

# Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

NORTHEAST DENVER

AUGUST 2025

## A Death Café Serves Up Conversation and a Safe Space



Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

Park Hill Library branch supervisor Tara Bannon (seated second from right) leads a group conversation at the Death Café. The monthly meetings offer the opportunity for people to discuss a topic that is not always easy to talk about. Participants share stories, thoughts, and fears about the end of life.

## Living Land Project in City Park to Honor Denver's Indigenous Heritage



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Denver resident Sid Whiting, from the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, is a consultant on the seven-acre Living Land project. *Story by Mary Jo Brooks on page 4.*

The community room at the Park Hill Library is used many ways: toddler time, music, dance, and near the end of each month, the room is filled with people who join a conversation about death. The meeting isn't morbid but filled with participants sharing resources and ideas while offering a safe space. *Story by Linda Kotsaftis on page 8.*



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## Cyclists Advocate for Safer Roads

A group of cyclists, advocating for safer road conditions and infrastructure, took a Ride of Silence in the Park Hill July 4th Parade to promote awareness of the 134 cyclists and pedestrians who were killed on Colorado roads in 2024. *Story by Margaret Freeman on page 10.*

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Park Hill Yoga Celebrates 25 years of Practice and Community *page 6*

Working to Prevent Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths *page 11*

# ...NE News Updates



By Mary Jo Brooks and Linda Kotsaftis

## 1 Westerly Creek Restoration Project Hits Milestone

The Westerly Creek construction project at Stanley Marketplace hit a big milestone in late June: Workers moved the creek into its new configuration a few hundred feet west from its former location. The revitalized creek takes a much more meandering path through the field, which is all part of the plan to make the area more resistant to flooding. “The reason we leave all of these open spaces around a very small creek is to provide a buffer, an extra level of protection,” said Colin Haggerty, program manager with the Mile High Flood District. “It’s a safer, shallower system that reduces the

risk of flooding to the overall neighborhood.”

Haggerty said the next step is to fill in the old creek bed and then begin building the concrete structures that both divert water to ponds and serve as community gathering places.

“These structures that are shaped like amphitheaters actually serve multiple benefits. They convey stormwater flows but also allow people to gather near the creek,” said Haggerty. Four underground concrete vaults will also be installed to help collect trash that is carried in from the stormwater.

After the concrete infrastructure is in place, workers will begin planting the grasses and native plants that will help filter the water of contaminants. Haggerty said the construction crew is slightly ahead of schedule, but he still expects the work will continue until April. “We have committed to Stanley Marketplace that the multi-use fields will be ready for use in May of 2026.”

## 2 A New Home for the Food Bank of the Rockies

A new 270,000-square-foot home for the Food Bank of the Rockies is being built to help meet the needs of the 800 hunger relief partners of the organization.

The \$75 million project, funded by donors, still needs to raise more than \$11 million. “We are 85 percent of the way there. Now we are turning to the community for your support to help us across the finish line. This is incredibly important,” said Erin Pulling, CEO and president of the organization.

She said inflation and rising food costs have both contributed to a 10-year high in the rates of food insecurity across Colorado and Wyoming.

“Given the challenges that we are facing right now, we know that need is growing. This facility allows Food Bank of the Rockies to step up to meet that need. It allows us to power volunteers, to strengthen our community partnerships, and to amplify our collective vision for people experiencing hunger,” Pulling added.

The building at 20600 E. 38th Ave. in Aurora is expect-



Westerly Creek now meanders through the field west of Stanley Marketplace. Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

ed to be completed by the end of the year. The current home of the non-profit, near Havana & 45th Ave. in northeast Denver, is being sold. It was home to the Food Bank of the Rockies for 19 years.

Volunteers are essential to the work of the food bank with about 24,000 volunteers working every year. The future volunteer center has a large room with two additional side rooms for repacking. Pulling said the additional space means there can be triple the number of people sorting donated food and repacking dry beans and rice and other items.

The facility also has new docks for loading and unloading food, and more cooking space to provide meals for kids.

Pulling said consolidating operations and investing in sustainability will save the organization \$500,000 per year.



Food Bank of the Rockies CEO and President Erin Pulling, left, and volunteer Martha King in the new facility. Front Porch photo by Linda Kotsaftis



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### 3 Dinosaur Fossil Found Beneath Denver Museum of Nature & Science

A dinosaur fossil, described as the deepest and oldest one ever found within the city of Denver, is now on display at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science after being discovered under the museum's parking lot in City Park.

The discovery was made as a museum team was conducting a geothermal test drilling project to determine the viability of transitioning from natural gas to geothermal energy. At the same time, scientific coring was done to better understand the geology of the Denver Basin.

The coring led to the discovery of the partial bone fossil 763 feet below the surface.

"This is a scientifically and historically thrilling find for both the Museum and the larger Denver community," James Hagadorn, curator of geology at the museum, said in a news release. "This fossil comes from an era just before the mass extinction that wiped out the dinosaurs, and it offers a rare window into the ecosystem that once existed right beneath modern-day Denver."



James Hagadorn (left) and Bob Raynolds (right) examine the City Park core drilling in the Denver Museum of Nature & Science parking lot. Photo by Rick Wicker

Patrick O'Connor, director of earth and space sciences at the museum, was part of the team that identified the bone as a vertebra of a plant-eating dinosaur. O'Connor said the bone was found in Late Cretaceous rocks dated to about 67.5 million years ago. He added that this may be the most unusual dinosaur discovery he's ever been a part of.

The work being done in the parking lot was part of a \$250,000 grant from Gov. Jared Polis' Geothermal Energy Program at the Colorado Energy Office.

The fossil is now on display on the museum floor in the "Discovering Teen Rex" exhibition.

### 4 Hundreds of Teens Show Up for "Takeover Northfield" Event

A large group of teenagers came to The Shops at Northfield in late June, entering businesses, causing disturbances, and getting into fights.

Denver Police District 5 officers were alerted ahead of time to the "Takeover Northfield" event, which was organized on social media. Lt. Kevin Hines spoke about the planned event at the monthly meeting of the Central Park United Neighbors.

Hines told *Front Porch*, after the disturbance, that there were officers in the area in "anticipation of the

gathering." As the evening went on, he said, the crowd grew to about 300 people.

Due to the size of the event, additional officers and resources were dispatched to help with crowd control.

Hines said several stores closed early and mall management was on site to help officers. It took about four hours to disperse the teens.

No arrests were made, Hines said, but some merchandise was "displaced" and "a couple" of cans of bear spray were taken from Bass Pro Shops.

## Know Your Ozone

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**Q.** What is the Front Range's most pressing air quality problem?

**A.** Ground-level ozone is an odorless and invisible pollutant. It forms when volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides, mostly from fossil fuel emissions, combine with heat and sunlight.

**Q.** Why does this matter?

**A.** Ozone levels peak yearly during the summer, often on sunny days when Coloradans love to be outdoors. It impacts our health and environment, and is a leading cause of respiratory issues.

**Q.** What about the ozone layer?

**A.** Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) is a gas molecule composed of three oxygen atoms. High up in the atmosphere, the ozone layer is key and offers protection from the sun's ultraviolet radiation. But breathing in ground-level ozone irritates throats and lungs, increases the susceptibility to respiratory infections, and exacerbates ailments like asthma.

**Q.** Who is most impacted?

**A.** People most impacted by this air pollution are the elderly, those with respiratory conditions, outdoor workers and athletes, and especially children, whose lungs are still developing and are more likely to be active outdoors.

