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AUGUST 2022

Three Sweeping Court Decisions Impact Denver



Photos: (left) Christie Gosch, (middle) Jamie Kraus, (right) Steve Larson

Even before the recent Supreme Court decisions, Denverites were out expressing their concerns about a woman’s right to choose, climate change, and gun reform. Pictured above are a May 2022 rally for choice, a September 2019 youth-driven climate strike, and a student walk out in March 2018 to protest gun violence.

As the impacts of climate change are increasing, a recent Supreme Court ruling means the EPA can no longer require power plants to reduce carbon emissions. While mass shootings and gun violence are on the rise, the *Bruen* ruling makes it more difficult for states and municipalities to implement local gun control policies. And for the first time in U.S. history, the Supreme Court took away an existing right. We asked a legal expert about these rulings—and three stories explore how these decisions impact Denver. *Stories by Mary Jo Brooks, Judah Freed, and Brian Heuberger start on page 4.*

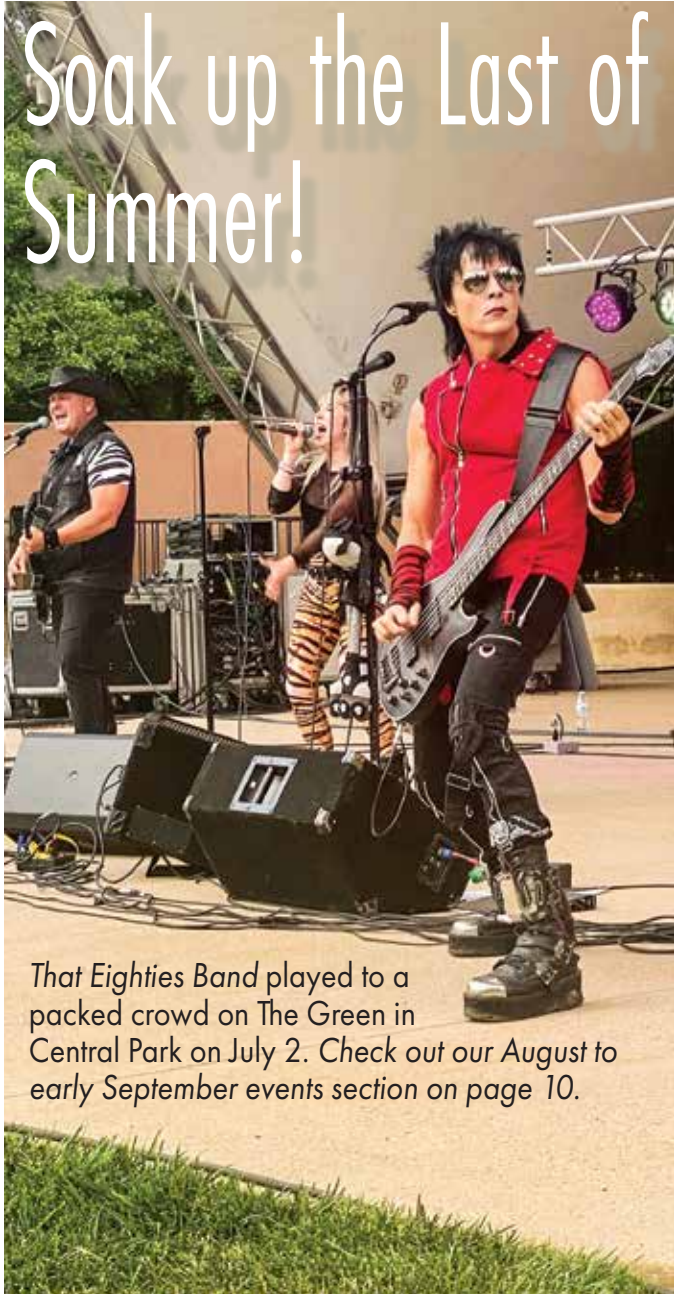
It’s “Pretty Exciting” to Find a New Friend



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

The “SHILOHs” are one of two loosely organized senior women’s coffee groups that welcome neighbors to come meet new friends. At a recent gathering are: (clockwise from left) Joyce Walling, Laura Sand, Phyllis Rouse, Peggy Wendt, Julie Grove, Theresa Riley, Diane Mettra, and Nancy Aldridge. *Story by Carol Roberts on page 14.*

Soak up the Last of Summer!



That Eighties Band played to a packed crowd on The Green in Central Park on July 2. Check out our August to early September events section on page 10.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Councilman Herndon's Family Bike Parade

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Bird Sightings

Generously donated by George Ho



The Snowy Egret, left, and the Great Egret, right. Great Egret: Length 31 to 41 in. Weight 1.5 to 3.3 lb (average of 2.2 lb.) Wingspan 52 to 67 in.

Great Egret

The Great Egret is a large heron with all-white plumage, a yellow bill, and black legs

and feet. It forages in shallow water or in drier habitats, feeding on fish, frogs, small mammals, small reptiles, crustaceans, and insects.

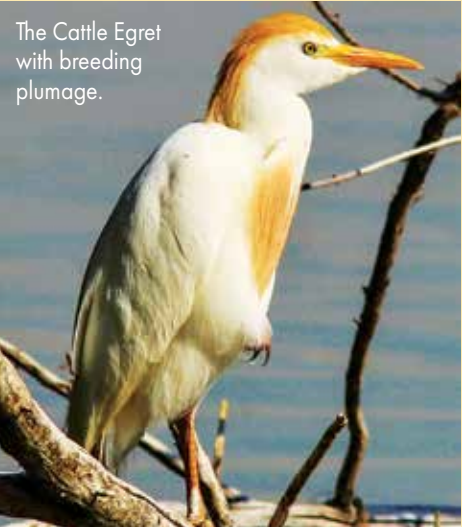
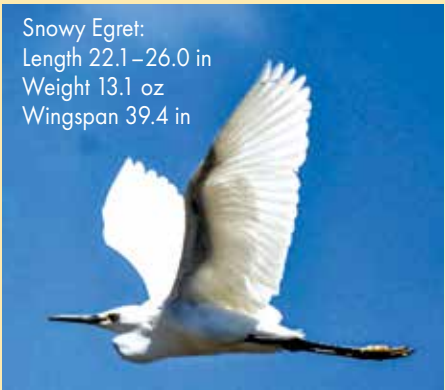
Snowy Egret

The Snowy Egret is a medium-sized heron that shares the same habitat with the Great Egret but has different physical characteristics: it is smaller, it has a more slender bill, the bill is black (rather than yellow like the Great Egret's); and the feet are bright yellow (rather than black.) Adults are entirely white apart from the yellow lores (the colored area between the long black bill and the eye.)

Snowy Egrets eat fish, crustaceans, insects, small reptiles, snails, frogs, toads, worms, and crayfish. The young are altricial (helpless) and covered with white down when first hatched. They leave the nest after about 22 days.

At one time, the plumes of the Snowy Egret were in great demand as decorations for women's hats. They were hunted for these plumes, which reduced the population of the species to dangerously low levels.

Snowy Egret:
Length 22.1–26.0 in
Weight 13.1 oz
Wingspan 39.4 in



Cattle Egret

The Cattle Egret has a relatively short, thick neck, a sturdy bill, and a hunched posture. The nonbreeding adult has mainly white plumage and a yellow bill. During the breeding season, adults are adorned with orange-buff plumes on the back, breast, and crown.

They often accompany cattle or other large mammals, catching insects and small vertebrate prey disturbed by these animals, as well as removing and consuming ticks and flies on the cattle. Their prey includes spiders, frogs, fish, crayfish, small snakes, lizards, earthworms, grasshoppers, crickets, beetles, and moths.

Don't miss the photo story of the three kinds of egrets at FrontPorchNE.com.

