Message

From: VB/I-70 Community Advisory Group [vbi170cag@gmail.com]
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To: Wharton, Steve [Wharton.Steve@epa.gov]
Subject: CAG: Dr. Bruce Lanphear to speak in January: GET THE LEAD OUT

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Newsletter

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

EPA Vasquez Blvd./ I-70 Superfund Site

Denver, Colorado

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

All of us at the Vasquez Bl./I-70 Superfund Site Community Advisory Group (CAG) wish you and yours a joyful holiday season and best wishes for a healthy and happy new year. We look forward to an even more productive 2020 as the CAG expands membership, welcomes additional technical experts and advisors and shares important information about construction and health at the Site with the community.

THE CAG HOLIDAY GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY: Dr. Lanphear

To that end, the CAG and its community partners are sponsoring a visit to Denver by Dr. Bruce Lanphear, a Canadian physician and researcher, who is recognized the world over as an expert on the negative impacts of exposure to very low levels of toxins like lead. A goal of Dr. Lanphear is to motivate the community, politicians and regulators to heed the science and adopt laws and regulations that truly protect the public, especially our precious children.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, January 18, 9:30 - 11:30 AM

We hope to see all of you on January 18, at Dr. Lanphear's entertaining and informative presentation (details below). Parents, educators, elected officials, regulators, children and anyone else who is concerned about the unacceptable level of toxins that exist in our Denver environment today, should not miss this important event.

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Happy holidays to each and every one of you special people. We treasure each of you and thank you for your unique support and guidance. Together we can make Denver a better place for all.

Enjoy the 4 CAG articles below in this December newsletter.

Happy holidays!

Kim Morse

CAG Administrator

PS The CAG is taking a holiday break!

There will be no December CAG meeting. Our January CAG meeting will be announced. The CAG February meeting will take place as usual on the third Tuesday of the month, February 18, 5:30- 7:30 PM. Happy holidays!

1.Speaker: Dr. Bruce Lanphear MD MPH FAAP

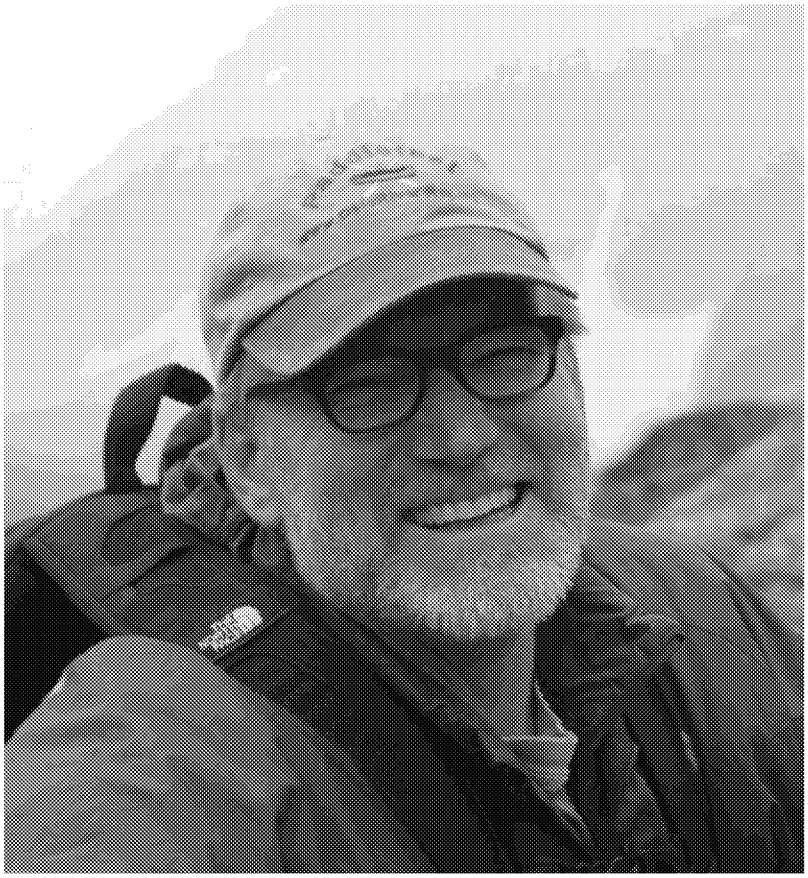
"Little Things Matter"

