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Life On Havana Street
E-News March 2011



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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Featured Business Opportunity of the Month: New Job Reward Program

The City of Aurora is incentivizing smaller businesses who are adding at least two, full-time jobs in 2011 and 2012. The New Job Reward Program is a new, short-term incentive program designed to stimulate job creation within the City during the current economic downturn. The minimum salary level per position is \$35,000, exclusive of

benefits, and the positions must be maintained for at least two years. The maximum number of positions qualifying per company is 20 and the maximum incentive benefit per position, per year is \$5,000.

The **Incentive Reimbursements** are comprised of the following:

- Up to 50% of the City portion of construction use taxes associated with the creation of the new jobs, to be paid in annual payments over a two-year period.
- Up to 50% of the City portion of new property tax associated with the creation of eligible jobs for a period of up to three years.
- Up to 100% of the employer and employee Occupational Privilege Tax (OPT) associated with the new jobs for a period of no more than two years.
- A one-time payment of up to \$500 per new job/employee that is enrolled in a "Qualified School to Career Program" *, OR
- A one-time payment of up to \$250 for reimbursement of costs incurred by employer in purchasing or acquiring furniture and/or equipment necessary to support the new position.

[Read more.....](#)

Article by Melissa Rogers, Development Services, City of Aurora.

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FOOD AND RECIPES: Try something different--The all you can eat menu at Sushi Katsu!



Sushi Katsu has become a popular lunchtime destination On Havana Street. They are tucked back in the shopping center at 2222 S Havana Street, Unit H, on the SE corner of Warren Ave and Havana, just north of Discount Tire.

Sushi Katsu's all you can eat lunch is \$13.95/person and includes appetizers, sushi and Maki (rolls). They also offer an all you can eat dinner menu for just \$23.95/person. These specials are for dine-in customers only (no take-out). Check the website www.katsusushi.net for all of the details of this offer and to view their full menu.

Lunch: The all you can eat lunch menu will give you lots of options. Appetizers include edamame, gyoza, fried tofu, shrimp & vegetable tempura, calamari tempura, chicken and beef teriyaki, BBQ beef, pork & chicken cutlet, and udon. Sushi (one piece) includes Maguro (tuna), Hamachi (yellowtail), Shake (salmon), Albacore, freshwater eel, shrimp, crab, octopus, white tuna, and scallops. Rolls (6-8 pieces) include California roll, various tuna rolls, tuna & salmon roll, vegetable rolls, vegetable tempura rolls, Philadelphia roll, and many more.

Dinner: The all you can eat dinner menu features 6 different salads, 22 appetizers, 23 types of sushi, and 21 types of rolls (maki).

Come for Happy Hour! Monday through Saturday, stop in from 5-7 p.m. for happy hour

featuring buy 1 get 1 free Sapporo, Kirin, Asahi, and Coors Light beers (\$3.75 sm and \$5.95 lg) or Hot Saki (small \$3.75 and large \$6.50)

Sushi Katsu is open Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 11 p.m. and Sundays 4 p.m. - 10 p.m. Their phone number is 303-368-8778.

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Events/Happenings:

MARCH EVENT: 2nd ANNUAL CABIN FEVER PARTY & WINE TASTING EVENT, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 6-9 P.M.

Shake off the winter blues and join us on Friday, March 18, from 6-9 p.m. at Dumitri's for our second annual Cabin Fever Party. We are adding a wine tasting this year, too. You are officially invited to join us for this fun event:



- **Free wine tasting**
- **Free appetizers**
- Enjoy music by Jimmy Daun on the piano!
- Watch the NCAA Basketball Playoffs on Dumitri's TVs
- Play Euchre, Bridge, Poker & Go Fish
- Play Pictionary, Checkers & Backgammon
- Play Wii Bowling
- Colorado Lottery Ticket Door Prizes (no purchase necessary)
- \$25 in Colorado Lottery Tickets to the person wearing the craziest winter Cabin Fever hat!
- **No cover charge and no reservations needed**, just come and have fun!

This is our first On Havana Street business/neighbors community partnership event for 2011. Dumitri's is located at 1911 So Havana, Aurora CO 80014 (on the SW corner of Havana and Jewell behind Arby's).

Earth Day: Free Electronic Recycling and Document Shredding Event



**SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2011
NOON - 3 P.M.**

**In the parking lot at Havana Exchange Shopping Center
2892 S Havana ST, Aurora, CO 80014
(South of Yale Ave in front of Bicycle Village)**

WHAT DOES IT COST? Nothing, it's free!

