

# Front Porch

Central Park, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, East Colfax, NW Aurora

DENVER, COLORADO

NORTHEAST DENVER

AUGUST 2023



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## Community in Shock Over McAuliffe Principal's Firing

A parent rally at McAuliffe International School drew approximately 300 community members, including past and current students demanding Principal Kurt Dennis' return to the school.

McAuliffe International School principal Kurt Dennis was shocked when he learned that Denver Public Schools had terminated his employment. "I spoke with HR [Human Resources] in April, and hadn't heard anything since then. I figured I was coming back." DPS told him in early July he would not return to the helm of the school. *Story by Brian Heuberger and Martina Will, PhD on page 4.*



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## A NE Hub for Neighbors & Businesses

Ten years ago, three Central Park residents had a dream of opening a beer garden where friends and families could gather. But upon seeing 140,000 square feet of space and 22 acres of land at the Stanley Aviation building, the dream grew—and the Stanley JV partnership transformed an empty factory into the thriving community hub we know today. *Story by Brian Heuberger on page 8.*

## Local Photographer wins National Award



Photo courtesy of Willy Wilson

Park Hill resident Willy Wilson was named Photographer of the Year in honor of her enthralling underwater photographs. *Story by Sarah Huber on page 2.*





# Local Photographer Wins National Award

Willy Wilson, Park Hill resident and owner of Life Unstill Photography, blends variables of water, light, fabric, and poses to create otherworldly images. She takes many of her photos in area pools.

By Sarah Huber

After 20 years in the corporate world, Park Hill resident Willy Wilson picked up a camera and “took a chance on the surprise factor,” she says. She launched her portraiture business, Life Unstill Photography, about a decade ago, and in January received one of the top honors in her industry, the Photographer of the Year award from the National Association of Portrait and Child Photographers. Wilson’s photos have garnered national attention not only for her exquisite attention to light and movement but also for *where* she captures her images: underwater. Wilson is a leading underwater photographer who produces artistic images of “people expressing themselves in ways not possible on dry land,” she notes.

Wilson’s enchanting photos are a result of her unexpected journey into photography. “Photography was a creative thing on the side,” she says. “I saw men running the field, and it didn’t occur to me that this was a space for me.”

Wilson studied fine arts at the University of Colorado Boulder before pursuing a career in business and consulting. It

was not until she took a few film courses at the Colorado Film School—between caring for her children and holding down a day job—that she “rediscovered that the camera was my friend,” she says. Gradually, thanks to word-of-mouth, her “photography hobby” evolved into full-time work. “I had to take my foot out of one financial pot and make the other enough,” she continues. “I went all in.”

Powered by Wilson’s “perfectionist approach” to each photo shoot, Life Unstill expanded from family portraiture to branding art and, more recently, underwater photography. Wilson recalls, “I knew underwater photography was hard, and I fell in love with it.” She smushed her cell phone into a waterproof case and began photographing volunteers in area pools. “I love the surprise element with photographing humans. You don’t know what they’re going to do,” she says. “Photographing underwater is another part of that, like making magic.”


Wilson soon upgraded to a Nikon camera in waterproof housing, yet “the variables and breakthroughs remain,” she says. For many of her clients, being photographed underwater is a transfor-




Willy Wilson was named Photographer of the Year.

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mative experience. “Everybody forgets to worry about how they look,” she comments. “We use the water, the light, the poses to tell a story visually.”

Wilson’s Life Unstill packages provide softly and heavily edited photographs, with the serious edits delivering layered images of ephemeral light and mesmerizing fluidity. Wilson is increasingly concentrating on the fine arts, with the hope of fulfilling her longtime dream of a gallery show. She is especially proud of the collage of her images displayed on a billboard at Times Square in New York City, where her work was featured in recognition of her Photographer of the Year award.

In addition to her lengthy list of professional ambassadorships, Wilson volunteers with New Legacy Charter School for parenting teens in Aurora. Each spring Wilson and fellow photographers donate free senior portraits to New Legacy graduates. “It’s one of the best parts of the year,” she says.

To see more of Wilson’s work, visit [www.lifeunstill.com](http://www.lifeunstill.com).

## Bird Sightings

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# Front Porch

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# Community in Shock Over McAuliffe Principal's Firing

By Brian Heuberger and Martina Will, PhD

The largest middle school in the Denver Public School District was shaken in July when the district made a controversial decision to terminate McAuliffe Principal Kurt Dennis. Dennis has been the principal of McAuliffe International School since the Park Hill institution first opened 12 years ago.

His supporters believe he was fired for speaking to the media about the dangers of a DPS policy. A “safety plan” policy requires schools in the district to accept students who have committed violent crimes and to have regular staff members conduct weapons searches on them every day. In March of 2023, a student at East High shot two administrators while they were conducting the search. The shooting was the “tipping point” for Dennis, as McAuliffe was also forced to conduct daily searches on a safety plan student accused of attempted murder.

After the shooting, Dennis did an interview with 9News to speak out against the policy, and in July the DPS administration suddenly terminated him. The DPS statement says, “The termination had little to do with any media interviews, but rather the sharing of confidential student information in violation of state and federal laws.”

Dennis refutes the claim that he revealed information about the student. “That isn’t true,” says Dennis. “I never provided any identifying information about the student. I shared as much information as other administrators at other schools have shared, to communicate security concerns with parents.”

Dennis also had to strike a balance with the situation.

“The timing [of the firing] was meant to be punitive to me, but it’s actually punitive to the kids.”

—McAuliffe International School  
Principal Kurt Dennis



Former student Elliot Guinness (left) was among those who rallied in front of McAuliffe in a July show of support for Dennis. Dennis did not attend the rally but says, “My point was to shed light on a policy that I felt was jeopardizing our children’s safety.”

“If you’re going to operate in a transparent fashion with your community, you have to respect student privacy and give parents a level of comfort with what’s going on. It’s important that parents know what the district’s policies are,” Dennis says, reflecting on the safety of more than 1,600 students and staff at McAuliffe. Dennis also worries about the detrimental impact his termination could have on McAuliffe. “The timing [of the firing] was meant to be punitive to me, but it’s actually punitive to the kids.”

The community has been expressing outrage at the termination and support for his reinstatement. Parents and leaders—including two school board candidates—have rallied around Dennis since learning of his dismissal. A petition to reinstate Dennis has accumulated over 6,000 signatures on Change.org, parents have been writing letters to the Board of Education, and the community organized a rally at McAuliffe.

Elliot Guinness is a former student who attended the rally.

