HAMPDEN HEIGHTS MESSENGER Fall, 2007

THE VOICE OF THE HAMPDEN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

Hampden Heights MESSENGER FINAL PRINT COUNT DOWN: ONLY TWO PRINTED ISSUES REMAINING. FIND the Messenger ON LINE at www.hampdenheights.org

It's time! All Neighborhood Meeting

(of the) Hampden Heights Neighborhood Association Tuesday, November 13th, 7:00 PM Whole Foods Community Room

Guest Speakers & Presentations

√ Peggy Lehman to present items before City Council, review November election issues, answer your questions/concerns

√ Carolyn Hughes Bluhm, Emergency Preparedness & Citizen Response for Denver Disasters to present items before City Council, review November election issues

√ Joe Miklosi, Democratic Candidate for CO State House of Reps, District 9 pursuing your vote with a "30 second sound bite".

√ Elections: There are seven open positions on your Neighborhood Association. Five individual terms are up, and two members are leaving. Any dues paying person who lives in this neighborhood is eligible to be nominated, run and serve. Consider a stint on the Board! Step forward this fall!

√ Neighborhood & Community Updates/Shared Concerns

For more about the meeting, go to www.hampdenheights.org

What the Board Does

- ☐ The Board attempts to protect the viability of the neighborhood. including the pool property. We want this to be a valuable neighbor hood, for people and property.
- ☐ The Board researches legal issues impacting the neighborhood primarily related to zoning & development.
- ☐ The Board advocates for the neighborhood in response to illegal activities & crimes from issues at the apartment/townhome complexes to our neighbors, parks & streets. (Yes, some of our neighbors are involved in crimes.)
- ☐ The Board deals with neighborhood issues, helping direct people to city resources, from grafitti to Walmart (for that shopping cart in your front yard) to barking dogs, & seeks ways to keep people informed, involved & connected.
- ☐ The Board is developing, and will oversee & maintain a Hampden Heights web site to keep the neighborhood current. Your dues support the Neighborhood Association. Dues are voluntary; only a small percentage of the neighborhood pays. ARE NOT A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION. WE ARE NOT AN ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. CURRENT DUES ARE MINIMAL & DO NOT COMPLETELY COVER BASIC EXPENSES, INCL. YOUR NEWSLETTER & WEB SITE COSTS.

The newsletter looks different! We are phasing out the print newsletter and going exclusively on the internet (www.hampdenheights.org). Costs of paper, printing, distribution, mailing & timeliness are prohibitive. Skim the flyer for headlines, then go to www.hampdenheights.org for the "rest of the story", including links, news, events, connections & Hampden Heights "doings".

NEIGHBORHOOD INCLUSIVENESS

The Denver Office on Aging is hosting community meetings to discuss ways to transform our communities into great places for people of all ages and abilities to live, work & play. Contact the Denver Office on Aging at 720-913-8477. Director Janice Blanchard has many examples of Denver neighborhoods currently exploring how their neighborhoods can best meet the needs of all residents.

Who's Your Neighbor? Meet "GTO Man"

by Jennifer Reinbrecht

I hear the muffled roar most weekends. The turn of the key, the engine's deep throated rumble, the catch. I feel the vibration in my teeth as the car moves past the house, building strength & speed. What is this car, I wondered, and what kind of person drives it? The car, it turns out, is a GTO. My neighbor is John, who has lived here since 1981.

A GTO? Short for Gran Turismo Omologato. From the Italian "Omologate" an accredited Grand Touring car (http:// www.corbettsauto.com/gto_parts_and_history.htm). Produced by Pontiac, a division of GM, from 1964-1974. Developed & engineered by John Delorean as a powerful option package added to a Lemans. The design was supposedly snuck past GM execs by Delorean, with an initial production run of 5000. By year end, 32,000 units had been made and sold, and the next year 75,352 were sold. The option package included a 348 horse, Tri-Power engine (three 2 Barrel carburetors), essentially dropping a Bonneville engine into a Tempest/Lemans body.

The muscle car was born.

