

# Inside District 8

Councilman Christopher Herndon | Denver City Council | January 2017

## A message from Councilman Herndon

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and took some time to relax, spend time with family and breathe before the normal rush of everyday life returns.

For our office, January is the kickoff of Northeast Denver Leadership Week planning. This free, week-long leadership experience is June 12 – 16. If you know of a high school freshman, sophomore or junior who would benefit from a hands-on career exploration and personal development program please encourage them to visit [www.northeastdenverleadershipweek.org](http://www.northeastdenverleadershipweek.org) and apply. It is a competitive selection process but the application doesn't take long to complete. Feel free to reach out to our office with any questions.

I want to thank those who came out to the General Obligation (GO) Bond meetings across the city over the course of November and December. As a reminder, GO Bond investments must go toward restoring, replacing, and expanding infrastructure and capital assets for the city. Over a thousand comments were compiled and now a task force is tapped with examining and prioritizing both short and long-term capital facilities and infrastructure needs of the city and making project recommendations. This November, voters will decide whether or not to proceed and my office will continue to provide updates as the process moves forward.



*Happy New Year from Councilman Chris Herndon and family!*

City Council will convene on January 13 for a day-long discussion of budget and policy priorities for 2017. For the past few years I've been pushing for accelerated implementation of our Solid Waste Master Plan and I'm excited that this year the majority of the city will be on a three-cart system with trash, recycling and the opportunity to sign up for composting. Please reach out to my office if there are particular issues you'd like me to bring forward during the budget and policy priorities meeting.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve this great district on Denver City Council.

*Christopher Herndon*

### Contact the District 8 Office

4685 Peoria St., Suite 245

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

720-337-8888



Find us on Facebook

[facebook.com/ChrisJHerndon](https://www.facebook.com/ChrisJHerndon)



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[twitter.com/ChrisJHerndon](https://twitter.com/ChrisJHerndon)



Thank you to everyone who made our toy drive a success!

## Inside District 8



Students currently in grades 9, 10 or 11 who live or go to school in Denver are encouraged to apply. This year's event will be held June 12-16. For more information, call Councilman Chris Herndon's office at 720-337-8888.

- Free Career Exploration
- Leadership Training
- Financial Literacy

## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Northeast Denver Leadership Week offers high school students from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to connect with civic and industry leaders throughout Denver. The program's goal is to grow the next generation of leaders by educating students about careers in leadership and inspiring and motivating them to pursue such roles in their own careers.



To apply, visit

[www.NortheastDenverLeadershipWeek.org](http://www.NortheastDenverLeadershipWeek.org)

**BIG CHANGES in 2017**  
Collections will occur on the weekends of January 7 and January 14.  
**No weekday collections.**

**Treecycle**

# Treecycle 2017

**RECYCLING YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE IS AS EASY AS 1,2,3!**

- 1** Remove all decorations, lights, and tree stands. Remember, only natural (real) trees are collected for recycling during Treecycle. NO artificial or flocked trees are accepted.
- 2** Set your tree out for collection no later than 7 a.m. on Saturday, January 7 or no later than 7 a.m. on Saturday, January 14.
- 3** Reclaim free mulch made from your tree at the annual Mulch Giveaway & Compost Sale in May.

- All Christmas trees must be set out at your regular trash collection location by 7 a.m. on Saturday, January 7 or by 7 a.m. on Saturday, January 14.
- Trees may be collected on Saturday or Sunday.
- Do NOT place trees inside bags, carts or dumpsters, and be sure to set trees at least 2 feet away from trash or recycling containers, cars, and other obstacles.
- Christmas trees will not be collected by Extra Trash crews during the first two weeks of January.
- After January 15, trees can be dropped off at the Cherry Creek Recycling drop-off.

For more information visit [DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles) or call 720-865-6810.

### Know your neighbors: Justin Bresler

#### What neighborhood do you live in and how long have you lived there?

My wife Alison and I have been proud residents of the Park Hill neighborhood since 1999. We moved here after short stints in Boulder and Washington Park.



#### What do you like most about your neighborhood?

I like the feeling I get when I turn into Park Hill off of Colorado Blvd. in the summer. The temperature drops a few degrees under the canopy of leaves, things get a little quieter and move a little slower. As soon as I enter the neighborhood, I know I'm home!