Bird Walks

August 6 and September 3. Two options: 7:30–10am or 8–10am (choose a 2-hour or a 2.5-hour walk.) Both walks are free but you must RSVP at www.blufflake.org/birdwatching. 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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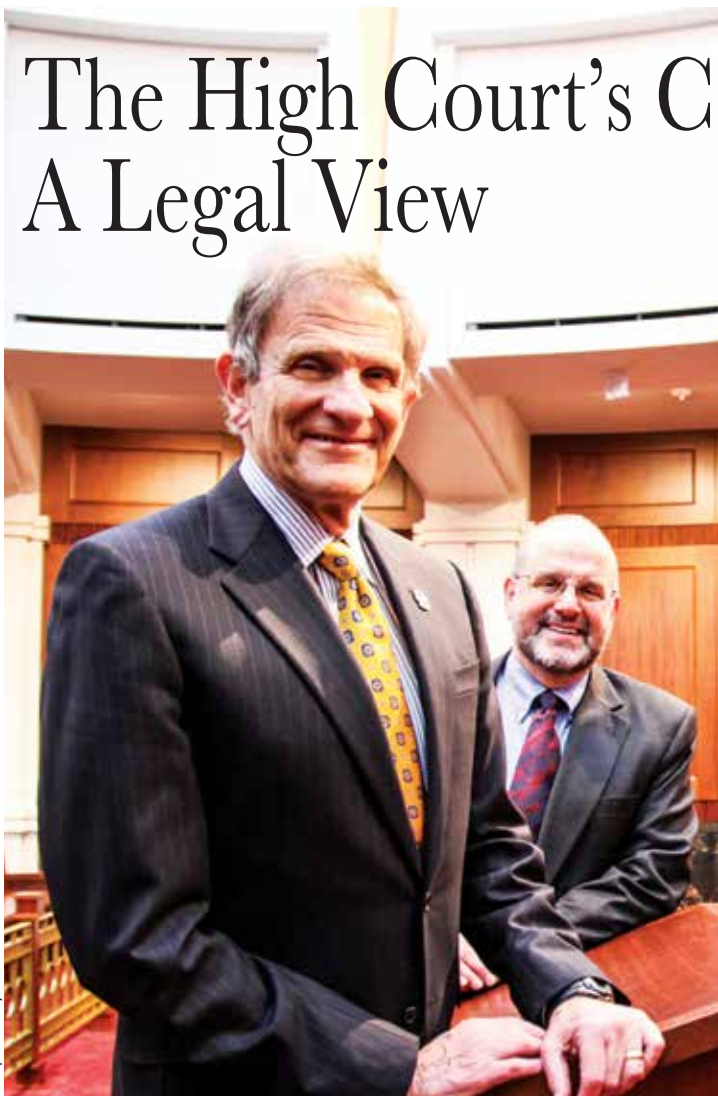


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The High Court's Controversial Rulings: A Legal View



Chief Justice Michael Bender (left) with Appellate Judge Steve Bernard in 2013 at the unveiling of the new Ralph L. Carr Justice Building in downtown Denver.

By Brian Heuberger

In the final days of its term, the Republican appointed justices on the Supreme Court issued decisions that go to the very heart of some of the most contentious issues in American society today: climate change, guns and abortion.

At a time when climate change is associated with extensive droughts, extreme weather, and wildfires, the Court limited the EPA's ability to regulate carbon emissions from power plants. While mass shootings continue and gun violence is rising, the *Bruen* ruling made it more difficult for states and municipalities to implement effective gun control policies. And for the first time in U.S. history, the Supreme Court took away an existing right, the right for women to exercise control over their own bodies.

For a legal perspective on recent rulings, *Front Porch* turned to a Northeast Denver neighbor who served at the top of the state's judicial system. Justice Michael Bender was appointed to the Colorado Supreme Court in 1997 and served as Chief Justice from 2010 to 2014.

Bender is concerned about the originalist view of the Constitution that's driving these decisions, arguing that even the Founding Fathers wouldn't subscribe to such rigidity. "Originalism is the idea that the actual words of the Constitution are all that matters. Thomas Jefferson said that you

have to interpret and construe the Constitution with the times, so that throws a big monkey wrench in the idea of textualism and originalism."

In the *Dobbs* abortion case, he believes the Court ignored legal precedent and dismissed human rights. "There's never been a Constitutional right taken away by the U.S. Supreme Court. So we have a Supreme Court that does not protect individual rights such as the rights of women, and we have [Justice Clarence] Thomas saying we shouldn't have

the right of privacy, even though it forms the basis of various other rights."

The EPA ruling puts authority for climate change efforts in the wrong place, says Bender, since it requires Congress to devise regulations that govern emissions. "The idea that we can't have administrative agencies to protect everybody in terms of public safety is destructive. And then to expect a legislature or Congress to have expertise in the area of complex problems that we face today with climate change and public safety is irrational."

And he cites other cases that concern him, such as the recent ruling involving the Washington state coach that narrows the separation between church and state. He's also concerned about cases that will be heard in the upcoming term: affirmative action at Harvard and gerrymandering of state legislatures that draw congressional and state districts in violation of civil rights. He doesn't mince words. "They are using theories that are historically inaccurate and internally inconsistent to reach results that are entirely political."

Bender also takes issue with the long-held view of Chief Justice John Roberts that "the job of a judge is to call balls and strikes." Bender says that "is accurate for a trial judge who is judging facts or determining what kind of evidence a jury ought

to hear." But that statement "is totally false when considering the role of the U.S. Supreme Court, which every year considers cutting-edge theories for which there is no precedent—and where we have diametrically opposed or complex issues dealing with all kinds of rights that conflict with each other."

"There's never been a Constitutional right taken away by the U.S. Supreme Court."

—Retired Chief Justice Michael Bender

How Will Roe's Rev Healthcare Clinics?

By Judah Freed

Since the U.S. Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision in July reversed *Roe v. Wade* after 50 years of legal abortions nationwide, Colorado remains among the 24 states with laws protecting reproductive rights. Women from nearby states where abortion is now banned are increasingly turning to Colorado as their best option.

"We're already seeing a clear influx of women from Texas and other states coming to Denver for a legal abortion," says District 8 City Councilman Chris Herndon. His observations are confirmed by two metro-area abortion providers.

"We're experiencing a 500 percent increase in requests for services over the same period a year ago," says Dr. Kristina Tocce, vice president and medical director for Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (PPRM). Appointments are filling four to six weeks in advance at the Planned Parenthood center in Park Hill, the largest facility in the Colorado PPRM system.

"Our phones are ringing non-stop," says Colorado OB-GYN Michael Belmonte, MD, a Fellow of the Physicians for Reproductive Health who operates a private abortion and reproductive health clinic in Northeast Denver. He does not disclose the clinic's exact location "to protect the privacy and safety of our patients."

Reproductive healthcare clinics offer a broad range of reproductive health services, including services for men, such as vasectomies. Services for women include regular checkups and prenatal care along with urgent care for such issues as bleeding and miscarriages. Dr. Tocce says abortions comprise only 10 percent of Planned Parenthood's overall healthcare services.

These clinics "also are the most safe and comfortable places for non-binary people to go for their healthcare services, and these are now in jeopardy," says Colorado House District 8 Representative Leslie Herod.

Councilman Herndon says most of the women served by these clinics struggle to afford healthcare. Will the availability of services for them be negatively impacted in the face of increasing demand from out-of-state patients?





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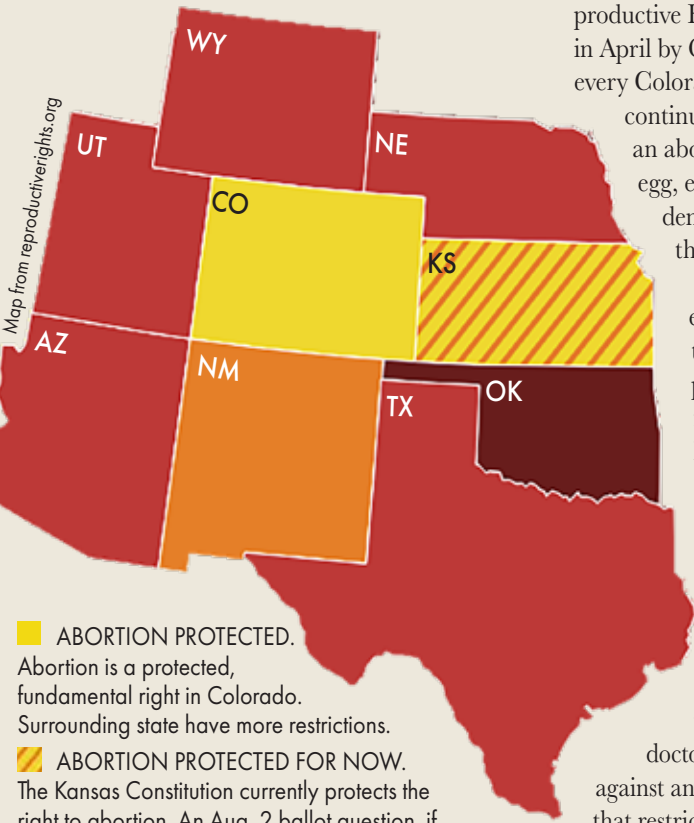
ersal Affect Colorado Women and

Availability of Services

Colorado currently has about two dozen physicians and nurse practitioners providing abortion services to women in local clinics, mostly in metro Denver.

“We still have enough physicians performing abortions in Colorado for now,” but as more women come from other states, whether there will be enough physicians later is unclear, says Dr. Belmonte.

He’s also concerned about clinical staffing. “We’re trying to find more nurses qualified to help, and we also need more medical assistants along with more front desk and back office staff.”



