

Markert Times

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Contact Information

- Council Office: 303-739-7516
- Mobile: 303-941-2244
- mmarkert@auroragov.org
- 15151 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO 80012



Gayle Jetchick-Amazing Auroran

- Like me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MollyMarkertWardIV
- Follow me on Twitter [@mollymarkert](https://twitter.com/mollymarkert)

Where in the Ward is Molly?

Thur.	Aug. 1	6:30 - 8:00 PM	Banks in Harmony Concert - Phat Daddy – High energy R&B, Rock and Contemporary Hits Meadowood Park, 3054 S. Laredo St.
Fri.	Aug. 2	7:30 PM	Opening of Lysistrata Jones At the Fox Theatre See article on Page 17
Sun.	Aug. 4	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	La Cueva Foundation Scholarship fundraiser, \$30 per person for a great Cause
Mon.	Aug. 5	5:30 PM	City Council Special Study Session: Reception and ceremony for the International Community, Aurora Municipal Center
Tue.	Aug. 6	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	National Night Out Against crime. Multiple locations. I will be with Area 11 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church on Iliff and Lima
Thur. and Fri.	Aug. 8 and 9		Trans-mountain tour of city water assets
Sat..	Aug. 10	All day	Aurora reservoir devoted to city employees For the annual appreciation event
Mon.	Aug. 12	7:30 PM	City Council Meeting
Tue.	Aug. 13	10:00 AM	Reopening of the Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) Helena Clinic at 13th and Helena
Thur.	Aug. 15	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Art Walk in Monument
Thur.	Aug. 22	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Ward IV Meeting at Village Green Pool, 1300 S. Chambers Circle See attached map
Sun.	Aug. 25	1:00 PM	Movie, <i>Taken for a Ride</i> , at the Aurora History Museum
Mon.	Aug. 26	7:30 PM	City Council Meeting
Tue.	Aug. 27	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Aurora Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet in concert and free ice cream sundaes at the Gardens on Havana See article on Page 8
Mon.	Sept. 2	All day	Labor Day, Honor people who work
Sat.	Sept. 7	All day	Safety Fair sponsored by Omega first responders See article on Page 10

Up-Coming Ward IV Meetings

Thursday, August 22, 6:30 PM -8:30 PM
Village Green Recreation Center
1300 S. Chambers Circle See attached map

Thursday, September 26, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Garden Plaza of Aurora
14221 E. Evans Avenue

Pictured above in the top right is Gayle Jetchick receiving the Amazing Auroran Award for her persistence in getting the Police mini-station up and running in the Gardens on Havana.

Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions

Auto Repair In Residential Neighborhood

From Barton Wong, Area Supervisor, Neighborhood Support: This is in response to a citizen who contacted you concerning auto repair being conducted at two locations within his residential neighborhood. He asked Code Enforcement to inspect these properties.

Code Enforcement inspected both properties and did not observe any auto repair operating at the time. He spoke to each property owner. At one location, the Code Officer observed one vehicle parked on the driveway, and the owner stated he does minor repair work on his own vehicles, inside his garage. At the second location the Code Officer observed one vehicle parked on the driveway and four parked on the street in front of the house. The license plates for each vehicle are currently registered to the owner at the property. When conversing with the property owner, the Code Officer was told the vehicles are worked on inside the garage and the owner prepares them for private resale. The Code Officer warned that he cannot purchase vehicles and then engage in the resale activity, and he cannot invite any potential customers to the house. There was no apparent violation at either property.

The Code Officer called and spoke to the citizen making the request to brief him on his contacts. The citizen insisted the auto repair was occurring, and suggested work was being conducted in the evenings and weekends. The Code Officer stated Code Enforcement would need documentation of this activity with photographs and date and time. Code Enforcement will monitor these properties with after-hours inspections. The citizen thanked the Code Officer for the information and call back. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Prairie Dog Control

From Ward IV constituent PC to me: I was recently searching for information about prairie dog control and came across the minutes from the 3/26/13 Quality of Life committee meeting during which you discussed the exploding prairie dog population here in Aurora. Our yard backs to an Xcel Energy easement that runs under the power lines. South of that easement is a 5-acre undeveloped lot. The easement, the lot, and both of our neighbors' yards are completely over-run with prairie dogs and we are finding it utterly impossible to keep them off our property. After reading the information the city has published, it sounds like it is completely our problem to try to keep our yard clear of prairie dogs, but I am wondering if the city has made any progress getting citizen feedback regarding controlling these pests.

I am also wondering what measures we can legally take to eliminate prairie dogs on our property and whether we can request that Xcel and our neighbors

exterminate on their property. At one point we had 4-5 active burrows in our back yard, and apparently there is a chemical signature left behind that attracts new prairie dogs and encourages them to re-dig the same burrows. We have repeatedly exterminated the burrows in our yard, only to find them re-dug with new inhabitants a few days to a week later. Our yard is fully fenced and we do our best to ensure the 'runs' underneath the fence are blocked- but we have 1/3 acre and they always find a new way in. We have four young children and a dog, and it is extremely frustrating that we can't send the kids out back, have friends over to play, host barbecues, etc., because of this infestation. We are also hesitant to try to improve our property with landscaping because the prairie dogs are so destructive. Thank you for any information you can give me!

Reply from staff: Dear Molly, Because black-tailed prairie dog management is a complex issue, I thought it would work best to call PC and discuss the issue with her, rather than send an email. We discussed the following items:

1. PC's history with prairie dog conflict on her property and past actions they have taken to manage damage from prairie dogs. PC understands that it is up to the owner to control prairie dog impacts on their property.
2. We also discussed that prairie dogs are not a protected species in Colorado. Land owners can choose to remove or control prairie dogs on their property using legal means. Because the city of Aurora has a no discharge ordinance, legal means does not include the use of firearms, bow and arrow, pellet gun or slingshot to control prairie dogs. Local, private wildlife damage control providers will be familiar with local regulations and should be able to help safely remove prairie dogs from private property. PC is familiar with legal prairie dog management tools and has used an integrated approach to managing damage on her property.
3. PC indicated they have attempted to coordinate with adjacent landowners to control damage on both sides of the fence at the same time.
4. Finally, we discussed the idea that enhanced fencing to exclude prairie dogs could be a long term solution. It would be costly and labor intensive at the onset, but may be a great long term solution for PC and her family.

Please let me know if there are additional questions or concerns related to this issue. Mary Ann Bonnell, Senior Natural Resource Specialist, City of Aurora Open Space and Natural Resources Division, 303-326-8420 (office) 303-859-8911 (cell), mbonnell@auroragov.org

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Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions Continued

Landscape Maintenance Of Commercial Properties

I received an email from Ward IV constituent TB regarding the poor appearance of the landscaping at several commercial properties in the Ward.

Reply from staff to TB: I received a message from Council Member Markert asking me to respond to your inquiry about the landscape maintenance issues you have pointed out. The properties you listed were addressed and the officer will continue to monitor them through compliance. The first re-inspection date is set for 10 days to check for improvement or compliance.

The businesses and residential properties throughout the City are burning up due to the heat, drought, and water restrictions. My officers are not able to keep up with the amount of properties that are in violation. I appreciate you reporting these particular properties, as it is obvious that they haven't even been watering, even on the 2 two allowed days. Several locations of one of the chain stores you mentioned have been addressed throughout the City as well, apparently most of them decided not to water at all this year. You should also hear a response from the Water Department reference your concerns for the water restrictions and resources.