#### How are you involved in the community?

In 2010, my wife and I started the Park Hill 4th of July Parade with the help of friends and neighbors and we have been running it ever since. It has grown to be the largest Independence Day march in Denver and my favorite day of the year. I'm proud of the friends and neighbors who volunteer their time every year to help the parade run smoothly and make sure everyone has a good time. Funny story: I never even saw the parade until the third year. I was so busy at the start line making sure everything ran smoothly that I forgot to head out onto the parade route. When I finally did and saw the thousands of people who came out to enjoy the holiday, it made me so proud of what we'd built. Now I never skip the chance to walk the route at the end of the event.

#### What's something about your community that you wish more people knew?

We moved to the neighborhood for its reputation for diversity and tolerance. I hope the rest of the city feels the same way.

#### How do you like to spend your free time?

I like to cook. On the weekends I kick everyone out of the kitchen, pour myself a drink, put on some great music and whip up a delicious meal for the family. I'm no gourmet, but it'll taste good!

#### What is one of your favorite businesses/restaurants in the community?

My family has always been fans of Spinelli's, whether it's to grab a missing ingredient, loaf of bread or dinner for the family.

### Healthy Communities Awards accepting applications

Denver Environmental Health sponsors the Healthy Communities Awards (HCA) to help encourage and recognize the efforts of local organizations and individuals working to protect and support healthy, livable and sustainable communities.

The awards are focused on organizations, projects or individuals engaged in efforts to:

- Protect and/or improve the environment in Denver.
- Promote healthy people through improved food or child safety, access to healthy food and healthy built environments.
- Encourage activities that promote healthy pets and improve the lives of animals.

Nominations will be accepted starting January 9.

For more information and eligibility guidelines, visit [www.denvergov.org/hca](http://www.denvergov.org/hca).

### Neighborhood Planning Initiative kicks off

Denver residents, community groups and city leaders have asked for more neighborhood planning across the city, and Community Planning and Development is ready to deliver. In December, city planners rolled out the Neighborhood Planning Initiative (NPI) – a new commitment by the City and County of Denver to provide area plans for every neighborhood in the city. Currently, only about 20 percent of Denver has an up-to-date area plan. The rest of the city either has a plan that predates 2002's Blueprint Denver land use and transportation plan, or has no plan at all.

The new approach to neighborhood planning, crafted with community input, will make a more efficient use of available resources to achieve better, more equitable area plan coverage for all of Denver in less time (10 to 14 years) than our current approach would do (about 80 years). For more detailed information on the Neighborhood Planning Initiative, including the planning areas, phasing, analysis of planning need, the planning process, and what you can do to prepare before planning begins in our area, visit [www.denvergov.org/neighborhoodplanning](http://www.denvergov.org/neighborhoodplanning).

More opportunities for involvement will be available once planning starts in 2017.

## Inside District 8

RECREATION SUPERVISOR AT CENTRAL PARK  
RECREATION CENTER

### Meet Ben Hensley

#### What does your job entail?

As the supervisor of Central Park Recreation Center, I oversee all aspects of our operation. Whether it's keeping track of our budget, scheduling programs, ordering fitness equipment, or cleaning windows, I have to be a jack of all trades. Central Park is the largest and busiest recreation center in the city, so it takes having a great team to operate this facility. I lead a staff of 8 full-time employees, and 30-50 part-time employees depending on the season.

#### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I have always had a passion for sports and recreation, so what I enjoy most is getting to walk into a park/recreation center for work every day. What better work environment could there be? Sure there are challenges, but at the end of the day, my job is located in an exciting building where people choose to spend their time to promote health and wellness for themselves and their families.



#### What kind of impact do you hope to have in the community?

My goal for our facility is to aide in the overall well-being of the community. We aren't just a workout facility. We aren't just a swimming pool. We aren't just childcare. But by combining these things and more, we can be a one-stop-shop for physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being. We strive to be a place in which the people of our community can embrace diversity, encourage inclusivity, and inspire unity.

#### What do you do for fun outside of work?

I spend a lot of time watching sports. If I'm not doing that, you can usually find me on a golf course, getting ready for bow hunting season, or attending a country music concert. Oh, and I am a breakfast fanatic! If you need to know any of the best breakfast places around the city, I am the guy to ask.

