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## Denver Parks and Recreation Newsletter

### Editorial Calendar - Upcoming Issues

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**February** - Natural

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### April 2009

#### Recreation Task Force Final Recommendations

The citizen comprised Recreation Center Task Force has presented its final recommendations for a strategic management vision of Denver's recreation system for the next 5-10 years. During the eight month Task Force process, the Task Force recognized the City of Denver flexible, adapt and must make changes to the core functions and organize the recreation system. The Task Force recommendations offer equitable and prioritized options to recreation services throughout the City.

The recommendations will offer citizens of Denver more hours, more flexible programming and better amenities. Establishing a tiered system of recreation centers includes Neighborhood Centers to meet the needs of immediate neighborhoods, Local Centers with more focused amenities, and Regional Centers with broad programming and amenities such as aqua fitness areas. Along with the tiered system, the recommendations call for a fee structure based on the regional, local or neighborhood centers.

The Task Force strongly recommends that the City actively pursue formal partnerships throughout the system and identify 3-5 pilot sites in 2009. "The future of recreation in Denver" states the letter from the Task Force to Kevin Pauley, Manager of Denver Parks and Recreation Department.

To review the complete document of the Final Recommendations, please visit [www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation) or visit your local recreation center.

#### City Park Golf Course Earth Day planting

Jeff Francis of Colorado Rockies among the volunteers

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Denver Golf, in partnership with The Mile High Million, The First Tee of Denver Forestry, designed and installed a landscape improvement project at City Park Golf Course to celebrate Earth Day. The April 22nd event resulted in the planting and mulching over 140 new trees and 300 shrubs along 26th Avenue between Colorado Boulevard and York Street. The project was part of the week-long TREE 4 ALL celebration, which resulted in more than 10,000 new trees planted in metro Denver between Earth Day and Arbor Day, and builds upon Denver Golf's efforts to convert unused out-of-play areas into naturalized landscapes.



The project also enhances one of the City's designated green streets, which are intended to be shaded respites that connect people to parks, schools, transit stops, and other neighborhood destinations as outlined in Denver Parks Recreation's Game Plan- the 50-year vision for Denver parks.

Jeff Francis, pitcher for The Colorado Rockies represented the baseball has generously pledged to support future tree planting efforts as part of "Games of Green"- an initiative designed to enlist players and fans in a positive impact on the environment. The 20 games are split into three "Green Weeks," April 24-29, July 6-12 and September 1-7. Each Green Week ticket packages, in-game incentives, fan contests, bike-to-the-game events and more. In addition, each Green Week the Colorado Rockies will offer "Wood for Wood"- for every Rockies home run hit during these 20 games, they will plant a tree in the Denver area. The Rockies are also offering "Green Packs" from July 6-12 and September 1-7. For \$20, fans will receive two tickets and each pack sold goes toward the "Wood for Wood" program. Visit [www.coloradorockies.com/green](http://www.coloradorockies.com/green) for more complete details.

**A 26th Avenue Haiku**

**Submitted by Jim Slotta, South City Park Neighborhood Association**

Tree after tree seen:  
 My eyes could scarce believe it!  
 Thanks to the 'planters.'

**Park Rangers on Bikes**

The Park Ranger Program provides daily patrol by trained and professional Park Rangers in the urban and mountain park system by foot, bicycle and vehicle.

The program focuses on providing visitor contact and assistance, park regulation and education, law enforcement, and the protection of natural and built resources.



environmental education, emergency response and visitor safety. The Ranger Program works cooperatively with internal and external partners to positively effect and influence visitor behaviors and experiences.

This year, an enhanced focus has been placed on using bicycles for transport and patrol. The Rangers have committed to riding bikes for at least 25 shifts. This initiative reduces vehicle cost and helps achieve the Mayor's Greenprint Denver sustainability goals. The Park Rangers have been promoting use of bicycles in the department and have been instrumental in getting other staff trained to ride safely.

The Park Rangers have partnered with Bike Denver, Park Hill Bike Dept, Greenprint Denver, League of American Bicyclists and the Denver Police Department Bicycle Unit who has donated bicycles to the program to support Bicycle Safety Training Programs. To date over 20 Park Employees have trained in Bicycle Safety Classes lead by BikeDenver.