Feel free to contact me if you need any updates or have any other concerns. Thank you, Dusty Allen, Neighborhood Support Division, Code Enforcement Supervisor

From Tom Beck TB to Dusty Allen and me: Thank you Dusty, I appreciate your prompt action on these items. When it comes to Code Enforcement issues in the metro area Aurora has some of the best. We also have a City Council Woman in Ward 4 who works hard and tries to do what is best for the city and all of us.

Your email said that we would get a response from the Water Department, have not heard from anyone at the Water Department as yet. Since we moved to Aurora in 1971 we have seen our city go from plenty of water to restrictions on a regular basis. Of course the city was only about 70,000 folks then compared to over 300,000 now and it appears that we do not have enough water to support all of the growth anymore. I do not recall ever having 2 day watering restrictions since living here.

Denver has lifted their two day restrictions and are now on three day. Thornton has lifted their restrictions last week to having none at all. My family members some of whom live in Louisville and Parker have no restrictions placed on them. From what we see Aurora is one of few if not the only metro area city restricting the residents to just two days of watering a week. Three days worked well the past several years but two days makes things more difficult as many of us have spent a lot of money on the landscape of our yards so it is important to maintain it and to keep the plants, trees and lawns from dying out. So far many residents are able to barely maintain

their investments but it is not easy for many also. Fortunately we live in a HOA area with patio homes and small grass areas and some trees and scrubs. Our common area has a lot of money invested in nice trees, grass and shrubs and hopefully two days of water will keep them going, if not we may lose some of them if we have a lot of hot weather.

In any case, we understand that the two days of watering has put Code Enforcement in an enforcement bind also as many large multi-family developments, homeowners with large landscape areas and business that are required (a good thing) to have nice landscape when they build but are having a tough time to maintain what they have on just two days of watering during the summer heat. Thanks again. TB

Still Having Problems With Flooding At School Baseball Field In Utah Park

From an Overland High School Baseball Booster Club member to me: Molly, Hope you had a delightful July 4th holiday.

I am writing to you to seek your assistance on how to navigate the City. I have cc'd Mike Prichard, Overland's Head Baseball coach. Our Athletic Director (Mr. Ron Garcia y Ortiz) has moved to another position in the Cherry Creek School District, and the new Overland Athletic Director will begin work soon. In the meantime, we have a chronic issue.

We have a significant amount of standing water underneath the visitor stands, sometimes it is about 6 inches deep. If you recall, a new concrete slab was added during the winter/spring months and the visitor stands relocated. As you can imagine, one of the issues with the standing water is that it really stinks, and causes a very unsanitary and uncomfortable position for our visitors.

We believe we have seen folks from the City around the field, so someone might be aware of the situation, but it is unclear to us when it might get fixed?

Can you advise us on whom to contact to get a remedy? Thanks. LH

From me to LH and Tom Barrett: Indeed, I wished I had a waterproof camera the other Sunday during the downpour!!!

Yes, Tom Barrett the Director of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department, Paul Hindman from Urban Drainage and others met with me on site early in June to make remediation plans. As I recall, the Urban Drainage folk have product from other projects in the area and will be moving in early in August to lay additional rock barriers alongside the existing rocks to better divert the overflow into the creek channel and away from the fields and stands.

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Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions Continued

Still Having Problems With Flooding At School Baseball Field In Utah Park, continued

Tom—can you please verify and also get a more formal reply soon? Thanks so much!!!

From LH to me: Actually the problem I was referring to has been resolved thanks to Nate and other city employees. Apparently the drain by the bleachers had been covered with ground, so the run off had no place to go, other than to sit in a puddle.

We are glad to hear about the work that will occur in August to remediate our infield being lost in case of major downpours.

More On Sidewalk Repairs

Further discussion of sidewalk repairs, a topic addressed in last month's edition of Markert Times .

From DK to staff: I cannot find the figures to back up the report that the concrete budget has decreased by 2/3 since 2006-2007. Can someone provide that?

Also, back in 2006, the budget document provided the total linear feet of curb, gutter, and sidewalk replaced, but I can find no such comparison in 2012. I would like to see those figures for comparison.

How much does the city figure it saved by putting asphalt overlay on a sidewalk and delaying the correct repair, instead of doing the concrete now as best practice would dictate? When did this practice begin? As recently as 2010 right of way sidewalk in front of my house was properly repaired, so I assume that the policy has changed since then, but I may be incorrect in that assumption.

The context I see this in, is the Street Operations dept. budget from 2006 vs. 2012, budgeted expenditures increased 24% (\$5.8mm to \$7.2mm) and FTE's increased 26% (64 to 81) based on the posted budget documents. The overall budget for Public Works skyrocketed even more, but a large part of that appears to be due to reorganization. So I'm really struggling with the idea that the budget has been cut so much that there is no money for concrete sidewalk repairs. Thank you for any clarity you can provide.

From staff to DK: I can understand your bewilderment when looking at the overall Public Works department budget from 2006 to 2012. There is indeed an increase of approximately 24% as you state. Almost all of that increase is attributable to a re-organization in 2010 that brought two divisions, Building Permits and Facilities Maintenance, from other departments into Public Works. Unfortunately, this re-organization did not impact the funding used for street maintenance.

The main funding source for street maintenance, including concrete, is the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. The two programs used to maintain curb, gutter

and sidewalk are 49705 Sidewalk/ADA Improvements and 49713 Concrete Repair Program. The budgets for these two programs are found in the CIP Budget portion of the budget documents. The following table indicates the amount of funding allocated for concrete work:

As you can see, the budget for concrete repair has been

Program	2006	2012	2013	Doc. Pages
49705 Sidewalk/ADA Improvements	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	H-23 (383 of 510)
49713 Concrete Repair Program	\$2,730,000	\$944,000	\$944,000	H-16 & 17 (396 of 567)
Total	\$2,980,000	\$944,000	\$944,000	H-16 (396 of 568)

reduced by 68%, or \$2,036,000, since 2006. The budget documents used for this analysis can be found at:

2006 Budget: www.auroragov.org/cs/groups/public/documents/document/004144.pdf

2012 Budget: www.auroragov.org/cs/groups/public/documents/document/008473.pdf

2013 Budget: www.auroragov.org/cs/groups/public/documents/document/013813.pdf

You also asked for the amount of concrete repair completed in 2012 as a comparison to 2006. The 2006 budget document indicates a total of 124,786 lf of concrete was repaired (pg G-162). In 2012, the total amount of concrete repaired was 22,497 lf. The 2012 number represents a decrease of nearly 82% in the amount of work completed when compared to 2006.

In response to your question regarding placement of asphalt patches on displaced sidewalks, asphalt patching is not intended as a cost saving measure. Asphalt patches are placed as a temporary measure on lifted or depressed sidewalks that constitute a safety hazard. Once the City is aware of a safety issue, we are legally bound to address it. The purpose of the patch is to make the sidewalk safe until permanent repairs can be made. In previous years, we had adequate budget to address these repairs almost immediately, usually within one month. However, given the decreased budget, we are unable to be as responsive. We have had to prioritize even repairs for safety issues. The first priority is to repair severe concrete damage and safety hazards in areas planned for street paving or surface treatment. Nearly the entire available budget is allocated for these locations. Any remaining funding goes toward repairs in isolated locations, beginning first with locations closest to planned paving areas. As a result, it may be several months or years before we can budget a permanent repair for isolated locations.

Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions Continued

More On Sidewalk Repairs, Continued

We have been placing asphalt patches as temporary measures for the last 2-3 years.

I hope this has clarified some of your questions. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your questions and interest in the concrete repair program.

From DK to me: Molly, I give up. This citizen is worn out. These answers are non-answers. They've got a \$6 million operating budget for Street Operations and can't allocate any of it to fix the streets, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, as their general fund budget paragraph states is one of the two key functions.

