Inside District 8

Councilman Christopher Herndon | Denver City Council | November 2017

A message from Councilman Herndon

Election Day is November 7 and I want to encourage everyone to VOTE. I cannot emphasize this enough: it's vital everyone who is able to exercise their right participates in the election. Our school board, the General Obligation Bond, and the green roofs initiative will shape our city in coming years and I want everyone who can vote to be heard.

I was really touched by a recent expression of generosity that I want to share with you. Our office has been working with a gentleman experiencing homelessness who has come to our office several times for assistance. Recently, he came in and asked for help finding a winter coat, as his was stolen. Our team wanted to find a gently used jacket for him and reached out on social media for help. We received multiple responses and within 24 hours one of our district residents purchased a brand new jacket and warm socks and dropped them off at our office for the man in need. All she asked was what was needed and how she could get it to us. This example is one of the many reasons I love representing this district. It is truly a community where we support our neighbors, whether we know them personally or not. I know acts of kindness and generosity like this happen each day in our neighborhoods, but I wanted to highlight this particular gesture. Far too often negative stories get the attention and I believe the positive stories deserve as much recognition.

Finally, please join me in wishing a very Happy Veteran's Day to our men and women who served this country. I salute you and thank you for your service.

Councilman Chris Herndon stands in front of a voting booth at Denver Elections.

Adoptable pet of the month

Porker is a 5-year-old English Springer Spaniel who came to Denver Animal Shelter for some extra help in finding his forever home after living in a shelter for over a year in Texas. Porker can be somewhat shy but is a lapdog at heart, just looking for someone to curl up and cuddle with as the seasons get colder. Come by the shelter at 1241 W. Bayaud Ave. and fall in love with Porker today.

Contact the District 8 Office

4685 Peoria St., Suite 245
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday
720-337-8888

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facebook.com/ChrisJHerndon

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twitter.com/ChrisJHerndon

SPONSORED BY DENVER THE MILE HIGH CITY

Denver Recycles' LeafDrop Program composts leaves and pumpkins for free

Denver Recycles can turn your leaves into compost through their free LeafDrop program. Leaves must be secured in bags and paper bags are preffered because they are compostable.

Weekday drop-off sites are open through December 8, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. The weekday drop-off site in District 8 is the Havana Nursery at 10450 Smith Rd. Weekday sites will be closed on Thursday, November 23 for Thanksgiving.

Weekend drop-off sites are open November 4 – 19, Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Locations include Cranmer Park at 3rd Ave. and Claremont St., and Bruce Randolph High School at E. 40th Ave. and Steele St.

Please make sure leaves do not contain branches or other materials.

Pumpkins are also accepted for composting at drop sites.

Denver residents can pick up a free five-pack of paper lawn and leaf bags at participating Denver area Ace Hardware stores. Visit denvergov.org/leafdrop to print a coupon and see the list of participating Ace Hardware stores.

On average, 400 to 500 tons of leaves are collected through this program each year.

For more information about Denver Recycles' programs, call 311, or visit their website at denvergov.org/denverrecycles.

Know your neighbors: Brittany Zuber

What neighborhood do you live in and how long have you lived there?
My husband and I have lived in the East Colfax neighborhood for four and a half years. We weren't exactly looking at this neighborhood during our house search, but we are so happy this is where we ended up. We love it here!

Brittany Zuber

What do you like most about your neighborhood?
I enjoy the location of our neighborhood and its vicinity to various conveniences and destinations in both Denver and Aurora.

How are you involved in the community?
I am currently the president of the East Colfax Neighborhood Association. This association has been in existence since 1972, and I am honored to be able to play a small part in this amazing association making a difference for those who live here.

What's something you've done in the community that you're proud of?
When I first got involved in the neighborhood association, we had just joined Denver's Sustainable Neighborhoods Program. I, along with a great group of other volunteers, started a regular event in our neighborhood called the "Rolling Neighborhood Clean Up" that has since succeeded in cleaning almost every street within our large neighborhood.

What's something about your community that you wish more people knew?
I wish people knew more about the passion of the East Colfax neighborhood's residents. It's incredible how much they care about the future of our neighborhood and are willing to get involved to see their dreams come to fruition.