The "Green Team" from Techno+Rescue returns for

another great electronic recycling event On Havana Street.
www.technorescue.com 303-482-2207

The Better Shredder, Inc, will be at the event to accept your confidential documents for safe, secure destruction by shredding and recycling. The Better Shredder is a Cornerstone Records Management Company with an A+ rating by the Denver Better Business Bureau. www.thebettershredder.com 303-426-5722

What Eletronic Items Can I Recycle for Free: We will accept old/used electronic items that plug in, including but not limited to PCs, CPUs, towers, laptops, notebooks, cell phone, office phones, cords, pagers, monitors, keyboards, printers, copiers, faxes, mice, wires, and, yes, **even Television Sets of all sizes!!**

Free, Secure Document Shredding: Please bring any documents you need shredded in boxes or bags.

[Click here](#) for the site map of the Havana Exchange lot so you know which entrance to use to get into the lot and where our trucks will be set up in the lot to accept your items.

Thank you for doing your part to help the environment and prevent identity theft this Earth Day. On Havana Street is subsidizing this event to provide free recycling and secure document destruction as a service to our businesses and customers/neighbors.

May 2011 is National Hamburger Month On Havana Street:



Get your buns in gear and help us celebrate America's favorite sandwich--The Hamburger. During the month of May, when you stop in to a participating restaurant you can enter the drawing to win over \$300 in restaurant gift certificates and a sharp 4-burner gas grill. Entry forms will be available at the participating restaurants starting May 1. We will post a list of the participating restaurants on the upcoming events page on our

OnHavanaStreet.com website towards the end of April.

The restaurants will be doing their own special offers and special burger creations during National Hamburger Month. No purchase is necessary to enter the drawings.

Rose Garden Volunteer Training: Saturday, May 7, 1-3 p.m.



Do you enjoy gardening? We are recruiting volunteers to tend our beautiful community rose garden at The Gardens on Havana.

Members of The Denver Rose Society will be doing a free, hands-on training session in rose garden on Saturday, May 7 from 1-3 p.m. Bring sturdy gloves and a pair of pruning shears if you have them and join us! You will learn the proper techniques for pruning and dead-heading roses.

Rose garden volunteers will need to sign a waiver form to allow them to work in the rose garden for the training session and throughout the 2011 growing season.

This summer, we will be holding monthly concerts in the rose garden (see related article below). Any trained volunteers who are available are encouraged to come together to work in the gardens on the Saturdays before the rose garden concerts for a garden clean up and dead-heading. We want the roses to look marvelous for the concerts!

Where is the Rose Garden? View/Print the [Map](#)

Summer Rose Garden Concert Series Kicks Off on May 24!



When: Tuesday, May 24, 6-8 p.m.

What does it cost? Nothing, this is a free concert

Entertainment: OldSkool Country Rock Band

Where: In the rose garden plaza at The Gardens on Havana (former Buckingham Square Mall). The rose garden plaza is located at the east end of Garden Drive (Main Street) in between Dick's Sporting Goods and Petco on the back row of stores. If you want to Google Map the garden, please use the address 1350 So Ironton, Aurora CO 80012.

Bring your lawn chair and picnic dinner. This is an **outdoor concert** in and around the rose garden. If you don't want to cook, call ahead to Chick-Fil-A, Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers, Jimmy John's, Qdoba or Noodles & Company at The Gardens on Havana to place your take out order ([click here](#) to go directly to the business directory for restaurant phone numbers). You can pick up your food on the way to the concert. Some of the restaurants will even deliver you order to you at the concert.

More 2011 Free Rose Garden Concerts--Save the Dates!

- Tuesday, June 21: Six Foot Joe and the Red Hot Rhinos perform big band/big horn 1930-1950's tunes and more contemporary music like the Blue Brothers!
 - Tuesday, July 26: Jazz Concert
 - Tuesday, August 23: Symphony music and singers with our 3rd Annual Free Ice Cream Social
-



**4th Annual Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run
Presented by Stevinson Toyota East & Scion
Saturday, June 18, 2011**

Stevinson Toyota East & Scion is our "presented by" sponsor for 2011. Thank **you Kent Stevinson, Dave Morrissey and Drew Steele for your continued support!** We are expecting over 5,000 classic cars and hundreds of spectators again this year. Cruzin' Havana is a benefit for the D.A.R.E. program and the Collector Car Council of Colorado. This is a **free event**, there are no admission or entry fees.

Cruzin' Havana Festival Site details for 2011:

The Stampede Festival Site, 2430 S Havana: DJ Randy Jay and Cruisin' Oldies Radio will be doing a live remote from The Stampede Festival Site. The Cruisin' Cats band will be performing live. The cruise will end at The Stampede at 9 p.m. with the announcement of the poker run grand prize winner.

Gibby's Festival Site, 1555 S Havana: Mobile Rock & Roll DJ Van Jeffries and the NAPA trailer will be at Gibby's this year.