Reorganization is a non-answer. Facilities Maintenance and Building Permits both went to different buckets in Public Works. The budget for Street Operations is basically the same as it was 6 years ago but the money is all going to headcount now, rather than fixing stuff.

I will not bother anyone with this complaint again. But I just wanted you to know that the answers given are not satisfactory. Thank you for your time.

From me to DK: I'm afraid to reply if you are truly "done" with this, but honestly, I think Lynne did a very adequate job of explaining to you that there is not money for what you want. That is not the answer that you want to hear, but it is in fact the truth. There is no money in CIP budget except for risk management issues. In the rest of the city budget there is not money for rec centers, gymnastics facilities, keeping pools open longer, adding books to the library collections, repairing curbs and gutters, landscaping medians, adding betterments to the I225 Light Rail line.....the money is not there. Or, the six votes to make it a priority are not there given all the competing interests.

I'd like the city manager to address your concerns as part of his "All For Business" campaign, and know you don't have time to delve into the City budget in great detail but would offer staff to educate you if you would be interested. I have looked, and there is no money hiding anywhere, no greed, graft or fraud going on either so no easy pots of money, and little waste to eliminate any more either.

May I use your experience with the city manager as part of the All For Business training?

Regatta Plaza Apartment Construction Plans

From Ward IV constituent EH to me: Thanks for sharing your newsletter with us. I enjoy reading about the variety of issues being reported.

As a Dam East resident, I am very interested in what happens at Regatta Plaza. I am a bit concerned about how much interest there will be in a lot of apartments there (do not think it will have lots of interested renters at the prices I've heard mentioned.) and hope that there will be fewer units built in a style that is more neighborhood congruent, i.e., lower storied buildings. An attractive and broader scope business/retail mix sounds like a better option to me. When it was built it was a nice mix of business/retail that was quite busy. And, yes, I have scanned the material about it online.

From me to EH: There is a state law we need to change having to do with liability for construction deficits that is preventing any builder from getting financing on any construction of more than 10 units, so we are hampered in having any developer come in now and put up anything but rentals. I would rather wait another year (for the law to get changed) and get condo/townhomes that are owner occupied than have a bunch of rental units. We do have the density and the zoning to support a high rise on the space now occupied by Soopers, in the triangle of a corner by the highway and light rail, so that the Soopers can come out of the corner to be along Peoria where it wants to be for visibility and access. The city requires compatibility with existing structures so there is little to no likelihood that anything higher than two stories would border Cornell or the back side along the property lines with the existing townhomes. Thanks for your interest.

Regatta Plaza Status Update

DC contacted me requesting a status update on the plans for the Regatta Plaza. I asked staff to reply and the following is from staff.

LD phoned DC the next day. DC wanted to know if there was any imminent redevelopment plans for Regatta Plaza. LD stated that the city was in the process of establishing an urban renewal area that would include Regatta Plaza. LD explained that the first step, the conditions survey (or blight study) has already been completed and was to be presented to the Aurora Urban Renewal Authority on July 22nd. LD also stated that the intent is to have the urban renewal area established by the end of the year. LD explained the benefits that the urban renewal area could provide to development (i.e., tax increment financing) and also that the city has been having periodic discussions with the Regatta Plaza property owner about the type of redevelopment. DC asked what the timeline for redevelopment would be, and LD explained that this property would be developed by the owner and the city does not currently know the timeline. DC then thanked LD for the update.

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Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions Continued

Pedestrian Crossing Signal Pushbutton

Ward IV constituent McK contacted me to report that the cross signal button on the northeast corner of Dayton and Florida was inoperable and requested that the button to be repaired. Staff asked Traffic to follow up with McK regarding his concerns. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

This was staff's reply on the following day: A Traffic Signal Technician checked the operations at Florida and Dayton and found an inoperative pedestrian pushbutton as reported. The defective unit has now been replaced. A voice mail message was left at McK's number thanking him for reporting the problem.

From me: My most sincere thanks for the initiative in reporting this problem so that it could be repaired!!! We ran into each other at Lowes one evening while I was completely focused on some long overdue home repair project, and all night long when the rest of you were sound asleep, I was trying to remember what it was McK mentioned to me...this was it!!!

Noise In City Parks And From Airplanes

The following email came in via the city council general email on the city's website: I have a question about how many people can be at the park and how loudly radios can be played in parks and open spaces. Also, are there still noise limits on airplanes in residential areas?

Staff emailed the following response to the citizen the same day. In addition, he was given a direct contact for any further questions that might arise. City code limits residential sound levels to 55 decibels during the day, which is the sound of a normal conversation. After 9 p.m., the level drops to 45 decibels. The majority of Aurora's parks fall under this residential limit. We do monitor noise levels in parks, when necessary, with a decibel meter to ensure park users are complying with city code. We encourage people be considerate and respectful of park neighbors and other park users by keeping music and voices to a reasonable level. If specific park locations are identified where problems have been encountered with noise, please let us know so that we can try to address this concern. If staff within the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department is unable to effectively resolve the noise complaint at a park site, then assistance from the Aurora Police Department is requested and always provided.

The city of Aurora has an airport noise coordinator to receive airport noise complaints from citizens and to review development applications to ensure proposed developments will be compatible land uses for the airports and future citizens that may live in these developments. The airport noise coordinator, who is funded by an intergovernmental agreement between Adams County and the city

of Denver, also coordinates with the four major airports located in close proximity to the city. For additional information about the city's Airport Noise Program please contact R. Porter Ingram at 303-739-7227 or at pingrum@auroragov.org

Denver International Airport now offers an online system for tracking the movement of flights and air traffic patterns within the greater Denver region. WebTrak Flight Tracking and Noise Information System allows the public to research data about flights to and from DIA, Centennial Airport, Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport, Front Range Airport and Buckley Air Force Base, as well as any air traffic that transitions through the region. The system also simplifies the process of filing a noise complaint, offering a Web channel for residents who wish to register concerns regarding noise levels. <http://webtrak.bksv.com/den>

Noise complaints for the other three airports can be filed as follows:

Buckley Air Force Base (BKF), (720) 847-9035
www.buckley.af.mil

Centennial Airport (APA), (303) 790-4709,
www.centennialairport.com/Complaints

Front Range Airport (FTG), (303) 261-9103, www.ftg-airport.com/index.php

More Complaints Regarding Commercial Property Landscaping

This is just one more example of many similar complaints I have received from constituents this summer.

From RS to me: Hi Molly. The landscaping, and I use the term loosely, around the XYZ store on the southeast corner of S. ABC St. and E. DEF Dr. is atrocious. It is really an eyesore for our neighborhood. Dead trees, nothing but weeds and I don't think the owner does anything over there. Is there anything to be done about this?

From staff to RS and me: On 5/15/2012, the property was issued a Notice of Violation to restore and revive the landscaping. On 6/14/2012, the property was re-inspected and was not in compliance. A Final Notice was mailed out to the owner. A Code Enforcement Officer made contact with the store manager in July 2012, and worked with them through the summer due to the extreme heat. The violation was continued through the winter months and set for a re-inspection on 5/16/2013 for full compliance. On 5/16/2013, a Code Enforcement Officer re-inspected the property and determined that it was not in compliance. The officer was prepared to issue the store manager a summons to Municipal Court.

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Ward Meeting Issues and Resolutions Continued

More Complaints Regarding Commercial Property Landscaping, continued

The officer learned that a new manager had been assigned over the winter months and agreed to give her a chance to correct the violations. On 5/17/2013, the officer was contacted by someone from the corporate office responsible for repairing the landscaping at this store. She informed the officers that she is currently seeking bids to install new landscaping. The officer agreed to an extension and a few days later spoke to the landscaper assigned to perform the work. On 6/26/2013, the officer contacted her again and gave her a final completion date of 7/19/2013 for full compliance. If the property is not in compliance at this time, further enforcement action will be taken. The officer also has the surrounding properties under Notice of Violation for landscape violations.

