

Front Porch

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NORTHEAST DENVER

JUNE 2022

Abortion to Remain Unrestricted in CO



The Supreme Court opinion leak triggered thousands of almost exclusively pro-choice demonstrators at two May rallies at the Capitol in Denver. A Celebrate Life rally and march at the Capitol in January brought thousands to their event hosted by the Archdiocese of Denver and Respect Life Denver.

In 1967, six years before *Roe v. Wade* made abortion legal in every state, Colorado became the first to allow abortion for reasons other than rape and incest. Today, as a nation holds its breath and awaits the outcome from a leaked SCOTUS opinion, Colorado is once again making its own laws ahead of the Supreme Court. On April 4, Gov. Polis signed HB-1279 into law, codifying *Roe*. Currently, Colorado is one of only seven states with no gestational limitation on abortion. *Story by Tracy Wolfer Osborne and Carol Roberts on page 4.*

2022 Colorado Legislative Session Wraps-up



On May 9, a full House chamber sat for the third read-through of several bills. This session's issues included: Fentanyl, collective bargaining, regulation of nicotine, abortion, state funding, behavioral health, education, environment and public safety. The second regular session of the 73rd General Assembly adjourned on May 11. The first regular session of the 74th will convene on January 9, 2023. *Story by Todd Engdahl on page 6.*

Two Local Breweries/Beer Gardens To Wet Your Whistle



Station 26 Brewery is THE place to extinguish thirst and bartender Matt Smith knows how to pour a cold one. *Story by Candice Coleman on page 8.*

Northfield High School Girl's Soccer Team Wins 4A State Championship

Story by Melinda Pearson on page 14.

Bird Sightings

Generously donated by George Ho

Night Heron

The black-crowned night heron is a common heron in Denver during the warm months. However, it's rare to see the yellow-crowned night heron in the Denver area, but one was sighted in the Green Valley Ranch neighborhood near First Creek this April.

The black-crowned night heron and yellow-crowned night heron have similar shapes. They're distinguished by the color and pattern of their feathers. The black-

crowned night heron is on the average heavier than the yellow-crowned night heron; however, the yellow-crowned heron's bill is heavier than the black-crowned heron's.

Both herons are patient waders in shallow waters who remain motionless as they watch for prey that wanders their way. Once close enough, they lunge at the crustaceans or fish. Both have necks that seem short when they're perched but extend while foraging and feeding.



Yellow-crowned Night Heron:
Length: 22–28 inches
Weight: 22.9–29.9 ounces
Wingspan: 40–44 inches



Black-crowned Night Heron:
Length: 22.8–26 inches
Weight: 25.6–35.8 ounces
Wingspan: 45–46 inches

Yellow-headed Blackbird

The yellow-headed blackbirds have arrived. Their call is unique. It sounds like a rusty metal hinge being moved; it's a grating noise that is often heard before the bird is even seen among the cattails.

They eat seeds year-round and insects during the summer months. Like their slightly smaller cousins, the red-winged blackbirds, they typically reside and breed in wetlands. The female blackbirds aren't black; they're mostly brown.



Length: 8.3–10.2 inches
Weight: 1.6–3.5 ounces
Wingspan: 16.5–17.3 inches

Bird Walks

June 4 & July 2. Two options: 7:30–10am or 8–10am. Both walks are free but you must RSVP at www.blufflake.org—go to Birdwatching under the Learn & Explore tab. All are welcome. Bring your own binoculars, or use one of their pairs. 11255 MLK Blvd. Search FrontPorchNE.com for “Bird Sightings” to see all the past bird stories and photos from George Ho.



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Front Porch

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Editor's Note:

In our May issue, we printed a story “Innovation Schools Angry Over New Restrictions.” In that story, we believe two of our source’s quotes were mischaracterized. We recognized these mistakes and moved quickly to post a corrected version online (frontporchne.com/article/dps-memo-implications/). We apologized to the parties whose

quotes were mischaracterized, and we apologize to our readers. We have taken steps to avoid such errors in the future.

In the interest of full disclosure, a former staff member who contributed significantly to our last three education articles used to be a member of the Northeast Denver Innovation Zone (NDIZ) board. We apologize that that was not disclosed along with the articles.



Leaked SCOTUS Opinion Sparks Concern about Access, Overflow Care

By Tracy Wolfer Osborne and Carol Roberts
In early May, a mystery leaker sent shockwaves through the nation after releasing a draft of Justice Samuel Alito's majority opinion to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 Supreme Court decision that ruled a woman's right to abortion is protected by the constitution and therefore legal in all 50 states.

The current case poised to upset *Roe* is *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* which aims to ban abortion after 15 weeks in the state of Mississippi except in the case of medical emergency or fetal abnormalities. *Dobbs* argues, in part, that the court should reject the point of viability—generally regarded as 24 weeks because that's when a fetus can survive outside the womb—as a

measuring tool. The *Dobbs* case includes citations of studies that show fetal pain begins as early as 12 weeks.
The leaked opinion stirred up passions on both sides of the issue and left an agitated nation with more questions than answers. Here's what we know for sure.

Abortion Isn't Going Anywhere in Colorado

There is no gestational limit on abortion in Colorado and no bans restricting which abortion methods are utilized.

On April 4, Gov. Jared Polis codified *Roe v. Wade* by signing House Bill 1279 into law.

The bill declares that "every individual has a fundamental right to...have an abortion; and a fertilized egg, embryo or fetus does not have independent or derivative rights under the laws of the state."

The bill prohibits state and local public entities from: "denying, restricting, interfering with or discriminating against an individual's fundamental right to...have an abortion."

Planned Parenthood Worries About Access, Overflow Care

Neta Meltzer, who's with Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, said, "The draft we saw represents the worst-case scenario because it calls for overruling *Roe* and *Casey*."

Planned Parenthood v. Casey was a 1992 Supreme Court decision that ruled restrictions on abortion are unconstitutional if they place an "undue burden" on a woman. "Undue burden" is defined as "a substantial obstacle in the pathway of a woman seeking abortion." An example is requiring a woman to notify her husband prior to attain-



For the second consecutive Saturday in a row, rally-goers, including Sylvie Kelloff (9) from Aravda, marched at the Capitol to show their support for abortion rights. A handful of pro-life demonstrators were also present. The protest struck a mostly peaceful, impassioned tone.

ing an abortion.
"This has been a decades-long intentional chipping away of our rights with the ultimate goal of putting into place trigger laws, bans and restrictions that will ultimately result in half the states in the country with severe restrictions," said Meltzer.

The biggest concern is access, not funding.

"We adjusted our business model years ago. We don't rely heavily on state or government funding. We rely on community support. No matter what administration is in power or what the current sentiment is on [abortion], we would never have to shift what we're able to offer," said Meltzer. "We can be consistently available with services for our patients."

If *Roe* is overturned and states surrounding Colorado further restrict access to abortion, Colorado may become an oasis in a multi-state abortion-desert. According to the Guttmacher institute, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska and Oklahoma are

"certain or likely to ban abortion."
Meltzer said they experienced a significant and discernible influx after Texas introduced the Heartbeat Bill, but they worry this will be unlike anything they've experienced before.
"From Sept. 21, 2021, which is when the bill went into effect until today, we've seen over 1,300 patients seeking abortion care. The total increase across our region is 438 percent. Those patients are leaving Texas to seek abortions in New Mexico, Colorado and Nevada."

"The most important thing is for us to reach our patients and provide the kind of care they want," said Meltzer. "We've invested in telehealth, and we have our PP Direct App. Some patients can access a [chemical] abortion through telehealth, and we might build more brick and mortars. All options are on the table."

"Although the final decision might be complex and implications are unclear," said Meltzer, "One thing's for sure—we aren't going anywhere."

