



THE MONTCLARION

Our Neighborhood

Annexed by the City of Denver in 1902, Montclair incorporated in 1888 as a Denver suburb.

One of Denver's 78 statistical neighborhoods, its borders include Colfax Ave. to the north, 6th Ave. to the south, Quebec St. to the east and Holly St. to the west.

Formed in 1907 as a not-for-profit corporation, the Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc. (HMCAI), is the oldest neighborhood association in Denver. Officers and at-large board members serve without pay. HMCAI is a Registered Neighborhood Organization and is a member of Denver's Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation. West of Monaco, we overlap with Mayfair Neighbors, Inc.

Dedicated to innovative educational, civic and social activities, we offer our members quarterly newsletters, flyers and public announcements. We inform members of important zoning issues, historic preservation, construction and planning activities, elections and other activities impacting the neighborhood. HMCAI frequently collaborates with schools, churches and other local organizations for the common good. Interested in being a part of the community? Join today.

2nd quarter 2020 | HistoricMontclair.org | HistoricMontclair@gmail.com

HMCAI Annual July 4 Picnic is Cancelled Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Here's to our many fond memories of picnics past and making memories next year!





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President's Note

By Judy Baxter

During these times when uncertainty comes into focus, a struggle can emerge-- wanting to hold on to plans, with all the energy that goes into that when what we need to do is get on with getting on. A quote from Joseph Campbell comes to mind:

"We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us."



So in the spirit of accepting where we are and where we've been these last 2, almost 3 months, we have had to let go of what we had planned to embrace the new ways of being together, yet apart. We sure did miss stuffing, then laying the 4000 eggs in Montclair Park. We hope the Easter Bunny made many house calls. We will be ready to SPRING into action next year. Though the spring garage sale couldn't happen safely in May, we are hoping the fall garage sale can be a time for you do the great exchange resulting from your spring cleaning. I, for one, have been in a Marie Kondo mode – decluttering and letting go of what no longer sparks joy. There it is again—LETTING GO.

I am guessing it comes as no surprise to you that HMCAI has had to let go of the 4th of July Picnic this year. This is an over 50-year neighborhood tradition. We have been doing this so long that all of my historical consultants—including Tom Noel and Bill Hansen aren't sure, deferring to Gail Barry's memory that it was long before 1974 when her son Pennan was born on the 4th of July. So celebrate in smaller ways, in smaller groups, and remember this year, maybe more than others, it is a celebration of the spirit of our country and our community. A spirit of banding together on principle to do what's best for the larger community. As the 4th rolls around, as with Memorial Day, let's honor the sacrifices that have been made for higher purpose. Next year the music, bunting, barbeque, games, water balloons, bike parade, games and of course the fire truck and getting hosed will be that much sweeter for this time away.

What have we done with this time—how are we embracing the life we have now? I want to highlight activities of your Historic Montclair Community Association Board going on behind the scenes. Having our newsletter delivery service drop us, a group of board members and a few other volunteers did the door-to-door delivery of the 1st quarter newsletter, wearing masks and gloves. This newsletter is being mailed. Trying new ways of doing things. In May, Brian Narber delivered some 23 Welcome To Historic Montclair bags to those who are new to the neighborhood in the first 3 months of 2020. Thanks to Bree Neely, we are updating our systems, including adding credit card payment options, online memberships, and email reminders for renewals. See Marti Holmes' article in this newsletter on the East Area Plan—there is still time for you to provide input on this important process that will shape the future of our neighborhood. Stay in touch with HMCAI Board with your thoughts by emailing: historicmontclair@gmail.com.

A final quote from Joseph Campbell: *"Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging"*. Here's to finding your deeper powers.

Community Reminders

- Summer is upon us and that means more folks outside at night. Help keep our nighttime streets safe and well lit. If you see a street light that is out, please report it to Xcel Energy at xcelenergy.com or by calling 800-895-4999.
- Please remember that Kittredge, Montclair, Denison, and Mayfair parks are NOT off-leash dog parks. Dogs must be leashed at all times, per Denver's Leash Law. Violators face fines of \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for a second, and \$500 for a third violation. Parks are patrolled by Denver Park Rangers. Nearby off-leash dog parks are located at Greenway Park at Montview & Syracuse and Lowry Dog Park at East 4th Place & South Yosemite Way.
- As the weather warms, and doors and windows are opened, noises are heard easier and more frequently. Citizens are encouraged to be respectful and courteous to neighbors. Denver's Noise Ordinance stipulates loud noises from lawnmowers, power tools, construction equipment, is permitted between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm. Amplified music, human voices, and crowd noise is permitted between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm. Dogs must be quiet between 10:30 pm and 7:30 am or when none of the owners of the dogs are home. Noise violations may be reported to the DPD non-emergency number, 720-913-2000, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

