

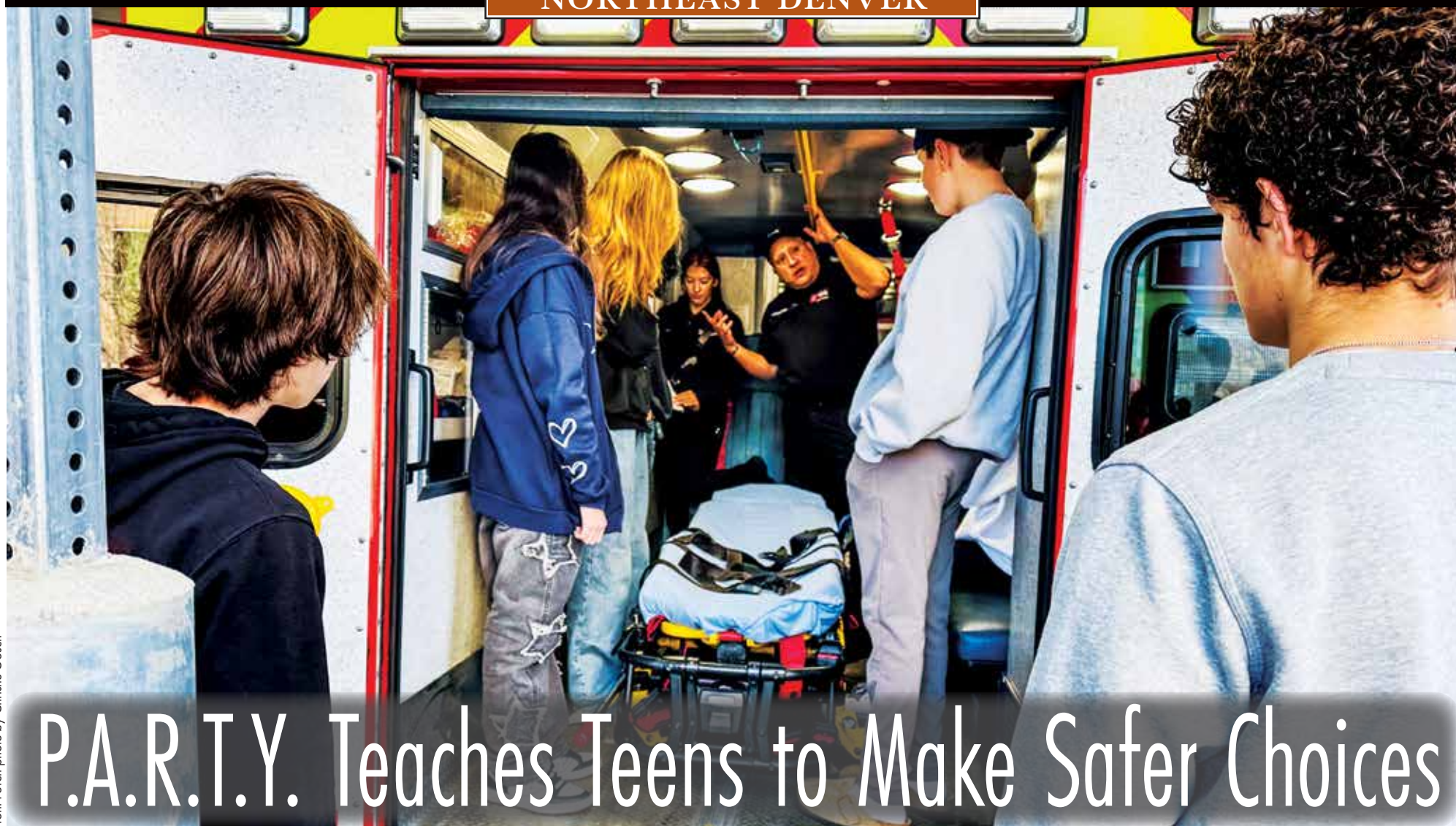
# Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

APRIL 2024

NORTHEAST DENVER



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## P.A.R.T.Y. Teaches Teens to Make Safer Choices

As part of an injury awareness and prevention program, emergency medical technicians at the University of Colorado Hospital describe in very personal terms how it feels to be the first on the scene when teenagers are involved in serious automobile crashes.

For the past 16 years, UHealth has held one-day workshops with teenagers, trying to impress upon them the importance of making good choices to avoid injury or death from car accidents or other risky behaviors. The international program is called Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth (P.A.R.T.Y.) and involves leading teens on a trauma victim's journey through the hospital. *Story by Mary Jo Brooks on page 4.*



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## Ashley Elementary Welcomes Migrant Students, Names New Principal

Third-grade teacher Beatriz Ramos Heras leads a bilingual classroom at Ashley Elementary School, located in the East Colfax neighborhood. Even as Ashley has doubled in size this year due to the rising enrollment of migrant students, the school has named a new principal who, drawing on her own bicultural experience, has responded to the challenge with grit and grace. *Story by Sarah Huber starts on page 8.*



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## Chef Troy Guard Brings Burgers to Eastbridge

Troy Guard, foreground, and General Manager Michael McGill, both Central Park residents, look forward to opening TAG Burger Bar this month. *Story by Courtney Drake-McDonough on page 6.*

## Concerned about the Climate Crisis? Move from Anxiety to Action!

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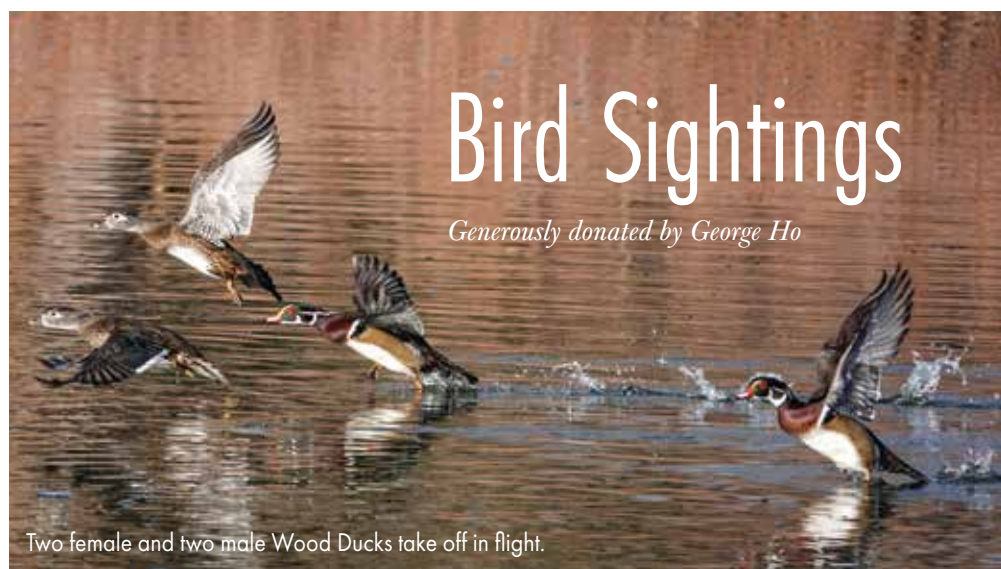
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## Bird Sightings

Generously donated by George Ho

Two female and two male Wood Ducks take off in flight.

### Wood Ducks

Wood Ducks are tree ducks—they perch on tree branches, usually near or not far from water. To enable them to perch securely on a tree branch, they are endowed with sharp nails or claws on their webbed feet. They nest in tree cavities or man-made boxes situated high above the ground. The hatchlings are precocial, meaning they are capable of independent activity shortly after birth

and can follow their mother to water and begin feeding once their feathers are dried off after hatching. They leap out of the tree hole and fall to the ground from the nest which may be as high as 50 feet off the ground. Their closest relative is the Mandarin Duck which is native to China and is also strikingly multicolored. Length: 18.5-21.3 inches Weight: 16.0-30.4 ounces Wingspan: 26.0-28.7 inches



The male Wood Duck is very colorful with iridescent chestnut and green plus multicolor patterns throughout.



This newly hatched duckling follows its mother. The female Wood Duck has a distinctive white, horizontal teardrop pattern around her eye.

