A walk around Mayfair

By Andrew Sanders, a Mayfair Neighbor

A walk around Mayfair

These days with the endless doom and gloom news cycle, it’s pretty easy to get depressed at the state of the world: COVID, politics, Coldplay insisting on releasing new music; it can get pretty bleak looking at our screens. But while it is easy to focus on the negative, it is really much more fun to focus on the positive.

The Mayfair neighborhood is a pretty special place in that it is a very neighborly neighborhood. Walking around the area it is a common sight to see people greeting each other, stopping their walks with their dogs to have a chat. I’ve lived in a few places in Colorado and, I can promise you, this isn’t as common as we would like to think. So I thought it would be lovely to take you on a tour around the neighborhood.

Author’s Note: Before I jump in, I have a confession. After my blockbuster exposé on unleashed dogs in Mayfair Park I was trying to think of what my next piece was going to be and, I’ll confess, the state of the world was not helping me come up with topics. But, as a massive Beatles fan listening to Penny Lane, their ode to their area of Liverpool, it struck me. I should do the same for Mayfair. Originally I was going to rewrite the lyrics, but I didn’t fancy dealing with Paul McCartney’s lawyers, so you’re getting regular prose instead.
CALENDAR

save the date

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS:
The Mayfair Neighbors board meeting takes place the first Monday of each month from 7-8:30 p.m. All Mayfair residents are welcome. If you would like to make a presentation to the Board, please contact Patricia Mulligan or Leslie Reingold at mayfairneighbors@gmail.com. Please email to confirm meeting venue if you want to attend and/or present.
- Monday, Sept. 12
- No October meeting
- Monday, Nov. 7
- No December Meeting

SEPTEMBER
2nd Annual Taste of Mayfair
Saturday, Sept. 17
All day event
Jersey Shoppette, 900 Jersey St.
The 2nd Annual Taste of Mayfair will follow up on 2021’s great initial success. The 2021 taste was well supported by sponsors, vendors, musicians, and attendees alike. This year’s event promises to be bigger, better and more fun than ever.

OCTOBER
Fall Shred-a-Thon
Saturday, Oct. 1
9 a.m. to noon
Mayfair Plaza, 14th Avenue and Krameria Street
Sort through those piles and files and then bring your unwanted documents for shredding and recycling to the parking

Fall Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, Oct. 11
Check for more information on Mayfair neighbors’ social media sites or the MNI website.

Submit your Letter to the Editor and/or Photos
Mayfair Neighbors welcomes comments and feedback for possible publication as a “Letter to the Editor” in The Mayfair Mirror as well as photos of Mayfair, Denver and Colorado. Please send submissions to Mayfair Neighbors, Inc., PO Box 200306, Denver 80220-0306 or mayfairneighbors@gmail.com.
Content will be reviewed and/or edited for clarity and space. Only those submissions that foster a sense of community and respect will be considered for inclusion.

MISSION:
Mayfair Neighbors, Inc.
“To advance the common interests of the neighborhood by initiating and coordinating actions for the physical, economic, civic, and cultural improvement of Mayfair.”

2022 OFFICERS
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Leslie Reingold, Secretary
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For advertising or story ideas, contact: mayfairneighbors@gmail.com.

Mayfair Neighbors, Inc.
PO Box 200306
Denver, CO 80220-0306

The Mayfair Mirror is a free publication that comes out four times a year in the spring, summer, fall and winter. Circulation is 4,500. To see archived issues and for more information about MNI, please visit

www.MayfairDenver.org

Make a difference – support your neighborhood!
Join Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. or make a donation to support our events and publication of The Mayfair Mirror. We have a variety of memberships – all are tax deductible: Scan QR Code to the right!
☐ Senior (65+) $25  ☐ Household $30

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www.MayfairDenver.org
Beginning on my street, I am blessed with wonderful neighbors. I’ve never lived on a street where all my neighbors have randomly ended up in my backyard for drinks on a weekend. It’s not an uncommon sight to see one of my neighbors out in their front yard having a drink and in the blink of an eye half the street is out there with drinks standing around chatting. Even more fun is when other neighbors from a street over see this and come and join in. It’s how neighbors become friends.

Speaking of neighbors becoming friends, the lovely couple on 12th who have one adorable little puppy. Our dog cannot walk past their place without needing to run into their driveway to say hello to the puppy. Through our dog’s insistence they open the gate to the backyard and let the dogs run round. Walking past their house it is not uncommon to see other dogs becoming friends with theirs.

