

# The Montclarion

Founded 1907 Denver, CO  
 4th Quarter 2014 www.HistoricMontclair.org info@HistoricMontclair.org

## Santa Claus is Coming to Historic Montclair... Santa Claus is Coming to the Molkery

### *Treats with Santa*

**Saturday, December 13th from 10 a.m. to Noon**

at

*The Molkery (aka Montclair Civic Building);*

*6820 East 12th Avenue (between Newport and Oneida Streets)*



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This is a chance for the kids to talk with Santa in a friendly, low stress environment. They can make Christmas crafts and enjoy some treats. The kids who want to visit with Santa can read him their lists.

An adult must accompany all children.

\*\*\*\*\*

**TREATS:** Delectable breakfast treats, juices, and coffee/tea for the parents.

**CRAFTS:** We provide the glue, glitter, construction paper, pipe cleaners, pinecones, etc. so the kids can create gifts, cards or Christmas ornaments.

**GIFTS:** EVERY, repeat, EVERY child in attendance must arrive with a wrapped present, value at \$7 maximum, suitable for either a boy or girl. This provides assurance that each child lining up to talk to Santa will receive a gift.

**COST:** Free, except for the cost of the wrapped gift.

**LONG WAIT ON LINE?** Not anymore. Each child should take a number when they arrive to indicate their place in line.

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES:** Unlimited. Bring your own camera.

**NO REINDEER:** Unfortunately, Montclair Park is not zoned for reindeer parking. Donner, Blitzen, Rudolph and the remainder of Santa's hardworking reindeer will be grazing up in Evergreen during the party. Santa is scheduled to arrive promptly at 10:30 a.m.

*Volunteers, we NEED volunteers! This is a wonderful and popular neighborhood event. But we need help. Several moms, who have helped in the past, have moved out of the neighborhood. We need help setting up, crafts set up, cleaning up and monitoring the small ones. Contact Carrie O'Shea at caroshea@msn.com.*

## 770 Olive St. Development Meeting Recap

by Carrie O'Shea

On November 6 approximately 60 Montclair residents attended a meeting at the Molkery concerning development plans at 770 Olive St. in Montclair's Landmark District. Owner Larry Behrendt, of Red Corp USA purchased the property in May 2013 from John Martin, who had owned the home for nearly 40 years. The 1917 Jacques Benedict-designed mansion (known as the Wilfley Mansion, named for longtime owner Elmer Wilfley,) has been undergoing extensive renovations for the past several months. Mr. Behrendt expressed his desire to build two additional homes on the site, one on the north end along 8th Ave. and one on the south side, which has served as the mansion's backyard and gardens. The property was divided from 1 lot to 3 lots last year.


Meeting attendees viewed architect's drawings of the proposed homes and listened to a presentation by Mr. Behrendt and his consultant, Peter Wall of CRL Associates. Neighbors expressed disapproval of the proposed homes due the large size, suburban-looking architectural style, and questioned the need for infill at all. The distinct home, carriage house, and spacious lot hold great significance in Montclair and have been admired by residents for nearly 100 years. Among concerns expressed was the worry that two large homes would diminish the beauty and visibility of the estate and forever alter one of Montclair's most prominent properties, leaving it with little green space. Neighbors were also very vocal about the need to preserve the character of Montclair in this era of "McMansions" replacing older homes throughout east Denver.

Mr. Behrendt explained that he hopes to sell the property intact, without building the homes. He stated that if efforts to sell are unsuccessful then he will construct the homes; at this point it is too soon to tell. It depends on the buyer and if such buyer wants the entire estate (all 3 lots) or only the mansion and carriage house. Therefore he could not give a definitive answer as to the future of the property other than he aims to have it on the market by January.

In a subsequent meeting with HMCAI representatives Mr. Behrendt indicated he would consider reducing the sizes of the homes from 4010 and 3200 sq. ft. to 3200 sq. ft. (not including the 2-car garages or basements) but would not commit to it.