From me to city management: With the daily afternoon raindrops, there is positively no reason maintained landscaping would not be looking nice by now, except for the stuff is dead and has been completely neglected all spring and summer and now isn't coming back but has to be replaced. Can you please get them started on a remediation plan pronto, so we don't have to look at the dead corner all winter and into next season yet too? Thanks!

Note from the editor: You can file an anonymous code violation complaint by calling Access Aurora at 303 739-7000.

Safety Concerns At The Nine Mile RTD Station

From Ward IV constituent PS to me: Recent events and activities at 9 mile have me very concerned. My 19 year old daughter uses light rail to get to and from work often coming home after midnight and having to walk from the station to our home. The recent armed robbery and ever present panhandlers on the I225 off ramp are major concerns. This morning at 6:00 while on a bike ride I saw no less than 3 panhandlers (well equipped with cell phones and cigarettes) and one individual sleeping in the pedestrian walkway tunnel on the SE corner of Parker and Peoria. What can we do to assure 9mile is safe?

From staff to PS and me: The robbery occurred at 5:40 A.M. in the tunnel from the parking garage to the stairs leading to the light rail deck. This portion of the station is located in Arapahoe County and is the responsibility of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office. Good quality video was obtained from RTD and within several days the Sheriff's Department had identified all 5 suspects and had arrested 4 of them. They are looking for the 5th suspect.

The 9 Mile Station is patrolled by Arapahoe County Sheriff's Department who has jurisdiction over the south half of the location which includes the tunnel, passenger

platform, and train. The Aurora Police Department patrols the rest of the complex and has jurisdiction over the north half of the location which includes the parking structure, the entrance and exit from the parking lot, and the bus lane. Additionally RTD security patrols all these locations. As a result of this robbery the Sheriff's Department intends to step up patrols on the platform and the tunnel locations. They will be using their Impact Team to accomplish this and intend to include operations late into the evening. A joint operation between Aurora Police, the Arapahoe Sheriff's Office, and RTD was scheduled at the 9 Mile Station. The Aurora Police Department now has Officers working in an off duty capacity for RTD and has increased patrols around the 9 Mile Station.

With regard to the people panhandling on the I225 exit ramp at Parker Road this section of Parker Road is located in Arapahoe County and is the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Office. Captain Bob Stef contacted Undersheriff David Walcher and asked him about the panhandlers. The Undersheriff said that the panhandlers were not responsible for the robbery; the suspects in the robbery drove to the station, committed the robbery and left in their vehicle. This is all captured on video. Undersheriff Walcher said they don't have a County ordinance prohibiting panhandling however he said he would approach the Sheriff about going to the Board of County Commissioners to see if they were interested in passing such an ordinance.

PAR Officer Gene Lemay has been in touch with the complainant in this Council Request.

The Aurora Police Department will continue patrolling the 9 Mile Station Park and Ride lot and the Sheriff's Department will step up their patrols on the platform and tunnel areas. We have no jurisdiction over the panhandlers working the northbound exit ramp at 225 and Parker Road and the Arapahoe County Commissioners will need to pass a new ordinance for the Sheriff's Department to take action against these individuals.

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News on the Street -- Havana Street that is:

August 27 Concert: Aurora Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet And Ice Cream Social

WHAT: Aurora Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet in concert and free ice cream sundaes for the first 400 people in attendance.

WHEN? Tuesday, August 27, 6-8 p.m.

COST? Free.

WHERE? Around the Rose Garden at The Gardens on Havana (former Buckingham Square Mall site) at E. Mississippi Ave. and S. Havana St.

We have rented the City of Aurora's Show Wagon for this concert. The Show Wagon will be set up along Garden Drive just east of the Rose Garden Plaza. The Rose Garden Plaza is along the back row of big box stores in between Dick's Sporting Goods and Petco.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on and water or soda to drink. We will provide the free ice cream sundaes while they last. Everyone will receive a ticket for a chance to win door prizes at the concert (no purchase necessary).

CDOT's \$3.25 Million Resurfacing Project Now Through September

CDOT is doing a major resurfacing project along Havana Street this summer from 1st Avenue down to Florida Avenue. Work started on June 17 and will continue through September. Crews have already done manhole cover work and are in the process of doing curb and gutter work at intersections to comply with ADA requirements. Repaving operations will start in a couple weeks.

We will be receiving weekly updates from CDOT regarding lane closures and cone zones as the project proceeds. CDOT may have to do some Saturday paving, too. During the week, construction crews will be out from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Watch the homepage at www.OnHavanaStreet.com as we will be posting the cone zone notices that we receive from CDOT on that homepage throughout the summer.

Kimco Plans Major Redevelopment Of Village On The Park Shopping Center

Kimco's Village on the Park Shopping Center at Parker Road and Havana will be undergoing a major transformation starting sometime in the next 12-18 months. First up will be a facelift of the TJ Maxx store. Party City has moved their store to South Colorado Blvd. in Denver, but Halloween City will occupy the space this fall, and rumor has it that a major national shoe retailer will take over the space in 2014. Redevelopment plans are still in the works, so stay tuned as this is major, exciting redevelopment news On Havana Street!

Saving Bye-Bye to the Old Cement Factory On South Havana

A new neighborhood storage facility was approved by Aurora City Planning Commission in 2011. A phase I environmental assessment was required before demolition could begin on the old Flanagan LaFarge Cement Factory located behind Mr. Panda and Car Quest on S. Havana Street. There was no asbestos or other environmental hazard found, so demolition could commence. LaFarge closed the cement factory on S. Havana St. about five years ago and the property has been sitting vacant. The new neighborhood storage facility will have an attendant on site 24 hours a day. We will post more information as we receive it.

What's Up With That Ugly "Bubble Building?"

The latest on the Fanfare demolition--The crews are almost finished with removing the asbestos from the interior of the building. Unfortunately, there still has not been approval by the Colorado Department of Health & Environment of the plans to remove the roof and side walls due to the extensive asbestos. The best guess is that it will be late fall or winter now before the building is down. We have waited 29 years, so we can wait a little longer to make sure the remediation of asbestos is done safely and completely.

Toys & Babies R Us Under Construction

It's Toys & Babies R Us! The walls are up on this 46,737 square foot anchor. The ledgerstone is being installed on the building. Watch for a soft opening in late September with a grand opening in October 2013!

Ground Breaking News!

After a few easement dedication delays, Post Development broke ground at the site of the new 217 apartment complex just east of The Gardens on Havana on July 1st. There is a pile of dirt and construction equipment on site and the barrier fence is going up. This is the long-awaited residential piece of the Gardens on Havana.

Redevelopment Of Ironton Street Shops

We are seeing signs of economic recovery in the area. The strip mall on the NE corner of Ironton and Mississippi was scheduled for a major upgrade in 2008 just before the economic downturn hit. That redevelopment project stalled until recently. The site is a buzz of construction activity now with a new facade is going up and a new Somali restaurant has opened up in this space. Very nice to see!

Continued on Page 9

News on the Street -- Havana Street that is: Continued

Starbucks Anticipates A September Opening

The new Starbucks with a drive-thru should be open in early September at The Gardens on Havana in between Wells Fargo and McDonald's.