- ABORTION PROTECTED.** Abortion is a protected, fundamental right in Colorado. Surrounding state have more restrictions.
- ABORTION PROTECTED FOR NOW.** The Kansas Constitution currently protects the right to abortion. An Aug. 2 ballot question, if approved, would amend the state’s constitution to allow legislators to ban abortions.
- ABORTION NOT PROTECTED.** Abortion will remain accessible in NM but the courts have not determined whether the state constitution protects the right.
- ABORTION RESTRICTED OR BANNED.** Bans and restrictions in these 5 states make it extremely difficult to obtain any abortion services.
- ABORTION ILLEGAL.** Oklahoma is currently enforcing its trigger ban to prohibit abortion entirely.

Staffing shortages are being magnified, Councilman Herndon says, by a fear of criminal reprisals from states that make it a felony to assist residents going out of state for abortions. “The legalities are uncertain. There are so many jurisdictions involved, and all this will play out in the courts, which I think is a huge waste of court resources.”

He adds that the reproductive clinics have little wiggle room to increase wages to attract more staff, as those costs would be passed on to patients, most of whom can’t afford to pay more.

Legal Implications

The 2022 Colorado Legislature passed the Reproductive Health Equity Act (HB22-1279). Signed in April by Governor Jared Polis, the law states that every Colorado woman has a “fundamental right” to continue a pregnancy and give birth or to have an abortion. The law further says “a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus does not have independent or derivative rights under the laws of the state.”

Governor Polis on July 6 signed an executive order (D 2022 032) that directs the Department of Regulatory Affairs to protect Colorado healthcare providers from disciplinary actions against their licenses from other states. The executive order further says Colorado “will not cooperate with criminal or civil investigations in other states for health decisions that are legal in Colorado.”

Securing these rights, Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser announced on July 11 that he will defend those coming here for abortions as well as doctors providing them. He vowed to file suit against any local or county government in Colorado that restricts reproductive healthcare.”

Costs

Nearly 100 percent of all abortion services are out-of-pocket expenses for patients, says Councilman Herndon. The scant insurance coverage available “is limited to specific indications,” such as incest or threats to the life of the mother.

Cobalt Advocates, a non-profit dedicated to reproductive rights and abortion access, is seeing



Terry Sullivan has been protesting abortion for 33 years and currently comes to the Park Hill Planned Parenthood abortion clinic location three days a week.

increasing donations from Coloradans to offset these costs. “We’ve already fundraised more in the first half of 2022 than in all of 2021, and donations have tripled since the *Dobbs* decision in June,” says Laura Chapin.

Cobalt pays clinics directly for procedures and assists patients with other expenses such as transportation, hotel rooms, and food. In all of 2021, Cobalt provided \$6,000 in practical support for 34 clients, says Chapin. In 2022, as of July 7, they had already paid out about \$26,000 for 71 clients.

If medical bills are not paid in a reasonable time, they become collectible medical debt, says Daniel Lambert at the national charity RIP Medical Debt. “We don’t have any clear stats for medical debt created by abortion services, but these services increasingly are going to be rendered outside of traditional settings as abortion bans spread, so the hardship of abortion debt will be even harder to track.”

The majority of abortions today are medical abortions rather than procedural abortions, says Dr. Belmonte. “Both methods are extremely safe for the woman.” Complications occur at the rate of one in 10,000 or one in 100,000, depending on the length of gestation.

Dr. Belmonte says costs average from \$500 to \$1,000 and at most \$3,000 for a procedural abortion performed in a clinical setting within 10 weeks of pregnancy. Costs jump from \$10,000 to \$20,000 or more for abortions performed in a hospital.

In contrast, a “medication abortion” using prescribed pill can cost up to \$750, but usually less, reports Planned Parenthood. The further along the pregnancy, the more expensive the procedure.

Patients in Colorado, New Mexico, California, and Illinois who lack access to a clinic can seek pills for medical abortions through the telemedicine services of MyChoix.com. Choix CEO Cindy Adams (continued on page 6)

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How Will Roe's Reversal...(continued from pg 6)

says medical abortion was “approved by the FDA for U.S. use in 2000, but it’s been used in Europe since the late 1980s.”

Note: Colorado Right to Life did not respond to two interview requests for this story.



Marisol Health, run by the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Denver, is directly across the street from Planned Parenthood in Park Hill and counsels women on options other than abortion.

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Denver Gun Safety Laws Co

By Brian Heuberger

The stream of tragic mass shootings and the rising rates of gun violence have intensified the calls for local lawmakers to pass meaningful gun safety legislation. In May, Denver implemented a concealed carry ordinance to prohibit guns in city buildings and public parks. Designating certain types of locations as sensitive spaces where guns are banned has yielded significant decreases in gun violence in other cities.

How might the recent Supreme Court Ruling in the *Bruen* case, which struck down a New York gun control law and limited the ability for states or cities to prohibit firearms in public, impact Denver? Will it result in pressure on the City to repeal the public parks ban and prevent the City Council from expanding the sensitive space strategy? An explanation of the concealed carry ordinance, the benefits of the sensitive space strategy, and the implications of the Supreme Court ruling follow.

The Concealed Carry Ordinance

Denver’s crime data shows that rates of gun violence have been rising for over a decade—and accelerating in the post-pandemic era. As of June 2022, gun violence rates in the city had increased by a record 73 percent from the previous three-year average. Between March and June, three people in NE Denver were injured and one was killed in shootings.

In 2021, the rising gun violence rates, combined with the Boulder King Soopers shooting, motivated the Colorado Legislature to pass a gun safety package that included six bills. Senate Bill 21-256 was especially transformational. It repealed a 2003 preemption law that prevented cities from passing any gun regulations

that were considered more strict than the standards established by the state. Repealing this preemption law suddenly granted local governments the autonomy to implement

specific gun safety regulations deemed best for their cities and desired by their residents.

Denver City Attorney Reginald Nubine, who wrote Denver’s recent ordinance to ban guns in parks and city buildings, says “Right after it [SB 256] passed, we began thinking about ways to handle the gun violence that is occurring in our city. Back in 1996, we already had legislation that prevented people from carrying weapons in parks, so we’re literally going back to what we had before the preemption law passed in 2003. We’re seeing a lot of shootings in our parks. We also wanted to make sure government buildings are taken care of—and so we identified those as sensitive spaces.”

“The studies showed that when the right to carry weapons in certain spaces was restricted, many communities saw a decrease in gun violence by 13-15 percent.”

—Denver City Attorney, Reginald Nubine

“We looked at a bunch of data on sensitive spaces,” says Nubine. “The studies showed that when the right to carry weapons in certain spaces was restricted, many communities saw a decrease in gun violence by 13-15 percent. So our research shows that when you have these gun-free zones, it makes the community safer—and that’s really what this bill was about.”

Existing gun permit requirements have focused on limiting the number



Reginald Nubine, Senior City Attorney for the Denver Office of Prosecution and Code Enforcement.

Photo courtesy of Reginald Nubine

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of people who can purchase guns. The sensitive spaces ordinance has added a focus on reducing the number of places where people can carry guns.

The Benefits of Sensitive Space Legislation

The ability to ban guns in sensitive spaces and the decision to move forward with the ban in public parks is significant for Denver. The city has 270 urban parks and 14,000 acres of mountain parks. Northeast Denver has an abundance of parks including Central Park, City Park, Great Lawn Park, Montclair Park, Mayfair Park, and numerous smaller parks. Banning guns in these locations may also reduce the number of guns in stores and restaurants after visitors leave the parks.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch



Eileen McCarron, President of Legislative Operations at Colorado Ceasefire.

“The problem with bringing guns out in public is that arguments can escalate into shootings,” says Park Hill resident Eileen McCarron of Colorado Ceasefire, an organization that attempts to reduce gun violence by promoting gun violence prevention policies in the legislature and by raising

awareness about the dangers of gun violence throughout the state. “In parking lots [people] get road rage, or at bars they get into fights, and because the gun is handy, someone ends up dead, another ends up in prison, and both families are destroyed.”

The sensitive spaces policy can also enable Denver to add more places to the list in the future. Boulder recently implemented a comprehensive list of sensitive spaces that resembled the more extensive bans that have been enacted in New York and its neighboring states. “Boulder now has the strongest gun ordinances in Colorado,” says McCarron, who would support future additions to Denver’s list including bars, restaurants, stadiums, theaters, hospitals, daycare centers, churches, and mental health or drug treatment centers.

The Implications of the Supreme Court Ruling

The recent Supreme Court ruling in the *Bruen* case, however, might have jeopardized the ability for Denver to enact public park bans and add more areas to its sensitive spaces list.

