

## HISTORIC MONTCLAIR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

founded 1907 Denver, CO

4th Quarter 2007

www.HistoricMontclair.org

info@HistoricMontclair.org

#### Snacks With Santa

The HMCAI annual Snacks with Santa will be held on Sunday, December 16th from 1-3 pm at the historic Molkery in Montclair Park.

This is a great opportunity for Historic Montclair families to have a pre-holiday get together. Crafts will be available for parents and their children to make together. Kids can talk to Santa in a fun, relaxed environment. Santa will give each child a small gift. Light refreshments will be served. Parents, please bring a small, wrapped gift (approximately \$5.00) for Santa's big gift exchange box - 1 gift for each child you bring. Gifts should be appropriate for any age, girl or boy.

Please join us for snacks, Santa, and crafts. We look forward to seeing you!

#### **Historic Montclair General Meeting**

HMCAI held its fall General Meeting on Wednesday, October 17th at the Molkery. The well-attended meeting began with a neighborhood update by Councilwoman Marcia Johnson. The focus of the discussion was the redevelopment of the Lowry Annex. Councilwoman Johnson indicated that no plans have been finalized. She stated that she will insist that additional parking be made available for the Schlessman Family Library and has asked for 76 parking places. There were numerous questions from the floor regarding infrastructure and public services, especially the location and cost of an additional fire station.

Second on the agenda was Harry Lewis who explained the Denver bond issues and the proposed mill levy to fund ongoing infrastructure maintenance in the City of Denver. Mr. Lewis, who has extensive background in municipal finance and has been intimately involved in many Denver initiatives, including Downtown Denver and the Denver Partnership, spoke strongly in favor of the bond issues. He also provided explanations as to why the bond issues were structured as they were, as well as responding to attendees' questions.

Carolyn Hughes Bluhm, Community Relations Specialist for the Denver Office of Emergency Management, provided a high level summary of how best to prepare for emergencies and also provided numerous resources for those in need of additional information. The City of Denver provides a "Citizens Emergency Response Training Program" certification. For anyone interested, they can find additional information online at DenverCERT@ci.denver.co.us.

The final item on the agenda for the evening was the annual election of HMCAI officers and Board members. All officers and Board members were elected by voice vote. The 2007-2008 HMCAI officers are: Nancy Mucker (President); Katy Saunders (1st Vice President); Carrie O'Shea (2nd Vice President); Lori Richards (Secretary) and Gail Barry (Treasurer). Board members for 2007-2008 are: Matt Bortz, Veronica Dolan, Larry Farin, John Farnam, Bill Hansen, Scott Heimel, Jerry Malia, David McCord, Ted Reece and Beckett Stokes.

#### **Winter Gardening Tips**

Winter is a time when the garden is often ignored, but there are things that may be important to do during the cold, dark months. Assuming your yard has not been totally buried in snow, the following tasks can be accomplished.

If you haven't already cleaned up your **leaves**, they can be spread around your planting beds to protect the plants from the drying winds and sun. This also helps to keep the soil an even temperature and conserves moisture. Many of the leaves will disintegrate and become a good soil additive as well. Composting leaves and/or digging them into your garden soil is also a good idea.

The trunks of **younger trees** that have not yet developed their mature bark should be wrapped with a tree wrap (available in garden centers and most garden sections of hardware stores.) The trunks should be wrapped from ground level to just above the first branch and be well secured at the top. Tree wrap should be removed at the beginning of April so the trunk can breathe and expand during the growing season. Tree wrap protects thin barked trees (such as maples) from sun scald and extreme temperature swings during the winter months. Sun scald can damage or kill thin barked trees.

Winter **watering** is very important during a dry period with no snow cover. The temperature must be above 40 degrees Fahrenheit before watering. A slow, steady dispersal of water over the root zone of the tree is the best method. Trees tend to have their feeder roots in the top 18" of the soil, but their roots extend out at least as far as the drip line (outer branches) of younger deciduous trees and far beyond that point for mature trees. Any plants that have been newly planted need winter watering in our dry climate. It usually takes 3-5

years for shrubs and trees to establish themselves. During the establishment period more regular watering will be important, even in the winter. If the weather continues to be dry, watering should be done approximately once per month. This holds true for xeric plants as well as higher water-use plants, although the goal for xeric plants is to gradually reduce water over a three to five year period until little to no additional water is needed.

If the weather is dry and above 40 degrees Fahrenheit, one can also plan for winter pruning of many landscape plants. Winter time is often optimal for tree **pruning** and usually less expensive than other times of the year if you are hiring the work. Perennials can be trimmed of dead canes and shrubs can be pruned in winter when the lack of leaves allows one to see the structure of the plant. Consult a pruning book or the local county extension service for directions on proper pruning practices if you are planning to prune your own plants; there are certain rules of thumb that yield a better result and a healthier plant.

Finally, January is a great time to think about and plan improvements for your garden so they can be implemented in the spring.



For additional information, visit your local public library, browse the web, call the Colorado State University Denver Cooperative Extension Master Gardening Answer Line at (720) 913-5278, or visit their website at their website at http://www.denvergov.org/Extension/HomePage/tabid/386935/Default.aspx.