Not only are we friendly to the neighbors we know, but we’re friendly to neighbors we don’t know. The house at 11th and Jersey that created the mini zoo at the start of COVID and also has dog treats out all the time. Down the block from them, the house on the corner has wrapped ribbons around their trees in the colors of the pride flag. And, as you walk around the neighborhood, there’s an abundance of Love is Love, and Hate Has No Home Here signs. Seeing these small tokens of support for one another really has a huge impact. It’s nice to live in a neighborhood that cares.

My favorite thing around the neighborhood are the free little libraries. These things are brilliant! When COVID was at its height and we were all keeping our distance from one another, it was a delight to see these things full everyday with different books. And they’re not just full of novels and James Patterson paperbacks, but guide books for multitudes of hobbies. I’ve seen books on brewing your own beer (which I totally took), building your own guitar, cross stitch, baking. It turns out we’re a curious lot around here. And the little library on Holly with a shorter one for kids books: adorable!

And finally we have some great businesses and restaurants here. We’ve got Bertha’s, a great neighborhood joint for delicious American food. Down from them there’s Padoca serving up roasted Brazilian coffee. Over on 13th you have Mozart’s with its very friendly bar staff and, in the parking lot of King Soopers, Little Dragon has some of the best Chinese takeout around (so much so our non-Mayfair friends make the trip to pick up from there). This is just to name a few.

I hope this little tour around our neighborhood has brought you joy and distraction from the rest of the non-Mayfair world. So please, head out and say hi to one another, give a smile, share a drink. Do something that shows we care for one another because to quote a different song by those lads from Liverpool: And in the end, the love you take, is equal to the love you make.

Bio

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name’s Andrew and I am excited to have this opportunity to contribute to the Mayfair Mirror. I’ve lived in Mayfair for seven years and absolutely love it, so I am glad I have a way to contribute to it in a small way.

When not writing for the Mirror (or sitting in my basement doing my day job), my passion is brewing my own beer. When my neighbors hear ‘90s/’00s pop-punk or classic rock being played loudly in our backyard they know I’m working on a new batch… and they’ll have a new beer to drink soon.

My wife and I have a 2-year-old puppy who believes every rabbit in the neighborhood wants to be his friend. We’ve not had the heart to break it to him that they don’t.
Hello Mayfair Neighbors! Let’s say goodbye to the scorching temperatures of this summer and welcome to the beautiful and milder days of autumn. Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. has several events planned for September and October, and we hope to see you at each one.

**Taste of Mayfair** on Saturday, Sept. 17, from noon-6 p.m. at the Jersey Shoppette (Ninth Avenue and Jersey Street). This community festival was so fun last year, and the planners are preparing even more fabulous food, art, and entertainment this year. The event is sponsored by US Bank, Mayfair Neighbors, Inc., and many other local businesses. A percentage of the event’s proceeds will be donated to the Denver Dumb Friends League. Cheers to our Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. board member Patti Shyne for conceiving this celebration, and especially for producing the Taste of Mayfair by enlisting the cooperation of so many local organizations and business owners.

Our **Fall Shred-a-Thon**, Saturday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, is always a big success as folks get rid of their personal documents in a safe, on-the-spot shredding truck. If you’re a paid member of Mayfair Neighbors, you may bring up to three bags or boxes to be shredded at no charge. Otherwise, it’s a minimal charge of $15. The proceeds from this event help support all our other events during the year. Thanks to organizer and long-time neighbor Jackie Medford!

The **Mayfair Annual Meeting** will be on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Palmer Elementary School auditorium. We encourage all neighbors to attend this open meeting to learn about events and projects happening in this area.

I’ve been paying attention to the new proposed Kearney/Krameria Bikeway project. This project is funded by the Elevate Denver Bond Program approved by voters in 2017. It aims to connect six neighborhoods from north to south, including Mayfair. The bikeway will pass nearby or through parks, schools, Colfax businesses, and (through a link) to the Cherry Creek Trail. The purpose of the Bikeway is to improve crossings and safety for all modes of transit.

The roads will be shared by bikes and local cars, aiming for low speeds and low volume. These goals will be accomplished through improved signage, pavement markings, and traffic calming measures. The main emphasis is on safety, but the roads will not be dedicated just to bikes.

One technique proposed is “daylighting” intersections, which means requiring cars to park a bit farther back from the corner so that bicyclists can have a clearer view of oncoming traffic. Another proposal is to install rectangular rapid red-flashing beacons that can be activated by pedestrians or bicyclists to allow safe passage across the street.