The Arboreal Inspectors are the most recent group to complete the training. They will be joining the Park Rangers in riding bicycles as a part of their work plan.

In early April the Park Rangers hosted a rigorous three day Cycling Instructor seminar drawing participants from all over the country. Park Rangers Jeff Broida and Rob Krueger received their League of American Bicyclists LCI certification to teach Bicycle Safety. The Rangers can now teach classes to new Rangers and other Parks Employees.



The Park Rangers encourage everyone to participate in Bike to Work Day, 2009

For more information about the Park Ranger Program contact Susan Frerking at 331-4040 or e-mail [park.ranger@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:park.ranger@ci.denver.co.us).

### **Golf for Health and Wellness for people with disabilities**

Since 2006 the Special Needs Program has been very successful running

Health and Wellness," designed to introduce the sport of golf to those who not otherwise have the ability to play.

Originally written by former intern Mark Faulkner, the golf program for people with disabilities has flourished for the most part because of the efforts of Kirk Mease, head professional, and the rest of his staff at Wellshire Golf Course. Program participants learn from Kirk the principals of the golf swing, how to play short game and easy putting, combining everything at the end to play a three hole practice course at Wellshire in a mini Special Needs tournament.

As an instructor, Kirk has shown himself to be empathetic and patient, taking the time necessary with each participant. He instructs in a direct and understandable manner with a sense of humor that is very accessible to everyone who takes the program. He and his staff have always found his staff to be courteous and respectful of any of our participants they have contact with because the disabled world has been a part of his life too, Kirk has shown to be especially important to the success of this program.

The Special Needs department is proud to count Wellshire Golf course and Kirk Mease, head Golf Professional, as important resources to the Special Needs Program in its effort to introduce the sport of golf to people of all abilities in the Denver area.

**Join us on May 9 for Fit 4 Colorado**




Please join CBS4, America On the Move and the City and County of Denver for a Fit 4 Colorado Community Walk.

**Saturday, May 9th**  
**9:00am**  
**Mile High Loop / Denver City Park**




**Councilwoman Carla Madison, Denver City Council District 8 and CBS4's Jennifer Zeppelin will lead the walk**

The Fit 4 Colorado Community Walk promotes physical activity in local communities. Each month, CBS4 and America On the Move partner with a different municipality to host a Community Walk. Each walk is 1-2 miles in length (2000-4000 steps) and encourages people to make small behavioral changes in order to improve their health. The walks are free of charge and are open to all those interested in finding a fun way to stay active. Walkers are encouraged to dress for the weather, use sunscreen and bring their own water bottle. Each participant will receive a free Fit 4 Colorado pedometer.

Fit 4 Colorado is a statewide initiative that promotes the health and well-being of children and adults and is a partnership between CBS4, America On the Move, the Anthem Foundation and HealthONE. For more information on Fit 4 Colorado go to [www.fit4colorado.com](http://www.fit4colorado.com).






**Fraud Alert**

**from the Denver District Attorney's Office**

**Slam the Door on Door-to-Door Con Artists!**

Denver's District Attorney is warning people that traveling con artists are arriving in Denver. These con artists arrive every spring with door-to-door roofing, paving



and other scams, intimidating consumers into paying thousands of dollars for quality work. "People should avoid doing business with anyone who comes unsolicited to their door," says DA Mitch Morrissey.

There are some easy ways to recognize door-to-door con artists. They come to your house offering some type of work. Typical scams involve roofing, fixing sidewalk cracks, tree trimming or other repair work. They travel from home to home quoting bargain prices but then do worthless work and charge much more after the "work" is complete.

These skill con artists often prey on the elderly using friendly, high-pressure tactics. However, be assured they will approach anyone with their smooth convincing solicitations. These con artists may suggest they have material over from a previous job which can be used at little or no cost. They may say they need to finish a project they did before, (one the homeowner can't remember now) and then they find other repair projects which they will do without the victim's permission and then insist on an extraordinary payment. They may gain a person's trust by mentioning the name of their neighbor whom they claim to have just completed a job.

