HEALTH BENEFITS - ARE YOUR EMPLOYEES REALLY BENEFITTING?

How happy are you with your health insurance coverage for the price you pay? My friend is happy with her lower monthly premium this year. Sounds good, doesn’t it? The answer is a resounding – “Maybe.” She doesn’t go to the doctor often and takes no prescription medications. However, her co-worker with high blood pressure and two accident-prone children is not as happy. He is paying more out of pocket. By only using the cost of premium as a measure for comparing various health plans, other costs can total or even exceed the cost of the premium for the employee. The unexpected costs of high deductibles and first dollar out of pocket maximums can lead to employee dissatisfaction.

This is one example of the importance of considering all the aspects of the available health insurance products. For the CEO, having to decide what type of coverage for his business, it’s just plain confusing and time consuming. For the employee, trying to predict and budget for health costs, including preventive services, for the upcoming year can be an exercise in frustration.

There are some fundamental steps the small business owner can take to assure he or she is getting the most affordable and adequate health insurance coverage possible.

First, it is important to critically review your benefit package, your premium costs, and employee contribution percentage annually. Health plans will often make changes to their suite of products to be more competitive and thus, there are new choices from year to year. Most of the health plans have rolled out insurance products with varying levels of deductibles with inversely priced deductibles to attract the price sensitive executive.

Next, take time to determine your and your employees’ priorities and preferences as related to monthly financial outlay, tolerance of utilization rules, as well as any requirements of keeping specific doctors and hospitals. In other words, there is always a balance between changing health plans with different benefits and authorization requirements, possible provider network disruption, and saving premium dollars.

Consideration of these factors will help determine if some of the newer consumer driven, high deductible plans are right for you and your employees. While the decrease in premium costs related to these products may seem attractive, the shifting to the employee of the first dollar coverage until the deductible is met may leave the employee who has a chronic illness and lots of prescriptions with a large out-of-pocket expense.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS NEED TO LEAD IN LAND STEWARDSHIP
from Mark Tabor

Spring is always welcome after months of winter chill; it also coincides with two of my favorite days, Earth Day and Arbor Day. These commemorations are special not only because they remind us of the need for environmental stewardship and the importance of trees in our urban landscape, but also because of the public awareness they bring to environmental issues that are an integral part of our professional practice.

Our professional training as landscape architects gives us a unique perspective and special competence to lead as stewards of the land. An important part of our appeal to legislators in the advancement of our LA licensure bill has been the affect of our practice on public health, safety and welfare. While we frequently focus on examples of properly-designed walkways, stairs and railings as a demonstration of this link, I suggest the integration of sustainable design features in our planning and design projects is an even greater link with public health, safety and welfare. The value of landscape designs that save energy and protect the environment by promoting walking, shade heat islands, recharge water tables, and that cleanse the air are enormous public health, safety and welfare benefits that should be recognized and replicated.

These commemorative days also remind me that landscape architects can’t take a passive role in the improvement of the environment. Our chapter has recently been active in a number of initiatives that support preservation of historic landscapes, promote sustainable growth, and help restore our urban forest. April’s Landscape Architecture Month activities this year included a presentation by noted landscape preservationist Charles Birnbaum, a charrette to improve facilities for the homeless, community visioning, and numerous tree planting projects.

Nothing describes our purpose as landscape architects, and our value to society better than being catalysts in the improvement of our living landscapes, and offering guidance on responsible land stewardship practices. Our professional ethics mandate that we stand up for the quality of our shared environment. For the sake of ourselves, our profession and our environment, we must become more vocal and more active advocates for the landscape.

Regards,
Mark Tabor
President, CCASLA

http://capwiz.com/asla/home/
The add-on benefits that are unique to each health plan may make the difference in the decision making process. Employee experience with the customer service department of your current health plan should be considered. Satisfaction with the pharmacy prior authorization process is another area of potential employee concern. There are many convenient services available through the health plan's website such as nurse advice lines, ability to view claims, make physician changes, and access to health information material which your employees have used and liked. Other medical supports such as case management and disease management programs may be used by your employees and help reduce costs.

The small business owner has many decisions to make - settling on a health insurance plan with coverage that is within budget, satisfies employees enough to have minimal complaints, and is easy to understand is often a difficult task. These decisions have to be made with a backdrop of annual premium increases, differing benefit packages, and the changing hospital environment.