**Q.** What can you do?

- A.**
1. Reduce emissions to help keep ozone levels low, supporting your health and your community's.
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  3. Know when ozone is bad by signing up for summer ozone alerts.

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The seven-acre Living Land project will be developed just south of City Park Nature Play in the Lily Pond area. The first section built will center around native plants, art installations, and places to meditate.

By Mary Jo Brooks

This fall, construction will begin on the seven-acre Living Land project in City Park that is designed to educate visitors about Indigenous land stewardship practices and provide a space for Native communities to gather and celebrate. It will consist of several zones: a large area that features native prairie grasses, a smaller area with a medicinal garden, and a third region with a proposed arbor where people can gather.



Artist and Indigenous consultant Kristina Maldonado Bad Hand thinks art will be important to the project.

Scott Gilmore, deputy director of Denver Parks and Recreation, said this kind of project is long overdue. “We’ve never had a park named after an Indigenous person or a tribal group, so it is fitting for us to move forward with a project like this in a park that was designed on a European model. We’re going to return it to the prairie that it was.”

Kristina Maldonado Bad Hand has been a consultant on the project and says she is thrilled to see the plans come to fruition. “With my elders, there’s always conversations about big projects like this and the narrative is ‘we might not see it in our lifetime’ but my thing is ‘why not?’”

The Sicangu Lakota and Cherokee artist has worked with city officials to hold listening sessions with Indigenous community members about what they would like to see in the park. “People want a place to have a circle, to have conversations. They want to revitalize the area by bringing back the prairie, and they want seed sovereignty with Indigenous plants,” said Maldonado Bad Hand.

The \$1.5 million project will be

# Living Land Project in City Park to Honor Denver’s Indigenous Heritage

developed just south of City Park Nature Play in the Lily Pond area of the city’s largest park. The natural prairie grassland section will be built first. Landscape architect Gretchen Wilson with Dig Studio said her firm created the design after many public meetings with Indigenous leaders. “We will convert the bluegrass turf back to native prairie and we’ll integrate it with other plants that would have been there. Plants that would have been harvested for food, for dyes, and for medicines.” She added that the prairie section will also feature art installations and places to meditate.

Artist Maldonado Bad Hand hopes that art will be an important part of the new area. “I love the idea of having students paint a mural as part of the arbor.” She has also talked with people at the nearby Denver Museum of Nature and Science about creating an artist-in-residency program in the medicine garden. “One that would deal with botany and science and art. I think that would be amazing.”

Sid Whiting, a Denver resident from the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, is another Indigenous consultant on the project. He said he’s most excited about the proposed arbor. “We’ll be able to have gatherings and cultural immersion events, pow-wows and ceremonial things like weddings,” said Whiting. “This allows us to express who we are as Native people, to show our stewardship of the land.”

But many leaders are quick to emphasize that the new area is not just for Indigenous people. “This project is a way to establish something that will provide an opportunity for educating the community. This is not just for American Indian people. This space is for everybody,” said Rick Waters, executive director of the Denver Indian Center. “Hopefully this will spark something. Hopefully this will spark more understanding.”



Denver Indian Center Executive Director Rick Waters said the new area isn’t just for Native Americans.

The native grassland area is expected to be completed by the summer of 2026. There’s no timeline yet when construction will begin on the medicinal garden and gathering spaces.



Renderings of the proposed arbor for gatherings.

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Nestlings emerge and grow rapidly. Then they fledge and become independent from the parents before cold weather returns.

Ducklings, goslings, and coot chicks are precocial—birds that hatch fully able to move independently and feed themselves.

Songbirds like mountain bluebirds and lark sparrows are altricial—birds that hatch helpless, naked, and with their eyes closed. They are totally dependent on their parents for an extended period.



An adult American coot interacts with offsprings.



A fledgling mountain bluebird waits to be fed.

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# Park Hill Yoga Celebrates



The Park Hill Yoga studio is located in a converted carriage house behind the owner's home.

By Sophia Clarke

Park Hill Yoga celebrates its 25th anniversary this summer. Over the decades, founder Deborah Baker has nurtured a tight-knit community of yogis who have supported one another through life's biggest triumphs and challenges.

Tucked behind Baker's Park Hill home, students gather daily in person or virtually to practice Iyengar yoga, a classical form of Indian Hatha yoga.

Park Hill Yoga didn't start here, though. In the late 1990s, Baker began teaching Iyengar Yoga at community centers across Denver, from the Jewish Community Center to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. As interest in Iyengar yoga grew, she established a dedicated space, first in her basement and later in a converted carriage house, where

she continues to operate today.

"Some people came from those classes they knew me from," Baker said. "And then just little by little, kind of one student at a time, people started showing up."

Baker explained how her first group of students has grown into what she calls her "advanced class," meeting every Saturday at 10am. For nearly 20 years, this core group has practiced together, flowing through poses like *Sarvangasana*—an intense shoulder stand—while offering each other adjustments and assisting with props in a collaborative, team-like environment.

When the class ends and mats are rolled up, personal conversations unfold, often carrying on for hours in Baker's backyard.



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# 25 years of Practice and Community

“I share vulnerability,” Baker said. “If you really practice Iyengar, you’re really vulnerable because you’re turning over a new leaf trying to know yourself better.”

Over time, Park Hill Yoga has become a trusted space where students feel comfortable sharing their lives. The community has supported one another through divorce, illness, and loss—always returning to the studio for support and shared practice.

Elizabeth Johnson began practicing with Baker when she was pregnant with her second child. She recalled how the Iyengar practice supported her physically through the pregnancy, while the group supported her emotionally during a transformative time.

“Deborah’s ability to bring me in and make me feel part of something helped

mother me through it all,” Johnson said.

Seventeen years later, Johnson remains a devoted attendee. She explained how the community has uplifted her through many life events, from raising teenagers during Covid, to the recent death of her mother.

“There are so many people in that class who are older than I am, which is amazing,” Johnson said. “People in their 60s and 70s who have been there, they’ve lost a parent, and people just put their arms around you,” she added.

Even as the founder, Baker has experienced the support of the community she cultivated.

In 2016, Baker was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma and was unable to teach for several months. While she was recovering just a few feet from the studio, the advanced class continued

meeting, offering her quiet and consistent support through her illness. She reflected that the experience brought the group even closer together. When she recovered, students gathered for a backyard potluck to celebrate her remission.

“These people went through my own illness, they were there, and that’s why I said it’s all paying forward from here,” Baker said.

Over the past quarter century, Baker has overcome multiple recessions, a cancer diagnosis, and a global pandemic. However, she remained tenacious and committed in fostering a safe, inviting space for the Park Hill community. She hopes to continue operating the studio for as long as possible, working toward advanced certifications and offering free classes to students battling cancer.



Deborah Baker explains a pose to her class with the help of one of her students.

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch



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# A Death Café



There are tears and laughter at the meetings of the Death Café in the Park Hill Library, which are free and open to anyone who wants to attend.

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

By Linda Kotsaftis

It's not a topic most people embrace talking about, let alone discuss in front of a room filled with strangers, but that's what the monthly Death Café at the Park Hill Branch Library is all about: Listening and learning about the end of life.

Tara Bannon, library branch supervisor, started the group early last year after hosting a panel discussion



Tara Bannon facilitates the monthly Death Café conversation, passing a microphone around the seated circle of attendees.

entitled "Talking about Death Won't Kill You" On a Monday afternoon, she was at the center of the circle helping people start the conversation, passing a microphone that was met with hesitation at times.