What's a muscle car? A car with a V8 engine in a mid sized body. These cars had "startling" performance that led to "car wars" intense competition between manufacturers to produce the most powerful engine, the most extreme machine (http://en.wikipedia.org/ wiki/Muscle_car).

The 1973 OPEC oil embargo, along with stricter air pollution laws and insurance premiums ended the muscle car era. In the late 70's & early 80's you could pick these cars up for a song. No longer.

Go to www.hampdenheights.org for the rest of the story.

FYI

Go Green. Visit Greenprint Denver www.greenprintdenver.org/ Building a sustainable city together, today.

Take care of your family first. But then reach out to your neighbor, your block, your city, your country. Everybody wants change, but they want it to come by way of somebody else...If you wait for the government, you'll wait a long time."

Edward James Olmos

2007 Hampden Heights Board Members

Go to www.hampdenheights.org for Board members' contact information & your elected City Council Reps.

JOIN THE HAMPDEN HEIGHTS BOARD

Be part of the ACTION!

GET INVOLVED in your neighborhood!

DISCUSS EARTH SHAKING items and have a SAY!

Nominations can be taken from the floor.

Have a voice in our community! Be a member of the Board!

Where do my (miniscule) dues go?

- √ Fund for legal questions related to unpopular development proposals (ex. strip joints & massage parlors)
- √ Web site development, hosting fees, domain charges & naming rights
- $\sqrt{}$ Publishing, printing, delivering and mailing the newsletter
- √ July 4th pool party
- √ postage, paper, signage
- √ other

Keep Ignoring Stop Signs & Red Lights, Very Soon you Won't See them at All

Our conscious mind handles **several** thoughts at once, but studies show the brain makes much of our mental activity unconscious & automatic as soon as we've crossed the learning threshhold.

Our minds learn physical and mental tasks, then commit them to automatic processes. Think of when you first learned a sport, and then when it became "easy". Or when you learned to drive. You paid attention to everything: your hands on the wheel, stop signs and traffic lights, other cars on the road, pedestrians. You consciously thought through every action.

With practice you could take in what was happening on the road ahead, and your reactions became automatic. You no longer needed to consciously look for stop signs and red lights—your brain new automatically to see them, and you stopped.

The frightening part? We can retrain our brains in reverse.

Please go to www.hampdenheights.org for the rest of the story.

Two Young Lives by Melanie Henry

On a beautiful Colorado afternoon in Hampden Heights, the sun's glorious rays beckoned for child's play, as destiny hovered nearby. A handful of teenagers had assembled to decorate t-shirts for an upcoming high school event. Just doors away, another family was preparing for a bike ride. Laughter and fun became tragically intertwined with fate as one young teen set off in his mother's SUV and another young child set off on his new 2-wheeler bicycle. For some unknown reason, it was a magnet for disaster & devastation.

Two young lives were forever changed in that moment.

The youngest and weakest of the two lost his life; the older and stronger of the two left to carry the burden.

What ifs and only ifs do not matter anymore.

As the soul of young Nicholas ascends, we are left with the pain and grief of losing a precious life and its aftermath of horrors. Each family has enormous grief to overcome. Lessons learned and lessons taught will always be a part of our existence on earth. Let us help each other along the way. As a community, we offer our support to Jim and Tara Mack and little brother, Peyton. We will forever miss you Nicholas. Amy Hughes is coordinating meals for the family and other assistance. You can reach her at 303-755-2556 or e-mail: acarterhug@yahoo.com. Donations: The Nicholas Mack Memorial Fund, Citywide Bank, 6500 E. Hampden Ave., Denver, CO 80224, 303-505-3773.

2007 HURRICANES SWIM TEAM RESULTS by Mark Johnston

The 2007 had 56 Hurricanes in a season running from May 21st through finals July 14th.

Being the smallest team in the league makes it hard to win meets, but our final dual meet record was 1-5! Over 75% of our total swims during the season were personal records! And the Masters program grew to 12 dedicated adults swimmers.

Go to www.hampdenheights.org for pictures, meet results & links.

