



November 2013 • Published by the City of Centennial

## BE A "SNOW HERO" AND STAY SAFE

Wintry days are upon us, so let's get those shovels ready and be a good neighbor! The City of Centennial encourages local businesses and residents to be a "Snow Hero" and clear snow and ice from the sidewalks and parking lots on and near their properties.

Entering its second winter season, the Centennial Snow Hero initiative was created in response to community input on the need for snow removal, especially in business parks and multi-family residential buildings.

Centennial encourages all citizens to voluntarily shovel walks directly in front of, within and adjacent to their property within 24 hours of a snow storm. Additionally,

it is important to keep school bus stops, fire hydrants, power boxes and storm drains accessible and clear of snow and ice.

The City will recognize those who participate in this volunteer snow removal initiative. Businesses, organizations and residents may be nominated for "Centennial Snow Hero" recognition through an online nomination process. Nominees will be presented with Centennial Snow Hero window decals for display and will be recognized on the City's website.

For more information on the Centennial Snow Hero program and the City's Snow and Ice Plan, visit [www.centennialcolorado.com/snowhero](http://www.centennialcolorado.com/snowhero).



## TIME TO PREPARE FOR WINTER!

The City of Centennial received more than 69 inches of snow in 2013 and encourages residents and businesses to prepare for more snow this winter season. Below are some helpful tips to keep in mind as the temperatures drop and snow begins to fall.

Trim vegetation to eliminate shady areas. This will minimize snow and ice accumulation on residential streets, especially if you reside on the south side of a residential street.

Be cautious while snow plows are out on the road. Remember to keep a safe distance between your vehicle and other vehicles on the road, especially large and heavy trucks, as it is difficult for them to stop.





## Potomac Park: Progress continues

The City is completing the master planning process for the Potomac Park site. In 2011, the City purchased 43.5 acres, located on the east side of Potomac St., north of Broncos Pkwy., and south of Fremont Ave. Based on public input and direction from City Council, the Master Plan reflects a Youth Sports Tournament Complex. The City has issued a Request for Interest to solicit proposals for partners to develop and operate the Youth Sports Complex either consistent with the Master Plan for a tournament facility; another recreation development option; or for sale and private development. More information is available at [www.playcentennial.com](http://www.playcentennial.com)

## CENTENNIAL 101: A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT OUR GOVERNMENT

Join us for **Centennial 101**, a free program to discover how our City works. In just seven weeks participants will understand how Centennial is unique, learn about how our tax dollars are used, experience a mock court trial, and find opportunities to get more involved in the community.

The curriculum for the seven week class is shown to the right. Classes will be Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., beginning January 30. Classes will take place at the Civic Center.

Applications for Centennial 101 are available online through December 2, 2013. Hurry! Only 30 participants will be accepted for the inaugural class of Centennial 101.

### You may be interested in Centennial 101 if:

- You have an interest in your City and community and want to learn more.
- You have been involved in the community – or you are just curious how the City works.
- You are new to Centennial – or have lived here since before it was a City.
- You pay taxes and want to know how that money is being spent.
- You love local politics – or hate local politics.
- You like to meet new, interesting people.
- You want a peek behind the scenes.



**CENTENNIAL 101**  
DISCOVER HOW OUR CITY WORKS

### PREPARE ■ JANUARY 30

#### Session 1 : An Introduction to Centennial

- About municipal government
- History of Centennial
- Your City Council

### CALCULATE ■ FEBRUARY 6

#### Session 2: Where our Tax Dollars Go

- Centennial's budget tells our story
- Comparison between our budget and other cities' budgets
- Understanding revenue sources: taxes and fees

### EXPLORE ■ FEBRUARY 13

#### Session 3 : Economic Development & Planning

- Land use: codes and zoning
- Basic zoning needs of our City
- See it for yourself: City tour

### DRIVE ■ FEBRUARY 20

#### Session 4 : Roads and Public Infrastructure

- Public Works: Centennial's infrastructure
- Why Centennial is an award-winning public works provider
- Demonstration of equipment

### EXAMINE ■ FEBRUARY 27

#### Session 5: Public Safety and Courts

- Keeping Centennial safe
- Mock court trial
- Fire Department Rookie Challenge

### UNDERSTAND ■ MARCH 6

#### Session 6 : Parks and Special Districts

- Open space and Centennial Center Park
- Intergovernmental opportunities and challenges
- How to get involved in your community

### MASTER ■ MARCH 10

#### Graduation: Ceremony at the City Council Meeting on Monday, March 10

Centennial 101 graduates will be recognized by the City Council, followed by a celebration!

