



# Eiberhood News

The newsletter of the Eiber Neighborhood Association. Please visit our website at [www.eiberhood.org](http://www.eiberhood.org)

Fall 2011

## Eiberhood Board

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### Meetings

7pm 3rd Thurs of month  
Lakewood United  
Methodist Church  
14th & Brentwood

### **Newsletter Ad Rates**

1/4 page \$90. 1/8 page \$50.  
Multiple issue discounts  
available.

## Eiber President Report

### *Eiber Looks Forward and Takes Action*

As the RTD FasTracks West Line project officially exits the Construction Phase and enters the Activation Phase, the Eiber board is also shifting gears and putting more energy into community projects and priorities as outlined in our 2011-2012 Goals. The goals can be viewed in full on our website, but some highlights include a renewed commitment to community events (including the very well attended Neighbor Night Out in August, partnering with St. Paul's Episcopal Church), work to create an Eiber Community Garden, renewed school connections, and a general focus on engaging Eiber residents in our neighborhood.

A few key milestones remain in the West Rail Line schedule: Civil Construction will be complete Summer 2012; Systems Installation (overhead power lines etc.) will be complete by December 2012; Wadsworth & Sheridan Parking Garages, Spring 2013; Operations Testing, Jan-May 2013; WEST RAIL OPENS in May 2013. There will be bus service reviews requiring public input starting Spring of 2012.

Watch for notices from Eiber and our website for details.

## **Eiber Submits Grant Application for Sunset Park Playground Improvements**

For the first time in several years, Eiber has applied for a grant under Lakewood's Neighborhood Participation Program (NPP). We have submitted a proposal for the refurbishment of the playground area in Sunset Park, located at the western edge of Eiber.

The current play area is covered with pea gravel that is unsafe and unsightly. There are several small pieces of equipment in poor condition. The central structure is in need of repair and paint.

We have proposed replacing the pea gravel with a rubberized play surface. This surface would have a colorful design reflecting Sunset Park and providing a safe, vibrant and welcoming centerpiece for the park. Two of the smaller pieces of equipment would be replaced. Two others would be removed to provide room for child-directed play. If approved, the central structure will be repaired and painted to complement the new surface. An additional bench adjacent to the play area may be installed.

It will be several months before the NPP makes its decision on how to allot the grant funds available for community projects. We will update our neighbors in the Spring Newsletter.

If you have questions about this grant proposal, please contact the Eiberhood Board at [secretary.eiber@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.eiber@gmail.com).

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BBB ISA TCIA

## Jefferson County Open School

JCOS is a pre-K– 12 public school located at 10th and Wadsworth. The school has a long history, beginning in the late 1960s when a group of parents organized an alternative-format primary school. In the early 1970s, a secondary school was opened in Evergreen as Open High School. In the 1990s, when Lakewood Jr. High was retired, the open schools were combined onto the one campus where it resides today.

Open School is geared to a non-letter-grade, pass/fail format where students are expected to be personally involved in the development of their own curriculum. With the assistance of their advisors, students work up a learning plan that satisfies Jefferson County’s standards for competency, yet is flexible enough to accommodate any special needs the student has, whether they be alternative learning methods, or advanced, honors-type curricula. The JCOS model is often misunderstood to be a format for under-achieving students – a “last chance” option for some children. “That’s a misconception we’d like to dispel”, says Principal Scott Bain. “While it may be true for some children, the founding parents simply wanted more than the traditional education for their children. They developed an educational model that is more holistic; one which nurtures body, mind, and spirit.”

Standardized testing focuses primarily on book learning, and presumes that certain skills are acquired at pre-determined ages, in accordance with the district’s standard learning plan. In addition to the “3 Rs”, the JCOS model also places emphasis on other skills such as emotional interaction (EQ) and community service throughout the child’s school experience. By the time the child graduates, he or she will have a complete “standard” education, but perhaps not achieved in the same time sequence as in traditional schools. So testing at certain traditional “gate points” may leave a perception that the child’s education is lacking, when in fact the material simply hasn’t been presented yet in the child’s learning plan.

JCOS students who have pursued a post-secondary education have excelled. Of all post-secondary students, which include those in 2-year colleges, 91% have graduated. Of those pursuing a 4-year accredited bachelor’s degree, 84% have graduated, compared with the average college graduation rate of 45%.

JCOS is currently at capacity with 535 students enrolled. There is a waiting list of approximately 250 applicants, mostly for the primary grades.

JCOS recently underwent another upgrade. This one involved demolition of the old East Wing, which had originally been slated for preservation, but was then discovered to have significant structural problems due to settling. The old Lakewood School – the oldest school in what is now Lakewood – was just this summer demolished. This building was retired from its service as the elementary school in the late 1970s, whereupon it housed county administration offices, and then most recently hosted a New American Charter School. The district’s facilities department determined that renovation or preservation of the building was “not cost effective” due to structural, conditional, and hazardous materials issues. Some of the more unique architectural elements have been donated to the Lakewood Historical Society.