BUSINESS in the Neighborhood: The Coffee Smells Great! by Jennifer Reinbrecht

Coffea Rostir, 10890B Dartmouth Avenue 303/283-4077

In the strip mall on the south side of Dartmouth b/w Havana & Parker.

Fourteen years ago Steve Bush couldn't find a decent cup of coffee in Denver. So he opened his own coffee shop in downtown Denver, Pour Joe's Coffee House.

Steve was just a step ahead of the coffee craze to come.

The public was not yet so, shall we say, discerning in their coffee tastes. Fast forward to the present.

And yet, Steve still can't find coffee that quite meets his expectations. He'd still rather make his own.

And so an independent coffee shop is (re)born.

Awarded Aurora's "Best Beans" in 2005 & 06, and Best Cup o' Joe in 2005, Bush is proud of his quality control and taste consistency in this his 3rd year of business. He has leared to get the best specialty grades of coffee available for his small batch roasting process.

Industrial processes roast 1 ton of coffee an hour off a single roaster. Bush states flatly "even the most casual coffee drinker could identify the difference between small batch and industrial roasted coffee in a side by side taste test."

Ah, the nuances of coffee. After roasting, the chemistry takes 36-48 hours to finish expelling CO2. Coffee is not at the height of its flavor unless you wait.

Even in that cup in your hand, the flavor will change as the coffee cools. For example, Bolivian coffee as it cools releases hints of cocoa, cinnamon and hazelnut.

Please go to www.hampdenheights.org for the rest of the story.

Landscape Corner: Roots Surfacing in the Yard

by Swingle Tree Company, 303-337-6200/www.myswingle.com

"What can I do about surface roots in the yard?"
Roots surface for many reasons. Cottonwood trees are
notorious for surface roots. Other trees will surface root from a
hard or compacted layer below the sod. This can happen when
topsoil is installed over the top of compacted subsoil. The roots
will grow in the softer topsoil and as they get larger will surface.
There are three basic remedies for surface roots.

Add topsoil: Recognize the situation early and act on it. When roots are just beginning to surface, place an inch or two of topsoil over the top of the roots. Plant grass seed if needed, but realize grass competes with tree roots for water. Spring and fall are the best times to plant grass - it fills in more quickly. The yard may become lumpy with time.

Change in landscape – Remove the grass and replace with mulch: If an inch or two of soil won't cover the roots or there is a mass of surface roots, change your landscape. Mulches &

Go to www.hampdenheights.org for the rest of the story.

2007 Hampden Heights Board Members

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http://www.denvergov.org/CouncilDistrict4/

It's time! All Neighborhood Meeting
(of the) Hampden Heights Neighborhood Association
Tuesday, November 13th, 7:00 PM
Whole Foods Community Room

The Hampden Heights Board holds two Neighborhood Association meetings annually, one in May and one in November. Elections are held in November to open positions. Board terms are two years. Not all come up at the same time, so the Board doesn't completely turn over at the same time.

Meetings also host guest speakers on topics of interest or affecting our neighborhood.

Association meetings are also opportunities to meet others in Hampden Heights, and discuss issues of concern. Please join us.

Some of the Current Board Openings:

- Hampden Heights News Editor. Work with the web site manager to incorporate local stories on an ongoing basis into the Hampden Heights web site. Meet your neighbors, share their stories, serve on the Board, write your heart out, explore your inner muse. Advertising Sales, Hampden Heights Web Site. Find great local companies & help promote them in the neighborhood.
- -Vice President, Hampden Heights Board
- -Tennis Courts & Tennis Program

Hampden Heights Web Site

Launched last year, developed & maintained by Board member Mary Prendergast, the web site is another tool to increase communication among the residents of Hampden Heights. We also can post up to the minute information on the site.

Visit the site to learn about neighborhood activities, like the Annual July Fourth Pool Party, as well as issues and events that concern you. Have a question about the neighborhood? Post it on the discussion board. Lost a cat or dog? Having a garage sale? Experience a break-in or criminal incident? We can post that on the site as well.