WISE Partnership – Water For Douglas County

From the Director of Aurora Water: Honorable Mayor and Council, questions continue to come to all of us related to our contracts to lease water to outside entities while we remain in a drought. Below is a brief blurb to help answer some of those questions as we prepare to consider a Memorandum of Understanding with Denver and Douglas County that would formalize discussions to negotiate expanding the WISE deliveries to the originally contemplated 10,000 acre-feet per year of interruptible supply (consistent with the previously approved WISE agreement).

The Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency (WISE) Partnership will deliver water on an interruptible basis to several entities in Douglas County. This water is available only when it is not needed by the two providing partners, Aurora and Denver Water. The water delivered under WISE is above and beyond what either city can currently use for the benefits of their customers due to

system limitations. However, in future drought years when infrastructure, etc. is in place to address limitations, Aurora can suspend its share of WISE water and the WISE partnership can utilize only Denver's portion of water through Aurora's unused infrastructure. If Denver also needs to suspend deliveries, Aurora and Denver can suspend all deliveries for up to 24 months. The flexibility in the WISE delivery agreement allows Aurora to collect revenue for the use of our infrastructure on water we are unable to utilize, while maintaining the reliability of its water supply for Aurora residents. This revenue will help stabilize water rates. Agreements to provide water to non-Aurora customers consider our ability to provide the best service, both short and long term, to Aurora residents at the most affordable rates as the highest priority.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Thanks.

Water Restrictions Eased

The Aurora City Council voted unanimously to return to 3 day per week watering restrictions. Aurora had been under 2 day per week limitations since April 1, 2013.

This returns the city to its normal, permanent conservation measures.

Residents can pick which 3 days they water, but still cannot water from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Water wasting, such as letting water run off lawns, is also prohibited.

Lock Your Doors and Windows When Not Home And At Night

Burglaries in the area in the Ward on E. Florida Ave. east of S. Havana St have been increasing for the past several months and the PAR Officers have been warning people about this. Officer Holweger has sent flyers to the multi-family residences in this area and asked them to close and lock their windows and doors when they are

gone.

Approximately 90% of the recent burglaries involved open or unlocked windows. This trend is also prevalent in other multi-family developments in the area. The same advice is given to other residents.

Make A Difference In Your Community: Volunteer For A City Board Or Commission

Plan a park, build a road, support seniors or dabble in the arts. These rewarding opportunities and more are yours to endeavor upon when you put your exciting ideas and insights to work on a city board or commission.

You don't have to run for political office to impact the decision-making process. As a board or commission member, you can review new and existing policy and then make key recommendations to the city council. By sharing your valuable expertise, you will provide important insight from a citizen's perspective concerning city operations.

Making a city a great place to live, work and play takes participation. Aurora has always been fortunate to have residents who are actively involved in their community.

Every day people just like you donate their time, know-how and knowledge to get the job done.

It's easy to get started. The city has 29 boards and commissions to choose from. Just pick the one that fits your interests and apply.

To apply you must be an Aurora resident and a registered voter, and have an interest in serving your community. People of all backgrounds and ages are encouraged to apply.

If you're interested, contact the Deputy City Clerk Karen Goldman at 303-739-7637 for more information on how to apply. A full description of duties and responsibilities is available at online at www.auroragov.org, search "Boards and Commissions."

September Is National Preparedness Month

O.M.E.G.A., the City of Aurora, the American Red Cross and the Gardens on Havana will be hosting a safety fair in conjunction with many of our partners. The event features speakers, exhibits, demonstrations, vendors and contests. There is no fee to attend!

Fires, tornados, flooding, winter storms. Do you have an emergency plan? Severe weather patterns, technological disasters and terrorism are prevalent in today's news. Do you know what to do if disaster strikes? Is your family ready?

September is National Preparedness Month, focused on helping Americans understand that preparedness goes beyond fire alarms, smoke detectors, dead-bolt locks and extra food in the pantry.

O.M.E.G.A., a Colorado based multi-disciplinary response team, is using this opportunity to raise community awareness. On Saturday, September 7 come to the National Preparedness Month Fair at the Gardens on Havana in Aurora and learn what it truly means to be ready. Be informed. Make a plan. Build a kit. Get involved. Make a difference. Pledge to prepare.

Go to <http://fair.OMEGaresponders.org/> for more information. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Jennifer Scott at jenn@omegaresponders.org.

Are You Prepared For A Disaster Or Emergency?

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens are trained to respond to the scene of an incident safely and render aid. It's all about people helping people.

CERT teams are trained to manage utilities, extinguish small fires, provide basic medical aid, search for and rescue victims safely.

Join the team and make a difference in your community. Classes fill up quickly so register today!

Classes start Aug. 6 and Sept. 3. 6 to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway. Disaster simulations to be announced at a later date.

To register, email to acox@auroragov.org or call 303-326-8964 with any questions.

Aurora Residents For Recreation Wants To Hear From You

As you may know, the Aurora Residents for Recreation (ARR) went to the ballot in 2011 to build new recreations centers in Aurora. The ARR plans to go back to the ballot in 2014. This time around, they have the support of the Mayor and 9 members of City Council to put the question on the ballot. In his State of the City address, the Mayor spoke in favor of recreation centers, senior centers, and indoor pools. The ARR has an idea of what they want to

put on the ballot in 2014 and are in the process of getting citizen input before they finalize the ballot question. They are considering including a recreation center, a field house, a water park, and improvements to existing parks.

If you belong to a group that would like to host a presentation and provide comments, please contact Arnie Schultz at seamus12@comcast.net or 303-750-8824.

Pickle Ball Coming In The Fall

Pickle Ball is a smaller version of tennis which can be played in a gym. It is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for

experienced players. For more information call the city's Adult Sports at 303-326-8700.

New Accessible Pier At Aurora Reservoir

Aurora Reservoir has a new, fully accessible fishing pier, thanks to a grant from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), a program of the Colorado Lottery. Enjoy a longer fishing season on this beautiful new pier, or just

take in the sights & sounds this summer. Reservoir hours during August are 5:30 a.m. to 9:00p.m. \$10/vehicle entry fee, annual passes with resident discounts available.

www.auroragov.org/reservoirs

More Road Delays Coming

To accommodate the construction of RTD's FasTracks project, a segment of the 66 inch waterline must be relocated.

Work will occur in S. Abilene St. between E. Iliff Ave. and E. Evans Ave. Final design is expected in August, with construction planned for fall.

Check Your Energy Costs with a Power Meter

The Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Xcel Energy, is now offering power meters for customers to check out. Library patrons can check the energy usage of various household appliances, such as refrigerators, microwaves and washing machines.

By using the meter and then uploading the data to a computer, customers can calculate the operating costs of home appliances, and determine the potential cost savings of replacing older energy-hogging appliances with newer more energy-efficient ones.

The power meters from Xcel come with a detailed instruction booklet and a USB cable to interface the meter with a PC for advanced calculation capabilities. Users can download free software from the Xcel Energy website to use with the power meters, but the meter can also be used as a stand-alone product. Even without the software, customers will find it useful to figure out which appliances in the home use the greatest amount of energy.

With this knowledge, energy can be saved by simply using these appliances more efficiently.

The power meters can be checked out for three weeks at a time and can be renewed if there are no holds by other customers. Power meters can be checked out in person at any full service Aurora Public Library location. It is advisable to first place the item on hold to ensure it will be available when you visit the library.

To check the availability of a power meter, go to www.auroralibrary.org and type "Power Check" into the library catalog "Key Word" search box. When you visit the library in person, please ask a staff member for assistance.

For more information about the program and ways to save energy, please visit www.responsiblebynature.com.

What's New At The Aurora Public Library?