How do you like to spend your free time?
In my spare time, I enjoy gardening, brush hand-lettering, painting, visiting local breweries with my husband, and being outdoors.

What is one of your favorite businesses/restaurants in the community?
I love 7 Leguas Mexican Grille on East Colfax. The food is amazing and the owner and staff are wonderful. They provide great service and are always willing to lend a hand for community events.

Denver offers new services to help renters facing eviction

Denver now offers three new tools to help renters facing eviction:

- Tenant-Landlord Guide: This new, comprehensive Tenant-Landlord Guide provides an easy-to-understand breakdown of the rights of both residential tenants and landlords in the City and County of Denver. The guide also provides residential renters and landlords with a list of financial and mediation resources to help resolve disputes without going to court. To view the guide, visit denvergov.org/housing.

- Mediation Services: This service aims to engage an experienced mediator to resolve disputes between residential landlords and tenants through negotiation before and after an eviction process is triggered. This free pilot service is being offered in partnership with Community Mediation Concepts and may be accessed by calling 3-1-1.

- Rent and Utility Assistance: The new program through the Office of Economic Development will support low-and moderate-income residents facing a crisis, like unsafe housing conditions, economic pressures or a potential eviction, that could result in the loss of their home.This is offered in coordination with the expansion of the Department of Human Services' Eviction Assistance program, which provides an onsite DHS outreach worker to eviction court to connect residents to any number of public health benefits, including eviction assistance or first month's rent or deposit assistance. For more information, visit denvergov.org/housing.

Greater Park Hill Community needs Thanksgiving donations, volunteers

Greater Park Hill Community's (GPHC) food pantry needs donations and volunteers for their annual Thanksgiving box giveaway. GPHC accepts financial donations, donations of gift cards, and donations of food items for the giveaway. Gift cards and food donations can be dropped off at 2823 Fairfax St., Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Non-perishable items can also be donated at the Park Hill Library, 4705 Montview Blvd., or at Cake Crumbs, 2216 Kearney St., during regular business hours. Volunteers are needed for a number of roles, including building boxes for clients. GPHC's goal is to feed 300 families in need this Thanksgiving.

Most of the donations need to be received by Monday, November 13.

For dates, drop-off locations for frozen turkeys, and a list of needed food items, visit greaterparkhill.org/programs/thanksgiving/.

FORESTRY INSPECTOR- DENVER PARKS AND RECREATION

Meet Coleman Loughery

Coleman Loughery

What does your job entail?
I provide citizens of Denver with information regarding vegetative code violations and recommend, implement and coordinate appropriate solutions regarding violations. I evaluate trees for infestation, disease, structural deterioration and potential safety hazards. I also present educational outreach programs and informational campaigns.

What do you enjoy most about your job?
I get the most enjoyment out of helping citizens solve tree-related safety issues to make Denver a safer, more enjoyable place to live through enhancement of its urban forests. What is also fulfilling is educating the public on urban forestry. Whether it be proper planting techniques or explaining pest and disease control methods, it's always nice to use my knowledge to better the City of Denver.

What kind of impact do you hope to have in the community?
As a forestry inspector, I hope to make the city a safer place to live as well as enhance the overall visual aesthetic of the communities I serve. I work to educate the public on the various benefits of urban forests and inform them that the trees throughout Denver are non-native to the landscape, meaning they need citizens' time, care and attention to stay healthy and thrive.

What do you do for fun outside of work?
Any time I am free from my duties at work I love to go on hikes in the spring, summer and fall, and ski in the winter. I recently got into mountain biking and love exploring the various trails throughout the Front Range. I also love listening to live music. Denver is such a unique place for new music discovery. It's a big reason why I love living here.

What is something the community might not know about you?
I spent four years working for the federal government fighting wildland fires throughout the western U.S. This time was very humbling and beneficial for me professionally and personally. My time spent outdoors in our public lands for upwards of a month at a time during assignments, sleeping on the ground and eating MRE rations made me appreciate the luxuries of common life. After high school, I spent three weeks assisting blind students hiking the Inca Trail in Peru. Our final destination was the ancient city of Machu Picchu.

