



# March/April Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events/Opportunities

- ❖ Thursday, April 11, TBD
  - Different Strokes Paint & Sip
  - \$ & time TBD
- ❖ Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>-LA meeting – Police Session
  - After happy hour TBD
- ❖ Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 7-10pm
  - Innvintions Winery – bring some food to share; sample wines. Pricing TBD
  - ?'s: Deb Kirschbaum
- ❖ Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>, 6-10pm
  - 35<sup>th</sup> LA Anniversary & Poker
  - Location TBD
  - \$60 for 1, \$40 for additional attendee
- ❖ Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>-LA Meeting – Fire Session
  - After happy hour TBD
- ❖ Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 6-10pm
  - Game Night TBD
- ❖ Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>-LA Graduation

## Healthcare Day Highlights-by Allen Golden

### Healthcare Day Photos

We started the day at the Medical Center of Aurora, who kindly provided us with breakfast. We then heard from an incredibly knowledgeable panel about the resources their organizations provide to Aurora. They also spoke about the challenges facing their organization.

This panel was made up of Sally Garcia (DAWN Clinic), Matthew Jackson (Tri-County Health Department), Dr. Robert Valuck, (CU School of Pharmacy), and Shannon Newell (VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System).

Ryan Simpson, CEO of the Medical Center of Aurora, then gave us an overview of the Medical Center of Aurora and discussed the multiple campuses and support that his organization provides to the Aurora community.

After hearing from Ryan, we split up into groups and enjoyed a very interactive tour that showed off the state of the art technology of facility. Stops along the tour included the emergency room, the cath lab, and an operating room, where we were given a chance to experience a number of simulations to help us understand the work of the surgeons and staff. We also were treated with a guided tour and explanation of the Flight 4 Life resources offered to the area.

After a very informative and engaging tour, we traveled to Children's Hospital, where we were served delectable boxed lunches.

David Reeves, a chaplain from the Medical Center of Aurora, joined us at Children's Hospital and talked a little about the ethical considerations of health care. He then led us through a process where we created five wishes, outlining our

After hearing from David, Christy Dobson, the Executive Director of Corporate and Community Relations for Children's Hospital, talked about the outreach services that the hospital can provide to the community.

We then split up into groups and went to either the 3D printing lab or the SIM lab. As part of the group that visited the 3D printing area, we were shown where new technology is being used to create updated prosthetic devices to help patients of all ages needing new limbs.

Our time at Children's Hospital ended with us working in teams to make fleece blankets for patients at the hospital.

It was an incredibly enlightening and inspiring day. I am amazed at the level of healthcare resources and support available in our community. We are fortunate to live and work in a community with the healthcare resources we have all around us.

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## **Military Day Highlights-by Fernando Gray**

### **Military Day Photos**

The 2018-19 Leadership Aurora Class met at Buckley Air Force Base for Military Day. Many of our class members advised that they had not only never been on the Buckley campus but also had never been at a military installation so they were very impressed with the level of security at the site. Upon arrival, the class was welcomed by the Command Staff responsible for ensuring that the missions of the Space

Wing and Colorado National Guard remain on task. We also received an in-depth historical perspective of Buckley Air Force Base and we also were given insight about the future of this community anchor.

There were also many opportunities to tour facilities. The first tour involved a walk-thru of the Army Aviation Facility. Several aircraft were on display and we were given the opportunity to speak with the pilots, converse with the maintenance/repair team, and even sit on the actual helicopters that our brave soldiers utilize to keep our country safe. This portion of the tour concluded with opportunity to visit the mission briefing area whereby the pilots map out flight paths prior to departing on their respective aircrafts. We also toured the Radome and Flightline which were equally impressive as the first session of the day.

The highlight of the day was the direct interaction with the base personnel. A representative panel from several branches of the military were made available to answer questions about their personal journeys to the military and their current duties/responsibilities. It was awesome to hear their stories and encouraging to see their commitment to service. Lunch was great and actually prepared/served by the staff at Buckley who are tasked with providing food and refreshments on a daily basis to our service men and women on the base.