Guinness is currently a sophomore at New York University, and he spoke to *Front Porch* about the impact Dennis had on his life. “His relationships with the students and staff were special,” says Guinness. “When I was at McAuliffe he would be out in the hallway during every single passing period, he would be there to greet students every single morning, and he would be outside

(continued on page 6)

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# Community in Shock Over McAuliffe Principal's Firing (continued from page 4)

picking up trash while talking to students during lunch periods. It's so important for leaders to be there and create those connections; he was extremely good at doing that, and so the students and staff really loved him.”

Guinness also believes the academic system implemented by Dennis maximized the quality of the school and the performance of the students. “The academics there were really good, and he created an infrastructure that allowed students to find their own paths and interests with electives, clubs, and extracurriculars” says Guinness. “He also set it up in a way that students have to work hard, and the McAuliffe motto of ‘work hard, be kind’ is a true statement that shines through him.”

Guinness appreciates the substantial benefits of this system. “Turning us into hard workers prepared us for high school. A lot of people say high school prepares you for college. But McAuliffe is where I started my academic and social activist endeavors. That’s when I began working hard, pursuing my passions, and becoming who I am. That started with Kurt over at McAuliffe.”

The DPS board will meet in August to vote on whether to accept or reject the termination that was handed

down by district leaders, but if they reject the termination, those same leaders will determine where to place Dennis next. In the meantime, Dennis is filing an appeal with DPS and a lawsuit in the courts.

David Lane is the attorney representing Dennis in the lawsuit, and he hopes to achieve two possible outcomes with the proceedings. “The federal court has power to reinstate him if they believe that it would be warranted, or they can order money damages,” says Lane. “We’re seeking the full panoply of rights available to Kurt.”

Lane also believes the facts of the situation will support his arguments in the case. “Supreme Court precedent, particularly *Pickering v. Board of Education*, said when a school teacher speaks out on a matter of public concern, they have free speech rights and any discipline imposed is deemed retaliatory and a violation of the Constitution,” says Lane. “Kurt was clearly speaking on an issue of public concern, he violated no rules, he divulged no confidential information, and this was purely retaliatory.”

The Innovation Zone status of the school is also critical to the case. McAuliffe is part of the Northeast Denver In-



Front Porch file photo by Steve Larson

Kurt Dennis talks to families at Montview Church in 2012 about the transition of McAuliffe International School from its original building in Central Park to the Smiley campus in Park Hill.

novation Zone, which provides the school with the semi-autonomous freedoms to determine contracts and make staffing decisions. “We’re investigating whether DPS followed the necessary procedures for firing a principal in an Innovation Zone school,” says Lane. “I think they did not follow the contract and so there may be a due process law issue.”

While awaiting the final decisions, McAuliffe has selected Micah Klaver to serve as the Interim Principal for the school. Klaver has worked at McAuliffe for more than 11 years, with four as a teacher and seven as an administrator.

For Dennis, the outpouring of support from the community has been profound. “I am filled with gratitude and appreciation for the Northeast Denver community. It is an incredible place to work as an educator. I can’t imagine a better place to be an educator. When you need something, people come forward to bring it, and this community support has a really positive impact on a school’s culture when they see the village coming together to serve our kids.”



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By Brian Heuberger

This fall will mark 10 years since the birth of an idea that added a transformational feature to Northeast Denver and Northwest Aurora. In 2013, a group of Central Park residents embarked on a mission to create a community gathering space. That ambitious vision was actualized with the opening of Stanley Marketplace, which has become a thriving hub for businesses, a gathering space for residents, and a positive destination spot for the community.

### The History of Stanley

The journey began with Central Park resident Mark Shaker's belief that his neighborhood needed a community space where families could gather. In July 2013, he started Flightline Ventures with fellow Central Park residents Lorin Ting and Megan Von Wald. "We began meeting with people and neighborhoods to present our vision of opening a beer garden that could serve as a gathering spot for friends and families," says Shaker.

A pivotal moment for Flightline occurred in October of 2013, when the group pitched the idea at a meeting of their registered neighborhood organization. "An Aurora city official saw the *Front Porch* article about the meeting," says Shaker. "He brought the article to co-workers, and they reached out to us for development in Northwest Aurora."



Stanley Marketplace offers many events for the community, including Rescue Puppy Yoga. Liz Delay, right, and her friends drove from West Denver to participate.

City of Aurora officials showed Flightline the Stanley Aviation building, which boasts 140,000 square feet of space, resides on 22 acres of land, and is located at the nexus of Northeast Denver and Northwest Aurora. Flightline immediately envisioned filling the empty building with a community space, and in early 2014 they bought the property and commenced the project. The scale and complexity of the project encouraged Flightline to reach out to Westfield, a development company that had experience managing large properties. In 2016, Flightline and Westfield formed a joint venture called Stanley JV and established a 50/50 partnership for Stanley Marketplace. "We believed in the opportunity to

# A NE Hub for N



Above: Mark Shaker (left) and Lorin Ting show renderings of their ideas for turning the Stanley Aviation building into a marketplace in July 2014. Left: What Stanley Marketplace looks like in the same spot today. The building was first opened by pilot and engineer Bob Stanley in 1954 to manufacture aircraft ejection seats.

shape the surrounding area," says Ally Fredeen, the General Manager of Stanley Marketplace. "We knew it would be special to bridge communities, and we shared the greater vision the Flightline partners set out to achieve."

Although Stanley JV intended to have a grand opening in December of 2016, multiple delays circumvented this plan and required them to open just one or two businesses a week. "It was a circus," says Shaker. "Construction was going on all over the place, and it was a really challenging time that almost broke us." However, Stanley JV was able to overcome the obstacles, and in July of 2017 the marketplace was filled to capacity.

### A Bustling Marketplace of Diverse Businesses

Stanley currently has 55 businesses operating in the marketplace, with 33 being original businesses that believed in the project's vision and that are still flourishing today. Original restaurants include Rosenberg's Bagels, Denver Biscuit Company, Logan House Coffee, Comida, Annette, Cheluna Brewing, Stanley Beer Hall, Maria Empanada, and Rolling Smoke BBQ. Original retail shops include True, Sterre, June Ruby, Trunk Nouveau, Poppy & Pine, Goose & the Goat, and MindCraft Makerspace. And service companies that have been there since the beginning include Clementine's Salon & Skincare, OpenAir Academy, Semion Barbershop, Neighborhood Music, Bounce Gymnastics, Fly Kickbox, and Kinesis Pilates. (Visit [frontporchne.com](http://frontporchne.com) to see the full list of original businesses).

The success of these tenants demonstrates the favorable conditions in the building and the effective strategies of Stanley JV. The marketplace avoids major chains and only rents space to local entrepreneurs and independent businesses. "I'm a small

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# Neighbors & Businesses

business person,” says Shaker. “I like working directly with owners, seeing the owners as I walk around the marketplace, and giving chances to independent businesses that weren’t getting accepted in Central Park.”