Because the property sits within a designated Denver Landmark District (although not a landmark itself) any new construction as well as exterior alterations to the mansion must first be approved by Denver's Landmark Preservation Commission. When approving or denying such projects, LPC factors neighborhood association comments into their decision. Often neighborhood input results in applicants having to revise their plans. Applicants must have two meetins with LPC, the first for mass and scale of the structure(s) and the second for design. The mass and scale hearing of the infill homes at 770 Olive is scheduled for 1 p.m. December 2 at the Wellington Webb Building, 201 W. Colfax Ave., room 4.F.6 and is open to the public. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker. It is very important that Montclair residents attend and voice their concerns to the LPC Board.

For more information contact HMCAI Board member Jim LeDuc at [nstrying@gmail.com](mailto:nstrying@gmail.com).



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*Denver's Rich History  
begins at Home*

# HMCAI GENERAL MEETING notes ...

October 15, 2014

Carrie O'Shea President elect opened

Featured speakers were Mike Major, from Denver 311 Operations, Officer Reyes Trujillo of DPD District 2, and Councilperson Mary Beth Susman, District 5.

Councilperson Susman spoke on the fact that some Federal funds have been located to enlarge the right of way and bike lanes for Quebec St. to help relieve congestion. The development at 9th and Colorado will feature retail and residential, including affordable housing. Retail tenants have not been announced. Affordable housing will be added. Demolition of the CU Medical Center campus has begun and is expected to last a year.

At the BUCKLEY ANNEX at 1st & Quebec, 120 homes are to be built at the site. Two story homes on the perimeter, five stories homes inside. Bike lanes will slow the traffic and add to the neighborhood feel.

Officer Trujillo informed us that in District 2 at any given time we have 12 officers on duty, plus swat and drug units. 2 CAB Meeting (Citizen's Advisory Board) is every last Thursday of the Month – Informative meeting at 6pm at 3921 Holly, open to the public.

He encouraged everyone to use the NON-EMERGENCY #720-913-2000 to report anything suspicious in the neighborhood, no matter how insignificant it may seem. The general police department number 720-913-1000 He also promoted the use of Nextdoor.com- to alert neighbors to crime and share information. Sign up at [historicmontclair.nextdoor.com](http://historicmontclair.nextdoor.com).

The Denver Police Academy throws a Halloween party on Halloween night every year at Stapleton for kids of all ages featuring a haunted house and treats.

Officer Trujillo stated that there are more Marijuana shops in Denver than Starbucks shops.

Mike Major of 311 Operations spoke on the benefits of 311 taking away pressure off 911. 311 is for all non emergency needs for residents for anything ranging from reporting graffiti, noise complaints, weedy yards, animal cruelty, park permits, just to name a few. Call 311 or go to [www.denvergov.org/311helpcenter](http://www.denvergov.org/311helpcenter).

There is also a new 311 mobile app for phones.

The meeting ended with Dave McCord announcing the new slate of HMCAI officers and board members for 2014-15.



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## Seasonal Recipes

### Quick Cheese Straws

1-2 lbs. shredded cheddar, Swiss or grated parmesan cheese in any combination  
1 package puff pastry dough

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sprinkle cheese on work surface. Place a sheet of cold thawed puff pastry on top of the cheese. Roll dough over cheese into a square approximately one quarter larger than the original size. The cheese will be incorporated into the dough while rolling. Press remaining cheese into top of dough. Cut pastry in half and then cut the halves into one half inch wide strips. Place on greased baking sheet. Bake in oven for approximately 10 minutes or until slightly brown. Make about 2 dozen. These are great for holiday treats or can be packaged for gifts.

### Boston Brown Bread

This is a bit different procedure from the normal quick bread recipe but its great served with baked beans or bean soup.

Collect four one-pound, tin vegetable cans with one end still on, clean thoroughly and dry. Then grease and flour the cans. Have on hand a deep kettle, large enough for all the cans, with a fitted lid.