Military Day reaffirmed that Buckley Air Force Base is a pillar of the Aurora community. We were honored to have had the opportunity to visit the facility and learn about the history of the base. It is apparent from these interactions that our community and country are in great hands now and in the future!

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## Class Project Updates

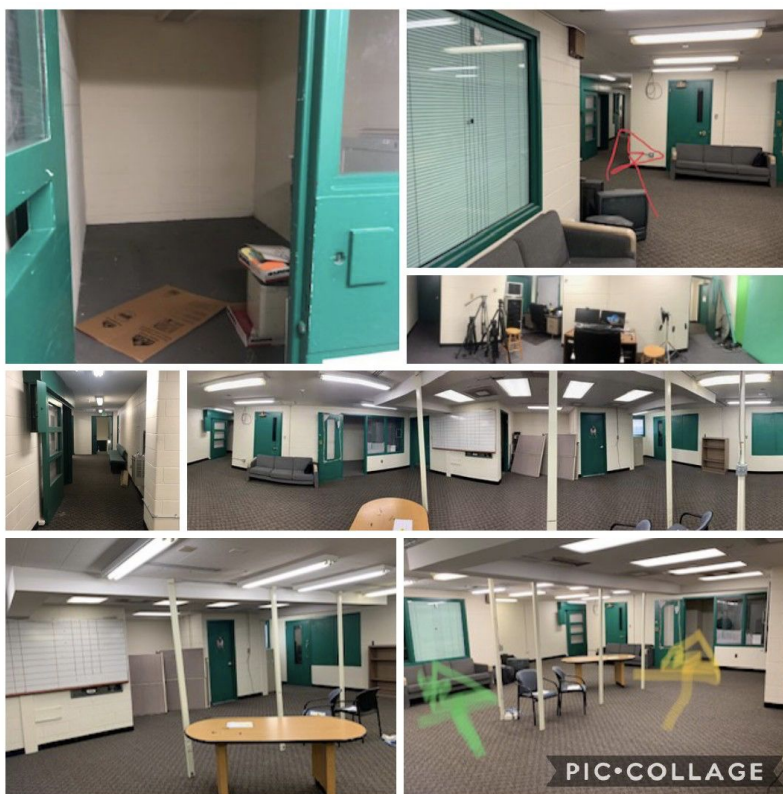
Site visit: AMHC (Photo 1551475210303)



We had a fantastic site visit with Nazan at the Stith Center. Deb brought along her (future) son-in-law who is donating his architecture design services to help us map out a detailed plan for the space, which will include a new walkway, designated and separated sitting and smoking areas, art sculptures, and native grasses and plants that work well for increased curb appeal, protection, and function. Marty offered up the CPTED services of APD who can conduct a site visit and provide recommendations for safety aspects that can be incorporated into the plans. CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) is a multi-disciplinary approach for reducing crime through urban and environmental design and the management and use of built environments. CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community among inhabitants so they can gain territorial control of areas and reduce opportunities for crime and fear of crime.

Once Nazan receives the plans, she will review with her maintenance and facilities team to ensure alignment with their overall vision for the space, and will bring to us the final approved plans. We can then take a look and determine what we (LA as a class combined with community support) can solicit for in-kind donations, and estimate actual cost for fundraising dollars needed for the project and go from there.

**Site visit: JAC (Photo: Collage 2010-03-07210333)**



The JAC project has officially been approved! We had an eye opening site visit with JAC. The facilities are definitely dull and could be possibly a scary place for kids. The project will involve major cleaning to prepare the space, painting (walls and potentially ceiling), new/updated lighting, furnishing, decorating, and equipping the new JAC to serve children and youth in a trauma-informed manner. There is no construction involved in the project, but more of a “face-lift” to make it comfortable and kid-friendly, including having places to sleep. The goal is to transform the existing space (once used as a jail) into a welcoming, home-like, and safe place for children/youth when they are dropped off by law enforcement for behavioral/delinquency issues, and while they are awaiting counseling or release back to their families. This transformation will require artwork, comfortable furniture, TVs, books, games/puzzles, blankets, lamps, plants, fridge/microwave, etc. The project will entail gathering donations or raising funds to purchase some items, providing time/labor to do the refurbishing, and using our creativity!

