

# The Montclarion

Founded 1907 Denver, CO

4th Quarter 2010 www.HistoricMontclair.org info@HistoricMontclair.org

## Santa Claus is Coming to the Molkery

**WHAT:** Treats With Santa  
**WHEN:** Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010 from 10 a.m. to noon  
**WHERE:** The Molkery, on 12th Ave. between Newport and Oneida

**WHY:** An opportunity for kids to talk to Santa in a friendly environment, do crafts, enjoy a treat or two and exchange gifts.

**WHO:** Kids ready to visit with Santa. (Parents will know.) They must be accompanied by an adult who'll stay throughout the party.

**TREATS:** Delectable cookies, delicious juices, fabulous tea and fantastic coffee.

**CRAFTS:** We provide glue, glitter and construction paper so kids can create a special card or tree ornament. Or they can write a note to Santa. Or just hang out.

**GIFTS:** EVERY - repeat, EVERY - child in attendance must arrive with a wrapped present, valued at \$5 max, suitable for either boy or girl.

**COST:** Free to our Historic Montclair families, except for cost of wrapped gift(s).

**LONG WAIT ON LINE?:** Not anymore. This year children will receive a number when they arrive indicating order in which they'll be called to talk to Santa, due to arrive around 10:30am.

**PHOTO OPS:** Unlimited. Don't forget your cameras.

**NO REINDEER:** We hate to disillusion children who might spot Santa arriving by car but Montclair Park is still not zoned for reindeer. Which is why Donner and Blitzen and their perky pals will be put out to pasture in Parker during the period of our party.



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## Notes From the President by Nancy Mucker, HMCAI President

I am not a big user of social media but at the same time have felt as if I'm missing something. And I feel the same way about some of the new technology. On that front, I have jumped in with both feet. So, I'm now learning how to use my SMART phone – not as easy for me as I would like. I also have a Kindle now and that's been a real success. I love being able to download a book whenever and wherever I want. It's also much easier to read. The font is really clear and unaffected by sunlight. But back to social media.



I do have an account on LinkedIn but am not using Facebook or Twitter. I use LinkedIn primarily for business contacts and just recently located a professional associate that I had not heard from in many years. We both worked in the mutual fund industry and were co-chairs of some operational conferences in Florida many years ago. It was great reconnecting with Susan. Writing her an update on the last 10 years really made me realize how much I love living in Denver and in Historic Montclair. Putting it all into words for Susan helped me focus on all the good things here. The neighbors and the neighborhood are wonderful. Montclair is a neighborhood for all seasons, but I do think fall is my favorite season of all. The colors in the trees are fabulous – the reds, yellows, burnt orange. And it certainly went on and on this year. No complaints on that front.

We in Historic Montclair are lucky because there are so many folks who dedicate time and effort to our neighborhood and our community association. There was an excellent turnout for our General Meeting of HMCAI on October 20th. Marcia Johnson gave us her last update as our Councilwoman (She retires from District 5, City Council next year.) Officer Anthony Burkhardt of the DPD provided an excellent update on events affecting all of us. The last order of business was the election of 2011 Board members for HMCAI.

I want to extend a special thank you to our returning Board members: **Carrie O'Shea**, 1st VP; **Shadron Noonan**, 2nd VP, **John Eckelberry**, our Secretary and **Gail Barry**, our Treasurer. Our returning At-Large members are: **Mark Noonan**, **David McCord**, **Larry Farin**, **Veronica Dolan**, **Judy Baxter**, **Gail Wallace**, **Jennifer Bolda** and **Dan Bolda**. We are also very lucky to have several new Board members this year. **Christine Ralston**, along with her husband John and four children have lived in Montclair since January 2008. Her background is in interior design and she currently works for the Colorado School of Mines. Christine says, "the tree-lined streets, historic character of the Molkery and surrounding houses and warm sense of community are a few of the reasons we hope to live in Montclair for a very long time." **Valerie Alford** has also lived in Montclair since 2008, volunteers for the July 4th picnic and feels more at home in Montclair than in her prior neighborhood of 14 years. Our third new Board member is **Evelyn Hottenstein**. She and her family have lived here 18 years and Evelyn wants to focus her efforts on preserving the historic nature, natural beauty and warm neighborhood feeling of Historic Montclair. Our fourth new member is **Melissa Mouton**. She is a former teacher and current 3rd year medical student. She is also active in K-12 education policy and Younglife at George Washington HS.

