

# Front Porch

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

DENVER, COLORADO

OCTOBER 2025

NORTHEAST DENVER

## City Gathers Public Input on Park Hill Park



Photo by Mary Jo Brooks

Gordon Robertson, director of planning, design, and construction at Denver Parks & Recreation, points to a mock-up of a large city park. The department held an open house in September to solicit feedback from Denver residents about the amenities they would like at the new Park Hill Park.

### Buzz Builds for New Taqueria Restaurant

Two award-winning chefs are opening Molino Chido in late October. Page 8



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

### East High School Celebrates 150 Years

Colorado's oldest high school marked its anniversary at the steps of the school. Page 9



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

### Experience the Wonder of Colorado State Parks

Check out these eight state parks within a two-hour drive of Denver. Page 10



Photo by Roy Landis

### Voters to Decide on Vibrant Denver Bond

The November initiative proposes spending \$950 million on infrastructure maintenance and cultural projects. Page 12



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Denver city planners seek public input on how to shape the 155-acre site that once housed a golf course. East Colfax neighbors raise concerns about surveillance cameras. And a new mural is sprouting along the Sand Creek Greenway. *These stories and more in NE News Updates by Mary Jo Brooks and Linda Kotsaftis on page 4.*

## School Board Candidates Make Pitch to Voters at NE Denver Forum



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Denver School Board Candidates for District 4 and an at-large seat listen to the moderator at a Central Park United Neighbors forum in September. Story by Mary Jo Brooks on page 6.

# Good News in the Neighborhood



Ashish Tyagi owns Trunk Nouveau and expanded into the space next door, opening Nouveau Home. Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

## Business Owner Invests in the Stanley Marketplace Community

There are unique stores at Stanley Marketplace that have become cornerstones of the space, and recently, one of the store owners has made a second investment in the community-focused shopping area.

Ashish Tyagi and his wife, Shalini, opened Nouveau Home in June after they purchased the space from the owners of the previous shop, Sterre. The couple immigrated to the U.S. from India in 1999 for Tyagi's job as a software engineer before he decided to become a business owner.

Nouveau Home is not Tyagi's first shop in the marketplace. In September of 2024, the couple purchased Trunk Nouveau after Tyagi, who owns several liquor stores in Aurora and Parker, decided he wanted to expand his businesses. "I wasn't looking for a gift store, but I was looking for a retail store. And then I came across the listing for Trunk Nouveau," Tyagi said.

He quickly fell in love with Stanley Marketplace. "It's inside the marketplace, so it's a safer and more secure place to be in as a business," said Tyagi, who also appreciates the social buzz of the space. "When we came in, the parking lot was full, and there were a lot of people inside. There's such great foot traffic and community feel that you don't get in big malls."

This community feeling extends from the shoppers to the other shop owners. "All the store owners know each other and will help out each other and talk to each other," he said.

He also feels that the history of the building fits perfectly with what Trunk Nouveau sells. "It's where old

meets new," said Tyagi. "The building is a little older. It has the old-world charm, and it has new stuff inside." So, when Tyagi found out that Trunk Nouveau's next door neighbor was selling the space, he grabbed the opportunity to expand.

Tyagi hopes that Nouveau Home complements the unique gifts that Trunk Nouveau is known for, while focusing more on goods for the home like dishes and pillows and knick knacks.

And as a business owner in an era of tariffs, Tyagi understands the difficulties that come with keeping people interested in shopping at boutique retail stores. "Big box stores have the money and power to negotiate and to change their supply chain as quickly as possible; the challenge is to keep in front of the big box stores and the online businesses."

## Growing Garden Excitement

There are vegetables and herbs, as well as sunflowers taller than some of the students. The garden at Isabella Bird Community School was a big success this year. Families planted and weeded all summer and early fall as part of the school's mission to "be kind to self, others, and the planet."

The garden beds are surrounded by colorful tiles that were the result of a collaboration between the school sustainability team and the art teacher and were created to represent the students' love for their school and the garden.

The sustainability team also planted several trees and thanks to a grant written mostly by students, brought back school-wide composting. In response to the garden in particular, the school was certified as an EcoSchool this summer by the National Wildlife Federation.



A new garden at Izzy B. was a big success this year and helped to certify it as an EcoSchool. Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch



Eli Dunn (in black shirt in back) hosted 13 picnics in Denver parks this summer, with the goal of building community. Photo by Ella Galaty

## Taking Time to Sit on Benches in Public Parks

In today's fast-paced, screen-filled world, it's easy to overlook the simple joys of slowing down. Twenty-three-year-old Central Park resident Eli Dunn is on a mission to change that—one park bench at a time. Ironically, he's spreading the word through social media.

The idea took root when Dunn was traveling abroad after high school. On a difficult day in Croatia, he sat on a park bench to think. In that quiet pause, he realized everything would be okay. That moment became the seed for Project Sit Down: an Instagram page encouraging people to pause, reflect, and reconnect.

"Sitting on benches can bring balance to our lives," Dunn said. "Everything moves so fast today. Letting your mind wander—or even letting yourself be bored—is such a great tool."

When he returned to Denver last spring, Dunn wanted to expand the idea to help build community. "But you can't fit a bunch of people on a bench," he joked. Instead, he launched the Denver Picnic Club, inviting friends and strangers to gather on blankets, share food, and enjoy being outside together.

Over the summer, Dunn hosted 13 picnics in parks across Denver. "It makes you feel like a kid again," he said. "It feels great being outside, making new friends."

To learn more, follow @manwhositsdown1 on Instagram.

Sponsored by the Central Park Master Community Association

**FAMILY-OWNED**

**YOGASIX**

**\$99/MO FOR LIFE!**  
(Normally \$159/mo)

**NEW SCHEDULE  
NEW TEACHERS  
NEW VIBES**

**FREE WEEK!**

**IN THE SHOPS AT NORTHFIELD**  
8216 E. NORTHFIELD BLVD, STE. 1330  
DENVER, CO 80238  
303-500-5130

**WOLFE + EPPERSON**

*Buy Now=Host for the Holidays!*

*Today is the right season to make your move!*

Expert Guidance to Bring you Home

**Contact me today to get started!**

**Jay Epperson**  
Realtor®  
303.886.6606  
wolfe-epperson.com

Thank you to all that made the 2025 Park Hill Home Tour a success!

I'm honored to be a 14x Five Star Professional, and a 5280 Top Real Estate Producer.

**COMPASS**

Wolfe-Epperson is a team of real estate agents affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed broker in Colorado and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.

**The 50th Colorado Choir**  
Kelly Portmeyer  
conductor/artistic director

*A Christmas Benefit Concert*

**A Special Matinee Concert/Food Drive**  
**Saturday, November 15 at 2pm**  
St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church  
2305 N. Gaylord St., Denver, CO 80205

Suggested donation:  
\$10 + non-perishable food item  
thecoloradochoir.org

**Front Porch**

Need paper for pets, projects, or packing?  
Email andi928@gmail.com. Please don't pull from racks.

Front Porch – NE Denver distributes more than 24,000 free papers during the first week of each month. Papers are delivered by mail and/or racks in Central Park, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, E. Colfax, and NW Aurora.

PUBLISHER/DESIGN EDITOR: Christie Gosch,  
DesignEditor@FrontPorchNE.com

EDITOR: Linda Kotsaftis, 303-526-1969 or  
Editor@FrontPorchNE.com

AD SALES: Brian Saxman, AdSalesManager@FrontPorchNE.com  
or Sarah Stabio, AdSales@FrontPorchNE.com

Front Porch is printed with soy-based ink and the paper contains 30% post-consumer waste. We contribute monthly to replant trees equivalent to the amount of paper used in each issue.

VISIT FRONTPORCHNE.COM

- Upload and view events in our online calendar
- Comment on and share stories
- Find all our issues back to 2000

Follow us at Front Porch Newspaper for updates on local news and events.



# Recognizing the Local Spots You Love Most!



**2025**  
Best Breakfast / Brunch  
**Four Friends Kitchen**



**2025**  
Best Coffee Shop  
**Honey Hill Cafe**



**2025**  
Best Local Non-Profit  
**Judi's House**

Scan for the full list of winners ➤



**2025**  
Best Date Night Restaurant  
**Annette**



**2025**  
Best Pizza  
**Mici Italian**



**2025**  
Best Community Event  
**Central Park Farmer's Market**

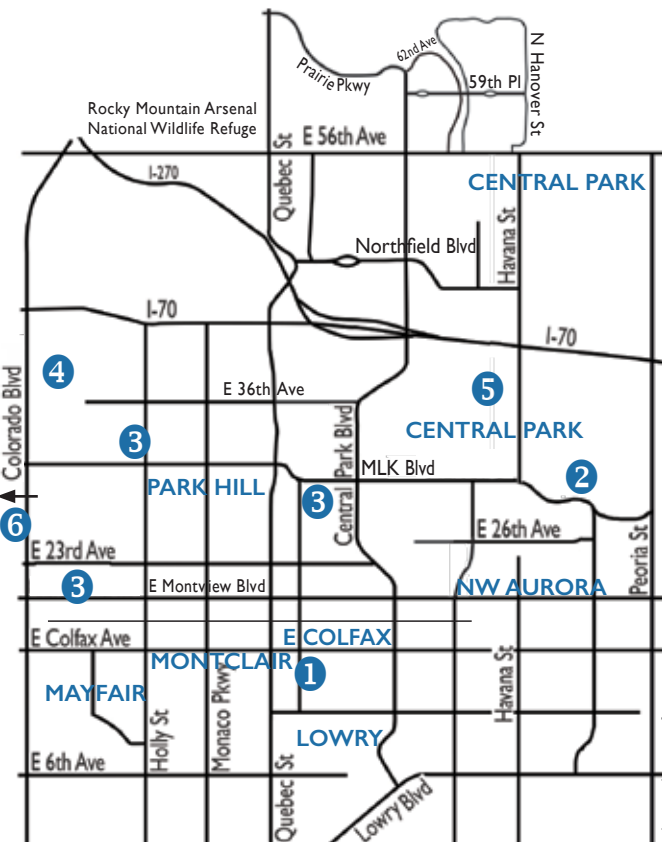
CENTRAL PARK  
**Scoop**

POWERED BY  
FOCUS REAL ESTATE

centralparkscoop.com



# ...NE News Updates



By Mary Jo Brooks and Linda Kotsaftis

## 1 The Denver Debate Over Flock Cameras

Denver City Councilmember Sarah Parady has called on Mayor Mike Johnston to stop Denver’s use of Flock cameras, a type of automatic license plate reader from the company Flock Safety.

Denver Police have said the cameras, installed at dozens of locations across the city, have helped to reduce car thefts and aided in solving other crimes. But Parady and neighbors who attended a recent East Colfax Neighborhood Association meeting voiced concerns about privacy and voted not to support the addition of a new camera planned for the intersection of 14th Avenue and Syracuse Street.

Denver Police Commander Jacob Herrera said the cameras were brought to the city to help reduce auto thefts, and DPD later found other benefits.

“The system has been used to solve murders, to solve sex assaults, to solve shootings, to interrupt in real time robberies where suspects were hitting multiple 7-Elevens, robbing them at gunpoint, stealing other cars,” Herrera said.

But Parady said the cameras also recognize vehicle makes and models, everything down to bumper stickers. And that, she said, creates a privacy issue with the images and the database that stores them.

Parady said the stored information may have been used to assist federal immigration officials, and neighbors at the meeting voiced concerns about how the data is used. Denver Police said they have turned off the ability for national searching of the local database of information.

Parady, along with Councilmember Shontel Lewis, questioned the money spent on the cameras, which the council voted down in May but was later approved by the mayor’s office. A task force has been formed between the Denver City Council and the mayor’s office to look at the program and how it’s managed.



