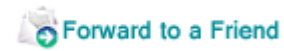


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Life On Havana Street
E-News
July 2009

Dear Gayle,



Welcome to Life on Havana Street E-news. Each month you will find articles and information to make your life more interesting and keep you informed about what is happening On Havana Street.

If you cannot see all of the great pictures in this newsletter when you receive this email in your inbox, please see the notation at the top of the email, "To view this email as a web page, go **here**," and click the word "**here**."

In This Month's Issue

This Month's Featured Business...[read story](#)
El Costeño's "Basket Tacos"

Food and Recipes...[read story](#)
Food Critic's Corner: Han Kang Korean Restaurant

Events/Happenings...[read stories](#)
Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run Recap
Peaches! Cherries! Apricots! At The Farmers' Market!
HBID Open at CommonGround, July 21
Ice Cream Social at the Lisa Strawn Memorial Rose Garden, August 29
Taste of Aurora at The Stampede, September 17
Get Cookin' On Havana Street, September 29

Tidbits...What's New On Havana Street?...[read stories](#)
The New Water Feature at The Gardens on Havana
StevO's New Do
Lenny's Sub Shop to Open July 15 or 16
PropWash Laundry To Open Soon
GWP Wireless Boost Mobile Store
Unique African Hair Braiding Salon
New Stores at The Gardens on Havana
Kids Auto to Move to South Havana
Join us on Face Book

Automotive Innovations: Cash for Clunkers Program, What You Need to Know....[read story](#)

[View/Print El Costeño's Special Coupon Offer](#)

Featured Business of the Month: El Costeño's Basket Tacos



El Costeño manager, Juan-Ricardo Campos, explained to me that tacos de canasta are "basket tacos," unique to Colorado. "Basket tacos" are served wrapped and covered in a basket to keep them warm, essentially steaming the tacos to make the corn tortilla and its contents tender and delicious.

You can typically find tacos de canasta sold from vendor carts in marketplaces and in family restaurants in Mexico. They have evolved to pick up a regional flair here in Colorado. Tacos de canasta are eaten as a quick, delicious breakfast or early lunch in Mexico and US Border States. According to an article from mexconnect.com, "A Guide to Mexican Street Tacos-Part I," the word taco comes from a Spanish word meaning "light snack."

El Costeño opened on July 5, sharing the space with StevO's Pizza at 800 S Havana. They are open from 6 a.m. - 1 p.m. daily, their phone number is 303-366-1080. This is a family-run business.

Being the Gringo that I am, I had never heard of tacos de canasta, but was willing to give them a try. I stopped in around 11 a.m. to catch a very late breakfast/early lunch and ordered one of the tacos. It was delicious! Very tender strips of shredded barbacoa beef encased in a soft corn tortilla served with a variety of garnishes and salsas. I tried a little of the tomatillo-based green chili salsa, which was warm but not overwhelming. Since I am such a wimp when it comes to spicy hot foods, I also had ordered a large Coke to have on hand just in case. Other tacos de canasta fillings include mole (chicken breast in mole and sesame sauce), chicharron (pork skin in spicy tomato sauce), papa con chorizo (potatoes and Mexican chorizo), and frijoles. The tacos cost \$1 each.

Since tacos de canasta are a popular breakfast food, El Costeño also offers a wide variety of natural juices, smoothies, coffees, lattes, mochas and cappuccinos, as well as tortas. Stop in to El Costeño to make your life and breakfast more interesting On Havana Street.

[Read more about breakfast tacos](#)

[View/Print El Costeño's Special Coupon Offer](#)

[\(Return to top\)](#)

Food and Recipes: Food Critic's Corner



In each issue of Life On Havana Street E-News, we will feature a few restaurants reviews by our resident food critic, Mark Tunnell:

Han Kang Korean Restaurant, 1910 S Havana (SE corner of Havana & Jewel), open Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. and on Sunday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., phone 303-873-6800:

I had not been there in many months, but thought it would be nice to try again. The menu had a lot of interesting items, each with a photograph and helpful description to aid those who might not necessarily be too familiar with the cuisine. I had the Galbi (marinated and grilled beef shortribs) which were meaty, smoky and tender. My sister had decided to try the Seafood Soup which featured toothsome noodles in a delicately seasoned broth chock full of whole shrimp, octopus, mussels and other delicacies of the sea. She enjoyed her choice as well. As is customary, the meal also featured steamed rice and the array of side dishes known as Banchan, and ended with a complimentary cup of sweet grain drink, Sikhye, to finish things off nicely.