The key to making good decisions is having a thorough understanding of all the factors that contribute to the total cost of health insurance. It is recommended that, when you are making health insurance choices, you get professional help and discuss these issues before you make a decision.

Medical Care Consultants' goal is to help the small business owner make the best health care decisions and save money on their health insurance.

They have offered to host a seminar for CCASLA members in early June - details to follow. They also provide an initial consultation at no cost to the client if that is preferable. If you would like more information about Medical Care Consultants please call Elizabeth Kraft, M.D. 303.895.7242 or Robert Faraci, M.D. 303.638.1615 or visit www.medicalcareconsultants.com.
Climate variability and sustained change presage far-reaching transformations across America's West, an expanse dominated by immense mountain ranges and interspersed with important urban centers. These mountains provide the region's life blood - water that courses through its streams and runs out its faucets, power that fuels its industries and lights its cities, and natural resources that feed its economy and provide many of its jobs. The West is a land where life is written in water - from vast ranchlands and farmlands, to large densely populated urban areas - and the communities of the West are intricately tied to it.

Why should we be concerned about how climate change is affecting the mountains? Despite their imposing grandeur and apparent fortitude, the mountains contain highly sensitive environments that support delicately balanced physical and natural systems. A warming of only a few degrees has major implications for mountain regions - for the integrity of the seasonal snowpack, the extensive forests that western mountains support, and for the people who make their home there. Such changes are already affecting water supply, energy availability, fire severity, and recreational opportunities.

From Mapping New Terrain: Climate Change and America's West
The Consortium for Integrated Climate Research in Western Mountains (CIR Mount)

Western mountain regions dominate recent warming as this map of standardized temperature anomalies of 2000-2005 versus 1895-2000 long-term averages shows.

From CIR Mount
Mapping New Terrain

On April 16th Governor Bill Ritter issued a new "Greening of Government" Executive Order and introduced a new State Climate Change Advisor. The Goals and Objectives of the Order are to:

- Reduce energy consumption by 20 percent at all state facilities;
- Cut the use of paper products by 20 percent;
- Reduce water consumption by 10 percent;
- Purchase more environmentally friendly products;
- Cut the use of petroleum products in state vehicles by 25 percent.
The new State Climate Advisor is Heidi VanGelder - a senior associate with the Wirth Chair in Environmental and Community Development Policy at the University of Colorado. Starting on May 1st, it will be her job to come up with a Climate Change action plan for Colorado.

- What impacts do these goals have on the Landscape Architecture community?
- Are they enough or way too little?
- Should we be suggesting alternate goals which are more important?
- While there is increasing focus on “green solutions” to minimize the future impacts of climate change, what measures are being proposed to adapt to changes that are already in process?
- What studies and analysis would help Landscape Architects provide guidance on responsible land stewardship practices?

Rocky Mountain Exposures will be conducting an interview with Heidi VanGelder for our next issue and we would like to answer your questions, and present your ideas to the State Climate Change Advisor. When we proposed the interview she specifically requested that we provide thought leadership and best practices from the Landscape Architecture profession as guidance in her new role.

Send your questions, concerns and ideas for Heidi VanGelder to c_condit@comcast.net.


To download Mapping New Terrain: Climate Change and America’s West go to www.fs.fed.us/psw/cimount.

To read the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Reports go to http://www.ipcc.ch/.
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IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BECOME A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT!

According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, landscape architecture — the comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation — is the fastest-growing of all the design professions.

That growth isn’t expected to peak anytime soon. Demand for landscape architecture services is projected to expand an astonishing 18 to 26 percent by the year 2014.

To meet this demand, the number of graduates in landscape architecture programs needs to grow by an average of 6 percent each year. The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is embarking on an ambitious program to recruit more students to study landscape architecture, working with the ACE Mentor Program to reach high school students and with the Cultural Landscape Foundation to target middle school students, while working with colleges and universities to increase the number of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

ASLA’s 2006 surveys show that the average annual compensation (salary and bonuses) for landscape architects is $89,700, up by more than 20 percent since 2004. Average compensation rose steadily by years of experience in the 2006 survey, peaking for those with 36 to 40 years of experience who earn an average of $154,600.

Residential work continues to be the largest landscape architecture market, with most of that work consisting of single-family homes.

