

# 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.

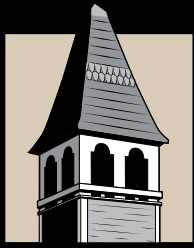
Formed in 1907 as a not-for profit corporation, the Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc. (HMCAI), is the oldest neighborhood association in Denver. Officers and at-large board members serve without pay. HMCAI is a Registered Neighborhood Organization and is a member of Denver's Inter-Neighborhood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

HISTORIC  
MONTCLAIR  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION

2023  
2nd Quarter

HistoricMontclair.org  
HistoricMontclair@gmail.com



HISTORIC  
MONTCLAIR  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION  
INC.

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## President's Note

By Judy Baxter

By Judy Baxter

I write this after a full 24 hours of rain. I hope all the gardens and lawns of Montclair are thriving with the vibrancy of the spring season. Water is truly a miracle element. My hope is that we, who live in this high mountain desert, appreciate and guard it with great care. Speaking of water makes me think of Denver Water's lead line replacement program. I know many streets in our neighborhood have had the contractors for Denver Water out drilling holes in order to inspect the lines to verify which pipes are lead, both in the street and from the street to homes that will eventually be replaced. This is an indication that we are at least one step closer to getting the actual pipe replacement work accomplished. They were on several blocks of Pontiac and elsewhere this last week and the signs are still up. Having checked the website (see link below) I see that replacement is occurring in the East Colfax neighborhood on both the north and south sides of Colfax, sections of Park Hill and North Park Hill, as well as parts of Hale. According to the map Montclair is not currently listed as one of the next neighborhoods to have the pipes replaced. Someone from Denver Water was out checking the work and indicated perhaps they might start here in a few months. If you have questions I encourage you to go to the website: [www.denverwater.org/your-water/water-quality/lead](http://www.denverwater.org/your-water/water-quality/lead) or call the Customer Care line: 303-893-2444. Also you can check out the maps at: [www.denverwater.org/project-updates/pipe-replacement](http://www.denverwater.org/project-updates/pipe-replacement). I will be following up with Denver Water next week to get a better update and inquire about doing a community meeting to keep us informed.



I want to thank all those who attended the March 17 zoom for the at-large city council candidate forum organized by HMCAI. It was great to hear from 6 of the 9 candidates who were running for the two at-large council seats. The questions that were submitted by our attendees at the time they registered for the event were excellent. With these I was able to craft an agenda, describe the format and give the candidates questions ahead of time so they could be prepared. My comment at the end of the forum was that we were fortunate to have such an impressive group of people who are dedicated to our city and quality of life and who were willing to run for office.

It seems so long ago—cast your memory back to Saturday April 8th. We had a great day and a great turnout for the Easter Egg Hunt. You know we divide the kids into two groups, the under 6 and 6+ -- well it seemed to me and the Easter Bunny (AKA Toni Ann Kuper) that the under 6 crowd has grown considerably. The kids were adorable, happy and remarkably well behaved, especially given the amount of sugar consumed from all the candy in those ~3000 eggs that were lovingly stuffed by your dedicated board and carefully spread in the park. As usual a big thanks goes out to the board and volunteers who made this happen and I especially want to thank the parents who were so happy to be there and said so. It really makes a difference to us to know these events are appreciated. They bring us together and build community.

**"The need for connection and community is primal, as fundamental as the need for air, water and food." Dean Ornish**

Be well, Be safe, Be in Touch with us: [historicmontclair@gmail.com](mailto:historicmontclair@gmail.com).

## HMCAI 2023 Board

**President:** Judy Baxter  
**1st Vice President:** Carrie O'Shea  
**2nd Vice President:** Meg Goos  
**Secretary:** Caryle Faust  
**Treasurer:** Gail Barry

### At Large Board Members:

Valerie Alford	Gail Wallace
Jim LeDuc	Toni Kuper
Brian Narber	Gretchen Armijo
Rachel Stanfield	Jennifer Bolda
Lynn VanderWielen	Bill Keesom

## HMCAI Events Calendar 2022

July 4	July 4 Picnic	10:30 a.m.
September 22	Beer & Wine Reception	6:30 p.m.
September 23	Montclair Garage Sale	
October 21	General Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 29	Halloween Party	3:30 p.m.
December 9	Treats with Santa	10:00 a.m.
May 20	Montclair Garage Sale	3:30 p.m.