Denver City Councilmember Shontel Lewis speaks at a meeting of the East Colfax Neighborhood Association about Flock camera use.

## 2 A Big Step Forward for Construction at Bluff Lake Nature Center

Work has come a long way since the groundbreaking of the construction project at Bluff Lake Nature Center (BLNC) in March. In late August, staff, donors, and volunteers signed a large board to be lifted into place at the topping-off ceremony.

Offices, meeting rooms, multi-use classrooms, and bathrooms are part of the improvements meant to enhance community access with a welcoming space, as well as to create a headquarters for the BLNC team, which currently works a few miles away.

“We love this space and this organization and truly believe that this project provides us an opportunity to be even better stewards of this land,” said Rachel Hutchens, BLNC executive director. “This new space



The new building at Bluff Lake Nature Center.

will make Bluff Lake more accessible, less logistically challenging for families and groups, and will truly bring our team on site in a way we’ve never had before.”

Hutchens said the building is expected to open in December, with the new parking lot and accessible ramp installed shortly after that.

The 123-acre wildlife refuge, located at the east edge of the Central Park neighborhood, has seen the numbers of visitors grow as development in the area has increased. BLNC reported 100,000 visitors in 2024 during its 30th anniversary year.

Construction began on the \$8.5 million campus improvement project in March.

## 3 Denver Provides Free Narcan and Overdose Response Training at Local Libraries

Free naloxone (the generic for Narcan) is now available at all Denver Public Library (DPL) locations, and overdose response training will be available at the Denver Central Library.

The Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) has joined DPL in offering resources and training so that people can recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and safely administer naloxone.

“Overdose prevention isn’t just about one person or organization. It’s also about neighbors looking out for one another, education, and making lifesaving resources accessible when and where they’re needed most,” said Mayor Mike Johnston in a press release. “By placing overdose prevention tools and training in our libraries, we’re reinforcing their role as pillars of safety, care, and opportunity in Denver’s communities.”

According to a press release, research shows naloxone access can reduce overdose deaths by as much as 65%, which gives programs time to connect more people to treatment, housing, and healthcare.

Naloxone doesn’t work on non-opioid substances like methamphetamine or cocaine. According to DDPHE,



# 40th Anniversary Ruby Celebration

**SILENT AUCTION  
& LIVE AUCTION**  
Tickets: \$50

Wednesday  
**October 15, 2025**  
5:30pm-8pm

St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
2201 Dexter St, Denver, CO



There’s no place like home



Let’s celebrate four decades of resilience, growth, and transformation.

**PURCHASE YOUR  
TICKETS TODAY!**

*All tickets include lite bites  
and two beverage tickets.*

For 40 years, The Empowerment Program has helped individuals—primarily cis and transgender women impacted by homelessness and the criminal legal system—build healthier and safer lives from the inside out.

Learn more at [www.empowermentprogram.org](http://www.empowermentprogram.org)

administering naloxone to someone who is not experiencing an opioid overdose does not cause harmful effects.

#### 4 City Gathers Public Input on Park Hill Park and Other Neighborhood Needs

Officials from the City of Denver held an open house on Sept. 13 to gather input for the design and amenities that may be included in the new Park Hill Park (formerly the Park Hill Golf Course). It was the latest in a public participation process that was initiated in April. On display in the Hiawatha Davis Jr. Recreation Center were large-scale aerial representations of the park. Visitors could place cut-outs depicting tennis courts, pavilions, ballfields, and other amenities on the board to help envision what the park could look like.

“We’re in this phase of asking people to think big,” said Stacie West, city-wide planning supervisor at Denver Parks and Recreation. “What does it take to build a really great park?” To help answer that question, West and her team have been studying what other cities around the country have done. West said Park Hill Park will be the largest park to be built in Denver in over 100 years.

Two years ago, Denver residents voted to keep the 155-acre parcel as a green space rather than have it developed into residential and commercial spaces. One of the main arguments for development had been the lack of affordable housing and grocery stores in the area, so officials at the open house were also seeking public input on those issues. “The top three priorities we’ve heard from the community are affordable housing, reducing displacement pressures that can happen when big investment comes in, and access to fresh food,” said Sarah Showalter, Denver’s director of planning services. “There’s only so much a city government can do, but we want to identify strategies that the City and other partners can pursue to see those goals accomplished.”

Rev. Eugene Downing from New Hope Church, located at the edge of the park, was at the event to learn more. Although he had voted for the development plan, he was encouraged by what he saw. “I’m excited that there is real thoughtfulness about getting community input,” he said. “I think the mayor’s team is really sincere about that.”

Another open house will be held in November. In the meantime, the public can learn more and make suggestions at parkhillpark.org.

#### 5 New Mural Sprouts along the Sand Creek Regional Greenway

Volunteer artists of all ages were out painting a giant paint-by-number depiction of the flora and fauna that live in the area at the third annual Sand Creek Regional Greenway Mural Festival in September. Artist Catie Michel’s design



Volunteer artists dab paint on a new mural along Sand Creek.

was chosen from among 23 entries. Trained as a scientific illustrator, Michel said she loves working with the public in this manner. “I want the community to really have ownership of this mural,” she said. The 264-foot-long painting will portray five field note entries featuring birds, mammals, reptiles, plants, and aquatic habitat. “Already I’ve seen so many species first-hand that are in the mural. A red-tailed hawk has visited every day,” Michel added.

Le’alani Boykin is the director of special projects at the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Partnership. She said the mural is “a wonderful representation of what this community values. This is a very special piece of nature along a 13-mile corridor in an urban area.”

Michel hopes to complete the mural by mid-November. To learn more, visit sandcreekgreenway.org/artwalk.

#### 6 Alumni Center Opens at Manual High School

A new alumni center has opened at Manual High School thanks to Friends of Manual, an organization that raises funds to provide extra support for students and teachers. The center showcases newspaper clippings, photographs, and other memorabilia highlighting the rich history of one of Denver’s oldest schools. Founded in 1892, Manual is located in the historically African American neighborhood of Whittier.

“The school has an incredible history,” said Mary Salsich, chair of Friends of Manual. “Initially the student body was mostly Black, and later many Japanese American students arrived after the internment camp closed. Then busing brought in white students as well. We want to capture all of that richness and diversity.”

To preserve those stories, Salsich has begun recording interviews with alumni for an oral history project. She hopes Manual graduates will contribute memorabilia and volunteer to help staff the new center.

# Your Beauty. Reimagined.

No Surgery. No Downtime.

- ✓ Non-invasive skin lifting & toning
- ✓ Results in just 4 weeks
- ✓ No needles



BEFORE

AFTER EMFACE®

## Book a Free Consult Today!

Denver’s Exclusive EMFACE® Provider.  
The future of facial rejuvenation.





1540 South Holly Street  
Denver, CO 80222  
303-578-4843  
[www.blackmountaindentistry.com](http://www.blackmountaindentistry.com)

10 DAYS. HUNDREDS OF EVENTS. ENDLESS INSPIRATION.

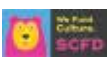
# DENVER ARTS WEEK 2025

CELEBRATE DENVER’S CREATIVE SIDE ACROSS MUSEUMS, STAGES, ART DISTRICTS AND MORE.

NOVEMBER 7-16, 2025  
Find Events and Deals at [DenverArtsWeek.com](http://DenverArtsWeek.com)

PRESENTED BY  
*Visit* DENVER

SPONSORED BY:



Join us for a  
**FREE EVENT!**  
 celebrating local food  
 in Aurora!

Saturday,  
**October 11, 2025**  
 11 AM - 1 PM

**STANLEY MARKETPLACE**

FOOD | PRIZES | FUN



Enjoy a taste of the award-winning  
 "community voice" recipe from the first-ever  
**COMMUNITY COOKBOOK** OF NORTHWEST AURORA  
 & EAST DENVER

Featuring 20 fabulous recipes submitted by your neighbors.

Catering by  TAG  
 RESTAURANT  
 GROUP

**EVENT RAFFLE**  
**WIN FREE BRONCOS TICKETS!**  
 Enter for a chance to win four Club Level seats  
 to the Broncos vs. Raiders on Nov. 6.  
 Stop by to enter the raffle. Must be present to win.



**Alpine Bank**  
 Member FDIC

Visit [alpinebankcookbook.com](http://alpinebankcookbook.com)

# School Board Candidates Make

By Mary Jo Brooks

Candidates vying to serve on two seats of the Denver Board of Education made their case to voters at a September forum hosted by Central Park United Neighbors (CPUN).

## District 4 Candidates: Harris, Hunter, Jackson, and Quattlebaum

Four candidates are running for the District 4 seat, which serves northeast Denver. The seat is currently held by Michelle Quattlebaum, who is running for re-election. Her three challengers are funeral home director Jeremy Harris, former Denver Public Schools (DPS) teacher and current teachers union employee Monica Hunter, and youth violence prevention advocate Timiya Jackson.

## At-Large Candidates: Klein Molk, Magaña, and Sims Fard

Three candidates are seeking the at-large seat that serves all of Denver. The candidates are DPS special education paraprofessional Amy Klein Molk, DPS middle school principal Alex Magaña, and DPS teacher Deborah Sims Fard.

## A Call for Accountability

In recent years, the Denver school board has generated headlines for in-fighting among members, operating behind closed doors, internal investigations, and school closures. Candidates at the CPUN forum made only a few passing references to those problems.

Harris took the sharpest swing. "We have simply lost trust in our school board and in our superintendent. We know that our school board is not being accountable or transparent when it comes to governing our district," he said. He believes the greatest problem in Denver schools is racial inequities. "Right now, DPS has one of the highest achievement gaps in the state. Almost

a 50-point difference between black and brown kids and their white counterparts. That is not equity, and that is not justice," Harris added.

Jackson stressed the need for accountability. "This is something that needs to take place at every level of our district. When things are not going well, we have to own up to that," said Jackson. "We have to have leadership on this board that is willing to work alongside community to understand what those solutions are, to put strong policies into play, to be clear about how we're going to get there, and to have the monitoring tools in place to ensure that we are making progress."

## DPS in Crisis? Or Closing Gaps?

"DPS is in crisis," Magaña said. "We have too many gaps in our education, especially right now with our black and brown students." For third graders, "we have only about 30–35% of students that are reading at grade level while we have white students that are reading at a much higher grade level," he said. "What we should be doing is providing additional resources and training so that all kids are growing, closing that gap right at the very beginning."

Incumbent Quattlebaum was quick to respond. "We are closing gaps in Denver public schools," she said. "I celebrate the efforts that our educators are putting in and the achievement that our students are having. I want to say that it's not good enough, and I understand that. Which is why we are investing in high-quality education curriculum." Throughout the forum, she reiterated that theme. "We're in unprecedented times right now," she said. "In spite of that, we're making headway in Denver Public Schools."

## A Call for Resources

Nearly every candidate zeroed in on the need to provide schools with more resources. "We need to support our teachers with

Robert  
 Anderson Gallery

Photography & Fine Art | Contemporary & Regional



Fridays and Saturdays: noon to 6  
 Sundays: 11-2  
 other times by appointment

Bluebird Arts District  
 3339 East Colfax Avenue, 80206

[robertandersongallery.com](http://robertandersongallery.com) | [ig @robertandersongallery4](https://www.instagram.com/robertandersongallery4) | text 303-257-0684

# Pitch to Voters at NE Denver Forum

fair pay, smaller class sizes, and real resources,” Klein Molk said. “We need to create schools that are safe and future-ready so that our kids feel protected and prepared for the future. For decades, DPS has followed a privatization playbook of closures, competition, and privatization. A reformer playbook that I do not agree with. We need to fight against it, or our current administration will win.”