Gail Barry-landscape architect and gardener Co-owner of Land Mark Design Inc. www.landmarkdesigninc.com

## The FAX Partnership Launches Economic Development Initiative and Wants Your Ideas for New Businesses on Colfax

The FAX Partnership has unveiled a major new economic development strategy, called Creative Colfax. This strategy celebrates all the creative enterprises that are located on Colfax between Colorado and Yosemite. It seeks to promote and enhance the economic and collaborative potential of businesses that are in the creative industries on The FAX corridor. From tattoos to tapestries, from furniture crafts to faming, from research to retail, creative endeavors are alive and well in The FAX Partnership corridor. Based on Dr. Richard Florida's work documenting the economic shift to a creative economy (his books, *Rise of the Creative Class and Flight of the Creative Class* were published a few years ago), this strategy will provide a focus for business development, events and revitalization strategies for The FAX.

The FAX Partnership Board of Directors held its annual retreat in September. Many wonderfully creative ideas came out of the retreat. The board is developing action plans for implementing the strategic goals and objectives that were developed at the retreat. Look for additional positive changes in the months to come!

The FAX Partnership also welcomes three new board members: Geri Reinardy, Director of Public Affairs at National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Dr. Vincent Wincelowicz, Chair of the College of Business at Johnson and Wales University, and Lori Richards, representing the Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.. The FAX Partnership board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the East Montclair Community Center, 6740 E. Colfax, at 7 p.m. All residents and business owners/representatives are welcome to attend.

We need your help! What types of businesses would you like to see on Colfax? Are there goods and services that you wish were available closer to home or work? Let us know what they are! There are several ways to participate. You can email Shawne Ahlenius at sahlenius@aol.com with ideas. Finally, The FAX Partnership will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, November 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. to solicit your suggestions. The Open House will be held at the East Montclair Community Center, 6740 E. Colfax. We look forward to seeing you there!

By Shawne Ahlenius Executive Director, The FAX Partnership

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For links to the Community
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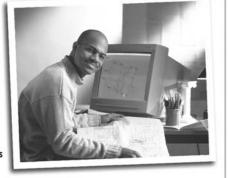
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#### **Colfax Business Focus**

When I moved into the Historic Montclair Neighborhood three years ago, one of the things I set about doing was finding local businesses that were close to my new home. To that end, I take my car to Bob's Volvo, located at 7453 Colfax Avenue (303-320-9640). For our first Colfax Business Focus column, I thought **Bob's Volvo** would be an excellent business to introduce you to, if you aren't yet familiar with them.

I spoke with Jason Martinez, owner of Bob's Volvo since July 2001. Jason purchased the business from his father, Bob, who started it back in 1975, when Jason was 3 years old. Prior to its current location, Bob's Volvo was located at 14th and Tamarac until about 1986 when they moved to their current location.

Bob's Volvo handles light repairs on Volvo, Honda, Subaru and Toyota vehicles, and heavy diagnostics on Volvos only. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., hours that allow the employees of Bob's Volvo to spend time with their families, make it home for dinner, spend weekends at home - which is right in line with their business philosophy: "Families are our primary focus - we consider our customers our friends. Continuity is important to use. Some of our customers are the kids of our original customers that owned the car - they've passed the car down and they still bring it to us. Occasionally, we'll even work on a pick up that's in the family."

Jason prides himself on keeping a "manageable" two-bay garage which allows Bob's Volvo to attend to the needs of their customers and offer personalized service that keeps customers coming back. That personalized service stems from Jason's own personal experience with car dealers. Personalized service "is easy - that's the way I want to be treated where I go."

Bob's Volvo includes his cousin Lynn who has handled the administrative side of things since 1992, and Vern (also part of the family!), who is the head technician and has been with Bob's Volvo since the mid-1970's - "he has such a wealth of knowledge, he can tell you part numbers from way back when!" Jason has twin four-year old daughters, which gives him little time for some of the high-performance drag racing he used to do! He stills finds time to occasionally make it to track days at one of the local race tracks, but otherwise, you'll find Jason at home in Aurora with his family or working at Bob's Volvo.

"I like what I'm doing, I think we (at Bob's Volvo) are happy, we're feeding our families, not getting rich, but happy."

As a loyal Bob's Volvo customer, I appreciate their honest, straight forward approach to car repair, patient description of services, high quality workmanship, friendly smiles, and convenient location. If you go to Bob's Volvo, tell them you heard about them through our newsletter!

Bv Lori Richards



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#### News from Montclair School of Academics and Enrichment

Montclair Elementary has many things to celebrate and to cheer about. The Montclair family has a new member. Mr. and Mrs. Ed (Shannon) Hagerman became parents of a beautiful baby girl, born on October 10, 2007. Mrs. Hagerman (Montclair's principal) is currently on Maternity Leave and is enjoying spending this precious time with her newest family member. She will return after the New Year. Congratulations to the Hagerman Family!