All events take place at the Moltery except for the Garage Sale. (Montclair Civic Building) and Montclair Park

## HMCAI Membership Form

Two ways to join: 1- Please print legibly on form and mail with check to:  
**HMCAI Treasurer, PO Box 200125, Denver, CO 80220**

Annual dues per household: \$40 (\$20 seniors, ages 65 and older)

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to help with? \_\_\_\_\_

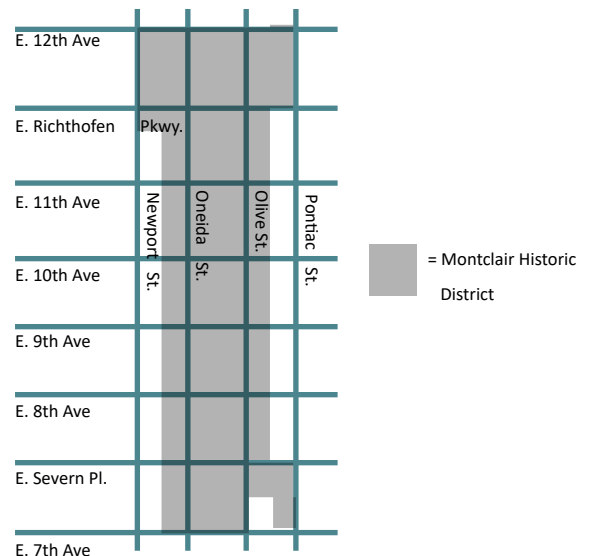
*Possibilities include: Treats with Santa, July 4th, Easter Egg Hunt, Cocktail Party, Halloween Party, Board Member, Other (please specify)*

- Or, pay securely online with Square:



## Important Information

If you live in the designated Historic District (see map to the right) within the Montclair neighborhood and you'd like to build an addition, garage, second story, porch, add solar panels, replace windows, roof, sidewalks, or demolish the house and build new, you must first contact Denver's Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC), submit an application and receive approval before any work may be begun. Your proposal must meet the design guidelines for historic districts. This is mandatory for residents of all historic districts in the City of Denver. To schedule an appointment for a pre-application meeting, discuss your building project, or ask questions contact the LPC at 720-865-2709 or [landmark@denvergov.org](mailto:landmark@denvergov.org)



# City Council District 5 Updates

by Councilwoman Amanda Sawyer, District 5



## Updates from Council District 5

Summer is in full swing, and we're excited to bring you updates on all the great things happening in Montclair. Keep reading to stay in the loop on all the latest developments!

### Parks Clean Up Day

Thank you to the more than 100 volunteers who joined us for the Spring Clean Up Day on April 30th! We are proud of our community's dedication to keeping our public spaces clean and well-maintained. Our next parks cleanup day will be held on Sunday, October 1st. Sign up to volunteer at [Bit.ly/2023FallCleanup](https://bit.ly/2023FallCleanup)

### ADU's in Montclair

Our office has been assessing community interest in rezoning Montclair to allow for accessory dwelling units. To gauge community feedback, we conducted two open houses and a survey. The results indicate that the majority of residents do not support this zoning change. Due to the lack of community support, we will not be moving forward with this rezoning. You can see the survey results and all information at [bit.ly/MontclairADUs](https://bit.ly/MontclairADUs). Thank you to everyone who participated in this discussion!

### Design Guidelines Along East Colfax

During the East Area Plan process, we heard from residents that you want to see more local businesses and a safer pedestrian environment along East Colfax. To respond to these concerns, our office led an initiative that will implement design standards for future development along the Colfax corridor from Broadway to Yosemite. After gathering community feedback, we are thrilled to announce that the response has been overwhelmingly positive, and we will move ahead with this legislative rezoning. For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/DO8-Overlay>.

## Community Safety in Montclair

Did you know that Denver Police District 2 has a new Commander and new leadership? Commander Stigler and his team will host monthly meetings to report on crime trends and community safety on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6-7 pm. Please attend at the DPD2 station, 3921 Holly St, Denver, CO 80207. You can find out more information at <https://bit.ly/DPD2Safe>

### Traffic Calming on 13th & 14th Avenues

The planned traffic calming measures along 13th and 14th Avenues have been completed, and the efficacy will be assessed over the coming year by staff at the Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Thanks to all the residents who participated in our town hall on March 15. If you were unable to attend, you can watch the meeting at [https://bit.ly/13\\_14FBMeeting](https://bit.ly/13_14FBMeeting). Our office is committed to following up and hosting future community meetings to ensure that these traffic calming measures are successful.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our office with any questions! You can reach the Council District 5 Team at:



QR Code to access D5 website

Gratefully,  
Councilwoman Amanda Sawyer  
Phone 720-337-5555

Email [denvercouncil5@denvergov.org](mailto:denvercouncil5@denvergov.org)  
Sign up for our monthly newsletter at [bit.ly/Council5News](https://bit.ly/Council5News)  
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## From the Desk of Chris Hansen, State Senator

District 31



Dear Fellow Montclairions,  
I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and spring showers as we head into summer!