Hunter said one of her highest priorities is providing money for mental health services. “What we’ve noticed since Covid is that mental health has declined not only in students but in teachers as well,” she said. “We have to first start by destigmatizing mental health, and we have to ensure that schools have the resources to serve students. These schools are operating without full-time nurses, psychologists, and therapists. Many of those jobs are contracted out, and the teachers and psychologists I’ve talked to are burnt out.”

Sims Fard, who has taught under six different superintendents, said her focus is on creating safe schools. “My platform is simple,” she said. “Safety. We know that learning does not happen if classrooms are not safe.” She also wants to see more money spent on training and support for teachers. “We should be able to see policies that are rooted in equity and inclusivity and diversity. That is how we get all children to have the optimal learning opportunities.”

Reactions from audience members after the forum were mixed. Park Hill resident Savannah Madrid-Andrews would have liked more focus on closing the achievement gap. “I wanted to hear more about literacy rates and math scores. The candidates didn’t address that enough.”

Central Park resident Ellen Miller Brown said she was pleased that so many candidates talked about keeping students at the center of their work. “I do think it is most people’s north star,” she said. “But I’m not sure they always stay committed to that when they get elected and face all kinds of pressures.”

### District 3 Candidates: Blanke, Esserman, and Torres

Candidates for District 3, which covers south Park Hill, Montclair, and Lowry were not included in the Central Park forum. That seat is currently held by Carrie Olson, who is unable to run again due to term limits. Candidates running in the District 3 race include former preschool center director Caron Blanke, current at-large school board member Scott Esserman, and former DPS teacher DJ Torres.



Seated from left to right: District 4 candidates Jeremy Harris, Monica Hunter, Timiya Jackson, and Michelle Quattlebaum (incumbent) and at-large candidates Alex Magaña, Amy Klein Molk, and Deborah Sims Fard. Central Park United Neighbors hosted the event on Sept. 16.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosh



## DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

A Denver Public School



**HIGHEST Performance Rating of ALL DPS Charters—92.3!**

- ✓ Academic Excellence
- ✓ Global Citizenship
- ✓ K-8 Language Immersion

**Now offering French Immersion for grades 6–8**

**DLS Whiteman Campus K-4**  
303-557-0852  
**DLS Gilpin Campus 5-8**  
303-777-0544

**Bus Stops in Park Hill & Central Park**  
*Join us for a tour!*  
Check website for dates  
[www.denverlanguageschool.org](http://www.denverlanguageschool.org)



INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE

# DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

Join us in honoring the Day of the Dead with an evening of culture, community, and celebration—featuring Aztec dancers, mariachi, lucha libre, escaramuza, dancing horses, trick ropers, face painting, sugar skull decorating, a mechanical bull, Mexican food, and artisan vendors.

## 01

NOVEMBER  
12PM - 6PM

10200 Smith Rd.  
Denver, CO 80239

ADULTS: \$10  
YOUTH (AGES 6–17): \$5  
CHILDREN 5 & UNDER: FREE



**GET TICKETS!**



Tommy Lee (left) and Michael Diaz de Leon stand in the window of the tortilla room at Molino Chido, where patrons will be able to watch tortillas being made.

# Buzz Builds as New Restaurant Prepares to Open at Stanley Marketplace

By Courtney Drake-McDonough

Two James Beard and Michelin-recognized chefs are moving into the former Comida location at the Stanley Marketplace to great anticipation. Molino Chido, slated to open in late October, is owned by Tommy Lee, owner-chef of Uncle and Hop Alley, and chef Michael Diaz de Leon, formerly of Bruto. After the two chefs became friends during the pandemic and worked together a few times, Diaz de Leon took a year off to travel, consult, and host several food pop-ups, including a couple with Lee. When he returned to Colorado, he reached out to his friend. The timing was serendipitous, as Lee had just been approached about opening a Mexican restaurant in the Stanley Marketplace. With Diaz de Leon as executive chef and part-owner and Lee as chef and part-owner (in an operational role), a partnership was born. The name for their restaurant, “Molino Chido,” translates to a “cool meal.”

“Molino is the corn mill where we mill the masa, and chido means ‘cool’ or ‘something great or awesome,’” Diaz de Leon explained. “We’ve kind of turned ‘chido’ into our own slang,” added Lee. “Ultimately, it’s a taqueria, and we believe that the base of a great taco is a great tortilla,” he continued. “And that’s where the molino came into play of making our own tortillas. This is a casual concept, but with our backgrounds and Michael’s history with the cuisine, we’re going to pay attention to the details.” He continued, “Even though tacos are simple, we’re trying to make sure they’re done correctly from start to finish.” A windowed room will enable guests to see tortillas being made. Corn will be cooked overnight using a process of nixtamalization, cooking it in an alkaline solution to break it down for easier consumption. It will then go through the molina machinery, which is operated with volcanic stones before going into a machine that creates the tortilla.

“Making tortillas is a craft. It’s an ancestral technique that has been done for a very long time that we’re trying to honor,” Diaz de Leon said. Molino Chido’s menu will have about ten taco options, including pork, poultry, and vegetable. They’ll also have a lengua (tongue) taco made from bison. Side dishes will include refried beans and ceviche, and larger dishes will feature a half-chicken, short ribs, whole fish, flautas, burrito, and tortas with house-made bread. A kids’ menu is in the works, motivated not only by the families in the area but by the chefs’ own young children. A salsa bar will be available for diners to augment their tacos as desired. “This should feel like a mom-and-pop taqueria,” he said. “The tacos are not going to have microgreens on them. We want them to have a traditional look and feel, but part of what we like about a taqueria is that you get to choose your salsas and pickled vegetables.” “We’re totally about customization,” Diaz de Leon added. “You go on your own journey with the tacos.” Both the menu and the decor of Molino Chido take inspiration from Mexico City. Diaz de Leon and Lee describe the look as “polished grit,” with areas of raw cement and corrugated metal, colorful tiles, and their logo on tables sourced from a third-generation manufacturer in Guadalajara. “If you’ve been to Mexico City and a taqueria, you’re going to sit at one of those tables and immediately understand what we’re going for,” Lee said. “And for people who have not been, we just hope it’s fun and different.”



Traditional taqueria tables and chairs were created by a manufacturer in Guadalajara, Mexico, for the restaurant.

# TIMIYA JACKSON



# DENVER

## SCHOOL BOARD

DISTRICT 4

*Keeping Students at the Center of Every Decision*

***My priorities are student-centered, transparent, and rooted in what our communities truly need:***

- ✓ Protecting Our Schools and Upholding Educational Integrity
- ✓ Education and Opportunity that Prepares Students for Life
- ✓ Building Trust Through Transparency and Community

**[www.jackson4dps.com](http://www.jackson4dps.com) • 720-598-2703 • [info@jackson4dps.com](mailto:info@jackson4dps.com)**

# East High School Celebrates 150 Years

By Mary Jo Brooks

Colorado’s oldest high school marked its 150th anniversary with a lively celebration on the steps of East High School in September. Hundreds of teachers, students, and alumni gathered to hear speakers share stories of past shenanigans, honor notable graduates, and encourage future East Angels to carry forward the school’s proud legacy.

This year also marks a century in the school’s current building designed by an East graduate from the Class of 1893. At the time of its dedication, community member Dorus Hatch described it as “a structure of ideas and ideals...an institution whose office it is to beat back the blight of ignorance and push far the frontiers of knowledge.”

Those sentiments were echoed by many of the speakers at the rededication event. Current principal Terita Walker said East’s promise is still “to nurture scholarship and inspire creativity. To celebrate beauty in all its forms.



Former CO Senate President Peter Groff paid tribute to alumni accomplishments.



East High School Principal Terita Walker addressed students, teachers, and alumni at a celebration of the school’s 150th anniversary, as members of the East Honors Choir looked on.

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch

To honor our differences while recognizing our shared purpose in education.” She concluded, “And most importantly, to confront ignorance, intolerance, and hate with love, kindness, and empathy.”

Former Colorado Senate President Peter Groff, Class of 1981, talked about the many graduates who became leaders in their field, including several Grammy winners, an astronaut, a Miss America, and the first African American Oscar winner. He reminded the audience of the “resilience that has fueled a legacy of greatness in students, staff, and faculty.” He ended with a charge to current students: “You need to continue the legacy of service and community and family. The nation needs you more now than ever before. We need to hear the unique and impactful voices of Angels that we have been for 150 years.”

After the ceremony, students and school officials opened two time capsules that had been moved from the

previous building and sealed inside an exterior wall of the “new” school. Inside was an 1871 dance card for a Christmas ball, an 1872 newspaper clipping, report cards, an 1880 diploma, photographs, and school directories. Students in the East Museum Club plan to gather items, including photos documenting current student life, throughout this school year for a new time capsule.

The rededication activities were followed by Homecoming weekend, class reunions, and tours of the East building, including the Clock Tower Museum.

The celebrations concluded the following weekend with an East High School Film Festival. The documentary *Angel Power: 150 Years of East High Excellence* was premiered, and a series of films that featured East alumni were shown, including *In this Our Life* (Hattie McDaniel attended East 1908-1910) and *Jackie Brown* (Pam Grier, Class of 1968).



## HOUSE CLEANING

Providing 25 years of personalized cleaning service in Central Park & Park Hill

Deep & Detail-Oriented Cleaning • Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products (on request)

Offices/Homes/Apartments/Airbnb • Move-in/Move-out

Great References ~ **Paulina Leon 720-628-6690**

## Hypnosis for Stress & Anxiety, Healthy Eating, and Good Habits



Soo Lotus  
[www.SooLotus.com](http://www.SooLotus.com)

HIGH PRAIRIE PARK

OCT 10 & 11 | 4PM – 10PM



2025

AURORA  
BOREALIS  
FESTIVAL



VISIT  
**AURORA**GO



PAINTED PRAIRIE

FRONT PORCH  
READERS EXCLUSIVE  
**20% OFF!**  
WITH CODE  
**FP2025**

# Experience the Wonder of Colorado State Parks

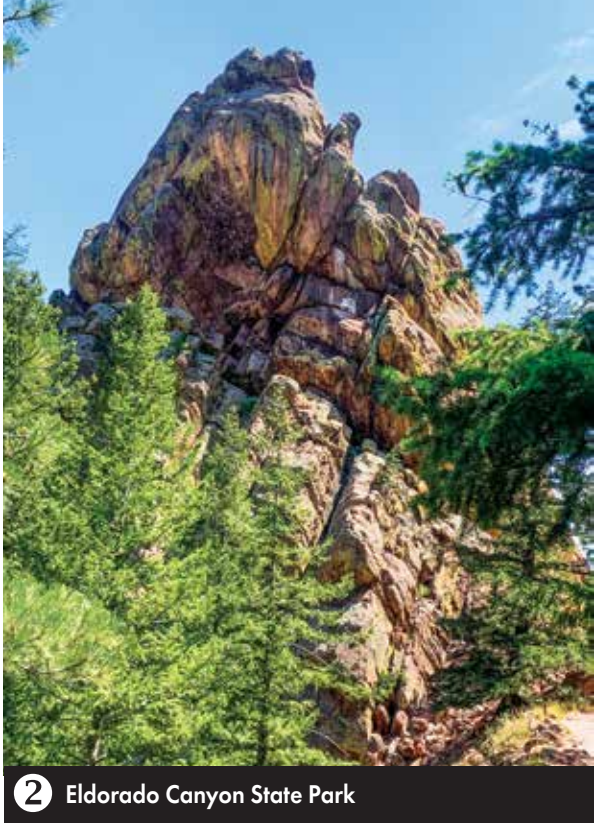


By Ray Landis

Outdoor scenery and recreation are major attractions for anyone like me who is relatively new to Colorado. The crown jewel of the state is Rocky Mountain National Park, with its miles of hiking trails, picture-perfect mountains and lakes, and the literally breathtaking drive