Thank you, Mark! You can always discover unique experiences in dining, shopping and living On Havana Street!

[\(Return to top\)](#)

Events/Happenings: Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run



On the left: Danny Lovendahl and family after winning the 50" big screen TV at the poker run. On the right: Out for a drive at Cruzin' Havana (picture by Angel L. Canarr)

Despite a few rain drops and some wind earlier in the day, there were a lot of smiles at Cruzin' Havana. Depending upon who you asked, reports were that we had between 3,500 and 4,000 classic cars visiting our five festival sites. Everyone enjoyed the great Old School rock & roll. Tailgaters lined up along Havana to watch the classic cars drive by in the poker run. The

Gibby's/NAPA site was really hoppin' with Cruisin' Oldies AM 950 providing the entertainment throughout the evening. The winner of the poker run, Danny Lovendahl of Aurora, went home with a beautiful 50" big-screen TV. Thanks again to Stevinson Toyota East & Scion, Havana Auto Parts, The Stampede, your local State Farm Insurance Agents, The Aurora Sentinel, Costco, Cruisin' Oldies AM 950 and our 140 wonderful volunteers for making this event a winner! We plan to make Cruzin' Havana bigger and better next year!

[Click here to view pictures from 2009 Cruzin Havana](#)



PEACHES! CHERRIES! APRICOTS! At the Farmers' Market!

Early Colorado fruits and veggies are starting to arrive at the Farmers' Market at Fan Fair, 3rd & Havana. The market sets up every Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. through the end of October. Green Onions, yellow squash, spinach, broccoli, and English shell peas are just some of the goodies you will find. The sweet corn and melons will be arriving in the next few weeks, too.

We have a wonderful slate of local Colorado farmers and vendors at the market this year: Domenico Farms, Forte Farms, Hutchison Market, Mazzotti Farms & Greenhouse, Body by Lynn Natural Bath Products, Dog Fathers Hotdogs, J&J Salsa, New Era Distributing (baskets & gifts), Olde Westport

Spice & Trading Company, Peachtree (pickled relishes, veggies, jams, preserves and honey), Rocky Mountain Rice Company, Snow Creek Gourmet Black Angus Beef, Space Monkey Skin Care, and the wonderful Styria Bakery. If you are interested in fresh and organic--The Aurora Farmers' Market at Fan Fair is the place to be this summer!

Pictured above: Shopping for flowers at the Mazzotti Farms booth at The Farmers' Market at Fan Fair



HBID Open Golf Tournament, Tuesday, July 21

CommonGround Golf Course, the new 18-hole championship course designed by Tom Doak, opened over Memorial Day weekend. The HBID open is a 4-player modified scramble format. All proceeds from this tournament will go towards scholarships for youth to learn the game of golf at CommonGround's Junior Golf Training Program. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with warm-up and a Continental Breakfast. Announcements and departure is at 7:45 a.m. with the shot gun start at 8:00 a.m. The cost is \$100 per player which allows you to enjoy a complete program of special events, 18 holes of golf including cart, Continental breakfast, lunch, door

prizes for each player and an awards banquet with great prizes. This new course has received rave reviews from golfers already.

The course was named CommonGround for several reasons: It is a place for golfers of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes to have a chance to play a beautiful, resort-style course, it is shared in common by both Aurora and Denver as the city line runs through the middle of the course, and it is common ground for the course's owners--the Colorado Golf Association and Colorado Women's Golf Association. This is truly a remarkable gift that Tom Doak has given our community. Join us on July 21.