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PUBLISHERS: Steve Larson & Carol Roberts  
EDITOR: Mary Jo Brooks 303-526-1969 or [Editor@FrontPorchNE.com](mailto:Editor@FrontPorchNE.com)  
DESIGN EDITOR: Christie Gosch, [DesignEditor@FrontPorchNE.com](mailto:DesignEditor@FrontPorchNE.com)  
AD SALES MANAGER: Brian Saxman 720-655-4016 or [AdSalesManager@FrontPorchNE.com](mailto:AdSalesManager@FrontPorchNE.com)

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# P.A.R.T.Y. Teaches Teens to Make Safer Choices

P.A.R.T.Y. program, which was started in Canada in 1986, is designed to change risky behaviors and reduce those grim statistics.

Since 2008, UHealth has been offering the program free of charge to school groups. Four or five times a month, Lovedale meets with groups of teens and starts with the basics: the importance of wearing seatbelts and why texting and driving don't mix. "Our brains can't multi-task. They cannot do two thinking things at once," says Lovedale. "And driving is always going to become secondary to manipulating a phone."

After that initial briefing, Lovedale takes the students on a trauma patient's journey through the hospital so they can better understand the ripple effect when someone is involved in an auto crash. After they meet with the first responders, they go to the emergency department. "We want them to see how many people are in a trauma bay trying to save a life. That's always an eye-opener for the students." The teens roleplay being the attending physician, the nurse, the resident, or the respiratory therapist. "You know, potentially there are 12 or 14 people in there impacted by your negative choice," says Lovedale.

Although Lovedale usually works with high school teachers or counselors who seek out the program for their students, this recent event was organized by Central Park

mom Sarah Stabio. She says she was particularly interested in the program because she had an uncle who died at age 18 in a car crash. "He wasn't the driver and he wasn't drinking, but the driver was. It was after a graduation party. This was a couple of months before I was born, so I never got to meet my uncle," says Stabio.

After watching the program in action, she said she was impressed. "I know it's not a silver bullet, but I do think you have to keep reinforcing these messages for your teens. And to hear from these trusted sources at UHealth, I just think it's very valuable." Her 15-year-old son Oliver said one big takeaway he got was how important it is to wear seatbelts.

Even when crashing at a higher speed, "a driver wearing a seat-belt has a much higher chance of survival," says Oliver Stabio.

Lovedale says her team conducts pre and post surveys, including anonymous surveys 4-6 weeks after the class to determine whether teens have changed their behaviors, like wearing seatbelts or avoiding checking their phones. But she says hard data measuring those changes is difficult and expensive to collect. Several studies done in Australia and Canada indicate that teens who have participated in the one-day program are involved in fewer car accidents, but no such study has been conducted in the U.S.

In focus groups after the classes, Lovedale says participants indicate they like hearing the personal stories about people who have been impacted by auto crashes, and they say it's powerful when state troopers show photos of local car crashes where teen drivers had been involved. "We don't sugar coat things, and they seem to appreciate that," says Lovedale. She is also quick to add that the program doesn't just focus on negative behaviors. "We also try to show what a positive ripple looks like. If you're the driver, make everybody wear a seatbelt, or if you're the passenger, how can you help the driver be less distracted?"

Parents, teachers, or counselors who are interested in scheduling a P.A.R.T.Y. workshop should email [laurie.lovedale@uhealth.org](mailto:laurie.lovedale@uhealth.org).



Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

Laurie Lovedale, program manager for injury prevention at University of Colorado Hospital, explains how teens impaired by alcohol or drugs could end up with injuries that have to be treated in the burn unit.

By Mary Jo Brooks

On a recent Saturday morning, a group of 15 Denver teens listened as emergency medical technicians talked about what it feels like to be the first on the scene of a car crash—especially when it involves young people. Later, the students spent time in a UHealth emergency room and a burn unit. They heard from a woman whose husband was biking when he was killed by a drunk driver. And they ended the day by role playing what it is like to deal with paralysis or serious head injuries.

It was all part of an injury awareness and prevention program called Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth (P.A.R.T.Y.). "The idea is to get high school students to think about the choices they make when they're in a vehicle and how those choices always affect far more people than just themselves," says Laurie Lovedale, program manager for injury prevention at UHealth University of Colorado Hospital.

There's good reason to try to change teen behaviors behind the wheel. In the U.S., the fatal crash rate for 16-19-year-old drivers is three times the rate for drivers over 20, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Of all fatal crashes in 2021, half of the 16- to 19-year-old drivers were not wearing seatbelts. The



As part of the P.A.R.T.Y. program, students visit a trauma bay at the University of Colorado Hospital to better understand how many people are impacted when a teenager makes a bad choice and is involved in an auto crash.

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Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch



Brandon Webb is General Manager of HashTAG and Los Chingones, neighboring sister restaurants of TAG Burger Bar opening this month in the Eastbridge Town Center in the space vacated by Next Door Kitchen & Bar.

By Courtney Drake-McDonough

Restaurateur and Chef Troy Guard's goal is to make food he'd like to eat and that's bold and flavorful. With six concepts and 12 locations in Denver and Houston, including Guard and Grace, Bubu, and Done Deal under his TAG Restaurant Group collection, he has created a wide variety to choose from. Guard's newest addition, TAG Burger Bar, opening in the Eastbridge Town Center of Central Park in April, is a previous concept revisited. It joins two other Guard restaurants there, Los Chingones and HashTAG.

The burger and milkshake-centric restaurant was formerly located in Congress Park but Guard decided to close it as Covid and the end of a 10-year lease collided. He and his team vowed they'd

open another TAG Burger Bar when it was the right time and the right location.

The Eastbridge restaurant will have many of the favorite burgers and milkshakes from the Congress Park location plus new options. There will also be appetizers including roasted broccoli and shishito peppers, and main dishes including salads, fish, meatloaf, and steak, plus rotisserie chicken, which can be taken to go with two side dishes. Buns will be baked daily, and a burger mix of chuck, brisket, and sirloin will be specially ground for the restaurant.

Guard has lived in Central Park for 11 years and enjoys having his restaurants in his own neighborhood.

"I like that I can pop over and get something I couldn't at the store or if friends are in town or we don't feel like cooking, we can go to one of the restau-

# Chef Troy Guard Brings Burgers to

rants," says Guard. "Plus, one of my son's favorite foods is burgers so he's excited."

With that proximity also comes added pressure for Guard, especially when friends and neighbors send him feedback.

"I always get nervous. I want everyone to like everything. We try to put out the best product everyday, but some days we miss something," he says. "People will text me and tell me about their experience, which helps—but it also bums me out if something went wrong. But people are also good about texting to say it was awesome."

When Guard has had to close a restaurant, it's tough on him and his team, but he says he never loses sight of the big picture—what's right for the business, their partners, and their employees, who typically aren't out of a job, since they get filtered into the other restaurants.

"I have to put my ego aside and I've gotten better every time I've had to close a restaurant," says Guard. "We have to make money, that's why we're in business, and it's challenging at times. It's always about doing the right thing and checking your ego at the door, but it never feels good. It's like reprimanding your kids—you don't like it but you have to do it."

Guard and his wife Nikki have three kids, spanning in age from 5 to 14. Nikki is a sommelier and handles the bar program at the restaurants, but also

fills in wherever needed. That means the couple works together a lot.

"For the most part, we love it, but sometimes we need time away," laughs Guard. "Sometimes we don't like each other's ideas, and that's okay because we love our guests, community, and employees. It's fun to bounce ideas off each other at home and at work."

Guard visits all of his restaurants throughout the week, checking in and working on new dishes. That includes going to Houston every other week for two days. Guard creates a plan for every week but has to adjust it almost every day as things come up. He credits his strong teams at each restaurant with avoiding the need to micromanage. But the rigorous schedule can make it hard to balance work and family.