In the majority opinion, Justice Thomas said that the Second Amendment includes the right to bear arms outside of the home and that sensitive spaces should be supported by historical analogies. This raises questions regarding where guns can be prohibited in a given community, and many gun rights groups are using the ruling of the Supreme Court to challenge the validity of sensitive spaces. In July, the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners (RMGO) filed a lawsuit against the Town of Superior to challenge its new gun ordinance, which includes a public park ban and other gun safety policies. A federal judge sided with RMGO, saying “in *Bruen*, the Court concluded that the Second and Fourteenth Amendments protect the right of ordinary, law-abiding citizens to carry handguns publicly for self-defense.” Taylor Rhodes, executive director of RMGO said the ruling “is a massive win for gun rights in the state of Colorado.”

Gun rights groups are also expected to challenge the Denver parks ban by arguing that the Supreme Court ruling grants them the right to carry their guns in public and that parks do not qualify as sensitive spaces. “I think that we’ll certainly see lawsuits in municipalities with bans,” says State Rep. Jennifer Bacon, who represents the 7th District area that includes most Northeast Denver neighborhoods. A lawsuit would require a judge to determine whether Denver is justified in identifying public parks as sensitive spaces. Denver City Attorney Reginald Nubine justifies parks as sensitive spaces “because we know that these are places where we’re seeing lots of gun violence. These are places where people congregate, where kids play, and where we have restricted guns in the past.”

Another potential detriment created by the Supreme

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Rally for our Rights, a Second Amendment rights group, posted this sign on their website along with an article expressing concerns that the parks ban affects thousands of acres of parkland outside of Denver city limits. The Jefferson County sheriff, where Red Rocks Park is located, has already made it clear that he will not enforce the concealed carry ban.

Court ruling is that the threat of lawsuits from gun rights organizations could intimidate cities from passing gun safety laws and expanding sensitive space lists. “But I hope Denver still goes forward...not being held back by the fear of legal challenges,” says McCarron.

“At the legislature, we’ll vet with different lenses when we move some of these gun control bills,” says Rep. Bacon. “But gun control supporters are willing to do the work, cities are willing to be sued, and we are still willing to write beneficial gun laws for our constituencies...I

don’t think the communities will be okay with a small minority of people undoing their progress.”

City Attorney Nubine says “At this point we’re still researching the *Bruen* decision and getting our ducks in a row. The opinion was pretty broad and it changed the standard for how we interpret Second Amendment cases. So we’re going to conduct research on the decision of the Supreme Court, follow the developments of the Superior case, and then see what the situation looks like here in Denver.”



Rep. Jennifer Bacon, Colorado State Representative for the 7th District Area of NE Denver.

File photo by Steve Larson

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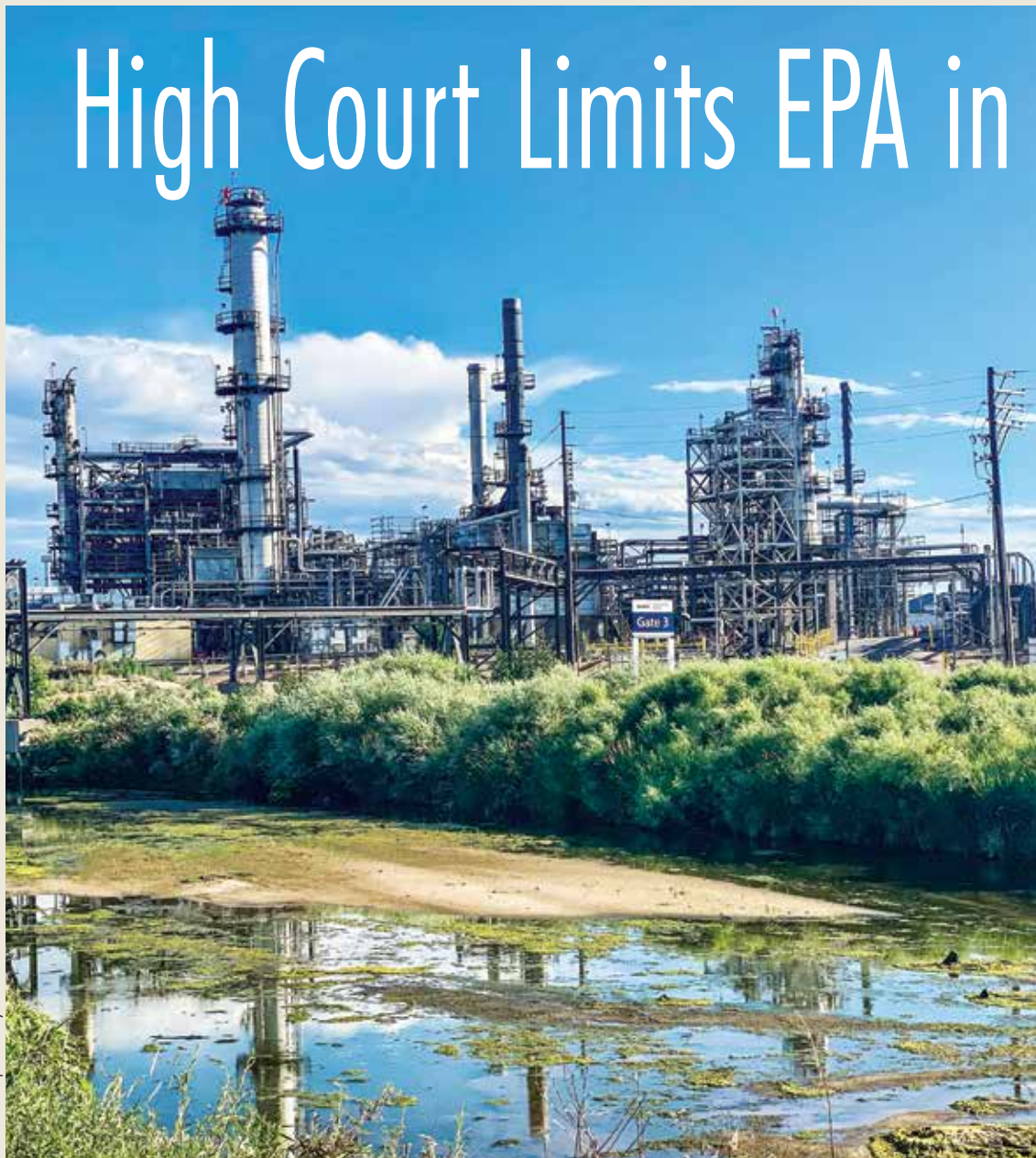


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High Court Limits EPA in Fight Against Climate



Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

A recent ruling by the Supreme Court limits the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions at electric utilities' power plants. Environmentalists worry that ultimately the decision will also hamstring the federal government's ability to restrict a variety of toxic pollutants emitted at fossil fuel plants, like Suncor Energy's oil refinery in Commerce City.

By Mary Jo Brooks

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that limits the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate greenhouse gas emissions is a huge setback for mitigating climate change across the country, according to Colorado conservationists, public policy experts, and state and local officials. Kelly Nordini, chief executive officer at Conservation Colorado, says the impacts will be felt by everyone. "Colorado is

on the front lines of our climate reality with wildfires, drought, extreme weather and all of the health and economic impacts that come with that. So, when the Supreme Court limits our tools in addressing those challenges, Coloradans are going to feel it."

Grace Rink, who leads the Climate Action Office for the City of Denver, agrees. "The Court has rendered the EPA impotent to take any substantive action to protect our cities, towns, and communities from the ravages of the

with what the Clean Power Plan set out to do, and a lot of that was due to Xcel Energy's efforts to move to renewables on a fairly aggressive time scale relative to what other utilities across the country were doing."

Still, Coloradans are at risk because greenhouse gas emissions don't respect state borders. "We don't have a consistent policy in the United States, so Colorado's efforts are going to be a drop in the bucket when so many states aren't doing anything. This is a global problem, and if

climate crisis," she wrote in an email.

By a 6-3 margin, the Court ruled that the EPA didn't have the authority to force electric utility companies to shut down coal-fired power plants and transition to renewable energy, such as solar or wind. It is considered the most significant climate ruling in more than a decade, although it was in response to the Obama Clean Power Plan that never went into effect because it had been held up in the courts and then thrown out by President Trump.

Tanya Heikkila, professor of environmental policy at the University of Colorado, Denver and a Park Hill resident, says the lawsuit was initiated by West Virginia and other politically-conservative states that were scrambling to comply. "But Colorado was already ahead of the game. We were in compliance

we don't have good national and international policy, we're not going to solve the problem."

Heikkila doesn't think Colorado is likely to reverse course on its climate initiatives anytime soon, and a statement released by Governor Jared Polis immediately after the Supreme Court decision seems to confirm that. "We have already locked in the closure of Colorado's coal plants no later than 2031 because they produce the highest cost electricity. To save people money, we are rapidly moving to low-cost solar and wind energy and today's decision does not affect our plans."

