



September 2014 • Published by the City of Centennial

## CENTENNIAL CENTER PARK NAMED BEST PLAYGROUND IN 5280'S "TOP OF THE TOWN" ISSUE!



Centennial Center Park was named the Editor's Choice for its "behemoth playground" in the sports and outdoors category featured in 5280 Magazine's July 2014 "Top of the Town" issue.

The annual Top of the Town list includes the very best people, places and experiences in and around the Mile High City. The Top of the Town 2014 categories include dining, shopping, services, sports and outdoors and culture and nightlife.

The 11-acre, award-winning Centennial Center Park, adjacent to the Centennial Civic Center, has proven to be a destination for families in the metro area. Opened in 2012, the Park features a number of shaded picnic areas, outdoor fireplaces, unique playgrounds for children of all ages, climbing walls and a water splash pad. The addition of a new amphitheater stage cover this summer enabled the City to offer an exciting lineup of concerts, movies, laser light show, farmers and artisans markets and more.

Visit [www.CentennialCO.gov/CenterPark](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/CenterPark) for more information or to reserve space for your upcoming event.

**The 9th Annual Centennial Under the Stars event was a great success. Thank you to the sponsors, vendors and everyone who joined us for the spectacular concert and laser light show on August 9th. Check out more photos at [www.Flickr.com/CentennialGov](http://www.Flickr.com/CentennialGov).**





## LET THE CAMPAIGNING BEGIN!

With election season upon us, it is important to remember the rules and regulations for placing signage in the City – whether it’s for your favorite candidate, garage sale or even a lost pet. The City has sign regulations in place to help minimize visual clutter and maintain safety along roadways.

Following sign regulations is easy if you consider the following questions as you place your signage:

### Can I place my signage on private property?

Yard signs must be located on private property, with permission of the property owner.

### How big can my sign be?

- Up to 6 square feet in size
- Must be less than 4 feet in height
- Must not exceed a total of 24 square feet on any one residential property

### Can I place my sign along main roadways?

Yard signs cannot be located within 20 feet of a main roadway except when:

- On residential property that borders main roadways
- Advertising a homeowners association, civic association or special district event
- A fence, wall or other structure clearly outlines the property line

This is not a comprehensive list of regulations. Yard signs are not the only type of temporary signage used for advertising in Centennial. Visit [www.CentennialCO.gov/Signage](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/Signage) for more information.

## 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

New this year, mail ballots will be sent to all active voters in Arapahoe County for the November 4 General Election. You may return your ballot by mail, or deliver it to one of 30 drop-off boxes around the county, including six 24-hour boxes. Starting October 14, the Centennial Civic Center will again serve as a ballot drop-off location, open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, November 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arapahoe County also will offer in-person voter services at Voter Service and Polling Centers (VSPC). Citizens may visit any VSPC location to register to vote in-person through Election Day, update their voter record, request or replace a ballot, or vote on an accessible voting machine. There are no municipal elections this year.

Visit [www.arapahoevotes.com](http://www.arapahoevotes.com) for election information, to track your mail ballot, or find your nearest ballot drop-off or VSPC location. Hours and dates vary by location. Ballots must be received by Arapahoe County by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

## CAMPAIGN SIGN RECYCLING EVENT

The City is hosting a post-election sign round-up event to beautify our City and recycle campaign yard signs.

**November 8, from 9 a.m. to Noon**  
**Centennial Civic Center, 13133 E. Arapahoe Rd.**

It’s easy – and fun! Simply load the signs in your car, bring them to the Centennial Civic Center and we’ll take care of the rest! Get the kids involved; there will be a special treat for all kids who bring in signs.



## HOA ROUNDTABLE SET FOR SEPTEMBER 17

The City of Centennial is hosting an HOA roundtable event to give homeowners and HOA Board members the opportunity to speak with experts in the HOA industry. The event is being presented by the Community Associations Institute, Rocky Mountain Chapter.

**September 17, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.**  
**Centennial Civic Center**  
**13133 E. Arapahoe Rd.**

The HOA Council is comprised of volunteers from the Community Associations Institute, (CAI) a nonprofit alliance serving all stakeholders in community associations– including individual homeowners, managers, attorneys, lenders, reserve specialists, insurers and other providers of professional services. CAI provides information and education to community associations, inspiring professionalism, effective leadership and responsible citizenship.

A light dinner will be provided and registration is free. Please register at [www.hoa-colorado.org](http://www.hoa-colorado.org) prior to attending.