The Colorado General Assembly just wrapped up work for the 2023 legislative session and I am proud of the results we delivered

for the people of Colorado. Our efforts were wide ranging, often bipartisan, and aimed to:

- Improve affordability
- Create safer communities
- Improve air quality and tackle the climate crisis
- Bolster our workforce & public education

With the 400+ bills passed this session, we made progress on each of these topics and many more. But our work is not done, and after a short respite, I will begin preparation for next session.

The twenty-two bills I sponsored this session focused on preventing gun violence, increasing clean energy, mitigating environmental impacts, reducing greenhouse gas emissions (including a 30% off tax credit on electric lawn equipment, starting in January), enlarging the Earned Income and Child Tax Credit, providing relief from high property taxes, updating Family Court training, modernizing the Colorado Open

Records Act, and more. Please see the full list of bills and additional bill details at <https://leg.colorado.gov/legislators/chris-hansen>.

This session we also honored the Denver East High School 2023 6A High School Boys' Basketball Champions and the George Washington High School 2023 5A Speech and Debate State Champions on the Senate floor. It was a joy to host these young Denverites who exemplify resilience, skill, and compassion and who continue to be inspirations for our community.

Looking back at the past 120 days, the legislature passed effective policies that will have a positive impact on our state. I'm looking forward to the interim spent iterating on new policy ideas in preparation for the 2024 session.

Thank you for reaching out with policy ideas, opinions, and feedback; it continues to be my honor to serve you! As always, you can reach me at [chris@hansenforcolorado.com](mailto:chris@hansenforcolorado.com) or 303-866-4861. Also, feel free to subscribe to my newsletter on my website [www.hansenforcolorado.com](http://www.hansenforcolorado.com) for regular updates.

Sincerely,



## Flower Power

Did you know that Montclair has an official flower? It does, and it's the red geranium. Here's how it came to be, according to Richthofen's Montclair, by Thomas J. Noel:

The Montclair Improvement Association formed in 1907 preceded today's HMCAI. It sponsored an annual picnic in the park, dances and other socials. It also worked diligently to enhance Montclair. Mrs. Denison, wife of Chief Justice John Denison of the Colorado Supreme Court (and early Montclair resident for whom Denison Park is named), organized a beautification committee that annually awarded ten dollar prizes for the best kept lawn,

best flower garden, and most attractive and profitable kitchen garden. In 1912 "after careful consideration," Mrs. Denison's committee chose a neighborhood flower for Montclair -- the red geranium. "It is hoped," the ladies told association members, "that every yard will contain along with other plants at least one bed of geraniums."

Although Montclair no longer has a beautification committee, neighbors are encouraged to show their neighborhood spirit and plant some red geraniums in their front yards.

## Celebrate July 4th in Montclair Park with HMCAI

Please join us for our annual Montclair neighborhood picnic. Food, festivities, & fun!

Monday, July 4th at Montclair Park from 10:30 AM-2:00 PM. Fat City Mardi Gras Band will be playing favorites from 10:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

Festivities include a bike parade, games, live music, a fire truck, and food.

Photos will be posted on our neighborhood website, [HistoricMontclair.org](http://HistoricMontclair.org), and on the HMCAI

Facebook page, "Historic Montclair Community."

Bring a blanket & beverages for the family. It will be hot, bring more than you think you need! Reusable containers are encouraged, trash facilities are minimal.

### EVENT SCHEDULE:

10:30 a.m.: Live music begins

10:45 a.m.: Pet costume contest

11:00 a.m.: Bike parade for the little ones (ages 0-5)

11:15 a.m.: Bike parade for the bigger ones (ages 6-12)

11:30 a.m.: Food service begins

12:30 p.m.: Games begin/fire truck arrives

2:00 p.m.: Picnic ends

**BIKE PARADE RULES:** The Bike Parade is in two heats: one for children 0-5 and one for children 6-12. For everyone's safety, please have your child participate only with his or

her age group. Parents are welcome to push/pull their smaller children as needed. Prizes will be awarded for uniquely decorated bikes! No motorized vehicles, please.