The new Mission Viejo Library Teen Center officially opened May 27. The center features fun furnishings and shelving from IKEA, but the centerpiece is the large flat-screen television, currently attached to the new Wii gaming system. Teens may borrow game controllers from the front desk and test their skills at various games. Additional plans include a DVD player for showing age-appropriate movies. The graphic novels at Mission Viejo were moved into the center and coming soon, a mural featuring characters from manga and anime.

Once a month, a class on basic computer programming and website development will be offered. Other programs include a Wii contest, teen cooking and a variety of teen

crafts. Once in place, computers will run Windows 2013, and soon we hope to offer classes on advanced computing. Also, check out the many new young adult books added to the collection. All of the furnishings and equipment were paid for by a Library Services & Technology Act grant from the state of Colorado. The grant provides spaces and activities in a library that appeal to teens and help them become more comfortable using the library's resources. The \$5,000 grant gives us a chance to think creatively about what would appeal to teens. With a core group of participants that are spreading the word, we have seen a steady increase in participants since the program started in January.

Amazing Aurorans

As I have mentioned before, but not in a while, one of the things I really enjoying about being your Ward IV City Council Member is that every three months I get to recognize outstanding citizens by presenting them with Amazing Aurorans Awards. I tend to select people who have empowered themselves to accomplish something that city government can't do. The following are my latest awardees.

To State Senator Nancy Todd and Chief of Staff Support Terry Todd: For their countless hours of devoted service to Aurora, to kids and youth, and to their neighborhood. Nancy has served in the State House and now the State Senate, devotedly carrying Aurora's messages to her peers under the dome. Terry is involved in the Aurora Parks and Rec Board, the America's Promise for Youth collaborative, and countless other recreation initiatives of particular benefit to youth. Together they sponsor and host the week long summer youth camp program to introduce area young people to career opportunities, safe driving, and a host of other good choices. Nancy and Terry are truly invested in making Aurora a strong and vibrant, safe and successful community. Cheers, to two Amazing Aurorans!!

To Rebecca Rook: For her "Model Mom" role in her neighborhood, her children's school, and her husband's

business. Rebecca is a real professional, winning over hearts and heads with her determination to make her community safe for her children to enjoy walking to elementary school as she did as a child in the same neighborhood. I have learned so much from her style and her skill! Equally unique, she snatched up a delightful husband from "Down Under" and her role in his home improvement business is astonishing. When one of our constituents fell on hard times and needed repair work done, Rebecca stepped up to help. Within days, she had dispatched her husband and his tool kit to remedy the problems, and then refused to accept payment. Our city is safer and better because of the care and compassion of this "Model Mom".

To the Trifecta of Winners: Gayle Jetchick, Scott Gollammer and Chief Oates—for successfully getting the Aurora Police Mini Station set up in the Gardens on Havana. The actual process reads like a dramatic thriller, and the end result is dramatic!! We now have a physical space, well labeled and secure, for our area officers to use for a respite between the growing action of calls for service in our area. Thanks also to Jackson Hewitt Tax Service for their generosity in sharing their physical space, to city Legal and Permitting for getting the red tape wrapped up in short order, and to Gayle for never letting go of her idea to get it done! Cheers, all!

Aurora Public Library Receives A Donation From The Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation

For the second year in a row, the Aurora Public Library has been selected by the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation to receive a \$5,000 donation through the non-profit organization Spirit of Aurora.

The Kline Foundation is a major supporter of public libraries and their vital service mission to their respective populaces. The funds will be used to augment collection funding used to purchase children's reading materials and support literacy, a fundamental key to success.

Approximately 55 percent of the total checkouts at the Aurora Public Library are children's materials. Literacy efforts are a major focus of the Aurora Public Library, as demonstrated by the two Early Literacy Centers implemented in 2012 both at the Central Library and at the Mission Viejo Library. This funding is much appreciated, especially given the city's reductions in collection funding generated by the recent recession and subsequent lowered tax revenues.

About the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation

The Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation reflects the passion of its founder and benefactor, Jerry Kline. From his early days at the University of California Berkeley library to founding Innovative Interfaces and more recently SkyRiver, Kline has worked in and with libraries for almost 40 years. A significant portion of the Foundation's philanthropic activities are offered to enhance the unique place that each library holds within its community. Since its inception, the Gerald M. Kline Foundation has awarded grants to a wide range of public and academic libraries across the United States.

About the Spirit of Aurora

The [Spirit of Aurora](#), a non-profit 501 C (3) organization, was founded by a group of area citizens in 1989, in order to improve the quality of life in Aurora. Spirit of Aurora accepts donations and grants on behalf of all city programs.

At The Aurora History Museum

The Museum's longtime permanent exhibition, *Living Aurora*, on the history of Aurora and the surrounding area, will be closing on August 18 in preparation for the construction of the Museum's new gallery and the renovation of the permanent exhibition spaces.

Don't miss this old favorite before it becomes just a memory. Some elements of the current exhibition will be making their way back into the new exhibit (like the historic wooden water pipe), but other items will go back into storage. Bring your family by one last time to read the funny stories, see the unique objects, and marvel at the birds of prey. This is your last chance.

The Civilian Conservation Corps in Colorado is an Aurora History Museum Historic Photos Exhibit, running through Oct. 5

If you've ever attended a concert at Red Rocks Amphitheater, driven on Rim Rock Drive in Colorado National Monument or drank clean Colorado water, you've benefited from the hard work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which celebrates its 80th anniversary this year.

The Aurora History Museum is celebrating the many contributions of the CCC with an exhibit featuring historic photographs depicting enrollees' life in camp and working in the field. Photographs are from the Colorado State Archives and Denver Mountain Parks. The Mile High Chapter 7 Alumni group of the National Association of CCC Alumni has loaned personal items from enrollees including scrapbooks to view in the exhibit.

The CCC projects focused on conserving natural resources as well as enhancing the National and State Park systems.

Examples of projects included building bridges, fire lookout towers, dams and reservoirs, public campgrounds, and roads. Enrollees also planted almost three billion trees, fought wild land fires, plowed snow and collected seeds. In Colorado, the CCC maintained at least 160 camps over the course of the nine year program. The majority of the work projects supported National Forests, soil conservation, and parks. Colorado's first camp was organized at Fort Logan on April 27, 1933.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps with an executive order. What began as a plan to put 250,000 people to work swelled to include over 2.5 million young men from 1933-1942. The men, 18-25 years of age, earned \$30 a month with \$25 automatically sent home to help their families. Each enrollee joined for a six month period, and could re-enlist for up to two years.

About the Aurora History Museum - The Aurora History Museum is a service of the city of Aurora's Cultural Services Division. The museum at 15051 E. Alameda Parkway is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call 303-739-6660 or visit

www.auroramuseum.org for more information.

Admission to the museum is free.



Local Licensing Authority

There currently is a vacancy on the Local Licensing Authority (LLA) and notice of this vacancy has been posted since the beginning of 2013 without anyone having applied.

If you might be interested, you can contact Karen Goldman, Deputy City Clerk at kgoldman@auroragov.org or 303-739-7637.

The Authority is seeking geographic diversity as the majority of the members currently reside in Ward VI.

The LLA meets every other Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Aurora Municipal Center in Council Chambers.

The Authority is empowered to grant licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages, conduct investigations as required, and is authorized to revoke such licenses.

Qualifications: Applicants must be registered electors of the city. No person shall be appointed as a member of the licensing authority who shall have any financial interest in the operation of a liquor establishment or in one serving fermented malt beverages or who has a member of his or her family who has such an interest within the Denver metropolitan area. For the purposes of this section only, the term "family" shall include a person's relatives by blood or marriage.

Membership: Number of members: 5; term: 3 years (No person shall serve for more than two terms.)