Commercial and industrial design is the second-largest market, followed by parks and recreation. Less-conventional fields such as stormwater management, green roofs and security design have grown significantly in the past two years.

With only 30,000 landscape architects currently in the U.S. and the sustained growth in demand for landscape architecture services, there are major opportunities for anyone considering entering the profession. And, educational opportunities for landscape architecture students abound. There are 46 colleges in the United States and Canada with accredited undergraduate programs and many scholarship programs available for those considering the field. The teacher-to-student ratio for most of these programs is 15:1.

According to U.S. News & World Report, landscape architecture is one of the best careers of the year. And ASLA members agree: Now is a very good time to become a landscape architect.
NEWS FROM NATIONAL
ASLA Leaders Highlights, April 18, 2007

governance & administration
- Executive Committee discussion is focused on development of a significant new scholarship and expanded fundraising plans; sustainability issues/opportunities; and the joint task force on continuing education.
- EVP Somerville participated in an April 16 meeting with CEOs of green industry associations which focus on common issues including sustainability, continuing education, licensing and certification programs, and growing the workforce/profession.
- The Joint Task Force on Continuing Education is planning a soon-to-be-developed database of registered continuing education programs. ASLA will manage and fund the development and administration of the database.
- The American Academy of Rome held an event in New York City to honor Bette Midler, Honorary ASLA, and the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). Midler is being honored for her fundraising efforts and dedication in restoring many of New York’s parks, and MOMA is being honored for “Groundswell,” its very exciting exhibit on landscape architecture.

government affairs
- This week, ASLA signed on to a letter requesting that the House and Senate Appropriations Committees provide increased funding for the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS). The President’s fiscal year 2008 (FY’08) budget is the lowest funding level ever proposed for the system - $49.2 million, or less than $2 per acre. The coalition has requested that the Congress provide $69 million for FY’08 to meet the critical needs of the system.

public relations & resource development
- To date, 105 entries representing 40 education programs have been received for the ASLA 2007 Student Awards Program. The entry deadline is Friday, May 18.
- ASLA staff representatives from the Membership and Professional Practices departments participated in the American Planning Association’s National Planning Conference in Philadelphia this week. Plans are also underway for ASLA representatives to participate in the American Institute of Architects’ Convention in San Antonio this May.
- Work continues on plans for the reorganization and re-launch of the ASLA website.

membership
- Paul Fusco, Student ASLA, is the newly elected 2007-2008 Student Representative to the ASLA Board of Trustees. Paul is a sophomore at State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. Congratulations to Paul.

information & professional practice
- The Sustainable Sites Initiative project is hiring students as contract research assistants to work with the soil, hydrology, vegetation and waste, and materials technical subcommittees. The work is scheduled to begin in June 2007 and has the potential to last two years. For more information, contact Professional Practice Manager Jennifer Strassfeld, jstrassfeld@asla.org.

Access the Leadership Calendar at http://www.asla.org/about/calendar.htm.
COLORADO LICENSURE UPDATE
from craig coronato, government affairs director, april 2007

Colorado is still one of only 2 states that do not have a licensure law. As of this writing the licensure bill for Landscape Architects, SB07-107, continues to move through the state legislature. As of mid-April 20 it had passed the Senate (the floor vote was 23-11). In the house it passed the Business Affairs and Labor Committee handily with an 11-0 vote. On April 25th it passed the House Committee on Appropriations with an 11-1 vote. If passed before the end of the session in May it will go into effect in January, 2008. At the time you receive this we should know whether it was signed into law by Governor Ritter.

The annual ASLA Licensure Summit is scheduled for mid-June in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The location is normally chosen by whether there is active legislation in the state. Michigan is currently lobbying for an upgrade from a Title Act to a Practice Act, as are several other states.

For more information about status of Colorado licensure bill and the details of the enabling legislation please go to the www.ccasla.org. A current copy of the bill is linked there.

Craight Coronato
Govt. Affairs Director
TREASURER’S REPORT
as of April 11, 2007

2007 is off to a good start! The 2007 push for Licensure is on. The webpage and newsletter continue to improve. The CCASLA conference and Design Awards banquet is being planned for Estes Park. Numerous plans for new and renewed events are ongoing. If you want to help with the planning or be involved in another way contact Mark Tabor, Pat Mundus or Jane Kulik.