**COST:** If you are a current HMCAI member, your entire household attends for FREE. For those who have not joined HMCAI, the cost for the picnic is \$7/adult (11+) and \$5/child (ages 3-10). Children under age 3 attend at no cost. You may join HMCAI at the picnic. The membership table will be under the trees at the west end of the park. The annual cost is \$40/family and \$20 for seniors. Membership in HMCAI includes many seasonal family activities and two adults-only events.

**\*\*\*\*VOLUNTEERS NEEDED\*\*\*\*** : We are in GREAT need of volunteers for this event! We need volunteers to help with set-up/clean-up, games, the bike parade, food service. Email Valerie Alford at [Valerie@valeriealford.com](mailto:Valerie@valeriealford.com) with your availability, or call Valerie's mobile # 303-641-6823. Please help your neighbors, friends and family enjoy this longtime, treasured community event.

**WEATHER:** Rain or shine, we hope to see you there!

**\*\*\*PET COSTUME CONTEST\*\*\*** For all of you who love their pets there will be a "PET COSTUME EVENT"

Only requirement is for the pet to be leashed and your imagination to go wild. Treats and prizes will be awarded!



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# Montclair School of Academics and Enrichments

By Merritt Pullam



Montclair School of Academics and Enrichment is proud to announce the formal hiring of Principal Daniel Barks. As shared in his bio: Mr. Barks has over 12 years of experience working in Denver Public School and began his teaching journey at Montclair School of Academics and Enrichment! He has served in both elementary and middle schools across the district including various roles as a classroom teacher, instructional coach, program manager, assistant principal and principal resident. In addition to his most recent role as Principal Resident at Marie L. Greenwood Elementary School, Mr. Barks worked for the Multilingual Education Department in Denver Public Schools to train and support teachers in best practices for working with multilingual learners. Welcome Principal Barks!

Outgoing Principal Susan Miller-Curley will be missed, but we wish her well. She has done a fabulous job of keeping the students, staff, and teachers together during her tenure at Montclair. I always appreciated the fact that she was available to anyone who needed a moment to communicate with her.

Montclair.dpsk12.org. is a great resource if you have questions about the school, how to participate as a parent/guardian, or to learn more about the school and our community.

## Schedule Alerts:

- June 1st: Last Day of school for 2022-2023 June 1st
- August 21st: 1st day of school for ECE and 1st - 5th grade students 2023-2024

The end of the 2022-2023 school year is rapidly approaching and we celebrate our 5th graders, most of who have been with us since ECE or kindergarten. This spring it was wonderful to have so many families in our building celebrating our Art Show and International Night. My wife and I are very proud of our fifth grader who has been at Montclair since kindergarten. It has been a pleasure to get to know the teachers and staff throughout the years.

PEAK (Parents, Educators, and Kids) is always looking for volunteers, sponsors, and donations. If you or someone you know would be a good fit to help support our school community via PEAK, please reach out to Devin Lopez at 720-424-5385 or [devin\\_lopez@dpsk12.net](mailto:devin_lopez@dpsk12.net) or myself at 303-419-2622 or [merrittpkw@gmail.com](mailto:merrittpkw@gmail.com). You can help make a difference with the kids, staff, and other parents.

Thank you to all our wonderful teachers, staff, and students that make up our wonderful neighborhood school! Go Cougars! Montclair Rocks Woohah!!!



# All Cycling Records Blown Away on The Montclair Straightaway Track!

By Bill Hansen

The 1890's was the "Golden Age" of the bicycle. High wheeled Velocipedes had been replaced by the chain-driven "Safety Bicycle" in 1885, popularized further by the pneumatic tire in 1888. Bicycle clubs flourished in Denver, such as the Denver Ramblers and the Arapaho Wheel Club, largely made up of wealthy young hobbyists and sports enthusiasts. Both amateur and professional wheelmen began racing these new-fangled contraptions over distances, on straightaways, and, eventually, oval-shaped slanted tracks or early velodromes, with large bleacher seating for cheering spectators of both families and the gambling element. Bicycle racing soon became one of the most popular forms of competitive sports and received widespread national news coverage as various records were made and broken. Cyclists became stars and were eager for notoriety.

The problem, of course, was a suitable road surface. Most city streets and country lanes were virtually impassable much of the time. Undeterred, cyclists created graded tracks of dirt and crushed gravel, rolled smooth for their racing endeavors.