HMCAI 2020 Board

President: Judy Baxter

Vice President: Carrie O'Shea

Treasurer: Gail Barry

Secretary: Caryle Faust

At Large Board Members:

Valerie Alford	Gretchen Armijo
James LeDuc	Jennifer Bolda
Brian Narber	Meg Goos
Bree Neely	Erick Stragand
Marti Holmes	Gail Wallace
Toni Kuper	

HMCAI Events Calendar 2020

All events take place at the Moltery and Montclair Park except the garage sale.

February 28	Wine & History Evening	6:30 p.m.
April 11	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 a.m.
May 16	Garage Sale	8:30 a.m.
July 4	July 4 Picnic - Canceled	10:30 a.m.
September 18	Beer & Wine Reception	6:30 p.m.
September 19	Garage Sale	8:30 a.m.
October 21	General Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 25	Halloween Party	3:30 p.m.
December 12	Treats with Santa	10:00 a.m.

HMCAI Membership Form

Please print legibly on form and mail with check to : **HMCAI Treasurer, PO Box 200125, Denver, CO 80220**

Annual dues per household: \$30 (\$15 seniors, ages 65 and older)

Voluntary donation:\$ _____ Total amount of check:\$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

What would you like to help with? _____

Possibilities include: Treats with Santa, July 4th, Easter Egg Hunt, Cocktail Party, Halloween Party, Board Member, Other (please specify)

Montclair School GoFundMe to Address Student Food & Housing Insecurity

By Bree Neely

It's probably safe to say that the closure of schools due to COVID-19 has had a profound effect on just about all of us. This disruption to an institution that is easy to take for granted has been emotionally and psychologically intense; no question about it. But for the many families of school-aged children in our neighborhood who were already struggling with employment, housing and basic expenses, this disruption has been devastating.

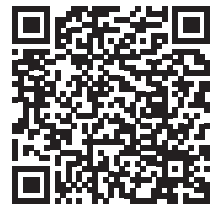
To meet the needs of our community directly, the Montclair School of Academics & Enrichment PEAK (Parents, Educators & Kids) created the Montclair Emergency Family Relief Fund – a GoFundMe campaign seeking to raise \$5,000 for Montclair families in need. As of the time of this writing, it has raised \$2500 – all of which has already been disbursed.

As the head of funds distribution, Montclair Family Liaison Cahaj Sullivan Reed has been instrumental in the effort – and has seen the impact firsthand.

“We have been able to provide about 35 families with close to \$100 each so far,” she said in a recent phone call. “Every single family has been so happy. There is no doubt they feel the love and support of our community, and are so grateful.”

Montclair PEAK plans to keep the fund open through August at least. It's hard to think these issues will resolve themselves quickly, especially knowing that prior to the shutdown, three out of four Montclair School families were struggling with expenses and one out of four could be classified as housing insecure.

Please visit <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/montclair-emergency-family-relief-fund> (you may also the QR code on this page, or visit MontclairPeak.org for the link) and support the children and families in our neighborhood with a tax-deductible donation. Our community has already stepped up in so many ways for each other; please consider this one as well.



Montclair Community Strong

Physical activity can boost your immune system and help with mental well-being during these trying times. While these doors are closed, we offer 15 live online classes weekly.

Thank You
for Your Continued Support
of Small Businesses!
Alison Oyster-Mitsch

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Online classes now available at refresh-studios.com - Yoga - Feldenkrais - Qigong - Zumba - Meditation

From the Desk of Chris Hansen, State Senator

District 31



Friends and neighbors,

After a 10-week legislative recess, we will be heading back to the Capitol to finish our work, and while there are still many difficult decisions ahead, I am looking forward to focusing on urgent proposals to address the tough budget situation and the economic/public health concerns stemming from the pandemic. Over the last few weeks, I have focused my efforts on working to improve unemployment insurance. Unemployment insurance is one of the best tools we have to support Coloradans throughout this economic hardship, however we need to make some adjustments to make sure it's working for everyone that needs it. We've developed a plan to provide immediate fixes to get employers and their workers through this

pandemic. Specifically, the bill addresses:

