Inside District 8

Councilman Christopher Herndon | Denver City Council | June 2017

A message from Councilman Herndon

The beginning of June is exciting as it signifies the end of the school year. For the District 8 office, it means Northeast Denver Leadership Week! Once again, our team has put together a tremendous week of exciting speakers and opportunities for our students. This year we will have more students than ever before. I want to thank everyone who has made it the event it is today, including our sponsors: Forest City, Xcel Energy and Comcast for their support.

I hope your home escaped with minimal damage from the spring storm that traveled through the district at the end of May. While there are many legitimate people helping those affected, be careful of scammers who take advantage of these situations. For more information, see page six of this newsletter.

In previous newsletters we've shared information about the Park Hill Golf Course and the community conversations surrounding its future. This month, we are asking you to take a brief survey and provide feedback. Please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parkhillgolfcourse to share your thoughts.

Lastly, I want to express my sincere thanks for allowing me to serve you on Denver City Council. The halfway mark of my term is nearly here. Looking back, I'm proud of all the work the District 8 team has done to better our district and city. There is much more to do but I truly love serving the people of this district.

Councilman Chris Herndon stands in front of the 'warped wall' on the set of American Ninja Warrior.

Adoptable pet of the month

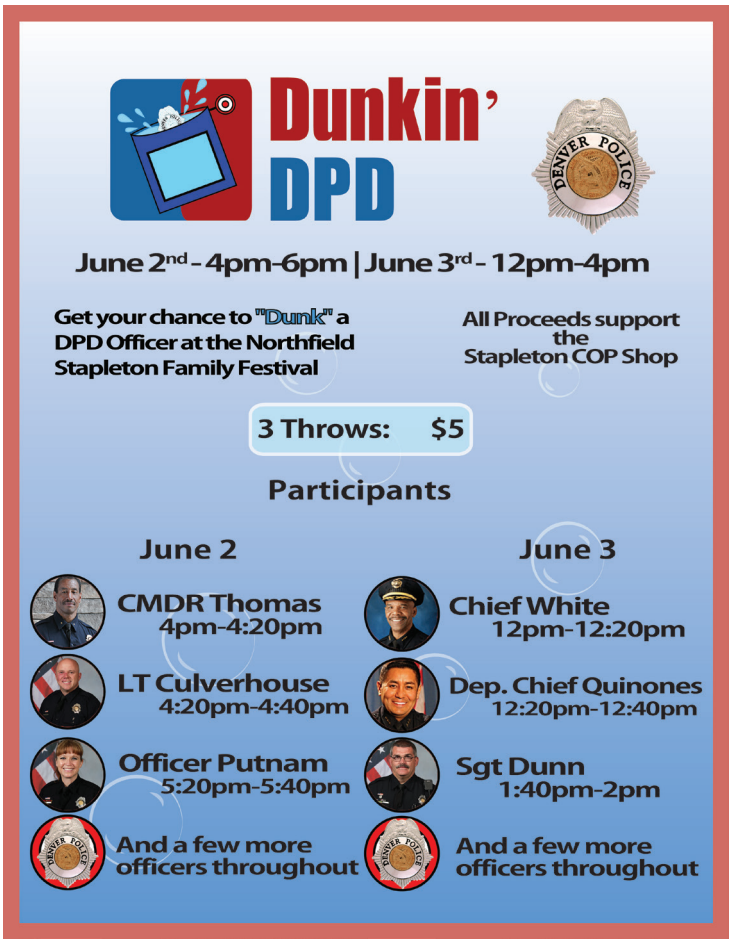
Martin is a sweet 10-year-old looking for a quiet home where he can lounge around and be his fabulous self. Sadly, his owner passed away but Denver Animal Protection took him in, fixed his teeth, and prepared him to find his retirement home. Martin has been at Denver Animal Shelter for three months and although he has loved the staff and volunteers, he's ready to give his love to a new family. Could you be the right family to provide love for Martin? Visit Denver Animal Shelter today at 1241 W. Bayaud Ave.

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

Connect with us on Twitter
twitter.com/ChrisJHerndon



Summer watering rules

These rules are in effect until October 1 and are meant to help facilitate smart irigation.