If you belong to an Homeowners’ Association, this event will be well worth your time. Seating is limited, so register early!



**CENTENNIAL 101**  
**DISCOVER HOW OUR CITY WORKS**

## COMING WINTER 2015

### CENTENNIAL 101: A CITIZEN’S ACADEMY

Join us for the second class of Centennial 101!

Get a peek into how our City works:

- Discover what makes Centennial unique
- Hear firsthand what we do and how we do it from elected officials and staff
- Experience a mock trial and other interactive exercises
- Find opportunities to get more involved in our community

Applications for Centennial 101 will be available at [www.CentennialCO.gov/Centennial101](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/Centennial101) from November 17 to December 3.



# Save the Date!

## 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHTING EVENT

Bundle up, bring your friends and family to kick off the holiday season with Centennial's Holiday Lighting Event on **November 22, from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Centennial Center Park**. Enjoy performances by local school choral groups, a visit from Santa, holiday treats and the lighting of a tree.

## ONLINE SURVEY

Centennial cares what you think about our customer service.

If you have interacted with our staff please take the survey at [www.CentennialCO.gov/Survey](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/Survey) and tell us how we're doing!



## 2014 YOUTH COMMISSION INITIATIVES

The Centennial Youth Commission was formed by City Council in July

2003 to provide a voice for the City's youth. The Commission is composed of eleven teens from the City of Centennial, ranging in age from 13 to 18. The Youth Commission meets twice a month and participates in City-wide events, develops community programs, performs community service projects and participates in the policy-making process. This year the Commission has been very busy in the Centennial community.

### Recognizing Centennial's Youth Leaders:

Youth Achievement Awards: Three outstanding youth in Centennial were presented with a Youth Achievement Award by the Centennial Youth Commission and SAFEbuilt. The Youth Achievement Award honors and recognizes youth who have made a significant impact in the Centennial community through volunteer work and have

demonstrated exceptional leadership. The 2014 \$500 scholarship recipients were Paul Grewe, Mary Kitsmiller and Claudia Kramer. View complete essays written by Youth Achievement Award recipients at [www.CentennialCO.gov/YouthAchievement](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/YouthAchievement).

### Providing School Supplies for Low-income Students:

The Centennial Youth Commission is committed to ensuring educational opportunities for youth in the community and has designated \$2,500 to purchase school supplies for low-income children through the Littleton and Cherry Creek school district foundations. CH2M Hill has generously matched the contribution. The Youth Commission hopes to expand the school supplies program in the coming years to ensure students in the community begin the year with the learning tools and resources they need for a successful classroom experience.

### A Day of Service – Paint-A-Thon:

In August, the Youth Commission partnered with the Centennial Senior Commission and

Brothers Redevelopment to paint the home of a senior in Centennial. Created in 1978, the Paint-A-Thon is a free service for elderly homeowners who need their homes painted, but cannot afford a commercial paint job. This was an exciting inter-generational opportunity to help a Centennial resident in need.

### Teen Court

The Centennial Municipal Court and the Youth Commission are working in partnership with students from the University of Denver in the Pioneer Leadership program to pilot a Teen Court. Teen Court is run entirely by youth including a jury of peers. Teen Courts have proven to be tremendously successful in other jurisdictions resulting in fewer repeat offenses. With an emphasis on early intervention and prevention and a commitment to restorative justice the City hopes to better address the needs of youth while ensuring safety in our community.

Visit [www.CentennialCO.gov/YouthCommission](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/YouthCommission) for more information on the Centennial Youth Commission.



(l-r) Council Member Kathy Turley (District 1), Council Member Doris Truhlar (District 2), Council Member Keith Gardner (District 2), Claudia Kramer, Tom Pitchford (SAFEbuilt), Paul Grewe, Mayor Cathy Noon, Mary Kitsmiller, Council Member Stephanie Piko (District 4), Council Member Mark Gotto (District 3), Connor Piko (Centennial Youth Commission), Council Member C.J. Whelan (District 4), Mayor Pro Tem Ken Lucas (District 3), Angela Engel (Centennial Youth Commission Coordinator).

# COMMERCIAL ZONING MAP UPDATE STREAMLINES PROCESS

The City of Centennial has initiated the process to update commercial zoning districts within the City as part of a continued effort to implement the new zoning Code adopted by the City Council in April 2010. This new Code was developed to replace an outdated Arapahoe County Land Development Code (LDC) that was adopted when the City was formed in 2001. While the old code served the needs of the City the first 10 years, it was not reflective of the desires of City Council and the community.