In 1896, the new Montclair Straightaway Track was developed on the windswept rolling plains just east of Montclair. It soon garnered national attention as newspapers splashed headlines of the record-breaking feats of newcomer Stanley M. Barrows, who claimed to have broken several speed records, aided by strong tailwinds from the west greatly enhancing his pedal-power. On March 27, 1896, the daring Barrows bragged to the press of having ridden a mile in 1 minute and 31 seconds, with a 45 to 50 mph "howling windstorm at his back and a cloud of dust in his face- the fastest mile ever made by man or animal". On September 25th, when a "heavy windstorm came down from the mountains" but the "poor condition of the road" prevented a complete mile, he boasted a quarter mile in 15 2/5th seconds- "a mile-a-minute clip"- which earned him a paid endorsement by Palmer Tires in the national Wheelies Magazine.



Barrows' crowning achievement took place on November 5th, 1896, when a particularly fierce windstorm swept across the Front Range. By noon, Barrows secured three "competent witnesses" and two timekeepers and hastened to the track, which was in "excellent condition", with a 50-foot elevation drop in the first half and a 20-foot climb in the last half. With a 100-yard head start, he "whirled through space in the teeth of a great gale" (above), "where the wind had full scourge" and "paced by a hurricane" as some described it, while others characterized it as a "prairie zephyr". As Barrows blew past the finish mark, the timekeepers were stunned by the time of 58 3/5th seconds- a "mile-a-minute record"- a "record few express locomotives could beat". "He rode for life and the world championship at the same time."

Only a few papers tempered their coverage by noting: "It is not official. It never will be. While informal, it is the fastest mile that anyone has ever made on a wheel". In fact, there is no mention of this dubious achievement in any cycling record books. Today's cyclists would scoff at such a self-promoting blowhard bag of wind. But, in 1896, Barrows briefly placed Montclair on the cycling circuit map.

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[denvergov.org/communityacademy](http://denvergov.org/communityacademy)

Have Questions?  
Reach out to Technician Zaornia Parrish  
at [zaornia.parrish@denvergov.org](mailto:zaornia.parrish@denvergov.org) or (720) 930-6218

SCAN ME



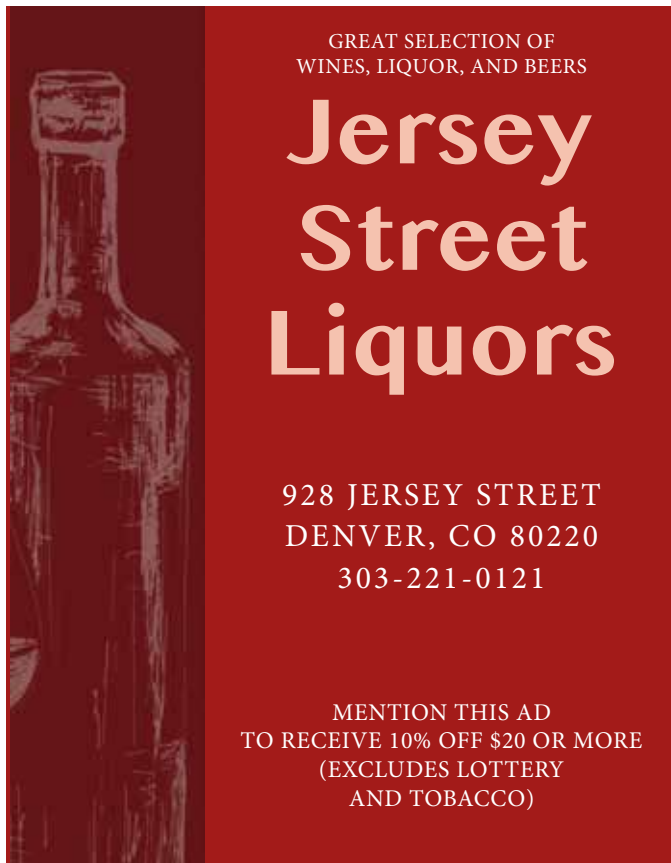
## Pickleball and Community Reminders

### Why No Pickleball on Montclair Park Tennis Court?

Neighbors have asked why pickleball is not allowed on the Montclair tennis court. Pickleball is very loud and the Montclair court is in close proximity to single family homes, which are considered a “protected district” under the Denver zoning code. Protected districts have stricter regulations than other zone districts, including those for noise. Pickleball courts can be found at MLK Jr. Park, Skyland Park, and Eisenhower Park.