## Dry Creek Road update

Residents have likely noticed a lot of construction activity along Dry Creek Rd. More work is scheduled but the end is near.

- The utility project, currently underway along Dry Creek Rd. between Yosemite St. and University Blvd., is scheduled to be complete by the end of November, weather permitting.
- Xcel Energy is installing conduit and power cables beneath Dry Creek Rd. from Holly St. to Jersey St. This work is scheduled to be finished by mid-December 2013.
- In early 2014, Denver Water plans to replace a water main beneath Dry Creek Rd. from Colorado Blvd. to University Blvd. This work is scheduled to be complete by the summer of 2014.

Following the completion of these utility projects, the City will resurface the section of Dry Creek Rd. from Colorado Blvd. to University Blvd. in mid-summer 2014. This street rehabilitation work was originally scheduled for 2013, but was delayed until the completion of the utility work located along this corridor.

Future street rehabilitation along Dry Creek Rd. will be evaluated by the City with all other roadways in need of this type of resurfacing. The pavement evaluation will assist in determining the prioritization of future work along this corridor.

Residents may track the progress of the construction activity affecting Dry Creek Rd. at [www.centennialcolorado.com/utilityprojects](http://www.centennialcolorado.com/utilityprojects) or by calling 303-325-8000.

# RECREATION OPTIONS FOR EVERYONE THIS SEASON!



## PASS SPECIALS

**November Pass Special** – Purchase a 40-visit punch pass and get five additional visits FREE!

**Holiday Pass Special** – Great for students and teachers!

- Fee: \$60 Dist (\$86 N-Dist)
- Pass sales begin **November 16** and are valid through **January 12**
- Get your pass as early as possible; pricing does not change with purchase date
- Fees apply to all ages; child, youth, adult and senior
- Holiday special cannot be combined with any other offer

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

(All events take place at Trails Recreation Center - 16799 E. Lake Ave.)

**Art & Pottery Sale** - Come and see the artwork created by art and pottery students and staff at the Trails Recreation Center located at 16799 E. Lake Ave. **December 7** from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The event is FREE to the public!

**Drop-N-Shop** – Parents, need some time for shopping? Drop your kids off and shop while they enjoy three hours of supervised activities including swimming, crafts, games and karaoke **November 29** and **December 23**. Registration is required.

**Holiday Storytelling and Cookie Decorating** – An evening of holiday stories, songs and sweet treats **December 13** and **December 20**. Registration is required.

**Holiday Break Youth Classes** – A unique Trails experience including one hour of art followed by one hour with a fitness trainer; **December 26, 27** and **28** and **January 2, 3** and **4**. Registration is required.

**Dance Workshop** (ages 6-12) - Children enjoy different dance styles each day; **December 26** and **27**; and **January 2** and **3** from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Registration is required.

**LEGO Workshop** - Gear Cars (ages 5 – 12) - How can we make our LEGO® cars go? Learn how to make the fastest car or the strongest car **January 20** from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Visit [www.aprd.org](http://www.aprd.org) for more information on passes and Arapahoe Park and Recreation programs.



## South Suburban PARKS AND RECREATION

**South Suburban's 27th Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair** - **December 7**, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S. University Blvd. Free admission to nearly 75 artisans! Complimentary gift wrapping by the Sparks Gymnastics Team. Free parking.

**Skate with Santa** - At South Suburban Ice Arena - 6580 S. Vine St., **December 20** from 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. and **December 21** from 2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; and Family Sports Ice Arena, 6901 S. Peoria St., **December 21** from 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. and **December 22** from 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Public Skating fees apply.

**FREE Holiday Ice Shows** - At South Suburban Ice Arena - 6580 S. Vine St., **December 20** at 6:00 p.m. and **December 21** at 3:15 p.m.; and Family Sports Center, 6901 S. Peoria St., **December 22** at 4:30 p.m. The holiday ice shows feature members of South Suburban's learn to skate program and skaters from the competitive figure skating program. Although the show is free, attendees are encouraged to bring canned or packaged food for the annual food drive benefitting Inter-Faith Community Services.

**New Year's Eve Extravaganza** - At Family Sports Center for kids ages 9-14, **December 31** 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Enjoy laser tag, eXerGame Zone, inflatables, bumper cars, ice skating and more! Light snacks will be provided. Cost \$15 until **December 24**; \$20 beginning **December 25**. Register online at [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org), or call 303-347-5999. Family Sports Ice Arena is located at 6901 S. Peoria St.