WELCOME ALL!

## Schlessman Update

Our library has reopened! After closing for renovations in September, Schlessman Library opened its doors again in November. The library now has a new materials handling system, which allows returns that are more efficient and reduces re-shelving time.

However, due to the number of materials collected during the closure, children's programming will not begin again until the New Year, as Schlessman will be using those areas for backlogged returns. All ages Storytime will resume Tuesdays at 10:30 starting January 11, and Bookbabies returns on Thursdays at 3:00 starting January 13.

Starting December 1, the library's hours changed to comply with City Budget needs. The library will now be closed **every Wednesday** (not Tuesday). Sunday hours have been cut to 1-5 pm. Again, starting December 1, Schlessman's hours are:

Monday 12-8	Friday: Closed
Tuesday: 10-6	Saturday: 9-5
Wednesday: Closed	Sunday: 1-5
Thursday: 10-6	

### Schlessman December Events

Saturday, December 11, 10:00 a.m.


**Ceylon Pearl Tea Tasting** - Come learn about the varieties and health benefits of tea while sampling the delicious tea of Ceylon Pearl.

Monday, December 13, 6:00 p.m.

**Rob Wivchar: Man of 1,000 Songs** - Listen to the holiday stylings of the versatile Rob Wivchar while you escape from seasonal madness at the library.

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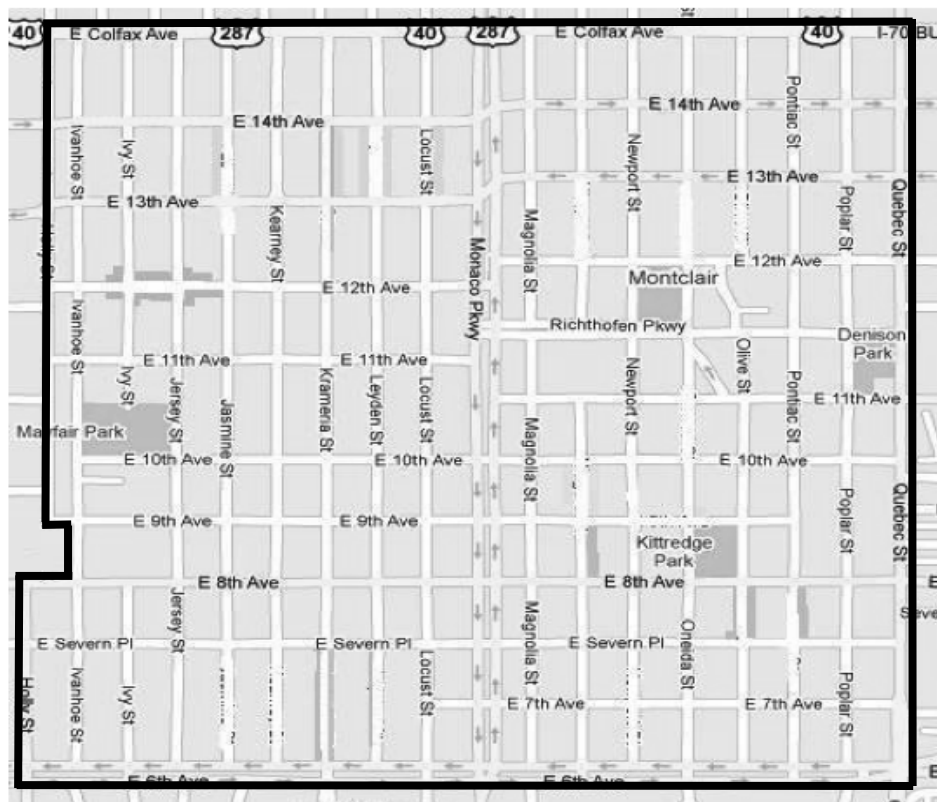
## Delivery Changes by Shadron Noonan

Beginning with this issue, HMCAI is making some substantial changes to our distribution model for The Montclarion. The Board began looking at this matter back in the spring, when we realized our budget for 2010 was in the red and we needed to improve our processes.

Since HMCAI's founding, our registered boundaries have been from Holly to Quebec, Colfax to 6th Avenue. Our chief concern has always been to reach as much of the neighborhood as possible. We were dismayed when we learned that, under our old delivery model, we simply weren't doing that. Large portions of the west side were being missed, as were many of our local businesses along the Colfax corridor. In addition, the labor involved in individualizing each newsletter with household membership information was time-consuming and added a publishing expense.