For more information on the renovations and the school’s operation and performance, please visit their website at [sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/jcos](http://sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/jcos)

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## Lakewood High School

With more than 2,000 students and more than 100 teachers, Lakewood High School is the largest in Jefferson County. It got that way because students and their families choose to come here. More than half the students come from outside the attendance area, drawn by the school’s emphasis on academics and the arts.

Principal Ron Castagna reports that last year, 85 percent of graduates enrolled in college. “Right here in your backyard, you have a school that is a leader in the nation,” Castagna said. “The school’s been highlighted in 5280, Newsweek and U.S. News & World Report.” He said the school is working with the police and neighbors to better control trash and traffic.

You can support Lakewood High by buying a nameplate to be placed on a chair in the auditorium for a tax-deductible \$100. For more information, call 303-982-7096.

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## Eiber Elementary School

At Eiber Elementary, nine in ten kids qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. Nearly a third of the kids speak something other than English as a primary language. These are kids who need a helping hand.

Into this reality, an Eiber resident has stepped, organizing about 40 of her co-workers to adopt the school, volunteering time to read with kids and do other work that may be needed.

She was inspired by something Governor John Hickenlooper said. When after a speech, Hickenlooper was asked what one thing he would ask people to do, he said “Teach a child to read.”

This Eiber resident decided she could do more than that by recruiting others, she could help to teach an entire school of kids to read. The volunteer program is starting this fall, and she hopes it will continue for many years to come.

## Eiber Loves Its Animals

Being aware of city ordinances can help us live in harmony with our neighbors and the varied wildlife with which we share Eiber.

The total number of household pets is limited to five per household, with no more than three animals of the same species. Servant animals are allowed in addition to household pets.

Dogs left outside unattended for long periods of time can sometimes create a nuisance for neighbors if they bark, howl and

otherwise create a noise disturbance that reasonably disturbs the peace. Neighbors are highly encouraged to be aware of their animal's behavior and talk to neighbors with concerns. The Lakewood Animal Control Team is available 24 hours a day seven days a week to manage domestic and wildlife situations.

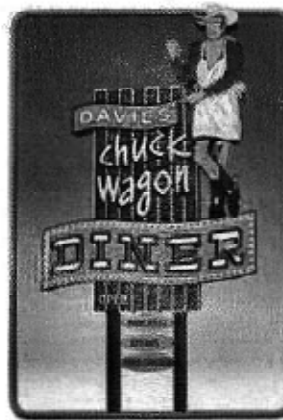
To file a barking/noise complaint you must provide the location of the animal, a description of the animal, and your name, address and phone number. Anonymous complaints cannot be accepted and the plaintiff may be called upon to testify should the case progress. An Animal Control officer will visit the address and provide a written warning to the animal owner. If called again, the office can issue a citation which could eventually lead to municipal court. Respect your neighbor's peace and property and work to keep your animals under control.

Outside of our need to care properly for our domestic animals, dogs and cats can be a problem for wildlife. Left unattended, even in a fenced yard, they serve as potential food for coyotes and mountain lions. It's best to keep your dog in a covered kennel or inside your home.

Cats become part of the food chain when allowed to roam. They are easy prey for mountain lions, coyotes and foxes. The presence of free-roaming cats can cause predators to remain in areas where they may not be welcome. Also, cats prey on small, ground-dwelling wildlife and birds. It is important to keep cats under control, especially during the spring bird-nesting season.

Finally, the City of Lakewood requires a current rabies tag and Jefferson County dog license to be worn by dogs at all times, and pets also must wear pet ID tags with name, address and phone number.

For more information on Lakewood Animal Control, please visit [www.lakewood.org](http://www.lakewood.org) under City Services/Animal Control.



## Two locations to serve you

Open Mon. - Fri. 5:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 6:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**Dine In or Take Out**

**9495 W. Colfax Ave.  
Lakewood, Co. 80215  
303-237-5252**

Or

**2601 W. Alameda Ave.  
Denver, Co. 80219  
303-922-9862**

## Let It Snow!

The holidays will be here before we know it and EiberLites is back to help with the merrymaking. Simply log onto [www.eiberhood.org](http://www.eiberhood.org) as early as Thanksgiving and enter the address or intersection for a light display you have admired (even your own).

Outstanding community displays, as nominated by our neighbors, will be listed so that you can take a stroll or a drive around to admire the highlighted properties.

Eiber Neighborhood Association — [www.eiberhood.org](http://www.eiberhood.org)  
PO Box 260937  
Lakewood CO 80226

## ***THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING***

*Will you be attending parties or gathering  
with family and friends?*

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## **The Action Center**

The big news at the Jeffco Action Center is that it has had a name change and is now known simply as the Action Center. Director Mag Strittmatter explained that the name “Jefferson” is so closely aligned with both the county and the school district that people assumed the Action Center was either a county organization or one affiliated with the school district, when, in fact, it is completely independent and not part of either entity.

Strittmatter said the Action Center, which provides food and other necessities to people in need, has seen demand for its services increase by 40 percent over the last three years. She said she expects this winter and holiday season to be busier than ever. “We will need more food and more blankets than ever before,” she said. “Of course, cash is also needed,” she noted.

For more information, call 303-237-7704 or visit their website at <http://www.jeffcoac.org>

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