

# Front Porch

COLORADO

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SEPTEMBER 2019

NORTHEAST DENVER

## School Board Election

*With the Denver Public Schools (DPS) Board election coming this fall, the Front Porch brought together four former Board members to share wisdom born of*

*experience. They emphasize the board's role as the public's voice in policy-making for DPS and chime in on issues they see as important in the November election, when three*

*seats are up. Northeast Denver voters will be choosing one at-large member. Our October issue will introduce the candidates.*

—Story by Martina Will, PhD on page 6.



Left: Former Superintendent Tom Boasberg, pictured at DSST: Stapleton (now Montview), came from a business background. He instituted SchoolChoice and the portfolio concept that includes charter schools, like DSST, among other "reforms." Right: During Boasberg's tenure, Ashley Elementary underwent a controversial staffing and programming change in an effort to raise academic achievement. Middle: The new superintendent, Susana Cordova, started as a DPS student and rose through the ranks from teacher to administrator. Time will tell how DPS policy may change with new board members and a new superintendent.

*The DAM is growing to accommodate more visitors and more programs. Renovations to the the new 50,000-square-foot elliptical glass Sie Welcome Center, and the iconic 1971 Gio Ponti-designed North Building (right), will be completed by 2021, the North Building's 50th anniversary.*

—Story by Laurie Dunklee on page 26

## Denver Art Museum: Building a New Future



## Veterans Battle with PTSD

*Posttraumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD impacts up to 30% of veterans, according to the National Center for PTSD. It can take years to fully manifest, and may take decades for a vet to tackle through therapy. Two veterans share their stories about PTSD and its treatment at the Rocky Mountain Regional Veteran Administration (VA) Medical Center in Aurora.* —By Martina Will, PhD. See page 8.

LEFT: Technical Sgt. Wolfe pictured at Ellsworth Air Force Base ca. 1978 at the SAC Bomb Comp Competition.

## Hope for Yellowing Trees

Numerous large maples in the tree lawns in Stapleton are turning yellow and dying. Homeowners are responsible for replacement of these trees. It's not only sad to lose big trees, it's expensive and time-consuming to replace them. One homeowner appears to have found a solution that's reasonably priced and takes minimal effort. Story on page 20.







A bicyclist rides through Greenway Park during one of many colorful summer sunsets.

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Like us at Front Porch Newspaper for updates on local news and events.

Visit FrontPorchNE.com to comment and find articles from past issues.

### Is the *Front Porch* arriving on your front porch regularly?

If you’re not getting it every month, if it’s wet, if it’s on the sidewalk or in the grass and landscaping, we’d like to know. Our delivery contract is to have papers delivered to your front door. Email Carol@FrontPorchNE.com.

### Letters to the Editor

We welcome your letters. Send to Carol@FrontPorchNE.com

### Pick up the *Front Porch* in Safeway but Kroger is removing free newspaper racks in mid-September.

Readers who wish King Soopers would continue to have a free papers rack might consider expressing your views to Kroger management. Safeway stores in Lowry and Mayfair will continue to have their free papers rack. Readers are welcome to take multiple papers from any Front Porch racks to share in local businesses and organizations.

## Events & Announcements at Stapleton

### Congratulations Stapleton Stingrays!

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A momentous congratulations to the Metro League for placing 2nd at state! We made a huge splash at this year’s state-wide competition. Special thanks to all our extraordinary swimmers, and our incredible squad of coaches, for making this our most exciting and successful season yet!

### DJs at the Pools – Closing Day!

*Monday, September 2, 12–4pm, Stapleton Pools*  
Join us in celebrating Labor Day and the last day of our 2019 aquatic season with a final swim at one of our six Stapleton pools. Local DJs will be spinning all the best summer hits at each facility until 4:00 pm. Residents must have their membership cards readily available to avoid paying the holiday admission price.

### Dog Daze

*Saturday, September 7, 1–3pm, F-15 Pool*  
Bring your four-footed friend out for a swim at F-15 Pool to end the summer season. Dog owners are required to watch from poolside while their canine pal is in the water. Dogs are required to be on leash until inside the enclosed pool area. This event is for dogs only. Humans will not be permitted to swim. Tickets are \$5 per dog and \$10, day of, when available. All proceeds will benefit a local canine charity. Space is limited, so register today!

### Active Minds Seminar: Japan

*Thursday, September 12, 1pm, Sam Gary Library*  
From the imperialist empire to economic power, Japan has a complicated and fascinating history. Trace the evolution of the modern Japanese state from its ancient roots to the present, covering the impact of Japan’s involvement in World War II, as well as their economic recession in the 1990s.

### Community Expedition

*September 13 through September 21*  
Join us for the first annual Community Expedition! The MCA and Stanley Marketplace will host a week of events designed to foster community and bring neighbors closer together. These thought-provoking explorations will strengthen bonds, discover commonalities and celebrate differences. Some events require tickets. Proceeds will benefit a variety of local charities and organizations. For more info on each individual event, visit [www.stapletoncommunity.com](http://www.stapletoncommunity.com).

**Our Neighbors, Ourselves: Project Worthmore Fundraiser** *Friday, September 13*

**K-pop Showcase & Fundraiser** *Saturday, September 14*

**Rocky Mountain Arsenal Moonlight Dinner** *Saturday, September 14*

**African Market** *Sunday, September 15*

**Mexican Independence Day Celebration** *Monday, September 16*  
**The History of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal** *Tuesday, September 17*

**Islamic New Year Celebration** *Wednesday, September 18*

**Stonewall 50 – LGBTQ Celebration** *Thursday, September 19*

**Last Dream of Summer – Picnic in the Park** *Friday, September 20*

**Givtoberfest – Stapleton Schools Fundraiser** *Saturday, September 21*

### Active Minds Seminar: Mount Everest

*Thursday, August 26, 6:30pm, Sam Gary Library*  
In 2015, a massive earthquake in Nepal triggered the deadliest avalanche in the history of Everest climbing. As the tallest mountain in the world, Everest holds a special place in the minds and hearts of many. It has religious significance for inhabitants of the region; additionally, it captivates the many mountaineers who have attempted to summit it and thus stand “on top of the world.” Explore the stories of Everest—both triumphs and tragedies—and examine different perspectives on the mountain’s past, present, and future.

### Stapleton Open Studios

*Saturday, September 28–29, 11am–5pm, Stapleton Community*  
Don’t miss Open Studios, a free, self-guided tour of artists’ personal studios throughout the community. The tour is an excellent way for members of the community to get an up-close look inside the incredible, vibrant artwork produced within Stapleton. Meet the artists, observe demonstrations, see current works in progress, and explore each artists’ most recent finished pieces.

### Pets of Stapleton – 2020 Calendar

*We are now accepting submissions for our 2020 Pets of Stapleton calendar!*  
Pets who are current residents of Stapleton are eligible to participate. We only ask that the photo is taken somewhere in Stapleton, preferably outdoors and that no people are visible. The picture must be a two-megabyte (minimum) jpeg file. Send your pet’s best photo to [pets@stapletoncommunity.com](mailto:pets@stapletoncommunity.com)! Please include your pet’s name, age, and type. And of course, your name, phone number, and Stapleton home address so we can notify you. *Entry deadline is October 15, 2019!*

### September Farmers Markets

*September 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 8:30am–12:30pm, Founders’ Green*  
At the weekly Farmers Markets, you’ll find produce that is locally harvested, picked fresh, and always in-season. The availability varies each week as new items are still becoming available.

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303.388.0724

Master Community Association **STAPLETON**

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# Front Porch

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The Front Porch – NE Denver distributes more than 28,000 free papers during the first week of each month. Papers are delivered to doorsteps and/or racks in Stapleton, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair and NW Aurora.

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# Outcome of the Stapleton Name Vote

By Carol Roberts

In the Stapleton vote, Question #1 asked if the name Stapleton should be removed. Stapleton property owners voted no. 3,590 ballots were cast. 2,282 (65.2%) voted to keep the name. 1,216 (34.8%) voted to remove the name.

Under state rules for governance of a planned urban development, when districts in the community reach the required quorum of votes, delegates for those districts are required to vote just as their districts voted. On Wednesday, August 21, the delegates cast their votes at the Master Community Association Board Meeting.

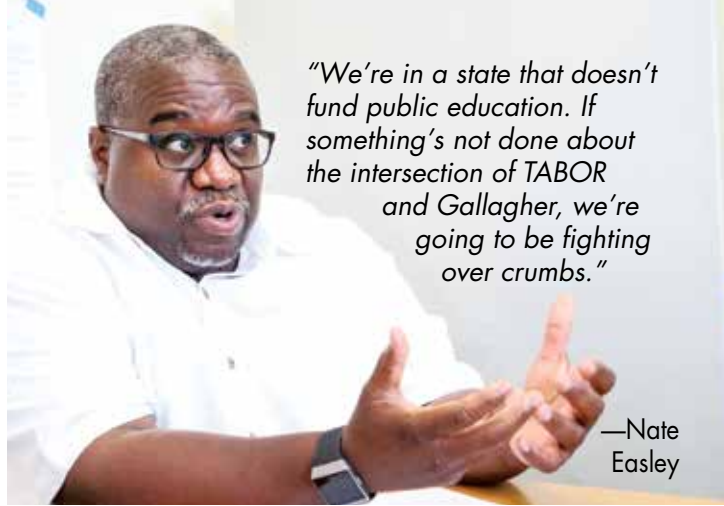
Question 2 asked if the vote to change the name passes, should there be a special assessment to cover costs of a name change? The vote was 2,769 opposed

(79.2%), 728 voted in favor (20.8%).

Question 3 asked if the Community Declaration should be amended so any future name change could only be made by a full vote of the owners (and not by the delegates recommending a name change to the board). A majority of the votes cast were in favor, but to amend the community declaration, 5,400 votes would need to be cast. With only 3,398 votes cast, the vote didn't count. The numbers were 1,850 (54.4%) in favor and 1,548 (45.6%) voted no.

Rename St\*pleton for All is a registered non-profit organization with a passionate group of supporters. Board Chair Liz Stalnaker says they will be identifying individuals and groups, including Brave Coalition, that they

can partner with to "truly make our neighborhood welcoming and inclusive." In addition, members of the Re-name group are already working with Stapleton United Neighbors' diversity and inclusion committee on programming that builds up community and promotes understanding. She disputes that the group is trying to erase history. On the contrary, they don't want folks to forget that Benjamin Stapleton was a high ranking member of the KuKlux-Klan. There should be programming, she says, about "grappling with that history and the legacy that we still live under today in Denver. And they will be participating in broader efforts to live up to the highest ideals of the community."

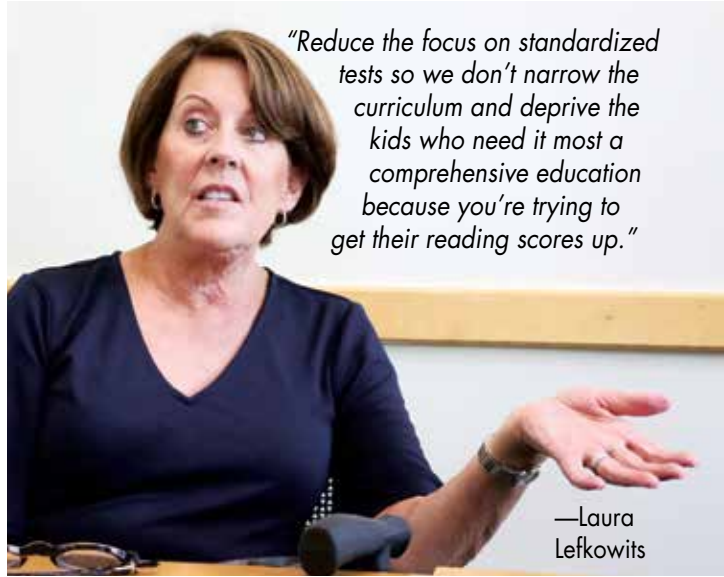


"We're in a state that doesn't fund public education. If something's not done about the intersection of TABOR and Gallagher, we're going to be fighting over crumbs."

—Nate Easley

By Martina Will, PhD

The seven-member school board for the state's largest school district—District 1, Denver Public Schools—will soon replace three of its members. Calls to "flip the board" have garnered headlines and a flurry of social media posts. Four former school board members sat down with *Front Porch* in August to chime in on some of the issues and questions they believe merit voters' and candidates' attention. Dr. Laura Lefkowitz (1995-99), Nate Easley (2009-13), Landri Taylor (2013-16), and Dr. Rachele Espirtu (2016-17) shared the wisdom born of good and bad decisions made during their respective tenures. The frank and far-reaching conversation emphasized several themes, including the importance of the board's role, equity and school choice, and the budget.