WHEN: Saturday, Jan.18, 9:30 (coffee) - 11:30AM

WHERE: Rita Bass Trauma & Edu. Ctr. 190 W. 6th Ave. Denver 80204

FREE Parking

Click here to see video "Little Things Matter"



Dr. Bruce Lanphear MD MPH FAAP (Click image for list of publications)

"Toxins can have a lifelong impact on children. Extremely low levels of toxins can impact brain

development, leading to lowered intelligence, and learning and behavioral problems."

Bruce Lanphear is a Clinician Scientist at the Child & Family Research Institute, BC Children's Hospital, and Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia.

His primary goal is to help quantify and ultimately prevent disease and disability – like asthma, learning problems and ADHD – due to exposures to environmental contaminants and pollutants like lead. In October, 2018, Dr. Lanphear was invited to address the community in Flint, Michigan: *"THE LINGERING LEGACY OF LEAD: WHY A LITTLE LEAD IS TOO MUCH".*

Over the past decade, Dr. Lanphear has become increasingly vexed by our inability to control the "pandemic of consumption" – the largely preventable, worldwide epidemic of chronic disease and disability due to industrial pollutants, environmental contaminants and excess consumption.

He produces videos to enhance public understanding of how our health is inextricably linked with the environment. See also: *"Crime of the Century: The Failure to Prevent the Lead Pandemic."*

Denver exposes people to lead in its public schools, in thousands of its homes and in soil. We are all exposed to toxins in Denver parks.

Education is the first step to change. Join us on January 18

Email for more information and interview & sponsorship opportunities.

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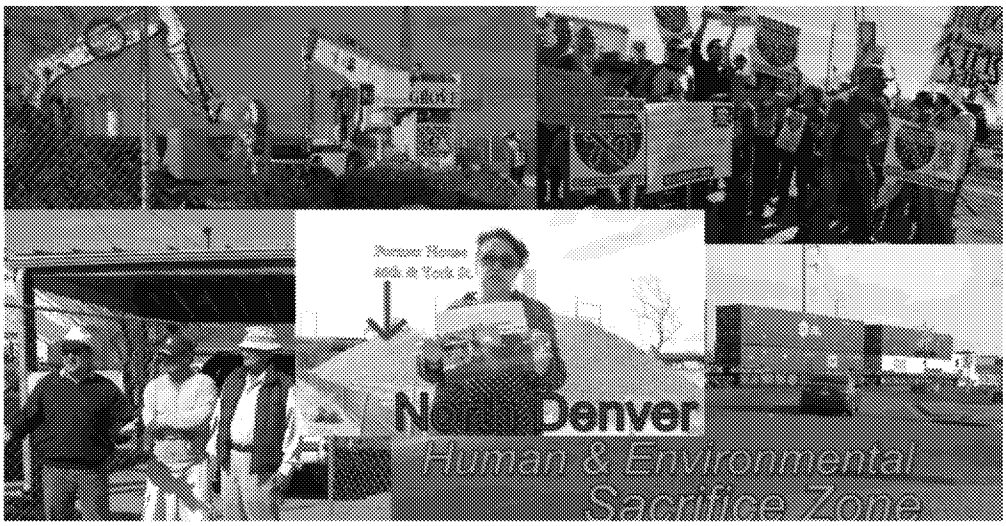
2. North Denver: Human & Environmental Sacrifice Zone



(Click image to hear podcast)

North Denver: Human & Environmental Sacrifice Zone

By Michele Swenson, Independent Community Journalist

North Denver Zip Code 80216 was named the most toxic Zip Code in 2017. Intersected by two highways built in the 1950s and 1960s, the North Denver communities of Globeville, Elyria and Swansea also encompass the 4-1/2 square mile Vasquez Blvd/I-70 Superfund Site, placed on the Superfund Site Priority List in 1999. In the wake of superficial remediation of the Superfund

Site, many have questioned plans by the City and the Colorado Department of Transportation to triple the footprint of I-70 and lower the highway 40 feet in a flood plain, through the Superfund Site.