[View/Print HBID Open Flyer](#)

[View/Print HBID Open Registration Form](#)

Saturday, August 29: Ice Cream Social and Dedication of the Lisa Strawn Memorial Rose Garden at The Gardens on Havana



The date has been set for the dedication of the Lisa Strawn Memorial Rose Garden and official grand opening of the entire Gardens on Havana mixed-use center. You are all invited to join us on **Saturday, August 29 at 7 p.m. for the official dedication/ribbon cutting ceremony, a tour of the garden and an old-fashioned community ice cream social. The Aurora Symphony Orchestra's brass quintet will be on hand to set the mood.** The Gardens on Havana is our new activity center and is putting the "community" back into our On Havana Street community, something that we used to have when the former Buckingham Square Mall was it its heyday. We hope you can come out for a couple of hours on a hot August night to enjoy some ice cream, music, socialize with your neighbors and stop to smell the roses!

September 17: Taste of Aurora at The Stampede

Going strong for over 10 years now, Taste of Aurora returns to The Stampede on Thursday night, September 17. On Havana Street is teaming up with the Aurora Chamber and the Aurora Sentinel on this event. You will be able to sample foods from many On Havana Street and Aurora restaurants. More information will be forthcoming, but save this date!

Saturday, September 26: Get Cookin' On Havana Street!



Pictured: An Ethiopian coffee set used in the Ethiopian coffee ceremony

On Saturday, September 26, from noon-4 p.m., 14 of our International Markets On Havana Street will be opening up their shops to offer a world of far-reaching experiences to make your life more interesting. No longer just a niche, ethnic cooking has become a very popular and more healthful alternative for mainstream America. If you are like many Americans, preparing meals has become a routine, often mundane daily task. Get out of that rut and get cookin'! The International Markets On Havana Street will give you ideas to spice up your life with good, wholesome, interesting meals perfect for your on-the-go lifestyle.

Each ethnicity has its own blend of spices, flours and grains, fruits and vegetables, and it can all be found On Havana Street. Our markets offer bulk and pre-packaged item, competitively priced. Try red caviar on fresh baked rye bread, home-made Russian pelemeni or some imported sausage from the UK. How about a Japanese stir-fry with fresh vegetables, special soy sauce and Asian vermicelli noodles? You can pick up some fresh pastries like mandasi or sambusa from the Ifka Somali cafe. Zabiha Halal fresh meats and frozen products abound at World Food Bazaar. Be sure to stop in for some Injera made with black teff flour or some ambasha bread at our Ethiopian markets to

accompany your special recipe for doro wat. Experience the International Markets On Havana Street for yourself on September 26.

For our special Get Cookin' event, each of the markets is preparing cards with recipes from their home countries and will have the ingredients for these recipes in their shops, giving out tips on how to correctly prepare the ethnic foods, as well. Each market will be offering tasting samples of the food from their countries and will share the music and the heritage dress from their countries with you. I have heard that Tana Grocery will be performing a formal Ethiopian coffee ceremony for their guests, including roasting the raw coffee beans during the ceremony. I love the aroma of fresh-roasted coffee! Watch for more information in upcoming Live on Havana Street E-newsletters.

[\(Return to top\)](#)

July Tidbits: What's New On Havana Street

Beautiful New Water Feature at The Gardens on Havana



Artist, Eric Mesplé, filling the pool to prime the pump.

The water is now flowing in the new, exquisite public art water feature along Garden Drive at The Gardens on Havana. Miller-Weingarten Realty commissioned very talented, 30-year-old local artist, Eric Mesplé of Mesplé Metals, to create this lovely fountain. Eric and his father, David Mesplé, just happened to be filling up the pool at the fountain when I was at The Gardens on Havana on a recent afternoon checking the rose garden. Artistic talents run in the family, as Dad, David, is the chair of the fine arts division at the Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design in Denver. David said that Eric is by far a more accomplished artist in the family, even at his young age. Eric will also be creating the trellis for the Lisa Strawn Memorial Rose Garden, which is just east of the fountain. The dedication of the rose garden and the grand opening of The Gardens on Havana mixed use center is scheduled for Saturday night, August 29, from 7-9 p.m. at the site.