What do you think of this proposal? Learn more at their website: denvermoves.konveio.com/kearney-krameria-neighborhood-bikeway or email them at Bikes@denvergov.org. You can leave comments at bit.ly/kearney/comment.

I hope everyone was able to attend the Concert in the Park on Aug. 27. One of my favorite celebrations, for sure! At the concert you had the opportunity to join Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. or to renew your membership. Joining or renewing now will extend your membership through all of 2023, which includes participating in the Shred-a-Thon for free. Please go to our website at mayfairdenver.org for information about membership.

As always, we need more civic-minded folks to join our Board of Directors. We have a terrific team and our projects and events couldn’t happen without every single person. We meet once a month; please contact us at mayfairneighbors@gmail.com if you would like to learn more.
In 2023, City and County Denver trash collection customers will begin receiving weekly recycling and compost collection services to reduce the amount of trash the city sends to the landfill and the production of harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you to those who met with the Climate Action, Sustainability & Resiliency and Department of Transportation and Infrastructure teams earlier this year to provide valuable feedback!

**What you need to know:**

Weekly recycling collection service will start in January 2023.

To pay for the expanded services, customers will be charged a fee based on their trash cart size, ranging from $9 to $21 per month (the smaller the trash cart, the lower the fee). Weekly recycling and composting collection services will be included at no extra charge.

Billing will start the first quarter of 2023; current compost customers will transition from a compost bill to a trash bill.

Weekly compost collection service will roll out citywide over the course of 2023.

Customers will pay a reduced billing rate until their compost service starts and will have an opportunity to downsize their trash cart after their composting service starts.

DOTI will provide customers information about compost service start dates and how to recycle and compost.

**Rebate Application:**

Rebate applications are now live for eligible Denver residents. The rebates will help offset the cost to pay for trash collection services. Denver is one of only a few cities in the United States to provide financial assistance on trash services for low-income households.

Residents who meet the criteria below are eligible to apply:

- You live in the City and County of Denver
- You receive trash and recycling collection services from Denver’s Solid Waste Management division (at a single-family home, duplex or apartment in a complex with seven or fewer units)
- You have an annual household income within these limits:
  - 1 person: up to $44,016
  - 2 people: up to $50,034
  - 3 people: up to $56,592
  - 4 people: up to $62,880
  - 5 people: up to $67,910
  - 6 people: up to $72,941
  - 7 people: up to $77,971
  - 8 people: up to $83,001
  - 9 people: up to $88,032
  - 10 people: up to $93,062
  - 11 people: up to $98,092
  - 12 people: up to $103,123

Residents can apply as well as get more information about the program at www.denvergov.org/expandedcollection. To request a hard copy application or to receive help completing the application, call (720) 944-3350 or email trashrebate@denvergov.org.

www.MayfairDenver.org
The leaves are starting to change into beautiful colors of amber and crimson, the summer’s relentless heat is fading into crisp Fall air, and Halloween and Thanksgiving are just around the corner. This is a season that can be magical for many of us. One that emphasizes spending time with family and friends, breaking out the flannels, and heading up to the mountains to experience our state’s breathtaking scenery. This picturesque reality is true for so many of us, but for the older adults in our communities, the impending inundation of leaves and yard work can make this time incredibly stressful. As we age, simple tasks like raking the leaves or bending down to weed a garden can be daunting or even impossible. That is where we come in at A Little Help, our volunteers bridge the gap between what used to be and what is still possible.

Twice a year, in the spring and in the fall, our locations across the state have two huge volunteer-based days of yard clean-up called Service Saturdays. This year in Denver, Service Saturday will be held on Nov. 12. Hundreds of volunteers from Colorado communities come together to serve our members to make sure that any yard work that they are no longer able to do themselves is taken care of before winter. Beyond just the yardwork, our volunteers from Service Saturdays often form great connections with the older adults they are serving.

We have had a little help from schools, faith-based groups, and businesses, as well as friends, family, and civic groups. The common thread for all of these people is their desire to make the world a better place for their older adult neighbors who are so often marginalized and are left feeling isolated and lonely.

You can help to bring back the magic of autumn to your older adult neighbors in the Mayfair area where our volunteers have served over 140 older adults. Sign up your group for our Nov. 12 Denver Service Saturday on our website at alittlehelp.org/servicesaturdays. If you have any questions about registering, contact our Program Director Tanya Matthias at 720-817-4744.

The impact that Service Saturdays has on so many of our older adults cannot be overstated. When describing the help that she had received, one of our members said, “A Little Help has been our saving grace for years. My husband passed away last July, and I recognized that I could call on you folks for so much.”