The CCASLA accounts may be viewed during normal business hours, by appointment, by calling 303.355.0673.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Barry, Treasurer

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CCASLA NORTH AREA SUMMER MIXER JUNE 28th

CCASLA North Area will be hosting a Summer Mixer on June 28th to celebrate the summer solstice and enjoy some food and spirits with fellow members. It will be held from 5pm-8pm at Winston Associates and Native Edge Associates in Boulder. There will be more information to follow in the next few weeks with email and postcard announcements.
TWO COLORADO LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS INDUCTED TO
2007 CLASS OF FELLOWS

The 2007 Class of Fellows for the
American Society of Landscape
Architects will be inducted on Saturday,
October 6, 2007 at the 2007 Annual
Meeting in San Francisco, California.
The 2007 Class will add 33 new
Fellows to the previous 937 Fellows
elected to the Society since 1899.
These 33 new Fellows were elected
from 70 applications.

The Colorado Chapter of the
American Society of Landscape
Architects is very fortunate to have
successfully nominated two inductees
in the 2007 Class of Fellows - Gene
Bressler and Bill Vitek.

Gene Bressler was the Professor and
Chair of the Department of Landscape
Architecture at the University of
Colorado at Denver and Health
Sciences Center before taking the
same position with North Carolina
State University. Gene was selected
for his outstanding leadership and
guidance in landscape architectural
education and mentoring. In 2006,
Gene received the Outstanding
Administrator Award from the
Council of Educators of Landscape
Architecture (CELA).

Bill Vitek, a Principal and Regional
Director with EDAW, was elected for
his outstanding completed projects
which demonstrated exceptional
quality and professional leadership
sustained over an extended timeframe.
Bill has received numerous awards
from ASLA, ULI, APA and other design
related organizations.
The election to Fellow status, which is based on professional excellence and outstanding accomplishments, balance the diverse practices and levels of ASLA participation for all ASLA members in one of four categories. These four categories include:

Works of Landscape Architecture
The candidate should demonstrate mastery of design in significant works of landscape planning or design, which has advanced the art, stewardship, and social responsibility of landscape architecture of the period.

Work
The candidate should demonstrate administrative responsibility for exemplary leadership of people or programs that have had a significant effect on public recognition of issues that are significant to the design, planning, or management of the land.

Knowledge
The candidate should demonstrate creation of significant new knowledge that advances landscape architecture or the communication of knowledge to others with exceptional effect.

Service to the Profession
The candidate should reveal service that has significantly advanced the profession as an example for other local, regional or national efforts.

Individuals being considered for the distinction of being designated a Fellow must be a member of ASLA in good standing for a minimum of ten years, and nominated or recommended to the Council of Fellows by the Executive Committee of their local Chapter, the Executive Committee of ASLA, or the Executive Committee of the Council of Fellows.

Any member of ASLA may recommend an eligible ASLA member to one of the three nominating groups for consideration as a candidate for Fellow. The jury process to evaluate the nominations and elect the Class of Fellows involves the appointment of a five-member jury from the Council of Fellows by the ASLA President. A concerted effort is made to provide a balanced representation of the different practice types and diversity among the jury membership.

On behalf of CCASLA, we are extremely pleased with this recognition of Gene and Bill. Well done, gentlemen!!
DENNIS BROOKIE HOLDS CUTTING EDGE DENVER AREA CCASLA EVENT
chevo studios stone carving demonstration

On April 26th, Denver Area landscape architects celebrated Landscape Architecture month and Olmstead’s birthday with a gathering at Chevo Studios, which is dedicated to the creation of artful public spaces. Following a networking reception, Denver Area Director, Dennis Brookie gave an update on Denver area news including upcoming events.

The highpoint of the evening was an update from Government Affairs Director, Craig Coronato giving the latest news on the Colorado Licensure Bill. SB07-107 has now been approved by the House Committee on Appropriations and will be presented to Governor Ritter in the near future. While there is reason to believe the governor supports the bill, lobbying is still going on to ensure he understands the bill’s importance to Colorado’s commitment to responsible design.

The evening took on a more playful mood as Andy Dufford, owner of Chevo Studios, and his team of stone carvers demonstrated some of the techniques involved in transforming a block of stone into the shapes that give public spaces local identity and a sense of place. Andy explained how modern techniques mimic the processes of weathering that occur naturally. While we got the condensed version, each step in the process can take weeks or months.