through the park on Trail Ridge Road. The National Park attracts millions of visitors each year both from out-of-state and within Colorado. It's so popular that crowds can be a problem, which the National Park Service has tried to address with timed entry passes. It's also expensive to visit—entry fees for a single day are \$30 per vehicle, although those over the age of 62 can take advantage of the best recreational bargain out there, the lifetime national parks pass available for \$80. Rocky Mountain National Park should be on everyone's bucket list to experience. But some may find the expense and hassle of visiting, particularly during the peak of tourist season, to be a detriment to making frequent drives to Estes Park or Grand Lake. Fortunately, Colorado's outdoor beauty doesn't stop at the National Park's boundaries. Those of

us in the Denver area can take advantage of our proximity to spectacular scenery in other ways. One of the best is through the state park system. There are 43 state parks in Colorado, and more than a dozen of them are within a two-hour drive of Denver. These can be divided into two categories—parks that focus on water recreation and parks that offer opportunities to walk and hike in places of natural beauty. The “water” parks—Boyd Lake, Cherry Creek, Barr Lake, Chatfield, and Jackson Lake—primarily offer boating and fishing, along with campgrounds and trails. But if you're looking for an experience that involves stunning views, hiking, and wildlife, the eight parks scattered along the Front Range from just north of Fort Collins to just south of Colorado Springs should be on your visitation list. Each of these eight state parks has its own unique features. ❶ Mueller, in the shadow of Pikes Peak, has wildlife in abundance, including moose. ❷ Eldorado Canyon, close enough to Boulder that its popularity requires a timed entry system on summer weekends, is a haven for rock climbers. ❸ Roxborough, barely to the south of Denver's suburbs, has jagged rock formations rivaling those of the more famous Garden of the Gods. ❹ Castlewood Canyon, east of Castle Rock, takes you from the high plains down to a lush canyon cut by Cherry Creek, miles before it gets to Denver. ❺ Golden Gate Canyon and ❻ Staunton transport you higher into the foothills, with great views of the mountains and opportunities for long wilderness hikes. ❼ Lory, to the west of Fort Collins on the shore of the Horsetooth Reservoir, provides access to both the water and the foothills. And ❽ Cheyenne Mountain, south of Colorado Springs, is now better known as a state park with miles of secluded trails instead of the underground home of NORAD, made famous to those outside of Colorado by the 1980's movie *Wargames*. All of these parks have visitor centers with interpretive displays, trail guides, and knowledgeable park rangers and volunteers ready to assist with recommendations and answers to questions. The maintenance and quality of the facilities rival those of the National Park Service, which is



❷ Eldorado Canyon State Park



❺ Golden Gate Canyon State Park

facing severe cuts in its budget, threatening the future of the system. This situation makes Colorado State Parks even more important for residents of the state. Most Coloradans seem to have “their” place to go to enjoy the natural wonders which make Colorado special. As a newer resident of northeast Denver, I'm finding “my” place is not a single location but is the variety the numerous nearby state parks can provide. If you haven't been to a state park for a while, get a brochure (available at [cpw.state.co.us/state-parks](http://cpw.state.co.us/state-parks)) and a Keep Colorado Wild pass, pick a location, and spend a few hours outside. My guess is you'll be headed to another park...and another...and another. State park photos by Ray Landis



### Makerspace & Toy Store

Fall/Holiday, Spring Break, & Summer Camps

[www.mindcraftmakerspace.com](http://www.mindcraftmakerspace.com)  
303-341-4065  
2nd floor inside Stanley Marketplace



- 3D Printers
- 3D Pens
- Laser Engraver
- Sewing Machines
- Glass Art
- Arts & Crafts



# FARM FEST



LIVE MUSIC • FOOD TRUCKS • KIDS CRAFTS  
ANIMAL COSTUME PARADE • VENDORS • AND MORE!

## OCTOBER 4, 2025

### THE URBAN FARM

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

(SOME ACTIVITIES WILL CHARGE A SMALL FEE)

10200 SMITH ROAD DENVER COLORADO 80239

[WWW.THEURBANFARM.ORG](http://WWW.THEURBANFARM.ORG)



## HOMES For Sale

### ALOHA REAL ESTATE



3 3

17216 E. ALAMEDA



2 3

8742 E. 47th



3 4

1960 S. Sherman



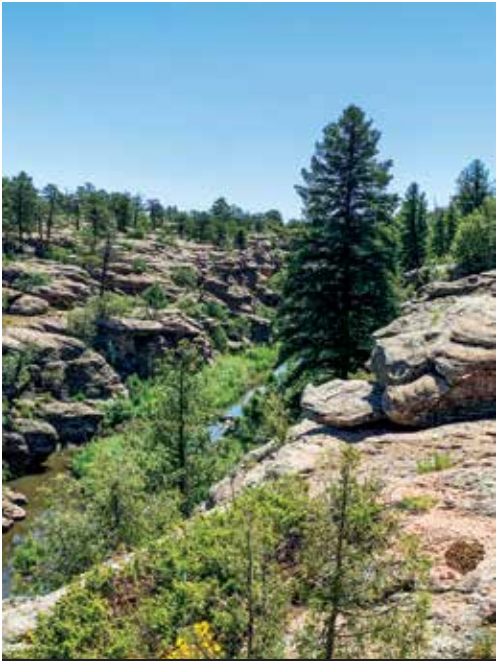
303-378-2730 AlohaRealEstateCO.com Jaryd@AlohaRealEstateCO.com



7 Lory State Park



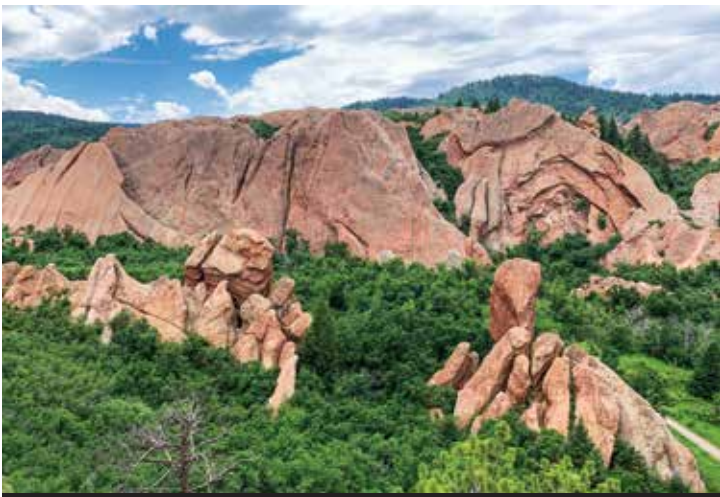
1 Mueller State Park



4 Castlewood Canyon State Park



6 Staunton State Park



3 Roxborough State Park



8 Cheyenne Mountain State Park



# Attending school every day matters!

At DPS, it is our collective responsibility as leaders, educators, families and community members that our students not only succeed, but thrive.



Learn more about how you can support your student's attendance at [dpsk12.org/attendance](https://dpsk12.org/attendance).



# Voters to Decide on Vibrant Denver Bond

By Sarah Fuhrey Huber

Even as the City of Denver faces a \$200 million budget shortfall in its 2025–26 fiscal period, Denver voters will decide in November whether to approve \$950 million in debt for the Vibrant Denver bond package. The bond would fund infrastructure maintenance and cultural projects across the City.

While Denver’s budget and the bond package are separate fiscal issues, there is a common thread. Mayor Mike Johnston believes that the 59 projects included in the bond will serve as a “stimulus to the city’s economy,” benefiting the budget. “A moment of economic uncertainty is exactly the time to do a bond,” he said. The bond projects were approved by Denver City Council in August after a heated discussion about which projects to include and how much to allocate to each. The Denver Zoo Conservation Alliance, for example, requested \$50 million to fund a new permanent exhibit, among other improvement projects, but was only approved for \$3 million for facility maintenance.

Ultimately, the projects approved by City Council were selected to fuel business, modernize roads and transportation systems, enhance civic spaces, and “keep the economy moving,” Johnston said. All projects are slated for completion within six years.

## No Raised Taxes, but Increased Debt

Although the bond increases the debt carried by the City, it does not raise taxes. Nicole Doheny, chief financial officer for the City and County of Denver, explained, “Cities across the U.S. use bonds to fund major capital investments, like new bridges, parks, recreation centers, street redesigns, and other public infrastructure, that would be too expensive to fund out of a city’s annual budget.”

Echoing Johnston, she continued, “The City typically looks to infrastructure funding as one way to help support local jobs and economic activity during downturns.” Vibrant Denver is a general obligation bond package, meaning the City borrows money upfront from investors to fund capital

projects and repays it over time with interest. The bond would be paid off within 30 years with existing property tax rates.

Johnston compared the bond package to a “honey-do” list. “They’re the things we don’t do on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, but when Saturday comes, we tackle all of it,” he said. In the same way, the City’s budget does not cover special projects, but a bond package “gets them done,” he said. Prior to City Council approving the list of projects, the mayor’s office and members of City Council met with about 1,000 community members for input and received more than 6,000 responses to the Vibrant Denver online survey.

## Northeast Denver Projects in the Bond

One of the most expensive northeast Denver projects in the bond pack-

age is Park Hill Park, with \$70 million dedicated to developing the regional park. Both the mayor and City Councilmember Shontel Lewis, who represents Park Hill as part of District 8, advocated for its inclusion in the bond.

Other northeast Denver projects in the bond package are a library for the neighborhood of East Colfax and the 303 ArtWay Trail. Following the City’s new model to use public space to address the affordable housing crisis, affordable housing would be built atop the library, and a recreation center would be attached. “This is also a matter of equity,” noted Johnston. “East Colfax deserves a beautiful library too.”

As for the trail, the 303 ArtWay Heritage Trail would receive \$1 million for a proposed four-mile pedestrian and bike loop in Park Hill, connecting the RTD 40th & Colorado station to Holly Square. Funding would support the installation of landmark signage and art along the trail.

In Montbello, the Arie P. Taylor Senior Center would receive a \$1 million dollar renovation, and in Montclair, Lindsley Park would be updated.

Transportation makes up nearly half of the costs of the bond. “One of the things we don’t think about until they fall apart are bridges,” Johnston said. The bond package aims to ensure that three Denver bridges, including the bridge on 8th Avenue where traffic has been slowed to 10 miles an hour due to structural concerns, are overhauled. The other two bridges included in the bond are on 6th Avenue and Lincoln Street.