She also provided boxes of tissues strategically placed on empty chairs and gestured to the chocolate treats on a table in the back of the room. "You have to have chocolate to talk about death," Bannon said.

Participants were reminded that this was not a place to solve problems, but rather a safe space for extra compassion, a free place to cry, and a place that an attendee named Kirsti said she looks forward to coming every month. She said she finds safety talking inside the room rather than sharing her inner thoughts with people outside, "like an Uber or Lyft driver." (*Front Porch* used only first names of participants in this story.)

There were about 20 people of all ages at the June meeting, and all with different reasons for being there.

"I had never heard of a Death Café until I heard a podcast by two women who have young-onset Parkinson's disease, which I also have. The subject was grief, and they were mentioning Death Cafés and death doulas...I googled Death Cafés in Denver and found this one at a library where I used to bring my kids," Kirsti said.

There were several people at the meeting for their first time, including a woman navigating her aging out-of-town parents.

"My dad right now is doing most of the caregiving for my mom," said the woman, who asked not to be identified. "They live in Oregon, and my sister's there, but I'm going through this tension in my brain about staying in Denver or moving, so that's really been on my mind."

She added, "My dad's healthy but it just feels like it's getting closer and closer to him needing real help. I don't have a family here, so I feel like it's kind of on me to do that. That's part of why I'm here."

Caregivers were a common topic. Virginia said caregivers are "an important part of the process," and reminded everyone, "We need to talk more about how to support them."

Veronica agreed and stressed the need to show gratitude for the "12 million unpaid caregivers in this country, specifically taking care of patients, people, and family members with Alzheimer's and dementia. Most of them are women, daughters, family members, and it's very stressful."

Veronica's mother passed away from dementia in November 2023. She offered support for others in the meeting by sharing the 24/7 Alzheimer's Association hotline (800-272-3900), which she didn't know about when she was taking care of her mom.

Resources, advice, and books were all passed around the room, coupled with nods and gestures of support, and laughter at times.

One young person at the meeting asked a question which brought up a lot of thoughts from others: "How do you learn to process death?"

"It's important to know the stories," said Ed. "It's difficult for men to have these conversations...Think back on your life and decisions you've made. The most difficult thing is grieving about things you've done in the past. Have no regrets, make peace."

Kirsti added, "On my deathbed I don't want to have revenge or anything." She said she's trying to heal relationships, but "some people are more challenging than others."

And Veronica admitted she hasn't fully "bought in" to acceptance of the inevitability of her own death but has learned through the experience of watching death how to accept it.

"I learned through sitting with my father when he took his last breath and sitting with my husband when he took his last breath, and being with my mom through the process of dying, through dementia and with demen-

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# Serves Up Conversation and a Safe Space

tia,” Veronica said. “I guess my experience of watching death has helped me accept it.”

She doesn’t recommend that amount of grief to anyone, “but if you’re able to and have the opportunity to be with a loved one [in the last moments of life], it’s the most important thing I’ve ever experienced, and it just reminds me that love is really the most important thing. To be with someone and let them know that they’re loved.”

For Veronica, it’s all about being willing and able to move forward. “I’m able to keep living with them in my life in a different way,” she said.

Bannon told the group that she’s not afraid of what happened to her before she was born, so “why worry about what happens after?” She said she’s mostly worried about missing out on the fun in life, and encouraged everyone to try a three-minute dance party during a car wash with music blaring.

Every month, there’s a different crowd at the gathering, so the conversations are different. There’s always support for people to share their stories during the Death Café, which is part of an international movement that invites people to gather,



Kirsti talks to the group about her experiences attending the monthly meetings at the library.

and normalize conversations around death—to make the most of life.

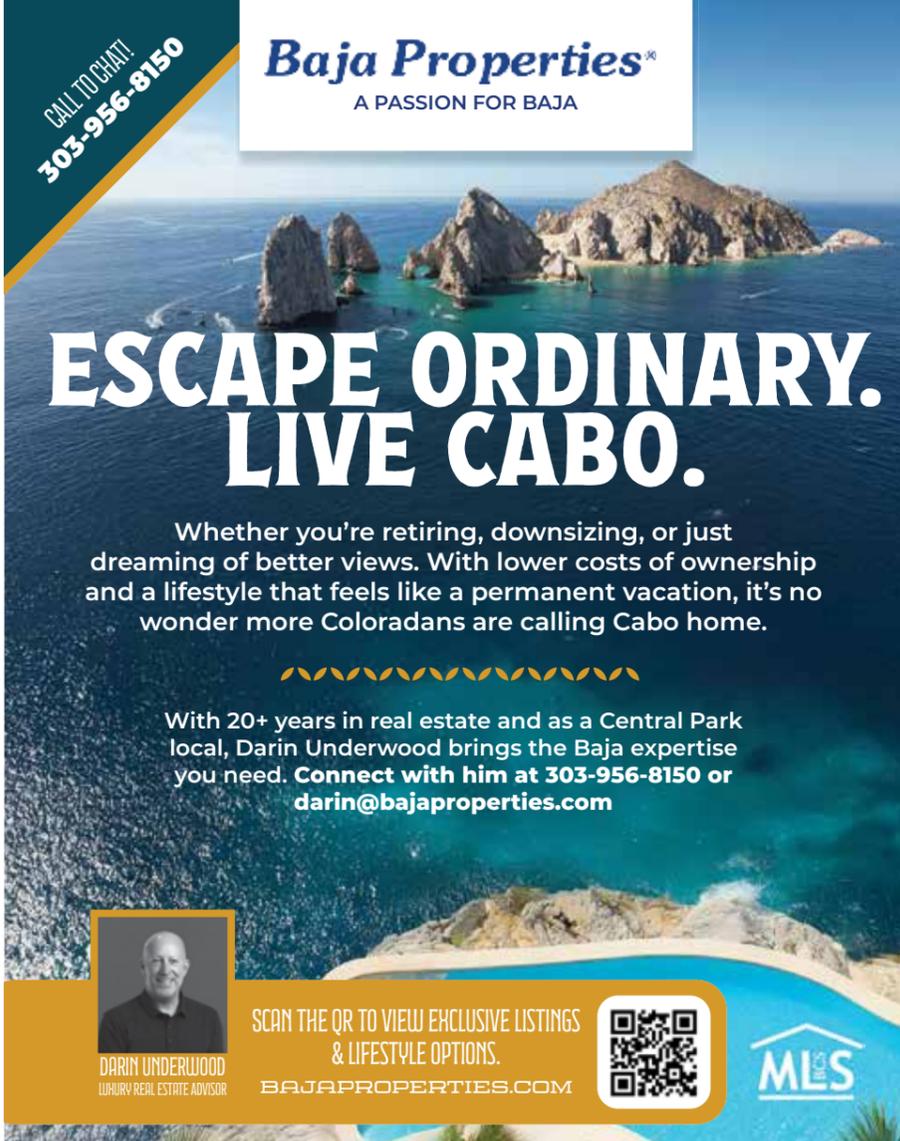
The next Death Café meeting is Monday, August 24 from 2–3:30pm at the Park Hill Branch Library. For resources and information, visit <https://deathcafe.com/how/> to set up a Death Café of your own.