Some of the Denver area LA’s then had a chance to try their hand at working with a chunk of stone. This is one way to make drawing a plan or design on a computer look easy!
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CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS
2007 ccasla conference, estes park, co
submission deadline may 18, 2007

You are invited to propose a conference session for the 2007 Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) Conference. The audience for your session will mainly be landscape architects, but planners and architects are also invited to attend.

Conference Theme – Toward 2025: Advancing Our Communities

Colorado is projected to have 6.4 million residents in 2025, meaning the state will add about half of its current population - or 2 million people - over the next 20 years. Nationally, The U.S. will add about 100 million people over the next 20 years. This increase, along with other demographic, technological and environmental advancements, will create exciting opportunities and exceptional challenges for landscape architects. What is certain is that we must continue to innovate and adapt to meet the future head-on.

Key ongoing changes in Colorado:
• 10 acres of open space and agricultural land are being developed every hour
• Cities are searching for additional water resources, even before considering population growth
• Statewide traffic congestion is rising at twice the rate of population
• Water pollution from people’s everyday activities is commonplace
• Denver’s “brown cloud” is now a year-round problem blanketing the entire metro area
• Wildlife and their habitats - a much-voiced factor to Coloradoans quality of life - are diminishing
• Mobility is becoming more expensive because of energy market changes
• Climate change and green living are becoming mainstream issues

suggested topics
Following are sub themes for the overall conference theme, and examples of topics that address the spirit of the conference. Case studies and practical applications are the preferred format for presentations.

• Urban Life
  - transit oriented development
  - FastTracks and its impacts on community structure;
  - quality urban centers;
  - cutting edge community design;
  - the future of sprawl;
  - design for our aging population;
  - redevelopment/densification

• Community and Environment
  - public/private partnerships;
  - water availability and communities;
  - revitalizing urban waterways;
  - returning nature to the city;
  - development that enhances biodiversity;
  - brownfield redevelopment;
  - conventional energy technologies and their landscape impacts;
  - renewable energy in designed landscapes (wind, cogeneration, solar, bio-materials);
  - planning for climate change;
  - alternative and multipurpose green infrastructure

• Survival Skills
  - green design techniques and best practices;
  - LEED site standards and project certification;
  - construction products that meet LEED standards;
  - latest urban tree-planting methods to extend tree life;
  - pedestrian-scale lighting design;
session formats
Formats other than traditional presentations are welcome such as: point/counterpoint/debate; workshops with audience participation; round table; and “talk show” style.

proposal contents
Proposals must provide the following information:
• Session or Workshop Title: A short and catchy title that accurately reflects the focus of the session.
• Summary of Session: A short description of the session to be used in the conference program, not exceeding 50 words.

• Abstract: A description of the session and its relevance to conference topic, not exceeding 200 words.
• Session Format: A short description of the presentation format, not exceeding 25 words.
• Session Length: Estimated number of minutes needed for session (typical will be 50 minutes).
• Presenter Information: Each presenter’s contact information and short biography.

submission of proposals
Proposals must be in Microsoft Word or PDF format, and e-mailed to ccasl2007@gmail.com.

confirmation, acceptance and questions
• Proposal Submittal Deadline May 18, 2007
• Notification of Session Acceptance July, 2007
• Questions? Contact Brian Braa at 303.359.2340 or ccasl2007@gmail.com
The All-America Rose Selections™ (AARS™) will honor professional and student landscape architecture design with its 2nd annual Designing with Roses Competition for commercial and residential gardens. The Designing with Roses Competition seeks submissions from professional and student landscape architects and garden designers that have designed creative and innovative gardens that utilize roses as a core design element.

Winners of the Designing with Roses Competition will be selected at the AARS Annual meeting in August 2007 and be featured in the All-America Rose Selections newsletter and the AARS web site. Additional coverage opportunities include the ASLA member newsletter and other landscape trade and general interest garden publications.

Public gardens will be judged on overall design, condition of plants, especially roses, and visitor friendliness. Public gardens will receive recognition in the All-America Rose Selections newsletter; the organization Web site (www.rose.org) and pitched to local print outlets.

The Competition Jury will review all submissions and select first, second and third place winners nationwide. Winners of the AARS Designing with Roses competition will be selected by a jury of experts including members of the AARS Board, ASLA and editors from select trade and consumer garden publications.