Mix together 1 cup each of whole wheat flour, all-purpose flour and corn meal. (You can substitute some ground flax seed meal, wheat germ and bran for some of the all-purpose flour if desired for a more nutritious mix.) Add in 1 teaspoon each of salt, baking soda and baking powder. Thoroughly mix in three-quarters cup molasses, 2 cups buttermilk or plain yogurt and 1 cup seedless raisins. Divide the batter between the four greased and flour vegetable cans. Cover tightly with aluminum foil. Place on a rack (an upside down pie pan may work if you don't have a rack) in the kettle and pour in enough boiling water to come up to one inch around the bottom of the cans. Cover kettle and steam over low setting on stove for three hours. Be sure to check the water level and add more as needed. After three hours, remove aluminum foil and bake in 450 degree oven for 5 minutes. Remove bread from cans and cool. You may cut out the other end of the can and push the bread out if you have trouble removing the bread from the can by just tipping it out.

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## George Washington High School

School Choice season is right around the corner, and Denver families with eighth graders should check out George Washington High School. Located at South Monaco and Exposition, GW offers a comprehensive education program with academic pathways and opportunities for every student.

From 9th grade until graduation, students will work closely with a dedicated counselor to map a pathway that leads to success. GW students will be able to choose from a wide-range of courses in our traditional college preparatory track, the Honors/Pre-Baccalaureate program, Concurrent Enrollment classes, hands-on Career and Technical Education courses, and our College Board certified Advanced Placement classes. Eligible students who are interested in applying to our nationally recognized International Baccalaureate program for their junior and senior years will be guided in selecting the appropriate preparatory coursework for their freshmen and sophomore years.

In every classroom at GW, you will find passionate and dedicated instructors. Experts in their fields, our teachers are committed to sharing their knowledge and working individually with students to encourage academic and personal growth. In addition to our teaching staff, our student support team is rounded out with a team of academic counselors and college advisors. Every student who attends George Washington High School will receive one-on-one guidance to make their college and career goals a reality.

Our offerings don't stop after the final bell! GW sponsors a variety of sports and activities for our students. Every season you can find students in the field or on the court learning teamwork and dedication while developing as premiere student athletes. Our clubs and activities cover a wide range of student interests and contribute to the growth of a well- rounded student.

We'd love to tell you more about GW - please join us at one of our upcoming Info Nights on either December 3, 2014 or January 14, 2015. We hope to see you there!

## Paddington Station

Did you know that Paddington Station Preschool, on the corner of 13th and Quebec, supports the mission of Little Free Library.org in promoting literacy and love of reading? Come on by and visit our Little Free Library to 'take a book or return a book'. While here, you might notice that our Little Free Library is a replica of our historic building, which was built in 1891 and designated a Historic Landmark in 2007 by the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission. [www.paddingtonstation.org](http://www.paddingtonstation.org)



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# Montclair School of Academics & Enrichment Update

*By: Kate Douglas Kestyn – Montclair Parent and Neighbor*

Well, winter has finally arrived at Montclair - we had our first “inside day” today, when the kids don’t go out on the playground for recess or before school. I know my children think it’s a fine novelty to get to stay inside. However, I don’t know if the teachers and staff would share the same enthusiasm!

As many know, we have a new Principal this year - Ryan Kockler. I asked him to convey some of his thoughts on the school.

“I’d like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the 2014-15 Principal of the Montclair School of Academics & Enrichment. I am excited to be a part of this community and would like to tell you more about our school.

One recent major change is we are now offering Transitional Native Language Instruction (TNLI) for Spanish Speaking Students for the 2015-2016 School Year in all grade levels (ECE-5th). Our Montclair ELA teaching staff provides support to our many English Languish Learners. We also have language tutors on staff to support students who speak Arabic, Oromo, and Amharic. Equity is a high priority at Montclair!

At Montclair School of Academics & Enrichment we put emphasis on academic success through enriching experiences. In an effort to enhance the classroom curriculum, we have established a program of school-wide enrichment (based on the Renzulli Model) that allows us to provide all students with opportunities that bring learning to life. A wide variety of enrichment activities including guest speakers, field trips, hands-on simulations, school-wide assemblies, and independent studies are fundamental components of our instructional program. Additionally, Enrichment Explorations, Food for Thought Lunches and Independent Projects are an integral part of the school program. For working families, we offer before and after school care through the YMCA every day starting at 6:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. We also have other exciting opportunities after school like our basketball team, Guys Read, Sticky Fingers Cooking Class, Ballet class, Legos Experience, and Yoga for kids!