The Gardens On Havana Festival Site (former Buckingham Square Mall area): We will set up in the parking lot along Mississippi in between Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburger and Sprouts. The fabulous doo-wop group, The Coppertones, will be performing live.

Havana Machine/Colpar Festival Site, 850 So Havana: Rusty the Ragtop Rocker and the Atomic Drifters will be performing live. This is the place to be if you love Rockabilly and classic 1950's Rock 'N Roll music!

Stevinson Toyota East & Scion: Da Boogiemán will be spinning the tunes at Stevinson Toyota East & Scion. Boogie is best known for his Wolfman Jack voice on Kool 105 radio for years. Boogie has a great collection of old school rock & roll and lots of stories to tell about the classic music he plays.

Cruzin' Havana Vendor Booth Space Available: The food booth registration form and information, as well as the food vendor booth application packet required by Tri-County Health can be found on this link: [Upcoming Events page on our OnHavanaStreet.com website](http://UpcomingEventspageonourOnHavanaStreet.com) . We are looking for food and general vendor booths for


The Stampede Festival Site and only general vendor booths for Gibby's and the Havana Machine/Colpar festival sites.

Sponsorships and Program Advertising Opportunities Available: Many of you know that On Havana Street partners with the Collector Car Council of Colorado on both Cruzin' Havana in June and the Colfax Avenue Cruise in September. This year, we are also working on a swap meet/car show at Front Range Airport in August. The Front Range Airport event is a benefit for prostate cancer awareness. We are working on program ad packages that will enable sponsors to advertise in the programs of all three events for a special price. Once we have everything figured out, we will post the sponsorship package information on the OnHavanaStreet.com website. Watch for more info in our April E-newsletter. If you would like to express interest in a sponsorship package right now, please call Gayle at 303-360-7505 so we can get the info to you as soon as it is ready.

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Tidbits: What's New On Havana Street?

Gibby's Organizing Auto-Industry Sand Volleyball Leagues:

 Gibby's Sports Saloon, 1555 S Havana St. is running a sand volleyball league just for you! We will be running two separate divisions, 6v6 recreational and 4v4 intermediate sand volleyball. Teams will bear their company's name and will get at least 8 games of play guaranteed included with a post-season tournament.

Leagues will be held on **Sunday afternoons** at Gibby's TWO sand volleyball courts. Anyone who is affiliated with the automotive industry; whether a dealership, mechanic's shop, or auto-parts store, your team is welcome to join this league.

Updated weekly standings and schedules will be posted on location at Gibby's and on a dedicated web-site just for your league. The winning team in each division will win a \$50 bar tab, *and* be able to hang their team's company banner on-site at the courts for all the bar patrons and volleyball teams to see for the entire next season.

Interested in more information? Swing by Gibby's Sport Saloon (corner of Florida and Havana) or call/e-mail Mike @ 303.325.7388 or mike@denversportandsocialclub.com who will be glad to answer any questions or to register!

<http://www.socialandsportsclub.com/CitySportsHome.aspx?CID=25&SID=17>

Article provided by Mike Ross, GM of Gibby's.

2012 U.S. Amateur Golf Tournament Coming to CommonGround Golf Course & Cherry Hills Country Club: August 13-19, 2012



CommonGround Golf Course On Havana Street has been named as the supporting course for the 2012 U.S. Amateur Championship. Cherry Hills Country Club will be the primary course. CommonGround Golf Course is the beautiful new Tom Doak designed course located at 1st Avenue & Havana Street.

Practice rounds will take place at both CommonGround and Cherry Hills on August 11 &

12. We are expecting 312 amateur golfers from all of the world to play in this prestigious tournament. The field will be divided with half of the golfers playing Cherry Hills and half playing CommonGround for the qualifying rounds on August 13 & 14. The top 64 golfers will move on to Match Play at Cherry Hills from Aug 15-19, with CommonGround being used as the primary practice facility for this Amateur Open.

Tickets will be sold through King Soopers stores. Lexus is providing 125 cars for the golf officials for this tournament. The players and golf officials will be staying at the Hyatt Denver Tech Center for the tournament. CommonGround will have a large banquet tent for the players and a second tent for volunteers. The CommonGround clubhouse will be the U.S. Golf Officials Headquarters for the tournament.

We need volunteers! We will need to recruit 1,000 volunteers to work the tournament, primarily as golf marshalls, but also in other capacities. The volunteer package costs \$100 and you will receive a shirt & cap, jacket, all meals during the days you work, a clubhouse ticket to Cherry Hills, a certificate for a free round of golf at CommonGround and a party (likely at Elways in Cherry Creek) for the volunteers. If you would be interested in volunteering, please let Gayle Jetchick know (303-360-7505) so she can coordinate with the other members of the tournament committee.