- Change the work-share program rules. Right now, Coloradans can only receive UI benefits if their work hours are cut more than 60%. This bill will adjust that to 40% so that employers and employees have more flexibility with these rules.
- Institute protections for workers. If someone is called back to work, but their workplace is out of compliance with federal or state public health standards and they do not feel safe, they should not lose UI benefits. Furthermore, if someone is not able to return to work because they care for someone who is vulnerable to COVID-19, they should not lose UI benefits. The bill will require the Dept. of Labor and Employment to consider these factors when determining whether or not someone qualifies for unemployment insurance.
- Keep more money in your pocket. If you're a part time employee and receiving UI benefits, current law requires that your weekly UI payment is reduced if you earn more than 25% of your UI payment through work. This bill changes the percentage of wages for calculating the deduction to 50%, so that people can earn more money while not losing as much of their UI benefits, which will help people get back on their feet faster.

In addition to legislative proposals like this, the other large task at hand is to pass the budget. As you have likely heard, the Joint Budget Committee was forced to make \$3.3 billion in cuts--roughly 25% of current spending--over the last few weeks so that we can fulfill our constitutional duty of passing a balanced budget. Some of the major proposals are to:

- Support K-12 education and higher education by using funds from the CARES Act
- Temporarily suspend the senior homestead exemption for one year
- A \$225M payment to the Public Employees' Retirement Association, without reducing member benefits
- Schedule the 2021 closure of Skyline Correction Center in Cañon City

My colleagues and I will debate and finalize these decisions over the next month, as we approach our end of fiscal year deadline. In the next few weeks, I encourage you to reach out if you have any ideas of legislative proposals we should consider, because overall our goal is to weather this economic storm as best as we can and ensure that we can all get through this together. Thanks as always for the opportunity to represent you in the General Assembly.

Your neighbor,

Chris Hansen

State Senator, CO District 31

chris.hansen.senate@state.co.us

(303) 866-4861

www.hansenforcolorado.com

In the Garden

By Gail Barry

Virginia Creeper, Friend or Foe??



One of my neighbors asked me to talk about Virginia Creeper aka woodbine (Parthenocissus quinquefolia). There are 10 native species of Parthenocissus in the world. Many of us in this neighborhood

have the vine. It is fast growing, extremely hardy, and has beautiful fall color. It spreads by seed and by underground runners so it is very difficult to control. It is also toxic to pets and children and some are affected by its sap. The plant produces oxalate crystals which can result in gastroenteritis. It is one of several toxic plants that are common in our gardens (look up toxic plants). I inherited the vine in abundance on a series of tall fences that used to surround a tennis court. It is beautiful and provides wonderful privacy but likes to migrate. Another unfortunate fact is that the Japanese beetles love it. Make up your own mind, is it a friend or a foe...?

The Covid-19 Victory Garden

With the advent of the virus I have noticed a renewed interest in growing vegetables and fruits. I strongly urge you to try your hand if you aren't already into it. You can take out some lawn, or repurpose another spot in your yard. If you don't have that ability, get some really big pots and plant them. You need sun, good soil, and water to get going. It is still not too late to plant seeds though some may take longer to mature. For tomatoes, eggplant and peppers I recommend already started plants, often available at the grocery store and/or hardware store. If you are worried about being exposed by being out and about, I know you can order online and get someone to come out and put your order in your vehicle, especially if you want to order compost or other soil amendments and mulch. In my mind there is nothing more satisfying and delicious than eating vegetables and fruits from one's own garden. Kids often enjoy gardening too.

Signs of the Times



Montclair School of Academics and Enrichments Summer 2020

By Merritt Pullam

Hello Montclair! As we all progress through the current COVID-19 crisis, I hope all of you are safe and well. My thoughts are with each of you who are struggling in this time. Our community has been struck with a new reality, and what we do going forward will guide both how future generations approach education, and our definition of community.

I write this column during week ten of remote learning. Wow! is all I can say. I am amazed at how the children and teachers have adapted to the technology available and continued to thrive with our children's education. I am proud of them and the parents and guardians who are helping to shape the young minds in our community.

School is scheduled to end May 29th and to start back up again August 17th, 2020. We have heard speculation that the return to school could include a mix of remote learning and in-person learning being spread out between all students. DPS has done a decent job of keeping us up-to-date on their thoughts and plans, and as of late May, we are being told that they will have more information by mid-June in regards to the fall term.