### Community Reminders

- Summer is upon us and that means more folks outside at night. Help keep our nighttime streets safe and well lit. Residents are encouraged to keep their porch lights on at night. If you see a street light that is out, please report it to Xcel Energy at [xcelenergy.com](http://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 that loud noises from lawnmowers, power tools, construction equipment, is allowed between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm on weekdays, 8:00 am and 5:00 pm on weekends. Amplified music, human voices and crowd noise is allowed 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.
- Going out of town for summer vacation? Call Denver Police District 2 at 720-913-1000 to place your house on vacation watch so that officers can keep an eye on your house during your absence.
- Report graffiti, potholes, fallen branches, trash, weedy yards, abandoned vehicles by calling 311.

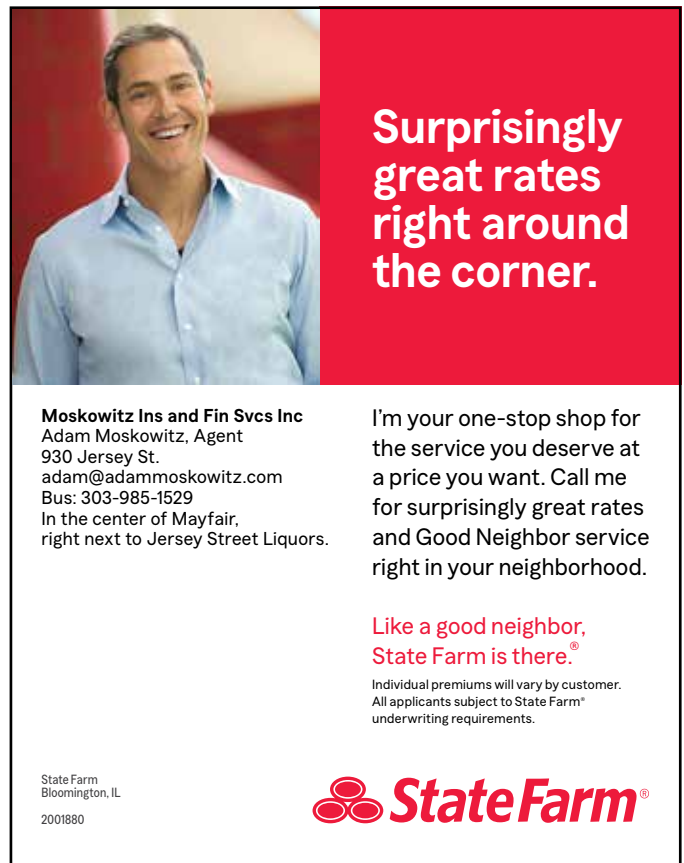


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# Free Trees from The City? Easier Than you Might Think!

By Sara Visser

Maybe you've heard that the City of Denver will give you a tree for your front yard and you'd like one, but you think it could be a hassle. Or maybe this is the first time you've heard of free trees from the city. My family's experience with Denver's free tree program shows that that if you have a little patience, getting a new tree planted is a simple, easy process for property owners. Denver's Forestry Department does all the heavy lifting, digging and planting!

Denver's Be A Smart Ash program is part of the City Forester's plan to help protect Denver's precious urban canopy, which helps beautify and cool the city. The program has three goals:

1. Protect trees against pests
2. Plant new trees in the public right-of-way or replace ash trees that are at risk of the destructive emerald ash borer
3. Take care of existing trees

My family wanted a new tree in the sunny, east facing part of our front yard. I went online to [www.beasmartash.org/free-trees](http://www.beasmartash.org/free-trees), read the eligibility points to see if we might qualify and completed a free tree request. Within a few weeks, I received an email with this checklist of what to expect next:

"Checklist (each step completed by the Office of the City Forester):

- ✓ Confirmation of request
- \_\_\_ Request for utilities to be marked
- \_\_\_ Placement of flags/white paint where trees can be planted and species recommendations
- \_\_\_ Scheduling of tree planting
- \_\_\_ Tree planting day & care instructions"

Then we waited. I applied for the tree in late July and it was planted in early November - Forestry typically plants these trees April-June and September-November, weather depending. During the months in between, workers came by to confirm that our property qualified and complete the checklist.

I happened to be at home the day the Forestry worker came by to look at the location and suggest species, but that's not a requirement. He and I talked about tree positioning and what type of tree would be best. For us, that meant a hearty tree that can take lots of sun and summer heat. And then he placed a white flag in our yard.... the future location of our new burr oak tree! Excitement was building.

Quickly after that visit, I received an email confirming the date our tree would be planted. On the promised date, Forestry workers dug the hole, planted the tree - including mulch for the base - and left us watering instructions. That's it!