You can call our office number at 720-242-9032 if you are an older adult or have an older adult family member or friend who is interested in starting our membership application process.

More about us

A Little Help is a grassroots organization founded in 2005 by neighbors in the Washington Park Neighborhood of Denver who realized that older adults often need just a bit of help to maintain their homes and yards. We are completely volunteer-based. Our volunteers serve their older adult neighbors through yard work, transportation,
and friendly visits, among several other things. In the 17 years since our founding, we have expanded throughout the Metro Denver area, into Jefferson County, Northern Colorado (Fort Collins, Berthoud, and Loveland), and to the Western Slope (Grand Junction and the Roaring Fork Valley). We are proud to serve around 1,600 older adult members across the state through our 3,000 volunteers across our three distinct areas.

A cottontail of a tale

By Ron Busse, A Mayfair Neighbor

It was mid-May when I first received a visit from this little cotton-tailed bunny. Up until then, I had viewed little but interesting wildlife from my Mayfair apartment of nine years. Lots of entertaining squirrels, a wide variety of birds, and every few years an occasional bunny. (I am visually impaired, but I’m sure I could spot something bigger, like a lost mountain goat.)

This was different, though. For such a young bunny, it seemed as docile as the aforementioned mountain goat, calm and unmoving when it spotted me at my backdoor. So, I put out some carrots I had on hand and named it Peter. (And if it’s a girl, Peterette.) For weeks, Peter would visit almost daily and I wondered why he was always alone. Surely he must have a mother and siblings living someplace nearby.

Peter started showing up more in the front yard. My carrots had since morphed into a daily feast which now included celery, kale, and a fresh bowl of water. (My dad calls it the Busse Bunny Buffet.) For the amount of veggies I was putting out each day, I was certain other bunnies had to be coming by at their leisure to nibble. Surely, little Peter couldn’t be eating all that by himself.

Then suddenly, early one Saturday afternoon while sitting in the front yard reading, two bigger bunnies darted across the lawn in front of me in a playful game of chase. A third bunny followed at a slower pace, not as interested. The game of chase ensued between the two bunnies, taking them comically around trees, back across the lawn, across the street and back, around more trees and bushes, all in a matter of seconds! I didn’t see Peter that day, but now the rabbits had been pulled out of the hat, so to speak. I was sure they were all enjoying my fresh veggies.

But it is little Peter (or Peterette) who hangs around here the most, which makes him one smart bunny, knowing he can hop on over to his favorite buffet anytime!
Another great year for the Park Hill Garden Walk

We are thrilled to announce another successful year for the 2022 Park Hill Garden Walk. We thought our record-breaking success in 2021 might have been the result of us all being couped up due to Covid restrictions. However, we are elated to announce that 2022 proved to be another strong year. Total revenue came in just under $17,000, which is about 8% lower than 2021 but still a big success.

This success would not be possible without the small village of people who make it happen. We would like to offer our sincere and deepest gratitude to all involved in this year’s event, including seven gardeners, Denver Urban Gardens, the Colorado State University Master Gardeners, our sponsors, numerous volunteers, our ticket sales partners and approximately 700 attendees. Thank you ALL! This event would not be possible without each and every one of you.

We would like to give a special shout out to our garden photographer, Ed Demafiles. Ed graciously donated his time and skills to the Garden Walk by photographing each of the gardens as well as the gardeners. His work is beautiful. Check him out at edwindemafilesphotography.zenfolio.com. Thank you Ed.

The Park Hill Garden Walk committee is made up of just eight people who are extremely dedicated to this event and work for months to make the Garden Walk a reality. If you are interested in joining this incredible group of volunteers, please contact our committee co-chairs, Carla Finch at carla.j.finch@gmail.com or Patty Mead at prmead416@gmail.com.

This event raises funds to support the Greater Park Hill Community, Inc., a volunteer-based registered neighborhood organization that promotes the character and vibrancy of Park Hill through its resources, information and advocacy, all while preserving the quality of life and the history of the neighborhood through community participation. Learn more and get involved in the Greater Park Hill Community at www.greaterparkhill.org.

Seeking gardens for 2023 and 2024

Identifying gardens is a key component of the Park Hill Garden Walk that requires year-round commitment. Our committee co-chairs, Carla and Patty, are continually looking for potential gardens. Ideally, we would like to lock up the 2023 list of gardens now so that we can take photos of the gardens in bloom. These photos are used in the brochure, articles and advertisements that are produced in winter and spring months, which is not a good time of year to get photos of the gardens. So, if you are interested or if you know someone with a beautiful yard who we should contact,
The Taste of Mayfair is coming to the Jersey Shoppette on Sept. 17

Mark your calendars and enjoy an early fall afternoon at the Taste of Mayfair 2022, which will take place on Saturday, Sept. 17, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Jersey Shoppette, Ninth Avenue and Jersey Street.