"Reduce the focus on standardized tests so we don't narrow the curriculum and deprive the kids who need it most a comprehensive education because you're trying to get their reading scores up."

—Laura Lefkowitz

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# School Board Issues and Questions.

*Four former board members talk about the upcoming DPS Board election.*

### The School Board's Role

"When I was on the board, the board was the initiator of policy and the district had to implement it. So, I would want to ask candidates: 'What is your view of the role of the board?'" says Lefkowitz. She would like to see the board return to its previous leadership role, and asks candidates: "Do you view yourself as the leader of the district, and the superintendent works for you and carries out policy that you as a 7-member board develop, or do you see yourself...as following the superintendent's lead?"

Easley reflects on state statutes that define a board member's role, which he states is "to represent the public to the district as an elected official, and not the reverse...and to govern, and not manage." Easley continues, "You have to have a special relationship with all of your colleagues, because that's how you make policy. If you don't, then you give the superintendent and teachers union more power."

### Equity and SchoolChoice

Though SchoolChoice offers families the opportunity to select a curriculum and a school that best fits their child, it does not serve all families equally; and it does not ameliorate the district's pervasive inequities. The 206 DPS schools vary widely in resources, educational achievement, and other measures. Low-income students and students of color especially lag behind their middle-class and white peers on standardized test scores, for example. In this respect, SchoolChoice remains elusive and illusory for families without transportation to a highly-rated school.

Reflecting on the inequities that have surfaced in SchoolChoice, Lefkowitz says "We should have controlled that choice." She praises current voluntary efforts by schools to

guarantee a percentage of seats to low-income and/or underrepresented students, as a way of fostering greater equity. The school board could craft policy along these lines to promote equity across the district. Lefkowitz says she plans to ask board candidates "How do you guarantee equitable access to education?" given the portfolio model within DPS, which offers a diverse array of schools with varying degrees of school autonomy.

Easley recognizes the privilege that comes with his address, education and income, which ensure his children a great public-school education. "DPS can do nothing to take my choices away from me," says Easley, who observes that middle class and wealthy families always have a choice, which may include moving their children into private school. His "gold standard" for the district, however, is whether or not he would send his own child to a particular school.

Beyond equity, (lack of) true integration is a key concern. Easley contends that schools are about as segregated now as they were prior to the *Brown* decision that in 1954 mandated desegregation. "How are we going to desegregate our schools?" asks Easley. He counsels a shift in mentality from a deficit-mindset to an asset-mindset, and employs the example of bilingualism. For him, students who speak a foreign language in the home represent an asset to a school community and their presence should be reframed as such, rather than representing English language learners as a deficit within a school population. Lefkowitz recommends prioritizing meaningful, ongoing professional development to promote greater cultural sensitivity as a way to promote equity.

"What is current policy around the CSCs (Collaborative School Committees) in the

schools?...That's a good place to think about where the board has a role," says Espiritu.

### Budget

Constrained as DPS is due to the 1982 Gallagher Amendment and 1992's Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR), the former board members acknowledge the district's financial challenges as it seeks to meet the wide-ranging needs of 91,794 students. Taylor contends that even with these constraints, the district can do more by putting the right people in place.

Lefkowitz acknowledges that giving schools more discretion in their budgets offers them flexibility but says the district risks losing continuity in areas that should remain priorities. Espiritu echoes that concern. With the reduction in central office staffing in the wake of the 2019 teachers' strike, individual schools may be implementing programs, but lack of district-level funding leads to an absence of cohesion. As a result, when students move within the district to new schools, there may not be consistency, diluting the value of those programs.

Easley emphasizes investment, both in financial terms and in terms of how we assess our school population's assets. "Right now we just talk about deficits," he says, "but if we seek further buy-in from parents across the district—from low-income



Whole Child...is not accurately reflected in the SPF (School Performance Framework), and there's no way for us to really know when schools are doing well or not...which we know is a crucial aspect of academic success...Taking that into account on the SPF is crucial and no one's really talking about that."

—Rachele Espiritu

to wealthy—the emphasis needs to shift to one that recognizes the district's assets, including the inherent value of sending one's child to a school with a diverse population."

### Moving Forward

As these former board members shared their lessons learned, the crucial importance of institutional memory becomes apparent. The incoming board will provide direction to DPS as they develop a new strategic plan with the impending conclusion of Denver 2020. "We ask the public about flipping the board, and I don't know if they're clear on it...either they're mad about something, they don't like something or they think it's just a good idea for change, not knowing what they're looking for," says Taylor.

"We've already lost our 6th–12th grade in schools that are not doing well...We can do something with Kindergarten through 5th grade...I don't want to react; I want to be pro-active."



—Landri Taylor

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Front Porch – NE Denver

7

September 2019



By Martina Will, PhD

The Rocky Mountain Regional Veteran Administration (VA) Medical Center's gleaming tile floors and immaculate interiors contrast dramatically with the procession of veterans with prosthetics, canes, wheelchairs, and walkers in its halls. The warriors' diversity—in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, and race—imparts a pluralistic portrait of our nation. An unspoken comradery permeates the halls, bridging the gap between old and young, male and female. The visible wounds of war, of course, do not encompass our veterans' injuries, many of which don't appear on their wizened faces or in their limbs' limited mobility. "It's insidious how it operates," says VA psychologist and Stapleton parent Dr. Tanya Miller, when describing PTSD or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. "It's slow and eventually saturates every facet of their life."

Veterans Justin Moslet (US Army) and Ben Wolfe (US Air Force) served in different wars, different branches of the military, and are almost four decades apart in age. What they share is a deep love of the military, a pride in their service (both men say they would have liked to serve longer), and PTSD. Though PTSD has shaped their adult lives in significant ways, both decided that they would not allow it to define their lives further, and sought treatment at the VA.

For Wolfe, it was 50 years before he sought help. He enlisted in the USAF as a much younger man and served as a medic in Vietnam for one tour of duty (12 months). After returning to the States he became a drill instructor and enjoyed a long military career. "I never fired my weapon in Vietnam," he says. Still, the onslaught of sounds—mortars, sirens, and helicopters carrying more wounded his



ABOVE: Veterans Ben Wolfe and Justin Moslet along with Dr. Tanya Miller consider "PTSD: Outside Looking In" by artist and veteran Rod Ford. Many of the VA's walls are lined with veterans' artworks as well.

RIGHT: A table set for one sits outside of the VA's restaurant, in honor of POWs and MIAs. The framed sign reads in part "This table set for one is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against his/her oppressors."

way—combined with the wrecked bodies of young men, deeply affected him when he came home. Wolfe recalls episodes when

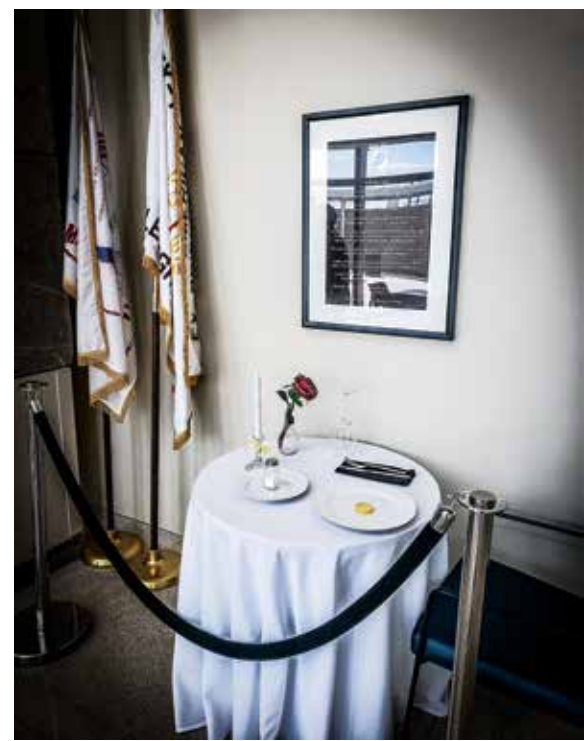
he would freeze up while playing golf when he heard helicopters (Hueys and Chinooks) overhead. In time, even

# Veterans Battle "Walkin

watching his favorite TV show (M\*A\*S\*H) became impossible, since the helicopter sounds triggered his PTSD.

Wolfe retired after 23 years of service in 1982, and even after returning to civilian life, didn't put a name to his "flashes of anger." While employed, he says he was always "picking my people apart....I didn't see it," he says. "But people around me thought I was a real ass." Though some of his peers who were ex-military shared their concerns with him, he could not recognize that he needed help from a trained professional. "There's an ego thing too; we all think we can cure ourselves," Wolfe observes.

Moslet was in basic training when 9/11 happened and served two tours of duty, in



Bret Thayer

Lance Ray

Marisa Cawthorne

Rebecca Musgrave

Linda Wingate

Ed Natan

Kathy Skarvan

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September 2019

8

Front Porch – NE Denver



# with PTSD "Walking through Fire"

Operation Iraqi Freedom I and Operation Iraqi Freedom II. When asked what family members and others can do to help, he says "It's nothing you can really say. It's a point you have to come to. When you come home from combat, you're still Rambo. When you get out of the military, you're still transitioning.... there's usually an incident, some sort of reality check." For Moslet, concern about how his PTSD was affecting his young daughter helped get him to walk through the doors of the VA to seek help. "One memory of being deployed would set me off; the crying would come on," he says. "It's hard to really come to grips with that when you don't understand it, so you don't know to seek help."

"Even if you had a really benign military experience," or a "cushy" post, Moslet says, you might have issues akin to those of a veteran who saw active combat. "It affects everybody," he says, "a lot more people than are willing to admit it." Though Moslet notes he did not feel he needed help after leaving the military, "These memories infuse everything, they get into every area of your life and you physically feel that anger or fear or anxiety."

Though time heals many wounds, when it comes to trauma, the adage fails. "Trauma memories are not processed in the brain in the same way; they are not encoded in the same way. They are highly fragmented," Miller says. "Having PTSD is like walking around with a Jack-in-the-box. You never know what is going to set it off, and it's just popping out. And here [in treatment] we pull the lid off and we pull the stupid clown out and we look at it and we



deal with it," says Miller.

The VA offers two evidence-based treatments for PTSD. While different in their mechanisms of recovery, both Prolonged



LEFT AND ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Ben Wolfe ca. 1975 in combat training at the Security Police Academy in Camp Bullis, Texas. Staff Sgt. Wolfe participating in a MedCap Mission west of Saigon ca. 1969. Wolfe served one tour of duty in Vietnam as a medic during the Vietnam War.

Exposure Therapy (PET) and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) have repeatedly been found to significantly reduce symptoms of PTSD among veterans. Miller highlights that these treatments often differ from traditional psychotherapy in targeting trauma more directly, with PET operating

as more of a "doing" therapy, and CPT more of a "thinking" therapy. These treatments provide veterans the opportunity to "speak about the unspeakable," and ultimately, to change their relationship to the trauma. The painful process helps shed new light on past events, and thereby eviscerates the power of that traumatic memory.

Wolfe has strong advice for anyone suffering from PTSD: "Put your ego in your pocket and rely on somebody else.... There are people who are trained who have an insight.... If you have PTSD you can't solve it yourself."

Individual PET and CPT are available to veterans at the VA, and additional information can be found on the National Center for PTSD website ([www.NCPTSD.VA.GOV](http://www.NCPTSD.VA.GOV)). Veterans enrolled in VA care who are interested in mental health services can call 720-723-7310 for more information. If you are in crisis, call the Veteran Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1 for Veterans).



LEFT: Sgt. Justin Moslet works on the electrical system of the OH-58(D) Kiowa Warrior near Tal-Afar, Iraq, ca. 2005.

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Smithsonian curator Nora Lockshin examines Deborah Parson's family heirlooms. The photo below is Parson's great grandmother, Jennie Pickett of Shelbina, MO.