Now, a year-and-a-half later, after following the care instructions - including wrapping the trunk in the winter to protect it from cold- we are thrilled to see our tree grow taller and stronger and starting to give nice shade. To learn more about the program, including size/types of trees available and other FAQs, visit [www.beasmartash.org/free-trees](http://www.beasmartash.org/free-trees).

## From the Archives



1400 Oneida St., 1976. Photo by Thomas J. Noel, Denver Public Library Digital Collection

## Baseball in Denver

By Erick Stragand, Montclair Resident and Baseball Nerd

As the Colorado Rockies continue to celebrate their 30th Anniversary, fan favorites like Andres Galarraga, Dante Bichette, Eric Young, and even Charlie Hayes come to mind. All of those guys turned in memorable performances at the plate in 1993, but who was the Rockies' first pitching star? That title probably belongs to Armando Reynoso.

A native of Jalisco, Mexico and a product of the pitching-rich Atlanta Braves system in the early 90's, he was selected by the Rockies in the expansion draft. Reynoso was left unprotected by the Braves because they had a logjam of young pitchers on their staff: guys like Tom Glavine, John Smoltz, and they soon added Greg Maddux. Most likely, Reynoso would've been lost in the shuffle in Atlanta.

Reynoso began the 1993 season at the Rockies' Triple-A (minor league) affiliate, the Colorado Springs Sky Sox. However, by May he was firmly established in the Rockies' rotation. He quietly became a pillar of the Rockies' pitching staff, as he finished the season with a 12-11 and 11th place in Rookie of the Year balloting. More impressive was that he finished the year with a 4.00 ERA. An amazing accomplishment considering that the Rockies played their home games in Mile High Stadium with its cavernous outfield. Not to mention that this was a full decade before the Rockies began using a humidor on all of their baseballs. Never a strikeout pitcher, Reynoso was more of a flyball pitcher while with the Rockies.

He was also the first Rockies starter to rock the mustache. Notable, because in the early 90's, everybody seemed to have a goatee!

In 1994, Reynoso was the Rockies' Opening Day starter; usually an honor given to the team's best pitcher. Reynoso seemed to be trucking along at his 1993 rate, but during his ninth start of the year, his arm snapped during a pitch and his season was over. He went into a rehab program and made it back at the second half of the 1995 season to join the Rockies. It was during this season that Reynoso made his only postseason appearance-- a scoreless inning of relief during Game 4 of the NLDS... a series which the Rockies lost to Reynoso's old employers, the Braves.

After a full year in 1996, Reynoso was traded to the New York Mets. Reynoso arrived in New York as his arm problems resurfaced. Although he did manage to return to Coors Field and lead the Mets to a 4-3 win over his old team. He managed only half-seasons in 97 and 98 and was left to leave as a free agent. Now in his early 30's and

with arm problems (elbow and shoulder), the Arizona Diamondbacks took a chance on Reynoso and brought him into their fold. Reynoso had a comeback year of sorts in '99, going 10-6 on a staff dominated by Randy Johnson.

He turned in a full year in 2000, but injuries surfaced again in the 2001 season. It was during 2001 that Reynoso had the "honor" of surrendering Albert Pujols' first MLB homer. Reynoso was still with the D-backs for 2002, but spent most of it at Triple A or on the disabled list. He retired after 2002 and returned to his homeland of Mexico to begin a coaching career. In 2009, he was on Mexico's coaching staff for the World Baseball Classic. In 2010, he was selected to the "Salon de la Fama", the Mexican baseball hall of fame.

Possibly, if it had not been for the expansion draft and the Rockies, Reynoso may never have gotten his chance in the big leagues.



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## Restaurant Review- Cucina Bella

By Lynn VanderWielen

If your family is like mine, you have a short list of regularly visited restaurants. It is time to add a new place to the list - Cucina Bella. In an unassuming storefront nestled next to a Subway and a liquor store, you may have never noticed this hidden gem tucked away while heading east on Alameda.

The restaurant itself is impeccably clean (even the bathrooms!!) and it feels welcoming and inviting. The straightforward menu offers a few starters, salads, pastas, pizzas, and main dishes. We ordered a pizza for the kids and I tried the arugula salad - everything was fresh and delicious. The pizza had a subtle garlicky flavor to the crust, which was perfectly crispy and I was happy to eat the crust segments left in the wake of the hungry kids. The only downside was a lack of a kid's menu with smaller portions, though the waitstaff did allow us to order a simple pasta with marinara sauce. The highlight of the meal was the list of dessert options made in-house including biscotti, chocolate cannoli, panna cotta, peach budino, and tiramisu. The peach budino was amazing - a dense bread pudding topped with a flavorful orange caramel sauce that I could eat by the spoonful (and I did).