"It has taken a lot of time to learn balance," admits Guard. "If you go too hard



Troy Guard mingled with patrons when Los Chingones opened in the summer of 2017 in Eastbridge Town Center. File photo by Steve Larson



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# His Third Restaurant in Eastbridge

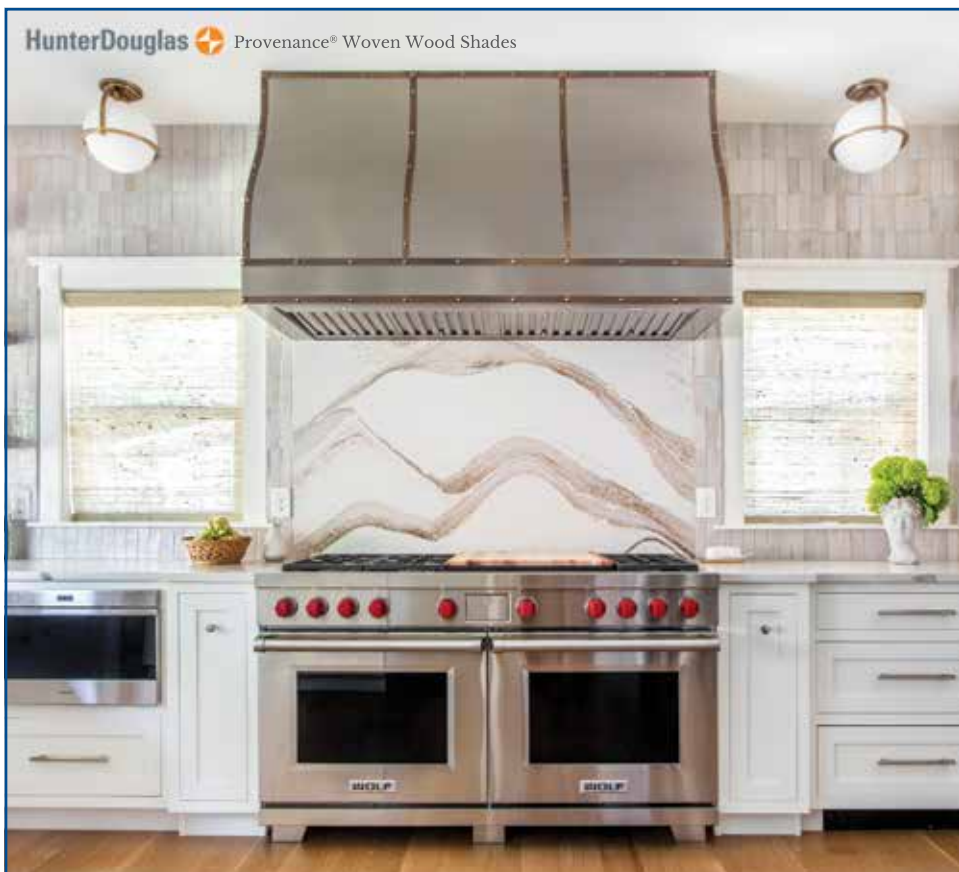
at anything, it's not good for you. I love my work and I love my family and I need to balance it. I've learned to do it pretty well, but sometimes I put in too many hours and need a few days off to chill."

A self-described "glutton for punishment" after opening many restaurants and closing a few, Guard wants to focus on growing his Los Chingones, Bubu, Guard and Grace, and HashTAG concepts saying he thinks they "have legs." He adds that

TAG Burger Bar is also one of those he can grow, and that people have been asking him to open them in other areas.

Guard had originally thought of putting the Burger Bar where Los Chingones is in Eastbridge but held off.

"In the end, my gut was right and six years later, we're doing it," says Guard, happy that TAG Burger Bar is joining the neighborhood. "I just love it here and want to invest in my community."



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# Ashley Elementary Welcomes Migrant Students, Names

By Sarah Huber

Last fall, after months of slogging through jungles and over rain-soaked mountain passes, a first grader from Venezuela found himself warm, well-fed, and shakily tracing the letters of his name at Ashley Elementary School in the East Colfax neighborhood. This student, like many of his classmates, had never before attended

school and spoke only Spanish when he entered the United States. Ashley welcomed him with arms open wide.

One of the biggest advocates for the new students has been interim principal

Janet Estrada, who watched the school double in size soon after she began her first year at Ashley. Since August, enrollment has vaulted from 197 students to more than 400 by the end of December; many of the new students are migrants grappling

with trauma and linguistic and social barriers. As a Title-1 school that previously offered classes in Spanish for students up to second grade, Ashley did have the infrastructure and space to accept

students from Central and South America this school year. But not even Estrada, who herself is bilingual and bicultural, was prepared to respond to the educational needs of the migrant crisis now facing Denver.

*“This was a lot to take on in my first year as principal, but being with the kids makes it all worth it.”*

—Janet Estrada, Interim Principal, Ashley Elementary School

More than 40,000 migrants have arrived in Denver since late 2022. Mayor Mike Johnston estimates that the City will spend about \$180 million in 2024 on costs associated with the crisis, including educational funding. Nonetheless, says Miguel Fittoria, Ashley teacher to the above first grader (whose name is not used to protect privacy). “While this has been an interesting year for all of us at Ashley, I can say without a doubt that it is the most challenging for our students.”

In Beatriz Ramos Heras’ third grade class at Ashley Elementary, 25 of the 31 students are newcomers to the U.S. “The majority of my students have arrived with a level of reading, writing, or mathematics much lower than what would be expected in third grade,” she notes. Yet she has much hope. “There are students who have grown academically two years in one, and that is thanks to high expectations, consistent routines, and belief in them and their capabilities.”

At the end of the school year, Estrada will step away from her current role as interim and become the permanent principal after the school’s hiring committee, which included Ashley staff, parents, and representatives from the Luminary Learning Network, recommended her in March for the job. Superintendent Alex Marrero endorsed her for the position a week later. In a letter to families, the committee wrote, “her bilingualism and biculturalism have been invaluable assets, and her dedication as interim principal speaks volumes about her commitment to the well-being of Ashley’s students, staff, and community.”

Estrada is excited to continue the work she has started at Ashley. “I see how leading a school can impact the trajectory of a kid’s life, and I hope to take at least some of the barriers away.”

Estrada has been able to draw on student count and emergency funds from Denver Public Schools and the state of Colorado, as well as educational grants,

to hire new teachers, provide bilingual classes through fifth grade, and invest in classroom libraries for multi-language learners. “This was a lot to take on in my first year as principal, but being with the kids makes it all worth it,” she says.

It helps, too, says Estrada, that she can identify with her students. She was born into a “typical middle-class life in Denver” to parents who immigrated from Mexico. “That quickly shifted,” she recalls. Her mother died when she was in fourth grade, and Estrada was sent to live with relatives in a small town in Mexico where she had to tote water buckets and missed the conveniences of fast food—before returning to Colorado and graduating from West High School. “I know what it is like to experience the barriers being new to a country brings,” she says. “We learned what it was to be poor, what it meant to struggle.” Even today, when showing slides to parents on Welcome Nights, Estrada pulls up a picture of food stamps. “I get it,” she says. “That history uniquely put me on a path to be successful here.”

Inspired by a fifth-grade teacher who stayed late with her after school, Estrada earned a degree in psychology and her elementary education certification from the University of Colorado Boulder. She went on to receive a master’s from the University of Colorado Denver and is in a doctoral program for educational leadership from Loyola University Chicago.

To support students “impacted by the trauma of their journeys,” Estrada prioritizes social and emotional learning alongside academic studies. The DPS Family and Community Engagement team engages regularly with students and teachers; counselors host support opportunities almost daily.



Janet Estrada, interim principal at Ashley Elementary, works with students in both Spanish and English. She was recently named principal for the 2024-25 school year.

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

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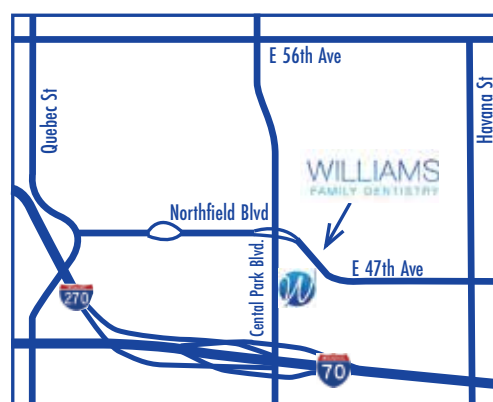
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# New Principal



Ashley teacher Miguel Fittoria explains geometric shapes in Spanish to his first-grade class. He joined the staff last fall in response to the spike in enrollment of multi-language learners.