There is a school tour on December 11th from 1:30-2:30 pm for anyone interested in attending Montclair. School of Choice Enrollment starts on December 15th. Please stop by the school or fill out your School Choice forms online after 12/15/2014.”

## **Montclair is Participating in Colorado Gives Day!**

I am excited to announce that Montclair is participating in Colorado Gives Day on December 9th. It is a statewide philanthropy and online giving site. We will be hosting an open house and community event after school from 3:30 until 7:00 pm. – there will be a silent auction with special items developed by the teachers, buy-a-share events (think progressive dinners, shopping trips, cooking demonstrations, etc.), along with a bake sale, and some other fun surprises. Montclair’s PEAK has already committed \$20,000 to provide enrichment opportunities to every child in the school. So every dollar helps. We would love to see a large neighborhood turnout – please stop by! And if you are not able to attend, but would still like to support the school, you can make a donation at the following:

<https://www.coloradogives.org/index.php?section=organizations&action=newDonation&fwID=36902>

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## St. James School Update

by Eileen Michalczyk, Assistant Principal

It is an exciting time of year at St. James Catholic School! Students and their families celebrated Oktoberfest on a beautiful Friday afternoon on the playground, with plenty of food, games, and a dj. On Oct. 31st we celebrated the saints with an All Saints Day parade and cookie decorating. Our students had to study the lives of the saints and choose one saint to dress as for our parade. We remembered that we are all called to be saints!

We are also starting our basketball season, which is our largest sports season of the year! We have seven basketball teams with boys and girls ranging in age from 7-14 years. Our teams will compete in 8-12 games for the season. We follow the Play Like a Champion program developed at the University of Notre Dame. This program helps us remember that even in competition we are all God's children and we need to compete with that in mind.

We have other extracurricular groups that are hard at work as well. We have two Destination Imagination teams who will compete in March using their creativity and problem solving skills. Our Academic Decathlon team is hard at work preparing for their March competition in ten academic events. Students are also preparing for the spelling bees which will take place in January and February. Finally, our Liturgical Choir and our band are practicing for Christmas performances.

We had a Thanksgiving food drive in November to support needy families and to remind us of our Christian mission to love all of God's people through giving and support. As we enter the Advent season four weeks before Christmas we will focus on service projects that show love and support to those who need it the most. Some classes will be visiting nursing homes and delivering homemade cards to the residents. Others will be making sack lunches for the homeless. Our youngest students make cards to send to the homebound and to our armed forces. We remember that God has blessed each of us abundantly, and we are called to bless others in our abundance.

We will culminate the Christmas season with our beautiful Christmas concert before we leave on break. Our concert will focus on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! All season we work on preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas, and our concert brings to the forefront that the true reason for celebration is the gift of Jesus!



If you do find yourself in need of moving, contact Denver Boulder Real Estate, your neighborhood real estate experts. We are conveniently located on 8th Avenue, just east of Trader Joe's at Birch St., stop by any time!

Or call Deb Goetz, Realtor®, Broker/Owner at 720-628-9502, she would be happy to meet and discuss your real estate needs. *Mention this ad, and we'll honor a Baron discount -- 1.902% listing side commission! The year Montclair was annexed to Denver!*



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## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**December 9, 2014** is the fifth annual **Colorado Gives Day!** It's a single day dedicated to the celebration of philanthropy and charitable giving. Check out the website, [ColoradoGives.org](http://ColoradoGives.org).

The **blocked cross streets** at 9th & Monaco and 10th & Monaco are becoming increasingly frustrating. I contacted Public Works and was told that they have received a couple of inquiries and complaints about the blockades. They confirmed that it is an Xcel project involving lighting upgrades in the area and underground power lines. The work is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, weather permitting. If I receive further updates I'll notify our neighbors through email.