#### What is something the community might not know about you?

I am a third generation Denver native and I absolutely love this city. I spent my entire academic career in Denver Public Schools, I received my degree from MSU Denver, and I have worked for Denver Parks and Recreation since I was 14 years old. As long as we have Red Rocks, Coors Field, and four great seasons each year, I see no reason to leave.

## Denver Police District 5 Honors Top Cop

### District 5

Officers were called to a report of several juvenile males behind the Boys and Girls Club, one of which was said to be in possession of a handgun. As officers arrived, the suspects ran in several different directions. After searching the area where some of the suspects had run, Officer William Bastien saw a male who matched the description of the suspect with the gun. As Bastien approached the individual, he could see he was holding what looked like a handgun and was trying to hide it in his coat. As the suspect was trying to conceal the gun, it was pointed directly at Bastien. Despite the perceived imminent deadly threat, Bastien did not fire, instead ordering the suspect to drop the gun, lie on the ground, and show his hands. The suspect complied with the orders and was taken into custody without further incident. The handgun was found to be a very authentic looking air pistol that was almost completely indistinguishable from a Smith and Wesson model firearm currently carried by many officers.



**FREE EVENT**

**IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START LOOKING FOR PRESCHOOL**

**JOIN US AT THE 5th Annual PRESCHOOL SHOWCASE 2017**

**NOW AT 3 LOCATIONS**

**Dahlia Campus for Health & Well-Being**  
3401 Eudora St. Denver, CO 80207  
Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**J. Churchill Owen Boys & Girls Club**  
3480 W Kentucky Ave. Denver, CO 80219  
Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Quigg-Newton Community Center**  
4440 Navajo St. Denver, CO 80211  
Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017 | 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**THE SHOWCASE IS YOUR ONCE-A-YEAR OPPORTUNITY TO:**

- FIND** and compare quality preschool options for your child
- DISCOVER** the dollar amount you can get in tuition support from DPP
- APPLY** for tuition support

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [DPP.ORG/SHOWCASE](http://DPP.ORG/SHOWCASE) CALL 303-595-4DPP

**FUNDING QUALITY PRESCHOOL FOR DENVER**



### The Hub at Northfield creates community connections

The Community Hub at Northfield is a multi-use space housing two local nonprofits: the Denver Police District 5 Cop Shop and Northeast Transportation Connections. The Hub serves as an office, event/meeting space and a communal space dedicated to serving residents both in and outside of Northeast Denver.

The space was donated by Stapleton master developer, Forest City. Northeast Transportation Connections and the Police District 5 Cop Shop have called the Hub home since July, 2015. Both organizations were in need of a larger and more functional space to better serve the local community. The Hub's shared space has a visible presence, located in the Shops at Northfield.

The Police District 5 Cop Shop provides the Northeast Denver community direct access to volunteers and District 5 officers outside of their main headquarters in Montbello. Visitors can file police reports and access crime prevention tips. The Cop Shop hosts numerous events in the Hub, including educational classes on internet safety, community meetings and the Police District 5 annual Coffee & Cocoa with the Cops event in December.

Denver Police District 5 Commander Ron Thomas sees the Cop Shop as a valuable way for his team to build relationships with the Northeast Denver community. "I really think it is a fantastic opportunity for us to connect with the community."

The Cop Shop is largely staffed by volunteers through the City's Volunteers in Police Service Program. Interested individuals can find more information on how to apply on the Denver Police Department's website: [denvergov.org/police](http://denvergov.org/police).

Founded in 2002, Northeast Transportation Connections was originally the Stapleton Transportation



*Police District 5 Officer Marika Putnam at the front desk of the Community Hub at Northfield.*

Management Association (TMA). For more than ten years, the organization has been a go-to resource for the community.

"The mission of Northeast Transportation Connections is to get people out of cars and to really try to sustain our environment by utilizing alternative modes of transportation, including walking, biking, carpooling, vanpooling and taking public transportation; it's really getting people out into the environment," said Angie Rivera-Malpiede, Director of Northeast Transportation Connections.

The organization offers a variety of different programs and resources. Their Bicycle Library is available to individuals for \$20 per year and includes access to the organization's bikes, a new helmet, and a u-lock for bike safety. Staff are available to help guests navigate RTD schedules, fares and routes, and create personalized transportation plans.