The site also offers information about elected officials, the District 3 Police Department, forms for reporting neighborhood concerns to the city, the number for the Graffiti Hotline, and a variety of useful links for area attractions.

The web site will allow us to post neighborhood news on an ongoing basis, as we phase out the paper newsletter. We also hope to add an option to the web site to allow us to collect e-mail addresses so we can post and send out notifications of news and events in a more timely fashion.

Who's Your Neighbor? Meet "GTO Man"

by Jennifer Reinbrecht

I hear the muffled roar most summer weekends. The turn of the key, the engine's deep throated rumble, the catch. I feel the vibration in my teeth as the car moves past the house, building strength & speed.

What is this car, I wondered, and who is behind the wheel?

The car is a GTO. Behind the wheel is John, my neighbor. He and his family have lived here since 1981.

What is a GTO? It stands for Gran Turismo Omologato. From the Italian "Omologate", an accredited Grand Touring car (http://www.corbettsauto.com/gto_parts_and_history.htm). Produced by Pontiac, a division of GM, from 1964-1974. Developed & engineered by John Delorean as a powerful option package added to a Lemans. The design was supposedly snuck past GM execs by Delorean, with an initial production run of 5000. By year's end, 32,000 units had been made and sold; the next sales year 75,352 were sold. The option package included a 348 horse, Tri-Power engine (three 2 barrel carburetors), essentially dropping a Bonneville engine into a Lemans body.

The muscle car was born.

What's a muscle car? A car with a high horse power (over 300), V8 engine in a mid sized body. These cars had "startling" performance that led to "car wars" - intense competition between manufacturers to produce the most powerful engine, the most extreme machine (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muscle_car). The 1973 OPEC oil embargo, along with stricter air pollution laws and insurance premiums ended the muscle car era. In the late 70's & early 80's you could pick these cars up for a song.

No longer.

In 1962, John' father gave him \$500 for his high school graduation and said "go find yourself a used car." He bought a '56 Plymouth and drove it all four years of college. He went looking for his first GTO in the spring of 1966. His father had provided a budget of \$1500-\$2000 for another car for his college graduation. He couldn't find a GTO, especially in the vicinity of Iowa City, Iowa, his stomping grounds.

So it wasn't until 1967 that he bought his first: a 1966 model for around \$2,000 still under factory warranty.

Then, while John was in Huntsville, Alabama studying rocket science (the Saturn 5 rockets were tested there) he ordered a 1968, fire engine red hardtop GTO, and waited 3 months for delivery. Not willing to part with it, the GTO went with him and his family to Okinawa, Japan, where John was the Commanding Officer for the Ordnance support company in the Island's air defense guided missile brigade.

It was the only Pontiac on the island, fire engine red and LOUD. Within six months everyone on the island knew who he was, and his troops thought he was "the coolest captain". The Pontiac GTO was named Car of the Year in 1968, partly because of a new design that incorporated a hard, rubber endura bumper that was the same color as the car (John's current vehicle is also a 1968 "Red", but a convertible).

At the end of his Okinawa assignment, that GTO was sold to a serviceman on the island when John was reassigned. There was no practical way to get it home, and then across the country.

Who's Your Neighbor? Meet "GTO Man" continued

Following Okinawa, John saw heavy combat in Vietnam, an incredibly difficult, life altering time, impossible to describe adequately here. He served overseas for close to 4 years, and when he returned to America, was a man out of his element. A meal without rice was foreign. His children didn't know him. The return to American culture and a "normal" life was, and is, a process.

So my interview started with a very cool car and went down life's many roads.

The "early" GTO years ended with the sale of the original '68 in Okinawa and the Vietnam tour of duty. It wasn't until John's son, Randy, graduated from East High in 1984 that the GTO bug returned. John and Randy were cruising around Denver, looking for a car, continuing the tradition of buying a car on graduation. They looked without success, until Randy spotted a 1965 GTO in a lot on South Broadway. He wanted a look at it.