### A Much-Loved Keepsake Box

Since her retirement, Deborah Parsons has spent much of her time listening to other people's stories as a volunteer archivist at the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library. She traveled with the African American Museum of History and Culture to South Carolina where she not only learned about heri-

tage, lineage, and culture but also received certificates from both the African American Museum's Preservation Program and the National Association of Interpretation. So, it was only natural when the Hometown Treasures event came to Parsons' neighborhood that she would want to learn about her own heirlooms. According to senior conservator Nora Lockshin, Deborah's great-grandmother Jennie Pickett's keepsake box was most likely from the early 1900s. Lockshin assessed as much by looking at the dress of the women on the box. "Their male-inspired clothing, including the small bowties and large collars denotes a time when women were beginning to work. Lockshin added that although home-decoupage projects were common back then, the box was probably too perfect to be an old cigar box made over and was probably commercially-produced. She also noted the piece had been loved for many generations. "Someone took the time to repair the hinges," she said. "I could see my dad doing that," added Parsons, "or even my grandmother."



Rodella Wooten (wearing red) and her sister Leneta Jones (wearing blue), meet with experts from the Smithsonian Museums to learn historical information about their family heirlooms.



## Hometown Tr

By Tracy Osborne

For more than 150 years before we became a country, and for almost 100 years after our independence, the country prospered on the backs of enslaved people. The unpaid labor performed by African Americans from 1776 to 1865 has been valued from

\$5.9 to \$14.2 trillion by University of Connecticut researcher Thomas Craemer, PhD. Now—as an African American woman is being recognized as a top-tier presidential candidate—the country is long overdue in recognizing the contributions of African Americans that form a rich and robust

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Early 1900's Tapestry,  
Maybe from Africa?

"I can only tell you what my mother told me," Rodella Wooten said. She and her sister, Leneta Jones, brought several heirlooms passed down from their maternal grandfather, James David Knox. They believe he was most likely the son of a slave owner because of his light features and hazel-green eyes, though some of their lineage



remains murky because, as Rodella put it, "Children don't listen." She and her sister are fairly certain they have at least some of their history correct. They believe their grandfather ran away from his slave-owning father's plantation when he was quite young and became a traveling minister after he graduated from Shaw University in South Carolina. He also traveled to Africa and lived long enough to make an impact on Rodella's life. "I haven't had much trauma in my life," she said, "But I was sad seeing him quiet and withdrawn in a retirement home. He wasn't like that when I was little. I was a feely kid, and he let me climb on him; he didn't mind."

Among Knox's treasures is a woven tapestry with fringed edges, hand-sewn to a board and featuring African—possibly Egyptian—figures holding a tiger on what appears to be a safari hunt (left). Wooten remembers her mother using the tapestries as furniture covers when she was a kid. "You know everyone had crocheted doilies back then," she said. "But my mother had these. There were originally six of them, all with African images depicting different stories." The reviewer dated the tapestry to the early 1900s, most likely before 1920. She also agreed with the sisters that they could have been souvenirs from Knox's travels.

Their grandfather also left them beautiful hand-written letters, which he wrote to a newspaper advocating against the Marcus Garvey movement that suggested African Americans return to their homeland. It's unclear whether they were ever published. Before they left, the sisters received advice on how to preserve their heirlooms.

asures

thread woven thickly throughout the American tapestry. Denver's Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library and the Black American West Museum partnered with the National Museum of African American History and Culture to explore the stories of local African American families through their family heirlooms.



Pat Duncan (second from left) and Smithsonian curator Shannon Perich read information on the back of a 100-year-old photograph of 100 African American airmen. Pat's husband, Kevin Duncan (below), looks on as a Smithsonian researcher examines the photo in which his great uncle is pictured.

100-Year-Old Photo of African American Airmen

Pat Duncan (above, second from left) is a local photographer and celebrated author, so the Hometown Treasures event was exactly her kind of thing. Her two books "A Defining Moment" and "Defining the Times," which chronicle Barack Obama's rise to the presidency, reside at the Smithsonian and the Library of Congress. However, like many, she wasn't always so interested in preserving history. She can vividly remember her father-in-law, William T. Duncan, pointing out his uncle, Ivan Johnson, in a panoramic photograph

of more than 100 African American airmen. But, she adds, "The young don't always pay attention." With her father-in-law suffering from dementia, she and her husband, Kevin Duncan (who have been married for 35 years), can no longer



point out which of the young, sober faces belongs to Ivan. "It's unfortunate," she laments. The photograph, which is still in its original frame, is in good shape—and the couple was happy to learn tips for preserving their precious photo, which was captured over 100 years ago on February 17, 1919 at the Lackland Air Force Base in Monmouth, IL.

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Maps and info at:  
StapletonArtists.org



# Stapleton Open Studios—Sept 28-30

free and open to the public reception with live music by Paris Swing Set will be held Friday, September 28, from 6-8 p.m. at The Cube. “All the artists will be there, and each will bring one piece to show,” said Clark. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

times-unexpected interplay between people and nature. “One day at Rocky Mountain Arsenal, the bison herd was right next to the road. I took a shot of one standing by a stop sign, looking right at me. I call it Crossing Guard.”

He said he enjoys the visitors at Stapleton Open Studios. “I like to answer questions about my work: where it was done and what I saw that made me want to capture the image.”

Painter/mixed media artist Lelija Roy, a Stapleton resident since 2006, calls herself “an eco-seductress. I work to make you fall in love with the earth—and want to cherish and protect her.”

A hiker and nature-lover, Roy captures scenes “where nothing is man-made.” Aware of the degradation of our natural environment, Roy attempts to save its beauty for future generations through her work. “A walk in the woods is important and I want it to be here forever, so I use my painting skill to bring it to people. This is my life’s work.”

To capture her scenes, Roy combines



Dave Aldridge likes to capture scenes that reflect our interactions with the world and the interplay between people and nature.

acrylic paints with various rice papers, lace, silk, fibers and metals with acrylic mediums. She compares her work to that of photographers in the 19th century, who traveled to wild places and took their photos back to Congress. “They

showed what needed to be preserved.”

Roy has traveled into protected places by horseback to capture what most people don’t get to see. “Rather than having my art in a museum, I want it to be in every nature lover’s home or office, so they can see nature and wander in it mentally. I’ve done commissions for people who climbed a 14er; it makes their soul sing when they go back to Chicago. My point is that we all need to be in nature, not just look at it through the windshield. Hopefully we can make sure the wild places are always there.”

See more about Stapleton Open Studios at [stapletonartists.org](http://stapletonartists.org). Dave Aldridge’s work can be found at [davealdridgephoto.com](http://davealdridgephoto.com). See more about Lelija Roy at [aspenspaces.com](http://aspenspaces.com).



Artist Lelija Roy says she wants her art to “make you fall in love with the earth.”

By Laurie Dunklee

The seventh annual self-guided Stapleton Open Studios tour of artists’ studios is back, with 26 artists at 15 studios ready to meet visitors, show their work and demonstrate how it is made. The artists represent a range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, jewelry, glass, fiber art and mixed media. All art is for sale.

“Every year we have new artists participating,” said Lin Clark, tour coordinator. “This year we’re seeing more mixed media. Artists can look at a material—like fabric, resin, even dominoes—and say, ‘Oh, I can make something out of that.’”

In addition to tours on Sept. 29 and 30, a

Open Studios artists Dave Aldridge and Lelija Roy both hope their art inspires viewers to pay attention to the world around them.

“I like scenes that reflect our interaction with the world,” says Aldridge, a photographer and resident of Stapleton since 2014. “Like in New Zealand, we saw a tourist trying to get close to the bottom of a waterfall. She looked like the ‘Maid of the Mist’ personified. I also like shooting things people might notice every day, but they don’t really see, like the big yellow articulated wall sculpture off I-25 at Alameda. I like unusual signs too, like the signs on old Colfax motels.”

Aldridge said he appreciates the some-



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By Tracy Osborne

Max Gross, a union carpenter, and his wife Arwen Johnson, a family practice physician, had just returned from an eight-day trip to Michigan. They were happy to be home, but tired, so Max wasn't surprised when he woke up on Monday, July 8 and discovered his sliding-glass door was open. "My cousin and her boyfriend are staying with us, so I just assumed someone forgot to close it." It wasn't until he went to his garage and discovered his GMC Sierra was gone that he realized they'd been burglarized. "That's when the open sliding-glass door meant something."

The cops dusted their house and matched the prints to two juveniles who were pulled over in Gross's truck. Clear evidence linking the minors to the crime, however, did not result in swift justice. They were released after the cops couldn't find a parent or guardian to give consent for questioning. Arrest warrants were issued, and two-and-a-half weeks later, one of them was apprehended; however, at least one, and maybe more, are still at large. Because they're juveniles, Gross and Johnson remain much in the dark about what's happening with their case. "I feel like we were robbed by ghosts," says Gross.

They were pretty destructive ghosts. Besides the physical damage—the front of his truck was smashed, the hood was caved in, there were cigarette burns in the dash and trash everywhere—there's also an emotional toll. "It's upsetting," Gross admits. "I honestly loved that



# Stapleton Burglary Spree

Lt. Kevin Hines reviews local crime statistics in a meeting with more than 200 concerned citizens following a burglary spree in North Stapleton. Hines said 76% of all incidents from the beginning of the year have been property crimes, 13% have been violent crimes, and 11% have been public or other crimes.

truck; I only had it for six months. It was going to be the truck I was going to drive forever, but now, I want to sell it. When I see another truck in the neighborhood that's identical, I swear, I get triggered. I didn't

think I was the type to get shook, but I've bolted up in the middle of the night. I'm vigilant now. I ask people who they are and what they're doing in the neighborhood."

Gross and Johnson aren't the only ones with a new-found sense of vigilance. In the span of just eight days starting in

early August, DPD investigated 19 burglaries, but the crime spree might be over as quickly as it began. DPD has filed criminal charges on several juveniles and linked them

to at least 10 cases of burglary/auto theft; it remains unclear if Gross's ghosts are among those in custody. They also apprehended Roderick Myles, a 33-year-old whose Facebook page includes a number of pot-smoking selfies as well as the acronym G.I.B.A.M. (Get It By Any Means). He's currently being held as 13 counts of burglary, four counts of attempted burglary, and two counts of criminal trespass are being investigated.

Despite the recent drama, DPD's crime statistics show burglaries are actually down in Stapleton. Since 2018, however, Stapleton has seen a rise in rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. To address community safety concerns, DPD co-hosted

a meeting with Councilman Herndon on August 15. Chief among the concerns was the belief that DPD is understaffed and unprepared to respond to increasingly violent crimes in a growing population. Chief

Pazen pushed back on that notion, stating that staffing for District 5 has increased 52 percent since 2013, and response times have decreased from an average of 14 minutes to just over 11.

Pazen and his team also reiterated the importance of locking doors. Of all the recent burglaries, a whopping 81 percent of them were crimes of opportunity; of the 19 incidents for which Myles is being investigated, only five involved forced entry.



Adam Herman says crime is up and argues the shut-your-garage message isn't enough of a plan.



Denver Police Chief Paul Pazen responds to residents' concerns about the recent rash of burglaries in Stapleton.