The tournament marketing committee's goal is to raise \$1.2 million and break even on this tournament. Sponsorships are available including the "friends of the championship" supporters level of \$100,000. Tournament organizers already have two "friends of the championship" supporters but are looking for 4 more. Organizers are also looking for 112 sponsors at the \$25,000 level (which comes with a foursome of golf at Cherry Hills, extra tickets to the event to give out to your clients and friends, a clubhouse pass, tournament pass and an invitation to the special golf auction).

Our tournament committee is looking for a local restaurant to sponsor lunch for the CommonGround volunteers daily from Aug 11-14. Officials estimate they will have 21 volunteers on Saturday, August 11, 22 on August 12, 119 on August 13 and 130 on Aug 14 for a total of 300 meals x \$10 or about a \$3,000 donation. Tournament organizers are looking for a restaurant closer to Cherry Hills to provide the volunteer lunches for the Cherry Hills CC volunteers for the practice rounds, qualifying rounds and match play.

CommonGround has also been chosen to sponsor a Junior Golf Clinic with a personal visit by pro golfer, Phil Mickelson. The date for that junior clinic will be around the dates of the US Amateur Open, but the exact date has not been confirmed yet. We are looking for a restaurant or group wishing to provide lunch to about 500 for this junior golf clinic. Again, please let Gayle know if you are interested in any of these opportunities (303-360-7505).

Community Putting Green Thanks to LRA: On a similar golf note, CommonGround Golf course will be getting a large community putting green. The construction of this new community amenity is courtesy of the funds left over from the former Lowry Rehab Authority, which sunsetted last December.

Median Project On Havana On Hold for Now: The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) sent letters to several On Havana Street businesses informing them of the median project about a month ago. The medians are an effort to restrict left turns into and out of businesses and neighborhood streets off of Havana for safety reasons. Construction of the medians was originally scheduled for the Summer of 2011. The proposed medians would have run along Havana Street from Iliff to Evans,

Idaho to Kentucky, and a restricted left turn at Virginia Ave.

On Havana Street business owners were very concerned that they would lose business due to their customers not being able to get into their businesses because to the medians. On Havana Street worked with CDOT and the City of Aurora traffic engineers to arrange a public stakeholders meeting on February 24. We had over 20 business owners speak at this public meeting, explaining how the median project would adversely impact their businesses and the entire business district. The business owners proposed other ideas to increase safety along Havana but without such an adverse impact on the businesses.

As a result of that stakeholders' meeting, the median project is on hold until traffic engineers and business owners can work together on alternate solutions. The engineers will meet together on two to three occasions and then meet with a smaller stakeholders group to come up with another plan. That plan will then be presented to the large stakeholders' group. Please watch the OnHavanaStreet.com website as we will post information there as it becomes available. We will also be keeping the business owners who attended the meeting on Feb 24 in the loop via email.

Watch us on YouTube: www.youtube.com/onhavana

OnHavanaStreet is now on Facebook - [Come Become a Fan](#)
 Make sure to [Join the OnHavana Meetup Group](#) for upcoming events.

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Automotive Innovations: Shopping for High MPG Vehicles on the Havana Motor Mile



Two weeks ago, my husband and I purchased a 2011 Ford Fusion Hybrid from Mike Naughton Ford on the Havana Motor Mile. My husband is the ultimate picky car shopper who likes all of the bells and whistles in a vehicle. Since the price of gas is creeping higher, we also wanted a vehicle that got great gas mileage.

Shopping for high MPG vehicles on the Havana Motor Mile was like being a kid in a candy shop! It was great to be able to go dealership to dealership on the Havana Motor Mile and see the big selection of high MPG vehicles on display! New and used, we found a many vehicles with gas mileage in the high 20's to 48 mpg range in the city and high 30's to 51 mph on the highway. We also found that there are many financing options available at the dealerships!

We test drove many vehicles but ended up deciding between the sporty 2011 Jetta TDI sedan and the 2011 Ford Fusion Hybrid. The Ford Fusion Hybrid that we purchased has every bell and whistle available, including the creamy leather heated seats that my husband fell in love with. My husband is driving the new Ford Fusion Hybrid to work every day and is averaging over 41 mph in the city!

If you are in the market for a higher MPG vehicle, you will find it on the Havana Motor

Mile. [Click here](#) to shop at home for your next high MPG vehicle, then come on down to the Havana Motor Mile for a test drive.

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

Sincerely,

Gayle Jetchick, Executive Director, Havana Business Improvement District
303-360-7505
www.OnHavanaStreet.com

Visit our web site at
www.OnHavanaStreet.com

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