The primary purpose of the Code is to protect the character of existing residential

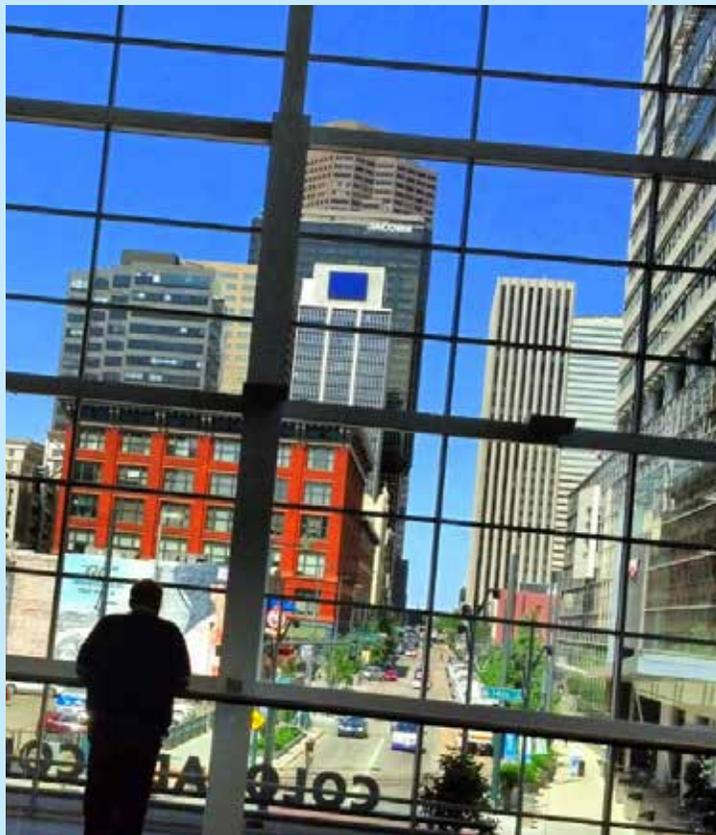
neighborhoods, while at the same time making it easier for both residential and commercial property owners to improve their properties without expensive and time consuming processes.

The new 2011 LDC ensures all new commercial development and redevelopment is done in a compatible and respectful manner, without the need to negotiate development standards or improvements on a case-by-case basis.

In order to fully implement the new zoning Code, the City must adopt a new zoning map

that converts all existing zoning districts to a new equivalent zoning district. Any new development or redevelopment occurring within the City will be reviewed through a planning process with opportunities for public participation.

Public hearings for the commercial zoning map update will be scheduled before the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council. Visit [www.CentennialCO.gov/ZoningUpdate](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/ZoningUpdate) for more information.



## PICTURE CENTENNIAL

**Picture Centennial** highlights the wonderful art of the area, supports local artists and provides a free venue for the display of art. Selected artists are featured in the Centennial Civic Center for three months, with an open house artist meet-and-greet session that features free hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting at the beginning of each installment.

Currently on display is the work of photographer Chad M. Julius, a Centennial photographer and owner of the local business AF Photos LLC. Chad's work focuses on creating an atmosphere and capturing the genuine moments that reflect the beauty in realism.

For information on our next artist meet-and-greet and to learn more about the program, visit [www.CentennialCO.gov/art](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/art).



*Mayor Pro Tem Ken Lucas, featured photographer Chad Julius and Council Member Mark Gotto celebrate the Art of Centennial during the July 25 Picture Centennial Artist Meet and Greet.*

## SHERIFF CREATES DRUG TAKE-BACK DROP BOX

Due the success of National Drug Take Back events, the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is extending the program from a special event to an everyday opportunity.

Now, the public can safely and anonymously dispose of prescription and non-prescription drugs year-round Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., excluding holidays at the Sheriff's Office Headquarters, 13101 E. Broncos Pkwy.

All medications must be in a clear plastic zip-lock bag and will be screened at the lobby entrance for compliance. Once screened, the bags may be placed into the drug take-back drop box.

Visit [www.arapahoegov.com](http://www.arapahoegov.com) for more information on the program.



## CUNNINGHAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Cunningham Fire Protection District, led by Chief Jerry Rhodes, is one of the three fire protection districts serving the City of Centennial. The Cunningham Fire Protection District has evolved from a volunteer organization in 1950 to what is now an accredited agency, along with approximately 160 fire departments worldwide.

The Cunningham Fire Protection District serves residents in Centennial and unincorporated Arapahoe County and covers 14.61 square miles.