Next time your family is hungry or you are doing date night, hop in the car and make the short drive down to Cucina Bella at 9600 E Alameda Ave. (at Dayton), but don't forget to grab the coupon from the back of this issue! They also are on GrubHub and Doordash - for those of you who don't want to change out of your pajamas.



Cucina Bella's Peach Budino



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# Summer Gardening 2023

By Gail Barry

Gardening is great for your mind and soul as well as being pretty good exercise. If you are new to gardening, there are some items to consider. Location, soil condition, desired plants and their growing requirements, already started plants vs. seeds, water, and weather. Our part of Denver tends to have heavy clay soils, which are very fertile when "opened up" by digging and incorporating organic matter into them. In a new plot, start by digging up the soil at least 6" deep and breaking it up. Then spread a 1-2" thick layer of compost over the area and dig again, thoroughly combining the compost with the original soil. I have been working on my soil for many years and still add compost to my soil every year. Another possibility is to make (or buy) raised beds and add all new amended soil to the bed, or use large pots.

Most, but not all, plants like sun. Colorado sun is very strong because we are at high altitude, so some plants that like full sun in other parts of the country, might prefer part sun in our gardens. We are also very dry; lack of humidity means we often need to water more and use a 3-4" thick mulch to conserve moisture and keep down weeds. Flowers, vegetables, and herbs can be started from seed but you need to start early. I seed most cold hardy vegetables in the ground outside, except for the cabbage family (broccoli, kale, cabbage, Brussel sprouts and

cauliflower) where already developed plants tend to do better. I grow all the warm season plants from seed inside and plant them out after fear of frost is gone. You can also buy most plants, already started, at a garden center. Some flower plants will also grow readily from seed. If you are planting seeds outside, be sure to keep the soil moist until they germinate. Remember that you can kill plants by overwatering as well as underwatering. One way to tell if you need to water is to take a screwdriver, or other long, sharp instrument, and sample the soil several inches under the ground. If the deep soil is dry, water, if the soil is moist wait. The top of the soil doesn't represent the soil moisture where the roots are.

If you are interested in trying new ornamental plants, be sure to check out the plants on the CSU Plant Select website. All have been developed for Colorado.

Compost bins are now available for free. Those who read my articles know I have long advocated using these bins in addition to having your own compost pile. Unfortunately, some people cannot follow directions, and have caused contamination of the process. As a result, we have been asked to stop putting paper products in these bins. I am hopeful that will change in the future.

I wish for a gardening season with no hail and few beetles. I hope you, too have a successful year of growing.

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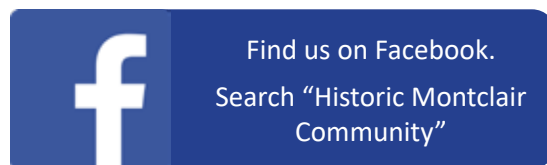
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# Montclair Real Estate Snapshot

by Valerie Alford

ACTIVE 12, COMING SOON 1, PENDING 11, SOLD 14, Average list price \$929,646., Average close price \$1,006,214. Average close to list is 99%+. Average days on market 30. Price pr sq ft. above grade \$594. Average price per total \$426.

Address	Beds	Bath	Above Grade Finished Area	Total s.f.	Original List Price	Close Price
655 Jersey Street	5	5	2,860	3,703	2050000	\$1,975,000
1076 Jasmine Street	4	4	3,067	4,533	1700000	\$1,660,000
1165 Locust Street	5	5	2,634	3,925	1600000	\$1,584,000
1130 N Monaco Parkway	3	2	1,617	2,462	1050000	\$1,075,000
1340 Monaco Parkway	4	3	2,123	3,039	950000	\$950,000
1270 Jasmine Street	4	2	1,146	2,292	950000	\$860,000
1461 Monaco Parkway	3	3	1,200	2,224	875000	\$850,000
1117 Pontiac Street	3	2	1,406	1,977	875000	\$840,000
787 Poplar Street	3	3	1,467	1,467	798000	\$798,000
1255 Kearney Street	3	2	1,055	2,110	725000	\$780,000
1360 Magnolia Street	3	2	1,680	1,680	738000	\$725,000
1260 Ivanhoe Street	3	2	1,618	1,618	650000	\$700,000
7135 E 11th Avenue	3	2	807	1,460	675000	\$675,000
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