The Supreme Court is expected to rule at the end of June.



Speakers at the "Bans Off Our Bodies" rally on May 14 included Adrienne Mansanares, CEO and president of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains.

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Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch



The distinctive gold dome was constructed in the 1890s. It contains real gold leaf, first added in 1908 to commemorate the Colorado Gold Rush.

By Todd Engdahl

Democrats Advance Broad Agenda During 2022 Session

Despite some nerve-wracking delays by House Republicans in the legislative session's final days, majority Democrats went home and into the election season having achieved much of their ambitious 2022 legislative agenda.

Still, the session wasn't without bumps like a slow start on major bills, plenty of compromises with interest groups and Republicans, internal conflicts among Democratic factions and some behind-the-scenes sparring between legislators and Gov. Jared Polis, who played an active role on many issues.

Top Issues

Fentanyl – Rising crime and overdose rates pushed fentanyl legislation to the top of the legislative agenda.

The fentanyl criminalization and harm reduction (HB 22-1326) bill wasn't introduced until March 25 and didn't get settled until after 7pm on the final night of the session, May 11.

The final, much-amended version is complicated but basically sets the prosecution burden of proof for felony fentanyl possession higher than the House wanted but lower than the Senate proposed. The bill also carries \$39 million for harm reduction and treatment programs.

Public employee collective bargaining – Top Democratic leaders initially pushed this bill (SB 22-230) as a proposal to allow employees of all local governments and state colleges to unionize. Opposition and lobbying were fierce, and by the time the bill was introduced April 25 it proposed to allow only county employees to unionize. The bill was a focus of Republican delaying tactics in the session's final days, and it was trimmed further – small counties were exempted – before final passage on the session's last day.

Regulation of nicotine products – This measure (HB 22-1064) highlighted a clash of progressive priorities, and the power of the governor. The proposed ban on flavored tobacco and vaping products was pushed strongly by a coalition of medical and health groups.

Such a ban was projected to reduce

law a woman's right to choose. It was introduced March 3 and signed into law April 4, well ahead of the leaked U.S. Supreme Court draft decision indicating a possible overturning of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Other Session Highlights

State finances are a major focus of any legislation session, regardless of which party holds the majority. There were four main money issues this session – the main state budget, school funding, use of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) pandemic relief money and state taxes.

The budget – The total 2022-23 budget includes \$37.73 billion from all fund sources for state operations, including \$13.72 billion in spending from the tax-supported General Fund, up \$1.48 billion (12.1 percent) from 2021-22. Other state revenues come from the federal government and fees. There is a \$2.03 billion, 15 percent reserve.

School funding – The annual school finance act, HB 22-1390, reduces the Budget Stabilization Factor to \$321.2 million. That's

the mechanism used to trim K-12 funding below what it might be otherwise to keep the overall state budget balanced.

Total K-12 spending, including local funds, will be \$8.42 billion, or an average of \$9,559 per student. Lawmakers also approved an \$80 million increase in state funding for special education students by \$80 million.

ARPA spending – The 2021 legislative session put \$2.64 billion in federal ARPA money into five special funds for spending by lawmakers in 2022. More than three-dozen bills concerning use of about \$2.2 million in ARPA money were passed. Most of the money went to state building maintenance and construction, support for the unemployment insurance fund, behavioral health programs, affordable housing and workforce development and retraining.

Taxes – State revenues have been so strong that tax refunds have been triggered by the constitutional Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, which sets limits on annual growth in the state spending.

Normally refunds are paid the year after excess revenues are collected. But under a new law refunds of at least \$400 for individual tax filers and at least \$800 for joint filers will be paid this year, and this autumn's elections.

Lawmakers also responded to rising property taxes with a bill that temporarily will reduce property taxes by \$700 million.

And the legislature approved a variety of suspensions in various taxes and fees, like the licensing fees some professionals pay. One bill postponed a new 2-cent-per-gallon gas fee until April 2023 from July.

The 657 bills introduced during the 2022 sessions covered a wide range of issues. Here's a brief rundown on legislation that passed in a key areas.

Behavioral health – In addition to spending more than \$400 million in ARPA funds on behavioral health programs and initiatives, lawmakers also passed important legislation to create a Behavioral Health Administration, an agency intended to centralize state behavioral health offices.

Education & early childhood – Legislators passed a number of notable education measures, includes ones that restart the state's district and



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Legislative Session Wraps-up Under The Dome

school rating system (suspended during the pandemic), update the educator evaluation system and provide \$52.8 million in stipends for teacher training and other measures to support the educator workforce.

Other measures include a proposal to voters to fund universal free school meals and a grant program to detect and filter lead in school water systems.

The session also approved legislation to set up the Department of Early Childhood, which will run the state's new universal preschool program.

Environment – Lawmakers approved measures to strengthen regulation of toxic air improve recycling programs and participation, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from, regulate oil and gas drilling liquids and reduce ozone.

Of potential interest to property owners is a bill that will launch a program to encourage replacement of lawns with landscaping that uses less water.

Public safety & crime – While the fentanyl bill was the main focus of debate on public safety, other legislation on this topic also advanced.

Those included grants for youth delinquency prevention, a safer streets grant program enhanced restitution services for crime victims, expanded sealing of criminal records and a community safety grant program for police

The Northeast Denver delegation

Northeast Denver's five legislators, all Democrats, played important roles in the 2022 session.

Rep. Jennifer Bacon (House District 7) played an active role on several criminal justice reform, education and health-related bills, including the ill-fated proposed ban on flavored nicotine products.

Sen. James Coleman (Senate District 33) was a sponsor on several pandemic recovery,

housing and education measures and a prime sponsor of the successful measure to make Juneteenth a state holiday.

Sen. Chris Hansen (Senate District 31) became vice chair of the powerful Joint Budget Committee and was a key player on tax policy, environmental and economic development legislation.

Rep. Leslie Herod (House District 8) also sits on the budget committee and also was active in debates on education in general and school discipline, the fentanyl bill and other criminal justice matters, and equity issues.

Rep. Steven Woodrow (House District 60) was a prime sponsor of several legal and tax issues, plus a bill that will provide grants to local governments for homelessness programs.

Todd Engdahl owns Capitol Editorial Services, a firm that provides legislative coverage, intelligence and analysis to private clients.



On May 9, Representative Richard Holdorf (R) read a Senate Bill concerning the restoration of the money spent by the state during the pandemic for the state's unemployment insurance program.

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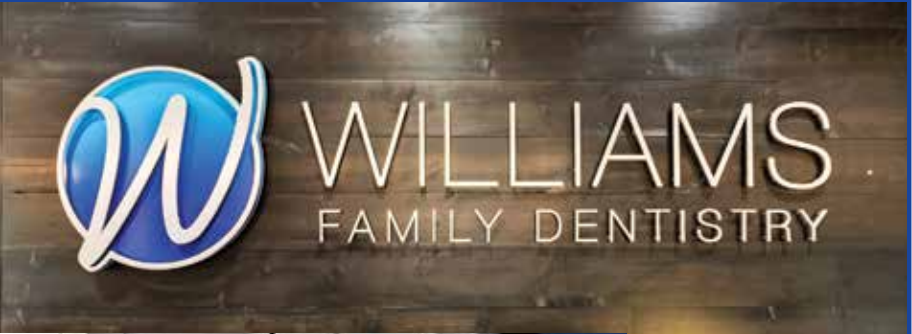
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Two Terrific Places to Wet



Stanley Beer Hall's Dina Frontz and Daniel Wood know how to raise the bar when it comes to serving up some of the best brews in Central Park one ounce at a time!