Visiting www.montclair.dpsk12.org and www.dpsk12.org are the best methods to stay connected to the latest news within the DPS community. At www.montclair.dpsk12.org you can find numerous ways to help our school community. Please take a moment to go to the site and to learn more about the school, our PEAK (Parents, Educators, and Kids) team, how to contribute using Amazon Smile, and our King Soopers community rewards programs. If you have questions that are not answered via the websites, contact the Montclair main school office at 720-424-5380. The office team can help you, or if they don't have the answer, they will put you in touch with someone who can. You may need to leave a message in order to receive a call back for information.

Thank you! Go Cougars! Montclair Rocks Woohah!!!

Questions? Suggestions?
Article ideas? Contact
your HMCAI Board at
HistoricMontclair@gmail.com



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From the Desk of Councilwoman Amanda Sawyer

City Council District 5



There is no doubt that the COVID-19 crisis has caused significant economic and health-related hardship in our community, affecting people of all walks of life in myriad ways. There have also been many silver linings. It has been wonderful to see the way our

District 5 neighborhoods have come together to celebrate community and create positivity during this troubling time. From mask-making and chalk art competitions, to lighted trees and joy rocks, to 8 pm howling and financial contributions to help those struggling in our community, we are so inspired by you all. Thank you for what you're doing to draw together our community!

While much of the city is only contemplating a slow reopening as of this writing in early May, your government has remained open all along, and we have been working hard to support you and our entire community. In addition to working with individual neighbors and Neighborhood Organizations that have reached out for assistance during the COVID-19 crisis, our office also:

- Rolled out #WeAreOpenDenver.com to help consumers find local business that are open and then help steer those customers to those businesses
- Purchased food from locally-owned District 5 restaurants and delivered it to the workers at District 5's own Rose Medical Center – supporting our small businesses and thanking our hospital workers for their service at the same time
- Contributed \$1,000 to the East Colfax Community Collective's East Colfax Small Business Relief Fund
- Contributed \$1,000 to The Lowry Foundation to support the #KeepLowryStrong COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund
- Worked with Representatives Julie Gonzales and Steven Woodrow, along with a team of volunteers, to make outreach calls to local residents age 65+ to determine how we can best support our community of residents in this higher risk category
- Began holding a biweekly online town hall meeting with all of your elected representatives from East Denver

As a City Council, we have also been working hard to support our community during this time by mobilizing the necessary financial resources needed to respond to this crisis. Among the things we have done is create two relief funds – one general fund and one specifically for business support. The general fund will help pay for services and supplies related to the COVID crisis, such as personal protective equipment, overtime for personnel, capital expenditures such as hospital beds and ventilators, and possibly even facilities as needed. This \$13.5 million came from the City's supplemental fund, which was budgeted at \$29.2 million for 2020. The remainder of the supplemental funds will be directed towards the standard items that the supplemental budget usually funds, like snowplow deployment and any capital purchases that may come up over the course of the year.

As of this writing, Denver has spent more than \$27 million in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and we expect to see a budget shortfall in excess of \$180 million. All city agencies have been asked to cut our 2020 budgets by 7.5% in order to backfill part of this shortfall. Additionally, our finance department is reviewing the City's Capital Improvement Plan to determine where capital projects might be delayed or cancelled to help backfill the gap. Finally, Denver has healthy TABOR reserves and has called on those to support our budget requirements for the year, which means that no resident services should be cut as a result of this unexpected budget shortfall. Most importantly, know that we are applying for Federal reimbursement for every dollar we can, and are already seeing some of that money come in as well which is great news.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please contact our office at denvercouncil5@denvergov.org or 720-337-5555. Sign up for our monthly newsletter and updates at bit.ly/Council5News and to keep up with currently happenings, follow us on our social media pages, listed below. Again, thank you for inspiring and uplifting each other (including me!) during what is no doubt one of the biggest challenges of our lifetimes. Please continue to seek out ways to be there for each other as we look ahead with hope, taking one step at a time. Together we will get through this!

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East Area Plan Update

By Marti Holmes

After an extensive review of community comments on the East Area Plan, city planners posted a revised draft plan for public review in March. A virtual open house via WebEx was held on May 12th. You may view the open house, review the updated draft plan, and make comments at denvergov.org/eastplan.

The deadline for comments is July 1, 2020. City planners will then post the updated draft. After evaluation of the

community response, the plan will be brought forward for Planning Board and City Council consideration.

This plan affects all aspects of life in Montclair and the adjacent neighborhoods for the next twenty years. The draft plan reflects changes made to the initial draft because of community input. This is your opportunity to have a voice.