**Copper Door Coffee Roasters** (932 Jersey St.) has opened its doors, to the delight of many neighbors! By offering exceptionally-sourced coffee that is fresh roasted using locally produced wind power, owner Hannah Ulbrich serves up a tasty cup with community consciousness.

A group of Stapleton residents are the force behind the developing **Northeast Community Co-op Market**. They are growing quickly and still seeking members. To learn more or to sign up, find them on Facebook or [www.northeastco-op.org](http://www.northeastco-op.org)

**Mad Science of Colorado** is holding science camps during the holiday breaks at Colorado Free University in Lowry. The Dates are Dec. 22-23, Dec. 29-31, and Jan. 5. Get info & register at [colorado.madscience.org](http://colorado.madscience.org).

There are a handful of informative and fun online resources for Montclair and surrounding communities. Consider signing up for neighborhood news, information and camaraderie on:

our **website**: [historicmontclair.org](http://historicmontclair.org)

**Facebook**: Historic Montclair Community

**Nextdoor.com**: Historic Montclair

**Neighborhood history lesson!** Montclair once had its own weekly newspaper called The Montclair Mirror. It was published from 1888, soon after Montclair's incorporation, until 1904.

Now that we've seen snow, just a reminder of our responsibilities as home and business owners (source: [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)):

**Homeowners:** Once snow has stopped falling, residences have twenty-four (24) hours to remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property.

**Businesses:** Once snow has stopped falling, businesses have four (4) hours to remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property.

**Report A Problem:** Please contact Denver 3-1-1 to provide the address of unshoveled sidewalks.

Contact Officer Reyes Trujillo of the Denver Police Department if you'd like to schedule a **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design** assessment of your home or property. You can reach Officer Reyes at (720) 913-1094 or [Reyes.Trujillo@denvergov.org](mailto:Reyes.Trujillo@denvergov.org)

I'm aware that the info in the last newsletter about finding the group **Montclair Moms** on Facebook was entirely unhelpful. Apparently since the group is private it cannot be found in a search, and one must be invited to join. If you are a parent of young children and you live within the Montclair boundaries, email Jamie at [jwdebrosse@hotmail.com](mailto:jwdebrosse@hotmail.com), and I'll send the invitation via Facebook. I apologize for the confusion! Please join us for a standing play date on the second Wednesday of each month at Montclair Park at 10:00 AM, weather permitting.

You can receive email reminders about **trash, recycling and street sweeping days**. Visit [www.denvergov.org/LivingInDenver](http://www.denvergov.org/LivingInDenver) to sign up.

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEIGHBORHOOD INFO AND IMPORTANT DATES TO  
[MONTCLAIRHAPPENINGS@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MONTCLAIRHAPPENINGS@HOTMAIL.COM)



# HAPPENINGS

## RIP, BARLEY

The **Kestyn family** (935 Oneida) is sad to report the death of their dear Golden Retriever, Barley. Affectionately nicknamed our “Neighborhood Ambassador” Barley brought much delight to many neighbors on their daily walks from her place in the front yard. The family greatly appreciates the out-pouring of love they’ve received from so many who knew her.



## CLOSE TO HOME

A treat for your taste buds! Chef Giancarlo Macchiarella, who also owns Locanda del Borgo, **recently opened Cafe Mercato** in Lowry (7561 E. Academy Blvd.). Featuring shareable dishes and an expansive wine “library”, Cafe Mercato is open for dinner every night, and for lunch on Fri-Sun.

The new **Park Hill Hub Café** (Ivanhoe at Colfax), is featuring the work of local artists. A Grand Opening celebration for the debut of each new artist will take place on a Friday or Saturday night. As of the deadline date for the newsletter, the first such event was to be on Saturday, Nov. 22 and introduce the work of artist Annie Aqua. Call 303.333.1908 for more information.

The **Lowry Home for the Holidays Festival** will be on Saturday, December 20th from 3-6 pm in the Lowry Town Center. The festive event features live music, horse & carriage rides, mini-train, children’s activities, a gingerbread house contest, and Santa.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please confirm dates, details and restrictions.