Two additional bridge repairs that the City is pursuing but did not include in the bond package are on Quebec Street in northeast Denver. If voters pass the transportation measure in the bond, Denver funds (apart from the bond) for bridge repairs will be allocated to the Quebec bridges. If the bond transportation measure does not pass, the three bridges included in the bond

## How does the City and County of Denver issue General Obligation (GO) Bond Programs?

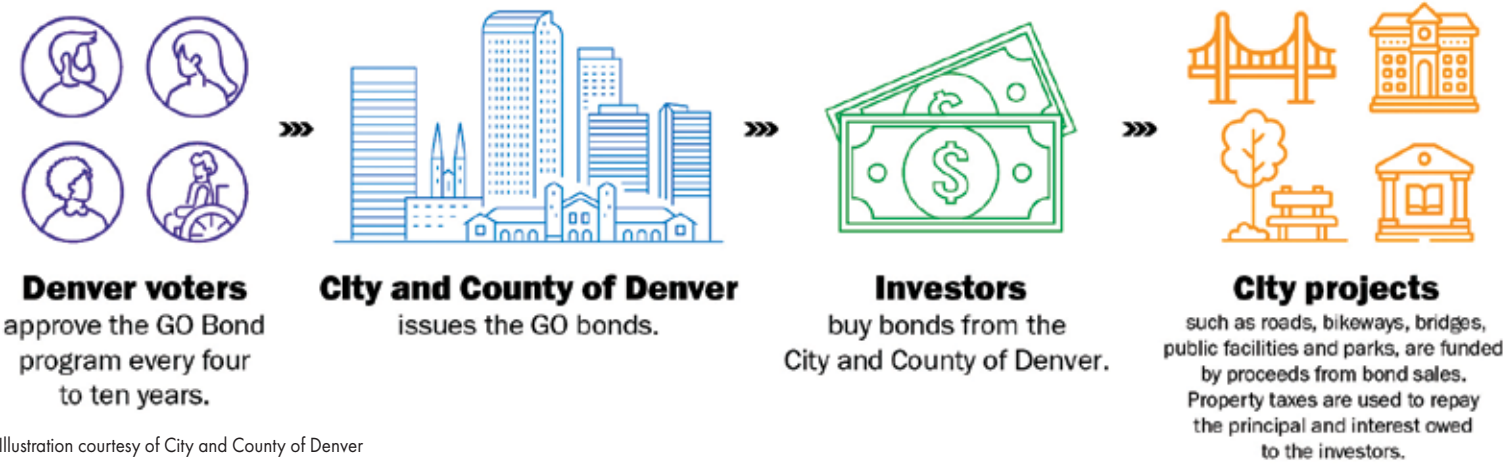


Illustration courtesy of City and County of Denver



## Start composting today!

Composting makes fall yard cleanup a breeze.

All Denver Solid Waste Management customers can request a compost cart now.



Go online to learn more and get started.  
[Denvergov.org/Compost](https://denvergov.org/Compost)



will be repaired using funds from other City sources, which would push the repair of the Quebec bridges back 15 to 20 years, estimated Johnston.

The bond package would also fund street safety improvements for 13th and 14th Avenues. To enhance the Santa Fe Arts District, the bond would allocate \$29 million to wider sidewalks, improved public spaces, and safety measures between 6th and 13th Avenues.

The five separate questions on the Vibrant Denver bond will ask voters to weigh in on:

- Transportation and mobility, including rebuilding roads and bridges: \$446 million allocated
- City facilities, such as libraries, cultural centers, and a training center for emergency responders: \$252 million allocated
- Parks and recreation, including new parks and facility upgrades: \$175 million allocated
- Housing and shelter, including subsidy programs, facility upgrades, and affordable housing: \$46 million allocated
- Health and human services, including new and expanded facilities: \$30 million allocated



At a recent forum, Denver residents considered potential amenities for Park Hill Park, one of the projects to be funded in the Vibrant Denver bond.

If any one measure fails, the others could still pass. Johnston acknowledged that as the City faces economic challenges, “you have to cut costs.” Yet, he said, “like any family facing economic challenges, you need to increase revenue as well. You plant while you’re pruning.”

### Children’s Boutique and Hair Salon

Where Style Meets Childhood Magic!



Adorable Clothes (preemie to 14yrs) • Thoughtful Gifts  
Playful Toys • In-Store Kids’ Haircuts

Denver’s favorite children’s boutique now has 2 locations!

Park Hill Location  
2200 Kearney Street  
Denver, CO 80207

**NEW** Cory Merrill Location  
2624 E Louisiana Ave  
Denver, CO 80210

Book Hair  
Appts & Shop  
Online



# STUDENT LEARNING MATTERS.

## Vote in the Denver Board of Education election.



DENVER4STUDENTS.COM



— Paid Advertising Section —

## Fall/Winter Break Camp Options

Turn school days off into new adventures with local camps.



Winter break gymnastics programs for kids of all ages (members and non-members). Little Elves Toddler Open Gym, Preschool Drop-N-Shop, and Cabin Fever Open Gym for ages 6+.  
Day rates and flexible scheduling available.  
[www.dardanosgym.com/special-programs](http://www.dardanosgym.com/special-programs)



Junior Camps for ages 8–14 during Thanksgiving and Winter Break teach fundamentals while building confidence and skills. Expert coaching helps lay the foundation for a lifelong love of pickleball.  
[www.milehipickleball.com/juniors](http://www.milehipickleball.com/juniors)



MindCraft Fall & Holiday STEAM Camps offer hands-on projects with seasonal themes and open studio time — perfect for kids while parents work or prep for the holidays. 3D Printers, 3D Pens, Sewing Machines, Glass Art, and so much more.  
[www.mindcraftmakerspace.com](http://www.mindcraftmakerspace.com)



School’s out? We’re on. Fun, enriching day camps on holidays, planning days, and breaks—kids explore, create, and bring home a project they’re proud of.  
Ages 5–11, half- and full-day camps.  
[www.neighborhoodartstudio.com/no-school-day-camps-1](http://www.neighborhoodartstudio.com/no-school-day-camps-1)



Volleyball & Basketball skills camps on 12/22 & 12/23, 12/29 & 12/30. Volleyball for 6–9th graders from 9am–3pm. Basketball for elementary 9–11am and middle schoolers 12–2pm.  
Cost ranges from \$49–\$125/day.  
[www.redlineathletics.com/denver-east](http://www.redlineathletics.com/denver-east)



Offering camps exploring creativity through music, drama, and crafts with popular themes such as K-Pop Demon Hunters, Zombie Makeup, and Acting for Film. October 13 and 31, November 24–26, January 5, and February 16. Ages 5+. [www.roaminggnometheatre.com](http://www.roaminggnometheatre.com)



Full-day coverage with separate schedules for DPS and Aurora schools. Join us for fun days of animal interactions, crafts, games, STEM lessons, and more. Ages 4–12. [www.theurbanfarm.org/day-off-school-camps](http://www.theurbanfarm.org/day-off-school-camps)



TOCA Fun & Games Camps & After School Programs. Kids will play a variety of games like capture the flag, sharks & minnows, dodgeball, football, etc., and spend some time in our Inflatable Fun Zone.  
Sign up at [www.bit.ly/46ma0uJ](http://www.bit.ly/46ma0uJ)

# LOCAL EVENTS

October thru early November

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

## SEASONAL/HOLIDAY EVENTS

**10/2 to 10/31—Victorian Death Experiences.** The Center for CO Women's History, 1310 Bannock St. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**10/3 to 10/31—Boo at the Zoo.** Trick-or-treat around the Denver Zoo. Sensory-friendly night on 10/31. 4:30–9pm. 2300 Steele St. [denverzoo.org](http://denverzoo.org)

**10/4 Saturday—Farm Fest: Goats and Ghouls.** Music, activities, food trucks, and more. Free admission. 9am–1pm. 10200 Smith Rd. [theurbanfarm.org](http://theurbanfarm.org)

**10/5 Sunday—Candy Crawl.** Music, kids' activities, and a costume contest. 11am–1pm. 8340 Northfield Blvd. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**10/5 Sunday—Hispanic Heritage Month.** Decorate a monarch butterfly craft. 3–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/5 Sunday—Witches Brew.** A cabal of weird and supernatural plays from our feminine side. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. [onenightstandtheater.org](http://onenightstandtheater.org)

**10/7, 10/15, 10/22, & 10/30—Wicked Wings.** After-hours tour and aerospace history. 6:30–8pm. 7711 East Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](http://wingsmuseum.org)

**10/10 to 10/12—Pumpkin Festival at Chatfield Farms.** 9am–4pm. 8500 W. Deer Creek Canyon Rd., Littleton. Tickets at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**10/10 to 10/30—Ghosts in the Garden.** Garden tours with spine-tingling stories. 5:30–10:30pm.



**Mike Ciechanowicz**  
*You Already Know Mike!*  
Broker Associate  
303-324-1653  
[mike.ciechanowicz@compass.com](mailto:mike.ciechanowicz@compass.com)  
**COMPASS**

1007 York St. Tickets at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**10/12 Sunday—Dia de Los Muertos.** Community altar, beer garden, and food trucks. 11am–4pm. 8340 Northfield Blvd. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**10/16 Thursday—Science Lounge: Dead Man's Party.** 80s Halloween Bash. Ages 21+. 7–10pm. 2001 Colorado Blvd. Tickets at [dmns.org](http://dmns.org)

**10/16 Thursday—Sew a Monster.** Ages 5–12. 4–5pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/17 to 10/31—Victorian Horrors.** Listen to deathly tales Ages 12+. 6–9pm, timed entries. 1340 Pennsylvania St. [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org)

**10/18 to 10/21—Glow Before Dark.** A daytime Halloween celebration. 9am–4pm. 1007 York St. Tickets at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**10/18 Saturday—History Mystery Tour.** Tour of the Fairmount Cemetery. 6pm. 430 Quebec St. Tickets at [auroragov.org](http://auroragov.org)

**10/18 & 10/19—Pumpkin Harvest Festival.** Music, food, activities, and more. 9am–4pm. Four Mile Historic Park, 715 S. Forest St. [fourmilepark.org](http://fourmilepark.org)

**10/19 Sunday—Twins and Teens Create.** Make an autumnal wreath. Ages 9–18. 2–3pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/21 to 10/26—Glow at the Gardens.** A luminous, nighttime celebration. 6–8:45pm. 1007 York St. Tickets at [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**10/24 to 10/26—Dancing in the Dark.** Escape the Haunted Library immersive dance experience. 9995 E Colfax Ave. [thepeoplesbuilding.com](http://thepeoplesbuilding.com)

**10/24 to 10/26—Harvest Hoot.** Wear your favorite costume. 2121 Children's Museum Dr. [mychildsmuseum.org](http://mychildsmuseum.org)

**10/25 Saturday—Blood on the Clocktower Game Night.** Ages 18+. 1:30–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/25 Saturday—Fall Into Fun Festival.** Entertainment, food trucks, and more. 11am–4pm. 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy. [visitaaurora.com](http://visitaaurora.com)

**10/26 Sunday—Frights & Fables.** Spine-chilling thrills and eerie tales. Ages 18+. 3:30–4:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/26 Sunday—Halloween Spooktacular.** A family-friendly concert. 2:30 pm. Boettcher Hall, 1000 14th St. [coloradosymphony.org](http://coloradosymphony.org)

**10/29 Wednesday—Is Mrs. Brown Still Here?** Ages 18+. Starts at 6pm & 9pm. 1340 Pennsylvania St. [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org)

**10/29 Wednesday—Pumpkin Carving Contest.** Free pumpkins, carving tools will be provided. 4–7pm. 2501 N. Dallas St. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**10/30 Thursday—Blaxplanation and Halloween Party.** Talk on Black Pride and costume dance. 6:30–9:30pm. 1200 N. Broadway. [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

**10/30 Thursday—Hogwarts Movie Night.** Watch a Harry Potter movie, play wizarding games. 4–9pm. 2501 N. Dallas St. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**10/30 Thursday—Monster Masquerade.** An adult evening at the Denver Zoo. 5:30–9pm. 2300 Steele St. [denverzoo.org](http://denverzoo.org)

**10/31 & 11/1—Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas.** Watch the movie with the live score. 7:30pm. Boettcher Hall, 1000 14th St. [coloradosymphony.org](http://coloradosymphony.org)

**11/1 Saturday—Dia de Los Muertos.** Aztec dancers, mariachi, dancing horses, art, Mexican food, and more. 12–6pm. 10200 Smith Rd. [theurbanfarm.org](http://theurbanfarm.org)

**Through 11/2 Fridays to Sundays—Corn Maze at Chatfield Farms.** 9am–5pm. 8500 W. Deer Creek Canyon Rd., Littleton. [botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org)

**Through 11/2—Magic of the Jack O'Lanterns.** Enchanted trails through the Hudson Gardens. 6115 S. Sante Fe Dr., Littleton. Tickets at [hudsongardens.org](http://hudsongardens.org)

**Through 11/2—Nick's Fall Fest.** Free activities plus train and tractor rides, pedal carts, and obstacle course for a fee. 2001 S. Chambers Rd. [nicksgardencenter.com](http://nicksgardencenter.com)

## NE DENVER/NW AURORA EVENTS

**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 through 10/12—Central Park Farmers Market.** Last market of the year features a pumpkin patch. 8:30am–12:30pm. 29th Ave. & Roslyn St. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**10/1 & 10/14—Qi Gong.** All levels and abilities are welcome. 11am–12pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**10/3—First Fridays.** 60 local artists, music, and entertainment. 6–9pm. Stanley Marketplace, 2501 N. Dallas St. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**10/4 Saturday—3rd Annual Flapjacks & Firefighters.** Pancakes, firefighters, and adoptable dogs. 11am–4pm. Fire Station 39, 9150 50th Ave.