Supporting Essential Workers and Each Other

By Jennifer Bolda

It is summer break and we have been with our families a lot! I am now on "break" from teaching my kindergarten class in Aurora Public Schools, as well as, my own two boys aged 5 and 8. I will say both my own children and my classroom kiddos did an amazing job with online learning. There were ups and downs but overall they stuck with it. I try to remind myself that not only is this stressful for me but the kids, although resilient, are feeling the stress as well. It is the end of May as I am writing this so the unknown of next year is still up in the air.

Through all of this, my neighbors have really bonded together to help support each other. My neighbor Mary Jo decided early in March, before the 8:00 howling was a thing, that we would go out and clap for all the essential employees every night at 7:00. When I first heard this I thought every night? that sounds a little extreme, but as time went on, I found myself working around the 7:00 clap time. Timing my bike rides or walks perfectly so we would be there for it. As I saw my children excitedly awaiting the clap time I understood the importance of the routine and it was a welcomed break to get out, see the neighbors, dance to a new song every night, and just confirm that we will get through this. Every night we have gone out

to clap for a minute while a song is playing, we dance or dress up just to make it more exciting. We even did the Cha-Cha slide one night! It has all been very entertaining. Surrounding neighbors have come over to help cheer, to catch up and to dance. My kids love it. Seeing them run out and start clapping even when the day has been long or boring brings a smile to my face. This is something that we won't forget! We also howl at 8:00 which is another great way to hear the support surrounding us.

I am trying to see the silver lining in all of this, as I am sure we all are. For me, I think it is the time to be together. My family has always been close and my neighbors have always been supportive and friendly but I see it more now than ever. I am not sure how long we will be doing this, but I do hope that when it does end, we remember the nights and smile when we look at the clock and it says 7:00! I know I will continue to be there for my neighbors like they have been there for me. As all of us know, this has been a strange time and having the support of others and creating your own fun is what we all need. Please continue to be kind to each other and support one another! Enjoy the summer and I wish you good health and happiness.



Neighbors Reflect on Isolating at Home During Pandemic

I miss hugging and I miss my grandchildren. On the plus side my garden has never looked better and I've really honed my cooking/baking skills. I haven't done much takeout but plan on getting linguine with clam sauce from the Cherry Tomato for my birthday. And I am so grateful for our grocery workers and medical people-heroes every one.

— Jeannine

Gardening keeps me sane and active. I have become the jigsaw puzzle supplier to various friends and neighbors who have taken up the puzzle habit while at home. I most miss my work outs at the rec center.

— GB

I miss hugging my children and grandchildren! Our substitute is FaceTime! I read to my young ones every day and we have found great pleasure in this hour together! I'm grateful for my neighbors and friends who call every 3-5 days to check on my needs! I am so blessed to have them in my life! I'm also thankful for the peace and quiet in the neighborhood, especially minimal traffic noise!

— DZ,76

Quarantine school is not fun, but at least I get to learn and have fun on my meetings. Plus, I get to hang out with my mom...j/k a little bit.

— James Maverick De Young, 8

I really miss getting together with friends and family! I'm thankful though that they are all healthy.

—M

I miss the safety of flying across the country to visit my 3 children. I'm grateful for my family's health, the quiet in our city, and the wildlife, clean air and water flourishing all over the planet in our absence. I've discovered a new pastime, rug hooking.

— Anonymous, 67

What I've missed most during this time is the comfort of a hug. What I'm grateful for: Having this forced "pause" on life is very hard but it also feels like we have also been given the gift of time. We have a toddler and both work full-time so we always felt pulled when he was at daycare and we were in the office all day. So while it is in no way easy to try and multi-task at home all day long, we are together and that is very important. We've discovered a new restaurant, Chook on 8th and Birch. Delicious sandwiches and salads with free local delivery. A new pastime of ours is making a point to say "hello" or "how are you" when passing a stranger. In doing this I've discovered there are a lot of people who feel alone and do not know how the other person will behave due to the varying paranoia we all have with COVID, and a simple hello or how are you doing can turn someone's day around during this very difficult time.

— Montclair family of 3

I've been spending too much time with my cats recently.

— EH, 15

I'm thankful for being able to zoom and stay even more connected to family and friends than before.