To operate at Stanley, every tenant must sign the “Stanifesto,” a document outlining the philosophy of Stanley that emphasizes improving the community, uniting the residents, and caring for other people.

Variety is one of the keys to attracting people to the marketplace. Stanley has shops and restaurants on the bottom level, services and offices on the second floor, and fitness or recreational activities throughout the building. These options satisfy the interests of diverse visitors and increase the traffic flowing through the marketplace.

Ultimately, however, Shaker credits the success of the marketplace to the camaraderie of the businesses. “We call it the family,” says Shaker. “We have strength in numbers for those that support each other, share ideas, or help other tenants. And if someone signs a lease, they become part of the Stanley family.”

## A Community Space

Stanley has achieved its goal of providing an energetic space for the community with a plethora of options that offer something for everyone. The bars and restaurants enable friends to drink cocktails and eat meals while

filling the marketplace with a chorus of lively chatter and joyful laughter. The chairs and tables concentrated in the common area and scattered through-

out the building offer comfortable spots for groups to sit and talk. The exterior features also foster a social environment. Visitors can gather on the outdoor patios, children can play at LuBird’s Light Playground, and the Field at Stanley offers a space for team sports and fun competitions.

A combination of free and paid community events provide opportunities for residents from all the surrounding neighborhoods to gather in

one spot. “Community is in our DNA,” says Fredeen. “I don’t think Stanley would be Stanley without the community engagement that we see here—and you never know what’s going on at the marketplace on any given day.”



Central Park residents Jake and Alex McGinnis enjoy live music (Rudy Grant and the Buffalo Riders) while daughter Keelan plays during Stanley’s Summer Series.



Instructor Carmen Duran, right, teaches Latin Zumba-esque dance classes, sponsored by Cheluna Brewing Co., twice weekly on the West patio.

The Hangar hosts ticketed events for special experiences, such as symphony concerts, immersive art exhibits, or theatrical productions. But Stanley also offers free events, including Film on the Field, Rescue Puppy Yoga, concerts with local bands, activities for seasonal holidays, and festivals for diverse cultures. “We really like to ensure we have at least one community event a month where there’s no barrier to entry,” says Fredeen. “We curate events that are free for all ages, and no matter who you are or where you’re from, you can participate in our inclusive experiences at Stanley.”

Community events in the upcoming months include Stanley Summer Series, Back to School Silent Disco, Film on the Field, and Hispanic Heritage Month in September.

## Correction

In the July 2023 edition’s NE News Updates, *Front Porch* made an announcement regarding Stanley Marketplace that contained incorrect information involving a change in ownership. We apologize for our mistake. There has been no change in ownership at the Stanley Marketplace. Stanley JV owns the marketplace and is a joint venture partnership between Flightline Ventures and Westfield Company.

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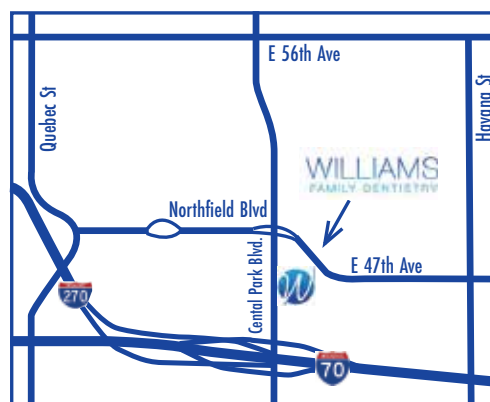


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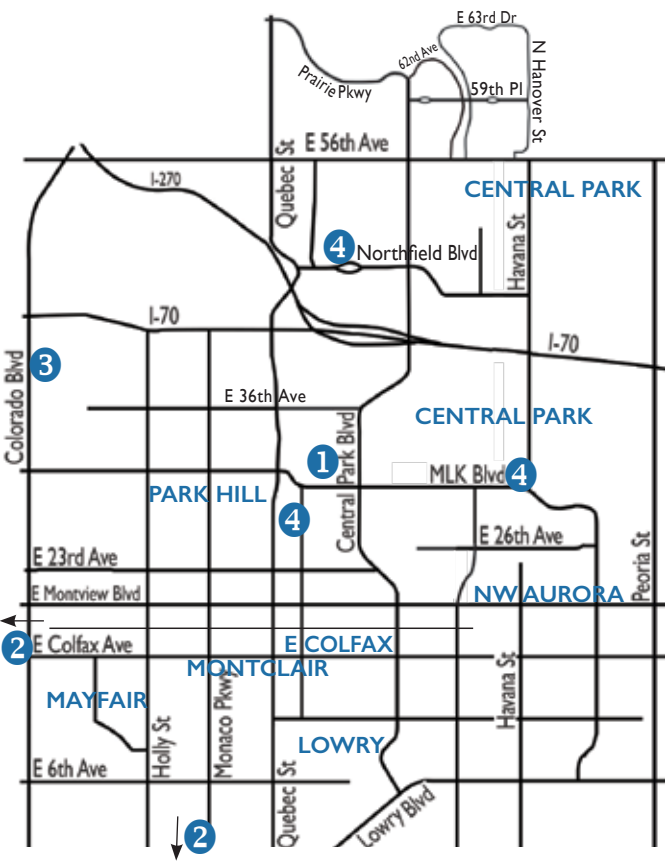
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# ...NE News Updates



Over Flyte owner Vinay Patidar in front of the high-tech axe-throwing lanes.

By Courtney Drake-McDonough and Sarah Huber

## 1 Over Flyte at FlyteCo Brewing

FlyteCo Brewing has expanded its space and offerings as the facility gets ready to celebrate one year in the 164-foot former Stapleton International Airport control tower. Over Flyte has partnered with FlyteCo by opening a space on

the third floor of the tower. Over Flyte has three suite-style golf simulators, six high-tech axe-throwing lanes, multiple ping pong tables, and 5,000-feet of event space plus a full bar and food menu.

Using real axes, guests can play digital games such as Connect Four and tic-tac-toe. The simulators offer traditional golf on PGA courses, and guests can also play other simulated sports that include baseball, football, and hockey.

Go to [www.FrontPorchNE.com](http://www.FrontPorchNE.com) for more photos of Over Flyte.