**10/4 Saturday—Read Between the Stars Book Fair.** Local sci-fi and fantasy book authors. 8:30am–12pm. 2501 N. Dallas St. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**10/4 & 11/1—Bluff Lake Bird Walks.** Walks at 7:30am & 8am. 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at [blufflake.org/birdwatching](http://blufflake.org/birdwatching)

**10/8 Wednesday—Science Riot!** Scientists perform stand-up comedy. Ages 21+. 7pm. 2001 Colorado Blvd. Tickets at [dmns.org](http://dmns.org)

**10/9 Thursday—Active Minds Presents: Georgia O'Keeffe.** Free. 1–2pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)



**10/10 Friday—The Cube Cinema Series.** *Singin' in the Rain* (1952) Hosted by the Indie Prof. 7pm. MCA Cube, 8371 Northfield Blvd. [mca80238.com](http://mca80238.com)

**10/11 Saturday—Nature Wonder Walks.** 7:30am. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**10/11 Saturday—Community Voice Tasting.** Free admission, food, and prizes. 11am–1pm. 2501 N. Dallas St. RSVP at [aurora@alpinebank.com](mailto:aurora@alpinebank.com)

**10/17 Friday—Full Swing Smackdown.** Pro wrestling at The Local Drive Hangar. Ages 21+. 8–10pm. 2501 N. Dallas St. [stanleymarketplace.com](http://stanleymarketplace.com)

**10/18 Saturday—Cockpit Demo Day.** 10am–2pm. Wings Over the Rockies Museum, 7711 E. Academy Blvd. [wingsmuseum.org](http://wingsmuseum.org)

**10/18 Saturday—Nature Photography.** 10am–12pm. Dahlia Trailhead, 4900 S. Sandcreek Dr. [sandcreekgreenway.org](http://sandcreekgreenway.org)

**10/18 Saturday—The Shops at Northfield Street Fair.** An artisan market series. 11am–6pm. Main St. & 46th–48th Ave. [shopsatnorthfield.com](http://shopsatnorthfield.com)

**10/21 Tuesday—Little Rock Nine Speaker.** Meet Carlotta Walls LaNier. 7–8:30pm. The Eisenhower Chapel, 293 Roslyn St. [lowryfoundation.org](http://lowryfoundation.org)

**10/23 Thursday—Active Minds: The Great Depression.** Free. 1–2pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. [activeminds.com](http://activeminds.com)

**10/26 Sunday—Qi Gong and Mindfulness Walk.** 7:30am. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at [blufflake.org](http://blufflake.org)

**10/27 Monday—Death Café.** Normalize conversations around death. 2–3:30pm. Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd. [denverlibrary.org](http://denverlibrary.org)

**11/1 Saturday—United Airlines Flight 629 Memorial Dedication.** A memorial to the 44 lives lost. 11am–2pm. FlyteCo, 3120 Uinta St. [denverpolicemuseum.org](http://denverpolicemuseum.org)

## Wednesday, Oct. 15 40th Anniversary Ruby Celebration

Silent and live auctions plus lite bites and beverages. 5:30–8pm. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 2201 Dexter St. [empowermentprogram.org](http://empowermentprogram.org)

wills & wellness®  
estate planning  
Foundation. Family. Future.

## ESTATE PLANNING ISN'T SPOOKY

LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR PLAN!

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE HERE:

WILLSANDWELLNESS.COM

## CUSTOM HOME RENOVATIONS

Over 20 Years Experience | Licensed and Insured

Best Builders specializes in full home remodels, basement build-outs, and kitchen renovations. We offer a seamless experience, from design & finish recommendations through construction, ensuring that your project's vision comes to life beautifully.

Call 303-519-7142 to schedule a consultation or reserve your spot on our schedule today. We'd love to partner on your next home project.

**BEST BUILDERS**

[www.BestBuildersDenver.com](http://www.BestBuildersDenver.com)

METRO EVENTS

**10/3—First Friday Art Walks.** Art galleries along Santa Fe. 5:30–9:30pm. Art District on Santa Fe, 858 Santa Fe Dr. denversartdistrict.org

**10/3—Friday Five Points Jazz Hop.** Jazz musicians. 5pm. 2590 Welton St. fivepointsbid.com

**10/3—First Friday Films.** Screenings from local filmmakers and community members. 6–8pm. 2101 Arapahoe St. denvercommunitymedia.org

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

**10/8 Wednesday—SPARK.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer’s or dementia. 1–2pm. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

**10/9 Thursday—Art & About Tour.** For visitors with early-stage Alzheimer’s or dementia. 1–2:45pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**10/10 & 10/11—Aurora Borealis Festival.** Experience the magic of the northern lights. 4–10pm. High Prairie Park, E. 59th Pl. and N. Orleans St. auroraborealisfestival.com

**10/15 Wednesday—Tabemasho! Let’s Eat!** The history of Japanese food in America. 1pm & 7pm. History Colorado, 1200 N. Broadway. historycolorado.org

**10/29 & 10/30—Indigenous Art Without Borders.** Celebrate 100 years of Native Arts collecting. 10/29 9am–5pm & 10/30 9am–12pm. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**11/1 Saturday—Dementia Friendly Tour.** Free but limited space. 9:30–10:30am. History Colorado, 1200 N. Broadway. historycolorado.org

**11/7 to 11/16—Denver Arts Week.** Celebrate Denver’s creative side across museums, stages, art districts, and more. denverartsweek.com



Indigenous Art Without Borders

KIDS AND FAMILIES

**Monday–Saturday—Local Library Story-times.** 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. stanleymarketplace.com

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

**Thursdays & Saturdays—Crash Courses.** Learn hands-on animal care. Ages 8+. 10200 Smith Rd. theurbanfarm.org

**Saturdays—Kids’ Matinees.** A variety of interactive shows with live music. \$6.45 with fees. 12pm. 1080 14th St. dazzledenver.com

**Second Saturdays—4-H Cloverbuds.** For kids who love animals and the outdoors. Ages 5–7. 10200 Smith Rd. theurbanfarm.org

**10/4 Saturday—Teen Resource Fair.** Learn about job skills and college prep. For ages 13–18. 1–3pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**10/8 Wednesday—Tween Chess Club.** Learn new chess moves. Ideal for ages 9–13. 4–5pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**10/11 Saturday—Children and Family Workshop.** Monarch butterflies in motion. 10am & 1pm. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org

**10/11 Saturday—CSU Spur Family Programming.** Theme is Dia de Los Muertos. Free admission. 10am–3pm. 4817 National Western Dr. csuspur.org

**10/11 Saturday—Maker Mornings: Art and Emotions.** Gallery time, crafts. 15mo–8yrs. 10:30am–12:30pm. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**10/11 Saturday—James and the Giant Peach.** Based on the book by Roald Dahl. 12pm. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. vintagetheatre.org

**10/12 Sunday—Low Sensory Morning.** For kids with neurodiversity/sensory-processing disorders. 9am–12pm. 100 W. 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**10/12 Sunday—Foxy and Shmoxy: Art Detectives.** Children experience art. 10:30am & 12pm. 100 W. 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**10/16 Thursday—Create & Play.** Early-childhood program (siblings welcome). 10am–12pm. 100 W. 14th Ave Pkwy. denverartmuseum.org

**10/18 Saturday—Family Nature Adventure Day.** 10am–1:30pm. Bluff Lake Nature Center, 11255 E. MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at blufflake.org

**10/19, 10/22, & 10/25—Art Crawl: ABC’s of Curating.** For infants–14 mos. 10:30–11:15am. 1250 Bannock St. clyffordstillmuseum.org

**10/22 Wednesday—Twens Game.** Board games and video games. Ideal for ages 9–13. 4–5pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**10/24 to 1/25/26—Goodnight Moon.** Featuring whimsical music and dance. Randy Weeks Conservatory Theatre. denvercenter.org

**10/26 Sunday—Kids Create.** Explore open-ended art, craft, and building materials. 10:30–11:15am. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**10/28 Tuesday—Kids Lego Club.** Build, engineer, and design. 4:30–5:30pm. Sam Gary Library, 2961 Roslyn St. denverlibrary.org

**11/1 Saturday—Low Sensory Morning at History Colorado.** Museum closed to the general public. 8–10am. 1200 N. Broadway. historycolorado.org

MUSEUMS, ETC.

**Listings at FrontPorchNE.com —> Events (tab) —> Ongoing Events**

**SCFD Free days at scfd.org**

**PERFORMANCE/THEATER**

**Through 10/5—Eureka Day.** Parents. Policy. Privilege. Best suited for ages 13+. Curious Theatre Company, 1080 Acoma St. curious theatre.org

**10/3 to 11/2—Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.** Tennessee Williams’ Pulitzer Prize-winning drama. Kilström Theatre. denvercenter.org

**10/4 Saturday—Darcy James Argue’s Secret Society.** 7:30pm. Gates Concert Hall, 2344 E. Iliff Ave. newmancenterpresents.com

**10/7 to 10/19—Shucked.** A Tony Award-winning musical comedy. Buell Theatre. denvercenter.org

**10/9 to 10/18—Dance Nation.** A play about ambition, identity, and adolescence. 9995 E Colfax Ave. thepeoplesbuilding.com

**Through 10/12—The Mousetrap.** Story by Agatha Christie. Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada. arvadacenter.org

**10/11 Saturday—Ballet Hispanico.** Hispanic and Latin dance. 7:30pm. Gates Concert Hall, 2344 E. Iliff Ave. newmancenterpresents.com

**10/11 Saturday—Cirque Cinema with Troupe Vertigo.** With the Colorado Symphony. 7:30pm. Boettcher Hall, 1000 14th St. coloradosymphony.org

**10/16 to 10/26—Rock Ballets.** Three iconic Garrett Ammon creations. Wonderbound, 3824 Dahlia St. wonderbound.com

**10/17 to 11/23—Angry, Raucous, and Shamelessly Gorgeous.** Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. vintagetheatre.org

**10/17 Friday—The Denver Moth: StorySLAM.** This month is themeless. 7:30pm. Swallow Hill Music, 71 East Yale Ave. swallowhillmusic.org

**10/18 Saturday—Rhythm & Brass: A Latin Jazz Fiesta.** Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada. coloradojazz.org

**10/19 Sunday—DYAO Presents: Fortissimo Fall Benefit Concert.** Performances, pumpkin painting contest, games, food, and more. 12–2pm. The Local Drive. 2501 N. Dallas St. dyao.org

**10/19 Sunday—Stories on Stage.** 2pm. Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center, 721 Santa Fe Dr. storiesonstage.org

**Through 10/23—First Date.** Blind date newbie is set up with a serial-dater. Vintage Theatre, 1468 Dayton St. vintagetheatre.org

**Through 10/26—Alabama Story.** Inspired by true events in Montgomery. The John Hand Theatre, 7653 E. 1st Pl. firehousetheatercompany.com

**10/25 Saturday—Arsenic and Old Lace.**

5:30pm. Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway. Tickets at auroragov.org.