One Stantastic Sippery

By Candice Coleman

Chris Curtis is the kind of guy you want to buy a beer. Or ten. Thousands of Insta foodies follow him @fooding-drinkingcolorado for juicy insight on Denver dining, peppered with beautiful stills of the hottest and hautest cuisine and cocktails. He's a high school teacher by day, 'beerista' at heart, by night.

We rendezvoused at Stanley Beer Hall, inside Stanley Marketplace because Curtis is very intrigued by its self-tap wall. Which, coincidentally, reads like a Colorado brew wall of fame. Folks can sample, by the ounce or ounces, libations from 51 taps including local beers, sours, ciders, wine, cocktails, kombuchas, soft drinks and more. Beers average 70 cents per ounce, wines about a buck fifty and you can either tap dance up and down the wall, trying a little of everything, or settle on an 8-ounce serving of

your favorite. Everything is tracked and tallied on a tap-and-go credit card, and the wall taps you out after 2 ½ servings—you can re-up if you so desire.

"I'm really impressed with Stanley's nitro, IPA and gluten-free options like Holidaily," said Curtis. "Because you can't believe they're celiac-friendly. Kombuchas [eye roll] are not on my list, and some of the hard seltzers taste like you're licking a rock."

Jim Wright, Director of Operations, leaves no stone unturned when it comes to pleasing the most discriminating high-brow beer palette. The indoor/outdoor beer hall which seats 500, frequently goes through an incredible 50 kegs a week and has at least 35 beers on tap. He switches out

empty kegs with new local brews, sometimes up to 15 times a day, to keep it fresh for the fans. But the more things change, the more they stay the same.

"Coors is one of our core beers, as well as Station 26's Juicy Banger. And margaritas are always on the menu. A lot of locals of all ages drink here, so we try to cater to a wide variety of tastes. And for the folks who bring their dogs to hang out, we even have a Poochie Pilsner made out of bone broth."

Since opening in 2016, things had been going dog-gone well with the self-serve concept, until Covid hit and things got 'rough rough'. Rough for Stanley Beer Hall and rough for Stanley neighbors in need. Stanley Marketplace Developer and Chief Visionary Officer Mark Shaker felt compelled to pour his heart out to the community.

"Thanks to a little public and a whole lot of private funding, we were able to turn the Stanley Beer Hall kitchen into a massive production facility during Covid. From

churches, to mosques, to feeding dozens of charities, to dropping off food around Denver, to catering to neighbors in need who would stand in line for a daily meal, we're proud to say we donated over 160,000 meals during Covid."

More than 1,000 meals a day during Covid. And that's not the extent of Shaker's generosity.

The Village Farm at Stanley donated a parcel of land, directly behind the beer hall, to the Village Exchange Program (VEC) so they could plant culturally appropriate food," said Shaker.

The VEC is a non-profit center which provides food, diapers and toilet paper to more than 1,400 immigrants and refugees each week. The Village Farm at Stanley's main goal is to provide access to fresh, organic and relevant produce to feed the Village Exchange's food pantry. It is a future goal of Shaker that a portion of the produce that's grown at the farm could potentially be purveyed at Stanley Beer Hall as well as purchased by the individual restauranteurs who comprise Stanley Marketplace.

Curtis didn't know quite the extent of Stanley Beer Hall's Herculean efforts during Covid. But neither did anyone else, really. Shaker moves and shakes quietly. But he has big plans to raise the bar, turning Stanley Marketplace into an 'after-dark' experience adding bars and 'round-the-clock diners to accommodate the scores of residents planning to move into the apartments, currently being erected, adjacent to the marketplace.

And speaking of tasty spuds and suds, General Manager Dina Frontz and Assistant Manager Daniel Wood are the food and beer savants at Stanley Beer Hall. Both highly recommended the double cheeseburger, which won the Denver Burger Battle two years in a row, as well as the warm pretzel bites, buffalo cauliflower and green chili cheddar tots. Curtis was such a fan of the burger, he practically put it up on his Insta, instantly!

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Your Whistle in Northeast Denver This Summer

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch



Station 26 Brewing, an actual former fire house, serves up some of the hottest, award-winning brews to the finest firefighters, police, first responders and fans. It doesn't take long to discover why Jessica Hummel runs one of the tightest "sips" in town.

All Fired Up About Beer

By Candice Coleman

Like a good fireman, Station 26 Brewing's marketing & events manager Jessica Hummel is here to rescue you. From bad beer.

Extinguishing thirst since 2013, Station 26 does just that. Housed in an old firehouse that saw service in the 1960s, is now seeing service, with a smile, and the new station is only about a mile from the old station. And while there are food trucks instead of fire trucks in the parking lot, it still looks kinda sorta the same.

"It had been abandoned for quite some time, and we really wanted to maintain the architecture as much as possible. We kept the original yellow brick which is so aesthetic 60s, the old fire pole is still above the bar, and we use the original fire hoses as decorations.

Even the employees use the original lockers and showers," said Hummel. Once you get past one breathtaking firewall of fame—patches and awards from scores of heroic firefighters, first responders and police who've drank at the old-new Station 26 from all around the world, you'll quickly get fired up about the beer. Metropolitan State University (MSU) professor and lecturer Katie Strain sure does. "Station 26's Swift Half cold IPA just won Best Session Gold at the World Beer Cup, which is kind of like winning Best Actor at the Oscars," said Strain. Yep, she sniffed the beer. Might've swilled it too. Evidently beers have come a long way, baby, since the 80s when a budding brewmeister would tinker with a home brew in the

basement, hire a couple of buds and try and launch a craft brewing empire. Beer bathtubs, she says, were the precursor to all the wonderful watering holes that now dot our luscious, American landscape—God bless us! "Beer is getting bougier, more sophisticated. There are literally hundreds of beer styles to choose from and beer drinkers, in turn, are getting more educated. They know good beer," added Strain. And, interestingly, students in aviation, theater and business all take Katie's classes. MSU offers a four-year degree in Brewery Operations, under the school's hospitality umbrella. As students learn all about the science of beer and beer pairings, the program is also very business-focused, with an emphasis on leadership, cost control, marketing, running a brewery and more. Gone are the days you can work in brewery management without a college degree. "It all boils down to four things. Malt, the lifeblood of the beer (think color, flavor, and alcohol source.) Hops, which add flavor and bitterness. Then, of course, water and yeast. How you treat it, what you add to it, how long you ferment it. It's a lot. And, a lot of fun. I'm kind of digging Irish Red Ales now and Gose is trending—a sour wheat beer with salt, which expands the palette." Lifesaver that it is, Station 26 luckily brews a little bit of everything. Sixteen beers are running at all times, the majority of which are brewed right here in Colorado, some even on site at Station

26! Highlights include the Tangerine Cream, which they describe as a creamsicle with alcohol. Bang Bang Double IPA, a higher octane beer at 9.2 percent, which consequently offers more booze expression. And Juicy Banger, Station 26's own, which is the number-one selling IPA in the state of Colorado. While the beer is always served ice cold, sometimes it's the stories that give Hummel goosebumps. "A few weeks ago, I was working behind the bar when this retired firefighter dropped in. He actually worked at Station 26 in the 60s, when our bar was a working fire station. What a full circle moment, it was just so special," said Hummel. And I think it's pretty special Station 26 offers free bluegrass on the patio the second Sunday of every month, from noon to 3, with a brunchie food truck in tow. Then again, Strain says their patio in particular is the perfect place to enjoy a golden oldie, any day of the week! After all, Golden, Colorado is the birthplace of Coors, dontcha know. You can't do an article on beer without paying homage to Coors. And you should definitely go for its Banquet Beer. It's clean. It's an easy-drinking, well-balanced beer with high carbonation. Bubbles are yummy. Bubbles make beer extra fun. Station 26 Brewing: 7045 38th Ave, Denver



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Please double check event dates & times using contact info provided.

NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

Saturdays—East Colfax Free Bookstore. 4–6pm. Located at Counterpath, 7935 E. 14th Ave. Take as many books as you like or donate and kids books.

Every Sunday 6/5 thru mid-October—Central Park Farmer's Market. Colorado-grown produce, baked goods, meats, and more at The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn) 8:30am–12:30pm. mca80238.com

Sundays & Mondays—Latin Dance Class with Carmen Dura. Sat. 10am, Mon. 7pm. \$6/person. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. Stanleymarketplace.com

6/2 to 6/24—Central Park Business Assoc June Events. 6/2-happy hour; 6/8-breakfast, 6/21-meeting, 6/24-women in business lunch. Details at centralparkbusiness.com

6/4 Saturday—National Trails Day 1-mile Walk or Bike Ride. 1–4pm. Activities/booths along the way. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/221154952212144> (not required)

6/4 Saturday—The Urban Farm Grand Reopening. TUF reopens at the end of May, open house and free admission day to the farm on June 4th. 10200 Smith Rd. theurbanfarm.org

6/4 Saturday—Concert on The Green- Funkiphino. The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) Begins at 6–8pm. mca80238.com

6/4 & 7/2—1st Saturdays Colfax Art Jams. 12–4pm. Free concerts and performances surrounded by true local artists, and makers. 9800 E Colfax Ave, Aurora. auroraculture.org/events/

6/4 & 6/5—The 9th Annual Park Hill Art Festival Held outdoors at The Park Hill Masonic lodge. 10am–5pm. Painting, sculpture, jewelry, metal, wood, & ceramics. 4819 Montview Blvd. parkhillartfestival.com

6/5 Sunday—Sand Creek Greenway Bike Ride.

9:30–11:30am. Route: Star K Ranch to Sable Blvd. Sign up at www.sandcreekgreenway.org/youth-engagement/public-environmental-education-programs/

6/5 Sunday—The Lowry Beer Garden Anniversary Celebration.

To benefit the Lowry Foundation. Check for details at: lowryfoundation.org. Lowry Beer Garden, 7577 E Academy Blvd.

6/9 Thursday—East Colfax Neighborhood Association Block Party. 2–5pm, 11th and Syracuse parking lot. Free food, music, and family fun! For more info, email EastColfaxNeighborhood@gmail.com

6/10 Friday—Movie on The Green-The Sandlot The Green (29th Ave &

Roslyn St). 8:45–10:45pm. mca80238.com

6/11 Saturday—District 5 Safety Expo. 10am–2pm. A fun-filled, educational day at Northfield Mall, 7950 Northfield Blvd. on Main St. denvergov.org

6/11 Saturday—The Bicycle Bash. A quick, free safety check up of your bike for summer riding. 10am–2pm. lowryfoundation.org. Eisenhower Chapel, 293 Roslyn St.

6/11 Saturday—Carnival on the Plaza. 11am–3pm. Inflatables, carnival games, face painting, balloon twisting, custom caricature drawings, frozen treats, and more. Fletcher Plaza, 9800 E. Colfax Ave. auroragov.org

City Park Farmer's Market



6/11 Saturday—Drag Queen Story Hour. 2–2:45pm. For adults. Let your wig down and have some laughs to celebrate Denver Pride

with us! Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

6/12 Sunday—22nd Annual Park Hill Garden Walk. \$15 in advance, \$12 for Seniors (65+), children under 12 free, day of event \$20. 9am–3pm. parkhillgardenwalk.org. Greater Park Hill Neighborhood.

6/14 & 6/21—In-person Memory Café. 1:30–3pm. For people experiencing memory loss and their families/caregivers. Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St. denverlibrary.org



June & Early July Events

View and add local events FREE at FrontPorchNE.com/events. Submissions by the 17th will be considered for printing in the upcoming month's issue.



6/16 Thursday—Juneteenth 101. 3–4pm. All ages. Join us as we learn about Juneteenth through games, videos and discussion. Pauline Robinson Library, 5575 E. 33rd Ave. denverlibrary.org

6/16 Thursday—MoJaBlu Concert series-Soul X Band Conservatory Green (49th & Valencia.) 6:30–8:30pm. mca80238.com

6/18 Saturday—Sand Creek Volunteer Workday. 9–11am. To register and find out exact location, email Elena Smith at esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org

6/18 Saturday—Pride Accessories. 12–1pm. All ages. Make wearable accessories to celebrate Pride! Space limited, first come first serve. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

6/18 Saturday—Concert on The Green- Thumpin'. The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) Begins at 6–8pm. Mca80238.com

6/19 Saturday—Stanley Movie Night "Film on the Field," Soul. At dusk. 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. Stanleymarketplace.com

6/23 Thursday—MoJaBlu Concert series-Hazel Miller. Conservatory Green (49th & Valencia.) 6:30–8:30pm. mca80238.com

6/10 Friday—Movie on The Green-Encanto. The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St). 8:45–11pm. mca80238.com

6/30 Thursday—MoJaBlu Concert series-Dotsero. Conservatory Green (49th & Valencia.) 6:30–8:30pm. Mca80238.com

7/2 Saturday—Concert on The Green- That 80s Band. The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) Begins at 6–8pm. Mca80238.com

JULY 4TH/HOLIDAY EVENTS

7/1 & 7/2—Rockies vs. Arizona D-backs at Coors Field. Fireworks display after the game. mlb.com/rockies

7/2 Saturday—Four Mile Historic Park's Independence Day Celebration. 10am–4pm. Live music, pioneer games, food trucks and live entertainment. Tickets at fourmilepark.org, free for 6 and under and members. 715 S. Forest St.

7/2 Saturday—Glen-

dale Fireworks Show. One of the largest and oldest displays in Denver. Starts at 9:15pm. For best parking and viewing info, go to glendale.co.us/

7/3 Sunday—Civic Center Independence Eve Celebration. Gates open at 4pm, live music starts at 6pm, Colorado Symphony performs at 8:15pm. Fireworks and food truck fare along with beer & wine gardens. More info at denver.org

7/4 Monday—Central Park Pancake Breakfast & Parade. 9–11am. Details at mca80238.com closer to event day.

7/4 Monday—13th Annual Park Hill 4th of July Parade. Floats, music, classic cars, community groups, costumed characters and more! Parade starts at 1:30pm and runs along 23rd Ave. from Dexter St. to Krameria St. parkhillparade.org

7/4 Monday—Aurora 4th of July Spectacular. Free activities from 6–10pm. Live music, delicious food and fireworks at 9:30pm. Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn, 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy. auroragov.org

7/4 Monday—4th Fest-Colorado Rapids vs. Austin FC. Fireworks after the game. coloradorapids.com

METRO EVENTS

Every Saturday thru 10/29—City Park Farmers Market. Featuring 60+ Colorado-based vendors offering locally made produce and products. 8am–1pm at 2551 E. Colfax Ave. cityparkfarmersmarket.com

Sundays—City Park Jazz Kick-Off Concert. 6–8pm City Park Pavilion and Bandshell, 2001 Steele St. cityparkjazz.org.
6/5: Tribute to Ron Miles feat. Shane Endsley
6/12: Mariachi Sol de mi Tierra feat. Fiesta Colorado Dance Company
6/19: Hazel Miller & The Collective
6/26: Paa Kow

6/2 Thursday—Salon Series / Women's Autonomy: My Body, No Choice? 7–8:30pm. Look at the history and politics of women and trans people's healthcare to better understand where we are today and what life-altering changes may lie ahead. Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania St. mollybrown.org

6/3 Friday—Denver Municipal Band Concert. 6:30pm free concert and ice cream social at the City Park Pavilion and bandshell, 1700 N. York St. denvermunicipalband.org

6/3 Friday—First Friday Art Walks. Art District on Santa. 5:30–9:30pm. denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts

6/4 Saturday—Five Points Jazz Festival. Five Points neighborhood. artsandvenuesdenver.com

6/5 to 6/8—Denver Public Library's Summer Used Book Sale. Featuring over 60,000 items: children's books, nonfiction and fiction books, CDs, DVD & audio books—all at bargain prices starting under \$1. New items



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6/6 to 6/7—Denver Chalk Art Festival. Street-painting festival where 200+ artists turn the streets of Larimer Square into a museum of chalk art. [larimerarts.org](#)

6/8 Wednesday—Bold Women. Change History. Colorado's first Latina State Historian delivers in English, "Una carta de amor para mi comunidad: A love letter to my community." 7–8pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway. Tickets at [H-co.org/BoldWomen](#)

6/11 Saturday—Hike to End Hunger. Virtual event, meaning participants can hike anywhere in CO. Register at [hungerfreecolorado.org](#).