Denver Police Department honors Top Cops

District 2

Detective Jeff Baran

Detective Jeff Baran was called to assist in the investigation of a bank robbery. The suspect removed the contents of an ATM from a drive through at a US Bank. He then used a construction 'boom lift' to remove the ATM machine from its foundation and drove the ATM to a U-Haul store near the bank. Later in the day, District 2 officers received a call from Dacono Police that they had recovered an ATM from the US Bank in their city. Baran assisted in the investigation that led to the arrest of the suspect.

Baran is commended for responding and reviewing over six hours of video from several businesses that led to the issuing of a search warrant for the suspect's vehicle, U-Haul truck, and securing an arrest warrant for the suspect.

District 5

Officer Philip Donovan

Officer Philip Donovan responded to a call for service from a victim who was assaulted by a known party at a local motel. The victim was hysterical and reluctant to provide any information, for fear of retaliation. Donovan quickly established a rapport with the victim and assured her she would be safe. The victim provided details of her assault and described the suspect. With this information, officers located the suspect and took him into custody with a hold for felony assault. Donovan directed the victim to services to help her with emotional and physical recovery.

Officer Donovan is commended for his professionalism and compassion.

Intersections: a catalyst for connection

Stapleton residents Winifred Harris and Rick Humbert opened Intersections with the vision of creating a space for the community to come together over food. The business partners invite their customers to unplug, interact, and connect with one another.

Owners Rick Humbert (left) and Winifred Harris (right) stand at the front of Intersections.

The restaurant offers a variety of breakfast and lunch dishes in a family-friendly atmosphere featuring a collection of Dr. Seuss drawings. Harris and Humbert opened Intersections because they noticed a lack of breakfast options in the Northfield area of Stapleton.

"People anticipated that we were going to be another coffee shop and to their pleasant surprise, we are a full-service breakfast and lunch restaurant," said Humbert. "There has been a lot of support for this concept."

Intersections opened in August off Northfield Boulevard in Stapleton. The restaurant's slogan, 'Where cups and conversation meet,' invites customers to use the space to connect and have face-to-face conversations over a cup of coffee and a meal.

"In our short time being open, what I love is that people are very honest and happy that we are here," said Harris. "We have acquired regulars and that's a good feeling."

Harris and Humbert made a conscious effort to include breakfast and lunch items that are familiar, but with an Intersections twist. Popular dishes include the chicken & waffles, breakfast burrito, crab cake eggs benedict "benny" and shrimp & grits. Intersections also offers gluten-free and vegetarian options.

Customer-favorite crab cake benny.

The restaurant is open daily for breakfast and lunch, but in the future Harris and Humbert are looking to open several nights a month to host live music and poetry readings.

The co-owners say they particularly enjoy the time spent interacting with customers.

"We are a part of the community and we are very much a part of what goes on here at the restaurant on a day-to-day basis," said Humbert.

Harris and Humbert are grateful for the support they have received so far.

"We want people to know that we are here, we are a choice and we truly care about our clientele and the people who work here," said Harris.

Intersections is located at 8241 E. Northfield Blvd. It is open Monday through Sunday, 6 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information on the menu, visit intersectionsof.com, or call 303-963-5909.

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

Election day is Tuesday, November 7.

What's happening in November

Registered Neighborhood Organization Meetings

Greater Park Hill Community
Nov. 2, 6:30 p.m.
2823 Fairfax St.

Northeast Park Hill Coalition
Nov. 9, 6 p.m.
3921 Holly St.

East Colfax Neighborhood Association
Nov. 21, 6:30 p.m.
Counterpath Press
7935 E. 14th Ave.

Community Events

27th Annual Homeless Veterans Stand Down
Nov. 2, 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Colorado Guard National Armory
5275 Franklin St.

Denver Arts Week
Nov. 3 - 11
denverartsweek.com

Daylight Saving Time
Nov. 5, 2 a.m.

Election Day
Nov. 7

Veterans Day (Observed)
Nov. 10
City offices closed

Police District 5 Community Meeting
Nov. 16, 6 p.m.
Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club
4397 Crown Blvd.

Winter Welcome
Nov. 17, 6 - 8 p.m.
29th Ave. Town Center

Thanksgiving
Nov. 23
City offices closed

Police District 2 Community Meeting
Nov. 29, 6 p.m.
3921 Holly St.