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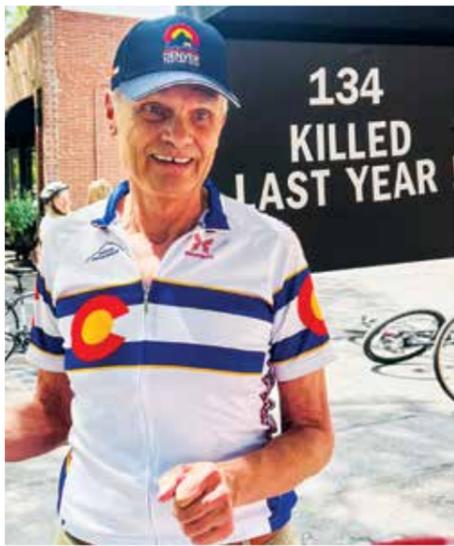
The first Ride of Silence took place at the Park Hill July 4th Parade to highlight the dangers cyclists and pedestrians face on Colorado roads.

# Cyclists Advocate for Safer Roads

By Margaret Freeman

In 2024 there were 134 pedestrian and cyclist deaths in Colorado, and Park Hill resident Bob Shaver has had enough.

Shaver is a lifelong cyclist and after seeing a rider get hit and seriously injured by a



Lifelong cyclist Bob Shaver wants to raise awareness of cycling and pedestrian road deaths.

driver under the influence a few years ago, he decided he needed to do something to raise awareness of cycling road deaths. Shaver worked to organize the first ever Ride of Silence as part of Park Hill's 4th of July parade: A group of cyclists rode silently to honor the people who have died, and to push for safer streets for all people using them.

"We are a little frustrated that we see so many people who are either drunk or stoned hit somebody," Shaver said. "The big picture is to change the laws. We do not have the deep pockets that lobbyists do, that the providers of substances that benefit from getting people in their cars...there's no accountability and they walk free too."

The co-organizer of the event, Guy Pasquino, hoped that getting people involved through the parade would help further initiatives such as Vision Zero, a program through the City and County of Denver, working toward having zero traffic fatalities or bodily injury. "We just want to make sure that everyone gets home and everyone gets to enjoy this great state," said Pasquino.

Shaver and Pasquino were joined by other

local cyclists who are passionate about road safety, many of whom have their own stories about loved ones getting injured or killed by cars when they were biking.

As a year-round cyclist on her pedal assist bike, Nicole McSpirit has a strong sense of where she feels safe riding in the city and the infrastructure that helps her get around. McSpirit spent her childhood in New Orleans biking almost everywhere, but as an adult she is more cautious about biking around Denver. After seeing bike safety measures on a trip to Amsterdam, McSpirit knows that the city can be made safer for all people using the roads. "We'd love to see more protective infrastructure, especially on 17th Ave. Parkway," said McSpirit. "We have crash, after crash, after crash there, especially because it's over-built." She wants to see dangerous pinch points removed and

the addition of speed cushions to many of the busy roads across Denver.

Before taking off on the Ride of Silence, McSpirit emphasized the importance of motorists practicing awareness and caution when sharing the roads with cyclists.

"The freedom of driving a car everywhere comes at a hefty price to others," she said.

Another rider, Bill Vanderlan, is very worried about how distracted driving can influence cyclists sharing the road. "These are even more difficult times now in terms of distracted driving and running lights and stop signs, so it's a good way to join in solidarity with people who have even more devastating stories," said Vanderlan.

Pasquino added, the 4th of July is always a day of celebration for family and friends and the "contrast of the 134 who aren't going to make it this year really sticks out." The timing of the ride was used as a reminder for people who were going to parties and events to be "fully present, behind the wheel, on their scooters, riding their bikes, or just walking home."

This Ride of Silence came on the 40th anniversary of the 1985 film *American Flyers*, a drama starring Kevin Costner about bicycle racing. There will be two showings of the movie in Grand Junction and Denver in September, with all ticket sales going to support a variety of organizations promoting bike safety, including Bicycle Colorado. The movie was partly filmed in Colorado, and Pasquino hopes that the anniversary acts as a catalyst for more road safety precautions across the state. Tickets and info at [www.bicyclecolorado.org](http://www.bicyclecolorado.org).

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Photos courtesy of CU Firearm Injury Prevention Initiative

(Left to Right) Kirsten Wulfsberg, Edgar Antillon, Johnnie Williams, and Amanda Wilcox joined Dr. Emmy Betz for a screening and discussion around the film *Tennessee 11*.

## Working to Prevent Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths

By Linda Kotsaftis

Dr. Emmy Betz had just finished a shift in the UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital emergency room when she talked to *Front Porch*, and she was a few days away from hosting a documentary screening and panel conversation in Denver.

It was an event that she believes will be “a piece of a bigger story, which is that there’s a hopeful way to get beyond paralysis” on the topic of firearm rights and safety.

Betz is the director of the University of Colorado Firearm Injury Prevention Initiative (FIPI), a non-legislative group housed in the CU School of Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus in northwest Aurora.

The mission of FIPI, launched officially two years ago, is not to take on gun owners or gun control groups, Betz said. “It’s not to tell people they should or shouldn’t own guns.” Rather, the group’s mission is to help prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths in homes and communities across Colorado.

“It’s not just about locking up guns, but it’s about how we engage with community organizations and with youth and provide the programs that are respectful and based in science. We think about gun violence across the spectrum from gang violence to suicide... There are different ways to prevent each, and different stakeholder groups that we work with,” she added.

Betz got into the work after losing a family member to firearm suicide and from working in the ER where she

sees the impact of gun violence.

“I’m tired of that preventable violence,” she said. “And I’m certainly tired of the mass shootings. Although they’re a smaller number in terms of the impact of gun violence, the psychological toll is just awful.”

Betz added that suicide accounts for about 73 percent of gun deaths in Colorado.

FIPI’s work is based in science and in partnerships with the community. “As a doctor, if I’m working with someone who has firearms at home, I don’t want anybody being hurt by them,” Betz said. “So how do we talk about it in a way that is respectful and hopefully going to be effective for them, in terms of thinking about, ‘How should I be storing them at home?’ Or, ‘How should I be locking them up?’”

The film shown at the June event, *The Tennessee 11*, is the story of a group project that brought together voices from across the spectrum of gun rights and safety with a common goal. The project in the movie is an example, she said, where people were trying to develop policy, law, and solutions that they could all agree on.

The event was the first of its type by FIPI with the hope of bringing in new people who might be interested in the type of work the group is doing.

“We felt like it was a great way to show people that it is possible to come together and learn from each other,” Betz said. “Not to say that it’s easy, but that there’s a way to make progress and in a space that can feel really polarized and paralyzing.”

Betz said FIPI is happy to join smaller community events at schools or churches, and host smaller discussions at restaurants or homes to help people figure out their individual role in helping to prevent firearm injury and death. That role, she said, can be based in science and evidence, but is also based in “respect for other people and respect for a diversity of views and learning how to have sometimes-uncomfortable conversations in a way that moves us all forward.”

The idea is to have civil discussions where people truly listen to each other. “It’s not about talking points. It’s not about politicians yelling at each other. It’s really an attempt to listen and learn from each other so that we can get to that place which we all want, which is people not being hurt and injured. We welcome people of any background who are willing to engage in that kind of respectful way,” Betz said.

FIPI works with the firearm-owning community, traveling to gun shows around the state to provide education and locking devices, and to talk to people about secure gun storage at home.

Research support is also provided to community-based organizations that do youth violence prevention, including hospital-based programs at UCHealth, Denver Health, and Children’s Hospital Colorado. Researchers also work with organizations that serve people experiencing domestic violence.

Betz said FIPI works with communities in the “way they want us.” Trainings are offered for public health leaders. The program talks with policymakers and legislators, and although it doesn’t directly lobby, FIPI is “happy to provide some of the evidence for or against things,” she said.