We will be welcoming back many of the unique vendors who participated last year and are excited to have new vendors, who will add to the festivities. Many of the restaurants at Jersey Shoppette will be cooking up awesome menu selections, and you can sit and enjoy the talented musicians and dancers, lots of food, drink, community….. and fun.

See you there!

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303-394-6002
www.pilatesbodiesofdenver

Again, thank you ALL. We hope to see each of you in 2023. Happy gardening.

Seeking Park Hill Garden Walk volunteers

We are continually looking for volunteers to work the day of the event. Volunteers work in half-day (three-hour) shifts so they can attend the Garden Walk the other half of the day. Volunteers also get a free ticket to the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kate Blanas at klblanas@gmail.com.

Please reach out to Carla Finch at carla.j.finch@gmail.com or Patty Mead at prmead416@gmail.com.
A reader shared the following story:

I received an email from a friend checking in on me which wasn’t unexpected as we often email to check in on each other. As typical, I sent a friendly response and received this back:

I’m so happy to hear from you. I need to get an Apple gift card for my Niece It’s her birthday but I can’t do this now. As probably heard, I’ve been having some health issues and was in the hospital lately. I call it a “triple whammy”- cataract surgery, and left hip to knee problems-and will be going back for tests on Wednesday. But i am definitely feeling better than I was!. Can you help me get the card from any grocery store around you? I’ll make sure I reimburse as soon as I am fully okay.

I immediately knew it was not an email from my friend as I noted all the typos along with the odd ask in general. I called my friend directly and confirmed that she had been hacked. Would you write about hacking, how it happens, what to do etc.?

Our Scam Spotter responds to this common scam below:

Dear Reader,

The first clue this was not your friend was to notice all the typos and poor grammar. The second clue, and this is a big one, anytime you are asked by anyone to buy a gift card, be suspicious. If it is a friend asking for it, as in this case, call the friend directly and confirm. No legitimate company will ever ask for payment via a gift card. Congratulations on being savvy and calling out the scam and thank you for sharing your experience with us.

Sincerely,

The Scam Spotter

How does email get hacked?

• You were tricked into giving a scammer access through a phishing attack.
• You forgot to sign out of a public or shared device.
• Hackers stole your information over a compromised Wi-Fi network.
• Your account information was leaked in a data breach.
• Malware was installed on your device when you clicked on an unsecured link.

In general, just opening an email isn’t going to get you hacked. However, clicking on links or attachments in an email can be very dangerous.

What happens if you click on a phishing link?

Clicking on a phishing link or opening an attachment in one of these messages may install malware, like viruses, spyware, or ransomware, on your device. This is all done behind the scenes, so it is undetectable to the average user.

Spammers can tell if you open an email when you or your email application interacts with the message. When your webmail or mobile email app automatically downloads things like photos or graphics, the spam sender immediately knows their content was viewed.
Can someone hack your Facebook by messaging you?

There are many ways your Facebook account can get hacked. Perhaps someone is sending messages on your behalf or posts something pretending to be you.

If you can still log in to your account, here’s what to do if you think you’ve been hacked:

Change your password right away. If you can’t log in, request a password reset. If that doesn’t work, it’s possible that someone has changed the email address on the account. Here is a way of dealing with that. Report to Facebook, so they can help stop it from happening to others.

On your profile page, go to Settings & Privacy, then Security & Login, and see if you recognize every location or device listed. If you don’t recognize a location or a device, press the three-dot menu and select “not you?” This will log you out and will help you further secure your account.

Be wary when clicking on a message in Facebook Messenger. If your Messenger gets hacked, the hacker can gain access to your account and log in to review the information in your messages or send messages individually to people in your contacts, pretending to be you.

Do you suspect you’ve been scammed or exploited? Report it to us by calling the DA’s Fraud Hotline at 720-913-9179.
Denver to raise its local minimum wage to $17.29 per hour in 2023

The City and County of Denver’s local minimum wage will increase to $17.29 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2023. The minimum wage for tipped food and beverage workers will be $14.27 per hour provided they earn at least $3.02 in actual tips. In 2023, Denver will be among several dozen cities nationwide with minimum wages over $17 per hour, including several whose minimum wages are already over $17 and who will increase above $18 for some or all workers.