"I crawled all over that car" John says, the memory still fresh. "It had one owner and came from an estate sale. It was perfect. The interior was like new. The only thing was it had been repainted and the paint job had badly oxidized. We bought it for \$2500."

In the early 1980's no one wanted a muscle car. Gas prices had skyrocketed and many of the cars had been driven hard. But by the end of the decade, people had money and GTO's became collectibles. Around that same time Randy's graduation car was stolen from the Tamarac Theatres parking lot. They did find it but it had been stripped of parts. The car had become too valuable as a daily use vehicle.

So John bought it back and completely restored it: a labor of love. That car was in his life for twenty years and twenty days, from July 7th, 1984 until July 27th, 2004. It was sold to Barry Pepper, a Hollywood character actor.

After that he bought two more GTO's: A 1968 red convertible Muncie 4 speed transmission with hideaway headlights that is his pride and joy. It was the same car he left in Okinawa except that GTO wasn't a convertible. It is a heavy, powerful manual transmission vehicle that has to be <u>driven</u>. Unlike today's cars, it doesn't "drive itself."

John also had a 1969 white hard top from the original owner that he drove every day to work and drag raced at Bandimere Speedway. In 1996, not wanting to commute in a gas hog and no longer drag racing, John sold the '69 to another enthusiast.

So, that's a small piece of the story behind my teeth vibrating weekend mornings. I went over to learn about a man's car, and instead learned (again) that some of my neighbors are amazing people with incredible life stories to share.

Who's your neighbor? What are their stories?

For more information, contact the Classic GTO Association of Denver, 303/907-4730 or http://clubs.hemmings.com/denvergoats/

G.T.O. performed by Ronnie and the Daytonas

Written by John Wilkin (GTO was in peak chart position # 4 in 1964. The title track from their 1964 debut album.)

Little GTO, you're really lookin' fine
Three deuces and a four-speed and a 389
Listen to her tachin' up now, listen to her why-ee-eye-ine
C'mon and turn it on, wind it up, blow it out GTO

Chorus: Wa-wa, (mixed with "Yeah, yeah, little GTO") wa, wa, wa, wa, wa (mixed with "Yeah, yeah, little GTO")
Wa-wa, (mixed with "Yeah, yeah, little GTO") wa, wa, wa, wa, wa (mixed with "Yeah, yeah, little GTO")
Wa-wa (mixed with "Ahhh, little GTO") wa, wa, wa, wa, wa

You oughta see her on a road course or a quarter mile This little modified Pon-Pon has got plenty of style She beats the gassers and the rail jobs, really drives 'em why-ee-eye-ild C'mon and turn it on, wind it up, blow it out GTO

Gonna save all my money (turnin' it on, blowin' it out) and buy a GTO (turnin' it on, blowin' it out) Get a helmet and a roll bar (turnin' it on, blowin' it out) and I'll be ready to go (turnin' it on, blowin' it out)

Take it out to Pomona (turnin' it on, blowin' it out) and let 'em know (turnin' it on, blowin' it out), yeah, yeah

That I'm the coolest thing around

Little buddy, gonna shut you down

When I turn it on, wind it up, blow it out GTO (http://www.leoslyrics.com)

Business in the Neighborhood

Coffea Rostir, 10890B Dartmouth Avenue 303/283-4077

In the strip mall on the south side of Dartmouth b/w Havana & Parker, near the old Denver Motor Vehicles office.

Fourteen years ago Steve Bush couldn't find a decent cup of coffee in Denver. So he opened his own coffee shop in downtown Denver, Pour Joe's Coffee House. Steve was ahead of his time.

The public had not yet become so ambitious in their coffee habits.

Fast forward to the present.

Steve *still* can't find a decent cup of coffee. So he's making his own. Again.

Awarded Aurora's "Best Beans" in 2005 & 06, and Best Cup o' Joe in 2005, Bush is proud of his quality control and taste consistency in his 3rd year of business. He has leared to get the best specialty grades of coffee available for his small batch roasting process.

The obvious question is "are you crazy?" So I ask it. In a world of Starbucks, what chance does an independent have?

And thus I learn about coffee.