**FREE Snowman Building Event** - At Family Sports Center, 6901 S. Peoria St., **December 21** from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Build a snowman and warm up with a complimentary mug of hot chocolate. Call 303-754-0552 for more information.

Family Sports Center offers **Black Friday Camp November 29** and **Winter Adventure Camp, December 23 - December 27**; and **December 30 - January 3**. No camp December 25 and January 1. Enroll by the day in the State-licensed program that keeps kids busy with laser tag, ice skating, sports and activities in the Sports Dome, the eXerGame Zone, bumper cars, inflatables and more. Morning/afternoon snacks and lunch included in fee. Daily Fee: \$51/\$46 /per resident. Call 303-754-0552 for more information.

**Rec & Rock for kids** - (age 7-14) **November 2** and **December 7** at the Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S. University Blvd.; and **November 9** at Family Sports Center, 6901 S. Peoria St. A safe and supervised program for teens to play games and hang out with their friends. Parents get a night to themselves. Concessions available. Program runs from 7:00 p.m. - 10:30 pm. Register online at [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org), or call 303-347-5999. Walk-ins welcome. Parent or guardian must sign in and sign out youth. Fee: \$10.

# 3 MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

What a year  
(and this isn't everything)!



## Efficient Snow Plowing

Using advanced software, the City Council authorized the inclusion of an additional 93 miles of City streets be plowed during a snow storm- totaling 563 miles at no additional cost to the City. All citizens now live within 1/8 miles or less of a plowed street.



## Safest City

For eight consecutive years, Centennial has been ranked as the safest city in Colorado with a population of more than 75,000. Centennial ranks 41st of 432 cities. Source: CQ Press, City Crime Rankings 2012-2013: Crime in Metropolitan America



## Be a Snow Hero!

*Centennial resident Sue Green was recognized by District 2 Council Member Keith Gardner and Mayor Cathy Noon as Centennial's first Snow Hero.*

2013 kicked off the City's Snow Hero initiative. The City of Centennial encouraged local businesses and residents to be a "Snow Hero" and clear snow and ice from sidewalks and parking lots on and near their properties. This program was created in response to community input on the need for snow removal, especially in business parks and multi-family residential buildings.



## Live Work Play Award

Centennial Center Park was announced the winner of the Denver Regional Council of Governments' (DRCOG) People's Choice Live Work Play award. The Live Work Play People's Choice Award honors outstanding places, events and projects that move the region's long-range plan forward by supported and contributing to livable communities.



## Outstanding Youth in the Community

*(l-r) Mike McCurdy (SAFEbuilt), Samara Rusakow (Youth Commissioner), Mabeema Haque (\$1,000 winner), Meredith Lutz (\$500 winner), and Sanjana Garimella (\$500 winner).*

The Centennial Youth Commission presented three new graduates from Centennial with a Youth Achievement Award. This Award honors and recognizes youth who have made a significant contribution to the Centennial community through volunteer work or other special deeds that demonstrate exceptional leadership.



## Rachel and the Kings

Rachel and the Kings “wowed” the crowd at the 8th Annual Celebrate Centennial Under the Stars event in the amphitheatre at Centennial Center Park.



## Picture Centennial

*Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Piko, first featured artist Laurie Reed, Mayor Cathy Noon.*

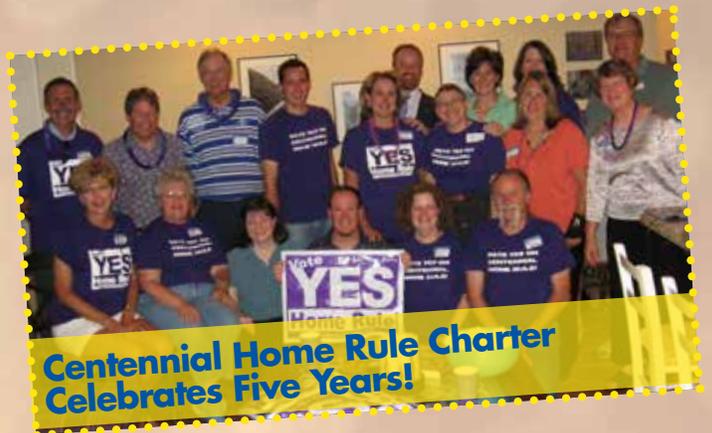
The City launched its first local art program, Picture Centennial, highlighting the wonderful art created by Centennial artists.