The program also works with the state Office of Gun Violence Prevention as an academic partner helping to develop resources.

Betz’s work has reached a national stage, but she said she’s a Denver girl who loves working for her city and state. She knows there’s a lot of stereotyping that goes on in Colorado about gun violence in terms of neighborhoods or areas, but she said that “at least 40 percent of people here live in a home with a gun.”

That statistic is something that hits home with Betz, a Central Park mother. “It’s really important that we think about when our kids are in other homes what they have access to,” she said. She added that it’s important that conversations about “Do you have any unlocked guns that my kids could access?” become common.

“Those kinds of things feel scary, but we need to get used to them,” she said.



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# LOCAL EVENTS *August thru early September*

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

## Saturday, August 23 Ice Cream Social at TUF

Celebrating 30 years at The Urban Farm with ice cream, live music, interactive games, animal encounters, and more. 1–4pm. Tickets: \$10 per person or family 4-pack: \$25. [theurbanfarm.org](http://theurbanfarm.org)

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

## NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

**Fridays—Yoga on the Plaza.** 60-minute free class weather permitting. 9:30am. Ages 12 and up. 8246 Northfield Blvd. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**Saturdays—City Park Farmers Market.** 100+ local producers, live music, yoga, and more. 8am–1pm. 2551 E. Colfax Ave. [cityparkfarmersmarket.com](http://cityparkfarmersmarket.com)

**Sundays—Central Park Farmers Market.** Produce, baked goods, specialty meats, gourmet food items, and more. The South Green (E. 29th Ave. & Roslyn St.) 8:30am–12:30pm. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**8/1 & 9/5—First Fridays.** 60 local artists, music, and entertainment. 6–9pm. 2501 N. Dallas St., Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**8/2 Saturday—11th Annual Run for the Ring 5K Run/Walk.** Anschutz Medical Campus, 1775 Aurora Ct. [childrensdiabetesfoundation.org](http://childrensdiabetesfoundation.org)

**8/2 Saturday—Concert on The Green.** *Stone Beat Invasion.* The South Green (E. 29th Ave. & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**8/2 & 9/6—Bluff Lake Bird Walks.** Walks at 7:30am and 8am. 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Must register at [blufflake.org/birdwatching](http://blufflake.org/birdwatching)

**8/3 Sunday—City Park Jazz.** Brass Band Extraganza featuring Rowdy Brass Band, Tivoli Club Brass Band, and Guerrilla Fanfare. 6–8pm City Park Pavilion and Bandshell, 2001 Steele St. [cityparkjazz.org](http://cityparkjazz.org)

**8/6 & 9/3—Qi Gong.** All levels and abilities are welcome. 11am–12pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**8/7 Thursday—Denver Municipal Jazz Band.** The North Green at 49th Ave. & Valencia St. 6:30–8pm. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)



**8/9 Saturday—Nature Wonder Walks.** Bluff Lake Nature Center. 7:30am. 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**8/9 Saturday—Rescue Puppy Yoga.** A heartwarming yoga session. 8:30–9:30am. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St., south side on Clinton St. Register at [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**8/9 Saturday—Goat Events at The Shops at Northfield.** Full moon goat yoga 10am & 12pm and full moon sound bath 7pm. Registration at [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**8/9 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day.** 10am–2pm. Wings Over the Rockies Museum. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](http://wingsmuseum.org)

**8/9 Saturday—DPD Backpack Giveaway.** 11am–3pm. Lincoln Tech, 11194 E. 45th Ave. Up-to-date info at Denver Police Department Facebook page. [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

**8/9 Saturday—Advance Directives Fundamentals.** Learn the importance and hows of

an advance directive. 2:30–4pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**8/9 Saturday—Opera on The Green.** Performed by the Central City Opera. The South Green (E. 29th Ave. & Roslyn St.) 6–8pm. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**8/14 Thursday—Active Minds Presents: Egypt.** 1–2pm, Free. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)

**8/14 & 8/28—Free Live Music: The Owls.** 5–9pm. Sunset Park, E. 2nd Ave. [lowrydenver.com](http://lowrydenver.com)

**8/15 Friday—Movie on The Green.** *Wicked.* The South Green (E. 29th Ave. & Roslyn St.) 8:45–11pm. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**8/16 Saturday—Boulevard One Farmers Market.** Live music, face painting, produce, crafts, and treats. 9am–1pm. Clark's Market, 7059 E Lowry Blvd. 303-647-3500

**8/16 Saturday—Back to School Silent Disco.** Free, in the common area. 2–5pm. 2501 N. Dallas St., Aurora. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**8/17 Sunday—City Park Public Art Walking Tour.** Visit sculptures, fountains, and gateways. Tickets \$5. 10am. [denverpublicart.org](http://denverpublicart.org)

**8/23 Saturday—Blossoms of Hope.** Free, family-friendly, garden-themed event. 10am. Brent's Place, 11980 E. 16th Ave., Aurora. [brentsplace.org](http://brentsplace.org)

**8/23 Saturday—Smile Generation Plane Pull.** Teams of 25 pull an airplane 12 feet across the tarmac. United Airlines hangar at Denver Int'l Airport. [specialolympicsco.org](http://specialolympicsco.org)

**8/23 Saturday—Northfield Street Fair.** An artisan market series. 11am–6pm. On Main St., The Shops at Northfield. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**8/24 Sunday—Woven "Krayka" Key Fobs.** Learn a new Ukrainian craft. Ages 18+. 2–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**8/25 Monday—Death Café.** Normalize conversations around death, make the most of life. 2–3:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**8/28 Thursday—Active Minds: South Africa, From Apartheid to Global Citizen.** 1–2pm, Free. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)

**9/5 Friday—Pours in the Park: Wine Tasting.** Wine, food, and company. 6–8pm. Buffalo Wallow, 5545 Valencia St. Tickets \$35, must be 21+. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

## METRO EVENTS

**Tuesdays—Summer Socials.** Free live music and history presentations. 5–7pm. Center for Colorado Women's History, 1310 Bannock St. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**Wednesdays—Cats on Mats.** Yoga class with roaming, adoptable kittens. 5:30–6:30pm. 241 W. Bayaud Ave. [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

**Historic Denver Walking Tours.** 90 min. walking tours in Lodo, Capitol Hill, Five Points, and more. For specific dates, go to: [historicdenver.org](http://historicdenver.org)

**8/1 & 9/5—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)



Smile Generation Plane Pull

**8/1 & 9/5—Friday Five Points Jazz Hop.** 5pm. Free. Five Points neighborhood. [fivepointsbid.com](http://fivepointsbid.com)

**8/2 Saturday—Denver Days Back To School Fest.** Gear up for the school year and connect with your community. 10am–2pm. National Western Center, 4797 National Western Dr. [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

**8/2 Saturday—Colorado Day.** Free, 149th birthday celebration. 10am–5pm. 1310 Bannock St. and 1200 North Broadway. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**8/4 Monday—Movie Nights.** *Madagascar.* Free. 4400 East Kentucky Ave. [infinityparkatglen-dale.com](http://infinityparkatglen-dale.com)

**8/8 Friday—Summer Music: Picnic Series.** Featuring *Before the Sun.* 4–6pm. 1250 Bannock St. [clyffordstillmuseum.org](http://clyffordstillmuseum.org)

**8/9 Saturday—Architecture Tour.** Starts in the lobby of the Hamilton Building. 11am–12pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org)