**Two Cunningham Fire Protection District stations are located in Centennial and include:**

- Station #2, built in 2006, located at 16758 E. Smoky Hill Road near the intersection of E. Smoky Hill Rd. and S. Buckley Rd.; and
- Station #3, built in 1987, located at 5405 S. Rivera Way, near the intersection of S. Picadilly St. and S. Riviera Way.

The Cunningham Fire Protection District provides emergency service to approximately 30,525 Centennial residents. Last year, the



Cunningham Fire Protection District responded to 4,144 calls with 1,033 of those calls being in the City of Centennial. Emergency response services include fire, emergency medical service, advanced life support, transport and hazardous material.

The Cunningham Fire Protection District is governed by a five-member Board, elected at large to serve a four-year term. The Cunningham Fire Protection Board meets monthly to set policy, approve the annual budget and provide financial oversight to the District.

View Centennial's Fire District Map at [www.CentennialCo.gov/FireSafety](http://www.CentennialCo.gov/FireSafety) to find which district you reside in. For more information about the Cunningham Fire Protection District visit [www.cfpd.org](http://www.cfpd.org).



## FREE WORKSHOP FOR WOULD-BE BASEMENT FINISHERS

All Centennial residents are invited to a **FREE** workshop to learn the ins and outs of what it takes to finish a basement.

**October 11, from 9 a.m. to noon  
at Centennial Civic Center, 13133 E. Arapahoe Rd.**

Hosted by the City of Centennial's Building Division, participants will learn about the permitting process, building code requirements, helpful hints and common pitfalls. Refreshments will be served at 8:30 a.m.

## SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 4!



Learn more about the upcoming road widening project on Arapahoe Rd. from Waco St. to Himalaya Way.

**September 4  
5 – 7 p.m.**

This is an opportunity for adjacent neighborhoods, commuters, citizens and businesses to learn about the project, view the project design and ask any questions.

Visit [www.ArapahoeRoad.com](http://www.ArapahoeRoad.com) for meeting location and project information.



The City of Centennial has partnered with Nextdoor ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)), the private social network for neighborhoods, to improve City-wide and neighbor-to-neighbor communications.

The City of Centennial will use Nextdoor to build stronger, safer communities with the help of residents. Already Nextdoor has proven to be an essential and well-adopted tool for Centennial residents. Sixty-five neighborhoods in the City of Centennial have started Nextdoor websites. The City encourages more residents to take advantage of Nextdoor, where they can ask questions, get to know one another and exchange local advice and recommendations.

With Nextdoor, Centennial residents can join private neighborhood websites to share information, including neighborhood public safety issues, community events and activities, local services, and even lost pets. The City will be able to post information, such as important news, services, programs, public events, and emergency notifications to Nextdoor websites within the City.

Nextdoor is free for residents and the City. Each Centennial neighborhood has its own private Nextdoor neighborhood website, accessible only to residents who verify that they live in the neighborhood. Neighborhoods establish and self-manage their own Nextdoor websites. The City can only post to neighborhood websites and cannot access residents' contact information or website content. Information shared on Nextdoor is password protected and cannot be accessed by search engines.

Those interested in joining their neighborhood's Nextdoor website can visit [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) and enter their address.

## NEW FLOOD RISK MAPS FOR WILLOW CREEK, COTTONWOOD CREEK, PINEY CREEK AND ANTELOPE CREEK

September marks the one-year anniversary of the Colorado flood disaster. Estimates indicate more than 25,000 homes were damaged and another 1,800 destroyed. Much of the damage was experienced outside the identified high risk flood zone, by property owners possibly less aware of their risk.

Since then, an emphasis has been placed on identifying potential risks and building awareness among property owners so they can make more informed decisions and participate in risk mitigation efforts.

This fall, property owners located in Willow Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Piney Creek and Antelope Creek will have the chance to see new mapping from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), during the initial rollout of their Physical Map Revision (PMR) process. The PMR helps ensure Centennial residents and businesses have the best available data and the most updated mapping of flood risk. New

studies, by the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District's (UDFCD) Floodplain Management Program, called "Flood Hazard Area Delineation" studies or FHADs, identify and publish 100-year floodplains and specify where flood risks have changed since any previous mapping.

The Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA) provides stormwater management services for the City of Centennial, and participates in the UDFCD FHAD studies. SEMSWA also conducts outreach to help citizens better understand potential flood risks to their property, and what they can do to mitigate this risk. SEMSWA will host public meetings to present the new mapping to affected property owners this fall.