We need everyone's help to catch these crooks in the act. We also need everyone's help to watch out for your neighbors, especially those who are elderly who may be at risk.

Remind yourself and your neighbors that you never hire someone who comes to your door uninvited. Always seek out several bids for work and check references. And, once you have made an informed decision about having work done, get a signed contract that includes an agreed upon price.

Please, if you see any suspicious activity that fits a description like this contact the Fraud Line at 720-913-9179.

## **Recreation Happenings**

### **Rude Recreation Center**

2855 West Holden Pl.  
(720) 865-0570

### **Kids Primetime**

Drop your kids off for a free night of fun night of dancing, games, swim

much, much more.

**Cost:** Free

**Date/Time:** Saturday, May 16 6-9pm

**Age:** 6-14

#### **Platt Park Senior Center**

1500 Grant Street

(303)698-4965

#### **Monday night Dances**

**Date:** May 4, 11 and 18

**Time:** 7:00pm - 9:30pm -

**Fee:** \$4.00 includes refreshments and dance lesson from 6:00pm - 7:00pm (dance is Cha Cha)

#### **Harvard Gulch/Platt Park Artisan Sale**

**When:** Saturday, May 16

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Harvard Gulch Recreation Center, 550 E. Iliff Ave

#### **Cooking Class**

**When:** Wednesday, May 6 and May 29

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Fee:** \$6.50

#### **Pilgrimage of the Heart- Forgiveness (seminar)**

Learn to free yourself and to live life more fully and outwardly vibrant.

**When:** Wednesday, May 13

**Time:** 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Fee:** Free

#### **Summer Camp**

##### **Teen Adventures**

Teen Adventures is a field trip based integrated recreation program for teens with and without disabilities. This is a collaborative effort between Community Recreation and the Special Needs Department. Registration for 40 participants, 10 of which will be youth with disabilities.

**Min Age:** 13-16

**Cost:** \$75 program fee

**Field Trips:** An additional \$5 - \$25 per week (cash only)

**Session Dates:** 06/11/09-07/31/09 (No program 7/3/09)

**Days/Times:** Thursdays & Fridays / Times will vary

**Locations:** Vary and will be provided with the program calendar

## Outdoor Recreation Happenings

**Biking Programs-** for ages 16 and older, (youth 8-15 can attend if accompanied by an adult)

Come to City Park and join us for a Biking Adventure. We will be hosting bike rides through Denver, originating from City Park. Our bicycle outings focus on fun, fitness, safety, and increasing your knowledge and interest. We will examine a number of bicycle related topics throughout the summer and we will have 10 adult bikes available to borrow from Outdoor Recreation for your trip. If you prefer you are welcome to bring your own bicycle.

### **Bike Adventure-**

#### **Join us for Bike to Work Day**

We will meet at City Park at 11am to ride the local bike paths and celebrate Bike to Work Day. We will cruise the Cherry Creek trail as we make our way through downtown Denver to enjoy the numerous festivities highlighting the day including live entertainment and informational booths. Eventually we will ride our way back to City Park.

Cost \$10.00

Wednesday, June 24th, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

### **Road Rules and Navigating Denver**

The day will begin at City Park where we will map out our adventures for the day. We will enjoy the sites and sounds of the park and surrounding neighborhoods. We will also focus on the Rules of the Road and how to safely navigate city streets. We will ride approximately 5 miles.

Cost \$10.00

Saturday, July 11th, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

### **Fixing a Flat and other Basic Repairs**

Pffftt...that is the sound of your bike's tire going flat. Do you know what to do? Whatever your answer is come join us for a beautiful ride through Denver while exploring local bike paths and learn to fix a flat tire and deal with other on-road mechanical repairs.

Cost \$10.00

July 22nd, Wednesday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

## Hiking Programs

This summer we will provide a variety of hikes and you and your family can enjoy them. The programs offered below are sponsored by various recreation centers. Contact the name or recreation center below to receive more information and to reserve your spot for the hikes. We encourage you to reserve your spot early, as many of them are quite popular.