### DECEMBER 2014

- 4: Colorado Micro Market
- 4-6: Colorado State Thespian Conference
- 5: 2014 Holiday Mancraft
- 6: White Christmas Ball at Wings Over the Rockies
- 5-6: 9 News Parade of Lights, downtown Denver
- 12: Father Christmas Tour at Molly Brown House
- 13: Paws & Claus at Larimer Square
- 13: Christy Wessler’s Holiday Sing-Along at Swallow Hill Music
- 13: Treats With Santa at the Molkery, sponsored by HMCAL. 10:00am-noon**
- 13: Denver Beer Festivus
- 14: A Colorado Christmas at Four Mile Historic Park
- 31: New Years Eve at Butterfly Pavilion
- 31: New Years Eve Fireworks at 16th Street Mall

### JANUARY 2015

- 1: Last night for Blossoms of Light at Denver Botanic Gardens
- 4: Last night for Zoo Lights at Denver Zoo
- 7-10: CO RV Adventure Travel Show
- 8: National Western Stock Show Kick-off Parade
- 10: Cameron Carpenter in Concert, CO Symphony
- 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in City Park
- 10-25: National Western Stock Show & Rodeo
- 15-18: Denver Int’l Sportsmen’s Exposition
- 19-20: Super Dogs
- 23-25: Denver Winter Brew Fest
- 23-25: CO Indian Market & Southwest Showcase
- 30-31: Cirque Musica

### FEBRUARY 2015

- 2-15: Alpine World Ski Championships
- 3: Dancing With The Stars Live! Tour
- 5: 1968 Exhibit Premiere Party, History Colorado Center
- 6-7: Danny Elfman’s Music From the Films of Tim Burton
- 7-15: Colorado Garden & Home Show
- 18: Rufus Wainwright with the Colorado Symphony
- 20: Ballet Masterworks opening night, Colorado Ballet
- 22: 2015 Anthem Fight For Air Climb
- 22: Special Olympics Colorado, Copper Mountain
- 28: Special Olympics Polar Plunge at City Park
- 30-31: Cirque Musica

## Reconnecting with Old Favorites A Restaurant Review of Shells and Sauce 2600 E. 12th Ave.

*By Judy Baxter*

There is so much happening in the Denver restaurant scene these days—a great sign of the health of a city’s economy don’t you think? There are new and renovated concepts such as a “Speakeasy” —just try to get into **Williams and Graham** in the Highlands which boasts a renowned “mixologist”. And there are new neighborhood spots that have taken hold—have you tried **Table Top** that was reviewed in the last newsletter? It is a regular stop for me these days.

Perhaps an even better sign of the times is when restaurants survive the tough times and are able to maintain their identity, quality and attraction with so much new competition popping up all around them. So this is a review of an old favorite that is close-by, though outside the Montclair hood—**Shells and Sauce** located at 12th & Elizabeth in Congress Park in a converted garage. S&S has been there serving up solidly authentic Italian food for years with a cozy neighborhood but hip feel, a fun loving wait staff, family friendly attitude and an all-round great vibe. They have a terrific children’s menu that includes a beverage and ice cream for \$4-6. The menu has classics in every category as well as some updated additions. The Appetizers qualify as small plates that you can share or order 2 and call it dinner range in price from \$8-12. We had the Crispy Brussels Sprouts that were great and served 4 of us. The Salads are sized well (\$7-11) and big enough to split, at least that’s what we did with the lightly dressed Granny Smith Apple & Brie. The menu includes classic Pizza/Flatbread and Pasta creations. It was a cold night and we enjoyed the Shrimp Diavolo and the Stuffed Shells Duo (Sweet Potato, Butternut Squash, Goat cheese shells paired with 6 cheese stuffed shells). Pasta prices range from \$15-19 and the portion size is easily split, which they graciously do in the kitchen. Let’s just say we didn’t leave anything to take home. The entrees are in the same price range and include plenty of options that can be done vegetarian. The side menu of green vegetables, potatoes, and sausage & peppers reminded me of all the great side dishes found in restaurants all over Italy. Since this was a birthday dinner celebration we all shared the White Chocolate Bread Pudding. *Delizioso!*

The winter finds you confined to the main dining room which is cozy and includes the bar. In the summer there is great patio space including a roof top patio makes for great al fresco dining. Shells and Sauce is also known for their brunch—so they are open at 10 am on Saturday and Sunday. My words of dining advice—going back to an old favorite is like picking up with a good friend right where you left off at least that is what I found at Shells and Sauce.