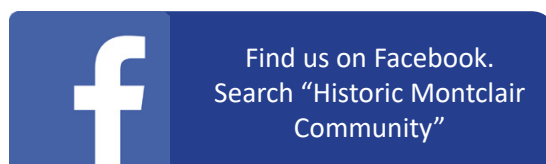
— Anonymous, 35

It's been really nice seeing so many neighbors walking and biking. I've actually met a number of people in the past 10 weeks. Everyone's in the same boat and there's a feeling of camaraderie.

— CH



Lena Montemayor, 5 student at Montclair Elementary with her school assignment to make a mask!



The Flu Epidemic of 1918 & Montclair

By Tom Noel

The current COVID-19 is not the first or the worst flu to devastate Denver and Montclair. Back in 1918 A worldwide pandemic did not spare Colorado. Americans misnamed it the Spanish Flu although it originated in March, 1918 at a military base in Kansas from where American soldiers inadvertently spread it globally. The pandemic struck as World War I was ending and killed an estimated 17 to 50 million people worldwide, around 500,000 in the U.S. and some 8,000 in Colorado, which ranked fifth in state mortality rates per capita. An estimated 1,500 Denverites lost their lives. Just like CLOVIS-19, the 1918 flu filled the lungs with fluid, making breathing difficult, if not impossible. Denver Manager of Health Dr. William Sharply called it “the worst in the history of the nation and comparable to the Black Plague of Medieval Europe.”

In Denver, public meetings were banned and businesses, libraries, schools, theaters, work places, clubs and public meeting places were closed. Even private gatherings, such as dinner parties were discouraged. Houses of victims were fumigated and placarded. Funerals were limited to no more than four mourners. All were asked to wear masks in public. Social distancing was encouraged. After first striking in the spring of 1918, the flu dwindled that summer only to come back even stronger in the fall. [Image: Mayor Robert W. Speer, whose administration acquired the Molkery for use as the city’s first neighborhood civic center in 1910, championed not only the city beautiful but also the city healthy, yet the 1918 flu epidemic killed him. Credit: Denver Public Library]

Montclair, of course, had been developed as a haven for lung disease patients. The Molkery (German for milk house) was built as a sanatorium where patients lounged on sun porches for heliotherapy. Cattle were stabled below to provide milk still warm from the cow’s teat. The final curative measure, touted by Montclair founder Baron Walter von Richthofen himself, was breathing barnyard effluvium from the cattle stabled beneath the Molkery.

The Agnes Phipps Memorial Sanatorium (now part of the Lowry neighborhood) was one of the state’s largest and most advanced tuberculosis sanitariums. Nearby Montclair homes were also designed as curative with screened in rooms for sunny, airy interiors. So called TB houses survive in the 900 block of Olive and the 900 block of Newport Street and elsewhere. Presumably such “lunger” architecture also served patients during the 1918 pandemic. Then Denver Manager of the Public Health, Dr. William Sharply, urged precautions still valid today: “don’t

cough or sneeze without covering the mouth and by all means be careful about spitting in public places.” High fevers and coughing, then and now, were tell-tale signs. Unlike today’s plague which hits the elderly hardest, the 1918 flu struck primarily young people, especially healthy males age 20 to 40, including my own grandfather.

Flu and other lung diseases hit Montclair cruelly because its populations included many patients, doctors and care givers already weakened by their TB contacts. So far Denver has avoided the nightmarish 1918 scenes of bodies stacking up in hospital morgues. Nurses and doctors, then as now, wore masks and erected screens around patient beds. Like today, good-hearted Denverites delivered food and medicine to ailing neighbors. Mary and Tom McElroy recalled, “We went day and night in that poor, little Model-T through ruts and muddy roads like Leetsdale Drive [and] lots of snow.”

Under pressure from state health authorities, Dr. Sharkley closed businesses. When they protested, he reversed that order and issued a “masking rule” for all employees dealing with the public.

“When each person keeps his own ‘bugs’ hemmed in his own mask,” he explained, “the other fellow doesn’t get the harmful contagion. In other words, you protect the other man; the other man protects you.”

Just like today, Dr. Sharkley fretted that “even the most enlightened citizen will not take the influenza epidemic seriously:

“They know that the disease is a deadly menace and snuffs out life almost before the victim realizes that he is ill” but still do not follow “essential rules and regulations.”. The dead often found a final home just southeast of Montclair in Fairmount Cemetery, which in 2019 erected a memorial to the Spanish Flu sufferers in Block 85, complete with a memorial garden, gazebo, benches and heritage rose bushes. Montclarions also still find relief from a shutdown city in TB architecture, fresh air, sunshine and a walk in Montclair Park.