Northeast Transportation Connections also offers walking programs during the summer months. "One of the most important components is that people feel safe and comfortable in an

environment and then they might be more willing to do it on their own," said Rivera-Malpiede. "We really provide a safe mechanism for them."

The organization is proud of their connection to the community and their ability to reach people across the income spectrum. Rivera-Malpiede and her staff serve a large and diverse population.

"We're really honored to be serving the community in the capacity that we are," said Rivera-Malpiede. "We really look forward to many more years working hand-in-hand with the community."

The Community Hub is located at 8230 Northfield Blvd. #1350. It is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Cop Shop hours vary week by week.

For more information on the Hub, Cop Shop hours and how to book the space for events and meetings, visit [www.netransportation.org/the-hub/](http://www.netransportation.org/the-hub/) or call 720-865-2356.

## Resources

Denver Human Services  
Montbello Office  
720-944-3666

District 2 Police Department  
720-913-1000  
Michael.Calo@denvergov.org

District 5 Police Department  
720-913-1400  
dist5@denvergov.org

Department of Motor Vehicles  
720-865-4600

Denver Public Schools  
720-423-3200

Denver Workforce Center at  
Montbello  
720-865-4600

City of Denver Services  
311

### District 8 Council Aides

Amanda Schoultz  
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**Council District 8 website**  
[denvergov.org/councildistrict8](http://denvergov.org/councildistrict8)



*Councilman Chris Herndon with Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman, Tom Fesing and Larry Drees at the EMNA Holiday Potluck.*

## What's Happening in January

### Registered Neighborhood Organization Meetings

**Greater Park Hill Community**  
Jan. 5, 6:30 p.m.  
2823 Fairfax St.

**Northeast Park Hill Coalition**  
Jan. 12, 6 p.m.  
3921 Holly St.

**East Montclair Neighborhood Association**  
Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m.  
CounterPath Press  
7935 E. 14th Ave.

**Stapleton United Neighbors**  
Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m.  
Central Park Recreation Center  
9651 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd.

### Community Events

**National Western Stock Show**  
January 7 - January 22  
Free Grounds Admission Day- Jan. 10  
4655 Humboldt St.  
[www.nationalwestern.com](http://www.nationalwestern.com)

**Denver Treecycle Program**  
Jan. 7 & Jan. 14  
[denvergov.org/denverrecycles](http://denvergov.org/denverrecycles)

**Early Childhood Book Share**  
Jan. 11, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.  
Park Hill Branch Library  
4705 Montview Blvd.

**Active Minds Seminar**  
Jan. 12, 6:45 p.m.  
Sam Gary Branch Library  
2961 Roslyn St.

**Preschool Showcase**  
Jan. 14, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
3401 Eudora St.  
[dpp.org/showcase](http://dpp.org/showcase)

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
Jan. 16  
City offices closed

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade**  
Jan. 16, 9 a.m.  
City Park Esplanade and 17th Ave.

**Police District 5 Community Meeting**  
Jan. 19, 6 p.m.  
Green Valley Ranch Library  
4856 N. Andes Ct.

## Wellness tips from Dahlia Campus for Health & Well-Being

**Return to a healthy routine:** The holidays can bring a host of changes in routine, from schedule changes and changes in eating and exercise habits to being around different or more people than you usually spend time with. Think about making sure you get enough sleep, eat healthy foods, take deep breaths and find time to exercise regularly, even if it's just a walk around the block.

**Realistic New Year's Resolutions:** Set small, attainable goals where the bar isn't too high and don't beat yourself up if you slip, because minor setbacks are completely normal and OK. Instead, look at your resolutions realistically and assess whether they need some

tweaking to ensure they're achievable.

**Managing Stress:** Getting back to your "old self" is important to your overall well-being. Untreated stress can lead to emotional and physical health problems. To combat stress, psychologists say that a strong support network can be critical with helping individuals get through tough times, whether you've had a bad day at work, a year filled with loss, or a chronic illness.

To learn more about the services offered at the Dahlia Campus for Health & Well-Being, visit [mhcd.org](http://mhcd.org), call 303-300-6140, or stop by the campus at 3401 Eudora St.