Adult/ Senior Hiking Programs:

COST: \$20.00

- June 9th, Tuesday- Pine Valley Ranch Loop Hike- Call Linda Dona 303.458.4898
- June 11- Thursday- Panorama Point-

Call Cisco at College View Rec Center. 303.937.4630

- June 18th- Thursday- Meadow Creek Salt Lick Loop- 4.5 miles- College View Rec Center. 303.937.4630
- June 23rd- Tuesday- Rocky Mountain Nat. Park Bierstadt Lake- C Donahoo. 303.458.4898
- June 25th- Thursday- Golden Gate Canyon- 3.5 miles- Call Cisco View Rec Center. 303.937.4630

## Spring into Health 2009

### Kevin Fitzgerald slated to be Keynote Speaker

Mark your calendar for the 15th Annual "Spring into Health" event on May 28, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.. For the first time, "Spring into Health" is being held at Denver Zoo, an 80-acre wonderland in Denver's historic City Park. Denver Zoo is home to nearly 4,000 animals representing 700 species.

Kevin Fitzgerald, DMV, PhD and renowned exotic animal veterinarian and comedian, will serve as the keynote speaker. Fitzgerald best known for his 10 seasons on the popular Animal Planet TV show E Vets, has a passion for making people laugh that is surpassed only by unwavering dedication to all creatures great and small.

New this year is the Resource Fair, designed to provide information and awareness of programs, agencies and assistance to adults and seniors. The fair will feature nonprofit organizations such as Denver Health, the Denver Commission on Aging, DRCOG, Denver Human Services, Volunteers of America and Active Minds for Life. Denver Health will provide free blood pressure screenings as well as care management information.

Spring into Health is a showcase of fitness and wellness programs, highlighting fitness options such as Tai'Chi, as well as the one-mile loop at Denver Zoo.

In addition to Fitzgerald's numerous appearances on Animal Planet, he has appeared on The NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, and The Today Show with Matt Lauer. As a comedian, Fitzgerald has opened for such diverse and talented performers as Bob Hope, Diana Ross, The Temptations, and The Neville Brothers.

A fee of \$5 includes admission, the keynote speaker, the resource fair, and a snack pack. Registration forms can be found at any DPR recreation center. For more information contact the Highland Recreation Center at 303-458-4288, 2880 Osceola Street. ###

## Critter Corner

by Ashley DeLaup



You may have not known there were wild turkeys in the city, but Denver Parks and Recreation has the proof. We have spotted multiple wild turkeys (Meleagris gallopavo) hanging out between Wash Park and Cheesman Park. Wild turkeys are more and more commonly seen in the city and are surprisingly agile flyers compared to their domestic counterparts.

surprising that these omnivorous animals have been lured in by the abundant resources in our city.

Turkeys are opportunistic eaters, enjoying acorns, nuts, trees, as well as berries, roots, insects and the occasional small animal. The backyard is can be a popular destination! Turkeys used to number in the millions in the United States before human settlement, and were drastically reduced in due to uncontrolled hunting and habitat loss. Turkeys have since been reintroduced and protected and are doing well throughout the country.

Turkeys are not common urban residents. Their preferred habitat includes areas next to streams, rivers or mesquite pine and scrub oak forests. Merriam subspecies, the most common Colorado turkey, can also be found in mountain regions.

Turkeys are typically not dangerous to people or pets, and although they are large (averaging 15-24 pounds), they'll avoid contact and usually fly at the sign of danger. Within the past 10 years, wild turkeys have begun to appear more often in suburban settings. Wild turkeys are normally very shy but males (called toms) do sometimes exhibit aggressive behavior towards humans, particularly during the breeding season, March through April. They may be aggressive towards shiny surfaces, such as windows or vehicles, mistaking their own reflection as an "intruder" that needs to be driven away.

To prevent any conflicts with our local gobblers:

**DON'T FEED TURKEYS** - Keep wild things wild! Feeding, whether direct or indirect, can cause turkeys to act tame and may lead to bold or aggressive behavior, especially in the breeding season.