Mary Hernandez grew up in Swansea, and remembers the effects of the initial I-70 highway build, as it divided her neighborhood. Having lived in the Superfund Site for 30 years, she relates the health effects of exposure to contaminants of the Vasquez Blvd/I-70 Superfund Site on three generations of her family. Other community members express their concerns about living at ground zero in what the EPA formerly named an *Environmental Justice Community* - predominantly minority, "suffering an undue burden of environmental pollution."

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3. Welcome WaterKeeper to our CAG Community

Brad Evans Administrator, South Platte River WaterKeeper

Welcome Waterkeeper

The CAG is pleased to welcome the South Platte River WaterKeeper to the VB/I-70 Community. The new chapter is led by well known community leader, Brad Evans. Brad is also affiliated with Ditch the I 70 Ditch and Denver Fugly.

What is Waterkeeper?

"Today, Waterkeeper Alliance unites more than 300 Waterkeeper Organizations and Affiliates that are on the frontlines of the global water crisis, patrolling and protecting more than 2.5 million square miles of rivers, lakes and coastal waterways on six continents.

CAG River Concerns

The South Platte River is an integral part of the VB/I-70 Superfund Site. It runs

right through it and is impacted by debris and ground and surface water that flows into it from the Site. Construction at Operable Unit 2 (See map) and its impact on the River, has been a constant concern of the CAG.

We all look forward to the day when fish and children can swim in the South Platte River free of the worry about toxic pollution.

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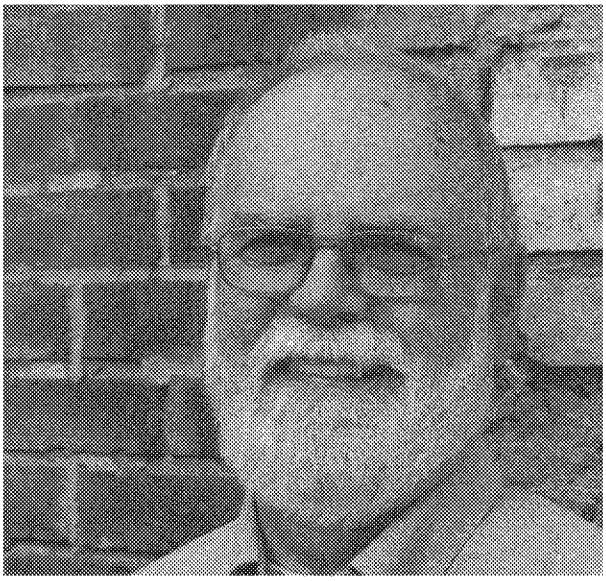
4. CAG Technical Advisor Corner



Chuck Norris, Geologist/Hydrologist

Outline for a revised Remedial Investigation for Operating Unit 2 of the Vasquez Boulevard/Interstate 70 [VB/I-70] Superfund Site

Background

The EPA recently delisted Operable Unit (OU1) in the Site against the advice of Chuck Norris and EarthJustice and many other individuals on the basis, in part, that EPA never discovered the source of contamination in OU1. EPA Web Site, documents, VB.I-70 superfund Site

Operable Unit 1

OU1 included all of the residences in the VB/I-70 Site (except 53 that were not remediated). OU1 did not include streets or commercial properties that were located in the OU1 area. These properties were not tested for lead and arsenic levels and were not remediated.

Mr. Norris presented information to the CAG that it was plausible that the lead and arsenic contamination in OU1 came from infill, deep in the earth and that the EPA's remediation that merely removed the top 12 inches of soil in yards could have missed dangerous contamination and would not have been protective of human health.

Operable Unit 2

EPA is now working on the Remedial Investigation (RI) for Operable Unit 2. EPA has yet to define the boundaries of OU2 or, contrary to the congressionally mandate advisory role of the CAG, to include CAG experts in the working process or to share crucial documents with CAG experts.

Mr. Norris Updates to CAG on OU2.

Outline for OU2 Remedial Investigation

Outline for a revised Remedial investigation for OU2 of the VB/I-70 superfund

Site

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