The PMR becomes effective approximately 18 months after the maps are formally released. It is important for Centennial property owners to be aware of the map changes as early in the process

as possible to allow time to investigate flood insurance options ahead of the effective regulatory date.

During the public meeting, SEMSWA will also explain what is being done with master-planning and capital construction to mitigate impact to homes, businesses and other structures located in and near the floodplain. During breakout sessions property owners will have the opportunity to engage with SEMSWA staff and agency representatives including: FEMA; the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the State floodplain agency; and the UDFCD, the regional flood control agency.

All affected property owners will receive invitations to SEMSWA's informational meetings this fall and a website will be available to engage the community during this process. For more information, contact SEMSWA at 303-858-8844.



### 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@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:info@CentennialCO.gov)

[www.CentennialCO.gov](http://www.CentennialCO.gov)

Centennial Connection is published by the City of Centennial. It is also available in PDF format on the City website.

Comments and questions:

Kersten Baldwin, 303-325-8087

*All articles in this newsletter may be reprinted, with attribution, without permission.*

## CENTENNIAL CIVIC CENTER

MAIN PHONE NUMBER FOR ALL CITY INFORMATION  
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR

# 303-325-8000

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

**Cathy Noon, Mayor**

303-754-3350

[cnoon@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:cnoon@CentennialCO.gov)

**Vorry Moon; Council, District 1**

303-754-3354

[vmoon@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:vmoon@CentennialCO.gov)

**Kathy Turley; Council, District 1**

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**Keith Gardner; Council, District 2**

303-754-3359

[kgardner@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:kgardner@CentennialCO.gov)

**Doris Truhlar; Council, District 2**

303-754-3346

[dtruhlar@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:dtruhlar@CentennialCO.gov)

**Mark Gotto; Council, District 3**

303-754-3407

[mgotto@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:mgotto@CentennialCO.gov)

**Ken Lucas, Mayor Pro Tem**

**Council, District 3**

303-754-3367

[klucas@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:klucas@CentennialCO.gov)

**Stephanie Piko; Council, District 4**

303-754-3374

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**C.J. Whelan; Council, District 4**

303-754-3412

[cwhelan@CentennialCO.gov](mailto:cwhelan@CentennialCO.gov)

Sign up for District E-Newsletters at  
[www.CentennialCO.gov/ElectedOfficials](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/ElectedOfficials)



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!

### GET CONNECTED

@CenntennialGov

Facebook.com/Centennial/Gov

ConnectCentennial.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.CentennialCO.gov/NotifyMe](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/NotifyMe)



### WHERE'S CICI?

The City's interactive kiosk known as CiCi – **Centennial Information and Community Interface** is stationed at the City's Eagle Street Facility located at 7272 S. Eagle St. during September and October.

CiCi will be at different locations throughout Centennial to provide easy access to City information and provide an opportunity for visitors to do the following...

- Apply for a job • Make a payment • Report a problem • Make a park reservation
- Check a permit status • Run a property search • Apply for a passport
- Find a contractor • Get election information

Check out the full schedule at [www.CentennialCO.gov/CiCi](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/CiCi) and be sure to visit CiCi when it's at a location near you!

### FALL STREET SWEEPING

Fall street sweeping is scheduled to begin in early October and should be complete by mid-November, weather permitting.

Residents may access the street sweeping schedule on the City's website at [www.CentennialCO.gov/StreetSweeping](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/StreetSweeping) and are encouraged to register online to receive email notifications regarding changes to the original schedule at [www.CentennialCO.gov/NotifyMe](http://www.CentennialCO.gov/NotifyMe). You may also sign-up on [www.NextDoor.com](http://www.NextDoor.com) to receive information specific to your neighborhood.

The street sweeping schedule is dependent upon the weather and may change slightly to account for weather delays.

## DISTRICT MEETINGS

### District 1 Meeting

October 27 • 6 p.m.  
SouthGlenn Library, 6972 S. Vine St.

### District 2 Meeting

October 27 • 6 p.m.  
SouthGlenn Library, 6972 S. Vine St.

### District 3 Meeting

September 17 • 6:30 p.m.  
Eagle Street Facility, 7272 S. Eagle St.

### District 4 Meeting

September 17 • 6:30 p.m.  
Eagle Street Facility, 7272 S. Eagle St.

## A LOOK BACK: SUMMER AT CENTENNIAL CENTER PARK

SEE YOU NEXT SUMMER  
FOR EVEN MORE FAMILY  
FUN & SPECIAL EVENTS!

