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Life On Havana Street
E-News
October 2008



Dear gmjetchick@comcast.net,

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.

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This Month's Featured Businesses



Business Recognition Award Winners:

Pictured (left to right) John Fenstermacher of The Stampede; Gayle Jetchick, Havana BID Executive

Director; Marno McDermott of The Stampede and Dumitri Palea of Dumitri's Restaurant

On October 8, 2008, the City of Aurora honored four business owners who have shown significant growth of their businesses, have provided exceptional customer service and have demonstrated outstanding community involvement. Three of the four businesses are **On Havana Street**. Business Recognition Award winners included:

Rural Metro Ambulance: Rural Metro has an office at 50 S Havana Street. Rural Metro provides Aurora with 911 transportation services, responding to over 19,000 calls a year. Partnering with the Aurora Fire Dept, Rural Metro provides a full range of medical transport services to area hospitals. Rural Metro is very active in the community with a kid-centered approach offering programs to enhance safety and health awareness to families. They are the only Aurora-based car seat safety inspection station recognized by the State of Colorado, conducting free inspections and demonstrations to parents. Rural Metro provided the EMT coverage for the Cruzin' Havana Car Show in June.

The Stampede, 2430 S Havana Street: Owners, Marno McDermott and John Fenstermacher, were key players in the steering committee that guided formation of the Havana Business Improvement District and continue to be big supporters of **On Havana Street**. Since 1992, The Stampede has been Colorado's premier country bar and dance club. Their motto, "Two steps above the rest," represents their quality of service to patrons and visitors alike. The Stampede was one of the festival sites for the Cruzin' Havana Car Show and Poker Run in June, which was a fund-raising event for the D.A.R.E. program and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver.

Dumitri's Family Restaurant, 1911 S Havana Street: Owner, Dumitri Palea, was also a key player in the formation of the Havana Business Improvement District and currently serves on the board of directors. Starting with just six employees, Dumitri's has grown into a multi-million dollar business with over 20 employees and recently celebrated 18 years **On Havana Street**. Dumitri's is the official meeting place for the Havana BID board meetings. Dumitri is always willing to support local charities, such as the Rocky Mountain Adoption Exchange.

Aurora Sentinel Newspaper: Although not **On Havana Street**, the Aurora Sentinel has played a very important part in support and promotion of events **On Havana Street**. For a century, Aurora has never been without a newspaper of its own. Although it has worn several different names, the Aurora Sentinel has always been an outstanding newspaper, reporting with accuracy and committed to the community. Under the direction of editor Dave Perry, the Sentinel projects a strong editorial voice with news-savvy reporters that report the issues fairly and concisely. The Aurora Sentinel has received more than 100 regional and national honors, including the Colorado Press Association and the Associated Press awards for best editorials in the state and most significant public service contributions to the local community.

Upcoming Events

How to Succeed in a Restaurant Business: On Thursday, October 23, from 5-6:30 p.m., the Stampede Nightclub and Dance Emporium, 2340 So Havana, will host a special public session focusing on the restaurant business. This is part of the new International Business Initiative created through a collaborative effort on the part of the City of Aurora, Aurora City Council Member Molly Markert, The Aurora Business Development Center, neighborhood leaders, and the Havana Business Improvement District. Learn from industry experts and other restaurateurs the secrets of their success as well as the challenges. If you are considering a restaurant start-up or want

to make your current restaurant more profitable, this is a must-attend event to learn about city processes, assistance and resources BEFORE opening up a business. For more information, call the Aurora Business Development Center at 303-326-8690. This is a free event and light refreshments will be served.

Food and Recipes

Taste Event at CCA: As a kick-off to International Restaurant Week, the restaurants **On Havana Street** teamed up with the Global Initiatives Division of the Community College of Aurora and the Aurora Kaleidoscope Council in a "Taste of Havana's Finest Event" on October 8. Twelve **On Havana Street** restaurants provided a taste of the authentic International Cuisine served in their establishments. An estimated 250 CCA students, faculty and visitors were treated to a taste of both the food and the cultures represented by the **On Havana Street** restaurants. The Kaleidoscope Council of Aurora arranged for cultural performances by a different group every 15 minutes throughout the two-hour event, including Tai Chi Quo Going, Indian/Pakastani dancing, Salsa dancing, African drumming and dancing and guitar music.



Tidbits



2009 Date Set for Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run:

On Saturday, June 20, 2009, the classic cars will rev up their engines and cruise On Havana Street in the second annual Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run. DJ Cruisin' Dave with Cruisin' Productions, Kool 105 and The Ragtop Rocker have already agreed to come back to spin the tunes at our festival sites. Once again, we are working with the Old Car Council of Colorado and their 50 car clubs on this event to

kick off summer 2009. This event is a benefit for the D.A.R.E. program and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver. This is a free event with lots of great prizes. Get busy over the winter months working on your cool ride!

