

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Doug Tisdale

“Fasten Your Seat Belts!” – Mayor Goes to Boot Camp ... Alan Hutto Memorial Commons ... Governor Visits Village ... Mayor’s Competition Winners ... Craig Hospital Expansion

USMC MCRD - SAN DIEGO VISIT

Last month I learned that Uncle Sam still wanted ... me! I was asked to join about 80 other Mayors, principals, teachers and coaches from Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wyoming for a week in “boot camp” with the United States Marine Corps. Greenwood Village Mayor Ron Rakowsky and I “bunked in” together for our sojourn at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot – San Diego. The purpose of the trip, paid for by the Marine Corps, was to expose educators and “influencers” to the world’s greatest fighting force. Repeatedly during these jam-packed five days we were told the mission of the Marine Corps: “We make marines. We win our nation’s battles. We develop quality citizens.” We had the opportunity to meet many of the current crop of recruits, including some from Colorado, and if these young men (women Marines are trained at Parris Island) are any example, the Corps is doing a fine job.

They definitely ran us through all the paces, including the induction process (where we got to meet our Drill Instructor for the week, a Staff Sergeant who had us all shouting “aye” and marching in formation in record time), the Marine Corps physical fitness test, the obstacle course, bayonet training, field operations training (conducting rescue missions out of the famed “Twelve Stalls” at Camp Pendleton, where your Mayor was selected as the Squadron Leader—a task I readily accepted, as it involved less heavy lifting!), and marksmanship training on the Camp Pendleton rifle range (“Every Marine is a rifleman!”). The visit was rounded out with a tour of Miramar Marine Air Station and was capped off by watching the graduation of the newest batch of Marines at MCRD-San Diego. Commanding General Daniel Yoo was extremely pleased to receive one of our “challenge coins” for the new Joint Public Safety Facility and, in true military challenge fashion, gave me a Commanding General’s Challenge Coin in return. *Semper Fidelis!*

ALAN HUTTO MEMORIAL COMMONS

The story of the remarkable generosity of Frank and Holly Hutto is detailed elsewhere in this issue of *The Crier*. I will just expand upon this to say that your City Council worked collaboratively with me in securing this two and a half acre site for the use and enjoyment of Villagers at a cost that is about one-fifteenth of the appraised value. Plans on how best to implement the vision of the Alan Hutto Memorial Commons are still underway and we are in direct personal conversation with the neighbors and all interested parties to make this an outstanding addition to our Village. Stay tuned for more!

GUBERNATORIAL VISIT TO JPSF

On May 13, we hosted the very first official state visit by a sitting Governor to our Village. Now, this was not the first time that a governor had visited Cherry Hills. It’s just that those other visits usually involve a great deal of wine and cheese ... and checks. But this time Mayor-turned-Governor John Hickenlooper visited our new Joint Public Safety Facility at the invitation of our own Rep. Daniel Kagan to sign two Kagan-sponsored bills into law: HB13-1163 (establishing a fund to pay for previously unreimbursed medical testing for victims of sexual assault) and HB13-1308 (authorizing law enforcement agencies to “ping” cell phones of kidnap victims). Kudos to our staff, and especially Chief Michelle Tovrea, for creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our state’s chief executive.

MAYOR’S COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

After months of creative work by students, and weeks of careful judging by a select panel, winners have been announced in the Mayor’s Competition for Student-Produced Videos celebrating the beauty, history, legacy and value of the High Line Canal Trail. Two teams from St. Mary’s Academy High School were awarded the First Place for the High School Division and the Grand Prize for the entire Competition, the coveted Leone d’Oro Prize. A team from West Middle School was awarded First Place in the Middle School Division. Almost \$3,000.00 in prize money was at stake in this first-ever video competition.

SMA high school juniors Kelsey Waldron, Kathryn Harhai and Sara Van Velkinburgh share the One Thousand Dollar Leone d’Oro Grand Prize Award. Entitled simply, “The High Line Canal,” their five-minute video is filled with stunning visual images of the Canal Trail and is accompanied by a moving narration replete with quotes from William Wordsworth and Albert Einstein and a poetic celebration of nature. A haunting musical soundtrack undulates in the background, together with the all-too-rare water in the Canal that the students were able to capture. The time lapse sunset scenes create striking bookends to this imaginative love letter to the High Line Canal.

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Mayor awards Grand Prize (Leone d'Oro) to St. Mary's Academy High School Juniors (l.to r.) Sara Van Velkinburgh, Kathryn Harhai and Kelsey Waldron.

The High School Division First Place Prize of Five Hundred Dollars was awarded to SMA seniors Hayley Lansing, Hanna Pardee and Liz Van Dorn for their four-minute video entitled "Experiencing the High Line Canal Trail," making effective use of brief interview segments with people while they are out enjoying the Trail, punctuated by a pulsating score that is dramatically interrupted by one segment filled with sounds of songbirds and a hooting owl.

West Middle School 8th graders Henry Davis and Julia Merten received the Middle School Division First Prize, and the Five Hundred Dollar Award that went with it. The two-minute video, "Cherry Hills Village – The High Line Canal," shows runners on the trail and makes imaginative use of a head-mounted camera to capture the experience of biking on the Canal Trail, with a slow meditative soundtrack underscoring the peace and tranquility of the trail.



Henry Davis and Julia Merten receive their \$500 award check from Mayor Tisdale at the June 4th Council meeting.

Winning High School Division faculty advisors were Tanya Komandt and Kelsey Vroomunn. Winning Middle School faculty advisors were Craig Sisson and Elizabeth Mulroney. Videos were judged by a panel of ten, including Greenwood Village Mayor Ron Rakowsky, CHV Councilor Klasina VanderWerf, Kentwood Company realtor Rollie Jordan, Villager reporter Jan Wondra and me. Prize money for the Mayor's Competition was graciously donated by The Kentwood Company ("Leone d'Oro Sponsor"), Kevin and Mary McNicholas ("High School Division Sponsor"), Patxi's Pizza of Cherry Hills ("Middle School Division Sponsor"), Arapahoe County Open Space Fund ("Honorable Mentions Sponsor") and Chase Bank at Kent Place ("Sponsor").

Once these videos go through post-production, they will be broadcast on KCHV-TV, which is our cable channel here in the Village. In addition, we have already received requests from other High Line Canal communities to allow them to broadcast all of these videos on their cable channels, as well as displaying them at various meetings and other gatherings of interested groups.

Honorable Mentions, which include a prize of \$100.00 for each video, were awarded to Brendan Eckerman and Spencer Smith of West Middle School; Lexi Mitchell, Emily Sutherland, Emma Taylor Killian, Cece Palmquist, Ramona Sandoval, Andrea Berrocal, Nayeli Villalobos, Kristin Tomlinson and Catherine Ingersoll, all of St. Mary's Academy High School.



The Mayor congratulates Spencer Smith and Brendan Eckerman who received Honorable Mentions and a \$100 award.

CRAIG HOSPITAL EXPANSION GROUNDBREAKING

On May 23, I joined Englewood Mayor Randy Penn and the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff to break ground for the exciting expansion of Craig Hospital. I was honored to be invited by Craig Hospital CEO Mike Fordyce to join this celebration, expanding and improving this world-class center of excellence for traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries. They are great neighbors and a fabulous facility serving our Villagers.

Enjoy your summer!

— Mayor Doug Tisdale