**10/27 Monday—Freak Train.** Denver’s longest-running open-stage variety show. 8–10pm. Bug Theatre, 3654 Navajo St. bugtheatre.org

**10/31 to 11/16—Edgar Allan Poe is Dead and So Is My Cat.** A comedy. Buntport Theater, 717 Lipan St. buntport.com

**10/31 to 11/9—48th Denver Film Festival.** A curated program of films, events, panels, and more. Sie FilmCenter, 2510 E. Colfax Ave. denverfilm.org

**Through 11/2—The Happiest Man on Earth.** A story of survival, joy, and grief. Singleton Theatre. denvercenter.org

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**To find volunteer listings and charitable opportunities, go to FrontPorchNE.com**

**GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS**

**10/4 & 10/11—Discover Water-wise Plants.** Learn what plants are for Colorado growing. 10–11:30am. Aurora Water-wise Garden, 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy. auroragov.org

**10/4 Saturday—Sand Creek Volunteer Day.** Clean up the Greenway. 10am–12pm. Star K Ranch, 16002 E. Smith Rd. sandcreekgreenway.org

**10/4 Saturday—Wiggly Worms.** Make & take a worm bin. 11am–1pm. The Posner Center, 1031 33rd St. Pay what you can. dug.org

**10/6 to 10/17—Electronics Recycling Drop-off Event.** Mon.–Fri., 8am–4:30pm, Sat. 10am–2pm, closed Sun. Pedal Point LifeCycle Solutions, 3251 Lewiston St. \$5 car/individual for small load (one standard grocery bag). Pricing details at auroragov.org

**10/9 Thursday—Apple Preservation: Cider to Fruit Leather.** 6–8pm. The Posner Center, 1031 33rd St. Pay what you can. dug.org

**10/10 Friday—Community Clothing Swap.** 4–7pm. Joy Fill, 4340 W. 35th. joyfill.co

**10/16 Thursday—Need-to-Knows About Irrigation and Water.** Learn the basics of irrigation and water turn-offs. 4–6pm. dug.org

**10/22 & 10/23—Drive Clean Summit & Expo.** Discover what’s working in clean transportation and what’s next. Empower Field at Mile High, 1701 Bryant St. drivecleancolorado.org

**10/24 Friday—Knowing Your Home Basics.** Home maintenance practices. Ages 13+. 5:30–8:30pm. 555 Santa Fe Dr. Register at denvertoolibrary.org

**10/25 Saturday—Putting Your Rose Garden to Bed.** Prep your garden now for spring planting. 10am–12pm. 1007 York St. Register at botanicgardens.org



DENVER MUSEUM OF  
NATURE & SCIENCE

THE SECRET WORLD OF  
ELEPHANTS

Bring your herd to see ours.

Oct. 24, 2025 – Jan. 25, 2026

FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

American Museum of Natural History



SCFD

This exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org)

# Bird Sightings

*Generously donated by George Ho*



An adult black-crowned night-heron catches a fish and swallows it whole, head first.

## What Birds Eat

Seeking food and successful nesting drive the behavior and survival of bird species. These photos capture what each bird is about to swallow.



An eastern kingbird captures a dragonfly.



A cedar waxwing eats a berry.



A juvenile black-crowned night-heron swallows a frog.

**Bird Walks** Oct. 4 and Nov. 1, 7:30am & 8am. Walks are free, but you must RSVP at [blufflake.org/birdwatching](http://blufflake.org/birdwatching). All are welcome. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from your guide. 11255 MLK Jr. Blvd. Search [FrontPorchNE.com](http://FrontPorchNE.com) for “Bird Sightings” to see past bird stories and photos from George Ho.

## Sarah Stabio Joins Front Porch Advertising Team



Front Porch welcomes Sarah Stabio as the newest member of the advertising sales team. Stabio is a Central Park resident, mother of three, and has an MBA in marketing from Regis University. She has experience in community marketing, small business outreach, and connecting advertisers to key audiences to drive measurable foot traffic. To discuss advertising opportunities, please contact Sarah Stabio at [adsales@frontporchne.com](mailto:adsales@frontporchne.com).



A group of seniors lined MLK Jr. Blvd. in Central Park on Labor Day to support workers' rights.

## Central Park Seniors Show Support for Workers

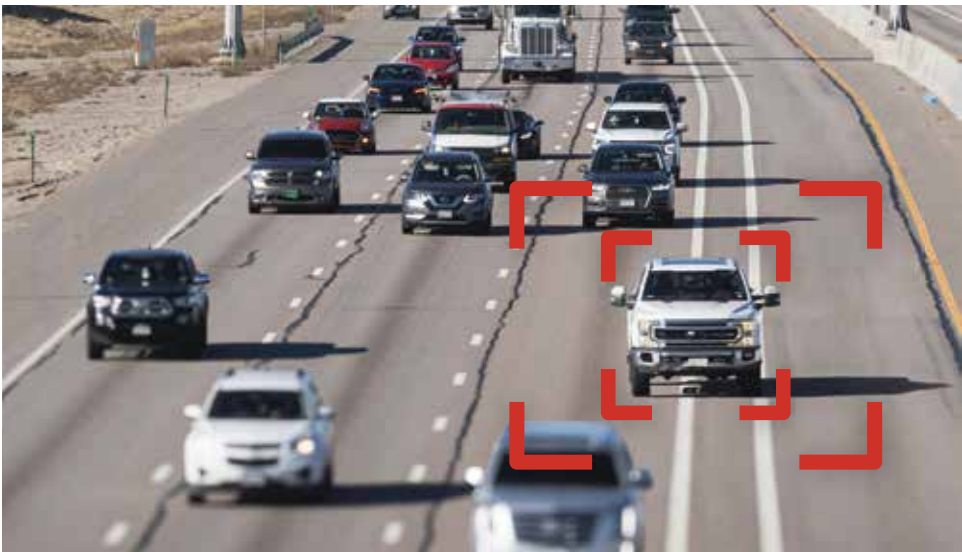
By Linda Kotsaftis  
More than 1,000 rallies took place around the nation on Labor Day, including in downtown Denver. And in the Central Park neighborhood, a passionate group called Seniors for Democracy stood along MLK Jr. Blvd., showing support for workers. Susan Gibbons, organizer of the group, was joined by fellow residents of the Everleigh and Overture senior living communities, holding signs and waving to passing drivers who honked horns in support. “We’re here to support our laborers,” Gibbons said. “This has gotten so out of hand with Trump and everybody in his cabinet and the billionaires who don’t seem to have a heart at all anymore. They don’t seem to care about the workers.” Although she said most of the protesters were no longer in the work force, they are worried about future generations. “We seniors have concerns for our grandchildren. We have concerns for our children,” Gibbons said. “Everything that the unions have ever fought for is getting lost again. And it’s like we fight and fight and fight for these things.”

In a Labor Day statement, the White House trumpeted its record on

labor issues. “President Trump stands as the champion of the American Worker,” the statement said. “From surging native-born employment and rising blue-collar wages to innovative workforce initiatives like expanded apprenticeships and trade school funding, the Trump administration is reversing decades of neglect and finally putting American workers first.”



Seniors for Democracy organizer Susan Gibbons rallied neighbors for a protest at MLK Jr. Blvd. and Syracuse Street in front of Everleigh Central Park.



**Cross the line,  
pay the fine.**

**Enter and exit through  
the dashed lines only.**

Learn more at  
[www.ColoradoExpressLanes.com](http://www.ColoradoExpressLanes.com)



## Graland Country Day School

Graland's unique program prepares students to be engaged citizens and thoughtful leaders. Well rounded academic program including arts, athletics, trips, innovation, invention, and more!

# A great school fuels the imagination

# 1to7

Teacher-to-Student Ratio

## Visit Today!

Join Us at an Open House  
NOVEMBER 5  
DECEMBER 4

Tours HAPPENING WEEKLY

Students receive financial aid

# 1in5

Bus routes for daily transportation

# 8

Register to visit Graland at [visitgraland.info](http://visitgraland.info) or call 303-316-3531

An Independent Preschool, Lower School, and Middle School in Central Denver.



October brings the second month of our monthly film series at The Cube. The screening this month will be on Friday, Oct. 10. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the film starts at 7:00pm. See the Central Park MCA website calendar for more information and tickets. In addition to the film announcement this month, I offer one review from a recent international film and one quick bit on a TV show.

The film this month in our Cube Cinema Series is *Singin' in the Rain* (1952), the classic musical that is much more than you may first think. Yes, there is the famous song and dance number in the film. Yes, stars Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, and Donald O'Connor are larger than life with ageless performances. And yes, the peek behind the Hollywood curtain is funny, illuminating, and even harsh. There is more to this classic, however, as the film tells the story of one of the

most important time periods—and sea changes—in Hollywood history. Join us to discuss all of those things. We hope to see you there for a great film, popcorn, drinks, and discussion.

*Touch* (2024)

An elderly Icelandic man (Kristófer, played by singer/actor Egill Ólafsson) lives a seemingly quiet life in rural Iceland. We see him being told by his doctor to get his “affairs in order” after receiving a terminal prognosis. His most pressing wish is to reconnect with a young woman he met 50 years earlier and with whom he had a short, but intense, love affair. Our journey begins.

We move to 1969 London, where we see young, disillusioned university student Kristófer (now played by Palmi Kormákur in a breakout performance) decide to quit school and work in a Japanese restaurant. There he not only learns to become a chef, but he also meets and falls in love with Miko (played luminously by the actress Kōki), the daughter of the restaurant

owner. Soon after the quiet but beautiful affair, Miko and her father close the restaurant and disappear.

The film then moves between time periods smoothly and organically, similar to how we all see and remember the formative events of our lives. Kristófer remembers his time in London clearly and vividly, so

he decides to search for Miko—traveling first to London and then to Japan. We travel the world with him as we traverse his memories with him. Along the way, the film unlocks layers of meaning and layers of context as it winds through the thoughtful narrative.

The cinematography of the film, as well as deft direction by Icelandic veteran Baltasar Kormákur, are just two of the many reasons to love this film. In addition, the subjects and themes are many, making the film both dense and simple at the same time. The Covid time frame—as the world is just shutting down—adds another layer to the thematic depth and visual intricacy. There is a thread running through the Covid subplot that correlates to Miko’s family roots in Hiroshima, Japan, and we see some of that history at various points throughout the film. It becomes important and telling. There is also a (small) reveal toward the end, but I am not going to spoil it. Just know that it ends sweetly and perhaps it



leaves us wanting more. In my opinion, it ends perfectly.  
Available on Amazon Prime or streaming rental.

*Invasion* (Apple TV)

The third season of *Invasion* is now on Apple TV. For Sci-Fi fans, it is must-see viewing, but the first season remains the apogee. Still, it will please its audience.

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).



Alabama Story

Through Oct 26

Written by Kenneth Jones

Directed by Melissa Lucero McCarl

www.firehousetheatercompany.com

A celebration of libraries and librarians!

Based on real events, the play tells the story of how ordinary people, doing their work and living their values, become heroes.

WILLIAMS FAMILY DENTISTRY

OUR PATIENTS ARE OUR NEIGHBORS!

- Preventative Dentistry
- Restorative Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Invisalign Treatment
- + more

WE DO DENTISTRY YOUR WAY

★★★★★

The best family dental practice in Denver. Highly recommend!

-Jakonya A.

We offer FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING OPTIONS!

MEET OUR TEAM OF DEDICATED DOCTORS

Dr. Margie Williams

Dr. Ashley Scherbenske

Dr. Molly Johnson

Dr. Amanda Ledner

Connect With Us!