6/11 Saturday—13th Anniversary Jodi's Race for Awareness. The country's 2nd largest 5K and 1-mile run/walk fundraiser for ovarian cancer. [jodisrace.org](#). Denver City Park (Pavilions area), 2001 Steele St.

6/17 to 6/19—Denver Greek Festival. Greek food, music, boutique, cathedral tours, etc. 4610 E. Alameda. [thegreekfestival.com](#)

6/18 Saturday—Forgotten Spaces- Queer Denver Walking Tour. 10–11:30am. We travel back in time to relearn the spaces and lives of queer Denver from WWII to the late 19th century. Tickets at [historycolorado.org](#)

6/18 & 6/19—Juneteenth Music Festival. Historic Five Points Neighborhood in Denver on 27th & Welton St. [juneteenthmusicfestival.com](#)

6/22 Wednesday—Bike to Work Day. Water and breakfast stations all over the city – for a specific location or to register, go to [biketoworkday.co](#)

6/23 to 6/26—Denver Fringe Festival. 40+ shows at 10 venues in Rino/ Five Points. Diverse, artistic voices in all forms of the performing arts. [denverfringe.org](#)

6/25 & 6/26—Denver PrideFest. Sunday, 9:30am parade starts at Cheesman Park and spans 14 blocks to Civic Center where the 2-day celebration takes place. [denverpride.org/fest](#)

6/25 & 6/26—48th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Downtown Denver in Sakura Square. [cherryblossomdenver.org](#)

KIDS AND FAMILIES

Tuesday–Friday—Local Library Storytime. Mornings. All different age groupings and locations. Specifics at [denverlibrary.org](#)

Wednesdays—Mornings at the Museum. Ages 3–6, 10:30–11:15am. Free. New programs every week. Aurora History Museum, 15051 East Alameda Pkwy. Register at [auroragov.org](#)

6/5 Saturday—A Midsummer Night's Dream. Family-friendly production by the International Youth Ballet. 2:30pm. The Newman Center for the Performing Arts 2344 East Iliff Ave. [newmancenterpresents.com](#)

6/11 Saturday—4EverFit-4KIDZ!™. 12–1pm. Ages 5–8. Necessary movements for skill development in a very fun and playful manner. Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St. [denverlibrary.org](#)

6/12 Sunday—Chill Out, Make Art. Make art on the sidewalks in front of the museum using ice-chalk (all supplies provided). Free event. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

6/12 Sunday—Sensory-Friendly Morning. Early access, dimmed lights, and tools provided to aid and guide a sensory-friendly experience for families. 9–11am. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. Ticket reservation required: [denverartmuseum.org](#)

6/15 Wednesday—Art Exploration. 10:30–11am. 6mo–5yrs. Enjoy art with your child and help them develop fine motor skills and curiosity. Registration required. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](#)

6/19 Sunday—Spanish Storytime at Tattered Cover Kids. 5pm. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St. Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](#)

6/21 to 7/2—The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales. A play with music put on by 8–14year olds. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. [aurorafoxartscenter.org](#)

6/22 & 6/25—Art Crawl. 10:30–11:15am. For caregivers with infants from newborns–14 months. Registration required. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

6/25 Saturday—LEGO Building Workshop. Build (and keep!) your own Colorado-style LEGO set, then take a special guided museum tour based on your creation. 9–10am. 1200 N Broadway. [historycolorado.org](#)

MUSEUMS, ETC.

American Museum of Western Art. Advanced tickets required, admission is \$5. 1727 Tremont Pl. [anschutzcollection.org](#)

Aurora History Museum. Advanced reservation is required, admission is free. 15051 East Alameda Pkwy. [auroragov.org](#)

The Byers–Evans House Museum. Timed tickets required, History Colorado members are free. 1310 Bannock St. Tickets at [historycolorado.org](#)

The Children's Museum. By reservation only at [mychildsmuseum.org](#)

Clyfford Still Museum. SCFD Free Day Jun. 10. Jun. 24 free concert 5:30-7:30pm in the outdoor forecourt. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

Denver Art Museum. SCFD Free Day Jun. 5 & 14. Youth 18 & under always free. 100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](#)

Denver Botanic Gardens. SCFD Free Day Jun. 7 & Jul. 6. Tickets and member reservations required. 1007 York St. [botanicgardens.org](#)

Denver Firefighters Museum. Tues–Sat, 10am–4pm. 1326 Tremont Pl. [denverfirefightersmuseum.org](#)

Denver Museum of Nature and Science. 2001 Colorado Blvd. Timed tickets required. [dmns.org](#)

Denver Zoo. Reserve tickets at [denverzoo.org](#). 2900 E 23rd Ave.

The Forney Museum of Transportation. Mon, Th–Sat, 10am–5pm; Sun, noon–5pm. 4303 Brighton Blvd. [forneymuseum.org](#)

Four Mile Historic Park. SCFD Free Day Jun. 10. Open Wed–Sun, 10am–4pm. 715 S. Forest St. [fourmilepark.org](#)

History Colorado. Some exhibits are timed entry and free with museum admission. 1200 Broadway. More info at [historycolorado.org](#)

Kirkland Museum of Fine and Decorative Art. Tue–Sat, 11am–5pm; Sun 12–5pm. Ages 13+ welcome. 1201 Bannock St. [kirklandmuseum.org](#)

Molly Brown House Museum. Tue–Sun, 10am–4:30pm. 1340 Pennsylvania St. [mollybrown.org](#)

Museo de las Americas. Tue–Fri, noon–6pm. Sat, noon–5pm. Closed Mon & Sun. 861 Santa Fe Dr. [museo.org](#)

Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. Penny admission 1st Sat. of the month. 1485 Delgany St. [mcad Denver.org](#)

National Ballpark Museum. 1940 Blake St. Check for days/hours at [ballparkmuseum.com](#)

The Urban Farm. Grand reopening—open house and free admission day to the farm on June 4th. 10200 Smith Rd. [theurbanfarm.org](#)

Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Cockpit demo day Jun. 11, 10am–2pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](#)

PERFORMANCE/ THEATRE/EXHIBITS

6/3 & 6/4—Denver Dance Festival 2022. Eight Colorado artists across multiple dance genres. Fri. 7:30pm, Sat. 2:30pm. The Newman Center for the Performing Arts 2344 East Iliff Ave. [newmancenterpresents.com](#)

6/3, 6/4, 6/10 & 6/11—Rockin' and Rollin' with Miss Rhythm. The Story of R&B Legend Ruth Brown. Garner Galleria Theatre at the DCPA. [denvercenter.org](#)