## 2 Denver Speech and Debate Teams Shine at Nationals

Two Denver high schools excelled at this summer's National Speech and Debate tournament in Phoenix. George Washington High School finished among the top 20 schools in the nation in debate, and East High School finished among the top 40 in speech. Individually for George Washington, rising senior Greta Batchelor came in tenth in Policy Debate, and rising senior Ivan Levitt was named eleventh in Original Oratory. George Washington also received a top honor when teacher Maryrose Kohan was crowned the 2023 National Speech and Debate Association Coach of the Year. As for East High School, twin brothers and rising seniors Elijah and Elias Goss stoked the crowd with a dynamic delivery about overcoming challenges, earning them third place in Duo Interpretation. Toby Penner reached the quarter finals in Congressional Debate, which the East Speech and Debate coach, Seth Wilden, notes "is a significant achievement since Toby competed as a freshman."

## 3 Park Hill Housing Project

Urban Land Conservancy is planning an affordable housing project of about 350 units at the northeast corner of 40th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard. The site will feature "attainable housing," including senior housing, as well as open space and possibly a Denver Public Schools vocational school.

Urban Land Conservancy acquired the original 9.4-acre site in 2013 with the help of the Regional Transit-Oriented Development Fund. The property's first phase, Park Hill Station, was developed by Delwest in 2016 and includes 156 affordable apartments. Urban Land



George Washington High School's speech and debate team brought home several top awards from the 2023 national tournament in Phoenix. Teacher Maryrose Kohan was named Coach of the Year.

## 4 Restaurant Openings and Closings

Two long-time Central Park restaurants have closed and a new one has entered the scene.

**Next Door Kitchen & Bar** in the Eastbridge Town Center closed after 12 years. After co-founder Kimbal Musk (brother of Elon) stepped down in 2022, the restaurant revamped its menus and closed two of its four locations. The remaining locations, in Central Park and Boulder, have now closed as well.

**Pizzeria Locale** closed all five of its locations on July 10. Founders Bobby Stuckey and Lachlan Mackinnon-Patterson have opened many Denver restaurants, including Frasca, Tavernetta, Sunday Vinyl, and Pizzeria Alberico. In 2013, they partnered with Chipotle to open Pizzeria Locale and rapidly expand the business. Though all Pizzeria Locale restaurants have closed, the former employees were offered jobs at Chipotle locations.

**The Halal Guys** opened at 8241 East Northfield Boulevard. The company was founded in 1990 by three Egyptian men, and it began as a hot dog cart in New York City. "Halal" is an Arabic word meaning "permissible" and refers to consuming animals that were fed a natural diet and were processed humanely with no pork or hindquarter cuts. The menu includes sandwiches or platters with beef gyro, chicken, or falafel. Sides include hummus, baba ghanoush or fries, and desserts entail fresh cookies and baklava cheesecake.

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books such as *Lawn Boy* are more important than ever now. See you at the Sie.

*Bottoms* (2023—CinemaQ)

In this refreshingly unique comedy, two girls, PJ and Josie,

start a fight club as a way to lose their virginities to cheerleaders. And their bizarre plan works! The fight club gains traction, but PJ and Josie find themselves in over their heads and in need of a way out before their plan is exposed. Directed by Emma Seligman, starring Rachel Sennott and Ayo Edebiri, *Bottoms* is the opening night feature. Thursday, Aug. 10, at 7pm.

*Saint Drogo* (2023—CinemaQ)

Partners Caleb and Adrian take an impromptu respite to the New England coastal Provincetown, Massachusetts for a winter getaway. While the purpose of the trip is ostensibly to rekindle their floundering relationship, Caleb becomes concerned for his ex, Isaac, who had

been working in town for the summer but seems to have gone missing. As the off-season year-rounders remain aloof, Caleb grows more concerned, but his fixation on

finding Isaac only widens the schism in his relationship as something more sinister simmers beneath the surface. Friday, Aug. 11, at 9:30pm with a post-film director Q&A.

*Problemista* (2023—CinemaQ)

Alejandro is an aspiring toy designer from El Salvador, struggling to bring his unusual ideas to life in New York City. As time on his work visa runs out, a job

assisting an erratic art-world outcast becomes his only hope to stay in the country and realize his dream. From writer/director Julio Torres comes a surreal adventure through the equally treacherous worlds of New York City and the U.S. Immigration system. Sunday, Aug. 13, at 5pm.

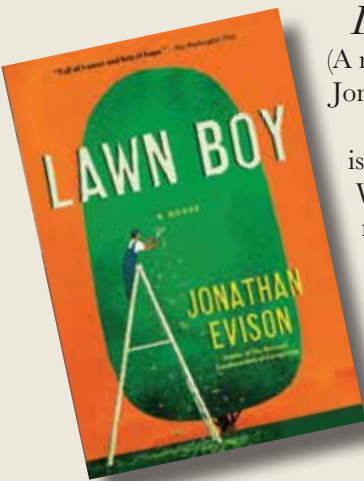
*Shortcomings* (2023)

A struggling Asian American filmmaker—and film theater manager—finds himself alone when his girlfriend takes an internship across the country and leaves him behind. Ben (Justin Min) spends his days watching classic movies, eating at a local diner with his gay friend Alice (Sherry Cola), and obsessing over white women (much to the chagrin of everyone around him). When his thin life falls apart, he follows his girlfriend to New York, spies on her, and well, you can guess what happens next.

Ethnic issues, relationship issues, and the general confused state of *all the characters* pervades every scene of the film, and it adds up to a funny, interesting, and enlightening take on the intelligent and generally lost people of this world. Smart people can be dumb too, and while cringey at times, the film works. We certainly don't get enough movies where the characters argue over the pronunciation of "nadir."

Movies about filmmakers and people who love film can sometimes come across as pretentious and self-serving, but this film never reaches that lofty status. The writing is snappy and biting, and the acting is very good all around. The story might sag at points, but the underlying thematic aspects shine. There are very real and urgent concerns amid the witty *repartee* and the cultural exchanges/jokes/stereotypes. The wrapping may seem thin, but what's inside is dense. And funny. And worth it.

Opens at Denver theaters, including the Mayan, on Friday, Aug. 4.



*Lawn Boy*

(A novel by Jonathan Evison)

Mike Muñoz is a 21-year-old Washington man trying to find himself—bouncing between meaningless jobs and unemployment

while helping his single-mom-waitress and developmentally challenged brother. The questions he asks are timeless: Who am I? What is my purpose? What is the point of it all? And the journey is the thing: The trailer-park poetry of Jonathan Evison is breezy, thoughtful, and always *funny* as Mike just tries to engage his passion: lawns.

This book came to my attention when it was banned by a Texas school board after a parent complaint—it has been called "explicit," "pedophilic," and even "grooming." I set out to investigate it on my own, and I found a touching, poignant, and downright hysterical take on a young man trying to find himself in a world that is stacked against him. Why the book is banned is beyond me, and to those who made such accusations against it, I say the following: "Read the damn book, idiot." Of course, then you must actually understand it.