Last month, the Board voted to utilize the services of Yankee Peddler, who distribute door-to-door within specified neighborhood boundaries. In addition to increasing our reach throughout the whole neighborhood, it was a better use of our Members' funds. They came highly recommended and are used by Stapleton's Front Porch, the Cherry Creek Chronicle and other newsletters you are familiar with. Membership information will now be published via a once-yearly supplement, instead of on the back of each issue.

So, if you are seeing this for the first time, WELCOME! Especially welcome to neighbors west of Monaco and along Colfax, who may have missed us before. We hope you enjoy the newsletter, and please check out the website at [www.HistoricMontclair.org](http://www.HistoricMontclair.org)



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From the first visit they made me feel like there was hope for me. I have never felt that way from any other doctor or dentist. Dr. Bonbright was awesome! I don't know how he did it. I told him of my fears from bad experiences in the past, but I had a full Implant restration with hardly any pain. Thanks to Dr. Bonbright, I have a lot more self confidence and self esteem. People who know me can't get over how much better I look. Dr. Bonbright and his whole staff are all truly wonderful!

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## The Montclarion Winter 2010 Issue

*Councilwoman Marcia Johnson, District 5*



On October 28, 2010, I joined area government and business leaders at a groundbreaking celebration, to kick off construction of a new mixed-use development at Colfax and Poplar Street. Named “Phoenix on The FAX,” the five-story development will offer ground-level office & retail space and 50 units of workforce housing.

Developed by Minneapolis-based Sherman Associates, Inc., the Phoenix on The FAX is the first major new redevelopment on Colfax, east of Monaco Parkway, in years. Ryan Sailer of Sherman Associates first brought the idea for Phoenix to my office in early 2007.

Mr. Lyle Hansen has lived near the former “Pillar of Fire” property, located between Poplar and Pontiac on the north side of East Colfax, since the late 1960s. Mr. Mike Benowitz has lived just behind the new development for the last 14 years. They both say this vacant lot has long blighted the neighborhood, with weeds and overgrown vegetation attracting prostitutes, drug dealers, and graffiti to the area. So they were curious when they began hearing rumors of an out-of-town company that wanted to redevelop the land.

In June of 2007, Ryan Sailer, the president & CEO of Sherman Associates, George Sherman, and a local architect from the Parikh Stevens firm, met with area residents at my office. The team shared their vision for the property – a main street style mixed-use development with affordable rental housing on the upper floors and a mix of retail and office space on the ground floor. Neighbors expressed some concerns about why they wanted to build affordable housing instead of fair market units, and the development team explained that it was part of their financial model to obtain some financing from CHFA and other public funding sources to make the project viable.

After the meeting, Mr. Hansen decided to do some research into the company. Who were these guys from Minnesota with their grand ideas for East Colfax? He learned from their website about other successful projects that Sherman Associates developed around the country, and about their unique model for redevelopment. Not only do they build properties, but they own and manage the buildings themselves instead of selling them off or turning over management to someone else. Neighbors like Mr. Hansen and Mr. Benowitz have told me that they are impressed with their approach, and are excited about the changes a development like this could bring to East Colfax.

A strong and vibrant anchor such as Phoenix on The FAX, on a section of Colfax that has recently seen entire blocks vacated, could be just the catalyst we need to see exciting future development on the commercial corridor. Mr. Hansen, a retired real estate appraiser, has seen it happen before in neighborhoods like Curtis Park. And Mr. Benowitz has long believed that this part of town could be the next Cherry Creek. All it takes is one investor with a vision to come in and start to really fix things up, which encourages other new investors to do the same. Given its close proximity to opportunities at the nearby Fitzsimons hospital district, downtown, and Johnson & Wales University, as well as the support of surrounding neighborhoods and The FAX Partnership, this area is poised to offer additional amenities and offerings in the years to come.

*(Continued on Page 9)*

## Where is the Real Estate Market? *By Gail Wallace*

According to the standard & Poors Case Shiller Index, current home prices in the Denver, Colorado market are trading at values equivalent to 4th quarter 2002 prices. The index is based on repeat sales, not median prices; a repeat sale compares the sale of the exact same home at 2 different points in time. The index EXCLUDES distressed sales, such as short sales and foreclosures.