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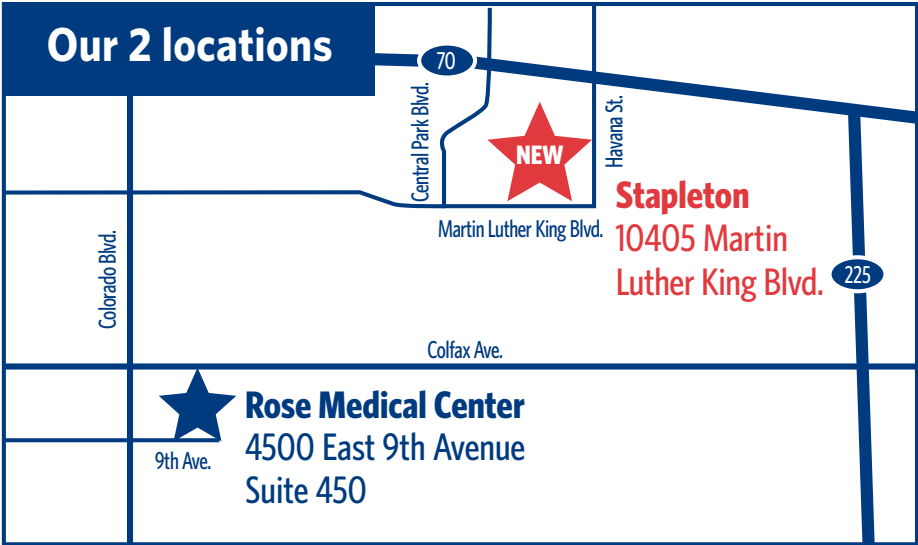
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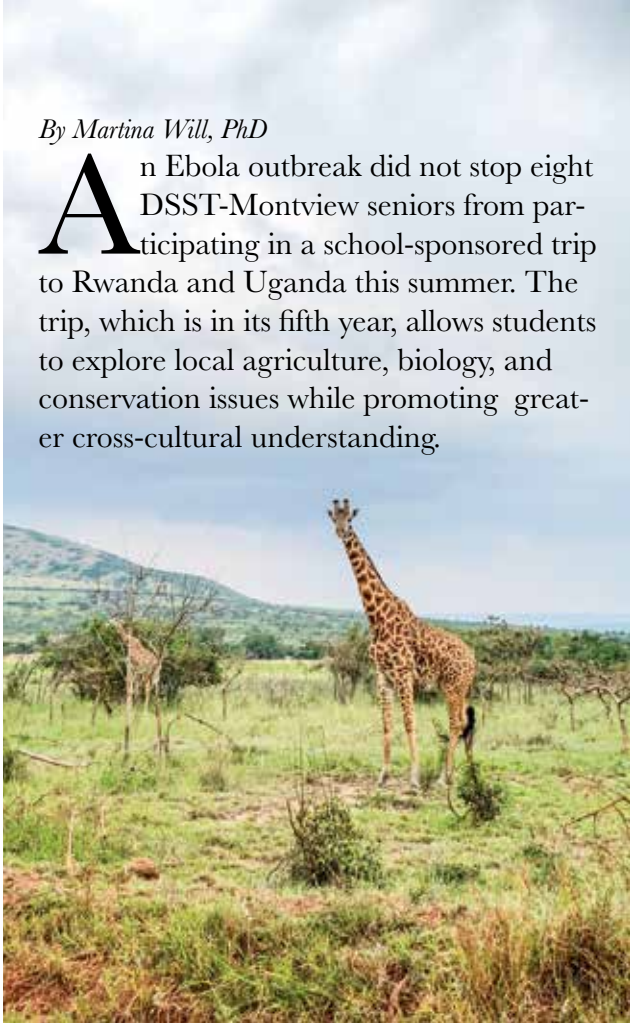


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By Martina Will, PhD

An Ebola outbreak did not stop eight DSST-Montview seniors from participating in a school-sponsored trip to Rwanda and Uganda this summer. The trip, which is in its fifth year, allows students to explore local agriculture, biology, and conservation issues while promoting greater cross-cultural understanding.



“There was a little bit of fear of Ebola; not far from where we were staying in Uganda, there was a small outbreak,” says Zoe Vandal, who hopes to study international development at Barnard College in New York after graduating from DSST. Rather than quell their openness to experiencing new countries, however, students’ health anxieties strengthened their comradery, according to Vandal. She and her peers allayed each other’s concerns even as they reminded each other to take their malaria tablets every morning.

During their four days in Rwanda, the group

RIGHT: Teachers and students walk and talk with local community members just outside of Akagera National Park.



LEFT: Giraffes were among the wildlife students observed in eastern Rwanda’s Akagera National Park. The park is home to zebras, elephants, lions, hippos, and crocodiles as well.

RIGHT: DSST-Montview students and staff pose on a dock on Lake Bunyonyi, in southwestern Uganda.

camped in Akagera National Park, surrounded by an electric fence. They met with beekeepers as well as local banana beer manufacturers. A half-day safari allowed them to see giraffes, elephants, zebras, and hippos, and they learned about conservation efforts as well as the impact of poaching on wildlife and communities. In Uganda, students visited a school and a farming project that employs resources from Global Livingston Institute (GLI), a major underwriter of the trip.

For Ray Roberts, the 26-hour journey to East Africa marked his first trip outside of the US. Needless to say, it was a far cry from his furthest previous travel, to Pennsylvania. Roberts employs the phrase “eye-opening,” several times as he conveys the transformative nature of this trip. Along with the science he saw in practice, going to Africa drove home how many of the tropes about the continent disseminated in the media and in US culture—of poverty and hunger—are incorrect. “Our western perspective of developing countries and especially those in Africa is very wrong...it’s an ignorant view of Africa that I grew up with,” he acknowledges.

“I think there’s a white supremacist, western supremacist view of what progress and being civilized is,” says Roberts. He faults colonialism for imbuing people in the US with notions of progress, development, and civilization without a real understanding of other cultures’ values and lifestyles. “Having that perspective regardless of where you go or what you do, having a perspective of people who live differently than you, people who may or may not be less privileged than you, it makes you want to

# Africa: Expanding



Photos courtesy of Africa trip participants

change things for the better,” says Roberts.

Along with this deeper understanding of the world, Roberts returned from Africa with a stronger sense of direction for his academic and professional future. Though he’d considered chemistry or another scientific field prior to the trip, seeing small-scale and sustainable farming practices in Africa convinced him that he wants to pursue botany. “Here in America we have a ton of technology and modern

equipment....[In Uganda] they rely a lot on weather, they rely a lot on rain; the crops they grow are very dependent on the climate....it was really awesome to see



LEFT: Teacher Jonathan Chan and senior Natalie Smink pass a soccer ball around with locals in Rwanda.



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# Students' Horizons



RIGHT: Students take in the views on the hills of Mgahinga National Gorilla Park in southwestern Uganda.

than another...In our current political climate there are a lot of xenophobic tendencies and an allowance for being fearful of other cultures and other people, and I think that's an incredibly toxic way of thinking about things. We're all human and we all deserve the same opportunities. A lot of us just live in different ways."

Physics teacher Jonathan Chan led the DSST students for the second time this year, and enjoys seeing students' personal and academic growth. "It hits some stronger than

how people live in a different way."

Vandal seems equally impressed by the Ugandan agricultural practices she saw. Like Roberts, she speaks admiringly of the family-owned farms. Rather than focus on export-oriented agriculture, families grow what they need to feed themselves and their communities, including mangos, bananas, potatoes, and a variety of grains. Both students commented on the very different relationship between individuals and their food and environment than that which is typical in the US, and appreciated the less materialistic nature of the cultures they encountered.

"I stepped out of my comfort zone and the world that I live in and I went and experienced this other culture that I knew nothing about...the world is a lot bigger than yourself...There are other people in the world whose lives are just as valuable as yours; you're just different because of where you live," says Vandal. "No culture is better

others," Chan says. One former student decided to pursue elementary education after visiting a school in Uganda; a one-time robotics team member returned to the US and built a drone from scratch, which he delivered to the Rwandan president as an anti-poaching tool. That same student, who is finishing an engineering degree at CU Boulder, has returned four times with the US Army Corps of Engineers to work on different projects.

Chan's own background is in engineering, and he admits that he continues to learn a lot from the students. As they depart for Africa, students have just completed their junior year biology classes. When he poses the occasional biology question while abroad, "they happily and excitedly" clarify things like "trophic cascades," which are outside his field. Next year, Chan hopes to add a water treatment and water accessibility component, which would offer a little engineering content as well.



Juniors may go on the trip, and a variety of factors including letters of recommendation and interviews narrow the list of those invited to participate. GLI

underwrites about 70% of costs. To ensure that all students who make it through the selection process can go, DSST offers scholarships as well.



Seniors Zoe Vandal and Natalie Smink dance to the beat of the drum with the Batwa tribe.

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was fascinating, eclectic, brilliant, and full of life. And someone who died too young.

Many may know Yelchin as the comical Chekov from the recent *Star Trek* reboot movies. He also starred in *Terminator Salvation* (2009), *Only Lovers Left Alive* (2013), and *Green Room* (2015), among other films and TV shows over a 16-year career that started with a guest appearance on an episode of *ER* at the age of 10. From that first episode, he was destined to be a star. The son of Jewish-Russian immigrants who moved to the U.S. in 1989, his parents were figure-skating stars before they sold everything to give their son Anton a new life in the U.S. while escaping religious persecution in the process. The family found both fame and tragedy in their new home.

Like most good documentaries, the story doesn't tell the story. The footage is culled from home movies, new interviews, photographs, and film/TV clips from Yelchin's life. The interviews with his parents Viktor and Irina are particularly touching as they show parents grieving the loss of their only child. Few should know the horror. The interviews with stars such as Jodie Foster, Jon Voight, Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, J.J. Abrams, Jennifer Lawrence, Zoe Saldana, and Simon Pegg, among others, tell the story of a man who touched so many lives in so many ways. These are not run-of-the-mill perfunctory eulogies; they are heartfelt and touching memorials. Every one of them.

Therein lies the beauty—the beauty of a life who touched so many lives. While it is easy to be star struck during the film, that feeling quickly fades into simply

*Love, Antosha*



watching friends lamenting the loss of their friend. I couldn't help but be touched by the emotion, the mood, and the love. While it is not a particularly intricate documentary, it effuses with heart. In a world of caged children, religious persecution, racial bigotry, and venal xenophobia, this story of the son of immigrants who touched so many lives is refreshing and beautiful. He was a special soul.

You will like this film if you enjoyed *For the Love of Spock*, *Amy*, and/or *20 Feet From Stardom*.

Opened August 30<sup>th</sup> at the Chez Artiste.

*The Handmaid's Tale*—Season 3 (Hulu)

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I wrote that proclamation in July 2017 about season one and then again in July 2018 about season two (re-reading those reviews is instructive). It still stands. This season is

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a bit different than the first two—building slowly to a sizzling finish. We find June as a handmaid to one of the founding fathers of Gilead, Commander Lawrence (Bradley Whitford). In real life, Whitford is one of the most outspoken liberal actors in Hollywood, so to see him playing a scoundrel creates a wonderful unease. Our suspicions that he may be better or worse than we think are constantly changing. Casting decisions such as these are the gold this series has been mining since its first episode. Julie Drezten as his wife is utterly compelling as

an unstable being who has been driven there by the hell she sees around her and the role she and her husband have played in its construction. Yvonne Strahovski as Serena continues to shine, and of course, Elisabeth Moss as June is still a perennial contender for Best Actress on TV.

While I found myself wondering midway through the season if it had lost its edge, it picks up momentum and ends on all the right notes. The cinematic aspects are brilliant: the sets, the shot compositions, the cinematography, the editing, and the sound are still the best formalism on TV. It is more cerebral at times—even more so than usual—and it investigates the inner workings of the system, the people in charge, and the people who enable those in charge. As



The Handmaid's Tale

it did in the first two seasons, it has an uncanny ability to perfectly nail the contemporaneous political atmosphere. It is not just those in power who deserve our enmity, the show tells us, but those who look the other way deserve it as well.

You will like this show if you enjoy The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, Better Call Saul, and/or Orange is the New Black.

Seasons 1 – 3 now playing on Hulu. Vincent Pitorro, Ph.D., is a Professor of Film and Media Studies at Metropolitan State University of Denver. He can be reached at vpitorro@msudenver.edu. And you can follow “Indie Prof” on Facebook and @VincentPitorro on Twitter.

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# Seniors Share Their Homes

## A Win-Win for Hosts and Home Seekers

By Carol Roberts

Seniors who have lived with a spouse or partner for years face many life changes when they find themselves alone in a home they've always shared. For some folks, the need for companionship, assistance maintaining a home, and/or additional income may all be handled by finding the right person with whom to share their home.

But good matches are the tricky part. Many online matching programs don't achieve home sharing matches that last over time, says Alison Joucovsky, founder of the Denver non-profit Sunshine Home Share. She says statistics show nonprofit programs run by social workers, using an extensive matching process, achieve longer and happier matches.

A few years ago Joucovsky was working in an innovative program to support aging in the community—but she was spending

most of her time taking phone calls about housing for seniors on fixed incomes. She started researching what other communities were doing and learned there are 64 non-profit homeshare programs for seniors in the country that are successfully matching people in homes with seniors.

Hosts in Sunshine Home Share are age 55 or older. Home seekers are 21 or older. Currently half the matches are a senior and a millennial and half are a senior with a senior. One current home provider, age 99, is matched with a millennial. Each home host has unique needs, as does each home seeker.