Through 6/5—Dear Evan Hansen. Winner of 6 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2018 Grammy Award. Buell Theatre at the DCPA. [denvercenter.org](#)

6/9 to 6/26—Moulin Rouge! The Musical. A world of splendor and romance, of eye-popping excess, of glitz, grandeur and glory. Buell Theatre at the DCPA. [denvercenter.org](#)

6/10 Friday—México en el Corazón. An interactive performance that will bring the heart and soul of Mexico directly to you. Free concert, ticket required. 7pm. Boettcher Concert Hall. [coloradosymphony.org](#)

Through 6/12—Quixote Nuevo. Infused with imagination, comedy, and Tejano music. Wolf Theatre. [denvercenter.org](#)

6/18 Saturday—Acappellooza. Denver area's top a cappella groups vie for cash prizes. 7:30pm. The Newman Center for the Performing Arts 2344 East Iliff Ave. [newmancenterpresents.com](#)

Through 6/19—Blackademics. A sharp, surreal satire about who gets a place at the table. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. Aurora. [vintage theatre.org](#)

6/22 to 7/17—Dixie's Never Wear a Tube Top While Riding a Mechanical Bull. Dixie shares lessons learned after a hard night of drinking. Garner Galleria Theatre at the DCPA. [denvercenter.org](#)

6/24 Friday—Dan Navarro. An American vocalist, guitarist and voice actor. 8pm, doors open at 7pm. Tuft Theatre, 71 East Yale Ave. [swallowhillmusic.org](#)

6/24 to 7/31—Gypsy. The classic musical comedy. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. Aurora. [vintage theatre.org](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Food For Thought Denver. Striving to eliminate childhood hunger by providing food for students to take home to their family for the weekend. Sign up to volunteer or donate at [foodforthoughtdenver.org](#)

Project Worthmore. Help bag and deliver fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, and household necessities to refugees in Denver and Aurora. [projectworthmore.org](#)

Reach Out and Read Colorado. Help sort and pack gently-used children's books for underserved families. On the Clayton Early Learning Campus, individuals and groups welcome. Email [info@reachoutandreadco.org](#) for details.

Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) For volunteer opportunities, email Cathy Law at [claw@voacolorado.org](#)

Ronald McDonald House Charities Volunteer. Go to [ronaldhouse.org](#) under "How You Can Help" for info.

Sand Creek Greenway Volunteer Opportunities. For more info, email [cgarwood@sandcreekgreenway.org](#) or go to [sandcreekgreenway.org/upcoming-volunteer-opportunities/](#)

Single Volunteers of Greater Denver. Volunteer, not-for-profit singles group to meet others and assist nonprofit organizations for events/activities. [svgd.org](#)

Village Exchange Center A non-profit formed to serve immigrants and refugees in Aurora & Denver. [villageexchangecenter.org](#)

Volunteers of America Colorado Branch For volunteer opportunities go to [voacolorado.org/volunteer-opportunities/](#)

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which they made. The Neorealism of the 40s and 50s commented on the post-WWII degradation of Italian society; the “spaghetti Westerns” spoke to the changes in Italy during the 60s; the horror films of the 70s



Mondocane

The genre of science fiction is multifaceted and multidimensional. The sub-genres, or different types of sci-fi films, can span a wide range of subjects: unfettered capitalism, abuse of workers, fantastic beings, aliens, sexism, racism, ethnocentrism, xenophobia, and environmentalism, to name a few. That environmentalism has come in several forms over the decades, most of it originating in the 60s and 70s with future worlds of a bifurcated society, journeys off Earth, and dystopic wastelands filled with marauding gangs and factions of the disaffected. The current sci-fi trend of “near-sci-fi” speaks to our decaying world as something not set in a faraway future that allows us a safe distance from it, but rather a world that looks like our own. The stakes have risen for our modern society, and we are racing toward a changing Earth sooner rather than later. The term “cli-fi” is now used to describe a burgeoning sub-genre that speaks to this dynamic of climate change science fiction. Put cli-fi together with near-sci-fi and the result is frightening: look what will happen in just a few years. Our film this week gives us a unique take on this vision.

Mondocane (2021)

The Italians aren’t necessarily known for sci-fi, but their cinema has a strong history of genre films that comment on the contemporaneous society in

reflected the disaffection of the world at the time; and *giallo* films dealt with an increasingly violent, misogynistic, and gore-soaked world in the 60s and 70s. Director Alessandro Celli’s *Mondocane* (literally “Dogworld”) is a near-sci-fi that incorporates elements of these great Italian films and repackages them for our society today. The interesting twist in this particular movie is that the protagonists are children. The message of the movie is crystal clear from the beginning: we are killing our children.

The setting of the film is given to us in screen titles: a city of environmental ruin divided by a wall. The first scene after the screen titles then presents the protagonists: two young boys, orphans, who have been “adopted” by an old fisherman. The boys only have each other, and the world around them is a society residing on opposing sides of a literal and symbolic wall: the wealthy who live on clean city streets and in sleek houses, and on the other side a polluted, semi-deserted wasteland where gangs rule and orphans toil in a giant factory/orphanage. The abandoned orphans are made to work in poisonous conditions or flee to join a gang. Our protagonists are recruited by one of these gangs headed by a ruthless leader who also has a makeshift school for the kids and engages in Robin

Hood-esque nefarious activities. It is all a muddled, moralistic mess, and it is urgent. This world, if it’s not already here, is not far away.

Our protagonists are recruited into the gang but first need to prove themselves. Their test is to blow up a pet store that was used to make drugs; the drug lab was successfully taken out, but in the process they killed all of the animals. The test is just one example of the increasingly bad choices we need to make in our own world as we continually pollute it: everything is going to die along with us. Lest we think the gang is all good, we also see them hunt down and kill enemies, strays, and the police. They are ruthless. When one of our protagonists doesn’t follow orders and wants to get out, his friend and the rest of the gang hunt him. The mob mentality turns everyone insane.

There are many situations in the movie that paint a dire picture of our near future, and much of current cli-fi/near-sci-fi does similar things. Yet this film raises the stakes by showing us the *children* of this future and the world they are being given. It’s all far-enough away and we don’t have to look up until it affects our kids. That is powerful, this is close, and it sinks in.

You’ll like this if you enjoyed *Mad Max*, *Children of Men*, and/or *The City of Lost Children*. Opens 5/27 at The Mayan.

Upcoming reviews of TV shows that are worth your time this summer: *Teheran*, *Severance*, and *Slow Horses*, all on Apple TV. Get a head start.

Vincent Piturro, PhD., is a Professor of Film and Media Studies at MSU Denver. Contact him directly at vpiturro@msudenver.com or follow him on Twitter. For more reviews, search *The Indie Prof* at FrontPorchNE.com.

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ASSOCIATION

...NE News Updates

By Tracy Wolfer Osborne

1 The Urban Farm to Host Open House/Free Admission Day

After six months of renovations, The Urban Farm is hosting a grand re-opening and free admission day on Saturday, June 4 from 9am–1pm. Guests are welcome to check out the newly renovated main building and then the farm’s 100+ animals. Other site additions include a new apiary and two pergolas for shade. Save the date!

2 Denver Zoo Celebrates Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Community

The Denver Zoo hosted a festival in honor of AAPI Heritage Month. Erica Elvove, SVP for Conservation at the zoo coordinated the event with the Filipino American Community of Colorado.

Evolve said, “This was a meaningful event not just because of our special connection with the AAPI community but because we want to host more community-led events that invite people to join us in our conservation efforts.”



