver Police Department and The President and CEO of the Daniels Fund, Linda Childears,



recognized four Denver Parks and Recreation Lifeguards on Friday, August 21, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. for their actions in saving a young girl.

On August 14, 2009, in the early afternoon a "day camp" brought several children to the Aztlan Swimming Pool, located at 4435 Navajo Street.

While swimming in the pool, a five year old girl sank to the bottom. She was swimming with a six- year- old girl from the day camp. When the six- year- old saw the five-year- old at the bottom of the pool, she quickly swam down and pulled her up to the surface. The six- year- old alerted the staff that the five-year- old was "in trouble."

The first lifeguard to take action was Alaina Larson (20), who rendered first aid by starting rescue breathing. Alaina was then quickly joined by a second lifeguard, Myrisa Garcia (15), who took over the rescue breathing while Alaina began chest compressions. It was at this point that both lifeguards determined that the five- year- old did not have a pulse. While these two lifeguards continued CPR, another lifeguard, Anita Muniz (21), quickly assessed the situation and called 911 detailing the incident to the call taker. Anita remained on the call giving continuous information until emergency personnel arrived.

The lifeguard who was working in the office, Zach Stout (19), learned of the incident and alerted the desk personnel to call 911. Without hesitation, Zach grabbed the automatic defibrillator and ran out to the 5- year- old girl and the other lifeguards performing CPR. Zach stood by prepared to operate the defibrillator if necessary.

The five- year- old was transported to Denver Health Medical Center by ambulance. A Denver Police Detective responded to the hospital where he observed the five-year- old alert and responsive.

This outcome could have been tragic if not for the quick actions of the six- year- old girl and the teamwork and professionalism of all the lifeguards involved.

Denver Parks and Recreation is extremely proud of these heroes and the entire aquatics team, who prepare for each summer swim season with two days of intense training. Way to go, team.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Volunteer Search in Dist 11**

Councilman Hancock congratulates Big Brother Larry and his Little Brother Mustafa on their One-Year Anniversary as Big Brother/Little Brother on August 18th! Matched in the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program, Larry and Mustafa enjoy simple activities like playing catch with the football, going to a movie, flying kites and bowling. Larry has really encouraged Mustafa's talent for football, and attends many of his practices and games. They are a classic example of a successful Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring relationship - rewarding for both the child and the volunteer.



Many families in District 11 are requesting volunteer Big Brothers and Big Sisters. We need more volunteers stepping up. Do you have a few hours a couple times a month to have fun with a child? Contact Big Brothers Big Sisters at (303) 433-6002 [bbbs@biglittlcolorado.org](mailto:bbbs@biglittlcolorado.org) or visit them at [www.BigLittleColorado.org](http://www.BigLittleColorado.org).

Make a BIG impact in District 11 - be a Big!

### **The Great Lawn Opening at Lowry September 12th**

Lowry's Crown Jewel Park, The Great Lawn, to Open with Ceremony

Denver Parks and Recreation's newest park, The Great Lawn, opens to the public Saturday, September 12, at 11 a.m. The Great Lawn, located at Yosemite Street and Lowry Boulevard, represents the 'crown jewel' of Lowry's park system, adding 50 acres to the community's nearly 800 acres of open and recreational space.

"The Great Lawn opening is truly a great opportunity to celebrate Lowry," said Stacie Loucks, executive director, Lowry Community Master Association (LCMA). "Lowry is pleased to now offer recreational space equal in size to nearly 20 percent of all park space in Denver. This park is a wonderful asset to add to our growing community, and one that we hope will increase both home value and experience for residents."

The event signifies the official opening of the core park area allowing citizens to start utilizing this long anticipated asset of the community. Although The Great Lawn is officially open there are areas within the park, mainly to the north, that will remain under construction into 2010. Once all remaining details are finalized, the Lowry Redevelopment Authority (LRA) will officially transition responsibility of the Park to Denver Parks and Recreation.

"Opening a new park is always an exciting event for us, but we're especially thrilled to open one this large and at such a central location, said Kevin Patterson, manager of Denver Parks and Recreation. "At 50 acres, The Great Lawn park is one of the City's largest, and we hope the surrounding community is as thrilled as we are to open it officially to the public."