Vincent Piturro, PhD, is a Professor of Film and Media Studies at MSU Denver. Contact him directly at [vpiturro@msudenver.com](mailto:vpiturro@msudenver.com) or follow him on Twitter. For more reviews, search The Indie Prof at [FrontPorchNE.com](http://FrontPorchNE.com).



The turn to August gives us three more screenings of the Science Fiction Film Series. See the July article for more information. Be sure to bring non-perishables to support the Metropolitan State University Denver food pantry. We hope to see you there!

August also provides us with the CinemaQ Festival at the Sie Film Center. From the Denver film Society: "CinemaQ is Denver's only LGBTQ+ Film Festival celebrating the vibrant and diverse stories in the community through a captivating selection of curated movies, panels and discussions, and iconic events. As part of Denver Film, CinemaQ creates transformative experiences for everyone to explore diverse voices, giving visibility of the wide scope of LGBTQ+ experiences through films and programs that entertain, educate, and empower."

The festival runs from August 10–13 at the Sie, and the entire program can be found on their website at [www.denverfilm.org](http://www.denverfilm.org). I give several synopses for your attention here (provided by the festival). In addition, I add in one new release and then a book review in the spirit of CinemaQ. As we look around and understand the motives of certain self-important/self-aggrandizing hucksters in our country at this moment, it is helpful to see, hear, and understand the struggles of *everyone*. This is why CinemaQ movies such as *Shortcomings* and

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August 2023



# LOCAL EVENTS

## August thru Early September

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

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

## NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

**Fridays—Free outdoor Yoga on the Plaza.** YogaSix hosts a free 60-minute yoga class at 9:30am (weather permitting) in the plaza space located on Main Street between 47th Ave. and 48th Ave. [shopsatnorthfield.com](https://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**Saturdays—City Park Farmers Market.** 100+ local producers, live music, donation-based yoga and a run club. 2551 E Colfax Ave. [cityparkfarmersmarket.com](https://cityparkfarmersmarket.com)

**Sundays—Central Park Farmer's Market.** Colorado-grown produce, baked goods, meats, and more at The Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) 8:30am–12:30pm. [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com)

**8/4 & 8/5—Theatre on The Green- A Year with Frog and Toad.** Free admission, food trucks. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com)



Hops in the Hangar at Wings Over the Rockies Museum

**8/5 Saturday—Hops in the Hangar.** One of Denver's most unique beer festivals. 5–9pm. Wings Over the Rockies Museum, 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](https://wingsmuseum.org)

**8/5 Saturday—Brent's Place Annual Block Party.** Family-friendly event with carnival games, live entertainment, music, water activities, inflatables, and food trucks for all-ages. 11am–3pm. Anschutz Medical Campus, 12474 E 19th Ave, Aurora. [classy.org/event/brents-place-block-party/e465508](https://classy.org/event/brents-place-block-party/e465508)

**8/5 Saturday—Run for the Ring 5K Run/Walk and Kid's Fun Run.** The 9th Annual Run for the Ring, raising money to cure Type 1 Diabetes. Anschutz Medical Campus, 1775 Aurora Ct. [unsignup.com/Race/CO/Aurora/RunfortheRing](https://unsignup.com/Race/CO/Aurora/RunfortheRing)

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**8/5 Saturday—Glass Mosaics Class.** Design and make a tile with glass mosaic pieces. 10–11:30am. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](https://denverlibrary.org)

**8/5 & 9/2—Bluff Lake Bird Walks.** Sat: 2.5-hour walk at 7:30am or 2-hour walk at 8am. Free but must RSVP at [blufflake.org/birdwatching](https://blufflake.org/birdwatching)

**8/6 Sunday—City Park Jazz.** Last concert of the season: LAPOMPE. 6–8pm City Park Pavilion and Bandshell, 2001 Steele St. [cityparkjazz.org](https://cityparkjazz.org).

**8/10 Thursday—Active Minds Presents Buddhism.** Examine Buddhism's origins, teachings, beliefs, and practices. 1–2pm, Free. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](https://activeminds.com)

**8/11 & 8/12—Opera on The Green: Central City Opera.** Free admission, food trucks. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com)

**8/12 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day.** Get an up close look inside select aircraft. 10am–2pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](https://wingsmuseum.org)

**8/12 Saturday—Goat Yoga.** One hour classes at 10am, 11am, and 2pm. Main Street and 47th Ave. across from Nike. [shopsatnorthfield.com](https://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**8/13 Sunday—Rescue Puppy Yoga.** Donation-based yoga class alongside puppies available for adoption. 9:30am on the West Lawn. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](https://stanleymarketplace.com)

**8/13 Sunday—Stanley Farmers Market.** 1–6pm on The Field. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](https://stanleymarketplace.com)

**8/17 Thursday—Denver Municipal Concert Band.** Free admission, food trucks. North Green (49th Ave & Valentia St.) 6:30–8pm. [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com)

**8/18 Friday—Movie on The Green- Black Panther: Wakanda Forever.** Free admission, food trucks. South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St.) Movie starts at dusk. [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com)

**8/19 Saturday—Forest Bathing.** Open your senses and engage with nature. Bluff Lake Nature Center. 9–11am. 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. [blufflake.org](https://blufflake.org)

**8/19 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](https://auroragov.org)

**8/19 Saturday—Lost Department Stores of Denver, author Mark A. Barnhouse.** Learn about the more than half-dozen Denver department stores. 2–3pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](https://denverlibrary.org)

**8/19 Saturday—A Night on the Greenway.** Support the Sand Creek Regional Greenway. 5–9pm. Central Park Pavilion, 8801 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. [sandcreekgreenway.org](https://sandcreekgreenway.org)

**8/26 Saturday—Puzzle and Board Game Swap.** Bring a puzzle or game, take a puzzle or game. 10:30am–12pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](https://denverlibrary.org)

**8/26 Saturday—Film on The Field.** This month: *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*. Movie starts at dusk. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](https://stanleymarketplace.com)



Women's Equality Day at the Center for Colorado Women's History

**8/27 Sunday—Qigong and Mindfulness Walk.** Gentle mind/body practice followed by a contemplative walk. 7:30–9am. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. Free. [blufflake.org](https://blufflake.org)

## METRO EVENTS

**8/4 & 9/1—First Friday Art Walks.** Art District on Santa Fe. 5:30–9:30pm. [denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts](https://denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts)

**8/10 Thursday—Art & About Tours.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer's or dementia and their care partners. 1–2:45pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](https://denverartmuseum.org)