Summer watering rules from Denver Water:

- Water during cooler times of the day — lawn watering is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Water no more than three days per week.
- Do not allow water to pool in gutters, streets and alleys.
- Do not waste water by letting it spray on concrete and asphalt.
- Repair leaking sprinkler systems within 10 days.
- Do not irrigate while it is raining or during high winds.
- Use a hose nozzle with a shut-off valve when washing your car.

These rules are mandatory and repeat offenders may be fined. It's important to know your landscape and water only when necessary. Visit denverwater.org for more information.

Sign up for free Learn to Compost classes

Denver Recycles and Denver Urban Gardens are offering free Learn to Compost classes through October at the Denver Compost Demonstration Site, within the Grove Community Garden at 13th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard.

Each hands-on, two-hour, free Learn to Compost class teaches basics of backyard composting. Two types of special in-depth classes are offered throughout the season:

- Six Worm Workshops focus on vermicomposting (worm composting).
- Five Build-A-Pile Classes give participants hands-on experience building an entire compost pile including: how to incorporate different ingredients, chop materials, water and turn the pile.

Registration is required to participate. Registration is first come, first served and will be open one month prior to each class date. To sign up for classes, visit dug.org/compost or call 303-292-9900.

Know your neighbors: Celeste Archer

What neighborhood do you live in and how long have you lived there?
I have lived in wonderful Park Hill for 16 years.

From L to R: Shawn Archer, Celeste Archer and Hagan Archer.

What do you like most about your neighborhood?
The "small town-ness" of it in a great metropolitan area. I love the fact that our neighbor's children know that they are welcome to play in our backyard (we have a trampoline) anytime and don't knock before heading back there. It's fun to be working at my desk and hear them playing. On hot days the ice cream truck drives by and we have a line on our driveway.

How are you involved in the community?
Education, education and education. Politics too…a little (a lot). And lacrosse. My husband has been coaching and my son has been playing for over five years with the Jets, our neighborhood lacrosse club for kids from little bitty to right before high school. My favorite years of classroom teaching were at East High School – my son was literally almost born there when I continued to teach while I was in labor. Next year, he'll be an Angel! I've also been involved with my local church, Montview Presbyterian, for 16 years.

What's something you've done in the community that you're proud of?
I have advocated and worked like a crazy woman for our state to have a governor's school – it was a hard fought battle that we won. Now we have Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) and I'm on the national board for governor's schools. Our neighbor, the governor, signed it into the Colorado Department of Higher Education last month. Kids have been enjoying the benefits since 2013!

What's something about your community that you wish more people knew?
Park Hill has a rich history with a great deal of earned pride in what it is. Park Hill has had it going on for years – idiosyncrasies and all. And it's the type of neighborhood that is happy in what it has created. My son is friends with kids he knew at The Children's Center. It's a smorgasbord of neighborhoods.

What is one of your favorite businesses/restaurants in the community?
Since my son was born, most of his lifetime events seem to have been celebrated at Oblio's! The new owners are former students. Their dad had my husband and I taste test the chocolate chip cookie dessert after a long day of skiing - when Oblio's was a tiny, quirky little place with one choice of crust.

Denver offers access for deaf/ hard-of-hearing people

Denver Office of Sign Language Services (DOSLS) is a unique department under Human Rights and Community Partnerships that offers direct services at no cost to help deaf and hard-of-hearing people access Denver government programs, services and events.

The department provides sign language interpreters upon request for all of Denver's government services. For those who have a hearing loss but do not know sign language, DOSLS offers real-time, open captioning via CART (Communication Assisted Real-Time Translation). CART captures the speaker's words into text and displays it on a laptop or large screen to assist those in a small-or large-group settings. DOSLS also has a wide variety of information and referral resources for deaf/ hard-of-hearing people.

For more information, contact DOSLS at 720-913-8487, or signlanguageservices@denvergov.org.