The governor's statement goes on, however, to express concerns about the broader reaches of the Court's ruling, saying the "decision does narrow the ability of the federal government to take common sense steps to protect the air we breathe." It is those broader issues that concern Nordini. "This decision has told the EPA, 'Hey, not so fast there in doing your job.' That has a chilling effect and could have huge impacts for things that Coloradans care about: clean air and clean water first and foremost."

Just two weeks after the Supreme



Tanya Heikkila, professor of environmental policy at UCD and Park Hill resident, says the Court's ruling is a huge setback in fighting climate change.



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Change

Court’s ruling, details emerged about Suncor Energy’s effort to ask the EPA for permission to increase toxic emissions by 90 tons, including nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter at two of its plants in Commerce City. One refines oil into gasoline and the other produces asphalt for road construction.

Seeking permission to further pollute Colorado’s air has outraged environmental groups like 350 Colorado. Heidi Leathwood is a climate policy analyst for the grassroots organization. She says she expects more companies will seek such waivers in the future following the Court’s decision. “I think across the board this decision weakens the ability for the EPA to regulate toxins and co-pollutants. I think there has long been an agenda by the far right to do just that, and this ruling sets a really bad precedent.”

Climate officer Rink also worries about the wider ramifications. “This ruling will definitely have a drastic and negative impact on communities of color, Indigenous people, under-resourced communities, people living with chronic health conditions, babies, children, and older adults. Only the EPA can regulate the major polluters whose industrial emissions degrade the quality of the air we breathe, and it is a documented fact that more of these sources are located in communities of color and where people with low incomes live.”

The Supreme Court decision indicat-

ed that the only way the EPA can regulate greenhouse gas emissions broadly is for the U.S. Congress to pass legislation giving the agency that authority. “If people want to make change, they need to advocate for congressional mandates so the EPA has clear authority to move forward on climate change strategies.

Call your representatives and senators. More public pressure is our best hope,” says Heikkila.

She also says the Biden administration may

“This decision has told the EPA, ‘Hey, not so fast there in doing your job.’”

—Kelly Nordini, chief executive officer at Conservation Colorado

find creative ways to sidestep the ruling and effectively limit greenhouse gases by putting stringent controls on other pollutants. Still, those efforts could be completely reversed by a new administration. “The only long-lasting solution is for Congress to act,” says Heikkila.

Rink is more pessimistic. “The Court is well aware that most members of Congress don’t and never will have the scientific background to make such determinations, which is why it delegated that decision-making process to the administrative agencies in the first place.”

Leathwood says her organization is going to continue to advocate for even broader restrictions. She would like to see leaders at both the state and federal levels move more quickly to end fossil fuel production altogether. “We can’t just talk about stopping pollutants. The only way to dramatically reduce carbon emissions is to end our reliance on fossil fuels. We should be reducing oil and gas production, not ramping it up.”

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Fridays thru Sept.—Stanley Farmer’s Market. 3–7pm in The Hangar. 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. stanleymarketplace.com

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

Saturday nights—Live Music at Oneida Park. 6–9pm. 8/6-Seth Brown. 8/13: Spherio. 8/20: On The Flip Side. 8/27: Babah Fly. Oneida Park, 2231 Oneida St.

Sundays thru 8/28—Stanley Summer Music Series. 3–5pm, the West Patio. 8/7: Libelula. 8/14: Occam’s Rose. 8/21: Red Light Challenge. 8/28: Bantom House. 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. stanleymarketplace.com

8/4 Thursday—MoJaBlu Concert series - Hot Lunch Band. North Green (49th & Valencia.) 6:30pm. mca80238.com

8/4 and 8/18—Senior Planet Presents #Age Friendly. 2:30–3:30pm. Learn about the eight elements of an age-friendly city and more. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

8/5 Friday—Creature Search in the Sand Creek. Sand Creek Park, 2700 N. Peoria St. Aurora. 4–5pm. Register and get more info by emailing Elena Smith at esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org.

8/5 Friday—Movie on The Green - In the Heights. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St). Starts at dusk. mca80238.com

8/6 Saturday—Breakfast Fly-in at Wings Over the Rockies Museum. Enjoy breakfast from a local food truck, watch aircraft fly in and explore interactive exhibits and simulators. 8–11am. 7711 East Academy Blvd. wingsmuseum.org

8/6 Saturday—A Night on The Greenway. 5–8:30pm. Fundraising evening of live music, dance and poetry. 2700 N Peoria St. Aurora. sandcreekgreenway.org

8/6 Saturday—Hops in The Hangar. Enjoy iconic aircraft, cool cars and icy brews at Denver’s most unique beer festival. 6–9pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. wingsmuseum.org

8/6 and 9/3—Bluff Lake Bird Walks. Saturdays: 2.5-hour walk at 7:30am or 2-hour walk at 8am. Free but must RSVP at blufflake.org/birdwatching

8/7 Sunday—Corn Hole Tournament. To benefit the Northfield High School football team. Noon at Redline Denver East, 4444 Forest St. Register at <https://givebutter.com/cornhole2022>

8/9 Tuesday—Air Pollution and Your Health. Dr. Jim Crooks discusses air quality and its impacts on your health. 6:30pm. The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. RSVP at tinyurl.com/DrJimCrooks

8/9 & 8/16—In-person Memory Café. 1:30–3pm. For people experiencing memory loss and their families/caregivers. Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St. denverlibrary.org

8/11 to 8/26—Central Park Business Assoc July Events. 8/11-happy hour, 8/16-meeting at The Cube, 8/26-women in business lunch. Details at centralparkbusiness.com

8/12 and 8/13—Theatre on The Green Series - You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. mca80238.com

8/13 Saturday—Councilman Herndon’s Family Bike Parade. Meet us on your bike at 29th & Roslyn at 8:50am. Parade ends at Smiley Campus for food, games, music, and fun until 11:30am. herndon4denver.com

8/13 Saturday—Sand Creek Volunteer Workday. Smith Road Trailhead from 9–11am. Register and get more info by emailing Elena Smith at esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org.

8/13 Saturday—Being a Better Neighbor: A Community Conversation about Implicit Bias. 2–3pm. Ages 13+. A community conversation. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org



8/13 Saturday—Live Music with Quintetto Vivo. Age - adults. 3–4pm. Live music with a quintet made up from local community members. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

8/13 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day. Get an up close look inside select aircraft. 10am–2pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. wingsmuseum.org

8/13 Saturday—8th Annual Run for the Ring. Supporting The Guild of the Children’s Diabetes Foundation. Anschutz Medical Campus, 1775 Aurora Ct, Aurora. childrensdiabetesfoundation.org

8/13 Saturday—Shop Small, Support Big Market Series. Shop small businesses 11am–5pm. DJ, food trucks, giveaways and more. Shops at Northfield, parking lot b/w Target and Outdoor World. shopsatnorthfield.com

8/19 Friday—Denver Municipal Jazz Band. 20-piece jazz band will perform a variety of music starting at 6:30pm. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) mca80238.com

8/19 and 8/20—Opera on The Green Series - Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. mca80238.com

8/20 Saturday—Forest Bathing (Shinrin-Yoku.) 8–10am. For adults/teens. Class limited to 10 people. RSVP at blufflake.org/birdwatching

8/20 Saturday—Global Fest. 11am–6pm. A celebration of the cultures and communities that call Aurora home. Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy. auroragov.org

8/20 Saturday—Colorado Rapids Back-to-School Night. Last block party of the summer. Fireworks after the game. 7pm game start. Dicks Sporting Goods Park. coloradorapids.com

8/21 Sunday—Stanley Movie Night “Film on the Field,” Grease. Dusk. 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. stanleymarketplace.com

8/28 Sunday—Qigong and Mindfulness Walks. 7:30–9am. Qigong practice followed by a walk around Bluff Lake. Come to either or both. Free but limited to 10 people. Please RSVP at blufflake.org/birdwatching

9/3 Saturday—Denver Municipal Band. The oldest continuous-playing professional concert band in the U.S. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) Starts at 6pm. mca80238.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

8/5 Friday—First Friday Art Walks. Art District on Santa Fe. 5:30–9:30pm. denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts

8/5 and 8/12—B-Side Music Fridays. Rooftop, garden performances. 1485 Delgany St. Details at mcadenver.org

8/7 Sunday—City Park Jazz - Colorado Mambo Orchestra. 6–8pm City Park Pavilion and Bandshell, 2001 Steele St. cityparkjazz.org

8/8 Monday—Community Conversation: Environmental Racism in Colorado History. 5:30 pm. History Colorado Museum, 1200 North Broadway. historycolorado.org

8/9 Tuesday—Armor in Application. A demonstration of armored combat techniques. Ticket required. 6–7pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

8/9 Tuesday—Active Minds presents: Egypt. Explore the origins and implications of Modern Egypt’s turbulent political situation. 12:30–1:30pm, Free. Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax. activeminds.com

8/10 Wednesday—Bold Women. Change History. U.S. Poet Laureate, Joy Harjo (Muscogee), first Native American in the position. 7–8pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway. Tickets at H-co.org/BoldWomen

8/11 Thursday—Art & About Tours. Designed for visitors with early-stage Alzheimer’s or dementia and their care partners. 1–2:30pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. To register email access@denverartmuseum.org

8/12 August—Music & Movie Night - Yesterday. Free, band starts at 6:30pm, movie starts at 7:30pm. Infinity Park, Glendale. Infinityparkatglendale.com

8/18 Thursday—A City Imagined: A Historic Evening with



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Aug. & Early Sept. 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.