*If you have a restaurant you would like the Montclarion to review let us know at [info@historicmontclair.org](mailto:info@historicmontclair.org).*


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## Halloween Party

This year's HMCAI Halloween Party held on October 26 at the Molkery was the best attended yet! Over 50 costumed children arrived, with parents and grandparents in tow. We actually ran out of goodie bags! Crafts were made, treats were eaten, and a piñata was broken. See you all next year!

## Cocktail Party

The annual HMCAI cocktail party took place on Sept. 19 with plenty of food and drink and a special gift presented to outgoing HMCAI President Nancy Mucker. Please plan to attend next year. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and enjoy the evening air on the Molkery porch!





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*\* If you would like to contact the Board, please email [info@historicmontclair.org](mailto:info@historicmontclair.org) or Carrie O'Shea at [caroshea@msn.com](mailto:caroshea@msn.com).*

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## Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman Update

Over the past several months I have led a task force for city council charged with investigating the sharing economy and collaborative consumption. The sharing economy is a broad term to describe this parallel universe where “owning” has been replaced with “accessing.” It’s an earthquake in how we think about possessions and it is making governments, unions, and watchdog agencies wonder what to do about it or whether to do anything about it at all.

You might be familiar with Uber or Lyft, the ride-share companies where you can order a car and driver through a smartphone app. You may have heard of home-share companies like AirBnB that allows “hosts” to rent out a couch, room or their entire house much like a bed and breakfast would. Not only can you access your vacay home from next door (or your pet’s at dogvacay.com), you can share use of a Persian rug for your living room (neighborgoods.net) or borrow that Hermes bag for your special night (snaggoods.com), share fine art (artsicle.com), or have breakfast with a neighbor in their home (eatwith.com.) Your neighbor can change the oil in your car or tune your bike in her garage with an invented currency called Denver Dough (denverhaho.org.)

At present, the task force is taking a deep dive into the world of home-sharing and short-term rentals. It is a violation of code to rent all or part of one’s house for less than thirty days in residential zone districts but difficult to enforce. We are striving to understand how short-term rentals affect residential neighborhoods and for now the task force is taking its time to discuss and fully understand the issues surrounding home-sharing before considering next steps. Questions on zoning, licensing and permitting, public safety, and taxation must be considered as well. My monthly task force meetings are the fourth Monday of each month from 3-5 pm in room 391 of the City and County Building at 1437 Bannock St. All are encouraged to attend.

I host office hours the first three Thursday’s a month from 10 am to 12 pm. Locations and more details can be found on my website. I am also willing to meet with any constituent in the district on any issue anytime. Please feel free to contact my office to set up an appointment at 720-337-5555 or by emailing [councildistrict5@denvergov.org](mailto:councildistrict5@denvergov.org).

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## 2014-15 Winter In and Out of the Garden

We have had a long and mostly warm fall. But with winter coming, our gardens have gone dormant and most of us think this is a time to rest. However, winter is an ideal time to plan our gardens, to research possible new plants to add, consider rearranging our yards and moving or removing plants that no longer fit their spaces. Many plants can be transplanted, while dormant, if the soil not frozen. If the ground is frozen you will need to wait until the soil can be dug. With rare exception, transplanting of trees and shrubs must take place while they are dormant, before their buds break open. Early spring will be the time to proceed with plans that have been made over the winter. If the weather is decent winter is also an ideal time to prune shrubs and trees. Some recent information from Colorado State University indicates that it is better not to cut back perennial foliage in the fall and winter. Since we often have dry winters with little snow cover, the cover of dry foliage on perennials will help protect them from the drying soil conditions. I have long advocated not cleaning up leaves in the planting beds. It is fine to clean up leaves on lawns and other open areas but leaving leaves in your garden beds helps preserve moisture, aids in prevention frost heaves and adds to the soil tilth over the winter. The remaining leaves are wonderful in the compost pile layered with kitchen refuse, lawn clippings and the like. I usually keep a couple of barrels full of leaves available to add to my compost over the winter. If the soil outside can still be worked you can plant a late winter crop of lettuce and have a head start in the spring.