Presented by the LRA and the Lowry Community Master Association (LCMA), The Great Lawn Opening kicks off with a formal ceremony with Denver Parks and Recreation at 11a.m., followed by a free concert with local musicians, Opie Gone Bad, from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. In addition to the tours, The Great Lawn celebration will include fun activities for all ages, including a Kids' Zone with a bungee trampoline, bounce house and games.

Community exhibitors and sponsors such as the LRA hosted booth for home builders and Greenprint Denver will be on hand to provide information on housing, energy efficiency, recreations and more. Additional sponsors for the event include Albertsons, Royal Crest Dairy, Kentwood Cherry Creek realtors, Amy Frankmore and Adrienne Cutilletta. Picnic lunches will be available from Big Papa's BBQ for \$3, along with games and memorabilia for attendees.

In celebration of The Great Lawn Opening, Lowry invites the community to tour Lowry model homes on Saturday, September 12, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., enjoy a free dessert bar and pick up a Lowry golf coupon for a free bucket of balls at CommonGround, while supplies last.

"Though Lowry is more than 90 percent built out, we're excited to still offer several housing options from the \$100s to the \$800s and beyond," said Tom Markham, executive director, LRA. "Eight builders will celebrate The Great Lawn Opening with us on September 12, holding model home tours throughout the day. We're thrilled to showcase the variety of options still available."

The Great Lawn represents another installment, of late that adds to Lowry's allure. Lowry's public golf course, CommonGround, owned and operated by the Colorado Golf Association and the Colorado Women's Golf Association, opened to the public May 23 following a major two-year construction of a completely new 18-hole championship course and a 9-hole junior course. The course is the latest amenity for the Lowry community in the heart of metro Denver and the only course slated to open in Colorado in 2009.

Once a working Air Force base, Lowry has transformed into

a forward-thinking, mixed-use community. Today more than 35,000 people live, work, play and learn at Lowry. There are 12 quality homebuilders all placing the final touches on the Lowry community and The Great Lawn Opening will complement those efforts. Lowry has 22 diverse housing models including single-family homes, upscale lofts, townhomes, luxury condos and patio homes.

START DATE	END DATE	PARK	HOURS	NAME OF EVENT	# PEOPLE	OR
2-Sep	8-Sep	Civic Center	5am-11pm	A Taste of Colorado	500,000	Dov
6-Sep	15-Sep	Skyline #2	7am-11pm	Motorola World Racquetball	250	US/
6-Sep		Cheesman	3pm-11pm	Tango Festival Picnic & Dance	300	Tan
6-Sep		Cheesman	5am-9pm	Pedestrian Bicycle Day		
7-Sep		Cheesman	7am-10am	Park to Park 10 Miler	2,000	Par
12-Sep	14-Sep	Civic Center	5am-11pm	Fiestas Patrias	60,000	Ent
12-Sep		Sloan Lake	6am-2pm	1st Annual Fatima Fun Run	500	Our
13-Sep		Stapleton Central	6am-2pm	Davita Kat Walk	500	Da\
13-Sep		Lowry	8am-8pm	Volleyball Tournament	500	Voll
16-Sep		Confluence	8am-5pm	World Water Monitoring Day	100	CH:
19-Sep		Civic Center	6am-4pm	Rally for Recovery	300	Der
19-Sep		Stapleton Central	5am-5pm	Zooma Run Denver	200	Cha
19-Sep		Westerly	5am-12pm	Zooma Run Denver	200	Cha
20-Sep		Sloan Lake	6am-12pm	Run Around the Block 5k	100	Roc
23-Sep		Civic Center	8am-5pm	City Spirit Picnic	3,000	May
25-Sep	27-Sep	Stapleton Central	5am-11pm	One Sky One World	3,000	For
26-Sep		Sloan Lake	5am-1pm	ALR Lupus Walk	300	Allie
26-Sep		Berkeley Lake PARK	7am-11pm	Fun Run	300	Reç
26-Sep		Globeville Landing	6am-3pm	River Sweep	150	Der
26-Sep		Grant Frontier	6am-3pm	River Sweep	150	Der
26-Sep		Fishback	6am-3pm	River Sweep	300	Der
27-Sep		Platte River & Cuernavaca	5am-11am	October Fest 10k	600	Lari

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