**Tom Noel, a Montclair resident since 1966, is a Professor of History at CU-Denver and the co-author or author of 53 books including the Montclair Neighborhood with William J. Hansen*

Newport Street Retreat Update

By Rev. Nathan Adams, Lead Pastor, Park Hill UMC

Greetings Montclair Readers,
I hope that you are all doing well and are safe and healthy. I am the Lead Pastor of Park Hill United Methodist Church. As many of you know, Be3 Dinner Church located at 1195 Newport St. (formerly Montclair United Methodist Church) closed on Sunday, April 12th. I am grateful for the work that the Rev. Lauren Chance Boyd offered our community. She has done an excellent job of building lasting relationships. The Newport Street Retreat (NSR) is part of the legacy that she and her team created and leave all of us.

While Be3 Dinner Church is closed, I am happy to share with you that the work of Newport Street Retreat is not. As such, Park Hill UMC has been asked by leaders in the larger United Methodist Church to supervise and help guide the future NSR. Park Hill UMC has been supervising this work and the facilities of the former Be3 since April 13th. As COVID-19 allows, we look forward to continuing and growing the work of NSR and its partners and businesses as we integrate it into the larger life and work of Park Hill UMC. We don't know exactly what this will look like or lead to, but we are excited for the possibilities.

Park Hill UMC is a multi-racial, inclusive, and social justice focused church that strives to be an active part of its community. As we now more intentionally expand our work and presence in the Montclair neighborhood, we do so hoping to serve and be a good neighbor to you all as well! I'm an avid marathoner and frequently run through Montclair and our surrounding neighborhoods from my home in the East Colfax neighborhood. As I run by the former Be3, I love dreaming about what our future might be. I'm a big proponent of partnership and teamwork, as is Park Hill UMC, which means that whatever our new presence looks like at Newport St. and 12th Ave., it will be better because you are a part of it!

There are many questions about what all of this looks like that still need to be answered. In the meantime, though, I'd love to hear from you if you have ideas, questions, or concerns. My email is nathan@phumc.org My cell is 720-295-6843.

I look forward to when we can meet! Have a great day!

Peace,
Rev. Nathan Adams,
Lead Pastor, Park Hill United Methodist Church
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Community Corner

By W. Celeste Davis Stragand, Resident

It is likely none of us thought 2020's embarking upon summer would look quite as it does. So, aside from wearing a mask and socially distancing, what can you do as a community member to aide and abet your neighborhood? You can support your local business. With many of us staying close to home, dusting off the bikes and breaking out our helmets, riding to the local grocer or restaurant makes an impact.

Most of us consciously chose Montclair as our dwelling in part because of the glorious, tall, shade trees, numerous pocket parks and welcoming sense of community. Be a proactive part of this community. Give back by supporting your neighborhood liquor store, **Mayfair Liquors**. Grab a bite at **Hank's BBQ** or use a friendly neighbor as a realtor. Need to go to the doc, consider **Mayfair Vision Clinic**. These simple steps make a difference. You make a difference.

And now, let's meet one of our new neighbors: **Rachael Roth Stanfield** is a Colorado native and Montclair resident whose sole business is residential mortgages. Her goal is to provide tailored mortgage products (conventional, jumbo, VA, FHA and down-payment assistance programs) to her clients. By building a lifelong relationship based on trust and integrity, Rachael also provides education to support financial credit and investment stability. When not working, you can see her walking through the neighborhood with her husband, Travis and mastiff, Hercules. Whether you are a first-time homebuyer, an investor, or building your dream home, Rachael and Home Mortgage Alliance are here to help you every step of the way.

To learn more, call, email or visit her on the web:
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Baseball in Denver

By Erick Stragand, Montclair Resident and Baseball Nerd

When I moved to Denver with my family at age 4, my young mind was confused why our new home didn't have a "real" baseball team. At the time, Denver had the minor league Bears. A team with a long history in the city, but not well known to outsiders.

My first experience with the Bears was probably around 1982, when they had a "Cub Scout Night" at Mile High Stadium. I don't recall anything that happened on the field, though. I only remember that I bought a pennant, then we played tag on the concourse and annoyed the ushers. We got in some serious trouble when we hopped the barriers to the closed-off upper levels and ran up there to continue our tag-playing shenanigans. I think parents were called, as my friends and I felt ashamed for getting into such real trouble. It's one thing when you're busted at school for misbehaving, but out in public? I think my parents revoked my TV privileges for awhile.