Nguyen Thieu Buddhist Youth Association performing at the Denver Zoo's AAPI festival.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

3 Northfield HS Hosts Shark Tank-Inspired Competition, Awards \$1,000 Seed Money

Northfield High School hosted a Shark Tank-inspired competition between thirteen teams of student entrepreneurs. Rush Brush and DooDad tied for first, winning the title of “Most Viable Product” and \$1,000 seed money.

Rush Brush is a hairbrush/spray bottle-in-one. The students created the combo after buying both products on Amazon. It cost \$6.40 to make, and they plan to sell it for \$12.99 online, in barbershops and hair salons.

DooDad is a 3-D printed cup holder designed to hold wider water bottles that are too big to fit in a vehicle’s cup holder. DooDad cost \$2.51 to make; they plan to sell it online and in the school store for \$14.99.

Honorable Mentions: Pow Pack, a healthy Lunchable for student athletes, won “Most Likely to go to Market.” Sleep Shot, a liquid sleep-aid, won “Best Hook.” Three teams—GOAT Tote, Clear View and Thrift & Things—won “Best Presentation.” GOAT Tote is a collapsible shopping bag with adjustable dividers, Clear View is a product that keeps eyeglasses from fogging up and Thrift & Things is an online thrift shop for sweatshirts.



The students are enrolled in INCubatoredu, a one-of-a-kind DPS business class that teaches students about the start-up process by providing an authentic entrepreneurship experience.

Buckner said “The entire experience was a school and community collaboration. The engineering department helped DooDad 3D-print their product, and students from the Multi-Intensive Center helped package Pow Pack for the school store. And so many business leaders volunteered to be speakers and mentors. It gave everyone a chance to pair up in a meaningful way.”

For more information on INCubatoredu visit: <https://northfield.dpsk12.org/incubatoredu/northfield/>



Left to Right, Co-Founders of Rush Brush Emma Johns, Ivan Lamera and Julian Martinez, (not pictured: Jackson Baumann) celebrate their tie with the Co-Founders of DooDad Garrett Eisenman and Graham Meurer.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

4 Combat Loneliness: Write to a Senior Citizen

Letters Against Isolation, a non-profit organization that combats senior loneliness, will have a booth at the Central Park Farmers Market on Sunday, June 19. Community members of all ages are encouraged to stop by and spend five minutes writing to a senior citizen. Volunteers will be available to assist with letter-writing, or people can also create cards and letters in advance and drop them off at the booth. All correspondence will be mailed to senior citizens in long-term care facilities in Colorado and surrounding states.

Letters Against Isolation was founded by two teenage sisters in Boston at the beginning of the pandemic. The foundation has 20,800 global volunteers who range in ages from five to 94. They send correspondence in 13 languages to more than 230 long-term care facilities in six countries.

For more information visit their website at www.lettersagainstisolation.com or email Ellen Rabinowitz at lai.volunteer.rep@gmail.com

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Northfield High School Girl's Soccer Team Wins 4A State Championship

By Melinda Pearson

The Northfield Nighthawks met the #1-ranked Windsor Wizards in the Girls' Varsity 4A State Championships on May 24. In front of a hometown crowd at Dick's Sporting Goods Park, the Lady Nighthawks protected the Nest through a scoreless game and two overtime periods. The Nighthawks

finally prevailed during the penalty kick round, where freshman goalie Chloe Rhodes made the winning save, with a final score of 5-4 Northfield. This is the first state championship for the Northfield girls' soccer team, and it matches the state championship attained by the boys' soccer team last fall.



Photo courtesy of Brad Cochran/CHSAA

Colorado Congressman Crow Meets with Ukraine President Zelenskyy, Pledges Unwavering Support



Congressman Jason Crow shakes hands with President Zelenskyy. Crow was part of a congressional delegation that recently traveled to Kyiv.

By Tracy Wolfer Osborne

Colorado Congressman Jason Crow (D) recently returned from Kyiv where he and a congressional delegation spent nearly four hours meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his top advisors. The delegation had three goals: to address the humanitarian crisis facing the Ukrainian people, to figure out how the U.S. can better support Ukraine through sanctions and other economic pressures and to better understand the future of U.S. military support and weapons aid.

Crow said Zelenskyy was clear that he can not face the Russian onslaught without support from the U.S. and NATO. Zelenskyy said the battle is changing; it's moving from an urban fight to a longer-range battle that will require different support. He specifically asked for longer-range drones, artillery supplies, long-range rocket systems and anti-ship missiles. Crow said, "Vladimir Putin's not going to stop. He's get-

ting more desperate and more brutal. We heard accounts of the systematic and large-scale rape of Ukrainian women and girls, of carpet bombings, missile attacks on maternity wards and now the weaponization of food and hunger. The only way to stop these war crimes is to stop [Putin] on the field of battle." Crow added, "The U.S. is going to stand shoulder to shoulder [with Ukraine]. We are in this for the long haul." Crow's unwavering support comes at a time when other politicians are questioning U.S.'s spendy involvement in the Russia-Ukraine war. Colorado Representatives Lauren Boebert and Ken Buck, both republicans, voted against a bill that ultimately passed both the house and the senate giving Ukraine \$40 billion in aid. Boebert tweeted, "Gas just hit \$4.37, and people can't get baby formula...but [the president] would rather focus on a bill that includes \$40 billion in aid to Ukraine."





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NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION JUNE 2022

MEMBERS ONLY EVENING SWIM

Members only swim starts on June 6th and goes through July 25th. Pools will clear their facilities at 5pm for members only access and extend their times on these evenings.

Monday: Jet Stream

Tuesday: Puddle Jumper

Wednesday: F15 & Maverick

Thursday: Aviator & Filing 54

4th OF JULY POOL RESERVATIONS

Reserve your spot at the pool for 4th of July! Reservations open on June 22nd at noon. Please note that reservations are only open to Active Pass Members.

All outdoor pool facilities will open for Memorial Day weekend and close for the season after Labor Day weekend.

Aviator Pool Hours

8054 E. 28th Avenue

720.941.3414

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
11:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Puddle Jumper Pool Hours

2401 Xenia Street

303.393.0018

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
10:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
10:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Jet Stream Pool Hours

3574 Alton Street

303.296.0884

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
11:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

F15 Pool Hours

2831 Hanover Street

303.355.5078

Open Swim

Monday–Sunday
12:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Members Only
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Runway 35 Pool Hours

8863 E. 47th Avenue

303.371.8701

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
12:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
12:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Maverick Pool Hours

8822 Beekman Place

303.373.4120

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
10:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
10:00 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Filing 54 Pool Hours

9888 E. 59th Place

303.576.6611

Open Swim

Monday–Thursday
12:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Friday–Sunday
12:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.



MOVIE ON THE GREEN SERIES

Grab your blankets, coolers and your friends! The Movie on the Green series starts on Friday, June 10th! All movies begin at dusk, get there early and purchase some treats from one of the food trucks that are available. All summer movies

will be held on the South Green located at 29th Ave & Roslyn Street. This event is free and open to the public!

Friday, June 10th, *The Sandlot*

Friday, June 24th, *Encanto*

FARMERS MARKET BEGINS

Every Sunday, starting June 6th 8:30am–12:30pm, South Green

Local vendors provide Colorado-grown produce, tasty baked goods, specialty meats, gourmet food items and more! We strive to support and enhance the surrounding communities by providing an experience where fresh and wholesome products can be found.

CONCERT ON THE GREEN SERIES

Our Concert on the Green series kicks off on Saturday, June 4th with the crowd favorite, *Funkiphino!* All concerts will begin at 6pm on the South Green located at 29th Ave & Roslyn Street. The concert series is free and open to the public!