Kohl's Grand Opening March 5, 2009:

The brand new 92,115 square foot Kohl's Department Store being built at Gardens On Havana (former site of the Buckingham Square Mall) at Mississippi & Havana has announced that it will open on March 1, 2009, with a big grand opening celebration planned for March 5th.



On Havana Street District Identity Gateway Sign Installed:

On Friday, October 3, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the installation of the first **On Havana Street** gateway sign at the SE corner of Alameda and Havana. It features a thick brushed aluminum background with our **On Havana Street logo**. Plans call for more **On Havana Street** signs to be installed over the next year, as details are worked out between CDOT, the City of Aurora and the Havana BID.



Babi Yar Park's Beautiful New Look:

Babi Yar Park at Parker Road & Havana is beginning its transformation into a beautiful public art park dedicated to the remembrance of victims of terrorism around the world, offering hope for the future. On Sunday, September 28, a large group gathered in the park for the annual memorial program. Julian Bonder, the Argentinian architect chosen for the project, was the keynote speaker. The first phase of construction is underway, with the project expected to be completed in 2010.



Thai Basil Opens:

The new Thai Basil Restaurant at 2710 S Havana Street opened its doors on Friday, October 17. There are five other Thai Basil Restaurants in Colorado: Park Meadows, Washington Park, Downtown at 18th & Humboldt, Uptown at 38th & Irving and one in Colorado Springs. The restaurant decor is beautiful and the food is upscale but very affordable and delicious. You can view their menu at www.thaibasil.us. Stop in to welcome Thai Basil On Havana Street!

Automotive Innovations



Automotive Innovations: Hybrid Technology GM Full Size SUV Hybrid named the 2008 Green Car of the Year by [Green Car Magazine](#) and the two mode hybrid system also won Technology of the Year by [Automobile Magazine](#).

On Havana Street is unique in that it is home to 27 car dealerships. On a recent afternoon, I stopped by Suss Buick Pontiac GMC to take a look at the 2008 GMC Yukon Hybrid. As Paul Suss, dealership owner, pulled the Yukon Hybrid out of the lot for the photo session, I was amazed that there was no engine noise. That is the result of GM's two-mode hybrid propulsion system. The Yukon Hybrid is the world's first two mode hybrid propulsion system in an SUV. It delivers the power and capacity expected in a full size SUV, but

doing its part to reduce our dependency on gasoline. A cleaner environment and conserving our precious natural resources-let's hear more!

The gas savings of the Yukon Hybrid can be seen in city driving. This patented hybrid technology optimizes fuel economy for various driving conditions. A sophisticated control module helps determine the amount of power and torque that's required at any given moment and seamlessly selects the appropriate operating mode. At low speeds the vehicle can be powered by the Hybrid's Two - 60 kilowatt electric motors, or on engine power or both using a combination of electric and engine power. There is a smooth transition between gas and electric motors. On Highway speeds, the Active Fuel Management Feature seamlessly shifts from 8 to 4 cylinders for improved fuel efficiency. The 6.0 L V8 Yukon Hybrid gets 21 mpg average EPA estimate in the city and 22 mph on the highway. That 21 mpg in the city matches the city fuel efficiency of the 4-cylinder Toyota Camry, according to GreenCar.com. According to the GM website, the Yukon Hybrid offers 25-30% fuel economy over the conventional Yukon.

The Yukon Hybrid offers the same standard amenities that SUV drivers have come to love. It received 5 stars out of 5 for front, side and rear crash testing. [US News & World Report](#) gave it a 9 out of 10 in safety testing.

There is about a \$5000 premium for the Hybrid Package. But to help incentivize the rush to go green the IRS is currently granting a \$2200 tax credit (see irs.gov website). The tax credit makes this Hybrid upgrade much more affordable and also means there is a much quicker payback on the investment. If your lifestyle requires a full-size, full-performance SUV with seating for 7 passengers but you also want to do your part to make the US less dependent on gasoline, you might want to consider the Yukon Hybrid. Several of the new-car dealerships **On Havana Street** have a selection of hybrid vehicles on their lots. Stop by to take a test drive and make your life more interesting by learning about the future of the automobile in the USA.

Exclusive Email Specials

Winterization Coupon Offer: *Word To The Wise--Winterize! Suss Buick-Pontiac-GMC at 1301 So Havana is offering a winterization special. Get ready for Colorado Winter Driving with this special 15-service package. Go to www.onhavanastreet.com/aurora-activities.cfm to print the coupon. This coupon offer expires 10.31.08.*

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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