**KEEP BIRD FEEDER AREAS CLEAN** - Use feeders designed to keep seed on the ground, as the seed attracts turkeys and other wild animals. Clean up spilled seed from other types of feeders daily. Remove feeders in the spring, as the weather warms and natural food is available for all birds.

**DON'T LET TURKEYS INTIMIDATE YOU** - Don't hesitate to scare or threaten a bold, aggressive turkey with loud noises, swatting with a broom or water from a hose.

**COVER WINDOWS OR OTHER REFLECTIVE OBJECTS** - If a turkey is pecking at a shiny object such as a vehicle or window, cover or otherwise disguise it. Will the turkeys stay in Denver? Only time will tell, but in the interim, enjoy seeing another amazing wild creature in our neighborhoods.

If you enjoy learning about local urban wildlife, or have questions about urban wildlife, please visit the wildlife section of the parks and recreation website. Go to [www.denvergov.org/NaturalAreas](http://www.denvergov.org/NaturalAreas) and click on the link "Wildlife in the city". New pages about different urban wildlife species are always being added, so check back often.

**Aqua Golf this summer!**

Sign your kids up for junior golf lessons at the newly renovated Aqua Golf for \$65. This is \$10 off the regular registration fee. Aqua Golf is the newly renovated driving range and miniature golf course on Florida Ave. Kids will love to hit golf balls into the lake while learning to play. Classes are every other Tuesday starting May 5 through June 2.

The First Tee offers three choices for spring programming:  
 Classes for children ages 4 - 6 begin at 3:00 p.m.  
 Beginners 7 and up at 4:30 p.m.  
 Girls only program starts at 6:00 p.m.

Participants may register on-line at [www.thefirstteeofdenver.com](http://www.thefirstteeofdenver.com) or call for information at 303-295-4082.

Also, check out the summer classes starting June 14 by [clicking here](#). (Classes are available at a course near you!

The First Tee of Denver is a non-profit organization that provides affordable access to golf programs and facilities while teaching youth fundamentals for a well rounded experience.

### Denver Golf receives two *Westword* Best of Denver Awards

Best Miniature Golf Course  
 Aqua Golf  
 501 W. Florida Ave. 720-865-0880  
 Readers' Choice: Boondocks



Aqua Golf fell into ruins in 1990, an abandoned driving range on a sad little pond at the Santa Fe Drive, where we used to pass as traffic roared by. The City of Denver stepped in and used a giant paintbrush to refurbish the area, installing two miniature golf courses, a driving range decked out with diminutive traps and water hazards, a refurbished driving range, fountains and a clubhouse opened to the public last

year. There's a series of whimsical mechanical sculptures dotting the pond. Created by Patrick Hollis, who was inspired by the area's industrial presence, the sculptures feature train wheels balanced on topsy-turvy water tower structures. Located at the city's Overland Golf Course complex, Aqua Golf is open most days, permitting, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; for various fee packages, you can practice drives or try both.

Best Lunchtime Practice Session  
 City Park Golf Course  
 2500 York St. 303-295-2096  
[www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org)

If you're going to survive either of our two best golf courses, you'll need what every weekend golfer despises: practice. And while there are plenty of driving ranges in the area, none is more convenient for downtown workers. City Park's small but functional practice areas - a matted range, plus club putting greens to hone your short game. And it's a mere five-minute drive downtown, so you can squeeze in a small bucket of balls, a putting partner, your cube-mate, three hot dogs and plenty of cursing of your wretched boss before the boss even knows you're gone. Just don't forget to take off your shoes before that 2:30 staff meeting.

### Spring Artisan Sale

#### Purchase or Sell your Crafts

Come join us for the 4th Annual Artisan Sale at Harvard Gulch. Many talented artists, potters and crafters will be on site to make a deal. There will be various crafts and pottery demonstrations on hand as well as a demonstration dog unit. Want to sell your crafts? Tables are just \$10, contact Linda 698-4995 to reserve your table today.

**Date:** Saturday, May 16

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Harvard Gulch Recreation Center, 550 E. Iliff Avenue

### National Get Outdoors Day

Come join Denver Parks and Recreation along with the US Forest Service and the American Recreation Association plus more than 80 community partners for National Get Outdoors Day on **Saturday, June 13 at Denver's City Park.**

Event is free to anyone who is interested in learning new ways to be active outdoors.