Call Today to Learn More:

303-945-2699

margiewilliamsdds.com

4624 Central Park Blvd Suite #102

Denver, CO 80238

Front Porch – NE Denver

17

October 2025

# —Spread the Words: Locals Publish Their First Books—

By Sarah Fuhrey Huber

Three northeast Denver residents have published books for every shelf: a memoir of healing and hope, a deep dive into the wines of Italy, and a children's book celebrating relaxed weekend mornings with family.

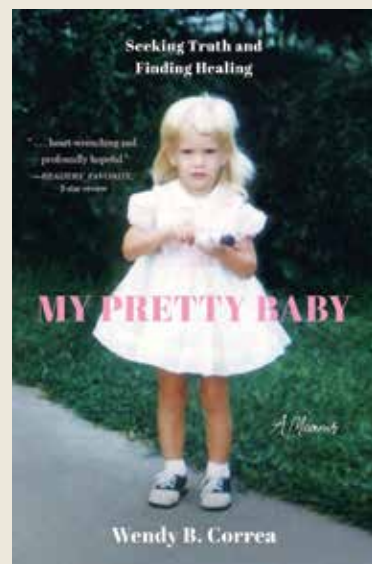
## My Pretty Baby: Seeking Truth and Finding Healing

By Wendy B. Correa

At a time when mental health conversations feel urgent, Central Park resident Wendy B. Correa has written a memoir about her life as a Los Angeles music industry insider and her journey of healing from trauma. *My Pretty Baby: Seeking Truth and Finding Healing*, published by She Writes Press and distributed by Simon & Schuster, will hit shelves Nov. 4.

Correa said, "The inspiration for my book was my resilience and healing from my lived experience and my desire to provide a survival guide for other people who may be grappling with how to begin to heal from their own childhood trauma." With more than two thirds of adults reporting traumatic childhood experiences, Correa added, "*My Pretty Baby* is a call to action to educate, prevent, and heal childhood trauma. *My Pretty Baby* isn't just my memoir, it's everyone's."

Correa has worked in the film, television, multimedia, and music industries in Los Angeles and as a radio DJ in Colorado. She wrote her first draft



"three days a week for three hours in a stuffy attic room with other writers" at Lighthouse Writers Workshop in Denver.

*My Pretty Baby* will be available from Tattered Cover, as well as online from Book Shop, Amazon, and Simon & Schuster, among others.



Photo by Merritt Design Photography

## Opening a Bottle: Italy

By Kevin Day

While Central Park resident Kevin Day has written for his online magazine *Opening a Bottle* for more than a decade, writing his first book was an opportunity for him to lean into the permanence of the printed word.

In *Opening a Bottle: Italy*, which was released on July 15, Day explores 24 wineries "reshaping the worldview of Italian wine." Drawing on his travels through Italy, from the hills of Barolo to the lava fields of Mount Etna, Day combines photography and storytelling to reveal how the natural environment in which wine is produced is enriched by the people who cultivate it.

Day said he was stirred to write his book, in part, by the people behind Italian wine. "Their personal stories have touched me profoundly over the years, and it is an honor to tell them in print," he said. "The landscape of Italy, its multi-layered history, and the present-day culture of conviviality that surrounds Italian wine have also served as inspiration."

*Opening a Bottle: Italy* also explores how winemakers are turning to ancestral practices to secure the future of fine wine despite the difficulties of climate change. Day's wife, graphic designer Hailey Day of HeyDay Creative, produced the layout, and the book includes a list of 100 "must-try Italian wines

for every level of enthusiast."

*Opening a Bottle: Italy* is available from the online sites BookBaby and Ingram Spark. Limited edition signed copies are available through openingabottle.com.

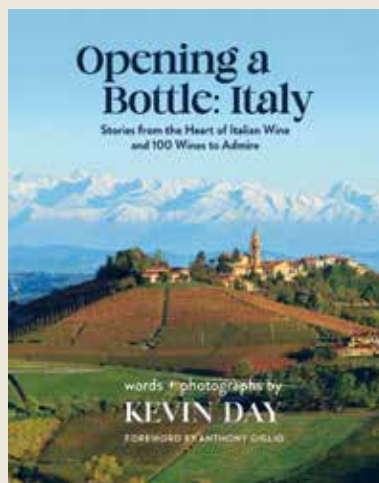


Photo by Hailey Day

## Waiting on a Pancake

By Natasha Gulley

A kindergarten teacher at Park Hill Elementary School, Natasha Gulley was inspired by her relationship with her daughters to write her first book, *Waiting on a Pancake*. The children's book tells the story of a young girl who wakes up on a Saturday morning and anticipates cooking pancakes for breakfast. "The story is a celebration of the small joys in life and the fleeting, yet sacred, rites of childhood," Gulley said. *Waiting on a Pancake* was published in September.

"I wanted to impart the joy and creativity that cooking and nourishing our bodies can bring," she said. "Weekday mornings can always feel so rushed. It was such a reprieve to finally wake up on a Saturday and have the whole morning ahead of us to cook, laugh, and be together." While the book is written for children, it is also a reminder to parents that their presence, time, and attention are of significant value to their family.

While Gulley first wrote the book while snuggling on her couch with her daughters in 2021, "it took courage and grit, however, to finally present it to the world," she said. She opted to self-publish, realizing a longtime dream of turning her original poem celebrating Saturday mornings with family into a book to share with others, including her students.

*Waiting on a Pancake* is available from Amazon and Ingram Press.

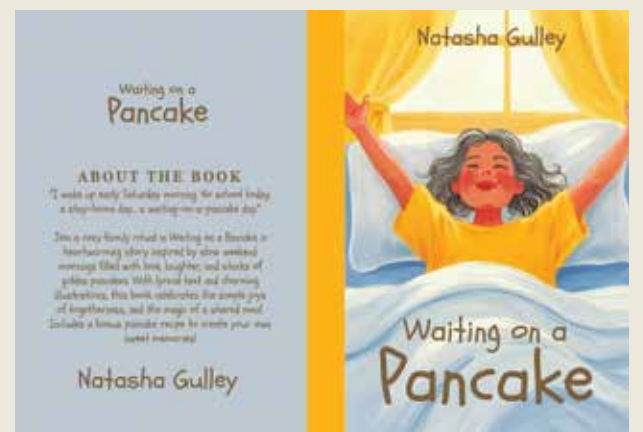


Photo by Marilee Photography

## SMART SPACES MURPHY & WALL BEDS

OFFICES • CUSTOM CLOSETS • CABINET BEDS • MEDIA CENTERS

We Know Murphy Beds... You'll Know the Difference!



PLAN NOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



**FREE**  
Mattress, Delivery,  
and Installation\*  
\*Extra charge for delivery outside  
of Denver Metro Area



Visit our Showroom with Over 35 Models on Display.  
Located on 1295 S. Santa Fe Drive, just South  
of Mississippi. Open Mon - Sat, 10am - 5pm.

[www.SmartSpaces.com](http://www.SmartSpaces.com) • 303-777-6278



**Mention  
this ad  
and get  
\$100 off!**

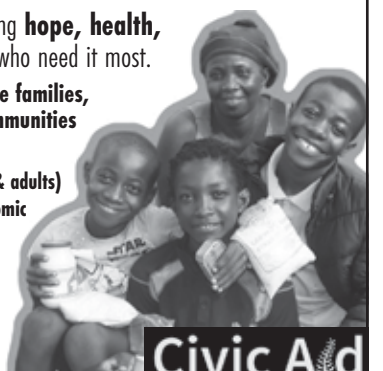
## Uplift a Family. Empower a Future.

Civic Aid's mission is to bring **hope, health, and opportunity** to those who need it most.

Every day, we support **low-income families, immigrants, & vulnerable communities** through programs that provide:

- ✓ Educational support (children & adults)
- ✓ Workforce training and economic empowerment
- ✓ Access to healthcare

To learn more or to  
donate today go to  
[www.civicaid.org](http://www.civicaid.org) or  
scan the QR code



**Civic Aid**

CENTRAL  
PARK

GARAGE  
DOOR

Neighbor Owned & Operated | Insured  
Residential Install, Service, and Repair

**FREE DIAGNOSIS AND ESTIMATES**



Call or Text Chris: 720.990.8511

[CentralParkGarageDoor.com](http://CentralParkGarageDoor.com)

Serving Central Park and Surrounding Areas

# NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 2025

### FINAL FARMERS MARKET & PUMPKIN PATCH

Sunday, Oct. 12, 8:30am–12:30pm, South Green

The 2025 Pumpkin Patch will be held on Sunday, Oct. 12. Shoppers will receive a coupon for every \$10 they spend at the vendors' booths. Coupons can be redeemed at the pumpkin patch for a free pumpkin. There will be a variety of pumpkin sizes ranging from small to large. Pumpkin quantities are very limited, and coupons are only valid while supplies last.

Coupon details:

- 1 Ticket = 1 small pumpkin
- 3 Tickets = 1 medium pumpkin
- 5 Tickets = 1 large pumpkin

Pumpkins will be separated by sizes and located on the stage on the east side of The Green. Pumpkins are very limited and are not guaranteed. This market will be the final Farmers Market of the season.

### SAVE THE DATE: CUBE CINEMA SERIES

Friday, Oct. 10, 6:30pm, The Cube

This month's movie is *Singin' in the Rain* (1952). Hosted by **Vincent Piturro**, Film Studies Professor at Metropolitan State University of Denver and writer of the *Indie Prof* column in *Front Porch*. Each month's screening includes engaging insights and discussion.

The Cube Cinema Series will take place on the second Friday of every month unless otherwise posted and will feature a curated selection of films both classic and contemporary. Come for the movie, stay for the conversation.

Tickets will be available at [mca80238.com](https://mca80238.com).

### MCA DELEGATE NOMINATIONS OPEN

Calling for Community Delegate Nominations: All nominations should be received by Nov. 7 to be included on the official ballot as part of the Annual Members Meeting Mailing. Any district with one or more nominations at the printing of the annual meeting notice will be listed as "Contested," and all the voting for that seat will occur up through the annual members meeting in December. If a quorum of the district is not present by ballot, proxy or attendance at the annual members meeting then voting will continue till the following delegate meeting scheduled on the third Wednesday of January. Any member can nominate themselves for any DISTRICT SEAT in which they reside or operate a commercial business.

### ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING & DELEGATE ELECTION

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 6pm

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

### 2025 CENTRAL PARK KIDS TRIATHLON WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of the 2025 Kids Triathlon!  
Thank you to everyone who participated and made this event a success.



Olive - Age 13



Talan - Age 13



Keira - Age 12



William - Age 12



Aiden - Age 11



Hadley - Age 11



Jack - Age 10



Rosie - Age 10



Chloe - Age 9



Joaquin - Age 9



Juniper - Age 8



Kellen - Age 8



Caroline - Age 7



Owen - Age 7



Cayleigh - Age 6



Mason - Age 6

mca  
CENTRAL PARK



Proud to offer service beyond the ordinary!



# No

# Tricks.

# Just

**npre**

**New  
Perspective  
Team**

NPRE is a team of real estate agents affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker in Colorado and abides by equal housing opportunity laws. Rules & Exclusions apply. Compass offers no guarantee or warranty of results. Subject to additional terms and conditions.

# Treats.

COMPASS



**Kim Kouba, Team Lead**  
303.204.8215



**Laura Hudgins**  
720.480.9692



**Amanda Murphy**  
720.454.2622



**Consuelo Sidas**  
720.277.2925



**Laura Orlandi**  
224.321.0380



**Jody Donley, Founder**  
720.290.8917

Nothing scary this season for this market's buyers! Interest rates are creeping down, properties are popping up like pumpkins on porches, and seller concessions feel like quite the treat!

Don't get spooked by the process. You'll be bewitched by how easy we can make your move!

Give us a shout to book a consult with one of our savvy team members.

*Our website: [newperspectiveteam.com](https://newperspectiveteam.com)*