Industrial processes roast 1 ton of coffee an hour off a single roaster. Bush roasts 20-25 lbs. an hour, and states flatly "Even the most casual coffee drinker could identify the difference between small batch and industrial roasted coffee in a side by side taste test." Ah, the nuances of coffee. After roasting, the chemistry takes 36-48 hours to finish expelling CO2. Coffee is not at the height of its flavor unless you wait.

Even in that cup in your hand, the flavor will change as the coffee cools. For example, Bolivian coffee releases hints of cocoa, cinnamon and hazelnut as it cools. Cool.

An experienced roaster will check the acidity, aroma, flavor and body of each batch in a process known as "coffee cupping". He tests each new bag, because even the same coffee varies from bag to bag. This changes the roasting time, too. Every roasting batch is watched. Small batch roasting makes for the greatest consistency.

For consumers, the best way to store coffee is in air tight containers, preferably with a lock top to minimize oxygen. Oxygen makes coffee beans bitter. Also, keep coffee out of direct sun, and at 62 degrees or less. Freezing is OK but not necessary.

I guess I can keep coffee thru the winter, at least, when the thermostat stays at 55 to afford my heat.

The other secret is filtered water. Coffee picks up every nuance of flavor in water, including chlorination and other chemistry in the public water supply. Most public water sources in the Denver metro area are pretty good, but Bush filters and softens his water to reduce mineral build up on his equipment.

The growth of small coffee independents has some parallels to the growth of microbrews. There is still a niche for the independent and their customers.

Bush's coffee venture began (for the second time) in March, 2005 in Aurora. He outgrew that shop and liked the Dartmouth location. He also has a second shop on the South shore of Aurora Reservoir.

The Dartmouth shop opened in April, 2007. Business has been good and is slowly increasing as people find him, and his coffee. In addition to his coffee shop, Steve roasts for restaurants, dude ranches, non profits and other coffee shops. He has two part time staff which allows him to focus more of his energy and expertise on roasting.

For now, Bush says he'd like to be "successful" enough so he can retire some day, but for now he's "enjoying this so much if I'm in it for and extended period of time, well I'm OK with that, too."

2007 HURRICANES SWIM TEAM



Mary Ann Quintana Left, Sonja Briney Right



HAMPDEN HEIGHTS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dues cover the period from January 1 thru December 31 of the current year & provide general financial support, voting privileges, newsletter & web site expenses.

Annual dues are a ridiculous \$10.00 per household!

Support your neighborhood association! JOIN US TODAY!

NAME:		
NAMES of others in hou	sehold:	
ADDRESS:		
	Home	
Cell:	email:	
	Interests	
	NEW MEMBER RENEWIN onation of \$ to the Hampden Hei	
(Please remember you only need to pay once a year!)	
THANK YOU!		
Send to:	Hampden Heights Civ	ric Association
	3144 S Akron Street	
	Denver, CO 80231	

Community Notices

Put free notices for neighborhood book clubs, occasional items for sale, give away or barter, exchange, exercise partners, and simple fee for services by neighborhood residents (babysitting, dog walking, snow shovelling, yard work, etc.) NOTE: You or your family must be active, dues paying members of the HHCA. to be listed.

Landscape Corner: Roots Surfacing in the Yard (continued)

by Swingle Tree Company, 303-337-6200/www.myswingle.com

Mulches and ground cover plants cover surface roots and reduce maintenance around trees. Remove the grass with Roundup (Glyphosate), or cover the area to be mulched with newspaper or cardboard. Install a three - four inch layer of wood chip mulch over the existing grass along with groundcover plants.

Root Removal: As the last resort, roots may be removed. As a general rule, it is acceptable to cut roots up to one inch in diameter. Roots are incredibly resilient. They do not need to be cut at any specific place, nor do they require any treatment. Make the cut with a sharp tool, promptly cover the root with soil and keep the soil moist. If several roots need to be cut – consult a qualified arborist.

Keep in mind that if the tree is in a city right-of-way there may be regulations pertaining to the trees and the forester's office should be contacted first.