Many thanks to the all of the parents, friends, and community supporters of Montclair. The Mingle for Montclair (our annual Auction/Wine Tasting Event) was a huge success. Over \$20,000 was raised. The proceeds help support our many enrichment programs, including the end-of-the-year field trips for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. It will also provide funds for the Montclair Learning Landscape Project. As always, it was wonderful to see so many Historic Montclair neighbors come out to support this event. We would also like to thank the "Make a Difference Day" volunteers who, on October 27th, really spruced up the building and made a big difference in our schools' appearance.

The new educational program being implemented at Montclair is now in full swing. That, coupled with being selected as one of the first DPS Beacon Schools at the end of last year, has given our school a surge in enrollment. With the two outstanding classroom settings available at Montclair, our Progressive classes and Early High Strides classes can better meet individual student needs and learning styles. An important part of both of these models is enrichment. Extending and enriching the curriculum at every grade level for every student is one of the highest priorities.

For families who are interested in learning more about Montclair, we encourage you to visit us and take a tour. Please call 303-333-5497 to make arrangements or just stop by. Additional information will be available on our website at www.montclair.dpsk12.org. The first opportunity to apply for 2008-09 enrollment at Montclair is in January, during the "Choice" process. As always, neighborhood families will have priority.

P.S. - Mark your calendars now for our annual Plant Sale & Fun Fair to be held Saturday, May 10th - the day before Mother's Day!

By Daphne L. Hunter, Interim Principal

### District 3 Station Neighborhood Inspection Services

To learn about the safety inspection services offered, visit www.HistoricMontclair.org and click on Neighborhood Inspection Services under the Police and Safety section

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#### Historic Montclair Wants Your Input - We Are Here for You!

Beginning with our next issue, we will be expanding our newsletter! It will have four additional pages, and we are working to increase content - make it more meaningful and informative. We'll continue to include columns on events that affect our neighborhood and of course, Jerry's restaurant feature, but now we will also have regular articles on school activities, seasonal gardening tips, crime and safety issues, local expanded community events, information from the FAX Partnership, a column that focuses on local businesses, and even a place to share favorite recipes.

What would you, our readers, like to see in the newsletter? Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc. (HMCAI) wants your thoughts and ideas! Is there a business in our surrounding area that you love? Let us know about it and we can include them in our Business Focus feature. Do you know of a local community event that you want to share with others? Tell us about it! Send us your favorite recipe. We publish our newsletter quarterly (February, May, August and November) and welcome your input.

Don't forget to visit our website at www.HistoricMontclair.org and check out the links to the Community Calendar, Neighborhood Information, Local Government, Community Pages and much more. Consider posting items of interest or participating in the Discussion Forum - it's an under utilized link to the community and we would like to see the site grow and improve, so again, your feedback is important.

You can also send your comments and contributions to info@historicmontclair.org, or write to us at HMCAI, P. O. Box 200125; Denver, CO 80220. We want to hear from you!

And if you are not yet a member of HMCAI, please join. The membership form is on the back page of this newsletter. HMCAI is a vital part of our community and the more involvement we have from the people who make this neighborhood what it is, the more rich the experience for all of us! We look forward to hearing from you ~ we hope you enjoy the newsletter.



"Solera is a wonderful restaurant and would hold up in DC or NY. Chef Goose Sorensen is doing some amazing things." Washington Post

#### Free Glass of Wine With Purchase of an Entree

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#### **Holiday Recipes**

#### **Easy Holly Cookies**

Combine 30 large marshmallows with 1 stick of butter (or margarine but butter tastes better) melt slowly in double boiler or on the stove while stirring constantly.

Stir in 2 teaspoons of green food coloring and 1/2 teaspoon of vanilla until color is evenly distributed. Gently stir in 5 cups of corn flakes until coated with green color. Drop by tablespoons onto waxed paper and decorate with red hots. Allow to sit for 24 hours. These are easy, tasty and cute.

#### **Edible Egg Yolk Paint**

If you plan to decorate cookies or other edibles for the holidays consider using egg yolk paint. It has lots of flexibility and can be mixed in many colors with food coloring. Colored sugars or other sprinkles can be used on top if desired. To make mix 1 egg yolk with 1/4 teaspoon of water and color as desired. Use a separate small totally clean (or new) paint brush for each color. If the paint is too thick add more water drop by drop. For more colors make more paint or divide the yolk mix into parts.

#### Holiday Spiced Wine (makes 20 3 0z. servings)

1 quart water

3 cups sugar

12 whole cloves

4 inches stick cinnamon

6 whole allspice

1/2 teaspoon powdered ginger (or fresh)

The rind of 1 orange and 1 lemon

2 cups of orange juice

1 cup lemon juice

1 4/5 quart bottle of burgundy or claret or any full bodied red wine

Combine the first 7 ingredients and bring to a boil, stirring until the sugar is dissolved. Simmer for 10 minutes (to bring out the flavors) Remove and let stand for 1 hour. Strain, add orange juice, lemon juice and wine. Heat gently -do not boil. Serve in heat tolerant cups. If this is too sweet add more wine or strong black tea. This could also be made with strong black tea instead of wine if desired.

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# Membership Form 2008 Membership Year

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

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