Denver Mayors. 7–8:30pm. Federico Peña, Wellington Webb, and Mayor Michael Hancock. 1200 Broadway, historycolorado.org

8/18 Thursday—Riverfront Park Summer Sessions. Music, food, and art. Free entry. Commons Park, 15th St. & Little Raven St. riverfrontparkevents.com

8/18 to 8/20—Cherry Creek North Food & Wine. Celebrate the diverse and sophisticated tastes of Cherry Creek North dining. 2401 E. 2nd Ave. ccnfoodandwine.com

8/19 Friday—Understanding the Sand Creek Massacre. 9am–1pm. Seminar investigating the historical circumstances and continuing impacts of the Sand Creek Massacre. 1200 Broadway, historycolorado.org

8/23 Tuesday—Active Minds presents: History of Movies. Roll out the red carpet and learn the story of movies. 5–6pm, Free. Tattered Cover, 2526 E Colfax. activeminds.com

8/27 Saturday—Art on Penn: Summertime Sip & Craft. The continuous struggle for women's participation and equality is observed for Women's Equality Day. Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania St. mollybrown.org

8/27 to 8/28—Firefly Handmade Summer Market. 80+ indie artists, live music, local shops, restaurants. 1–4pm. 1000 Block of S Gaylord St in Wash Park. fireflyhandmade.com

8/28 Sunday—Affordable Arts Festival. 160+ fine artists discounting art to \$100 or less. Arapahoe Community College, 5900 S. Santa Fe Dr, Littleton. \$12 tickets raise funds for scholarships. affordableartsfestival.com

8/28 Sunday—Splash into Arts & Launch the Season Party. Enjoy drinks, snacks, and jazz music by Dotsero. Augustana Lutheran Church (Outdoor Courtyard), 5000 E. Alameda Ave. augustanaarts.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

8/4 Thursday—Tie Dye w/My Art Workshop. Ages 13–17. Learn to tie dye and make a groovy project. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

8/9 to 8/13—Maker Camp. Ages 5–17. Arts and Crafts, DIY, STEM - series of 5 workshops. Registration is required, limited to 20. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

8/11 Thursday—Arts and Crafts Shop. 10:30–11:30am. Ages K–12. Shop with \$5 in play money for supplies and get creative. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

8/13 Saturday—4EverFit4KIDZ!™. 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

8/13 Saturday—Tween Book Club. 12–1pm. Ages 9–12. This month we will be discussing *The Exact Location of Home* by Kate Messner. Schlessman Family Library, 100 Poplar St. denverlibrary.org

8/20 Saturday—Family Program: Sun Prints. 10:30am–12:30pm. Join us for family artmaking. Walk-ins welcome. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

8/21 Sunday—Spanish Storytime at Tattered Cover Kids. 5pm. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. stanleymarketplace.com

8/24 Wednesday—Kids Book Club. 10:30–11:30am. Ages K–12. Aug. book is *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty B. Birney. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

8/24 & 8/27—Art Crawl: Messy Artmaking Part 2. 10:30–11:15am. For caregivers with infants from newborns–14 months. Registration required. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

MUSEUMS, ETC.

American Museum of Western Art. Advanced tickets required, admission is \$5. 1727 Tremont Pl. anschuttcollection.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

Affordable Arts Festival.



Clyfford Still Museum. SCFD Free Day Aug. 5. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

Denver Art Museum. SCFD Free Day Aug. 9. Youth 18 & under always free. 100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

Denver Botanic Gardens. SCFD Free Day Aug. 16. 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. SCFD Free Night Aug. 17, 5–9pm. 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 Aug. 24. Open Wed–Sun, 10am–4pm. 715 S. Forest St. fourmilepark.org

History Colorado. The Centennial State celebrates its 146th birthday with a free day Aug. 1. 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. mcadenver.org

National Ballpark Museum. 1940 Blake St. Check for days/hours at ballparkmuseum.com

The Urban Farm. 9/10: Farm Fest. Open to the public from 9am–1pm, Wed–Sat. 10200 Smith Rd. theurbanfarm.org

Wings Over the Rockies Museum. 7711 East Academy Blvd. wingmuseum.org

PERFORMANCE/THEATRE

8/2 to 8/14—Pretty Woman: The Musical. Based on one of Hollywood's most beloved romantic stories. Buell Theatre at the DCPA. denvercenter.org

8/6 and 8/7—Motones & Jerseys: In Concert. 9 singers and a 6-piece band sing and dance. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. aurorafoxartscenter.org

8/7 Sunday—One Night Stand Theatre presents “Parents Night.” Short plays about parents and their children. Mature audiences. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. onenightstandtheater.org

8/12 Friday—An Evening with Kristin Chenoweth. 7:30pm. Emmy® and Tony-Award® winning star of Broadway, film, and television. Boettcher Hall. coloradosymphony.org

8/12 Friday—Eliza Gilkyson with Don Richmond. Renowned songwriter Eliza Gilkyson. 8pm, doors open at 7pm. Daniels Hall, 71 E. Yale Ave. swallowhillmusic.org

8/14 Sunday—Tall Poppy String Band. A brand new Old Time trio featuring fiddler George Jackson, guitarist Mark Harris, and banjoist Cameron DeWhitt. 8pm, doors open at 7pm. Tuft Theatre, 71 E. Yale Ave. swallowhillmusic.org

8/22 to 8/24—Insight Colab Theatre presents “Say My Name.” Musical that chronicles Asian Americans' path to citizenship. People's Building, 9995 East Colfax, Aurora. insightcolab.org

8/26 Friday—Lawn Concert: Jen Korte and the Loss. 5:30–7:30pm. Free live concert on the Clyfford Still Museum's outdoor forecourt. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

8/30 to 9/11—Hadestown. Intertwining two mythic tales—that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone. Buell Theatre at the DCPA. denvercenter.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Food For Thought Denver. Striving to eliminate childhood hunger by providing food for students and their families. 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. 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. Email info@reachoutandreadco.org for details.

Reading Volunteers needed to share reading with students in grades K–8 through. One hour a week. No experience necessary. Contact: Pil 2011 @ partnersinliteracy.org

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.

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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August begins a great season for film; hopefully it will be the first full season of film releases—and live film viewing—in over three years. The Oscar contenders start to creep out now, and then the spigot fully opens in September. There are still great opportunities for viewing great films in August, however, and we will preview some this month. First up is the CinemaQ Festival from August 11–14. I give some highlights below. We also finish up our annual Science Fiction Film Series on Wednesday, August 3 with the fantastic *Children of Men*. See the July issue for more information; tickets for both events can be found at www.denverfilm.org. I also review one new film and one TV show this month. See you at the movies!

CinemaQ at the Sie Film Center celebrates its 14th Annual Festival with 13 feature films and one short film collection over the four-day period. As the Denver Film Center Artistic Director notes, “It has been far too long since we’ve been able to celebrate the films of CinemaQ together inside the welcoming arms of the Sie Film Center, and I can safely say that this year’s festival will be well worth the wait.” Two films of note:

The Sixth Reel directed by Carl Andress & Charles Busch
Opening Night - Thursday, August 11, 7 p.m.
When the death of a close friend unearths the long-thought-lost final reel of a classic undiscovered film, Jimmy and his social circle of obsessive collectors

become entangled in an outrageous adventure to deliver it to the right hands before it is lost forever. Includes post-film Q&A with co-writers/co-directors Busch and Andress.

Jeanette directed by Maris Curran
Friday, August 12, 4:30 p.m.
Queer single mother and bodybuilder Jeanette Feliciano—a survivor of the Pulse Nightclub shooting—believes that with strength comes an ability to show love even more. Taking a *vérité* approach, director Maris Curran works to create a window into one woman’s life—her strained relationship with her mother, her identity as a lesbian, mother to her teenage son, and her roots in Puerto Rico—in the aftermath of trauma. Includes post-film Q&A with co-subject of the film Yvens Carrenard.