“We have lots of students with very high needs, coming with no prior diagnoses or medical records,” Estrada explains. She is on a “never-ending mission” to secure funding and wrap-around services for families. Ashley has held vaccine clinics and housing informational meetings, worked with the nonprofit Can’d Aid to outfit students with bicycles, and raised money for grocery cards in partnership with Central Park United Neighbors (CPUN). Teachers pull from their own salaries for classroom snacks and supplies and Estrada ensures that “grab bags of food” are stocked weekly. “It’s hard to learn when you’re thinking about your stomach,” she says.

Estrada also makes a point to visit classrooms often. “My goal is to support the kids as who and at where they are,” she says. “Those moments fill my cup, even on the days when it feels like a thankless job.”

Of the first grader who crossed mountain ranges by foot, “Now he smiles everyday he is here,” says Fittoria. “He can write his name, he is on pace with the class in math, and his reading is almost there.” He adds, “When I look at him, I sit with hope believing that when he is in this classroom, the struggles he and his family have been through melt away at least for a few hours.”

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# ...NE News Updates



By Mary Jo Brooks

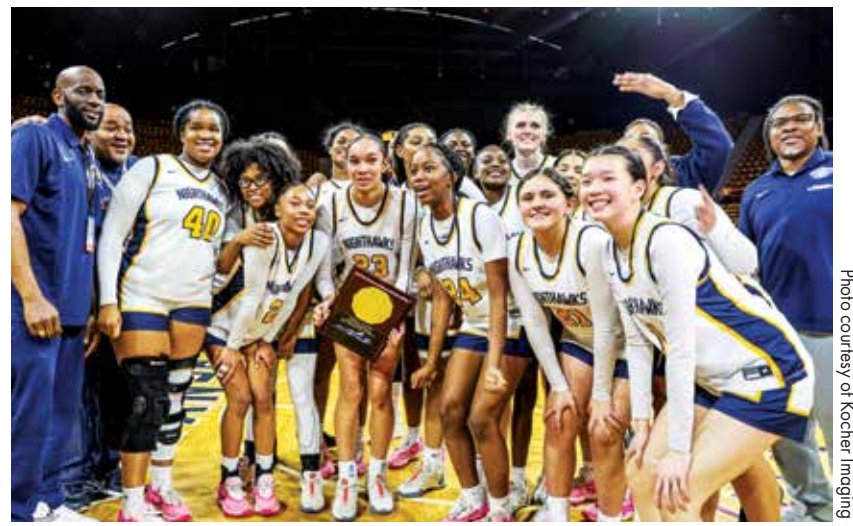
## 1 Brian Duwe Named New Principal at McAuliffe

McAuliffe International School announced that Brian Duwe will take over as principal beginning the fall of 2024. He has served as a principal for 10 years in the Aurora Public Schools District, most recently at North Middle School. McAuliffe, the largest school in the Denver Public Schools system, has been through a series of leadership changes since founding principal Kurt Dennis was fired by the DPS board in July 2023 after he spoke out about safety concerns. Micah Klaver, who then served as interim principal, was put on administrative leave after school board members raised

concerns about the use of a so-called exclusion room for students with special behavioral needs. Since January, the school has been led by interim principal Lynn Heintzman.

## 2 Northfield Girls Play in State Basketball Finals

The Northfield High School girls basketball team made it to the Class 5A state championship game in March. Although the team lost that final game to the defending champion Roosevelt High School, Northfield Nighthawks coach Sydney Price says she was thrilled with the performance of the young team. "They really put in the work, celebrated each other, and knew each other's roles." This was Price's first year coaching at Northfield following stints at Manual and George Washington. Price says the girls practiced three hours a day and "trusted the process, trusted the coaches, and trusted each other." The team will lose just two seniors, so Price predicts the team will have another strong season next year, although it will be competing in 6A, the highest division for the largest schools. "But we're trying to be best in state, not just in class," says Price. She says support from the community will play a big role. "We want everybody to just rally around them and get ready to build something that could be special for a



The Northfield High School girls basketball team placed second in the class 5A state championships, finishing the season with 26 wins and just 2 losses.

Photo courtesy of Koehler-Imaging

long time. People already look at Northfield as a great academic school, but I want them to also see that it's a strong sports school too."

## 3 Park Hill Couple Opens The W Restaurant

A new restaurant called The W has opened at the corner of Elm and Colfax. It is the creation of Park Hill couple Carrie and Ernest Wigglesworth and three other business partners. Carrie Wigglesworth said that it has been her husband's dream to open a place that serves local beers, good wines, craft cocktails, gourmet burgers, and small plates. "We wanted to create the kind of place where we would want to hang out, that neighbors could enjoy. And honestly, I think it's becoming that. We already have regulars coming in." Prior to The W, the distinctive green-tiled building was briefly home to Crush Wing + Tap and before that a restaurant and bar called the Elm. It originally served as a drugstore. *(continued on page 14)*



Park Hill residents Ernest and Carrie Wigglesworth opened a new restaurant called The W located at Colfax and Elm. A mural depicts the drugstore that originally occupied the space. Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Visit Dirt Coffee, a non-profit social enterprise and full-service coffee bar on a mission to train neuro-divergent employees in the art of service. This is just one of the growing food businesses at Kitchen Network, Mosaic Campus.

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This is a busy month for local film: The ACT Human Rights Festival runs in Ft. Collins from 4/3–4/7, the Woman+Film Festival screens at the Sie from 4/10–4/14, and we have a wonderful film screening at The Cube on 4/5 @ 6:30pm. More below, and I also owe you two Oscar reviews; I give you one this month and one next. To the films.

**Seven Winters in Tehran** (2022)  
Screening and discussion on Friday, 4/5 @ 6:30pm: The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd.

I hope you can join us for this fascinating documentary that takes us into Iran for the story of Reyhaneh Jabbari, a 19-yr-old woman who was sexually assaulted by a man in 2007. She fought him off, killed him in the attack, and under Iranian law, the man's family was allowed to choose the punishment. They chose death by hanging. Reyhaneh spent seven years in prison as her family (led by her ferocious mother) fought for her release.

### Seven Winters in Tehran



The German production by director Steffi Niederzoll uses news footage, secret recordings by her mother, Reyhaneh's own letters (voiced by Iranian actress Zar Amir Ebrahimi), and various interviews to tell the painful story. It is an important and difficult look at a fairly closed society and justice system, but at the same time, there is hope in the activism and determination of Reyhaneh's family. Few films I've seen in person have kept an audience so completely rapt and had such an emotional impact. I know it will be the same for you.

We will screen the film followed by a prerecorded Zoom interview with director Niederzoll. Tickets are only \$10 and include popcorn and drink (including wine/beer): <https://www.mca80238.com/event-calendar/seven-winters-in-tehran>.

The following two films are playing at the ACT Human Rights Film Festival in Ft. Collins. This gem of a festival takes place in our backyard, so please support them and attend some films—either online or in person. Information and tickets: <https://act2024.eventive.org/welcome>

### The Body Politic

The intriguing documentary gives us an all-access pass to the youngest mayor in the history of Baltimore, Brandon Scott, as he took office in 2020. We see him at the close of the campaign and then follow his first year as he navigates the politics, his new (and controversial) public safety initiatives, the daily grind, and the highs and lows of being in such a polemical position.

Change never comes easy, but this impressive and charismatic leader is dogged in his pursuit of reducing Baltimore crime in a city, state, and country that seem at odds with him. He deserves our time, as does director Gabriel Frances Pax Goodenough with this unflinching film.

In person screening: 5:30pm Sunday 4/7 @ The Lyric. See the schedule for online options.

### Mediha

This gripping documentary is the story of Mediha, an Iraqi refugee who was separated from her family, sold into slavery, and then eventually reunited with some of that family over the course of several years. It is heartbreaking, agonizing, and frustrating, but it also has just enough hope that she—and many others in her situation—may find some peace.

