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ROCK CREEK

Living

THE SOCIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY

Meet
Laura
SKLADZINSKI



Photos by **Liv Berger**
of **Tiny Dragon**
Photography

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meet your neighbor

By Karlyn Tilley Margolis, Rock Creek resident
Photos by Liv Berger of Tiny Dragon Photography

meet Laura SKLADZINSKI

WE DARE YOU TO TRY AND KEEP UP WITH HER!

Originally from New York (and most recently Manhattan), Laura Skladzinski decided to leave the concrete jungle in 2013 for the Colorado mountains. It started with a trip to see her best friend who had moved to Colorado. "I remember stepping out of the airport and seeing the mountains, and immediately feeling this overwhelming sense of peace and relief," said Laura. "I knew I wanted to feel that way all the time." She moved to the Rock Creek neighborhood in 2013 and couldn't be happier with her decision.

Laura knew she loved to look at the mountains, but had no intentions of becoming an "outdoorsy" person. Her New York friends were very skeptical of her move and didn't think it would last, but she proved them and herself wrong. "Now, I am your stereotypical Coloradan," joked Laura. "I start most weekend mornings either skiing, hiking or trail running. For a city girl who hated the outdoors, I was surprised to discover there is nothing that de-stresses me more than some time to myself out under the sweeping Colorado sky."

Her two brothers are still on the East Coast, but she is lovingly referred to by her nieces and nephews as "Aunt Laura from the mountains."

While the trails are new for Laura, she's no stranger to running. Laura began running in 2006, with a goal of running one mile without stopping. After that, she kept testing her limits to see how far she could go and progressed from one mile to many. In 2008, Laura found a race promising all-you-can-eat ice cream at the finish line, and that encouraged her to run her first marathon. Falling in love with distance running, she ramped up her racing, and in 2010, broke the world record as the youngest woman to run a marathon in all 50 states. Laura has run over 100 marathons and ultramarathons, though admits that these days, she's much more likely to be found running shorter distances on the hilly neighborhood trails in between conference calls.

Laura is very successful professionally. She is a management consultant

for Pricewaterhouse Coopers, where she helps companies design and implement new business capabilities. In the simplest of terms: "I'm like a doctor for companies," she explained. "I figure out what's wrong and help them fix it." Laura studied musical theatre at New York University but realized she would rather make that a hobby and focus on a different career, so she went to Cornell University and studied industrial and labor relations. She can work from just about anywhere, but fell in love with Superior and only looked for homes in Rock Creek.

At 32 years old, Laura knows she is in the minority as a young, single person with a home in Rock Creek, but it doesn't bother her one bit, and she's thrown herself into neighborhood life. Laura first started meeting neighbors by attending *Rock Creek Living's* Wine Down Wednesdays. Now, she likes to throw her own theme parties. She is an accomplished cook and loves entertaining her friends and family. Laura also loves attending First Fridays with the Town Board of Trustees and voicing her opinions, and the town's Fourth of July festivities and fall Beer & Chili Festival are among her favorite neighborhood events.

For a long time, Laura loved to travel. "But since moving to Colorado, I really enjoy spending my spare time here," she said. Her roots may be in New York, but Laura's heart and home are now happily in Colorado.



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