For more information go to www.rose.org.

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SUMMER GRAPHICS WORKSHOP
mike lin graphic workshop

During this computer aided design era, many designers are relying on software complexity but no longer can draw and express their ideas freely and convincingly. Hence, you are cordially invited to attend the Mike Lin Graphic Workshop this summer in Kansas or California, and let the learned experience change your life so you will have more confidence and fun in your life. Are you excited about being able to express your great thought by hands and throw them out like music? Don’t you like to setup a perspective and render it in just a couple of hours? Yes, I can help you achieve this dream and tap the talent that it has been hidden inside of you for long time.

2 day workshop
May 18-19, Manhattan, KS
August 10-11, San Francisco, CA

7 day workshop
August 12-18, San Francisco, CA

12 day workshop
May 21 - June 1, Manhattan, KS

For examples of “before” and “after” drawings and registration details go to www.belope.com.

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VALERIAN LLC. PLACES 4TH IN DBJ'S TOP 10 BEST SMALL BUSINESS PLACES TO WORK

by Nicole Hadley
senior project manager

This year, Valerian LLC placed 4th among the top ten best small business places to work in the Denver area, up from 9th place the previous year. Established in 1990 by its principal Susan Brown, Valerian LLC is a firm dedicated to building and maintaining a reputation for excellence in planning and landscape architecture.

In the Denver Business Journal's survey, employees were asked to rate their company on various aspects and then given points for placement. Valerian LLC placed fourth based on these surveys.

The staff happily enjoyed a breakfast hosted by the Denver Business Journal in celebration of their successful work environment.

The Valerian team credited their happiness to flexible work hours resulting from self-driven project management in addition to the open communication fostered in the office.

The Archterra Group is excited to announce that Mark Taylor, RLA, ASLA has become a partner. Mark has been with The Archterra Group since its inception in 1999 and has eleven years of experience in the profession. Mark's work focuses on parks, recreational multi-use trails, open space and natural systems projects for public sector clients throughout Colorado. Mark is currently leading several projects including the design of the East Plum Creek Trail in Castle Rock, Green Valley East Ranch Park in Denver, several sections of the High Line Canal Trail in Denver, and master planning of Village Community Park in Roxborough.

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April is National Landscape Architecture Month, and to honor it, Design Concepts, an award-winning landscape architecture and community planning firm in Lafayette, Colorado, invites local students to discover what it means to be a landscape architect through a unique apprenticeship program with a neighborhood school.

This April marks the fifth year that Design Concepts has worked with Pioneer Bilingual School/Escuela Bilingüe Pioneer, a dual-immersion English-Spanish-language school located in downtown Lafayette, across the street from the Design Concepts offices.

This year Design Concepts will mentor six fifth-grade students in two three-week sessions beginning April 17. In each session, three students who have expressed an interest in learning about landscape architecture will work on Tuesday mornings with Kurt Munding, Kerry White, and Erik Spring, landscape architects with the firm.

Students will tour the Design Concept offices and work with some tools of the profession, such as a scale to convert a drawing of a four-square game on paper to an actual four-square game delineated on the playground. Students will complete a survey of their ideal playground, do a site analysis of their own school playground, and then design and lay out a new playground for the school, says Kurt Munding, who coordinates the program for Design Concepts and has two children enrolled at the school.

“Our intent is to expose kids to what’s available in the design professions, and provide opportunities for them to think about landscape architecture and planning as they look toward college,” says Munding. “With Pioneer, especially, we work with some kids who might otherwise not have opportunities to work with a landscape architect. These kids increasingly will be our leaders in the future, and they can have an impact on protecting the environment and how things are built. We’re hoping to spark some interest.”

For Pioneer Bilingual School/Escuela Bilingüe Pioneer, the intent of the six-year-old Student Apprenticeship Program is “to give students some real-life experiences outside the classroom and get them thinking along the track of community involvement and careers,” says fifth-grade teacher Paul Crosson.

Students are given an overview of placements with local companies, nonprofit organizations, and municipal agencies, and select their top six. Teachers place students according to their interests and skills. Students keep a journal and write reflections about each visit. Back in the classroom, they share their experiences and what they have learned.