Stolen Backflow Devices

Aurora Police are investigating a dramatic increase in the theft of backflow preventers, a device that prevents contaminants from entering the city's drinking water supply. The devices are required at all commercial properties and irrigation systems.

So far this year, 105 backflow devices on commercial properties have been reported stolen, compared to last year, when 15 were reported stolen. Thefts have occurred at Aurora parks, numerous commercial properties and homeowners associations. They also have been stolen from medical facilities, which need constant water flow in order to conduct dialysis. Some property owners have had their backflow preventers stolen more than once.

It's unclear if the thieves are stealing the devices for scrap metal or reselling them, investigators said. When the device is removed, water continues to flow from the pipe, wasting large amounts of water and creating potential flood hazards in structures.

Backflow devices are a critical protection to the city's drinking water supply. These thieves are getting a nominal amount of money and are creating numerous hazards in the process.

Residents and business owners can purchase a security cage that locks and can protect their backflow devices from theft. A less expensive preventative measure is painting the device with flat black or brown paint. The painted parts are worth less at scrap yards and are more difficult to resell as new.

Aurora Police are asking anyone who may have witnessed this incident or has any information on these cases to please call Sgt. Franklin Michelson at 303-627-3152. You can also provide information on these cases and remain anonymous by calling CRIME STOPPERS at 720-913-STOP (7867). You may be eligible to earn a reward of up to two thousand dollars.

Online Portal Listing Free Resources For Colorado Veterans!

This is the most exciting news we have yet to put out. Please share with any Colorado veteran or their family that you may know. Please send out to your friends and family. Please share with anyone and everyone who you feel that it would be appropriate to forward this article to. If you have any media contacts, I'd appreciate them putting this information out too.

After almost two years of hard work, information gathering, networking, and refining; the COLORADO VETERANS RESOURCE PORTAL is now live! Go to www.veteransresourceportal.com/

We encourage veterans, veteran family members, volunteers, and anyone else who has experience with any of the resources listed on our site to submit a rating and comment. Please help get the word out!

For further details on the site, visit the "About" section at: www.veteransresourceportal.com/about/

Thank you for your support, Shane Schmutz, Executive Director / Founder, Veteran's Passport To Hope

Historic Sites Tours

Two of Aurora's historic sites will be open for free tours this month:

Centennial House at 1671 Galena Street is open on Saturday August 3. The House will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. and historic sites staff and volunteers will be available to answer questions.

DeLaney Farm Historic Site at 170 S. Chambers is open on Saturday August 10. The historic Gully Homestead House and the DeLaney Round Barn will be open.

Again staff and volunteers will be available to answer questions. If you have any questions, or would like more information, please feel free to call 303-739-6661.

3D Archery Shoot

Sat., Aug. 3 and Sun., Aug. 4
7 a.m.-3 p.m. • Pronghorn Natural Area
\$10 Adult/\$5 Child

Call 303-690-1286 for more information and directions.

Practice on 3D targets before archery season begins! 20+ targets include bear, buffalo, alligators and more! Walk through as many times as you like. No registration required.

“Science in the Stacks”

Find out the latest ideas in science and technology for free at your local library. The Aurora Central Library, 14949 E. Alameda Parkway, is offering its monthly Science in the Stacks programs—based on the European Café Scientifique model—to provide a casual forum where local scientists and technologists will discuss new discoveries and issues. A broad range of topics and interests will be tackled in a comfortable setting. For more information, call 303-739-6630 or visit www.auroralibrary.org.

The Apollo Program

Sun., Aug. 11, 2-3 p.m. Re-discover the first moon landing! Learn how NASA utilized technology and resolved engineering challenges to achieve a successful moon landing. Bring your questions about space exploration. Presented by Barbara and Steve Sande, Solar System Ambassadors, Apollo Program

Program Helps Those In Need Get High-Efficiency Toilets For Free

At Aurora Water, we understand that it sometimes costs a little to save a lot, so we've created a program to help income-qualifying residents get new, high-efficiency toilets, showerheads and aerators for free. We'll conduct a free indoor water audit, cover the costs of the new fixtures, and install them. It will save water, and could even save residents money on their water bill.

Participants must own their home, have a water meter that is just for their house and have fixtures that are not considered high efficiency. Call us for the specific fixture requirements, and if we need to, we'll come out and find out if your fixtures qualify.

To qualify, a household must earn 60 percent or less of the area median income—for example, a family of four cannot earn more than \$49,600. Those who qualify for Xcel Energy's LEAP program can also participate.

For more information or to apply, call 303-739-7351. Funding for the program is limited, so residents will be assisted on first-come, first-served basis.

Read Online With Zinio eMagazine

The Aurora Public Library is now offering popular magazines delivered to your computer or mobile device and all you need is your library card.

Read as much or as little as you want, whenever you want. No check-ins, check-outs necessary, no renewal dates to remember, and nothing to carry around. It's all right there online using your iPad, iPhone, Android, Mac or PC.

Zinio eMagazine creates a simple and a pleasurable browsing experience with pages that turn much like you're reading the journal in hand. Plus, you may print any sections or pages of the magazine that you want.

Magazine topics to explore include: news, sports, automotive, business, entertainment, travel, music, history and many more. Some familiar titles include: Newsweek, Cosmopolitan, Men's Health and Women's Health, Esquire, Elle, Food Network, Car & Driver—just to name a few.

The world's largest newsstand is now at your disposal. Create your account at www.auroralibrary.org and start flipping through free magazines today.

Welcome To The I-225 Rail Line Newsletter Section!

Excitement is buzzing at the I-225 Rail Line project office as we head into spring with increasing construction activities. Subscribe at <http://tinyurl.com/SubscribeI225Newsletter> to the newsletter and familiarize yourself with the tools available on

the I-225 Rail Line website, http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/i225_1.

We periodically send emails with essential information, including project news, construction updates and upcoming events.

Aurora Fox 2013 Gala Benefit

Saturday, September 7
at 6:00 pm

Season
of
Style

Enjoy an evening of delicious food and select wines, a silent auction, and a sneak peek at what The Aurora Fox and our producing partners have to offer in 2013-2014.

Some of the featured show samples include *Metamorphoses* - a collection of Greek myths performed in and around a large pool of water, a musical with puppets (for adults!) - *Avenue Q*, the Little Foxes' *The Hobbit*, our *Surprise Spring Musical*, and scenes from the classic American thriller *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

Coffee and dessert will be served following the show.

This annual event is a terrific excuse to dress up and socialize in a festive theatre setting, while showing your support for the arts right here in your community. Please RSVP by August 30.

RSVP: 303-739-1970

The Aurora Fox ○ 9900 East Colfax Avenue ○ www.AuroraFox.org

Please RSVP to Aurora Fox Board Member Vince Chowdhury 303-283-0004 or vincechowdhury@yahoo.com

Banks In Harmony Summer Concert Series

Bring a blanket and find a spot on the lawn for the city of Aurora's 27th annual Banks in Harmony summer concert series featuring a variety of music from pop to big band swing. Concerts run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursdays during the summer. Admission is free, and food is available for sale on site from L & L Hawaiian Barbeque, A-Town Pizza, Legends of Aurora Sports Grill, Maid-Rite Diner, McAlister's Deli, Cold Stone Creamery and Woody Creek Bakery & Café.

(Note: Not all the vendors are present at every concert.)

The August schedule and location is as follows:

Aug. 1 *Phat Daddy* – High energy R&B, Rock and Contemporary Hits
Meadowood Park, 3054 S. Laredo St.