**8/9 & 8/10—Gold Rush Days.** Learn about gold rush history with family-friendly activities and gold panning demonstrations. 17155 W. 44th Ave., Golden. [coloradorailroadmuseum.org](http://coloradorailroadmuseum.org)

**8/12 & 8/26—Circle of Fathers: Dads Support Group.** Support one another, share tips & advice, or just talk. 5:30–7:30pm. Blair Caldwell Library, 2401 Welton St. [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

**8/13 Wednesday—SPARK.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer's or dementia. 1–2pm. 1007 York St. Register at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

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

**8/15 Friday—Denver Community Media Night.** Meet content creators, filmmakers, and podcasters. 6:30–7:30pm. Free. 2101 Arapahoe St. [denvercommunitymedia.org](http://denvercommunitymedia.org)

**8/16 Saturday—Gives: Back to School Event with DPS.** Volunteer to help 500 Denver families gear up for the school year. 9:30am–2pm. Evie Dennis Campus, 4800 Telluride St. [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

**8/24 Sunday—Affordable Arts Festival.** 165+ artists discounting art to \$150 or less. Arapahoe Community College, 5900 S. Santa Fe Dr, Littleton. 9am–3pm. \$12. [affordableartsfestival.com](http://affordableartsfestival.com)

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**8/28 Thursday—Aging Well Workshop.** Empower yourself, enhance your quality of life, and improve your overall well-being. 10am–12:15pm. Focus Points, 2501 48th Ave. denvergov.org

**8/29 to 8/31—Denver Card Show.** Rare collectibles, fellow collectors, and a weekend of card collecting. 5004 National Western Dr. nationalwesterncenter.com

**9/6 Saturday—36th Annual Friendship Powwow.** Music, dance, artmaking, Native foods, and vendors. Free admission. 10am–5pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**Through 10/5—Bright Nights at Four Mile.** Four Mile transforms into a luminous wonderland. 715 S. Forest St. Tickets at fourmilepark.org

## KIDS AND FAMILIES

**Monday–Saturday—Local Library Storytimes.** Different age groups and locations. Info at denverlibrary.org

**Wednesdays & Sundays—Storytime at Tattered Cover Kids.** Wed. at 11am, Sun. at 2pm. 2501 N. Dallas St., Aurora. stanleymarketplace.com

**Wednesdays—Mornings at the Museum.** Ages 3–6, 10:30–11:15am. Free. Aurora History Museum, 15051 East Alameda Pkwy. auroragov.org

**Saturdays—Kids' Matinees.** A variety of interactive shows with live music. \$6.45 with fees. 11:30am open, show at 12pm. 1080 14th St. dazzledenver.com

**8/2, 8/3, & 8/9—Children and Family Make and Take:** Build a fairy garden for ages 5+. 10–11:30am or 1–2:30pm. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

**8/5 Tuesday—Summer of Adventure: Celebrate with Animals.** Presented by the Denver Zoo and Conservation Alliance. 10:30–11:30am. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**8/5 Tuesday—Native Wildlife.** Meet animal ambassadors that are true natives. 1:30–2:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

**8/6 Wednesday—Glow in the Park.** Featuring a DJ, glow in the dark mini golf course, and LED glow games. Free for ages 10–17. 5–9pm. Bicentennial Park, 13655 E. Alameda Ave. auroragov.org

**8/6 & 8/13—Twins Create.** Team up, get creative, and tackle challenges with friends. 3:30–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**8/9 Saturday—CSU Spur Family Programming.** August theme is back to school. Free. 10am–3pm. 4817 National Western Dr. csuspur.org

**8/9 Saturday—Morning Makers: Chalk Exploration.** Experiment with chalk in the outdoor forecourt. 10:30am–12:30pm. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**8/20 Wednesday—Tween Chess Club.** Learn new chess moves. Ideal for ages 9–13. 4–5pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**8/21 Thursday—Kids Book Celebration.** Read about snakes at home then join us to make a felted snake and share snake facts. 4–5pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. denverlibrary.org

**8/24 Sunday—Kids Lego Club.** Build, engineer, and design. 4:30–5:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**8/24, 8/27, & 8/30—Art Crawl: Colorful Printmaking.** 10:30–11:15am. For infants–14 mos. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**8/27 Wednesday—Twins Game.** Board games and video games. Ideal for ages 9–13. 4–5pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

## MUSEUMS, ETC.

Listings at [www.FrontPorchNE.com](http://www.FrontPorchNE.com) → Events (tab) → Ongoing Events

SCFD Free days at [www.scfcd.org](http://www.scfcd.org)

## PERFORMANCE/THEATRE

**8/6 Wednesday—Unforgettable: The Songs Of Nat King Cole.** Featuring Leonard E. Barrett Jr. 7:30pm. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. vintagetheatre.org

**8/6 to 8/17—Moulin Rouge! The Musical.** A world where bohemians and aristocrats rub elbows. Buell Theatre. denvercenter.org

**8/7 to 8/24—Pippin.** Performed by the Phamaly Theatre Company, exclusively featuring actors with disabilities. Kilstrom Theatre. denvercenter.org

**8/8 to 8/10—CinemaQ Film Festival.** LGBTQ+ Film Festival celebrating diverse stories through curated movies. Sie FilmCenter, 2510 East Colfax Ave. denverfilm.org

**8/10 Sunday—Dogs and Cats Living Together.** Tales of our favorite pets and the humans who love them. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. onenightstandtheater.org

**8/15 Friday—The Denver Moth – StorySLAM.** Theme: Childish. Doors open at 6:30, show starts at 7:30pm. 71 East Yale Ave. swallowhillmusic.org

**Through 8/17—Dixie's Tupperware Party.** Bringing your grandma's Tupperware party into the 21st century. Garner Theatre. denvercenter.org

## GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS

**8/6 Wednesday—Knowing Your Home Basics.** 5:30–8pm. 555 Santa Fe Dr. Register at denvertoollibrary.org

**8/7 Thursday—Preserving the Flavor of Summer.** Learn the best techniques for drying herbs like basil, thyme, and oregano, as well as flowers such as chamomile and calendula. 6–8pm. Posner Center, 1031 33rd St. dug.org

**8/9 Saturday—Make the Most of Your Summer Garden.** Pickling and Salsa Making Workshop. 9am–12pm. The Urban Farm, 10200 Smith Rd. Tickets at theurbanfarm.org

**8/13 to 9/24—Free Gardening Classes.** A different subject every Wednesday evening from 6–7:30pm. Arvada Community Garden, 9195 W 57th Ave. arvadagardeners.org

**8/16 Saturday—Perennials for a Water Wise Landscape.** Learn which perennials will thrive with a minimum of supplemental water. 9:30–11am. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

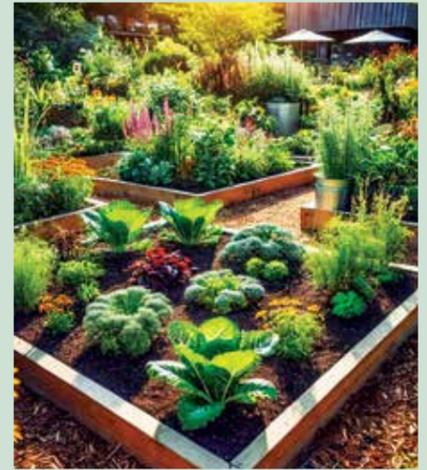
**8/23 Saturday—Benefits of Planting Native.** Native landscapes typically offer great water savings compared to traditional landscapes. 9:30–11am. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

**8/30 Saturday—Guide To Food Preservation.** Learn the five primary food preservation techniques that every gardener should know. 9:30am–12:30pm. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

**9/1 Monday—Ecological Design & Permaculture.** Tools to heal land and communities. 1–4:30pm. 555 Santa Fe Dr. Register at denvertoollibrary.org

**9/5 Friday—Art Supply Swap.** Learn about upcoming programs and bring art supplies you no longer need to swap with other students. 5:30–7:30pm. 1007 York St. Free with registration at botanicgardens.org

**9/27 Thursday—Youth Climate Action Day.** Community service projects 9am–1pm, climate action plan 1–3pm. Ages 15–25. Fort Collins. sustainablelivingassociation.org



Free classes at the Arvada Community Garden.