Strange New Worlds (Paramount+)
If you are a *Star Trek* fan, this is beyond dreamy. True Trekkies know that the pilot for the show in 1965 included a contemplative Captain Pike (Jeffrey Hunter), a woman (!) as Number One (Majel Barrett), and a green-tinted Spock (Leonard Nimoy) as the Science Officer. The studio nixed the trio: they thought Pike was “too serious,” they thought the public would not accept a woman in such a position of power, and they thought Spock should be elevated. The Kirk (William Shatner) and Spock team that we all know and love would then get studio approval, and the rest is history. Yet history has come back now, as we get the story of Captain Pike (Anson Mount) with Number One (Rebecca Romjin) as it may have been prior to the arrival of Kirk on the Enterprise. The result is marvelous.

The best *Star Trek* over the past 55 years has always included a dynamic captain with a diverse ensemble who have genuine chemistry and love for each other. Kirk and Picard (Patrick Stewart) are the two most beloved captains, but Mount’s Pike is the latest favorite in the trifecta. Pike is handsome, cool, brave, intelligent, and *fun*. Ethan Peck as Spock and Jess Bush as Nurse Chapel are cast standouts, and Romjin is solid as Number Two. The stories are engaging and wildly divergent, from horror to fairy tales to quirky comedic episodes, and the talented and cohesive cast eat them up. The



inclusivity and daring of the *Star Trek* Universe are here, and its inventiveness is a breath of fresh air in this area of corporate storytelling. All will love it.

Resurrection (2022)
This is a doozy. Rebecca Hall stars as a single mom (Margaret) whose daughter (Abby, Grace Kaufman) is soon leaving for college. She is protective, but is she weirdly overprotective? She gives advice to a young woman in a seemingly abusive relationship. Does she know too much about the situation? She is a focused runner, and only weighs more than 100 lbs. because she is so tall. Hall is so stunning and contained that we are never quite sure where we are. And by the end of the film, we...well, you have to see it. No giveaways here. (And I use the ellipsis liberally, I guess, because it is a staple of Gen Xers.)

The story starts to move when a figure (Tim Roth) from Maggie’s past comes back into her life; Maggie is visibly shaken and even overreactive. Or is she? As we find out more of the backstory, and Maggie finds out more about his intentions, the thriller starts to thrill and then winds up with the horror as wildly horrific and, frankly, bananas. About that ending—it caused quite the stir at Sundance, so I suggest watching this with company—



perhaps a mate. The ensuing conversation will highlight the beauty of cinema, and art in general.
At the Sie Film Center starting 7/29.

Vincent Piturro, Ph.D., 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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...NE News Updates

By Carol Roberts

1 Guns Buyback Event Aug. 20

“Guns to Gardens” offers an opportunity for any person to anonymously turn in unwanted firearms so that they cannot be stolen out of homes and vehicles or used in violent crimes. The Colorado Springs organization RAWtools destroys the guns at the site of the drive-thru event, then subsequently melts down the guns and turns them into gardening tools or jewelry. After the gun has been destroyed, compensation is a \$50, \$100 or \$150 gift card depending on the gun.

BB guns, Airsoft, homemade guns and ghost guns will be disabled upon request but not compensated. Ammunition will not be accepted. Unwanted gun cases, safes, and locks will be accepted. Firearms are to be brought in the trunk or back seat of a vehicle and removed by a RAWtools representative



Firearms are destroyed at the buyback event.

to be disabled. Participants need to be sure to check that their firearm is unloaded prior to arriving at a buyback event.

The Aug. 20 buyback will be held at Living Water Christian Center, 1585 Kingston St, Aurora. The Broncos, District 5 Denver City Council Member Amanda Sawyer and Aurora At-Large Council Member Curtis Gardner are partnering with RAWtools for these events. For more information visit Raw-Tools.org or to volunteer, email denvercouncil5@denvergov.org.

771 New Residences Under Construction in 5 Blocks of Central Park Blvd. Near Train Station

2 E. 32nd Ave., Solana Central Park

The big parking garage rising starkly from the mostly empty lot between 32nd and 33rd, is being built to accommodate 307 apartments by California-based Reylynn Properties. With “type-V wrap construction,” the parking garage is structurally independent from the 4-story wood frame apartments that will wrap around it. Leasing is currently expected to start in the spring of 2023. The building under construction just to the south of it is Natural Grocers.



Construction on the parking garage for 307 Solana Central Park apartments precedes the surrounding residential construction.



3 E. 35th Ave., NE Denver Housing, Income-Qualified Apartments

This 127-unit complex is expected to be completed at the end of January 2023. Information on how to get on the interest list will be posted at the project site a few months prior to completion. One-, two-, and three-bedroom units are being built, including 36 three-bedroom units. One-person households making up to \$49,500 and two-person households making up to \$56,580 are eligible (30% to 60% of Denver’s area median income). The complex will have shaded gathering areas, a community room, play area amenities, an on-site supportive services coordinator, youth programs, a variety of classes and mental health services.



127 Income-qualified apartments are expected to be completed at the end of January 2023. Sprouts is visible in the background.

A 90-unit income-qualified complex is also under construction north of I-70 on Central Park Blvd. at East Prairie Meadow Dr. and will be completed at the same time.

4 E. 36th Ave., A Line Townhomes

Six buildings with a total of 36 townhomes surround Sprouts on the south side of E. 36th Ave. They have 2-4 bedrooms, 3-4 baths, an attached 2-car garage, and range from 1,786 to 2,230 sq. ft. The units, developed by David Friedman, are available for sale now. For information visit <https://milehimodern.com/a-line-townhomes-central-park/>

5 E. 36th Ave., Central Park Station Residences

Phase 1 of this 301-unit apartment complex is being built on the south half of the block between E. 36th and E. 37th



Four stories of apartments with 301 units will be constructed above two levels of parking. Avenues, with the Central Park Station parking area as its neighbor north of E. 37th Ave.

Front Porch requested information about the plans for Phase 2, but did not get a response. With construction of this building all on the south half of the lot, it appears that another similar structure could be built on the north half of the lot. High Street Residential, the multifamily subsidiary of Trammell Crow is the developer.

6 New Central Park Playground

Public outreach to create a new plan for the heavily used Central Park playground began in 2018 and construction



started this past spring with the removal of the old equipment. The \$2 million plan scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2023 includes new concrete walks, playground surfacing, play equipment, shade structures, lighting, water pump/misters, and landscape improvements.

A concept plan has been created for Greenway Park that moves the play equipment to the area surrounding the sand pit and picnic structure. The floodplain will be developed into a nature exploration area. That project is not currently funded.

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Sean Rodgers, AVVO review

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Photo by Howie Vipier

The Grands show the “Red Notebook” they use to connect people to their numerous interest groups. Left to right: Mickey Siegel, Barbara Juman, Ann Rowse (seated); Vondra Abbott, Barbara Bibbo, Donna Schmidt, and Ira Kessel (standing).

By Carol Roberts

For the first eight months Liz Begalla lived in Central Park she remembers seeing only young moms with babies. Then, in June 2006 at the Sweet William Market, she saw someone her age. She walked straight up to Collette Shaughnessey and introduced herself—and they met for coffee the following Tuesday. Shaughnessey and Begalla knew immediately that they had something in common—when you feel alone in a new neighborhood, making a friend is “pretty exciting.”

As senior women saw them out walking or in the coffee shop, word spread that their group welcomed all who wanted to join them. Shaughnessey describes the day Lowry resident Suzanne Halters showed up. “She had told her husband, ‘I think there’s a group of women I can meet with. I’m going over to Stapleton.’ And when she couldn’t find us, she calls her husband and, almost in tears, tells him ‘I don’t see them anywhere.’ But pretty soon she finds this little string of five women and comes running after us. And she literally says, ‘Could I join you? From Lowry?’”

“Well,” Shaughnessey recalls, “that was pretty exciting.” Begalla chimes in, “It was a very loose kind of group, but we knew the one thing that was certain was Tuesday morning coffee. There were no dues and no RSVP, people just showed up.”

That was 16 years ago. The group is still loose—and it is still welcoming all senior women who show up.

As the neighborhood grew, The Grands—so named since many were grandparents who had come to live near their children and grandchildren—grew bigger than the founders ever would have imagined. “I have to admit,” says Begalla, “I am humbled at two women who just wanted to be friends and hadn’t seen anybody their age. The Grands has filled a huge need in the community.”

Phyllis Rouse says by the time she heard about The Grands in 2014, the coffee gatherings had gotten crowded and she found it hard to mingle and meet people. She and Suzanne Halters, who had moved to Central Park north of

File photo by Steve Larson



Liz Begalla, left, joins “Grands” co-founder Colette Shaughnessey on a 2011 walk with fellow Grands Irene Brown, Marian Morey and Paige Brown.

It’s “Pretty Exciting” to Find a New Friend

I-70 and introduced her to the Grands, decided to start another group. They put out word, and six or seven people started showing up for coffee on Tuesdays. They named themselves the SHILOHs—So Happy I Landed Out Here. “If we saw an older woman somewhere, like in Target or the King Soopers, we would say, are you interested in coming to a coffee group?” says Rouse. “And of course most people were thrilled because they wanted to meet new friends.”