Several basic tasks to remember:

- Remove vegetable debris from the vegetable garden to prevent overwintering of insects and diseases.
- Mulch your plants and bare garden spaces to protect against our common freeze - thaw conditions and to add to soil health. Leaves work fine but other light weight wood mulch can also be used.
- Water deeply when there is no snow cover, it has been dry, and the temperature is above 40 degrees. This is particularly important for new plantings.
- Shake heavy snow off trees and shrubs to prevent damage. If the weather is decent and dry, one can also prune trees and shrubs as needed.
- Continue to add leaves and kitchen debris to your compost pile, it will all break down eventually even if the pile is frozen.
- Clean, hone and oil your garden tools so they are ready for the next season's use.

As I have mentioned several times before, you can certainly participate in indoor gardening during the winter. Plant seeds in pots and use a sunny window sill or grow lights. Later in the season start seeds for spring use. Try forcing bulbs for potential gifts or just for the joy of having them in your home. Get advice on the types to try from the internet, library or local garden supply.

*Gail Barry is a landscape architect with Land Mark Design, enthusiastic gardener and cook.*

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## MILESTONES

Our condolences to the family of longtime Montclarion Dan Oredson, who died in October at age 99. He and his late wife Virginia were among our most active and dependable association members back in the 80s and 90s. Dan, a World War II Air Force veteran, was on our board for more than ten years. He and his wife co-hosted board meetings in their home in 1986-'87, the year Virginia was our president, and on later occasions while the Molkery was boarded up, awaiting renovation.

Dan was famous for his fight to close the notorious Huddle Inn. The bar on the southwest corner of Colfax and Pontiac frequently accommodated armed patrons who settled disputes out back with knives and guns. Dan gathered anti-inn signatures, rounded up bodies to storm city hall and sold HMCAI memberships to impress the zoning and liquor authorities downtown with the clout of one neighborhood association. We topped out at more than 400 members that year, our highest ever for our current membership area.

Dan was also active in the fight to keep previous owners from turning Richthofen castle into a bed and breakfast and he volunteered every October to deliver our newsletter door to door. Back then we printed six newsletters a year. Five were mailed to our 200+ dues-paying members; the sixth was delivered by a grand group of 30 adult members, plus their children, dogs and little red wagons.

Dan could always be counted on to help out at our board/annual meetings and political evenings, setting out - and later putting away - chairs and tables, passing out or collecting voting materials, opening/closing windows, or serving refreshments.. he never thought any job was beneath him.

He didn't make it to his 100th birthday, but as a good neighbor and longtime Montclarion, his grade is 100.


-- Veronica Dolan

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Membership dues are essential to continuing the events which unite us in Montclair. It may surprise you to know the impact your membership has on all households in our neighborhood!

For only \$20 annually per member household, HMCAI sponsors and organizes these community-building events:

- Easter egg hunt
- 4th of July picnic
- Bi-annual neighborhood garage sales
- Adults-only reception
- Halloween party
- Treats with Santa and holiday party

HMCAI publishes the Montclarion newsletter, serves as a liaison with Denver metro, and proudly maintains the Molkery. Join in the fun and become a member today!

We need your help to continue these services!  
Please consider joining HMCAI, your neighborhood association.

**JOIN NOW**  
Mail in the form on the back of this newsletter

# 2015 Membership Form

Please complete form (block letters) and mail with check to:  
HMCAI Treasurer, P.O. Box 200125, Denver, CO 80220-0125

Annual dues per household \$ 20.00 (\$10.00 for seniors)  
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Please let us know if you would like to volunteer (circle):

Snacks with Santa | July 4th | Easter Egg Hunt | Cocktail Party | Halloween Party | Board Member