**8/19 Tuesday—The Great Debate.** Pits teams of non-experts head-to-head. Buntport Theater, 717 Lipan St. buntport.com

**8/20 to 9/7—Dixie's Never Wear a Tube Top.** Dixie shares lessons learned after a hard night of drinking. Garner Theatre. denvercenter.org

**8/23 to 9/6—The Legend of Anne Bonny.** An ambitious 18th century housewife enters the realm of piracy. The People's Building, 9995 E Colfax Ave., Aurora. thepeoplesbuilding.com

**8/25 Monday—Freak Train.** Denver's longest-running open-stage variety show. 8–10pm. Bug Theatre, 3654 Navajo St. bugtheatre.org

**9/4 Thursday—John Denver.** A Rocky Mountain High Concert Celebration. 7:30pm. Boettcher Concert Hall, 1000 14th St. coloradosymphony.org

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

To find volunteer listings and charitable opportunities, go to [www.FrontPorchNE.com](http://www.FrontPorchNE.com)

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**Friday, September 5  
Focus Points Benefit Fiesta**  
A cultural evening of live music, dancing, and Lotería—a Mexican game of chance for all ages. 6–10pm. McNichols Civic Center Building, focuspoints.org

# WHO NEEDS A POOL WHEN YOU HAVE A JURASSIC OCEAN?

**JURASSIC OCEANS  
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around the world to Colorado audiences.” This year’s festival runs from August 8–10. Tickets and program information can be found at [www.denverfilm.org](http://www.denverfilm.org). Hope to see you there.

*Flow* (2024)

This is one of the most cinematically innovative, gripping, touching, and engrossing films I’ve seen in quite a few years. An animated feature with no dialogue, it is pure cinema:

visuals, music, and drama. In addition to the engaging and tension-filled story, the film begs to be read as metaphor.

The wonderful story centers around a grey cat that is wandering around a human-less and nondescript world. Trees, streams, and bizarre sculptures of cats dot the immediate landscape as our hero dodges dogs and other predators on its travels. The cat lives in an abandoned house, content in a bed by an open window. The landscape quickly changes, however, as a tidal wave subsumes everything.



The cat lands on solid ground and finds its way back to the house, but the surrounding water level rises quickly. The cat finds refuge in a boat as the house is overrun by water. That boat is already home to a large, harmless rodent (a capybara—I had to look this one up) that soon falls asleep, indifferent to the cat. Along the way, the boat picks up a dog, a lemur, and a secretary bird (I had to look this one up too), who saves the cat from the bird’s unfriendly flock. The adventures begin.

The story is easy enough to follow, but the visuals are what really astonish and delight. The production took over four years, with the Latvian animators using an open-source program to make the entire film. The detail of every scene is impeccable, while the movement and simulated camera effects are truly astonishing.

I always tell my students to watch films at least twice—the first time to let the story wash over you and the second time to analyze the visuals. This film in particular rewards for repeated viewings. As you watch a second or third time, the tensions melt away (spoiler alert: it ends well) and you notice details such as the light reflected in the cat’s eyes; a deftly moving camera; backgrounds at all levels that provide intricate detail; and mostly, the emotion on the faces of every animal. And remember, the only “dialogue” comes from the animals, such as the cat’s meows and hisses and growls, the birds squawking, the dogs barking, etc. The sound effects round out the world, such as the rushing water, the wind in the trees, the thunder. The overall sound is precise and expressive, and it makes us realize how much dialogue (too much in my opinion) populates most films.

The film won a much-deserved Oscar for Best Animated Feature, and as a testament to its brilliance, it was also nominated for Best International Feature Film. It easily could have won in that category as well. Finish off your summer by watching this one (multiple times, I hope) with kids and/or other loved ones. The allegory at work? You’ll have to wait for the screening at The MCA Cube—coming soon.

Available on HBO Max or rental.

*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 X. For more reviews, search The Indie Prof at [FrontPorchNE.com](http://FrontPorchNE.com).*

This month’s review is a family-friendly film that will no doubt become a favorite for many years to come. In addition, August brings the return of CinemaQ to the Sie FilmCenter. From the Denver Film Society: “Founded in 2009, the CinemaQ Film Festival was created to leverage the power of film to celebrate queer voices, queer visions, and queer visibility. The three-day festival is designed to showcase the best in new and classic LGBTQ+ cinema from

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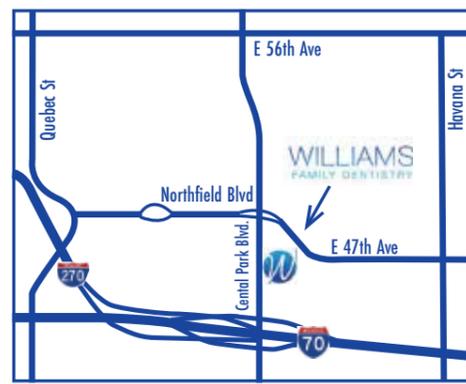
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# NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AUGUST 2025



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS OF THE CENTRAL BARK COSTUME CONTEST!**

**Small Dog Winner: Moki & Nari (above)**

**Large Dog Winner: Toah (right)**



### CONCERT ON THE GREEN SERIES

Join us at the South Green located at 29th Ave. & Roslyn St. for our summer concert series. The concerts start at 6pm and are free and open to the public!

Saturday, August 2, *Stone Beat Invasion*

### MOVIE ON THE GREEN SERIES

Grab your blankets, coolers, and your friends, and come to our Movie on the Green series! All movies begin at dusk. Get there early and purchase some treats from one of the food trucks that are available. All summer movies will be held on the South Green located at 29th Ave. & Roslyn St. This event is free and open to the public!

Friday, August 15, *Wicked*

### 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.

### OPERA ON THE GREEN

Saturday, August 9, 6–8pm, South Green

Get ready for an enchanting summer evening as we bring the beauty of opera to the great outdoors. On Saturday August 9, join us on the South Green for a free, open-to-the-public performance by the acclaimed Central City Opera. The show begins at 6pm, so bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and your love for music.

As the sun sets and the music soars, treat yourself to a delicious dinner from a variety of local food trucks that will be on-site with meals and snacks available for purchase. Whether you're a seasoned opera fan or just looking for a unique night out, this is the perfect way to enjoy world-class music in a relaxed, family-friendly setting.

### DENVER MUNICIPAL JAZZ BAND

Thursday, August 7, 6:30pm, North Green

Join us for a lively summer evening as the Denver Municipal Jazz Band takes the stage at 6:30pm on the North Green. This free concert is open to all, so bring your friends, grab a spot on the grass, and enjoy the music as the sun sets. Food trucks will be on hand with a variety of delicious treats to make the night even sweeter. It's the perfect way to unwind and soak up the season!