“At a time when inflation and rising costs are impacting working families everywhere, this increase in our minimum wage, which is based on the Consumer Price Index, will help those who need it most,” Mayor Michael Hancock said. “We know this will put additional burdens on our local businesses, but this is an important tool to support vulnerable workers across the city.”

The scheduled increase comes from the city’s local minimum wage ordinance that was approved unanimously by Denver City Council in November 2019. The ordinance, sponsored by At-Large Councilwoman Robin Kniech and Mayor Hancock, aims to help stabilize minimum wage workers and their families who keep our city running but who are falling behind due to the rising cost of living and inflation. This minimum wage increase reflects what we are seeing in our historically competitive job market, with many employers already paying at or above this wage to attract and keep workers.

The law took effect Jan. 1, 2020, and called for three scheduled increases that took the local minimum wage from the statewide minimum of $11.10 in 2019 to Denver’s local minimum wage of $15.87 in 2022. Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, the legislation requires annual increases based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure that wages keep up with Denver’s actual cost of living. Using the methodology laid out in the ordinance, which was based on how changes to the statewide minimum wage are also calculated, Denver’s Department of Finance determined that the CPI for the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood area was 8.94%, resulting in the increase from $15.87 to $17.29 for 2023.

Kniech added that, “CPI increases are used in the vast majority of state and local minimum wages across the country. They are designed to do just what this increase will for Denver workers: help them keep up with the cost of living rather than falling behind as prices increase.”

Denver’s local minimum wage is enforced by the Denver Labor Division of the Office of Denver Auditor Timothy O’Brien. Each year the offices of the Auditor, City Council and the Mayor collaborate to educate and spread the word about the local minimum wage coming into effect for the coming year to help employers plan and prepare. “Education is the best way to assure broad compliance with this still new ordinance,” O’Brien said.
More information about Denver’s minimum wage is at DenverWages.org and at Denvergov.org/LivableWage

Background on the CPI methodology used to calculate the minimum wage:

The state legislation allowing local minimum wages in Colorado requires any wage changes to take effect on Jan. 1, the same date adjustments are made to the statewide minimum wage. In order to meet this deadline, a CPI calculation available mid-year of the year prior to the change in wage is required. Denver adopted the approach used by the state of Colorado, which compares the first half of the prior year to the first half of the current year to calculate a CPI adjustment in time for a fall announcement. So, to set the 2023 wage level, Denver’s Department of Finance compared the CPI-W for the first half of 2022 with CPI-W for the first half of 2021. The corresponding percentage increase is applied to the current wage of $15.87 to calculate the new, CPI-W adjusted wage for 2023.

Considerations for employers

Consistent with state law, Denver’s local minimum wage allows a reduced wage to be paid to tipped workers in the food and beverage sector only. Employers in the food and beverage industry may claim up to $3.02 per hour for a tip credit, if they have documentation showing their employee received at least that amount in tips. If the full tip credit is applied, the minimum wage rate would be $14.27 per hour. However, the tip credit does not apply to workers in other industries, even if they sometimes receive tips.

Employers with locations near the border of the City and County of Denver: “Employers should not rely on their mailing address to determine whether or not to pay Denver’s local minimum wage,” O’Brien said. “We recommend using our regional address finder on our website to check if work was performed within the boundaries of the City and County of Denver.”

Kiddie Academy of Denver - Boulevard One is now enrolling

“A new childcare facility has arrived in the area! Every day your child’s imagination grows and their curiosity gathers momentum - Kiddie Academy of Denver-Boulevard One empowers and celebrates all of it. Our Life Essentials® learning approach and curriculum encourages children to explore and progress in their own way, and at their own pace. At Kiddie Academy of Denver-Boulevard One your child will grow socially, physically, emotionally and intellectually. Our highly trained teachers are there every step of the way to guide, nurture and cultivate your child’s development.

To inquire or enroll, please contact us at 720-702-0222 or on our website https://kiddieacademy.com/academies/denver-boulevard-one/”
Mayfair Liquors owner passing the torch (er...the bottle!) after 45 years

After 45 years at Mayfair Liquors, my retirement is imminent! As much as I am welcoming this upcoming change, I have to admit it is a little bittersweet. I am immensely thankful for all of the memories and many years of serving our customers - all of you, our faithful patrons. You have made this job enjoyable for so many years. We have been privileged to support many charitable organizations in our neighborhood and city, which was made possible by our customers’ support over the years.