As I got older, I found out that the Bears had a rich history, dating all the way back to 1901. Longtime Denverites may know this, but the original Mile High Stadium was first called "Bears Stadium" and was built to house this team. Before Bears Stadium, they played at a field on South Broadway, near the current-day I-25 overpass. Baseball luminaries like Whitey Herzog, Tommy Lasorda, Phil Niekro, Andre Dawson, Barry Larkin and Gary Sheffield all took the field with a "DENVER" jersey, over the years.

The Bears changed ownership and became the Zephyrs in 1984. The name referenced Denver's historic passenger train line, as well as a western wind. My earlier embarrassment had subsided, as I was allowed back to Mile High for several Zephyr games. One of my lasting memories from the Zephyr era is of a lesser-known player, Billy Jo Robidoux, from around 1988. The Zephyrs' PA announcer would do a wonderful job of announcing Robidoux's name whenever he came to bat. To this day, my friends and I still recall "Billy... Jo... Rrrrrroooooo-bid-ooohhh".

In 1991, when Major League Baseball officially announced that the Colorado Rockies would be coming to town, the end was in sight for the Zephyrs. However, that same

year, the Zephyrs went on a roll and won their league championship. I remember going with friends to one of their playoff games at Mile High, against the Buffalo Bisons.

A star on that '91 team was Jim Tatum, who became something of a bridge between Denver's different baseball teams. In 1993, he joined the Colorado Rockies and, thus, played for Denver's "old" team and their "new" team.

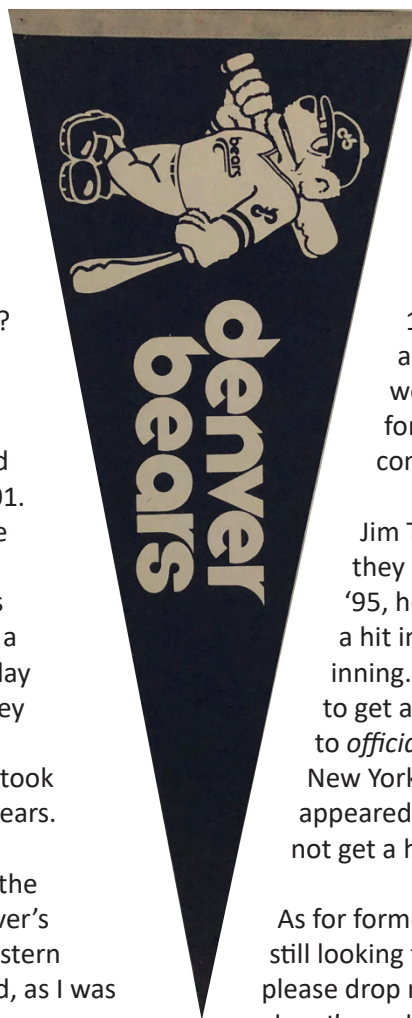
That same year, the Rockies had two guys on their roster who had played for Denver's "older" team: outfielder Daryl Boston and pitcher Bryn Smith had played for the Bears in 1984 and 1981, respectively. Smith was even the starting pitcher for the Rockies' first home game at Mile High Stadium on April 9, 1993. Pitcher (and Denver native) Mark Knudson, a former Zephyr from 1987 to 1991, also joined the Rockies for a short spell in 1993. So while the Rockies were making a lot of new baseball history for Denver, these four players were active connections to the past.

Jim Tatum was with the Rockies in 1995, when they opened Coors Field. On Opening Night '95, he became the first former Zephyr to get a hit in Coors Field, with a double in the 13th inning. While Tatum was the first former Zephyr to get a hit in Coors Field, the first former Zephyr to *officially appear* in that same game was the New York Mets' Bill Spiers- a Zephyr in 1990. He appeared in the 8th inning as a pinch-hitter, but did not get a hit.

As for former *Bears* who played in Coors Field? I'm still looking for that connection. If you know of one, please drop me a line (es@eStragand.com), or stop me when I'm walking my dog past your home.

The Zephyrs moved to New Orleans for the 1993 season, and used the "Zephyr" name until 2016. Coincidentally, there was a popular amusement park ride in the area with the same name, so "Zephyr" was still appropriate. The team was scheduled to move to Wichita, Kansas for 2020, but that's been put on hold.

With over 90 years of combined history with the city, the Bears and the Zephyrs will always be tied to Denver.





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