A bit of context is needed: Mediha is part of the ethnic and religious minority Yazidis of northern Iraq. ISIS took over her village in 2014 and orchestrated a genocide that killed tens of thousands, separated families, and sent women and young girls into captivity/slavery. Mediha was sold when she was ten years old and then several times afterward. We meet her a few years later in a Syrian refugee camp after her uncle found her. She was reunited with two brothers, and as the film unfolds, they try to find another brother and her mother. Her father is presumed dead.

Mediha keeps a video diary about her life in the camp where we hear her horrible story, but we also hear her hopes and dreams. Perhaps, someday, she can re-

alize those. This is another wonderful and heartfelt film that deserves your attention.

In-person screening: 6:30pm, Thursday 4/4 @ The Lyric. See the schedule for online options.

Finally, I owe you some Oscar films. **The Zone of Interest** (2022)

This one will sit with you for a long time: a Holocaust film that doesn't show the inside of a concentration camp, but rather, this unique, bleak, and fascinating film shows us just *outside* the walls of Auschwitz. We follow the Commandant of the horrific nightmare of a "camp" and the idyllic—albeit farcical and venal—life of his family who live, literally, on the other side of the wall. They have a garden, a spacious greenhouse, a small pool, a veranda, and a tidy and well-appointed house staffed by young, local Polish girls. One of those girls offers us the smallest glimmer of humanity in her nightly, clandestine escapades around the camp leaving food for the prisoners (shot in a jarring night-vision, rotoscoped, fantastical vision).

The mother of this den is Heddy, played by Sandra Hüller as a ferocious, spiteful, and stomping force of nature who may be the scariest character. Is she the personification of the banality of evil? Or is she just plain evil? After seeing this



film, we may want to rethink that adage coined by Hannah Arendt.

For me, the film is frightening, but it is also *close*: a closeness that is reached through allegory, and that is what makes it all so frightening. Are we seeing a story about *us*? Does the film tell us we are living outside the walls of something awful and evil, and we refuse to look over because we are comfortable and safe? In the world of the film, we know exactly what is happening beyond the barbed-wired walls we see, and the gunshots, screams, and admonishments we hear. But do we hear the hum—the underlying hum of the incinerator that gurgles endlessly? The film asks us to identify that hum; the question is, what do we do about it? And what is the hum that we are missing in our own lives?

Available on streaming outlets.

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).

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# LOCAL EVENTS

April thru early May

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

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

## NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

**4/5 Friday—Seven Winters in Tehran.** Hosted by Indie Prof. Vincent Pitarro, PhD. 6:30pm. The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. Tickets at the door or at [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**4/5 & 5/3—Nature Wonder Walks.** Bluff Lake Nature Center. 1–2pm. 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. Free but must RSVP at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**4/6 Saturday—Bluff Lake Plant Walk.** Exploration wild plants. 4–5:30pm. 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. Free but must RSVP at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**4/6 & 5/4—Bluff Lake Bird Walks.** 2-hour walk at 8am. 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. Free but must RSVP at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**4/7 Sunday—Voice of the Wood Chamber Players.** 3–4pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/11 Thursday—Active Minds Presents: The American West.** How the West was opened. 1–2pm, Free. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)

**4/11 Thursday—Educational Wine Tasting.** 6–8pm. Must be 21. The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. Tickets: [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**4/12 & 4/19—Goatflix and Chill.** 6pm. 8246 Northfield Blvd. The Shops at Northfield. Register at [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**4/13 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day.** A close look inside select aircraft. 10am–2pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](http://wingsmuseum.org)

**4/13, 4/14 & 4/20—Indoor Goat Yoga.** 4/13 & 4/20: 10am, 12pm, and 2pm. 4/14: 8pm blacklight goat yoga. 8246 Northfield Blvd. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**4/17 Wednesday—Supporting LGBTQ+ and Neurodivergent Youth.** Creating safer and more inclusive environments. 10:30am–12pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/20 Saturday—Fiber Festival.** Animals interactions, activities, demonstrations, and vendors. Free event. 9am–12pm. The Urban Farm, 10200 Smith Rd. [theurbanfarm.org](http://theurbanfarm.org)

**4/22 Monday—Death Café.** Normalize conversations around death. 2–3:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/25 Thursday—Active Minds Presents: French Cuisine.** A four-course exploration of a long and flavorful history. 1–2pm, Free. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)

**4/27 Saturday—New Friends and Neighbors Migrant Market.** Supporting migrants. 10am–4pm. The North Green, 8912 E 47th Ave. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**5/3 Friday—Ageless Grace—Body and Brain Workout.** Learn 21 simple seated exercise tools designed for all ages and abilities. 2–3pm. Schlessman Library, 100 Poplar St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)



Charlie Ocean speaks on supporting LGBTQ+ and Neurodivergent Youth.

**5/4 Saturday—Montview's Annual Carnival** Montview Community Preschool & Kindergarten, 1980 Dahlia St. [montviewpreschool.org](http://montviewpreschool.org)

## METRO EVENTS

**4/5 & 5/3—First Friday Art Walks.** On Santa Fe. 5:30–9:30pm. [denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts](http://denver.org/things-to-do/denver-arts-culture/denver-art-districts)

**4/7 Sunday—SPARK! Alzheimer's Association.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer's or dementia. 1–2pm. 1007 York St. Register at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**4/11 Thursday—Art & About Tours.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer's or dementia. 1–2:45pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**4/13 Saturday—Guns to Gardens Safe Surrender Event.** Bring your unwanted gun(s) to be destroyed on-site and receive a grocery store gift card. 2200 S. Harrison St. [gunstogardensdenver.org](http://gunstogardensdenver.org)

**4/13 Saturday—Redlining the Outdoors:** Lecture on environmental racism and outdoor access. 1–3pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 N. Broadway. Free, register at: [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**4/18 Thursday—Paper Fashion Show.** Highlighting CO talent and supporting the non-profit Downtown Aurora Visual Arts (DAVA). 6–11pm. Sports Castle, 1000 Broadway. [paperfashionshow.com](http://paperfashionshow.com)

**4/19 Friday—Denver's Japanese History with Gil Asakawa.** Food tour, lecture, and dinner. 8pm. Sakura Square, 1255 19th St. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**4/24 Wednesday—Bold Women. Change History. Natalie Diaz.** Indigenous poet. Linguist. MacArthur Genius. 7–9pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 N. Broadway. Tickets at [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

## KIDS AND FAMILIES

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

**4/3, 4/17 & 5/1—Kids Game Club.** Drop by to play games in a fun, relaxed environment. Ideal for ages 5–12. 3:30–5:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/7 Sunday—STEM Playdate.** Build, create and explore together. 3–4pm. Ages 2–8 with caretaker. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/9 Tuesday—Chess Club for Grades 3–6.** Play chess and learn new strategy skills to compete against your peers. 4:30–5:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/12 Entry Deadline—Young Writers Contest for Story Books on Stage Show.** Open to all 1st–5th grade writers. More details at [storiesonstage.org](http://storiesonstage.org)

**4/13 Saturday—CSU Spur 2nd Saturdays.** Free. Lots of family-friendly programming. 10am–3pm. 4817 National Western Dr. [csuspur.org](http://csuspur.org)

**4/14 Sunday—Sensory-Friendly Morning.** For kids with neurodiversity or sensory processing disorders and their families. 9am–12pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**4/14 Sunday—Foxy and Shmoxy: Art Detectives.** Giving young children access and experience art in unique ways. 10:30am–12pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**4/18 Thursday—Kids Book Club.** This month is *Peter & the Wolf* by Gavin Friday with Illustrations by Bono. Ages 5–12. 4–5pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/20 Saturday—Family Nature Adventure Days.** Free crafts and activities, no registration required. Bluff Lake Nature Center. 8:30am–12pm. 11255 E. MLK Jr Blvd. Free but must RSVP at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**4/21 Sunday—Spanish Storytime at Tattered Cover Kids.** 5pm. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St. Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**4/21, 4/24 & 4/27—Art Crawl: ABC's of Curating.** 10:30–11:15am. For caregivers with infants–14 months. Registration required. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](http://clyffordstillmuseum.org)