I am pleased to announce my official retirement will be Aug. 18, 2022. The new owner of Mayfair Liquors is someone you are likely to be familiar with, my long-time General Manager Matthew Amerson. Mayfair Liquors has been my family-owned business for over 63 years, and I am very proud that Matthew will continue the legacy of being an independent, family-owned small business since 1959! Matthew is an extremely bright and talented individual and very experienced in all aspects of our industry. He and I have worked together for over 10 years, and I am confident that your future is in good hands.

I look forward to this next phase of life with my wife, Cris, who has been the backbone of our home and family life all these years. She is truly a marvel and I couldn’t have done it without her love and support. To learn a little more about Mayfair Liquors’ history, visit bit.ly/thomretirement to see our 50th Anniversary article.

Cheers and best wishes to you all, Thom Noller

History of Mayfair Liquors

Over the past 63 years, Mayfair has become one of Denver’s favorite locations for discovering new wines and microbrews, Colorado and international craft spirits, and friendly and knowledgeable customer service. Located at 1385 Krameria St., the shop has become a staple in the Parkhill-Montclair-Mayfair communities.

Mayfair was established by Thom’s father, Melvin “Bud” Noller, in March 1959. It was a bold move for the father of three who had relocated his family to Colorado only one year prior. Thom joined the business in 1977 and continued to build a steady and loyal customer base throughout northeast Denver by providing unmatched care, expertise and service.

Thom rolled with the expanding customer tastes and beverage trends throughout the decades, but always maintained Mayfair’s focus on providing a fine, internationally-inspired wine selection and local, craft beers and spirits.

In the 1990s, Mayfair relocated to its current address, expanded the shop to 6,000 square feet, and continued to employ both family members and friends - some who turned into several decade-long managers.

And don’t forget to visit MayfairLiquors.com and download the free Mayfair Liquors mobile app for Apple and Android for updates on weekly and monthly specials, upcoming events, online ordering for both delivery and curbside pickup, and much more. Mayfair has been a proud supporter of Mayfair Mirror for many years. Look for their quarterly coupon in this edition, and shop at this iconic Denver business soon and often!
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AWESOME FOR OVER 63 YEARS!
Fall is just around the corner! As we cool down from the excitement of summer, we want to take a moment to reflect on all we’ve accomplished in our community during spring and summer 2022. The following provides just a snapshot of projects and legislation we’ve been working on at the District 5 Council Office in response to your outreach!

**Road safety and Lindsley Park updates**

We’re keeping our eyes on several projects planned in and around Mayfair, including the promised traffic calming measures on 13th and 14th avenues. Treatments were installed at 14th and Glencoe earlier this year; however, as of August, DOTI has been unable to hire a contractor to construct the remaining items. They are working to correct this issue as soon as possible, and we will keep you posted.

Our office will also be hosting two online community visioning conversations regarding Lindsley Park, in November and December. Look for a postcard in the mail soon with dates, times, and a community feedback survey.

**Diapers and adult incontinence products tax exemption**

To help keep an estimated $800,000 in the pockets of Denver residents, I led an ordinance exempting all diapers, including adult incontinence products, from City and County of Denver sales tax. Unanimously approved by City Council in June, the local sales tax exemption becomes effective Oct. 1, 2022. All of these products will also become exempt from state sales tax starting Jan. 1, 2023.

**Ballot and Blue Book changes**

In response to feedback from community that last year’s ballot and blue book were confusing – especially regarding the Group Living referendum – Councilmembers Black, Flynn, and I worked with the Clerk & Recorder’s Office to recommend ways to modernize Denver’s ballot, timelines, and Blue Book language. Some of these changes require alterations to the Denver Charter (which requires a vote of the people), so look for this on your November ballot!

**Changes to historic designation hearings**

Many of our residents have expressed fairness concerns over recent owner-opposed historic designations in Denver. In response, Councilmembers Black, Flynn and I worked with stakeholders to find a better solution. Instead of having only three minutes to speak, all owners and applicants will now have the opportunity to make a formal presentation at the Council hearing.

**Gun buyback program**

I’m proud to report that, to date, we’ve collected over 600 weapons and turned them into garden tools. While we know this won’t solve all crime, it will help reduce crimes of opportunity, suicides, and domestic violence. Buyback events are held monthly through October. Email us to volunteer for one of our upcoming events!

Our annual community survey is live now, so please share your feedback at https://bit.ly/D5AnnualSurvey22 by Dec. 31! And, don’t forget to join us at our upcoming Parks Clean-Up Day on Sunday, Oct. 2 at 8:30 a.m.! Sign up to volunteer at https://bit.ly/FallParksCleanUp22.