This helps explain why many homes currently on the market are not selling. They are priced according to what the seller paid, what they want or owe and NOT on the current market conditions and pricing. Sellers must be realistic and their homes at "market pricing" to sell in the current market. Buyers want a good value-and are often waiting until they find it.

Another factor in keeping prices competitive is the high inventory of homes currently on the market. Our Montclair neighborhood is part of the Denver Southeast section of the Denver Metrolist Service. Here is a comparison of October 2010 vs. October 2009:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Active listings	1370	1409
Closed sales	172	218
Average Days on Market	114	98
Supply (in Months)	8.7 months	6.8 months

In October 2010, there were 34 properties for sale in Montclair. In October 2009, there were only 19. We are clearly in a "Buyers Market" with high inventory and low interest rates.

### **Mortgage Rates are at their Lowest in 50 years**

A 30 year fixed loan of \$407,000 is available, if one qualifies, for 4% or less. A 30 year fixed JUMBO loan (OVER \$407,000) is available at 5% or less. These reduced rates allow many buyers to buy a first home or move up to a bigger home for a lower cost than before. They also make up for the termination of the federal home purchase tax credits that expired earlier this year. Homeowners should consider refinancing their current loans. Do the math and see if it will be advantageous for you. Recently the Federal Reserve announced it would buy \$600 Billion in US Treasury debt. These ongoing purchases will help keep mortgage rates low in the near future.

### **Historic Montclair on the Web**

Much more information including past newsletters, neighborhood news, blogs, forums, photos and much more can be found on our website.

Surf over to [www.HistoricMontclair.org](http://www.HistoricMontclair.org) today!

## Memories of Montclair

In response to our request in the last newsletter, Ron Sherman, a former Montclair resident, sent us these memories of growing up in the neighborhood.

- The Editors

-----  
My family moved to Montclair in 1961, when I was four years old. We had previously lived in a family duplex in West Denver, which my great-grandfather had built just after the turn of the 20th century. I lived at 13th & Quebec Sts. My parents still live there, in the same house. At that time, the intersection of 13th & Quebec had just a flashing stop sign! A sad change to today's traffic congestion!

I attended Montclair Annex School, which is now known as Paddington Station. The school had room only for grades K-2. For grades 3-6, we had to go to the 'Big' Montclair School at 11th & Newport. One memory of the Montclair Annex was all the kids, at holiday time, lining up on the big staircase to sing in the annual holiday concert. Mrs. Mary Morton was the principal for both Montclair Schools. For many years, Mr. Lowell Cotton was the custodian for the Montclair Annex. He and his wife lived in a basement apartment in the building. They stayed there until DPS closed the school in the 1970s. Luckily, this wonderful building was saved from the wrecking ball! The gym teacher at both Montclair schools was a younger man, Dan Scadden. Sadly, he died in his forties. If you go into the Montclair School gymnasium you will see a memorial plaque for him. I also remember that the kids whose parents were stationed at Lowry attended Montclair. All of the school buses from Lowry were painted blue. One of my classmates at Montclair was Tom Bonbright, who is now a dentist, still in the Montclair neighborhood.

I was active in Cub Scouts. Montclair School had enough students to support its own Cub Scout Pack -- #64. We had our den meetings in the Molkey Building. My mother was one of the den leaders. Sadly, the pack dissolved with forced busing, as did many other after-school programs.

During the summer months DPS provided an arts and crafts program three afternoons per week. Kids bought art materials/kits such as lanyards, copper molds, pop-sickle sticks, etc., at discount prices. High school and college students were hired to run the program and assist kids with their projects. This program was offered at various schools around Denver, including Montclair. Unfortunately, this very popular program was discontinued in the 1970s, due to budget cut-backs. *(Continued on Page 10)*

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## Marcia Johnson Winter Article (con't from Page 4)

Mr. Hansen admits that the new development could cause some negative changes on the residential streets north of Colfax. Traffic will likely increase, and there might be more cars than usual parked on their residential streets. Mr. Benowitz has also expressed concerns about the effect noise from the parking lot at Phoenix could have on his and his neighbors' homes. He and other residents from Pontiac Street have been discussing ways to alleviate that noise with fencing and landscaping with Ryan Sailer from Sherman Associates, and he has been heartened by Ryan's commitment and willingness to talk to them about their concerns. But both Mr. Hansen and Mr. Benowitz believe that the benefits of the Phoenix on The FAX on the redevelopment of the neighborhood will, in the end, outweigh the minor adversities that residents might have to accommodate.