“The mentors we have chosen have been very helpful, and have given students insights into a different realm they haven’t previously experienced,” says Crosson.
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Bluegreen is pleased to announce the two newest members of their landscape architecture and planning studio: Bryan Harding and Ryan Vugteveen. With complementary skills and a shared love of the mountains, these two team members bring diverse perspectives to our office. Bryan has an undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts, a Master of Landscape Architecture from Utah State University and brings with him extensive experience in resort planning. Ryan has an undergraduate degree with honors in landscape architecture from Michigan State University and several years of work experience on urban renewal projects.

In his new position at Bluegreen, Bryan works with the coastal town of Fenwick Island, Delaware to develop the town’s first comprehensive plan. As project manager, Bryan brings his depth of experience and diversity of studies to the effort. The team is currently developing a comprehensive plan that exceeds state requirements for the planning process and provides insight, analysis and conceptual designs intended to facilitate Fenwick Island’s ability to secure state and federal funding for plan implementation.

Ryan Vugteveen, the second new addition to Bluegreen, also brings many new skills and insights to the drawing board. This year Ryan successfully completed all sections of the Landscape Architecture Registration Exam (LARE) and is in the process establishing his professional registration in the state of Michigan.

At Bluegreen, Ryan’s project involvement will continue to include a diverse range of exciting projects from master planning, land use planning, site design and residential work. While assisting in the development of the Fenwick Island Comprehensive Plan with Bryan, Ryan will also focus on a new community master plan for River Bend in Garfield County, CO. This project aims to reclaim the degraded site and pursue an environmentally sound design of clustered affordable, free-market and deed-restricted housing. These units will be well integrated into a network of open space parks and trails. Also included in the program is a LEED certified community center that will educate the public about the green design guidelines that define the development of the reclaimed site.

Bluegreen is a landscape architecture and planning studio of eight professionals dedicated to achieving environmentally sound, inspiring and memorable environments. Visit Bluegreen in their Aspen studio or on the internet at www.bluegreenaspen.com.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>MORE INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.16.07</td>
<td>Green Roof Design 101 Introductory Course</td>
<td>Best Western Central Denver</td>
<td><a href="http://www.greenroofs.org">www.greenroofs.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>5.17.07</td>
<td>Health and the Built Environment: An Introduction to Planning and Measuring the Impact of Development on Health</td>
<td>Red Rocks Visitors’ Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.apacolorado.org">www.apacolorado.org</a> Please RSVP to Denver Healthy People at <a href="mailto:lydia.riegel@ci.denver.co.us">lydia.riegel@ci.denver.co.us</a> or 720.865.5446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.18.07</td>
<td>Green Roof Infrastructure Design &amp; Installation 201</td>
<td>Best Western Central Denver</td>
<td><a href="http://www.greenroofs.org">www.greenroofs.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.10.07</td>
<td>Garden Explorations Tour - Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs and CCASLA/JSR joint event: $15/pp</td>
<td>Westminster/Broomfield area</td>
<td>To volunteer to help, call Judy Ward 303.679.8262</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.21.07</td>
<td>CCASLA 4th Annual Summer Mixer</td>
<td>Colorado Hardscapes</td>
<td>Contact Teresa Unruh 303.750.8200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.24.07</td>
<td>Garden Explorations Tour - Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs and CCASLA/JSR joint event: $15/pp</td>
<td>Castle Rock/Castle Pines area</td>
<td>To volunteer to help, call Judy Ward 303.679.8262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.28.07</td>
<td>CCASLA North Area Mixer</td>
<td>Winston Associates and Native Edge Associates in Boulder 5:00-8:00pm</td>
<td>Details will be included in email and postcards</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.8.07</td>
<td>Garden Explorations Tour - Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs and CCASLA/JSR joint event: $15/pp</td>
<td>Colorado Springs area</td>
<td>To volunteer to help, call Judy Ward 303.679.8262</td>
</tr>
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<td>7.13.07</td>
<td>CSU Short Course</td>
<td>Fort Collins</td>
<td>Jim Klett 970.491.7684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6.07</td>
<td>CSU Trial Gardens event</td>
<td>Fort Collins</td>
<td>Jim Klett 970.491.7684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.24.07</td>
<td>12th Annual CCASLA Golf Tournament</td>
<td>Saddle Rock Golf Course</td>
<td>Jim Pokorny 303.278.8100</td>
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</tbody>
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