Exposing kids of all ages to different and unique ways they can find exciting entertainment outside doors will have a direct impact to helping keep them active and physically fit. And, of equal importance for the state's environment, it will renew their love for the great outdoors. So, a coalition of public land management agencies, outdoor recreation and education groups are bringing a taste of adventure excitement to downtown Denver.

The action-packed day features:

- A Climbing Wall
- Mountain Biking
- Canoeing and Kayaking
- Skiing in the Park
- Sustainable Living Village
- Meet Smokey Bear
- 5K walk
- Learn to read a map and compass
- The President's Physical Fitness Challenge

Plus music, food, prizes and fun!

For more information go visit the National Get Outdoors Day website at [www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org](http://www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org)

### **Rude Recreation Center's Gift**

#### **Sports Authority gives back to the community**

Sports Authority recently donated over \$8,500 worth of recreational supplies to Rude Recreation center. Supplies included football, soccer and aquatic equipment as well as games for Rude's Primetime program. Ken Sherbenou, Rude recreation center supervisor, is extremely grateful for his coordinator Anthony Terry for working diligently to build community relations to help enhance youth programming. Way to go Anthony!



To learn more about programs currently being offered at Rude recreation go to [www.denvergov.org/recreation](http://www.denvergov.org/recreation)

### **2009 Movies in the Parks Announced**

Free Family Fun under the Stars  
Denver Parks and Recreation announces its  
2009 Movies in the Parks Series



DENVER, CO - April 21, 2009 - Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic goodies for a fun-filled night watching a movie in c Denver's beautiful urban parks. The Denver Parks and Recreation depa hosting its fourth season of Movies in the Parks. There are ten family-i

movies scheduled all summer long to encourage people to get out, enjoy parks and the beautiful summer weather in Colorado.

With inflatable screens over 24 ft wide, coupled with a high quality sound systems, the movie viewing experience is one-of-a-kind. Each movie with free popcorn, snow cones and cotton candy. Other concessions will also be available for purchase.

Sponsors of the 2009 Movies in the Park are Denver Community Credit Downtown Denver Business Improvement District and Denver Botanic

- Saturday, June 13 Skyline Park Babe, G
- Friday, June 19 Cheesman Park The Princess Bride, PG
- Saturday, June 27 Skyline Park E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, PG
- Saturday, July 11 Skyline Park Spiderman, PG-13
- Friday, July 17 Fred Thomas Park Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa, F
- Saturday, July 18 Skyline Park Iron Giant, PG
- Friday, July 31 Barnum Kung Fu Panda, PG
- Saturday, August 1 Skyline Park Willie Wonka and the Chocolate
- Friday, August 7 Cheesman Park Jurassic Park, PG-13
- Saturday, August 8 Skyline Park The Wizard of Oz, G

For a complete list of park addresses or more information, visit [www.denvergov.org/parksandrec](http://www.denvergov.org/parksandrec)

### Basketball team takes second place

by Rec Center parent Lynn Holland

The athletes had trained long and hard for this day at Denver's Gold Crown Field House. The excitement was palpable as they greeted each other with high-fives and began to warm up at the baskets. Some twenty teams from different age groups had arrived from around the city all hoping to win a championship.



Once the games began, one might almost have forgotten that each athlete struggled with a special. Many moved quickly about the court, eyeing teammates for a critical p

moving the ball with surprising ease. Others compensated for physical by being in the right place at the right time and never losing track of the

Within a few minutes, the first game for the Denver young adult team become a blur. Twenty-year-old Jenny McConville waged an energetic while nineteen-year-old Brit Engblom kept up a tireless effort at scoring

Despite a pace that would have sidelined most of us in the stands, the stayed cool. As time ran out, the score was tied and the game moved into overtime. By now the fans were on their feet with frenzied shouts of encouragement -- along with sputtered remarks about the competence of the refs.

In the end, the Denver team won by a single point and went on to place the state. There are many who contribute to the success of the Special games and tournaments.

