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# Great 8 News

Connecting Diverse Communities

Issue: # 1

August/2011

## ***A Word From Councilman Brooks***

As I take time to pause and reflect on the experiences of the last 45 days, I am joyful for the strength and encouragement that my family has brought me. With all of the events and meetings going on during the day, it can be easy to get lost in the chaos. My wife, Debi, is carrying the baby sister to our two wonderful children, Kenya and Makai. I thank them for being a blessing in this chapter of our lives and I acknowledge that I would not be able to survive without them.



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## **100 Day Plan**

It is hard to believe that it has already been 47 days since I officially started working as your City Councilman. On my campaign, I promised that during my first 100 days in office I would meet with everyone who wanted to meet with me and I have been fulfilling that promise, no matter who walks through my door. From homeless men to billionaires, I have been sitting down with everyone. Hopefully, by the end of the 100 days, I will be able to check off the major items on the list of promises. I have been recording weekly video updates, visiting schools, and now my office is getting ready to kick off a district-wide listening tour, where I will be visiting every neighborhood in the district in an effort hear your ideas and concerns.



## **Help name the new DHS Building**

As you may know, we will have a new human services building in our district, located at 40th and Steele. The only problem is, we don't have a name for the



building yet! If you have a suggestion for the name of an individual (s) living or deceased who have shaped our district in meaningful ways. Please email me at [albus.brooks@denvergov.org](mailto:albus.brooks@denvergov.org) for your recommendations.

### District 8 Running Club

The District 8 office is creating a running club to explore our diverse neighborhoods. Join us for our first jog on September 10th, at 8:00 am at the SW corner of Russell Park (36th and Vine). We will jog two miles in Cole. This will also be a time to give us your feedback, suggestion and ideas.



### District 8 Cookbook

Our office is partnering with the Five Points Farmer's Market in an effort to create a cookbook of healthy recipes from folks in our district. If you have some mouth-watering recipes that you would like to share with us, please contact our office at [albus.brooks@denvergov.org](mailto:albus.brooks@denvergov.org).



## City - Wide

It was been a distinct honor to work alongside our new Mayor and my other council colleagues to ensure we are building a world-class city. To do so, we must first take a critical look at the budget, which the Mayor will ask council to approve. We will eliminate redundancies in city agencies, reducing waste and saving valuable resources. At the same time, it is essential that we are not cutting services that are badly needed in the community. I want to ensure that our public libraries are saved. I have heard from District 8 loud and clear, "Don't touch our libraries," and we will work hard to keep the libraries alive.

The National Western Stock Show (NWSS) has been a conversation that has sparked spirited debate. The stock show must reinvent itself; their financial plan is not sustainable and they will become bankrupt in 7 years, according to CEO Paul Andrews. NWSS are currently in a 40 year lease, and they would like the city to forgive it, in addition financing the relocation to the proposed site in Aurora with Gaylord Entertainment. This would be a major blow

for downtown Denver, and the revenue we earn in sales tax from the stock show. It's a Lose/Lose situation as it stands now; I am against the proposed NWSS its relocation to Aurora with Gaylord. However, I am for a common-sense solution that is a Win/Win for NWSS, the city of Denver and our regional partners.

We want to make sure we keep the lines of communication open in our office. You will receive Great 8 News at the beginning of the month followed by Great 8 events the next week, once a month. If you have events or story ideas please contact our office.

Sincerely,

City Councilman  
Albus Brooks

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