**4/22 Monday—Día del Niño: Alebrijes Magnets Folk Art Class.** Create a Mexican folk art creature. 4–5:30pm. Ages 13+ at Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. Limited space, register at [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/23 Tuesday—Lego® Club.** Learn while having fun. Ages 8–12. 4:30–5:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. Limited space. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/24 Wednesday—Youth Gaming Night.** Play Xbox and Wii Games with friends! Snacks will be provided. Ages 5–17. 6–7:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/28 Sunday—Día del Niño Celebration.** A global celebration of children, FREE admission all day. 10am–5pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**4/28 Sunday—El Día del Niño—the Day of the Child.** Museum is free of charge all day. 10am–5pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 N. Broadway. Tickets at [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**4/28 Sunday—Día del Niño (Day of the Child).** Drop-in art making and child-friendly dance performances at 10:30am, 11:30am, and 12:30pm. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](http://clyffordstillmuseum.org)

**5/2 Thursday—Author Talk: Lei and the Fire Goddess.** An interactive presentation. 5:30–6:30pm. Center for Colorado Women's History, 1310 Bannock St. Pay what you can at [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)



El Día del Niño—the Day of the Child at History Colorado

**5/4 Saturday—Girl Scout Hat Workshop.** Create a one-of-a-kind creation all your own. 10:30am–1:30pm. Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania St. [historicdenver.org](http://historicdenver.org)

**5/11 & 5/12—Bluey's Big Play.** A brand-new theatrical adaptation of the Emmy® award-winning children's television series. Buell Theatre. [denvercenter.org](http://denvercenter.org)

## MUSEUMS, ETC.

Find local museums at [www.FrontPorchNE.com](http://www.FrontPorchNE.com) —> Events (tab) —> Ongoing Events. For a listing of SCFD Free days, go to: [www.scfdf.org](http://www.scfdf.org)

## PERFORMANCE/THEATRE

**4/3 to 4/6—Three Absurd Comedies in One Evening.** Presented by Three Leaches Theatre. 717 Lipan St. [buntport.com](http://buntport.com)

**4/5 to 4/6—Nathaniel Rateliff Presents A Night of Leonard Cohen.** From "Hallelujah" to "Suzanne," witness the power of songwriting. Boettcher Hall. [coloradosymphony.org](http://coloradosymphony.org)

**4/5 to 5/5—Emma.** A delightfully unconventional and fun adaptation of Jane Austen's classic comedy. Wolf Theatre. [denvercenter.org](http://denvercenter.org)

**4/7 Sunday—One Night Stand Presents: Sleuths and Spies.** 1460 Dayton St., Aurora. [onenightstandtheater.org](http://onenightstandtheater.org)

**4/10 Wednesday—Jerusalem Quartet.** Israeli string quartet. Newman Center, 2344 E. Iliff Ave. [friendsofchambermusic.com](http://friendsofchambermusic.com)

**4/10 to 4/28—MJ the Musical.** The music. The showmanship. The icon. Buell Theatre. [denvercenter.org](http://denvercenter.org)

**4/12 Friday—Urban Bush Women.** A dynamic evening of dance. 7:30pm. Newman Center, 2344 E. Iliff Ave. [newmancenterpresents.com](http://newmancenterpresents.com)

**4/12 Friday—The Denver Moth – StorySLAM.** The night's posted theme: Green. 7:30pm. 71 East Yale Ave. [swallowhillmusic.org](http://swallowhillmusic.org)

**4/12 to 4/21—Ballet MasterWorks.** A trio of ballets that test the limitations of gravity and rhythm. Ellie Caulkins Opera House, 1385 Curtis St. [coloradoballet.org](http://coloradoballet.org)

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**4/13 to 4/28—Ballet Ariel presents The Silver Anniversary Dance Collections.** *American in Paris*, *Appalachian Spring*, and dances from *Le Corsaire*. 2496 W. balletariel.org

**4/14 Sunday—Tell Me Everything.** Celebrate the work of Denver novelist (and Private Detective) Erika Krouse. Su Teatro. 721 Santa Fe Dr. storiesonstage.org

**Through 4/14—Gem of the Ocean by August Wilson.** Black Americans thru each decade of the 20th century. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. aurorafoxartscenter.org

**4/19 Friday—TAKT Trio.** Performing three works for violin, horn, and piano. 7:30pm. Newman Center, 2344 E. Iliff Ave. newmancenterpresents.com

**Through 4/20—Cost of Living.** Recipient of the 2018 Pulitzer Prize. Curious Theatre Company, 1080 Acoma St. curioustheatre.org

**Through 4/20—Guadalupe in the Guest Room.** A celebration of life, and the healing power of telenovelas. The John Hand Theater, 7653 E. 1st Pl. firehousetheatercompany.com

**4/21 Sunday—Dyao Presents: 'Tis a Human Thing, Love.** 2:30pm. Boettcher Hall. coloradosymphony.org

**Through 4/21—The Glass Menagerie.** A cramped apartment. A family struggling to escape the past. And a Gentleman Caller. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St, Aurora. vintagetheatre.org

**4/26 to 5/5—Cheyanne.** How artists of color navigate America's complex and nuanced art world. The People's Building, 9995 E Colfax Ave, Aurora. controlgroupproductions.org

**4/27 Saturday—17th Annual RTMU and 6th Annual Prakriti Festival.** Classical dances from India and South Asia. \$5 tickets include Indian lunch. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. aurorafoxartscenter.org

**4/28 Sunday—Hitmakers of the 60s & 70s.** Featuring the Music of Carole King, James Taylor, and more. Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. aurorafoxartscenter.org

**4/28 & 4/29—Server: A Sara Bareilles Cabaret.** The People's Building, 9995 E Colfax Ave. onthestage.tickets/show/the-peoples-building

**Through 5/5—Noises Off.** A relentless, high-energy farce. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd. Arvada. arvadacenter.org

**Through 5/5—Space Explorers: THE INFINITE.** Immersive experience inspired by NASA missions. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St, Aurora. denvercenter.org

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For a more extensive list, go to [www.FrontPorchNE.com](http://www.FrontPorchNE.com) and search for Charitable Opportunities.

**College Access Mentor with Minds Matter Colorado.** 2 hours a week during the school year. Info at [mindsmatterco.org/volunteers](http://mindsmatterco.org/volunteers)

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

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

**Food For Thought Denver.** Providing food for students and their families. Sign up to volunteer/donate at [foodforthoughtdenver.org](http://foodforthoughtdenver.org)

**Project Worthmore.** Help bag and deliver fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, and household necessities to refugees. [projectworthmore.org](http://projectworthmore.org)

**Reach Out and Read Colorado.** Help sort and pack children's books for underserved families. Email [info@reachoutandreadco.org](mailto:info@reachoutandreadco.org) for details.

**Reading Volunteers Needed** One hour a week. No experience necessary. Email contact: Pil, 2011 [@partnersinliteracy.org](mailto:@partnersinliteracy.org)

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

**Ronald McDonald House Charities Volunteer.** Info at [ronaldhouse.org](http://ronaldhouse.org) under "How You Can Help".