**8/13 & 8/19—City Park Public Art Walking Tour.** Visit the historic sculptures, fountains, and gateways of City Park. Tickets \$5. Details and register at [denverpublicart.org](https://denverpublicart.org)

**8/17 Thursday—Riverfront Park Summer Sessions.** Music, food, and art. Free entry. Commons Park, 15th St. & Little Raven St. [riverfrontparkevents.com](https://riverfrontparkevents.com)

**8/22 Tuesday—Under the Lens: Representation at the Fair.** Look at how representation manifested at the 1893 World's Fair. 6:30pm. Molly Brown House Museum 1340 Pennsylvania St. Tickets at [mollybrown.org](https://mollybrown.org)

**8/26 Saturday—Women's Equality Day.** Celebrate how far we've come. Free events from 10am–4pm. Center for Colorado Women's History, 1310 Bannock St. [historycolorado.org](https://historycolorado.org)

**8/27 Sunday—Affordable Arts Festival.** 165+ fine artists discounting art to \$150 or less. Arapahoe Community College, 5900 S. Santa Fe Dr, Littleton. \$12 tickets to raise funds for scholarships. [affordableartsfestival.com](https://affordableartsfestival.com)

**8/26 to 8/27—Firefly Handmade Summer Market.** 80+ indie artisans, live music, local shops, restaurants. 1–4pm. 1000 Block of S Gaylord St in Wash Park. [fireflyhandmade.com](https://fireflyhandmade.com)

## KIDS AND FAMILIES

**Tuesday–Friday—Local Library Storytime.** Different age groupings and locations. Info at [denverlibrary.org](https://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](https://auroragov.org)

**Fridays—Magic the Gathering Club.** 4:30–5:30pm. Ages 12–18. A teen-run magic club. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](https://denverlibrary.org)

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**8/5 Saturday—Denver Days Bubble Party.** Enjoy boba tea while you make magical bubble wands. 2–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](#)

**8/9 Wednesday—Back to School Jamboree.** Games, prizes, resources to get ready for school, snacks, and more. 2:30–3:30pm. Pauline Robinson Library, 5575 E. 33rd Ave. [denverlibrary.org](#)

**8/9 Wednesday—Foam Party.** A giant dance party/bubble bath playground, bring a towel! 3:30–4:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](#)

**8/12 Saturday—CSU Spur 2nd Saturdays.** Free. Lots of family- friendly programming. 10am–3pm. 4817 National Western Dr. [csuspur.org](#)

**8/12 Saturday—Family Program: Ice Chalk.** Free event, we provide the ice chalk and you paint! 10:30am–12:30pm. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

**8/17 Thursday—Kids Book Club.** Read books about the Titanic or Molly Brown, then learn about building the ship. Ages 5–12. 4–5pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](#)

**8/19 Saturday—Sensory Friendly Show – Matt Hoffman.** Free concert—we keep the lights up and the music down. We'll have a calm room and fidget sensory items available. 11am–12pm. 71 East Yale Ave. [swallowhillmusic.org](#)

**8/20, 8/23 & 8/26—Art Crawl: Messy Art Making Part 3 – Printmaking.** 10:30–11:15am. For caregivers with infants–14 months. Registration required. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

**8/20 Sunday—Spanish Storytime at Tattered Cover Kids.** 5pm. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](#)

**8/20 Sunday—Teen Jam.** Learn to better express yourself through music while forming relationships with peers. Youth-led. Free. 11am–1pm. Tuft Theatre, 71 East Yale Ave. [swallowhillmusic.org](#)

**8/26 Saturday—Sensory-Friendly Maker Hours.** Create in an environment that is quieter and less overwhelming. 10–11:30am. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](#)

**9/8 & 9/9—Dog Man: The Musical.** Based on the world-wide bestselling hit series by Dav Pilkey. Recommended for ages 6–10. The Newman Center, 2344 East Iliff Ave. [newmancenterpresents.com](#)

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Dog Man: The Musical at the Newman Center

MUSEUMS, ETC.

**American Museum of Western Art.** Open M,W & F from 10am–4:30pm. Admission is \$5. 1727 Tremont Pl. [anschutzcollection.org](#)

**Aurora History Museum.** Admission is free. Closed Mondays/holidays. 15051 East Alameda Pkwy. [auroragov.org](#)

**The Byers–Evans House Museum.** Operated by History Colorado as the Center for Colorado Women's History. History Colorado members are free. 1310 Bannock St. [historycolorado.org](#)

**The Children's Museum.** Reservations recommended at [mychildsmuseum.org](#)

**Clyfford Still Museum.** SCFD Free Days Aug. 18 & Sept. 6. 10am to 5pm. Children ages 17 and under are always free. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](#)

**Denver Art Museum.** SCFD Free Day Aug. 8. Youth 18 & under always free. 100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](#)

**Denver Botanic Gardens.** SCFD Free Day Aug. 15 with registration. 1007 York St. [botanicgardens.org](#)

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

**Denver Museum of Nature and Science.** SCFD Free Nights Aug. 16 & Sept. 6, 5–9pm. Open till 9pm on Fridays. 2001 Colorado Blvd. [dmns.org](#)

**Denver Zoo.** Check out the daily schedule at [denverzoo.org](#). 2900 E 23rd Ave.

**The Forney Museum of Transportation.** Mon, Th–Sat, 10am–5pm; Sun, 12–5pm. 4303 Brighton Blvd. [forneymuseum.org](#)

**Four Mile Historic Park.** SCFD Free Day Aug. 25. Open Wed–Sun, 10am–4pm. 715 S. Forest St. [fourmilepark.org](#)

**History Colorado.** Free admissions and party on Colorado Day—Aug 1. Free membership for 4th graders. 1200 Broadway. [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–5pm. 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.** 1¢ 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.** Open to the public from 9am–1pm, Wed–Sat. Farm Fest is 9/16. 10200 Smith Rd. [theurbanfarm.org](#)

**Wings Over the Rockies Museum.** 8/19 is National Aviation Day: Pay as You Wish. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](#)

PERFORMANCE/THEATRE

**8/10 to 8/13—CinemaQ Film Festival.** LGBTQ+ Film Festival celebrating vibrant and diverse stories through curated movies. Sie FilmCenter, 2510 East Colfax Ave. [denverfilm.org](#)

**8/12 Saturday—An Evening with Mary Gauthier.** Grammy-nominated folk singer-songwriter and author, Mary Gauthier. 8–10pm. 71 East Yale Ave. [swallowhillmusic.org](#)

**Through 8/13—Reptile Logic: A Corporate Dismemberment.** An award-winning stage play with accolades from across the nation. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St, Aurora. [vintagetheatre.org](#)