After several years of planning and putting together the pieces of a complex financial puzzle, Sherman Associates broke ground on a project that could be the turning point for East Colfax. Already, the long vacant St. Vincent de Paul building across the street has been sold, and hopefully we'll see new tenants there soon. Sherman expects that their building will be ready for tenants to move in by the beginning of 2012.

Please contact me anytime, with your comments, questions or concerns, at (303) 355-4615 or [marcia.johnson@denvergov.org](mailto:marcia.johnson@denvergov.org).

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## Memories of Montclair *(continued from Page 8)*

A highlight of Halloween for us neighborhood kids was going 'trick or treating' at the Richthofen Castle, which was perfect for Halloween!

On some Friday nights, I remember going with my parents to St. James School for their weekly Bingo games.

In addition to the businesses listed in previous issue, others I remember include: Millers Supermarket (Colfax & Poplar), Hi-Lo Shoe Store (Colfax & Pontiac), Angelo's Barber Shop (Colfax & Pontiac), and Stedman's Shoe Repair (originally located at Colfax & Pontiac).

Additional food establishments that I remember, include: Pizza Oven Restaurant, Chuck O'Luck Deli, Rockybuilt Hamburgers, Pisano's Pizza, Apple Tree Shanty, Frost Bakery, Chicken Delight (Take Out & Delivery only), and a Swiss Restaurant which is now Senor Pepe's.

In the 1960s RTD was called the Denver Tramway Company. The #10 bus route was then Route 13, and the Colfax bus (#15) was then Route 14. Some of the Colfax buses went to the old Lowry AFB, and were labeled as #14/Lowry II. Colfax and Poplar was the termination point of the old Montclair street car line. Until the late 1960s part of this old track still remained visible.

When I attended college (CU-Denver) in the 1970s, I took a class in Denver History taught by Dr. Tom Noel. I did not realize at first that he lived in Montclair. I did a term paper of the history of the Montclair neighborhood, that he incorporated into his book Richthofen's Montclair. This was a wonderful class in which I learned a lot of the interesting history about the neighborhood and its founder -- Baron Walter Von Richthofen.

Montclair is very lucky to have this wonderful historian living in the neighborhood, who discovered many interesting tidbits that very few individuals previously knew about the neighborhood.

Today, I live in SE Denver, but when I visit my parents, I still enjoy walking around the old neighborhood.

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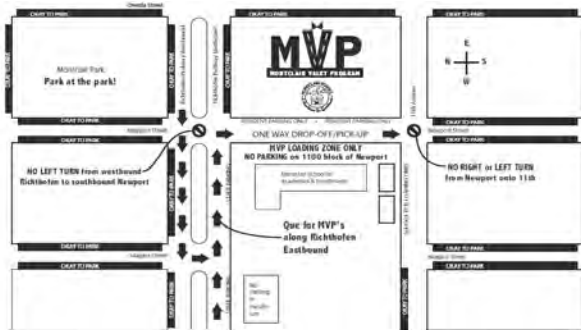
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## New Traffic Patterns on Newport Street

Montclair residents may have noticed that traffic has been flowing differently on the 1100 block of Newport Street since early October. That's when the Montclair School implemented its new Montclair Valet Program (MVP, for short). The goal of the program is to streamline the traffic pattern near the school during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times. The new traffic pattern is also proving to be safer for students and less frustrating for neighbors.

Due to DPS transportation policies and Montclair School's makeup, a vast majority of its students are brought to school by private car. Only one bus serves the school and as a result, there are hundreds of cars waiting at peak times. Drivers would often park in the middle of the street, as resident parking often dominated the east side of Newport and the school loading zones were always packed. This led to frustration and many near misses.



The MVP program assigns numbered placards to students as well as to their parents. Only program participants can access Newport in front of the school during drop off (8:30 am – 9:00 am) or pick up (3:15 pm – 4:00 pm). During these times, ONLY Southbound traffic is allowed. No turns on 11th Avenue eastbound or westbound will be permitted from Newport.