Like the Grands, the SHILOHs describe their group as “loose.” “There’s no set leader,” says Rouse. “We’ll see who has ideas and discuss what we want to do, and we’ll do it.” Diane Mettra keeps the email addresses of anybody willing to put their name on the list and sends a message if the group is having a “field trip” or if there’s a change in their venue (they’re currently discussing whether to start meeting outside—or whether some will stay in and some will be outside).

The Grands are still a “loosey goosey” group, says Vondra Abbott, who has been coffeing with the Grands since 2012, but they have evolved since those earliest gatherings. Now, a volunteer like Abbott brings “The Red Notebook” that enables newcomers to connect with interest groups of their choosing: Arts & Culture, Bridge, Canasta, Mahjong, Music, Quilting, Cooking, Writing, and Walking are some of the groups. A Couples Group is also in the mix. And, Abbott says, “If you’re interested in getting a new group together, go for it.” Donna Schimdt keeps the group’s main email list up to date, adding the newcomers who show up at the coffee gatherings.

Both groups have become much more than social gatherings. When someone is sick or bedridden and needs help, word gets passed around and they deliver food, provide transportation, and offer whatever support is needed.

“The first thing newcomers say is, ‘This group was so welcoming,’” says Rouse. “We want to help women. I mean, we know how it felt when we first moved into a new community because we all went through it.”

Currently The Grands meet for coffee on Tuesdays at 9am at Panera and on Thursdays at 8am in the com-

mon area at Stanley Marketplace. The SHILOHs meet at 8:30am Tuesdays at the Starbucks at I-70 and Central Park Blvd.—but the first Tuesday of every month, the SHILOHs meet at Stanley Marketplace at 8:30am.

Friendship groups in other neighborhoods that meet regularly and welcome newcomers to their group can contact Leslie Joseph at the Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities for information about posting an announcement on the Community Page (page 16).

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NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

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LAST MOJABLU CONCERT OF 2022 - *Hot Lunch Band*

Thursday, August 4th, 6:30pm, North Green

Bring your friends and neighbors to the last MoJaBlu Concert of the summer! Starting at 6:30pm you can enjoy music from the Hot Lunch Band. There will also be sponsor booths and food trucks at the concert. MoJaBlu Concerts are performed at the North Green located at 49th Ave & Valentia and are free & open to the public.

LAST MOVIE ON THE GREEN OF 2022 - *In the Heights*

Friday, August 5th, At Dusk, South Green

Join us on the South Green for the last Movie on the Green of the summer! We will be showing the musical, *In the Heights*. Come early and visit our sponsor booths and purchase delicious food from one of the food trucks available. The movie will begin at dusk and is free and open to the public!

THEATRE ON THE GREEN SERIES - *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

Friday, August 12th & Saturday, August 13th, 6-8pm, South Green

The MCA is partnering with Vintage Theatre for Theatre on the Green. They will be performing *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* on August 12th & 13th on the South Green located at 29th Ave & Roslyn Street. This outdoor theatre performance is the perfect way to expose children to the world of theatre! All performances are free and open to the public.

OPERA ON THE GREEN SERIES- *Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World*

Friday, August 19th & Saturday, August 20th, 6-8pm, South Green

The MCA is also excited to partner with Central City Opera for Opera on the Green. They will be performing *Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World* on August 19th & 20th. This family friendly performance will also have Q & A at the end of the opera to help give the audience more insight to the story! The performance will be on the South Green located at 29th Ave & Roslyn Street. All performances are free and open to the public.

The Central City Opera was founded in 1932 and is the fifth oldest professional opera company in the country and is renowned for exquisite world-class productions, competitive and robust young artist training program, creative education, and community engagement activities.

DENVER MUNICIPAL JAZZ BAND

Thursday, August 18th, 6:30-8:00pm, North Green

Come to the North Green (49th & Valentia) and enjoy music from the Denver Municipal Jazz Band! The 20-piece Jazz Band will perform a variety of music starting at 6:30pm. This concert is free and open to the public!

DENVER MUNICIPAL BAND

Saturday, September 3rd, 6-7:15pm, South Green

Join us on the South Green (29th & Roslyn) and enjoy music from the Denver Municipal Band! The Denver Municipal Band is the oldest continuous-playing professional concert band in the U.S.

Music will begin at 6pm and is free and open to the public.

FARMERS MARKET

Every Sunday, 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.

ACTIVE MINDS: The National Parks

Thursday, August 11th, 1-2pm. Online

The world's first national park, Yellowstone, was created by an act of Congress in 1872. Today, the national park system includes over 400 units (63 national parks), over 84 million acres of land, and hosts over 300 million visitors per year. Join Active Minds as we tell the story of the development of our national parks system and highlight some of the more notable parks and their stories.

ACTIVE MINDS: The Evolution of NATO

Thursday, August 25th, 6:30-7:30pm, Online

Created after World War II, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) played a pivotal role in fighting and ultimately winning the Cold War. Subsequently, NATO took on different roles in countries like Bosnia and Afghanistan. Recently, the role of NATO in Europe has been revisited in the midst of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Join Active Minds as we take a look at the triumphs and challenges of NATO and how it continues to adapt to the 21st century landscape.

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

Jennifer Olsen
Communications Manager
Jolsen@mca80238.com



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mca
CENTRAL PARK



Northeast Denver Community News

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

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Dr. Crooks is an assist. prof. at National Jewish Health and a clinical assist. prof. at the Colorado School of Public Health. His current research focuses on the health impacts of air pollution, climate-influenced extreme weather events and environmentally-influenced infectious diseases.



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Central Park Business Association

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

August 11, 5-7pm - CPBA Happy Hour + Open House at Stretch Zone 7476 E. 29th Ave. Join us for drinks, snacks & free stretches.

August 16, 8-9am - CPBA Meeting at The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. Network and learn about other local businesses.

August 26, 12-1pm - CPBA Women in Business Lunch at Four Friends Kitchen, 2893 Roslyn St. Meet other Central Park women in business over a casual networking lunch.

Visit centralparkbusiness.com for more details.



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Aug. 6: Bird Walk:
<https://www.blufflake.org/birdwatching>

Aug. 20: Forest Bathing: <https://www.blufflake.org/birdwatching>

Aug. 28: Qigong: <https://www.blufflake.org/events/guided-relaxation-walks>

We are also about to launch a new partnership with Alpine International Preparatory Academy, an organization that offers unique tuition-free homeschool enrichment programs. They will bring weekly field trips to Bluff Lake, an amazing opportunity for children who are homeschooled.

<https://aiprepacademy.org/>
<https://aiprepacademy.org/enroll>

CENTRAL PARK UNITED NEIGHBORS

Central Park United Neighbors (CPUN) is the registered neighborhood organization for the Central Park community. Our mission is to work for the betterment of Central Park by providing a forum for residents to discuss and resolve issues, a network of communication, and a means of acting on matters of importance to the community. Learn more at www.centralparkunitedneighbors.com

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: SUSTAINABILITY AND PARKS

The Sustainability Committee builds community in Central Park through activities and educational opportunities that enhance the livability and reduce the ecological footprint of our neighborhood. We are committed to:

- Empowering people with knowledge and experiences that inspire more sustainable living.
- Encouraging our community to enjoy the parks and open space of Central Park.
- Leveraging our work to foster a more diverse and inclusive community.

Committee membership is open to anyone interested in developing, collaborating on, or participating in programming.

Some examples of the programming the committee has undertaken in the past include:

- Planting trees in Gateway Park.
- Hosting an electric vehicles buyer's forum.
- Picking up track and reseeding in Westerly Creek.
- Organizing a webinar on residential solar panels.
- Giving away free grocery bags.
- Sponsoring a home electrification forum.

The Sustainability Committee is proud to lead Central Park's participation in the City and County of Denver's Sustainable Neighborhood Program. The Sustainable Neighborhoods Program is a certification program that offers resources and support to neighborhoods seeking to organize workshops, projects, and events.





SAND CREEK REGIONAL GREENWAY

Wilderness In the City

VOLUNTEER WORKDAY SAT, AUG 13:

Get outside and give back to your community by participating in the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership's next volunteer workday. The event will take place at the Smith Road Trailhead from 9-11am. Project details will be sent out to all registered volunteers one week before the event.

CREATURE SEARCH IN THE SAND CREEK FRI, AUG 5:

Join the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership from 4-5pm for an afternoon of fun collecting and identifying unique water bugs in the Sand Creek and learning about what they can teach us about water quality! At Sand Creek Park: 2700 N. Peoria St. Aurora, CO (use Google Maps).

Register for one or both events by emailing Elena Smith at esmith@sandcreekgreenway.org.