**8/16 thru 8/27—Jagged Little Pill.** New musical based on Alanis Morissette's world-changing music. Buell Theatre. [denvercenter.org](#)

**8/17 thru 9/2—A Midsummer Night's Dream.** Generally considered the most famous of Shakespeare's comedies. Kilstrom Theatre. [denvercenter.org](#)

**8/20 Sunday—One Night Stand Theater presents "Call Me Crazy"** An evening of eccentric characters and baffling situations. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. [onenightstandtheater.org](#)

**9/1 thru 10/8—A Little Night Music.** Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler. Wolf Theatre. [denvercenter.org](#)

**9/5 thru 9/17—Beetlejuice.** Based on Tim Burton's dearly beloved film. For mature audiences. Buell Theatre. [denvercenter.org](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Denver Public Schools.** Numerous volunteer opportunities with our students and schools. [equity.dpsk12.org/get-involved/volunteer-services](#)

**Denver Rescue Mission.** To find volunteer opportunities, go to: [denverrescuemission.org/volunteer/#opportunities](#)

**Food For Thought Denver.** 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. Email [info@reachoutandreadco.org](#) for details.

**Reading Volunteers Needed** Read with students in grades K–8. One hour a week. No experience necessary. Email 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.

**Sand Creek Greenway Volunteer Opportunities.** For more info go to [sandcreekgreenway.org/upcoming-volunteer-opportunities](#)

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

**Spark the Change Colorado.** Direct service programs that leverage the talents and expertise of skilled volunteers in fields like mental health and empowering aging. [sparkthechangecolorado.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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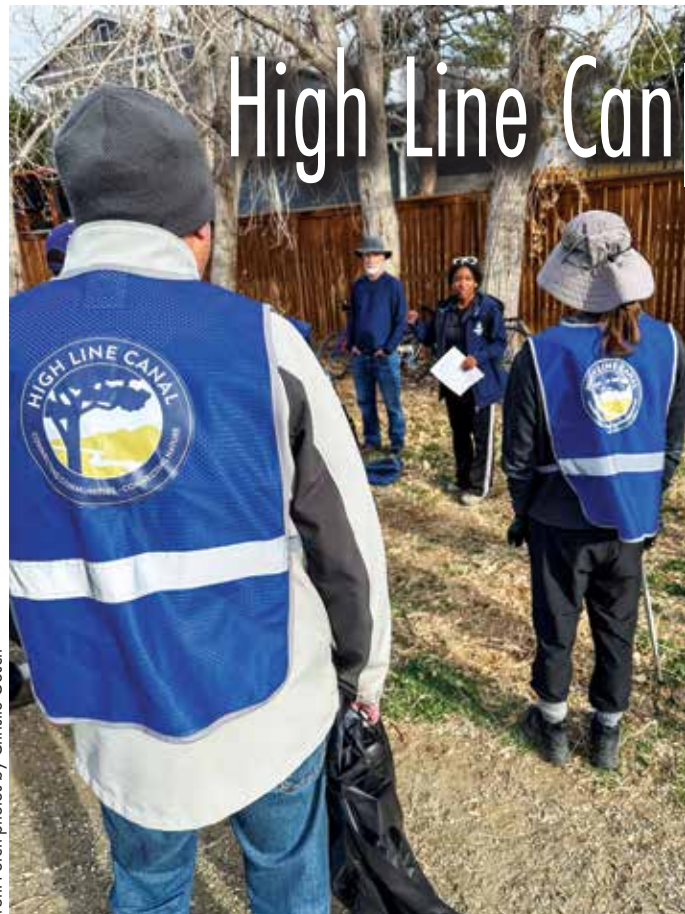
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# High Line Canal Trail Gets Major Upgrades in NE Denver

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch



The High Line Canal Conservancy, a non-profit that promotes and protects the historic waterway, organizes numerous recreational, educational, and cleanup events every year.

By Mary Jo Brooks

It's one of the longest urban trails in the nation and it's about to get some major upgrades in the Northeast Denver metro area. Construction has begun to connect one of the last remaining gaps in the 71-mile-long High Line Canal trail: from a newly built trail in Aurora to the existing trail in Green Valley Ranch. It will involve the construction of a bike and pedestrian bridge across I-70, improved lighting, new park benches, and potentially outdoor fitness stations and nature play areas. Construction is expected to be finished by the spring of 2024.

Suzanna Fry Jones, Senior Director of Programs & Partnerships for the High Line Canal Conservancy, says her organization has spent years working with neighborhood leaders and youth ambassadors in the Northeast to find out what residents would like to see in trail improvements. "We know they want better access to the trail, more safety features, and better signage. But we also want to let community members dream about other enhancements that can be made to really encourage residents to use the trail."

The Conservancy's focus in the northeast part of the metro area is relatively new, but for many years the

non-profit has held numerous community events along other parts of the trail, including cleanups, tree plantings, brush removal, guided bike rides, and walking tours—as well as educational events in schools. "We love going into classrooms and engaging with young children on environmental issues and even on the issue of water in the West," says Fry Jones.

The High Line Canal has a long and rich history. It was originally built in the 1880s to deliver irrigation water from the South Platte River to farms near the growing city of Denver. The trail meanders for 71 miles northeast from Waterton Canyon to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, and it uses a "high line" principle of design that follows the highest contours of land so that the water flows by the pull of gravity rather than being pumped by devices. Twisting and turning, the Canal drops on average two feet every mile. The canal was acquired by Denver Water in 1924, although it was never a very efficient means to deliver water since much of the water evaporated or seeped away. The agency is currently transitioning the function of the canal from delivering irrigation water to receiving storm water to prevent communities from flooding and help vegetation along the canal thrive.

Beginning in the 1970s, the maintenance road along the canal was opened to the public for recreation, and over the last 50 years it has become an extremely popular destination for cyclists, runners, walkers, and even equestrians on parts of the trail. More than a million people use the trail every year. The 860-acre corridor connects with more than 8,000

acres of other parks and open spaces.

Josh Phillips, Director of Planning & Implementation at the High Line Canal Conservancy, says that like many outdoor places, the High Line Canal trail saw a huge spike in the number of recreationists during Covid. "We really saw an increased desire of people to connect with nature in the city. They sought out the trail as a natural refuge. That combined with the general population growth in the city, means we are seeing more and more users every year."

Phillips works with 11 different municipal jurisdictions helping to raise funds to maintain

the trail and surrounding watershed. Earlier this summer, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) awarded the Conservancy \$350,000 for its work to restore and

protect the canal area. It was the third major donation from GOCO to make trail improvements. The current construction in the northeast section of the trail is part of a 15-year, \$130 million capital improvement project that will include safety enhancements, focused especially on dozens of intersections where the trail crosses roadways. "Safety is a key priority and we need to secure funding to add additional underpasses to improve the safety of traveling along the canal," says Phillips. "We're also focused on increasing accessibility. At many locations, crossing the ditch itself can be a barrier, so we're trying to build more bridges along the trail."