Christine Cleary, who lives in the Hale neighborhood, says after her husband died she started feeling the stress of taking care of everything alone, particularly keeping up with yard work. And though she's healthy and active and does volunteer work, she says, "It's a matter of sharing responsibility and



Christine Cleary (left), who lives in the Hale neighborhood, visits with Sunshine Home Share founder Alison Joucovsky. Cleary hopes to find a compatible person to live in her home and share the responsibilities of home maintenance, particularly yard work, which she is finding stressful to manage alone.

having somebody here." She signed up for homesharing a couple years ago and has met five home seekers so far. "I'm not in a hurry. I want to find the right person I feel comfortable with...someone with compatible lifestyle and diet...and similar interests...I like how careful they (Sunshine) are about this whole process. You just can't find someone on the internet."

United Way, the cities of Denver and Arvada, Arapahoe County, and multiple foundations have provided funding to Sunshine Home Share. The non-profit offers an economical solution for populations those entities serve. At \$28/hour for home health care services, 10 hours a week of services that would enable a person to stay in their home would cost \$15,000 a year. A home host, with space for a compatible home seeker, could get those services at no cost and at the same time provide housing far below the \$1,485 average rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Denver. With an average rent of \$330 in the Sunshine program last year with four hours per week service, the home seeker would save over \$1,000/month—and the home host could age in place and even gain some income.

Looked at another way, says Joucovsky, in a city where the average affordable housing unit costs \$250,000 to build, 10

home hosts could save the city \$2.5 million in construction costs.

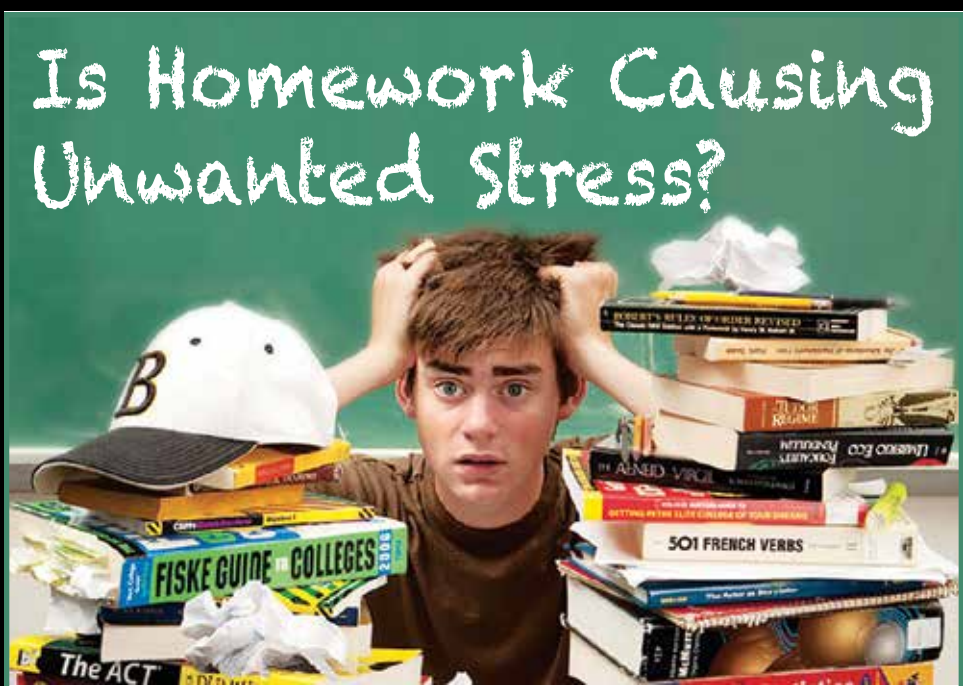
Currently Sunshine has more seekers than hosts and is actively looking for more hosts. The process of becoming a host requires about 18-22 hours of staff time, starting with a two-hour intake interview that covers personality, mental health, hobbies, home logistics and service needs to screen and match hosts with home seekers. References are checked, along with background and credit checks. Home providers are charged a fee for the matching process, based on a sliding scale. Home seekers go through a similar intake process.

When Sunshine finds a possible match, they arrange a meeting. If that's successful, the parties then spend some time getting acquainted before moving forward with a 2-3 week trial match. If they decide to proceed, Sunshine helps create a detailed contract that defines the expectations for a successful home sharing relationship.

Sunshine staff, who specialize in geriatric social work, meet quarterly with the home seekers and providers to discuss challenges and successes. When a match ends, they help set up an exit plan that may include final rent, moving date, cleanliness, etc.

For more info call 303.915.8264 or visit [www.sunshinehomeshare.org](http://www.sunshinehomeshare.org).

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# Looking Good While Doing Good



Members of TheOne08 team, Issa Ahmad and Charmaine Kachibaia, share a laugh with Il Ngwesi villagers while filming a campaign video.

By Karyn Cole

Can the simple act of buying a new handbag change the world? Jaime Travis, Marnie Quinn, Amir Hoda and the team at TheOne08 believe it can. These Denver residents joined forces to start a new type of company, a benefit corporation, where the goal is for every purchase to support wildlife conservation and provide economic opportunity to the people of Il Ngwesi, Kenya.

“Our mission is to put planet, people, and purpose above profit,” explained Travis, a Stapleton resident. “We are not a non-profit [but] we have specified a benefit and we are required to meet it.”

The idea for TheOne08 came to Hoda after he retired from a career in the handbag industry. He was able to travel and spent an extensive amount of time in Africa, where he fell in love with the people and wildlife. What if he used his knowledge and expertise to produce a new type of luxury handbag? One that would help the people and animals he had grown to love.

Hoda returned to the US and gathered

a team to help him with his new idea. In March, he and Travis spent 18 days in Africa. They visited several countries and conservancies looking for the right partner community before deciding on Il Ngwesi. “The word Il Ngwesi translates to ‘the people of wildlife.’ Over twenty years ago the tribe made the decision to set aside a large portion of land and establish a conservancy,” said Travis. “Moreover, the leadership displayed a real commitment to empowering the women of the community.”

Il Ngwesi is unique because it is one of the few community-run conservancies. It is owned and run by the ancestral Maasai people who have inhabited the land for hundreds of years. Every sale will go towards helping its people and wildlife.

Designer Marnie Quinn carefully considered the details of materials, hardware, stitching and functionality in creating the product. She chose ethically sourced materials, including natural materials and vegan leather that do no harm to the environment. But the mission for TheOne08 spreads beyond creating a beautiful handbag. The product had to be desired as much for doing good as for looking good.

A requirement of TheOne08 benefit corporation is that a portion of all sales will go toward establishing a community-owned and operated manufacturing enterprise in Il Ngwesi. The community will build the facility themselves and it will be 100% owned by the people there.

TheOne08 has pledged to put at least 5% of all sales back in the community, but Hoda says they are planning to invest “substantially more than that. But we won’t be giving money in cash. We will purchase new equipment, transport it to Il Ngwesi, and bring in experts from Southeast Asia to train the people.” They will purchase equipment following the September Kick-

starter campaign and hope to have the new facility up and running in 6 months.

Customers interested in purchasing handbags from TheOne08’s initial line, which will be produced in Vietnam, can only do so through their Kickstarter campaign, running now through September 27. The bags range in price from \$98 to \$298.

Factory ownership and jobs will provide a wage to the local people, along with education and opportunity. When the factory is finished, the people of Il Ngwesi will make the handbags and act as the supplier for TheOne08. But the company will also encourage them to go after other markets and produce other goods.

“Our goal is to continue this partnership in perpetuity. Ideally, we start in one village and expand as much as we can,” said Hoda, “to other villages, to other countries, to other continents. Our pricing is set up so we can pay a premium to our workers and still make a profit . . . You can earn a profit and do good.”

Travis and the rest of TheOne08

team believe their products will resonate with consumers. “Millennials and the younger generations have brought conscious shopping to the forefront. They have grown up in a time where climate change, degradation of forests and wildlife is their reality.” TheOne08 team believes customers share their desire to help the Earth and its citizens. “We want to be coveted equally for the goods we produce and the good we do,” said Travis. For more information and a link to TheOne08’s Kickstarter, visit [theone08.com](http://theone08.com)



The convertible crossbody bag, \$298, is made from vegan leather. It comes in three colors and is just one of the styles on sale now through TheOne08’s Kickstarter campaign. Photos courtesy of TheOne08



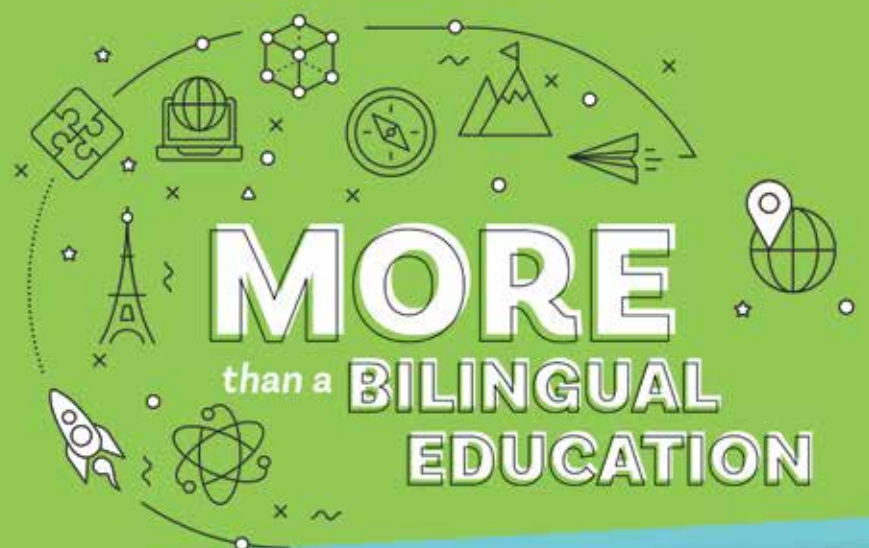
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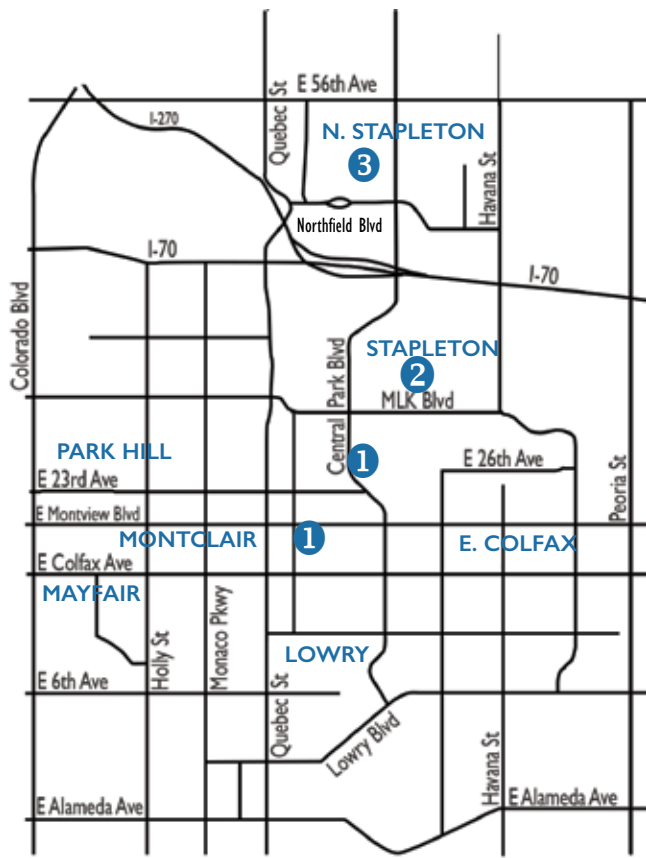
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# ...NE News Updates



By Martina Will, PhD, Carol Roberts and Tracy Osborne

## 1 Bike Lanes: Newly Painted on Syracuse; Fall Meeting on High Comfort Bike Lanes on CPB

Community meetings started years ago envisioning protected bike lanes on Syracuse from Martin Luther King Blvd to 8th Ave in Lowry. In mid August, the street striping equipment arrived to bring that vision to reality. To create protective buffers around the bike lanes, the vehicle lanes were narrowed. In some blocks parking is now on one side only. And from 24th to Montview, one lane each way was eliminated.

Another bike lane project, creating “high comfort” bike lanes from E. 33rd to Montview on Central Park Blvd., is in



The long-planned bike lane on Syracuse added lots of lines to the street. They designate space that separates cyclists from moving and parked cars, and they narrowed vehicle lanes to slow traffic. From 24th Ave to Montview, two traffic lanes were reduced to one lane.

the planning process and a fall community meeting is expected To sign up for updates or for more information visit <https://www.denvergov.org/bikeprogram>.