Children wait in the school auditorium until volunteers on walkie-talkies identify which placard numbers are out front. Then, 5th grade safety-patrol members walk children to the assigned car. This eliminates much of the chaos of children darting between vehicles, looking for their parents or caregivers. In addition to keeping schoolchildren safer, the program hopes to benefit immediate neighbors by eliminating blocked driveways and multi-point turns into private property.

For a more complete look at the program, please see the MVP graphic, created by the PEAK Safety Committee, and also available on the Montclair School website at <http://montclair.dpsk12.org/>



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## More Favorite Things about Living in Montclair *By Judy Baxter*

Last year I recounted what, from a newcomer's perspective, were some of the great aspects of living here. It's now been 3 years in Historic Montclair and I know after extensive conversation with long time residents that I am still a newbie—though I have never felt excluded. Last night I went to a BBQ at a neighbor's house three blocks away. These neighbors moved to Montclair around the same time as I did in 2007. Those of us Montclarians, both long-timer and newbie, alike talked about what a great gift our Montclair is as a neighborhood. Walking home with my next-door neighbors and their sweet girl, I realized once again that I had more to say about what makes Montclair so special.

The heart of this year's favorite things musings about living in Montclair is the openness and ability to build real connection here. No doubt, this is an aspect of Denver culture in general, yet I think Montclair is different. Previously I lived in what I thought was the best neighborhood in Denver. We had a great block and in 22 years, I had spent real time in six homes for various gatherings. After not even 3 years, I have been in at least 14 homes of Montclair neighbors who I can truly call new friends. Making meaningful connection in a diverse urban neighborhood happens when there is the right spirit and energy going out among many.

This spirit is supported by the efforts of the **Historic Montclair Community Association (HMCAI)**, which does more to bring all parts of the community together than most neighborhood associations—the July 4th Picnic, Treats with Santa, Egg Hunts, and the Adult Reception at the Molkery, to name just a few. The name of the association makes it sound a little stuffier than it is. The board is as diverse as the neighborhood, men and women (and their cute kids), all ages, talents, and backgrounds some long-time residents and many newcomers like me. Getting involved on the board or as a volunteer as many of you have is a great way for Montclair to connect you to its best self. Definitely a favorite thing.

Other parts of the community fabric that are special here are the **Montclair Elementary School** and Montclair Rec Center. Having a vital, thriving school in the neighborhood keeps us all feeling younger and invigorated. I hear of people moving back here to raise their kids in the same neighborhood they grew up in. How cool is that? And let's not forget the **PLANT SALE**—definitely a favorite thing. The membership to Denver Rec Centers is one of the best fitness deals around and **Montclair Rec** (8th and Unita) is a well maintained facility with basketball courts, fitness and community rooms, pool, gym and the guys, Cal and Ron at the front desk are always glad to see you. You should check it out—I know people come from Park Hill to take the Salsa fitness class.

*(continued on Page 14)*



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## Playtime Looks Different at Montclair *By Kerri Barclay*

It's hard to believe that a short time ago, the Montclair School of Academics and Enrichment, possessed one of the most dangerous playgrounds in all of DPS. Gone is the old, rusty, unsafe, steel barred equipment and in its place the shiny, new, colorful 21st century equipment that children (and parents alike) have been longing for.

The new playground is called a Learning Landscape. These learning landscapes can be seen across the city thanks to the 2008 bond passed by Denver voters. DPS partnered with The University of Colorado Denver, Department of Landscape Architecture to create this program. The main goals of the program are to foster community between the school and neighborhood, create a fun environment where outdoor learning is



encouraged and social skills improved, and create opportunities for age appropriate play for children of all ages.



Montclair's Learning Landscape was completed in phases. The planning phase took a couple of years. Students from DU worked along side the Montclair committee that was comprised of staff members, parents, and members of the community. Their strong efforts and planning of this project really paid off. The first phase took place in the summer of 2009 with the

removal of the unsafe equipment and the addition of one new play pit. The second phase took place this summer (2010) and included the total renovation of the playground. This included all new play equipment in several age appropriate play areas, a swing set, two basketball courts, a shade structure with several picnic tables and benches, a garden, new fields, a new irrigation system, new asphalt with educational quotes and maps, and colorful banners displaying children's art work. Each learning landscape is reflective of the history, character and culture of the school.