At The Vintage Theatre

In the Heights

Directed by Rebecca Joseph

August 2 - September 1, 2013 Stage 1

At the Vintage Theatre

1468 Dayton Street

Go to <http://www.vintagetheatre.com/> to order tickets

Welcome to Washington Heights - a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. It's a community

where the biggest struggles can be deciding which traditions you take with you, and which ones you leave behind. In the Heights is the winner of four Tony Awards including for Best Musical.

What's Happenin' at The Fox?

Ignite Theatre presents

Lystistrata Jones (Regional Premiere)

Book by Douglas Carter Beane, Music

& Lyrics by Lewis Flinn

TWO WEEKENDS ONLY:

August 2 - August 11

A modern spin on Aristophanes' bawdy comedy about the women of Ancient Greece manipulating their men to end the war. In this high energy musical iteration, we have a group of cheerleaders who won't "give it up" until their basketball-playing boyfriends win a game.

A hilarious book and an upbeat pop score keeps the performers in constant motion, performing basketball stunts, cheerleader flips, hip-hop moves, b-boxing and all manner of dancing.

Special Gala Evening: August 2nd. Just \$45 for pre-show food and drinks **PLUS** premium seating for the show **PLUS** post-show champagne and Season Announcement. Let's celebrate!

For tickets, please visit the Ignite Theatre [website](#) or call: 720-362-2697.

The Aurora Fox presents

Metamorphoses - Season Opener in the

Studio Theatre

August 16 - September 22

Metamorphoses is comprised of nine inter-related tales based on ancient Greek and Roman mythology, each enacted in and around a large pool of water in the Studio Theatre.

Using contemporary language and familiar characters, such as King Midas and his golden touch and Orpheus and Eurydice in the underworld, the play explores the inevitability of change and the transformative powers of love.

For tickets, visit the Fox [website](#) or call 303-739-1970.

Cancer Prevention Study

From an email sent to the Mayor and City Council:

Be a Part of History! Become a Community Research Champion for the ACS Cancer Prevention Study-3, a Landmark Cancer Research Study!

Dear Mayor Hogan and Members of the Aurora City Council, Your American Cancer Society and I are writing to share news of a great opportunity to be a part of history in the fight against cancer. This year, a number of Denver Metro Area communities, including Aurora, will have the unique opportunity to participate in a landmark, nationwide cancer research study, Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3) on September 4 through 20, 2013. CPS-3 is a once in a lifetime chance to leave a research legacy behind to serve future generations.

To better understand ways to prevent cancer, the American Cancer Society, with the help of volunteer Community Research Champions, is recruiting men and women between the ages of 30 and 65 years who have never been diagnosed with cancer for the research study. The study will help researchers better understand the lifestyle, environmental and genetic factors that may cause or prevent cancer.

Our goal is to recruit Community Research Champions throughout the Denver Metropolitan Area to enroll over 2,000 people in the study. The call to action is simple. Help us save lives!

You can help by serving as a Community Research Champion. Anyone can be a Champion. What does that mean?

- Recruit 3 or more people to enroll in the study to be held September 4 through 20, 2013 (17 locations are available metro-wide for enrollees.)
- Reach out to your colleagues, constituents, family, friends, neighbors or coworkers who also want to fight cancer
- Use promotional materials to share information about the study provided by the Society as needed (like brochures or posters for your workplace, community group or personal contacts)
- Direct your contacts to the website to sign up for an appointment and to learn more about CPS-3.

- Schedule your own appointment if you're eligible. Visit cps3Colorado.org to schedule your appointment, or call 1-888-604-5888, or email cps3@cancer.org to learn more about the difference you can personally make in the fight against cancer.

- Encourage others to serve as a Community Research Champion to persuade at least 3 people to also enroll!

Is this something that you or someone you know may be interested in? Please see, attached, an informational brochure on CPS-3, including a map providing Metro Denver study locations, dates and times. The CPS-3 Community Champion kickoff event for Aurora is set for July 30th. Please join us!

(Note from Molly: (This may be too late for the newsletter, but the study dates aren't as they continue in August and September.)

CPS - 3 Study locations in Aurora include:

Children's Hospital Colorado

13123 E. 16th Ave., Aurora, CO 80045
2nd Floor Conference Center
Mt. Yale Room
September 10 from 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Everest College

14280 E. Jewell Ave. Ste. 100, Aurora, CO 80012
MA Lab 2
September 10 from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Univ. of Colorado Cancer Center, Building 500

13001 E. 17th Pl., Aurora, CO 80045
6th Floor, Cancer Center
North and East Conference Rooms
September 12 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
September 13 from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Parish

18000 E. Arapahoe Rd., Aurora, CO 80016
Chapel of the Word
September 14 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Household Chemical Roundup

Don't forget to bring your leftover paint, thinners and other hazardous household materials to the 20th Annual Household Chemical Roundup 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 14. The event will be held at the Aurora Central Facilities, 13645 E. Ellsworth Ave., one block west of I-225 and Alameda Avenue.

This free event is open only to Aurora residents, who must provide proof of residency. Donations to offset the cost of the event are appreciated.

Items that are accepted include:

- paint and paint products
- automotive fluids (motor oil, antifreeze, etc.)
- lawn and garden chemicals
- household cleaners
- mercury
- vehicle and household batteries
- tires* (\$3 fee per tire)
- light bulbs and compact fluorescent lights/tubes

We do not accept:

- business waste
- medical waste
- radiological waste (e.g. smoke detectors)
- containers over five gallons in size
- mixed products (do not mix products or chemicals)
- ammunition
- explosives
- propane tanks and other canisters (e.g. fire extinguishers, butane tanks, etc.)

Every year we receive new paint and unopened, usable products, so be sure to stop by the reuse station on your way out of the event.

For more information, contact Mary Dawson at mdawson@auroragov.org, 303-739-7372; or visit aurorawater.org and click on the Prevent Water Pollution link.

Largest Private and Public Employers In Aurora

Attached are the electronic copies of the Aurora Economic Development Council's chart of Aurora's

Largest Private and Public Employers, dated April 2013.

It Took A Team

Note from the editor: Knowing that I would be out of town for 6 days in July and that I would be playing nurse for my wife for the last 6 days of the month following her knee replacement surgery, I was concerned about getting this newsletter to Molly's devoted readers on time.

Thanks to Molly for getting material to me much earlier

than my usual deadline, to J.C. O'Connell for doing the editing of what I sent to her, to Molly's daughter Emily for doing the formatting, and to Ellen Belef for doing her usual proof reading before the final draft, we managed to get the August 2013 issue of the Markert Times, the 80th issue since I started doing this for Molly in April 2006, to you on time. What a team!

How To Receive Your Own Copy of the Markert Times

If you would like to receive the newsletters electronically, please email your name and email address to my newsletter editor at seamus12@comcast.net and he will add you to the list.

If you want a paper copy mailed to you each month, please call me with your name and mailing address at 303 739-7516. Thanks for being involved!!!

Nominate an Outstanding Aurora Business

NOMINATE AN

Outstanding

AURORA BUSINESS

Tell us who you think is the *best of the best*.

Nominations are being accepted through Friday, August 30, 2013.

HERE'S WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Proven longevity as an Aurora business.
- Significant business growth in the past year.
- Introduction of a unique product or service within their industry.
- Exceptional customer service.
- Proven contributions to the enhancement of the community and/or locally operating charities.
- Proven tax generator.

If you're a business owner, tool your own horn and submit your own company for an award!

City of Aurora Annual Business Recognition Award recipients will be celebrated at a gathering in December hosted by Aurora City Council and the Business Advisory Board.

Nomination forms available online at
www.auroragov.org
search "Small Business Development Center."



For more information, call 303-326-8690 or send email to info@aurorasbdc.com.