## 2 Help for Yellowing Maples

If you have noticed your maple trees turning yellow and it’s not yet fall, chances are that iron chlorosis, or lack of iron, is the culprit. Though Colorado soils tend to have sufficient iron, alkaline soils make it difficult for plants to absorb the iron, according to the Colorado State University (CSU) Extension office.

CSU’s Assistant County Director and Horticulture Agent Dan Goldhamer suggests testing the soil’s pH first, to determine which product will best work with your trees and soil. A soil pH over 7.5 and the presence of free lime might indicate use of an iron chelated with EDDHMA or EDDHA.

We found a Stapleton resident who, last summer, sprinkled a pound of Iron-EDDHA (purchased for about \$30 on eBay) around a big maple tree that was starting to yellow. It got greener. With one treatment this spring, it now looks like a healthy tree. In July he treated a second tree that was almost fully yellowed. In one month it changed from yellow to light green. This is an ongoing experiment by someone who is not a botanist, but so far it appears to him that one treatment a year is enabling the tree to absorb enough iron to remain healthy. He had previously tried the cheaper and more accessible Iron-EDTA but found that it had no effect on the trees in the alkaline soil that predominates in Stapleton.

You can request a soil testing kit online, reach a Master Gardner and upload photos of problem trees at: <https://cmg.extension.colostate.edu/> For more information, see: <https://planttalk.colostate.edu/topics/weeds-cultural-problems/2121-iron-chlorosis-trees/>



The green maple tree at right was turning yellow last summer and treated with EDDHA once at that time and once this spring. The light green maple at left was mostly yellow in early July, but with one treatment of EDDHA started turning green within one month. The trees below have not been treated.



## 3 Remembering Aiden Lawrence

Aiden DeVegh Lawrence was shot and killed near East 54 Ave. and N. Xenia St. in North Stapleton on August 9. The shooting was one of four that happened in Denver in less than 12 hours, leaving three dead. He was 14 years old. Aiden’s family and friends held a candlelight vigil in his honor on August 13. He is survived by his father, mother, and five younger brothers. As the paper went to the printer, no one had been arrested in connection with his homicide, but a \$2,000 reward is being offered to anyone who knows who is responsible for his death. Anyone with information is encouraged to call 720-913-7867.

## 4 No Electric Scooters on Sidewalks after New Ordinance

Denver Public Works has recommended a change to Denver’s scooter

ordinance —that electric scooters be prohibited on sidewalks. The change was expected to be considered by City Council in late August. If approved, people on scooters would follow the same rules as people on bikes and electric bikes and ride in the street and in bike lanes. (Electric scooters would remain prohibited from riding on the 16th Street Mall.) Once approved, police may issue citations to any user riding in violation of the new law.

## 5 Health Dept. Urges Vaccinations

In Denver, the kindergarten vaccination rate for MMR is 85%, according to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment—not high enough to protect the community from a measles outbreak. According to health officials, kids need two doses of measles-containing vaccine to be protected. The second dose is required before kindergarten entry in Colorado. Measles can cause serious health complications like pneumonia and brain infection. In the U.S., one in four people diagnosed with measles is hospitalized.

For information call Denver Public Health: 303.602.3520.

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# September and Early October Events

Events were submitted online. Please double check dates and times using contact info provided.

## NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

**9/7 Saturday—Rapids Firework Show.** The Colorado Rapids take on the Seattle Sounders at DICKS Sporting Goods Park. Fireworks show to follow. ColoradoRapids. 6000 Victory Way, Commerce City.

**9/7 Saturday—Recycling, Composting and Trash in Denver.** 2pm. How can Stapleton help promote best recycle and compost practices and reduce waste? denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/7 to 9/8—Stanley Arts Festival.** 90 national juried artists, family activities, live performances and interactive art. Free admission. stanleyartsfestival.org. Stanley Marketplace, on the border of Stapleton and Aurora.

**9/8 Sunday—41st Annual Park Hill Home Tour and Street Fair.** Tour homes 11am-5pm. Street Fair, between Montview and 17th on Forest Parkway. Tickets and info: greater-parkhill.org or parkhillhometour.org

**9/8 Sunday—Bollywood Dance Performance with Deepali.** 2-3pm. Deepali combines the grace and technique of classical Indian dances. denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/10 Tuesday—Greater Stapleton Business Association Monthly Breakfast.** 8-9am. Join us for morning networking. At Intersections in the Northfield Shops in Stapleton (next to Five Guys). RSVP to Marissa Ross: marissa@smndrealty.com or 720.280.8416. stapletonbusiness.com.

**9/11 Wednesday—Community Sing-Along.** 6:30-7:30pm. Join us for an intergenerational sing-along, complete with live musical accompaniment. denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/12 and 9/26—Knitting Circle.** Bring your knitting or crochet project and join other crafters in conversation. denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/16 to 10/28—Painting With Tony Ortega.** 2-3:30pm. Painters of all skill levels. Ideal for adults 50 and up. Registration required at denverlibrary.org/event/painting-placeholder-tony-ortega. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/18 Wednesday—Kindness Club.** 4pm. inter-generational, all-ages club will focus on kindness to newcomers, immigrants, and refugees by making peace doves and welcoming cards. denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/21 Saturday—2nd Annual Givetoberfest.** Traditional German music, food, beer and kids activities. Costumes encouraged and prizes awarded. givetoberfest.com. The Hangar at Stanley Marketplace, 2501 Dallas St, Aurora.

**9/22 Sunday—9th Annual FarmFest.** SCFD Free Day. Full-day of fun for the whole family. Ticketed activities, games, hayride, music, food trucks and drinks. theurbanfarm.org. 9am-2pm. 10200 Smith Rd.

**9/22 Sunday—Sam Gary Literary Book Club.** 2pm. September Title: *American War*, by Omar El Akkad. denverlibrary.org. Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/28 to 9/29—Stapleton Open Studios Tour.** 11am-5pm. Stapleton artists' studios on free self-guided tour. stapletonartists.org

**9/29 Sunday—The Sweet William Market.** 9am-2pm, featuring top-notch artisans, collectors and gourmets. sweetwilliammarket.com. The Founder's Green, 29th & Syracuse in Stapleton.

## CIVIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**9/4 Wednesday—Ballot Proposition CC and TABOR.** Your vote this fall can change TABOR's impact on Colorado. Join us to hear expert Carol Hedges, 6:30-8pm, Park Hill Congregational Church, 2600 Leyden. indivisiblestapleton@gmail.com

**9/10 Tuesday—Lowry United Neighborhoods Meeting.** New Denver City Council District 5 Councilwoman, Amanda Sawyer, to share her vision for the district; Councilwoman-at-Large, Robin Kniech, to discuss new housing solutions, update from District 3 Police. 6:30-8pm. Eisenhower Chapel, 293 Roslyn St. 720-985-4275.

**9/10 Tuesday—Mental Health & School Safety – Community Panel Discussion.** In response to recent (and all) school shootings, this discussion focus is on mental health awareness, school safety, and more. Fee: \$15. 6-8:30pm. http://buytickets.at/rep.The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd.

**9/16 Monday—Taming Tax Policy/ Taking on TABOR in 2019.** The League of Women Voters Denver hosts Carol Hedges for a discussion of Colorado Proposition CC. 6pm. lwvdenver.org/index.html. Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St.

**9/18 Wednesday—Healing Racism Community Discussion.** Social Uplift Ministry presents community discussion on "Healing Racism." unityontheavenue.org. 4670 E 17th Avenue Pkwy.

**9/29 Sunday—2019 Election Ballot Issues.** The League of Women Voters of Colorado will describe the issues facing voters this November at 9:30am at Montview Presbyterian Church. montview.org. 1980 Dahlia St.

Visit our online calendar to view more events.

Events submitted by the 17th of the month are considered for printing as space allows.

FrontPorchNE.com > Events

## METRO EVENTS

**8/31 to 9/2—A Taste of Colorado.** Food, music, arts/crafts, fireworks, carnival rides. Civic Center Park. atasteofcolorado.com

**9/1 to 9/6—KGNU's Annual Record and CD Sale.** Donate or find new treasures at KGNU's Annual Record and CD Sale. 700 Kalamath St. facebook.com/events/502562713618081.

**9/4 to 9/8—Denver Food and Wine Festival.** 5-day festival, multiple events, locations. Details/tickets: denverfoodandwine.com

**9/6 Friday—First Friday Art Walks.** Santa Fe Arts District, Tennyson Art Walk, River North (RiNo) Art District, Golden Triangle Museum, Navajo Street Art District. denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts

**9/6 to 9/14—Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show.** Free Admission. Free Parking. Family fun. Minerals, fossils, meteorites, shopping and more! coloradomineraland-fossilshows.com. 15500 E 40th Ave.

**9/7 Saturday—Havana Nights.** The Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center invites you to Havana Nights, an event that will make you feel like you're in Havana. havananightsdenver.com. 4001 Forest St.

**9/7 to 9/8—15th Annual Festival Italiano at Belmar.** Italian food, wine, artisan vendors. 10am-9pm Sat., 10am-5pm Sun. belmarcolorado.com

**9/7 to 9/15—Denver Coliseum Mineral Fossil and Gem Show.** Denver Coliseum, I-70 and Brighton Blvd. denvercoliseum.com

**9/11 Wednesday—Colorado Remembers 9/11.** Hosted by Governor Jared Polis & Mayor Michael B Hancock. coremembers911.org. 1385 Curtis St.

**9/13 to 9/15—Denver Vintage Jazz Festival.** Live swing and traditional jazz music from '20s thru '40s. Multiple venues, check website. Tickets/performance info: denverjazzfestival.org

**9/13 to 9/15—Denver Gem and Mineral Show.** Denver Mart Expo, 451 E. 58th Ave. I-25, exit 215. Tickets \$5-7, under 13 free with adult. denvermineralshow.com

**9/14 Saturday—Sunnyside Music Festival.** Chaffee Park 12-7:30pm. 44th and Tejon. sunnysidemusicfest.org

**9/14 to 9/15—Sloan's Lake Fall Bazaar.** Shopping & Sipping for over three blocks starting at Sloan's Lake Tap and

Burger. 12-6pm. denverbazaar.com

**9/20-22 & 9/27-29—Denver Oktoberfest.** 20th and Larimer, Ballpark neighborhood. thedenveroktoberfest.com

**9/21 to 9/22—Doors Open Denver 2019.** Self guided or expert guided tours of Denver's unique spaces. List of sites at denverarchitecture.org

**9/21 to 9/22—Punkin Chunkin.** Celebrating all things fall. Arapahoe Park Racetrack. auroragov.org

**9/22 Sunday—Babi Yar Remembrance Ceremony.** The 78th Anniversary Babi Yar Remembrance Ceremony. 10am. Keynote speaker is Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser. mizelmuseum.org. Babi Yar Park, 10451 E. Yale Ave.

(continued on page 22)



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**METRO EVENTS** (continued from page 21)

**9/25 to 9/28—2019 Biennial of the Americas Festival.** An international event of ideas, art and culture to identify unique opportunities and solutions. Events throughout Denver. [biennialoftheamericas.org](http://biennialoftheamericas.org)

**9/28 Saturday—2019 Energy Day Festival.** Family festival featuring STEM exhibits. 11am-4pm. East High School, Free. [energydayfestival.org/colorado/](http://energydayfestival.org/colorado/)

**To 10/12—Free composting classes.** Wednesdays and Saturdays thru mid-Oct. At Denver Compost Demonstration Site, Gove Community Garden, 13th Ave. and Colorado Blvd. Sign up: 303.292.9900 or [dug.org/compost](http://dug.org/compost).

HEALTH, WELLNESS, FITNESS

**9/4 Wednesday—Football Fitness Boot Camp.** Football-themed boot camp. Wear NFL attire and have fun out on the field. [events.anschutzwellness.com](http://events.anschutzwellness.com). CU Anschutz Medical Campus, 12474 E 19th Ave., Aurora.

**9/6 Friday—Wear Teal Day to Raise Awareness of Ovarian Cancer.** Wear teal to raise awareness of ovarian cancer, the deadliest gynecologic cancer. [colo-ovariancancer.org](http://colo-ovariancancer.org)

**9/8 Sunday—AWAKE Day of Mindfulness.** One-day mindful living retreat led by your favorite guides in your own back yard. [awakeexperience.com/retreats.html](http://awakeexperience.com/retreats.html). Newport Street Retreat, 1195 Newport St.