Jennifer Olsen  
Communications Manager  
Jolsen@mca80238.com

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

### Upcoming Event in Your Neighborhood

#### KIDS TRIATHLON

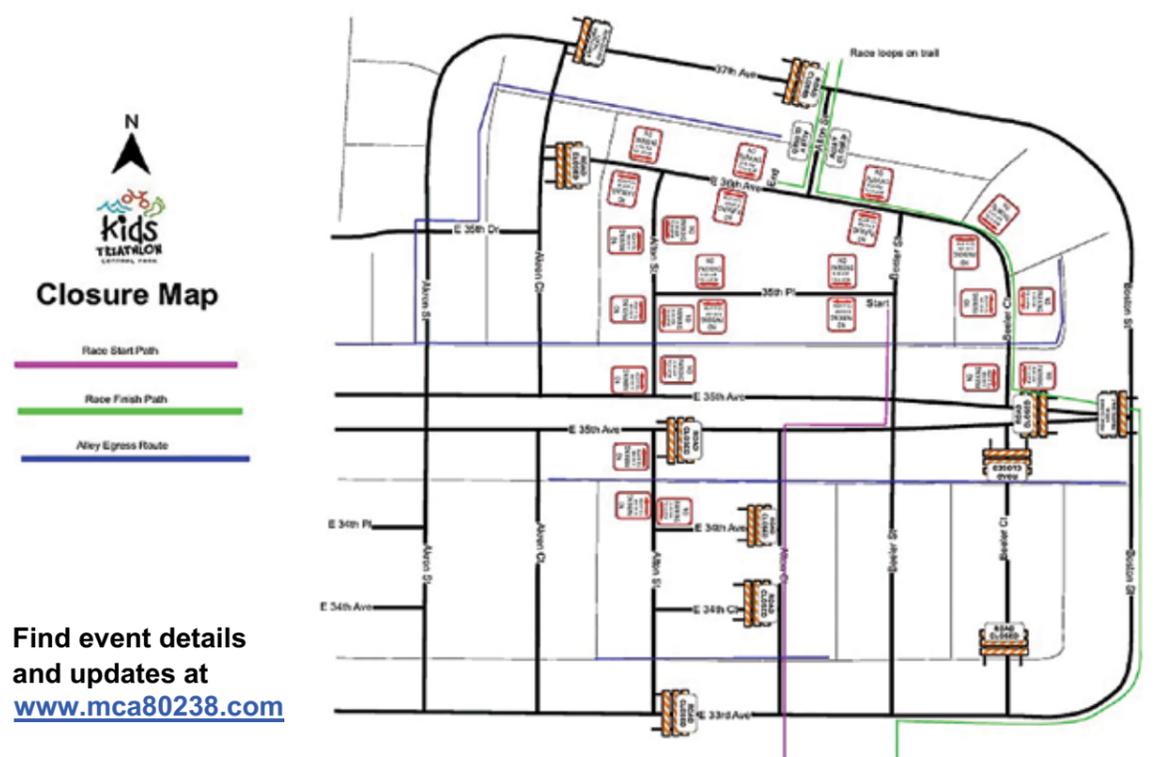
Jet Stream Pool and the surrounding neighborhood  
3574 Alton St, Denver, CO 80238

#### Event Schedule

Sunday, August 24th 6:30AM to 3:00PM

#### Road Closures and Parking Restrictions

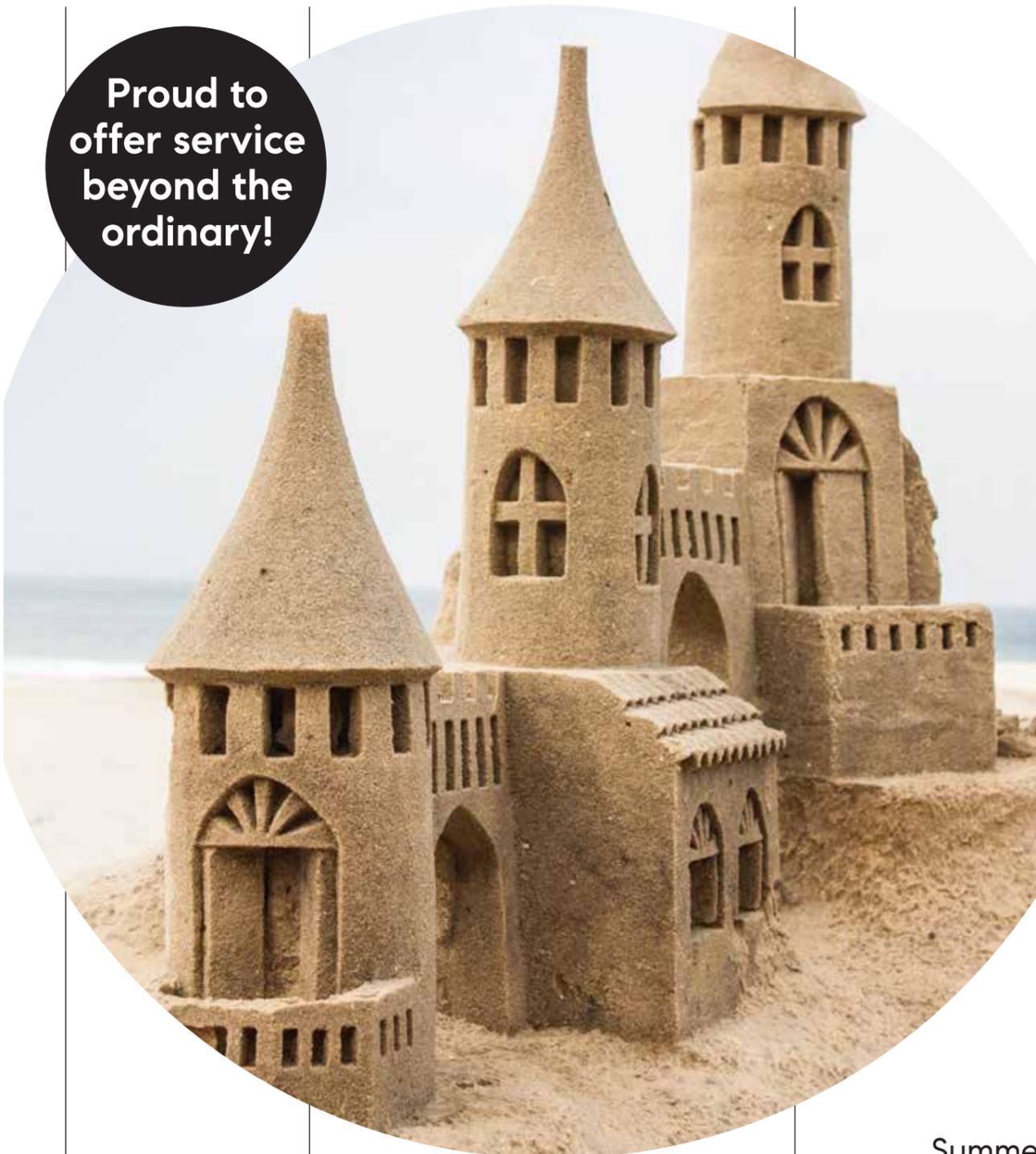
We will be blocking off several streets at 7 AM on Sunday, August 24th. (35th AVE, 36th AVE, 37th AVE, Beeler St, Boston St) We are asking that cars not be parked on the street. Please see the designated sections on the map. Please note that vehicular traffic will only be allowed between races via 35th avenue.



Find event details and updates at [www.mca80238.com](http://www.mca80238.com)



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