Imagine 2020 Fund calls for proposals

The Imagine 2020 Fund will provide up to $5,000 in funding support for new, creative and innovative programs inspired by one or more of the seven vision elements outlined in IMAGINE 2020 that further develop Denver's creative landscape, including:

1. Integration
2. Amplification
3. Accessibility
4. Lifelong Learning
5. Local Talent
6. Economic Vitality
7. Collective Leadership

Submission deadline: 5 p.m. on June 16, 2017
Award notification: July 2017

For more information and application instructions, visit artsandvenuesdenver.com.

DENVER ANIMAL PROTECTION COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Meet Julian Wolff

Julian Wolff

What does your job entail?
There are a lot of hats to wear for my position, but ultimately my job is working directly within the community to ensure we have the best possible animal welfare information and resources as it pertains to Denver Animal Protection (DAP). On top of attending Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO) meetings and being a point of contact for the people of Denver here at the shelter, I also supervise the Humane Education programs and our Pets 4 Life program.

What do you enjoy most about your job?
There is a lot about this job to enjoy. My favorite times are when I'm talking to someone out in the community and making sure they have access to the resources we offer here at Denver Animal Protection. Having kids come in to the shelter and teaching them about animal welfare and sheltering is something I really find important and love doing.

What kind of impact do you hope to have in the community?
I hope to help in any way I can by making sure citizens not only know about the various programs we're running at DAP, but also providing those resources where, when, and how they are needed. I really hope every citizen feels they have a voice in animal welfare and that their needs and those of their animals are being met.

What do you do for fun outside of work?
I play soccer on the weekends to try to stay in shape and have a little fun. I try not to break myself, but that doesn't always work out.

What is something the community might not know about you?
That I've worked in animal welfare and shelters for the last 12 years, spanning multiple states. I've held positions in operations, development, and now outreach. It's something that I not only do for work, but also am passionate about. Companion animals are so important to a healthy community. Pets have an incredibly personal and important role to play in our everyday lives and I truly believe that by doing good by our pets, we are doing good by this awesome city we call home.

Denver Police Department honors Top Cops

District 2

Corporal Tim Scudder

Corporal Tim Scudder and his family met the Grant family, a woman and her three daughters, through their church three years ago. The Grants moved to Colorado from Texas so the youngest daughter, Olivia, who is six years old, could receive medical treatment at Children's Hospital. Recently, the Grant family learned that Olivia's disease can no longer be treated and her illness is terminal. Scudder heard Olivia created a "bucket list," and the number one item on it was to 'catch bad guys with police.' Scudder worked with Denver Police Department to fulfill Olivia's number one wish. The department arranged for Olivia to be sworn in as an honorary police officer, receive an honorary police badge, and a custom-made police uniform for her to 'catch bad guys with police.' Scudder is honored for demonstrating the character and kind-heartedness that makes him an outstanding officer in District 2.

District 5

Officer Dan Osman

Officer Dan Osman was conducting surveillance at a location well-known for drug traffic when he observed a suspicious vehicle pull into the lot and park. Moments later, an individual approached the suspicious vehicle and made an exchange. Osman's experiences told him this was a potential drug transaction so he waited for the vehicle to pull away, observed a traffic violation, then conducted a legal stop. The driver was found to have an active warrant for his arrest and was taken into custody. A subsequent search revealed a large quantity of various illegal narcotics, a sawed-off shotgun and handgun. Osman then gave the suspect an advisement and obtained a full confession.

Mod Livin' offers modern and vintage pieces

Long-time Park Hill residents Jill Warner and Erick Roorda opened Mod Livin' Furniture in 2001 on the corner of East Colfax and Grape Street. In 16 years, the store has become a mainstay of the community. The 10,000-square-foot building includes an equal mix of new and vintage pieces, and a 'bargain basement' featuring discounted items.

Guests are greeted by new and vintage pieces when they enter the store.

Mod Livin' offers a combination of mid-century classics, modern lighting, chairs and sofas, storage and contemporary accessories. Some of the premier manufacturers include Blu Dot, Gus Modern, Vitra, Bensen, Modernica and Areaware. The store also carries one-of-a-kind vintage pieces curated from all over the country with a wide variety of collectible and eclectic items.