**9/14 Saturday—2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's.** Denver's City Park. Registration begins at 7am. [alz.org](http://alz.org)

**9/15 Sunday—9th Annual Hop, Skip and a Jump Start.** Stroller and family-friendly 5K and expo benefits Children's Museum of Denver. [mychildsmuseum.org](http://mychildsmuseum.org)

**9/29 Sunday—Mother & Daughters Self Defense Class.** Two age options: 512 and 13+. Learn practical techniques using effective strikes to defend in close and mid-range attacks. Fee: \$45/person. [buytickets.at/rep](http://buytickets.at/rep). Aviator Park, 8054 E. 28th Ave.

**To 12/31—Yoga en Español- Yoga, delivered in Spanish.** All levels Vinyasa class, entirely instructed in Spanish. Meets weekly on Saturdays at 1:15pm, \$15 drop in, Free for CorePower Yoga Members, 7485 E 29th St. [corepoweryoga.com](http://corepoweryoga.com).

KIDS AND FAMILIES

**Every Tuesday—Tattered Tales Storytime.** 30 minutes of stories, activities and snacks. 10:30am, 2526 East Colfax Ave. [tatteredcover.com](http://tatteredcover.com)

**Every Thursday—Star K Kids.** 9:30 and 11am; kids 5 and under. Morrison Nature Center, 16002 E. Smith Rd., Aurora. [auroragov.org](http://auroragov.org)

**Storytimes! At Bookies.** Every Tues. 10:30am, Sat. at 4pm. Free. The Bookies Bookstore, 4315 E. Mississippi Ave. 303.759.1117, [thebookies.com](http://thebookies.com)

**9/4 Wednesday—Firehouse Tales for Tots.** Free with general admission. 11am–12pm. Denver Firefighters Museum, 1326 Tremont Pl. [denverfirefightersmuseum.org](http://denverfirefightersmuseum.org)

**9/7 Saturday—Home Depot Kids Workshop.** 9am–12pm. FREE how-to clinics first Sat. monthly, ages 5–12. Get Home Depot apron, wooden project and project pin. Metro-area Home Depot stores. [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)

**9/8 Sunday—Jr. Rangers.** 1:30–3pm; kids 6–12. Learn all about beavers. Morrison Nature Center, 16002 E. Smith Rd., Aurora. [auroragov.org](http://auroragov.org)

**9/8 Sunday—Kicking for Life – Back to School – 1st Year Anniversary Bash.** 1–3pm. Martial arts demonstrations, raffles, games, food, bouncing castle. [kickingforlife.com](http://kickingforlife.com). 7506 E 36th Ave, next to Neveria La Mexican (Ice Cream) behind Ross.

**9/10 Tuesday—Outer Space Party.** 4–5pm. Come and make an out of this world Outer Space craft. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/11 Wednesday—Create Playdate : Drop-in Artmaking Program for Kids 3-5.** Meet up with other tots and their grownups for story time, art making, and more. Denver Art Museum, 100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**9/14 Saturday—Family Tour at Clyfford Still Museum.** For children ages 5–10 and their caregivers. Every tour features games, interactive looking, and an art project to take home. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](http://clyffordstillmuseum.org)

**9/19 to 9/22—Just Between Friends of Denver.** Fall/Winter sales event. National Western Complex. [jbsale.com](http://jbsale.com)

**9/22—Fourth Sundays at Four Mile Historic Park.** Explore and enjoy story time and a craft for the youngsters. Adults \$7, youth (7-17) \$5, under 6 free. Get here early! 715 S Forest St. [fourmilepark.org](http://fourmilepark.org)

**9/24 Tuesday—Let's Build It: Ramps.** Come build and explore ramps for ages 5–12. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/25 Wednesday—Write & Talk for Teens with Lighthouse Writers.** 4–6pm. Join local author Whitney Gaines to try a new genre or topic Registration required. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/28 Saturday—Energy Day Colorado.** FREE family festival showcasing interactive exhibits focused on science, technology, engineering & mathematics. [energydayfestival.org](http://energydayfestival.org). East High School.

**To 9/29—SummerSkate Outdoor Roller Skating Rink.** Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. [bceproductions.com](http://bceproductions.com). 47th & Verbena.

**10/2 Wednesday—Firehouse Tales for Tots.** Free with general admission. 11am–12pm. Denver Firefighters Museum, 1326 Tremont Pl. [denverfirefightersmuseum.org](http://denverfirefightersmuseum.org)

**10/3 to 12/1— Denver Puppet Theater.** Hansel and Gretel. 3156 W. 38th Ave. [denverpuppettheater.com](http://denverpuppettheater.com)

**9/15 Sunday—“The Middle Class Squeeze” – Scott Wasserman, Bell Policy Center.** People need to earn \$20K more than previously to cover housing, healthcare, child care and higher education costs. Scott Wasserman will describe possible solutions. [montview.org](http://montview.org). Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St.

**9/19 Thursday—Active Minds presents: China's Human Rights Struggle.** How modern China's economic growth has often come at the expense of human rights. 2–3pm. Free. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com). Windsor Gardens, 597 S Clinton St.

**9/19 Thursday—Financial Empowerment: Money Management.** 6:30–7:30pm. Proper money management provides a blueprint for your financial future and can help you achieve your future goals and objectives. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/21 Saturday—Sustainability: Demystifying Zoning and Building Permits.** 2–3:30pm. An expert from Denver's Community Planning and Development team will demystify the process to get you building. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

**9/22 Sunday—Coping with Surprise Medical Bills and Soaring Health Costs.** The CO Consumer Health Initiative will discuss soaring healthcare costs. 9:30am. [montview.org](http://montview.org). Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St.

**9/28 Saturday—Sustainability: Electric Vehicle Forum.** 2–3pm. A panel of electric vehicle experts and owners explain how EVs are changing the way we think about transportation and sustainability. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org). Sam Gary Branch Library, 2961 Roslyn St.

MUSEUMS

**9/5 Thurssday—Salon Series: All Who Need Aid; Colorado Women in the Spotlight.** Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania St. Register at [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org)

**9/6 Friday—Cultural First Fridays: Nativo Americano.** 5-9pm. Museo de las Americas. [museo.org](http://museo.org)

**9/6 Friday—Insight: What's In a Label?** Before the 140-character tweet, there was the 75-word museum label. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org). 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.

**9/9 Monday—The Curator is In.** Meet curators and other curatorial services and collections access staff at the History Colorado Center. Every 2nd Monday. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**9/11 Wednesday—Insiders Tour: Was There an Upstairs/Downstairs?** 9–10:30am. Admission: adults/\$13, discounted/\$11, kids 6–18/\$9. Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania St. Register at [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org)

**9/12 Thursday—What Lies Beneath: Uncovering the Secrets of Early British.** Coinciding with “Treasures of British Art: The Berger Collection,” the DAM is pleased to



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host a symposium on early British paintings. denverartmuseum.org. 100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy.

**9/14 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day.** 10am–2pm, Wings over the Rockies Museum, Lowry. wingsmuseum.org

**9/22 Sunday—Urban Farm 10th Annual Farm Fest.** 9am–2pm. theurbanfarm.org. 10200 Smith Rd.

**To Labor Day—Kids Free Summer!** Kids 18 and under get free admission. History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway. historycolorado.org

## MUSEUM FREE DAYS

**Monday–Friday—The Money Museum.** Closed weekends and bank holidays. 1020 16th St. kansascityfed.org

**Tuesday–Sunday—Aurora History Museum.** 15051 E. Alameda Pkwy, Aurora, auroragov.org

**9/3 Tuesday—Botanic Gardens SCFD Free Day.** Free until 9pm. 1007 York St. botanicgardens.org

**9/3 Tuesday—The Children’s Museum Free Evening.** 4–8pm. mychildsmuseum.org

**9/6 Friday—Lawn Concert: Dressy Bessy at Clyfford Still Museum.** Free concert (starts 5:30pm) and free admission to the museum 5–10pm. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**9/7—Denver Art Museum Free SCFD Saturday.** Free for kids 18 and younger every day. Denver Art Museum, 100 W 14 Ave Pkwy. 720-865-5000, denverartmuseum.org

**9/12 Thursday—Clifford Still Museum SCFD Free Day.** 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**9/13 Friday—Four Mile Historic Park SCFD Free Day.** 715 S. Forest St. fourmilepark.org

**9/29 Sunday—Denver Museum of Nature & Science SCFD Free Day.** 2001 Colorado Blvd. dmns.org

**10/1 Tuesday—The Children’s Museum Free Evening.** 4–8pm. mychildsmuseum.org

**10/5—Denver Art Museum Free SCFD Saturday.** Free for kids 18 and younger every day. Denver Art Museum, 100 W 14 Ave Pkwy. 720-865-5000, denverartmuseum.org

**10/8 Saturday—Denver Firefighters Museum SCFD Free Day.** 1326 Tremont Pl. denverfirefightersmuseum.org

## PERFORMANCE/ THEATRE

**9/4 to 9/22—Erma Bombeck: At Wit’s End.** Tickets start at \$39. Ages: 13+. “If life is a bowl of cherries, what am I doing in the pits?” denvercenter.org. Garner Galleria Theatre, 1385 Curtis St.

**9/5 Thursday—Slow Burn at Stanley / Free Live Music Show.** Free pop-up concert in the community area at Stanley Marketplace featuring local band Slow Burn. stanleymarketplace.com

**9/6 to 9/29—Bright Star.** An emotional tale of love, loss, and understanding told through the timeless sounds of bluegrass music. arvadacenter.org

**9/6 to 11/24—A Doll’s House Performed in Repertory with A Doll’s House, Part 2.** Tickets start at \$30. Ages: 16+. First time ever performed in repertory, follow two acclaimed playwrights’ distinctive takes on one woman’s journey to self-discovery. denvercenter.org. Ricketson Theatre, 1050 13th St.

**9/7 to 10/12—Pass Over.** Unflinchingly confronts the reality of young black men who hope only to survive yet dare to dream about a promise land. 1080 Acoma St. curious theatre.org

**9/8, 15 & 22—Jerry’s Girls.** Features songs from one of Broadway’s most popular composers. . . Jerry Herman. 6pm. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St, Aurora. vintagetheatre.org

**9/10 to 9/22—Miss Saigon.** Denver Center for the Performing Arts, 14th and Curtis. Buell Theater. denvercenter.org

**9/11 Wednesday—Yefim Bronfman, piano.** Opening of Friends of Chamber Music’s 2019-20 season. 7:30pm, Gates Hall, Newman Center for the Performing Arts. friendsofchambermusic.com. 2344 E. Iliff Ave.

**9/16 Monday—Mexican Independence Day Dance at Stanley w/ Raíces de Mi Tierra.** Free, celebratory dance performance in our community area at Stanley Marketplace, 6pm. stanleymarketplace.com

**9/18 Wednesday—Charlie Foxtrot: Comedy at Stanley.** A new monthly comedy show every 3rd Wednesday at 8pm. Stanley Marketplace, stanleymarketplace.com

**9/20 to 10/13—Miss You Like Hell.** Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. aurorafoxartscenter.org

**To 9/28—Edward Albee’s Three Tall Women.** Friday/Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday 2pm. John Hand Theater, 7653 E. 1st Pl. firehousetheatercompany.com, 303-562-3232

**10/4 to 2/16—Goodnight Moon.** Tickets start at \$16. Ages: PreK–2nd grade. The beloved bedtime story comes to life on stage for a whimsical musical adventure. denvercenter.org. Randy Weeks Conservatory Theatre, 1101 13th St.

**To 10/6—Indecent.** Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Space Theatre, Speer Blvd & Arapahoe St. denvercenter.org

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**9/7 Saturday—Xcel Energy Day of Service at Sand Creek Greenway.** 8–11am. 5000 Sandcreek Dr. S, Commerce City. Must register at: xcelenergydos. volunteer.com/sandcreek19

**9/8 Sunday—Dedicated Day of Service in our Community.** 9am.

Agustana Lutheran Church. Augustanadenver.org

**10/5 Saturday—Sand Creek Greenway Volunteer Work Days.** For more info, email cgarwood@sandcreekgreenway.org or to sandcreekgreenway.org

**Every third Saturday—**Volunteering Orientation 9–10am. Urban Farm at Stapleton offers opportunities for individuals and families. RSVP: theurbanfarm.wufoo.com/forms/zia2rpb0ou3ewl. 10200 Smith Rd.