In addition to the athletes themselves, there are program directors, coaches, and a group of youth who "partner" with the athletes. These partners avoid playing aggressively on the court and instead help team members with skills and provide specific kinds of assistance to those who need it. They might assist a player in a wheelchair, for instance, or guide a player into position to receive the ball.

Seventeen-year-old partner, Luke Buchanan, has been playing with the adult team for four years. He began when his older sister was on the team and continued after she had left for college.

For Luke, also a lacrosse player at East High School, the Special Olympics are as exciting as any. He also enjoys the extra dose of appreciation he gets from the athletes. Over the years, the team and their partners have formed friendships, sharing in victory and defeat and ever looking forward to the next challenge together.

### **Recreation Center Closures**

The following recreation centers will be closed for routine maintenance

#### **Ashland Recreation Center**

Wednesday, May 20

#### **Twentieth Street Gym**

Saturday, May 9

### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

#### **City & County of Denver**

#### **Department of Parks and Recreation**

#### **Public Notification on**

#### **Renaming of Major Facilities because of a Major Gift**

Notice is hereby given that the Denver Department of Parks and Recreation

considering (re) naming several fields at Valverde and Parkfield Parks in honor of a major gift from the Police Activities League (PAL) as per the department policy on renaming of facilities for a major gift. A summary of the request follows:

Naming one of four soccer fields at Valverde Park the Don Young Field, to recognize Officer Donald Young who was killed in the line of duty. Naming the basketball court at Parkfield the Chauncey Billups Court in honor of his significant contributions to youth in metro Denver.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will make a recommendation on **May 14, 2009** between **6 pm** and **7 pm** at the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, held at **Bogey's** at City Park Golf Course located at **2500 York Street**.

### Daily Park Master Plan

Denver Parks and Recreation needs your help to determine the future of the Daily Park. Bring your best ideas to the table to help us create a park for your neighborhood. This meeting will be held **Tuesday, May 12, 2009** from **7:00pm - 8:30pm** at the **First Ave. Presbyterian Church**, located at **West 1st Avenue**, Denver, CO. For more information please e-mail Jennifer Kovarik at [jennifer.kovarik@denvergov.org](mailto:jennifer.kovarik@denvergov.org).

### Sloan's Lake Park Pump House and Marina Improvements

The public is invited to attend the second meeting to present and provide input on the preferred concept plan. This meeting will be held **Tuesday, May 12, 2009** from **6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** at the **Scheitler Recreation Center** at **5031 W. 46th Avenue**. For more information, please email Jeru Parikh at [jeru.parikh@denvergov.org](mailto:jeru.parikh@denvergov.org).

## May Park Events

Date (s)	Park	Time	Event	Attendees	Sponsor
5/2/09	Garland	8am-4pm	Mow Down Pollution	300	Environmental Health
5/3/09	Stapleton Central	6am-11am	Trophy Series	100	Rocky Mtn Road Runners
5/3/09	George Wallace	9am-4pm	Denver Rubber Duck Drop	30	DPS/Denver Foundation
5/3/09	Bible	9am-12pm	Walk for Memorial	150	St. Annes's Episcopal Sch
5/9/09	Stapleton Central	5am-2pm	Parent Pathways 5k Run/Walk	500	Parent Pathways
5/9/09	Pferdestellar	2pm-9pm	Cornhole for Kids	90	Urban Skye
5/9/09	Eisenhower	12pm-6pm	Storytelling Workshop	100	Experience Inc
5/10/09	Martin Luther King	8am-10am	Mother's Day Solidarity Rally	100	Denver NAACP Youth Co
May 15-17	Harvard Gulch	8am-3pm	Plant-a-Palooza Plant Sale	300	CSU Extension
5/17/09	Bible	5am-12pm		120	Lancer Running Club
May 27-30	gates Crescent	5am-11pm	36th Birthday Bash	550	The Childrens Museum of

					Denver
5/31/2009	Bible	7am-11am	Trophy Series	100	Rocky Mtn Road Runners
5/31/2009	Sunken Gardens	8am-2pm	Mass Celebration	350	St. Joseph's Church

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