## Groundbreaking of Public Works Facility

*l to r: District 1 Council Member Vorry Moon, District 1 Council Member Rick Dindinger, District 2 Council Member Sue Bosier, Mayor Cathy Noon, District 4 Council Member Stephanie Piko, District 3 Council Member Ken Lucas, District 4 Council Member Ron Weidmann, District 2 Council Member Keith Gardner.*

Last month, the City of Centennial celebrated the groundbreaking of its first owned public works facility. With the completion of renovations to this new facility all public works services will be centrally located at one site along with Centennial Animal Services, Code Compliance, the City’s 24/7 Citizen Response Center, and a community room.



## Centennial Home Rule Charter Celebrates Five Years!

*Back row l-r: Mike Hamrick, Don Strickland, Dave Hunt, Patrick Pratt, Sue Rosser, John Brackney, Andrea Subaka, Shannon Gish, Lynn Goering, Gail Coombs, Deb Armbruster, Richard Goering, Mayor Cathy Noon, Gerry Cummins, Becky Lennon, Dave Hanna, Laura Hoepfner, Bill Stokey.*

In 2008, Centennial became a Home Rule City, making it possible for local governments to have control over matters of local concern. Twenty-one commissioners were elected to draft the “Constitution” for the City in 120 days.

## FIVE THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE ARAPAHOE LIBRARY DISTRICT

**1** The Arapahoe Library District (ALD) provides public library service to 250,000 residents in Arapahoe County through eight library branches, plus outreach services through a jail library and a state-of-the-art Library on Wheels. Find ALD at [arapahoelibraries.org](http://arapahoelibraries.org), like on [facebook.com/arapahoelibrarydistrict](https://www.facebook.com/arapahoelibrarydistrict) or follow at [twitter.com/arapahoelibrary](https://twitter.com/arapahoelibrary).

**2** ALD is the place to go for fun. Kids enjoy story time and literacy playgrounds and grownups take advantage of events and author visits, such as Lisa See and Andrew McCarthy.

**3** ALD is the place to go for technology. In addition to offering a growing collection of downloadable materials, such as eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines and music, ALD strives to be a resource for technological literacy. By offering tech programs, social media classes and more. You can even check out "GoPro" video cameras and Nooks with a library card.

**4** ALD is still the best place for research and support. Did you know you can Book a Librarian? Librarians have years of experience that will help you wade through information overload for maximum results. If you can wonder about it, our librarians can research it.

**5** ALD is THE place to go for literacy and is on fire with its SPARK initiative. SPARK illuminates the ways ALD is generating excitement about reading and learning together, with a focus on families and children. ALD is intent on connecting families with valuable resources, helpful services, quality information and outreach to prepare children for success in reading.

## CENTENNIAL LAUNCHING NEW WEBSITE

The City plans to launch its new and improved website this winter! With the launch of the new site will come a new web address, a clean look and layout with several features aimed at making it easier for users to access City services and information.

With more and more people accessing the Internet from their mobile devices or tablets, the City is excited to introduce a responsive design, which means the site is resizable for any screen, including any mobile device.

The City's new site will also feature more photos, new navigation options based upon popularity and timeliness, advanced search capabilities, online services, enhanced mapping capabilities and citizen engagement tools.



## Senior Commission begins File of Life Program

The Centennial Senior Commission is distributing File of Life magnetic information packets to seniors in the community. File of Life is a small folder that seniors may place on their refrigerators with vital medical information allowing quick and easy access for medical responders. Call 303-325-8000 to get your File of Life magnet today!