**Sand Creek Greenway Volunteer Opportunities.** Info or volunteer. [sandcreekgreenway.org](http://sandcreekgreenway.org)

**Single Volunteers of Greater Denver.** Meet others and assist nonprofit organizations for events/activities. Info at [svgd.org](http://svgd.org)

**Spark the Change Colorado.** Direct service programs that leverage the expertise of skilled volunteers in fields like mental health and empowering aging. [sparkthechangecolorado.org](http://sparkthechangecolorado.org)

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

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

## GREEN AND SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS

**4/5 Friday—Sustainability Fair 2024.** Ideas and opportunities on more sustainable ways of living. Free with general admission. 11am–3pm. 100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**4/5 Friday—Waking Your Garden Up in the Spring.** Learn what needs to be done to get your yard and garden growing. 3–4pm. Schlessman Library, 100 Poplar St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**4/6 Saturday—Free Shredding, Electronics, and Paint Recycling.** Paint: 9am–1pm, rest 8–10am. 8246 The Shops at Northfield, East parking lot. \$50 fee on box-style TVs. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**4/11 to 4/14—Just Between Friends Children's Resale.** National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St. Free tickets at [denverjbfale.com](http://denverjbfale.com)

**4/12, 4/15, & 4/29—Permaculture I: Fundamentals & Design Class.** Learn a design system for yards and gardens that mimics and celebrates nature's patterns and processes. Denver Tool Library, 555 Santa Fe Dr. Register at [denvertoolibrary.org](http://denvertoolibrary.org)

**4/13 Saturday—Basics of Organic Gardening.** 10am–12pm. Pay what you can. 1031 33rd St. [dug.org](http://dug.org)

**4/19 Entry Deadline—Recycle Poster Contest.** All K–12 CO students are invited to showcase their artistic talent and commitment to upcycling. Details at [recyclecolorado.org/poster-contest](http://recyclecolorado.org/poster-contest)

**4/19 to 4/21—Party for Our Planet.** Daily activities about our big, beautiful planet. The Children's Museum, 2121 Children's Museum Dr. [mychildsmuseum.org](http://mychildsmuseum.org)

**4/20 Saturday—Greenway Guardians Earth Day Trash Clean-Up.** Led by youth. 11am–1pm. Wetland Loop Trailhead, 6102 East 52nd Ave. Commerce City. Register at [sandcreekgreenway.org](http://sandcreekgreenway.org)

**4/21 Sunday—Makerspace Workshop: Grow Your Own Food.** Bed preparation, seed starting, watering, and harvesting. 11am–1pm. History Colorado Center, 1200 N. Broadway. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**4/21 Sunday—Earth Day Special Screening: Deep Rising.** Exposing the destructive machinations of a secretive organization empowered to extract massive amounts of metals from the deep seafloor. 2pm. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St. Tickets at [ceff.net/schedule-at-a-glance](http://ceff.net/schedule-at-a-glance)

**4/21 Sunday—Earth Week Panel**

**and Open Mic.** Connect with fellow Earth advocates. 6pm. Compost Colorado, 4800 Washington St. RSVP at [eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-panel-discussion-and-open-mic-with-coco-and-collaborators-tickets-616627558627](http://eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-panel-discussion-and-open-mic-with-coco-and-collaborators-tickets-616627558627)

**4/22 Monday—Greenway Guardians Earth Day Trash Clean-Up.** Led by youth. 4:30–6pm. Dahlia Trailhead, 49000 South Sandcreek Dr. Register at [sandcreekgreenway.org](http://sandcreekgreenway.org)

**4/24 Wednesday—Capturing Rain: Building Water Catchment Systems.** Learn how to add a rain barrel to your garden. 4:30–7:30pm. Barnum Orchard, 151 King St. Register at [dug.org](http://dug.org)

**4/26 Friday—Knowing Your Home Basics.** A foundational understanding of how a house works. 5:30–8pm. 555 Santa Fe Dr. Register at [denvertoolibrary.org](http://denvertoolibrary.org)

**5/4 Saturday—Go Native! Landscapes Made for Colorado.** Walk through this process step-by-step with an experienced, landscape expert. 1–2pm. 1007 York St. Register at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**5/7, 5/8, & 5/9—The Week.** Concerned about the Climate Crisis? Move from Anxiety to Action! 6:30pm. The Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. [frontporchne.com/article/theweek](http://frontporchne.com/article/theweek)

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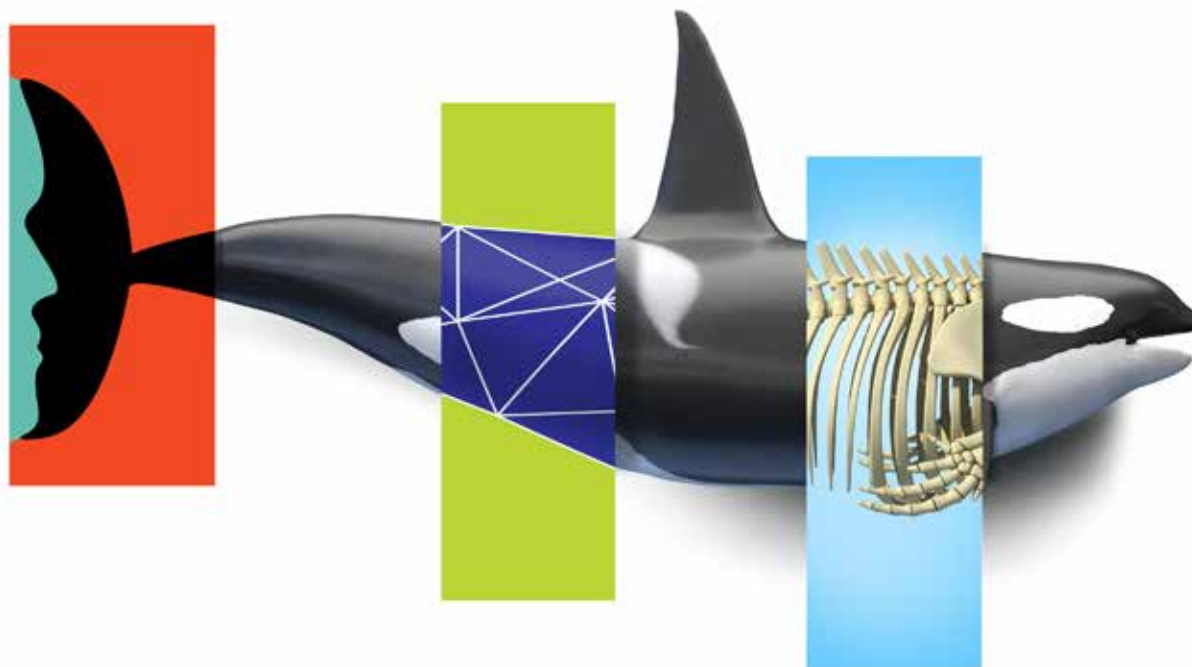
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# Concerned about the Climate Crisis? Move from Anxiety to Action!

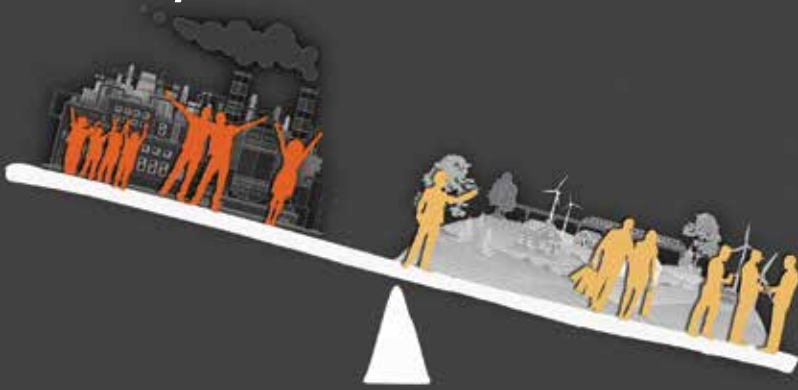
Front Porch and the Master Community Association (MCA) present:

## THE WEEK

May 7: How bad will it get?

May 8: How did we get here? Is there hope?

May 9: What can I do? What can we do?



The Week is a three-part series to inform and inspire us about what we can do to effect change. Each session starts with a one-hour video followed by a discussion with fellow community members. There is still time to tip the scales to a more sustainable and healthy planet. Join us! For more information about The Week, visit [www.theweek.ooo](http://www.theweek.ooo).

May 7, 8, and 9, 6:30pm at The Cube: 8371 Northfield Blvd, Denver, 80238

Please plan to attend all three evenings for the best experience.

RSVP to <https://bit.ly/theweek80238> or scan QR code (not required)

Participation is free. Donations of seeds to Denver Urban Gardens are appreciated.