It is wonderful to see the smiling faces of the children interacting with each other whether they are climbing on equipment or playing an organized game of basketball or hopscotch. The playground is now a safe, inviting place where parents gather after school to socialize while their children run and play. Classrooms have taken advantage of the outdoor space to gather and write poetry. In the spring, we hope to start planting seeds in the new garden. We are very proud of the new Learning Landscape and all it has to offer.

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## More Favorite Things about Living in Montclair *(continued from Page 12)*

However, a Favorite Things listing wouldn't be complete without the mention of where to shop or eat. Right now, I am very into those places that have delivery or take out, as I am getting home from work late. Here are my go to restaurants that are close by:

- **Papa Murphy's Pizza** - over on Leyden, next to the Conoco. Great take and bake at home pizza—the deLite crust makes pizza on a diet possible and enjoyable.
- **Phoenician Kabob** - on East Colfax about at Ivy. Well-prepared and great tasting Mediterranean food, plus they have a full bar, a party room, even belly dancers on Sat.
- **Moongate Asian Grill** –a long-time neighborhood standby, but well known around town for it's variety of Asian dishes. I especially like the Shumai and the noodle dishes.
- Right next door is **Kassai Sushi Japanese Cuisine**—as the name implies they specialize in Sushi and actually do Sushi Happy Hour, and the teriyaki and tempura are terrific.

My almost 2-year-old dog Kayla would also like to put in a word for her favorites....

- That would be **Chewy's** in Lowry Town Center where you can get all the best (and healthiest treats). Try the Yac bones for the serious chewers out there and the Dog Wellness Vitality Treat (Pumpkin is our favorite).
- Kayla's favorite place in the world: **Digstow Doggie Day Care and SPAW** on Montview and Willow. Great people, great facility (the pools open in May), and most of all great care. Kayla has her boyfriends and her BFFs. They even give each other Valentines Day cards and birthday treats.

At every event or party, I hear about other parts of Montclair that share this same feeling, this same energy. It's what makes this a special place within this great city.

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## Recipes for the Holidays or Any Other Time... *By Gail Barry*

### Spiced Tea Mix

Can be made ahead and given as gifts or served whenever an occasion warrants.

Save and dry peels from organic oranges and tangerines to make 1/3 lb. dry. (Use the pulp and/or juice in fruit salads or juice drinks, compost the remains.) Put dry peels in blender or food processor and process until a fine powder. Mix together: 12 oz. loose Orange Pekoe tea, 12 oz. loose Darjeeling tea and 1 1/3 lb. loose Ceylon tea with powdered peels, 1 oz. ground cloves, 1/2 oz. ground Saigon cassia cinnamon and 1/2 oz. finest ground Saigon cassia cinnamon. (You could experiment with other spices and peels if desired.)

Package in airtight containers. Lidded jars and tins can be found at Cost Plus World Market and other stores or ordered through the internet.

### Chocolate Macadamia Nut Truffle Torte

A truly decadent dessert.

Prepare a 9" spring form pan by spraying with canola oil spray or buttering heavily. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F.

Melt together 20 ounces of chopped dark chocolate (or 20 ounces of 60% cocoa chocolate chips), and 1 cup butter in the top of a double boiler or microwave on high for about 2 minutes or until melted, stirring after each minute. Mix in 1 1/4 cups of coarsely chopped, lightly roasted (unsalted), Macadamia nuts. In a large bowl, beat 5 eggs until light and foamy. Add 1-tablespoon pure vanilla. Gently fold melted chocolate mixture into the eggs. Do not over mix. Pour into prepared pan and bake for about 40 +/- minutes, in the center of the oven, until almost set in the middle. (Ovens vary, be sure to check after 30 minutes and often thereafter. Do not overcook.)

Cool in the pan then remove sides, cover and refrigerate. Serve dusted with unsweetened cocoa, in very small slices, as this is extremely rich. Fresh berries (or other fruit) and whipped cream make a nice accompaniment.

Note: If nuts are not already roasted, roast raw, unsalted macadamia nuts at 300 degrees F, spread evenly on a baking sheet, for approximately 10-12 minutes or until a slight bit of color shows. Pay attention and stir while roasting a couple of times. Do not over roast.

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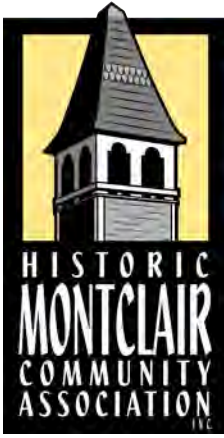
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