## Centennial's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Lighting Event

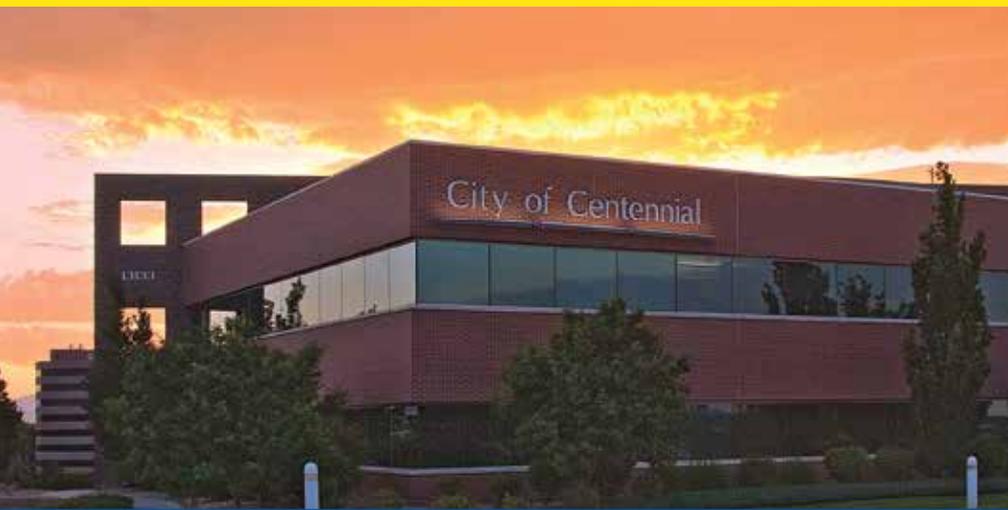
**November 23**

**3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Centennial Center Park**

Bundle up, bring your friends and family to kick off the season with Centennial's Holiday Lighting Event! Enjoy performances by local school chorale groups, a visit from Santa, holiday treats and the lighting of a 30 foot tree.

### Traffic safety improvements in cooperation with public works

Recognizing the difficulty of seeing street markings at night, the Senior Commission worked with City Traffic Engineering Services to place reflective materials at three Centennial intersections. Reflectors and reflective paint were installed east of University Blvd. on Dry Creek Rd., at Buckley Rd. and Orchard Rd., and at Smoky Hill Rd. and Piccadilly St. Traffic statistics will be monitored for the next few months to see if additional modifications are warranted.



**City of Centennial Offices**  
 13133 E. Arapahoe Rd., Centennial, CO 80112  
**Phone: 303-325-8000 (24/7)**  
**Office Hours:** (excluding holidays)  
 M-F 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
**E-mail:** [info@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:info@centennialcolorado.com)  
[www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)

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**Comments and questions:**  
 Allison Wittern, 303-754-3443

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## CITY OF CENTENNIAL OFFICES

Main Telephone Number for all City Information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

# 303-325-8000

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

**Cathy Noon, Mayor**  
 303-754-3350  
[cnoon@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:cnoon@centennialcolorado.com)

**Rick Dindinger, Council, District 1**  
 303-754-3352  
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**Vorry Moon, Council, District 1**  
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**Keith Gardner, Council, District 2**  
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**Sue Bosier, Council, District 2**  
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**Ken Lucas, Council, District 3**  
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**Rebecca McClellan, Council, District 3**  
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**Stephanie Piko, Council, District 4, Mayor Pro Tem**  
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**Ron Weidmann, Council, District 4**  
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[rweidmann@centennialcolorado.com](mailto:rweidmann@centennialcolorado.com)

### SIGN UP FOR INFO

**Emergency Notification**  
[www.ArapahoeSheriff.org](http://www.ArapahoeSheriff.org)  
[www.SouthMetro.org](http://www.SouthMetro.org)

**City News - E-News Sign Up**  
[www.centennialcolorado.com](http://www.centennialcolorado.com)



Every Wednesday from noon to 1:00 p.m., Mayor Cathy Noon is at the Centennial Civic Center to speak with Centennial citizens about ideas, concerns, questions— just about anything that's on your mind. Stop by and say hello!



## Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Coffee with a Cop

Residents are invited to speak one-on-one with members of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office. Have a cup of coffee and ask questions about crime, traffic or quality of life issues in your neighborhood. There's no agenda, no PowerPoints, just you, a uniformed officer and a cup of hot coffee.

**Saturday, December 7 • 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. • McDonald's, 8241 S. Holly St.**

For more information please contact the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Community Resource Unit at 720-874-3892.

## Celebrating the art of Centennial with “Picture Centennial”



Randal Moore, a photographer and owner of the Centennial business, A Hint of Color, is the featured artist in the latest installment of “Picture Centennial.” The Picture Centennial program partners with local artists to feature their art. Selected artists are featured in the Centennial Civic Center for three months.

Randal has a degree in Photojournalism and begun his career by doing freelance work for local newspapers and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. He is currently the official photographer for the Cherry Creek Arts festival and has won both the Gold and Bronze Pinnacle awards for best Event Photograph by the International Festivals and Events Association.

Randal’s photographs hang in numerous galleries throughout the Denver metro area and one of his works has been displayed in Time Square.

Visit the Centennial Civic Center or [www.ahintofcolor.com](http://www.ahintofcolor.com) to check out the artist’s wonderful work.



*Council member Ken Lucas with artist Randal Moore and Mayor Noon on Opening Night of Randal’s exhibit at Civic Center.*