Donation pick-up days:

**March/April 2019**

We received an incredible donation of the equivalent of 6 complete units located at 21<sup>st</sup> and Curtis (Downtown Denver): furnishings from 20 bedrooms (beds, furniture, bedding, linens, wall art), 6 kitchens (cutlery, pots and pans, coffee makers), 6 living rooms (furniture to include couches and tables, wall art). All the furniture is Ikea or American Furniture Warehouse quality. WE should be able to use a good portion of the couches for the JAC project, and even some items for indoor needs for AHMC. Not all the items can be used for our class projects, so we are working with other nonprofits (many from our Community Day) to donate to them, as this was an all or nothing deal.

Here are our needs:

- Storage space
- Moving or other large trucks for transportation
- Moving equipment (dollies, furniture protectors, etc)
- Boxes
- People
- Dates are March 25<sup>th</sup> (2 units) and May 3<sup>rd</sup> (4 units) time TBD - probably morning start

### **Memorial Day Community Service**

As Denver's second oldest operating cemetery, Fairmount's rich and fascinating past stretches back to 1890, the year it was founded. Fairmount's graves read like the who's who of Colorado history: 19 governors, 11 U.S. senators, notable war heroes, educational pioneer Emily Griffith, philanthropist Helen Bonfils, the Boettcher family, Brown family, jazz musician George Keith, major league baseball player James Moore and so many others. Fairmount has laid to rest more Medal of Honor recipients than any other cemetery in Colorado. Fairmount is home to Colorado's most extensive arboretum, filled with numerous Champion Trees and one of the largest collections of Heritage Roses in North America. The cemetery's two original buildings, the Little Ivy Chapel, the Gate Lodge and the Fairmount Mausoleum are designated historic Denver landmarks.

#### **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> - Flag Planting**

8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dress appropriately for weather. This event will occur rain or shine!

Volunteers will place flags at the headstones in the veterans sections, block 35 where Japanese American veterans are buried, and throughout the cemetery to honor our deceased military veterans in preparation for Fairmount Cemetery's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremonies. This volunteer event is outdoors, so please wear comfortable walking shoes (potentially waterproof, pending wet weather), layer according to weather. This is a great volunteer opportunity for families with children and large groups.

#### **Saturday, June 1 - Flag Pick-Up**

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Dress appropriately for weather. This event will occur rain or shine!

Volunteers will pick up flags at the headstones following the conclusion of Fairmount Cemetery's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremonies. This volunteer event is outdoors, so please wear comfortable walking shoes (potentially waterproof, pending wet weather), layer according to weather. Also, bring larger reusable shopping bags or backpacks for transporting flags. This is a great volunteer opportunity for families with children and large groups.

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## **Helpful Links/Reminders**

### **Fundraising Spreadsheet**

When you start to talk to a company, please list it in this sheet so that we know who is talking to whom. Here is a simple explanation of the headers you will find when you open the sheet. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18pWodnTr-yQadXiXoRZhZoCM6GRjvs454TFFwDLuxW4/edit?usp=sharing>

- L/A Class Member — Your name
- Committee / Project — What area are you asking for? Project, Yearbook, Pay it Forward
- Donor Company / Org Name — Where would the funds come from?
- Company Contact — What is the name of the person you are talking to?
- Status — Where in the process is the request? Going to talk to, waiting for response, committed to donate, check cut, check received

Please use this sheet when working to get money or in kind donations for any project or committee. This sheet is going to help all of us stay on track and make sure that we follow up with the correct people to ensure that we can complete everything that we have committed to as a class.

**Google Drive**-Not sure how to use Google Drive and Docs? Check out this website! <https://sites.google.com/aurorak12.org/columbiamscotech-help/all-things-google?authuser=0>

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