Saturday, June 4th, *Funkiphino*

Saturday, June 18th, *Thumpin'*

MOJABLU CONCERT SERIES

Join the MCA on the North Green (49th & Valentia) for great music and yummy food trucks! Our MoJaBlu Concert series begins on Thursday, June 16th. The MoJaBlu concerts start at 6:30pm and are free and open to the public!

Thursday, June 16th, *Soul X Band*

Thursday, June 23rd, *Hazel Miller Band*

Thursday, June 30th, *Dotsero Band*

ACTIVE MINDS: Tuskegee Airmen

Thursday, June 9th, 1–2pm, Online

The issue of race in the military extends from colonial times to the present day. Join Active Minds as we explore a chapter of this story from World War II: the Tuskegee Airmen. These groups of African American pilots were the first black military aviators in the U.S. armed forces. We will tell their story of struggle and triumph and bring this issue into a current context.

ACTIVE MINDS: Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Thursday, June 23rd, 6:30pm–7:30pm, Online

Reflecting on Roosevelt's presidency, his biographer commented that FDR "brought the United States through the Great Depression and World War II to a prosperous future. He lifted himself from a wheelchair to lift the nation from its knees." Join Active Minds as we look at the life and leadership of one of our nation's most admired presidents and examine how his legacy is currently viewed through the lens of our recent challenges.

Join in the Active Minds webinars by visiting https://www.activeminds.com/events_denver.html

Jennifer Olsen

Communications Manager

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Visit our website!

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CENTRAL PARK



Northeast Denver Community News

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This page is for area nonprofits and community organizations to post events, activities or other information.
Send items to: commnews@fsucommunities.org

JUNE CPUN SPOT

Central Park United Neighbors (CPUN) is the registered neighborhood organization for the Central Park community.

JOIN THE BOARD OF CENTRAL PARK UNITED NEIGHBORS

Central Park United Neighbors wrapped up its 2021-2022 board year with its annual community forum on May 17. See the forum on the CPUN YouTube channel. Our new board year begins with our next board meeting June 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. We will elect our officers and determine committee membership. Learn more at: www.centralparkunitedneighbors.com/cpun_calendar

We invite residents of Central Park to consider ways to participate in CPUN:

Want to help make Central Park a better place to live and work? Do you want to see more community voices represented in development and local government? If so, consider applying to serve on the CPUN Board of Directors. We have several open seats.

CPUN wants to increase geographic and demographic diversity on the board. We particularly encourage Central Park residents to apply who live in neighborhoods far north of I-70 or within the North Aurora portion of Central Park, as well as

residents who are part of historically under-represented groups within our community due to racial/ethnic identity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Questions? Please email us at centralparkunitedneighbors@gmail.com.

What is the time commitment for CPUN Board members?

The time commitment varies by board member and the committees they join. Generally, board members must:

- Attendance our monthly community meetings (2 hours/month)
- Chair or serve on at least one CPUN committee (1 hour monthly meetings + events)
- Attend and help with CPUN- sponsored community events and forums (quarterly)

What do I need to do to run for the CPUN Board?

- Submit a one-page statement of interest and bio to CentralParkUnitedNeighbors@gmail.com
- Participate in a 30-45 minute interview with a recruitment committee of current CPUN board members

Join CPUN's six working committees

If you don't have the time to commit to the board or if you are just passionate about a single topic, a committee can be a great way to get involved. Our six working committees are:

- Communications and Outreach
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Education
- Health and Safety
- Safe Streets
- Sustainability

Please visit www.centralparkunitedneighbors.com/committees to learn more.

Join the CPUN email list for community news and deals from local businesses

CPUN issues a twice-monthly email that features news and information about how to get involved in your community. Our emails also include deals offered by restaurants and other local businesses. Sign up at www.centralparkunitedneighbors.com/join.



Central Park Business Association

The CPBA provides opportunities for connection and collaboration for local businesses in the Central Park community.

Each month we host 4 recurring events:

- 1st Thursday - CPBA Happy Hour
- 2nd Wednesday - CPBA Breakfast
- 3rd Tuesday - CPBA Meeting at The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd.
- 4th Friday - CPBA Women in Business Lunch

Visit centralparkbusiness.com for more details.



BIKE TO WORK DAY IS JUNE 22ND! Opportunities for businesses to sponsor support stations

Register to ride at biketoworkday.co/#pledgetoride. We host breakfast and water stations at Stanley Marketplace and 29th Ave. Town Center, with partners like Hardt Family Cyclery, Cycleton, and Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership.

We also help coordinate support stations at the Central Park Rec Center and Übergrippen Climbing Crag. Organizing a station is a great way to promote your business. You can sign up at biketoworkday.co/organizer or email EHerbst@NETransportation.org



Congratulations!

To the 12th Annual *be well* Awards Recipients

2022 Award Winners:

Nutrition Leadership Award
• Chef Lisa Givens

Community Advocate Award
• Susan Gershwin

Physical Activity Leadership Award
• Jessica Newton

Preventive Care Leadership Award
• Sylvia Waller

Community Service Award
• Vincent Owens

Legacy Award
• Gaye Woods

be well Block Captains
• Sheryl Harrington
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We have revamped our scavenger hunt and just released Bluff Lake Quest Map 3.0! The map can be downloaded directly here: www.blufflake.org/s/Bluff-Lake-Quest-Map-30-Spring-22.pdf Or people can visit this page for more resources:

www.blufflake.org/events/self-guided-tours-scavenger-hunts

These self-guided tours and scavenger hunts, particularly the Bluff Lake Quest, are perfect ways for families to explore the site

in the warm weather. The Quest gives you clues to solve, with a colored bead as a prize for each clue solved, with the result being a colorful necklace! We continue to have our usual wonderful nature and bird walks. For information and RSVP links:

www.blufflake.org/events/guided-relaxation-walks and www.blufflake.org/birdwatching



SAND CREEK REGIONAL GREENWAY
Wilderness In the City

TRAILS DAY EVENT JUNE 4:

Join the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership to celebrate National Trails Day. Enjoy the outdoors while getting to know the Greenway trail, learning about the native plants and animals, and celebrate a wonderful resource that connects the communities in Aurora, Denver and Commerce City.

Walk or bike a 1-mile section of the Greenway trail between Bluff Lake Nature Center and Sand Creek Park while visiting fun and engaging community partner booths. All ages welcome. FREE to all participants; visit at least five booths and receive a prize!

Date: Sat., June 4. Time: 1pm-4pm

Location: Section of Greenway that connects Bluff Lake Nature Center and Sand Creek Park
Registration Link: <https://form.jotform.com/221154952212144> (registration encouraged but not required)

VOLUNTEER WORKDAY JUNE 18:

Join us for our next SCRGP Volunteer Workday. We will be beautifying the Denver section of the Greenway and would love your help.

Date: Sat., June 18. Time: 9am-11am

Location: Denver section of the Greenway Trail (specific location TBD, registered participants will receive specific location details prior to the event)

Project Details: could include but are not limited to weed mitigation, trash removal, trail maintenance, graffiti abatement.

To register email Elena Smith at esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org.

BIKE RIDES WITH MACKENZIE:

Join the SCRGP and Hardt Family Cyclery for family-friendly bike rides along the Greenway. Attend one or all three of our rides, each at different locations along the Greenway. Bikes and helmets available upon request. Please contact esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org to request a bike and/or helmet.

Trip 1: Date: Sun., June 5

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Route: Star K Ranch to Sable Blvd. (2.6 miles roundtrip)

Trip 2: Sun., July 17

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Route: Triple Creek Trailhead to Star K Ranch (4.4 miles roundtrip)

Trip 3: Sun., Oct. 2

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Route: Smith Road Trailhead to Quebec St. Crossing (3.6 miles roundtrip)

To sign up visit www.sandcreekgreenway.org/youth-engagement/public-environmental-education-programs/