## NE News Updates (continued from pg.10)

### 4 New Parking Fees at Stanley Marketplace

Beginning April 1, patrons who drive to Stanley Marketplace will need to pay a parking fee if they plan to stay longer than three hours when they are dining or shopping at the Northwest Aurora market. Parking has become increasingly difficult as the marketplace has flourished and the density of housing nearby has dramatically increased. The new payment system is designed to encourage more people to walk or bike to the market. After three hours, parking will cost \$3 an hour. Patrons can pay using the SP+ app on their phone or using QR codes posted on signs in the parking lot.

### 5 Two East High School Deans Shot by Student Intend to Sue DPS

Two East High School faculty members have taken preliminary steps to file a lawsuit against Denver Public Schools (DPS) after they were shot in March 2023 by a student who had been identified for possible violent behavior. Television station KDVR obtained "notice of claims" for Jerald "Wayne" Mason and Eric Sinclair, which indicates the first step

toward filing lawsuits. The claims say that the complaint is based on "the negligence, recklessness and willful and wanton conduct" of DPS and East High School. After the shooting, the student fled the school and his body was later discovered with a self-inflicted gunshot.

### 6 Exchange Your Gas-powered Lawn Mower for an Almost-Free Electric One

Denver residents who live in certain zip codes can turn in their old gas-powered lawn mower and receive an electric one for as little as \$40. The Regional Air Quality Council is a state agency that tries to reduce air pollution and improve public health. It estimates that operating a gas-powered mower for one hour contributes the equivalent pollution of driving a car from Denver to Utah. The agency is able to pay for the electric mowers using fines that were collected from polluting companies. The mowers will be given away at specific Ace Hardware stores beginning April 13. The program is open to residents in the following zip codes where *Front Porch* is delivered: 80207 and 80238. For more information and to see additional qualifying zip codes, visit [mowdownpollution@raqc.org](mailto:mowdownpollution@raqc.org).

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# NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION APRIL 2024



### MCA AQUATICS

Hippity, hoppity, summer is on its way! Be ready for program registration and summer days at the pool by purchasing your pool memberships. Visit our website, [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com), to create your ActiveNet account and become a pool member with your Active Pass membership, today.

#### Aquatic Teams Registration:

**Wednesday, April 3 @ 6pm–New-to-Swim Team Parent Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 10 @ noon–**

**Aquatic Team Registration Opens**

Summer program registrations kick-off with aquatic teams' registration on Wednesday, April 10 at noon! We offer a wide variety of summer aquatic sports including recreation swimming, traditional swim team, dive team, and

synchronized swimming. We offer swim teams at Aviator, Jet Stream, Runway 35, and Splash Landing pools – join us for a New Swimmer Parent Meeting on Wednesday, April 3 to learn more about what team is best for your swimmer.

#### Pool Party Reservations:

**Wednesday, May 1 @ noon–**

**Pool Reservations Open: After-hours + Party Pads**

Ready for summer celebrations? Let your favorite pool be your party location! After-hours and party pad rentals open at noon on Wednesday, May 1 in your ActiveNet account. Available times and rental pricing are available on the pool pages at [MCA80238.com](http://MCA80238.com)

#### Mark Your Calendar:

**Wednesday, May 8 @ noon–**

**Member Swim Lesson Registration**



### SEVEN WINTERS IN TEHRAN

*Friday, April 5, 6:30pm at the Cube*

Join us at The Cube for an exclusive one-night screening of this riveting documentary. The film delves into the heart-wrenching story of Reyhaneh Jabbari, a young Iranian woman unjustly accused of murder and her subsequent battle for justice in a system stacked against her. Through her letters from prison, *Seven Winters in Tehran* unfolds the emotional and complex layers of her seven-year fight for freedom, offering a poignant look at human resilience and the quest for justice.

Hosted by Vincent Piturro, PhD, professor of film and media studies in the Department of English at Metropolitan State University of Denver.

Tickets are \$10 per person and includes your first drink (alcoholic beverages included) and first popcorn, to complete your movie-going experience.

### CORKS AND CONVERSATION: BEYOND THE STRAW BASKET

*Thursday, April 11, 6–8pm, The Cube*

Join us for the third edition of Corks and Conversation as Pearl Wine Company teams up with Scott Thomas of Grappolo Wine School, for an evening of conviviality and engaging dialogue centered entirely on one grape variety...Sangiovese.

Many often associate Sangiovese with Chianti, but many do not recognize that Sangiovese is arguably Italy's most important red grape. While Sangiovese is most certainly famous for Chianti, there is more to this variety that just one region. Sangiovese can be found across multiple regions producing wines in many shades and styles.

In this unique tasting journey we will traverse the iconic regions of Tuscany, from the renowned appellations of Chianti Classico to the esteemed vineyards of Montalcino. Our adventures will cross the rugged terrain of the Apennine mountains, unveiling the distinct flavors of Emilia Romagna, before descending into the picturesque landscapes of Umbria as we taste 6 Sangiovese-based wines showcasing how "terroir" (climate, winemaking, cultural influences) defines this beautiful variety.

Limited to 50 people.

### NEW FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS MIGRANT MARKET

*Saturday, April 27, 10am–4pm, North Green*

South American food/desserts, rocking horses, plant stands, dog leashes and treats, knife and lawn mower blade sharpening, services of all kinds and much more! Please direct any questions to Linda Nabours at [L\\_W\\_Nabours@msn.com](mailto:L_W_Nabours@msn.com).

### SPONSORSHIPS

Provide your business with exposure within the Central Park community by partnering with the MCA! We offer different levels of sponsorships, and we can work with each business to choose an opportunity that matches its budgeting and marketing needs. The MCA offers visibility in a variety of places: online, outdoor events, and within our aquatic facilities. For more information, contact Jenna McDevitt at [jmcddevitt@mca80238.com](mailto:jmcddevitt@mca80238.com)

### PARK RULES

Please note that the following are prohibited in the neighborhood parks:

Dogs off-leash • Leaving personal property in park overnight • Damage to park property • Skateboarding or inline skating • Disturbing the peace of others • Littering • Glass bottles • Motorized vehicles • Fires or fireworks

If personal items are left in the park overnight, they will become park property and will be disposed of.

#### **ACTIVE MINDS: The American West**

*Thursday, April 11, 1–2pm, Sam Gary Library*

Join Active Minds for an exploration of how the West was opened and won. We'll tell the story from a variety of perspectives—from the early explorers who ventured into the unknown to the fortune seekers who raced to the Gold Rush. We'll also include the often brutal elements of what was known at the time as "Manifest Destiny" including conflicts with Native Americans as well as Spanish Mexico, all of which added significant territory to the United States.

#### **ACTIVE MINDS: French Cuisine**

*Thursday, April 25, 1–2pm, Sam Gary Library*

Over 2000 years ago, the Roman Empire expanded north to incorporate the agriculturally abundant region of the Celtic Gauls. Thus began the rich culinary history of the land that would come to be known as France. Join Active Minds as we embark on a four-course exploration of the long and flavorful history of the people who gave us the word "restaurant."

Jennifer Olsen  
Communications Manager  
[Jolsen@mca80238.com](mailto:Jolsen@mca80238.com)



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# Your Old



**Pro Tip!**  
One of the quickest and least expensive ways to freshen up and add value to your home is to paint it. A few thousand dollars in paint will bring much more back at resale!

Lug your obsolete paint to **The Shops at Northfield**. We'll recycle it for **FREE!**

**When?**  
Saturday, April 6th  
From 9 to 1

**Location?**  
Find us between Old Navy and Off Broadway Shoes.

# Paint!

COMPASS



**Kim Kouba, Team Lead**  
303.204.8215



**Laura Hudgins**  
720.480.9692



**Amanda Murphy**  
720.454.2622

Scan here to sign up for a drop-off time!



This event is made possible by **GreenSheen!** A company that takes old paint and makes it new again.

It's a **free** service- but we are accepting donations for **Senior Support Services**, an organization that looks after homeless seniors.

We're teaming up with the Shops at Northfield this year. Keep your eyes open for their other recycling resources during their Earth Day lalapalooza!

**See you there!**

*Give us a shout to book a consultation with one of our savvy team members. Our website: [npreco.com](http://npreco.com)*



**Consuelo Sidas**  
720.277.2925



**Jordyne Bailey**  
720.291.1633



**Jody Donley, Founder**  
720.290.8917