The capital improvement plan also calls for planting 50 new trees per mile to maintain the tree canopy as older trees begin to die. And the trail itself will be resurfaced starting with a section in Denver near the Windsor Gardens community. The concrete trail will be widened to 12 feet, with a 6-foot gravel path on the side for runners and walkers. "As more and more people use the trail, it's good to provide options to help separate the walkers from the bikers and remove any conflicts between different users," says Phillips. The hope is for that design to become the model for how the entire trail will be refashioned.

When the City of Aurora completes the new I-70 trail section, there will be just two gaps remaining in the High Line Canal trail system. One is located at Plum Creek in Douglas County and involves private land and a railroad crossing. Phillips says that gap has some difficult challenges to overcome. The other remaining gap is north of Green Valley Ranch going into the Painted Prairie development where the historic canal ended. That trail is expected to be built in 2024.



The High Line Canal trail zigzags northeast from Waterton Canyon to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, providing recreation opportunities for a million people every year.

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# NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AUGUST 2023

### THEATRE ON THE GREEN:

#### **A Year with Frog & Toad**

Friday, August 4th & Saturday, August 5th, 6–8pm, South Green

The MCA is partnering with Vintage Theatre for Theatre on the Green! They will be performing *A Year with Frog & Toad* on August 4th & 5th on the South Green (29th Ave & Roslyn St). 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

Friday, August 11th & Saturday, August 12th, 6–8pm, South Green

The MCA is excited to partner with Central City Opera for our Opera on the Green! The performance will be on the South Green located at 29th Ave and 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.

### LAST MOVIE ON THE GREEN OF 2023:

#### **Black Panther: Wakanda Forever**

Friday, August 18th, At Dusk, South Green

Grab your blankets, coolers and your friends and come to our last Movie on the Green for 2023! We will be showing the Marvel favorite, *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*! Come early and visit our sponsor booths and purchase delicious food from one of our food trucks.

The movie will begin at dusk and is free & open to the public.



### DENVER MUNICIPAL CONCERT BAND

Thursday, August 17th, 6:30–8pm, North Green

Join us on the North Green (49th Ave & Valentia St.) 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 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.

### NEW DENVER PARKING ORDINANCE

A few weeks ago, the City and County of Denver adopted new parking ordinances regarding parking on public streets. All streets in Central Park are public and regulated by the Denver parking ordinance. The new ordinance requires all vehicles parked on a public street to move at once every 72 hours, unless the vehicle is otherwise lawfully parked immediately adjacent to the residence of owner of said vehicle (DRMC 54-465). It is unlawful for a vehicle to be parked on a public street for the purpose of making non-emergency repairs, displaying an advertisement, or displaying such vehicle for sale (DRMC 54-463).

The new ordinance further makes it unlawful to park a recreational vehicle, trailer not attached to a licensed vehicle, a truck-tractor, semitrailer, or a vehicle that is longer than 22 feet in length on a public road for longer than two hours in any given seven-day period, then it must be moved at least 700 feet (DRMC 54-464). A licensed vehicle containing an attached recreational vehicle may park for no longer than 24 hours on the public street in any given seven-day period and then must be moved at least 700 feet (DRMC 54-464).

Parking ordinances are enforced on City streets by the Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure and Denver Police Department. To report a parking violation, call 720-913-1600 or visit [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org).

### ACTIVE MINDS: Buddhism

Thursday, August 10th, 1–2pm. Sam Gary Library

Buddhism is the fourth largest religion in the world with some 500 million adherents. Join Active Minds for an examination of its origins, teachings, beliefs and practices. We will discuss the life and teachings of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) and discuss the various types of Buddhism, including Zen Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, and others.

### ACTIVE MINDS: Plastics

Thursday, August 24th, 6:30–7:30pm, Online

From packaging to clothing, toys, appliances, cars, medical products, and more, plastics are an essential part of life. They also fill our landfills, pollute our oceans, and contribute to climate change. Join Active Minds as we tell the story of plastics, including our current relationship (positive and negative) with this ubiquitous material as well as ongoing research into materials that may one day replace plastics.

Join the Active Minds webinars by visiting [https://www.activeminds.com/events\\_denver.html](https://www.activeminds.com/events_denver.html).

### EARTH'S REEL RESILIENCE FILM SERIES

**Earth's Reel Resilience** is a captivating and thought-provoking film series being hosted at The Cube (8371 Northfield Blvd.) that takes viewers on an emotional journey through a collection of gripping narratives, exploring the urgent issues and profound consequences of climate change.

**Chasing Ice** (PG-13) - September 22, 6pm

Witness the epic quest of renowned environmental photographer James Balog as he embarks on a daring expedition to capture the alarming reality of disappearing glaciers. Through breathtaking visuals and compelling storytelling, *Chasing Ice* showcases the profound impact of climate change on our planet's icy landscapes, awakening a sense of urgency for climate action.

**Wall-E** (G) - September 29, 6pm

Transport yourself to a future where Earth has become an abandoned wasteland, consumed by pollution and excess. Follow the endearing and resilient robot, Wall-E, as he embarks on a remarkable adventure to restore hope and revive the planet's once-thriving ecosystems. *Wall-E* delivers a poignant message about the importance of environmental stewardship and the consequences of unchecked human behavior.

**Nuoc 2030** (NR) - October 6, 6pm

Immerse yourself in a visually stunning and evocative world where rising sea levels have reshaped the Vietnamese coast. In this dystopian tale, *Nuoc 2030* explores the human struggle for survival amidst the encroaching waters and examines the socio-economic and political impacts of climate change. Through a captivating blend of drama and environmental commentary, the film raises questions about the price we pay for our actions and the potential for redemption.

**Don't Look Up** (R) - October 13, 6pm

Prepare for a darkly comedic and satirical take on humanity's response to an impending global catastrophe. *Don't Look Up* follows two scientists as they desperately try to warn the world about an approaching comet that threatens to annihilate Earth. This star-studded film combines humor, social commentary, and a scathing critique of society's apathy towards scientific evidence, highlighting the absurdity of our collective inaction in the face of impending disaster.

Through the powerful narratives of *Chasing Ice*, *Wall-E*, *Nuoc 2030*, and *Don't Look Up*, **Earth's Reel Resilience** provides a multifaceted exploration of climate change, underscoring the need for immediate action, promoting environmental consciousness, and inspiring audiences to be catalysts for positive change.

Jennifer Olsen

Communications Manager

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