StevO's New Punk Do



StevO's Pizza's classic VW bug delivery vehicle has a "new punk do." I did a double take the other day when I saw it zipping down Havana Street. Was that The Birdman? No, it was Stevo's Pizza Mobile. Stevo's Pizza is located at 800 S Havana and his phone number is 303-366-1226. One has to be very creative to have a profitable business in this tough economy, and Steve Wieand is having some fun with it! Steve also got into the spirit of the Cruzin' Havana Car Show by hosting a VW classic car club at his restaurant the night of the show.

Lenny's Sub Shop Opening This Week



Located in the Village on The Park Shopping Center at 2353 S Havana, #D15, directly across from Party City, Lenny's will be open for business Wednesday the 15th or Thursday the 16th of July, if all goes as planned. This will be the fourth Lenny's in Colorado, with the three other stores located at 726 Lincoln in Denver, 3299 S Broadway in Englewood, and 96 Wadsworth in Lakewood. Lenny's menu features authentic Philly Cheese Steaks and Deli Fresh Experience™ sandwiches. The originally Lenny's Sub Shop opened in

1998 in Memphis, TN. The meat and cheese in the subs are sliced to order and piled high on fresh baked bread. A regular sub on the menu contains 1/2 pound of meat and cheese, and a large sub contains a full pound! They offer hot and cold sandwiches, salads, chips, cookies, fountain drinks (Coke products), homemade sweetened and unsweetened iced tea, and lemonade. Their phone number is 303-745-1261 and their fax is 303-751-0159. You can view their full menu on their website at www.lennyssubshop.com. Check it out!

PropWash Laundry To Open Soon

We will soon have a brand new, modern laundry at 2670 S Havana, just north of the Honey Baked Ham Store at Yale & Havana. They will offer both a self-serve laundry and drop off services. If any of you have recently priced front-loader stainless steel washers and dryers, you know how expensive they are. PropWash has row after row of brand-new front-load stainless steel washers and dryers. This is a huge investment! I have heard they plan to be open sometime between June 15 and 20.

GWP Wireless/Boost Mobile Opens



This new store just opened up at 10 S Havana, #112, which is on the east side of Havana between Alameda & 1st Avenue, just across from the new CommonGround Golf Course. They are an authorized Cricket dealer, as well. Their phone number is 303-366-9983,

website www.boostmobile.com , and they are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; closed on Sunday.

Unique African Hair Braiding Opens

Just next door to Boost Mobile is the new Unique African Hair Braiding Shop, 10 S Havana Street #113. They are open Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Their phone number is 720-859-7554.

New Stores at The Gardens on Havana: KeyBank is coming to The Gardens on Havana. The GNC and nail salon will be opening soon. GNC has a sign in their window that states, "now accepting applications." Work continues on the new Sprouts Farmers' Market store that is going in just north of Dick's Sporting Goods. There was a flurry of activity this week at the storefront to the north of Kohl's, which will be the future home of a pet store. The site plans for Freddy's Frozen Custard are going through the second submission phase. The Chick-Fil-A plans were approved last month and they are working on final mylars for the site.

Kids Auto Moving to South Havana: Kids Auto will be moving to the former Smart Move Auto building at 658 S Havana, just north of where the Highline Canal crosses Havana on the East side of the street. The move is scheduled to take place on July 15.

We are now on Face Book: We have added the Face Book icon above the picture on the right hand side of our Home Page at www.OnHavanaStreet.com. Click on the icon and log into Face Book to become a Fan.