Warner selects brands and new furniture pieces she has researched and believes in. "When customers buy a new piece from me, I stand behind it," said Warner. "I would have it in my own house. I believe in the brand and I believe in the company."

Warner's love of collecting started when she was a young child. She fondly remembers riding the bus to her grandmother's house and stopping to shop at thrift stores along the way. This passion for collecting led Warner and Roorda to open Mod Livin'.

Mod Livin' s eclectic mix of furniture and accessories.

"I started reupholstering furniture about 25 – 30 years ago and really got into the furniture business at that point," said Warner. "At that point in time, it was just vintage."

Outside of Mod Livin', Warner worked full-time as a flight attendant for Continental Airlines. She retired in September 2016 after 31 years with the airline. Warner and Roorda have been busy growing their business and loyal customer base for the past 16 years. When the couple opened Mod Livin', they were surprised at the level of support they had from the start.

"We opened our doors and were busy from the very beginning," said Warner. "We plastered the windows with brown paper and then we put 'retro,' 'mid-century' and different tags on the windows for three months before we opened. When we opened, there was a line out the door."

Warner and Roorda are opening a second location in the River North neighborhood of Denver in early fall. The RiNo location will specialize in home decor and accessories. The couple plans to add professional designers to their team to help clients with interior design needs.

Mod Livin' is located at 5327 E. Colfax. It is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and is closed on Sunday. For more information on Mod Livin', brands and pricing, visit www.modlivin.com, email info@modlivin.com, or call 720-941-9292.

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
amanda.schoultz@denvergov.org

Bonnie Guillen
bonnie.guillen@denvergov.org

Charley Oldaker
charles.oldaker@denvergov.org

Council District 8 website
denvergov.org/councildistrict8

Councilman Chris Herndon at the start of the Colfax 5K.

What's happening in June

Registered Neighborhood Organization Meetings

Montbello 2020
June 1, 6 p.m.
4685 Peoria St.

Greater Park Hill Community
June 1, 6:30 p.m.
2823 Fairfax St.

Northeast Park Hill Coalition
June 8, 6 p.m.
3921 Holly St.

East Montclair Neighborhood Association
June 20, 6:30 p.m.
Counterpath Press
7935 E. 14th Ave.

Stapleton United Neighbors
June 20, 6:30 p.m.
Central Park Recreation Center
9651 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd.

Community Events

Gardening, Aquaponics, Aeroponics and Bees Fun Day
June 3, 10 a.m. - noon
The Urban Farm at Stapleton
10200 Smith Rd.

17th Annual Park Hill Garden Walk
June 17, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Tickets: parkhillgardenwalk.org
Questions: helenpatq@yahoo.com

Stapleton Farmers Market Begins
June 18, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
The Green
7601 E. 29th Ave.

Father's Day
June 18

Bike to Work Day
June 28
biketoworkday.us

Denver DA: Don't fall for hail damage scams

The Denver District Attorney's Office reminds residents to be on guard against hail damage scams. The scheme employed by these thieves is to seek out homes with weather-related roof damage. They close the deal by offering you assistance with filing the insurance claims and negotiating the estimates directly with the insurance adjusters. Once the scammer receives the check from the insurance company, these bogus contractors make off with the money without ever starting the job. In the end, the homeowner is left with either shoddy work or silver paint that has been sprayed on the roof to make it look new.

When seeking out any roofing contractor, always take the following precautions:

1. Never select a roofer or any home-improvement contractor who solicits door-to-door. Reputable companies have no need to do business this way.

2. Contact your insurance company directly. Don't leave the negotiating up to a contractor. Ask your insurance company for a list of qualified roofing contractors, then check the companies' ratings with the Better Business Bureau: www.bbb.org.

3. Check to see that the roofing contractor is licensed to do business in your municipality. In the City and County of Denver, contractors must be licensed. You can check the status of a contractor by going to the city website at denvergov.org and clicking on "Contractor License".

4. Always get three bids on a home-improvement project.

The DenverDA Fraud Line: 720-913-9179. Anyone may call if they believe they have been a victim of a scam, fraud or identity theft.