**Mentoring high-performing, low-income students.** Minds Matter is recruiting our next class of college access mentors to help high-performing, low-income high school. mindsmatterdenver.org

**Volunteers Needed at Ronald McDonald Family Rooms at Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children.** At Presbyterian/St. Luke’s Hospital. Seeks volunteers for once-a-week commitment, 6-month minimum. ronaldhouse.org under “How You Can Help” for info.

**Single Volunteers of Greater Denver.** Volunteer, not-for-profit singles group to meet others and assist nonprofit organizations for events/activities. www.svgd.org

**Reading Volunteers Needed.** For students in K-8 grade. 1 hour, 1 student, 1x week. During school hours. julie@partnersinliteracy.org or 303.316.3944 ext. 241.

**Project Worthmore.** Nonprofit organization of committed community members give, volunteer, mentor, befriend refugee neighbors. 1609 Havana St., St. 720-460-1393

## New Library Programs

Check all the nearby library branches, Sam Gary, Park Hill, Schlessman and Pauline Robinson for current and upcoming programming including Creative Aging and Intergenerational activities, painting classes, Kindness Club and speakers. Details at denverlibrary.org

## Annual Friendship Powwow, Sept. 7

American Indian dance, hands-on activities for families, fry bread, artist booths & more. Everyone is welcome. Free general admission. Denver Art Museum, 100 W. 14th Ave. denverartmuseum.org

## Community Expedition Sept., 13–21

A week of ticketed and free events designed to foster community and celebrate diversity. See page 2 for list of events or go to stapletoncommunity.com

## Lowry Celebrates 25 yrs., Oct. 4–6

Silver anniversary celebrations include daytime activities for families & nighttime festivities for adults. lowryfoundation.org

## Parents for Safe Schools, Sept. 12

Newly formed community group has invited speakers Abbey Winter, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and Aaron Carpenter, Colorado Legislative Council. Sam Gary Library. 6pm. To learn more, contact Rachel Baumel at rkbaumel@yahoo.com



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# VISION

NEW YEAR | NEW BEGINNINGS  
October 12, 9 - 10:30am

In 2028 when many of today's elementary school students will be preparing to graduate high school, the global population will be pushing 8.3 billion, Islam will be the world's largest religion with 2.2 billion followers, and the 'average' person will be a 34-year-old Indian man.

Wearable technology will be controlled by thought, 50% of today's jobs will be replaced by artificial intelligence, and 3D printing will allow many products to be produced on location, reducing the need for transportation. Many educators, parents, and caregivers are asking, "How do we prepare our children for success in this fast-paced, ever-changing world?"

Stapleton United Neighbors has partnered with champions for children in our



SUN board member/event organizer Jeana Arsburger, PhD with her daughter Gigi.

community to launch an inaugural VISION event to support families with children ages 8-18 in imagining the possibilities for their future.

Join a commUNITY of parents and children and get ready to time travel into the future. This interactive experience will equip parents and children with the tools and dispositions needed to build brilliance to transform the world.

## Event Agenda

Spend time in commUNITY cultivating relationships with like-minded families. Engage in Socratic Seminar to cultivate a growth mindset and immerse yourself in inspiration and imagination. With your best self in mind, design your Destination Statement, and identify the network of support and your "informal college" that will support your success.

## Activity

Prior to the event, please complete the following activity with your child:

1. Think about a moment when you were your absolute best. Encourage your child to consider academic, extra-curricular, and relational moments in their lives.
2. Write, type, or compose a voice memo describing that moment.
3. Reflect and think of three words that describe you at your best.

## Action

Every time you walk through a doorway, say those three words to yourself to remind you to show up as the best version of yourself possible.

# The SUN Spot

The independent voice of Stapleton  
Brought to you by Stapleton United Neighbors

SUN Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm (Block Captain meeting) and 7:30pm (Board meeting) at the Central Park Recreation Center, 9651 MLK Jr. Blvd. For information about SUN, visit [www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com](http://www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com). To contact SUN or confirm meeting time, email [stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:stapletonunitedneighbors@gmail.com)



# September SUN News

## Registration

This **free and open to the public** event is hosted by Stapleton United Neighbors in partnership Building Brilliance. It will be held at Denver Green School in North Stapleton.

Space is limited. Register at: [www.drjea.com](http://www.drjea.com)

Special thanks to the sponsors whose support has made this event free and open to the public: Office Depot, Stabio Productions, forte advertising and Denver Green School.

## SUN Meeting Sept. 17

Monthly at the Central Park Rec Center, SUN meets on the third Tuesday at 6:30pm. In September, a guest speaker will discuss in-home radon exposure, testing, and mitigation. Free radon test kits will be available to people who attend this meeting. Other speakers will include Denver Police, and other community partners.

## Electric Vehicle Forum Sept. 28

The Stapleton Sustainable Neighborhoods Program team is contributing one event to Sam Gary Branch Library's series of events focused on the topic of sustainability. A forum on Electric Vehicles will be held on Saturday, September 28 from 2-3pm. At this event, attendees will hear from a panel of electric vehicle experts and owners about how EVs are changing the way people think about transportation and sustainability.

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# NE Denver Student Test Results

By Carol Roberts

Statewide, 3rd through 8th graders take the Colorado Measure of Academic Success (CMAS) Test. With SAT or ACT scores being a required part of most college applications, high school students take the PSAT (9th and 10th graders) and the SAT (11th graders) to track their readiness for college.

A closer look at the breakdown of statewide SAT scores reveals that past pat-

terns of girls scoring lower than boys in math is changing. Girls are still strong in reading and writing (514 to 496 for boys)—but they are now approaching boys’ scores in math (493 to 499). It’s not just the girls, but also the communities of the future that stand to benefit from both genders reaching their potential.

More good news is that CMAS growth scores for DPS are higher than the statewide average. What’s troubling is that these test scores are a reminder that lower income children, with the same potential for learning and contributing to the community, are not reaching their educational potential. In DPS this year, 3,122 high school students eligible for free/reduced lunch took the SAT. With a combined score of 902, these students scored 173 points lower than the 1,927 more affluent students who took the test. Though test scores offer only one measure of student growth and success, the disparities point out the ongoing need for DPS to prioritize equity across schools in its diverse student population.

Colorado Measure of Academic Success (CMAS)	Literacy % Met or Exceeded	Math % Met or Exceeded	Literacy Growth	Math Growth
Statewide Average	45.8	34.7	50	50
District Average	42.8	32.7	55	53
ELEMENTARY				
Ashley	23.7	13.6	50.5	31
Hallett	11.5	9	40	46
High Tech	63.3	57.3	66.5	62
Isabella Bird	62.1	48.3	60	49
Lowry	47.1	36.8	51	50
Montclair	34.1	25.9	42	40
Park Hill	77.5	70.2	64	57
Smith	24.8	14.8	51	48
Stedman	30.6	20.7	52	46
Swigert	76.8	65.7	53	42
Westerly Creek	75.9	70.8	57	56
K-8				
Bill Roberts E-8	77	71.6	68.5	72
Denver Language K-8	62.7	67.5	65.5	69
Odyssey K-8	65.3	49.3	63.5	69.5
MIDDLE				
Denver Discovery	45.3	23.9	56	33.5
Denver Green	49.6	33.7	71	65
Denver Sch.Arts	85.4	71	57	57
DSST:CG	51.5	33.4	64	60
DSST:Montview	54.2	38.1	59	60
Hill	51.2	41.8	50	54
McAuliffe	80.2	74.1	67	76
McAuliffe Manual	41.2	29.1	48	41

11th Grade SAT	2019 Reading & Writing	2018 Reading & Writing	2019 Math	2018 Math
Statewide Average	505	513	496	501
District Average	486	491	482	483
HIGH SCHOOLS				
Denver Sch. of the Arts	616	617	579	583
DSST: Montview	558	571	600	593
East	561	561	553	546
George Washington	527	520	517	507
Northfield	507	529	487	495

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LEFT: Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer director of the DAM, and Andrea Fulton, deputy director and chief marketing officer, stand at the foot of the grand staircase in the newly constructed Anna and John J. Sie Welcome Center.



By Laurie Dunklee  
**T**he \$150 million update of the Denver Art Museum's campus, slated for completion in 2021, is the most extensive renovation of one of Denver's biggest cultural institutions. "The DAM has a great reputation for engaging with people of all ages, and this project will make our campus even more welcoming, accessible and transparent," said Andrea Fulton, the museum's deputy director and chief marketing officer.

The project is comprised of a complete renovation of the 1971 North Building, designed by Gio Ponti; new construction of an attached elliptical welcome center; and new outdoor spaces. The goals of the project include expanding resources for school groups; expanding gallery space; and improving visitor access, according to Fulton.

The DAM plans to complete the project in 2021, the 50th anniversary of the North Building. "Hard construction should be done by the end of 2019, then we'll open in phases, moving about 50,000 art objects

into the buildings during the first part of next year," Fulton said.

The North Building, designed by Italian architect Gio Ponti, was one of the first high-rise art museums in



Andrea Fulton highlights aspects of Gio Ponti's original design, including the initial lighting design, that will be maintained in what used to be Ponti Hall.

the country. When it was built, the modernist building stirred controversy. "The people who had it built were forward-thinkers," said Fulton. "Their feeling was 'Why do anything less than bold? An inspired structure ups everybody else's game.'"



The Bartlit Learning and Engagement Center, including the Creative Hub seen in this architectural rendering, will feature 5,600 square feet for community-driven programming and school and youth group visits. Rendering by Fentress Architects and Machado Silvetti.

The art was moved out of the 210,000-square-foot North Building in 2017 and the inside was gutted to install improvements. "We realized that the North Building required major updating of all its systems, including HVAC, electrical and fire suppression; also to make it ADA compliant," Fulton said. "The art requires

a controlled environment, but the building was un-insulated, with no vapor barrier. So, our environmental controls were most inefficient."

The North Building will be renamed the Martin Building when it re-opens, in recognition of a \$25 million lead gift from board chairman Lanny Martin. Two eleva-



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LEFT: The completed DAM campus will comprise the Hamilton Building, Martin Building and Sie Welcome Center, as well as new outdoor spaces.

RIGHT: Two new rooftop terraces will offer public access to downtown and mountain views.



# Building a New Future

tors will make the seven-story museum more accessible. The seventh floor will feature two outdoor public terraces. “Ponti’s original vision was terraces on top of the building with stunning views. It wasn’t completed, probably because they ran out of money,” said Fulton.

She said about 25,000 of the unique porcelain tiles facing the North Building will need to be replaced. “Dow-Corning made the originals. They declined to make us more, but they gave us the patent. We found a company in Frankfurt, Germany to make them for us.”

The new Sie Welcome Center on 13th Ave. is taking shape with the placement of 52 curved glass panels forming an elliptical footprint. The structural glass panels are comprised of three layers of 3/8-inch-thick glass and are 25 feet high and 8 feet wide. It is the first structural glass wall façade of this size and scale in North America to hold itself up without the need for intermedi-



ate framing. “We needed a pre-test of the structure, so we built a full-scale mockup in Dallas, with two panels. The project planners went down there to test the panels for wind and water resistance, and also test the



LEFT and ABOVE: Visitors will see the Martin Building from a new angle through three skylights leading from the first floor of the Sie Welcome Center toward the Martin Building. Rendering by Fentress Architects and Machado Silvetti.

connections between the panels.”

Fulton said the glass building is an important part of the DAM’s vision for the whole campus. “Our existing buildings are kind of dark, so we wanted to unify the campus with a transparent building. At night it will be a beacon.”

The welcome center will allow the museum to offer more services for kids, including summer camps and a play area. Art conservation will also be housed there. The second floor will

provide event space with seating up to 650, as well as a restaurant and a cafe. Event spaces will be available for rental.

New outside spaces will include a lunch area for school groups and a small amphitheater near 14th Avenue. “The amphitheater was another part of Ponti’s vision. He designed it in an elliptical shape, which inspired the shape of the new building.”

building.”

The new building and renovation of the North Building will increase DAM’s total square footage to about 400,000, Fulton said. “We built the Hamilton for major travelling exhibits. The North Building and the welcome center will shine a new light on our own collection of approximately 70,000 objects. We’ll have the ability to tell the stories no one else can tell. We’ll bring new people in and be a gathering place for the community.”

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Kim is the original owner of the *Sweet William Market*, and while her day job for the last ten years has been in real estate, she loves connecting buyers and sellers on Founder's Green too! Mark your calendars for the final 2019 markets:

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