[\(return to top\)](#)

Automotive Innovations: Cash for Clunkers Program Coming to On Havana Street New Car Dealerships in late July



Some are calling it a chance in a lifetime to get a good chunk of change to purchase a new car--CARS (Car Allowance Rebate System), a.k.a. Cash for Clunkers is almost here. President Obama signed the CARS bill on June 24, and now the federal government is in the process of working out all of the details. The program will be ready to go sometime in late July and will end November 1. Because this program is offered for only a limited time, you need to get yourself up to speed about the program to be ready to take advantage of up to \$4,500 in cash rebates towards purchase of a new vehicle.

To be eligible, the new car dealerships must register for the program. After calling around to some of the On Havana Street new car dealerships, most of them were in the process of registering and awaiting further program details.

To be eligible for the Cash for Clunkers program:

- The vehicle you are trading in must be less than 25 years old on the trade in date.
- This program applies only to purchases and leases of NEW vehicle, foreign or domestic models, not to the purchase of used vehicles.
- Traded in vehicles must get a combined (city/highway) mileage of 18 or less MPG to be eligible and can be either foreign or domestic models (refer to the www.CARS.gov website for details on how to calculate your MPG).
- The vehicle you purchase must get a combined 22 MPG or more and can be either a domestic or foreign model.

- Traded in vehicles must be registered and insured continuously for the full year preceding the trade in.
- The program runs through Nov 1 or until the funds have been exhausted, whichever comes first.
- The vehicle traded in is required to be destroyed by crushing or shredding, but the entity doing the crushing or shredding can remove and resell parts (other than engine and drive train) off the car before it is destroyed.
- Rebates range from \$3,500 to \$4,500 depending on the vehicle traded in.

Once the dealer registration process is completed and the government is ready to roll out the program, here are the steps to take to make sure you are ready to take advantage of this program:

- Visit CARS.gov for current program information.
- Determine if you qualify and shop an On Havana Street new car dealership to pick out your perfect new car.
- Bring the title, registration and insurance papers from the vehicle you are trading in showing continuous registration and insurance coverage for the past full year.
- When you buy or lease a new vehicle, the On Havana Street dealer handles the submission of all required information for the program to the NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).
- The NHTSA ensures that your purchase meets the requirements.
- About 10 days a later, the NHTSA will issue a financial credit to the dealership assuming all program requirements have been met.

Please stop by or go on line to the new car dealerships On Havana Street soon to pick out your new car and get the process started once the government releases the program in late July:

- **Ed Bozarth Chevrolet**, 2001 S Havana, 303-751-7500, www.edbozarth.com
- **Colorado Chrysler Jeep**, 350 S Havana, 303-341-4050, www.coloradochryslerjeepaurora.com
- **Gateway Mazda**, 90 Havana, 303-344-5800, www.gatewaymazda.com
- **Infiniti of Denver**, 2990 S Havana, 303-671-6000, www.infiniti.com
- **Land Rover Denver East**, 2950 S Havana, 751-1500, www.pioneercentres.com
- **Mike Naughton Ford**, 150 S Havana, 303-343-1900, www.bigmike.com
- **Saturn of Aurora**, 2150 S Havana, 303-369-3000, www.saturnofaurora.com
- **Shortline Automotive Group** (Subaru, Suzuki, Hyundai), 580 S Havana, 303-364-2200, www.shortlineonline.com
- **Shortline Kia**, 100 Havana, 720-858-7148, www.shortlineonline.com
- **Stevinson Toyota East & Scion**, 444 S Havana, 303-340-2170, www.stevinsontoyotaeast.com
- **Suss Buick Pontiac GMC**, 1301 S Havana, 303-751-3400, www.suss.net
- **Tynan's Nissan**, 780 S Havana, 303-341-7330, www.tynans.com
- **Tynan's VW**, 700 S Havana, 303-341-7330, www.tynans.co

Valuable website:

www.CARS.gov

[Cash for Clunkers program FAQs](#)

[View Edmunds.com list of vehicles eligible for Cash for Clunkers Program](#)

[\(Return to the top\)](#)

Continuing to provide unique experiences in dining, shopping and living On Havana Street.

Sincerely,

Gayle Jetchick, Executive Director, Havana Business Improvement District
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Visit our web site at
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