As always, please don’t hesitate to reach out to our office if there’s anything we can do to support you. Find the District Five team at:
Thank you to those who were able to join the East Colfax Bus Rapid Transit Community Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

We were grateful for the opportunity to share progress on the BRT name and logo, station and streetscape designs, as well as insights from the traffic, parking and safety analyses. We appreciated your thoughtful questions and comments and remain committed to incorporating this feedback into our work.

**Missed the open house?**

Don’t worry — we’ve posted the video recording to the Virtual Engagement Hub and the project website. Interested in a specific topic? Tune in to the discussion you’re most interested in by using the timestamps.

**Tell us which BRT logos you like best**

Didn’t get a chance to vote on the logo options for Denver’s BRT system? You can still rank your favorites by completing the short survey at https://www.rtd-denver.com/projects/regional-bus-rapid-transit-feasibility-study by Aug. 31.

Rank Your Favorite Logo

**Stay engaged!**

We look forward to your continued engagement in the East Colfax BRT Project. Interested in learning more?

- Stop by our table at the Colfax Ave Movie Night on Wednesday, Aug. 17 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Visit ColfaxBRT.org and the Virtual Engagement Hub
- Reach out to the project team directly at ColfaxBRT@denvergov.org
- Forward this to a friend and encourage them to sign up for email updates for more opportunities to get involved!
As a student, buying school supplies was one of my favorite days of the year. Who doesn’t love a clean notebook (or seven) and new packs of pens and pencils? My mom and I would go to the store, retrieve my school supply list and hopefully buy everything on the list. She would push the cart; I would cross items off my list. Though there were some years where we couldn’t buy the scientific calculator, a pack of flash drives, or a new backpack. It is important each student feel prepared and confident starting the school year as we know school supplies can impact learning and students’ mental health. To help our students succeed, the Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. Board of Directors eagerly participated in Denver Human Services’ annual #BeAGiver School Supply Drive. According to Denver Public Schools Foundation, Denver Public Schools is comprised of nearly 200 schools and more than 92,000 students. Sixty-seven percent of those students qualify for free-and-reduced lunch.

Bryn Daly, Denver Human Services Donations and Drives Coordinator, says the school supply drive alleviates some parents’ worry about buying school supplies so they instead can focus on school uniforms or other expenses. Backpacks are filled with donated supplies and distributed to students served by DHS programs at the Richard T. Castro Human Services Center. In its support, the Board donated almost $400 and two large bags of school supplies. Pictured are Patricia Mulligan, retired public school teacher and MNI Board President, and Kelsey Gano, Board member, in front of a massive pile of backpacks filled and ready for distribution to students! For more information on DHS’ annual #BeAGiver School Supply Drive, please visit www.denvergov.org.
To remind all of our Mayfair neighbors, members and non-members alike, the Fall 2022 Shred-a-Thon will be held Saturday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m. to noon, in the Mayfair Plaza parking lot, 14th Avenue and Krameria Street. The Shred-a-Thon is a fun event that is often your neighborhood organization’s largest single fundraiser. It is also a time when we get an influx of new members joining the organization. Jackie Medford, Mayfair Neighbors board member, will again organize it. So, keep cleaning out your files, drawers and closets and prepare to participate in the Fall Shred-a-Thon. See you all then!

Sunday storms and Severn neighborhood teamwork

By Kelsey Gano, MNI Board Member

I moved to Mayfair in September 2017. My neighbors, old and new, are my family. We look out for each other, including as the major rainstorm hit the evening of Sunday, Aug. 7. When the rain ended, I walked east along Severn and saw waist-high water from Jersey to at least Kearney — maybe further. I saw many neighbors trying to clear drains so the water could recede.

Myself and other neighbors retrieved various rake-like tools to take on clearing drains. Other neighbors put on gloves and picked up trash and debris from the roads. As drains were cleared, more neighbors got shovels out and cleaned up more brush and debris. I took two photos — they were taken 27 minutes apart. I was so amazed and heartened by the work of my neighbors along Severn. Keep up the kindness and support, Mayfair. If you have any questions about Denver’s floodplains, contact the City & County of Denver’s Floodplain Management Group at floodplain@denvergov.org or 720-865-3215.
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the taste of Mayfair

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What happens when a liberal and a conservative find that they have a shared love of vintage décor? In the case of Kate Hakala and Suzi Chierchie, they created a new business, Park Hill Treasures. Both Kate and Suzi had searched for a place to sell their vintage finds, but waiting lists for booth spaces are long at stores in the metro area. After looking at several locations, they decided to open their own space in what was recently an antique store at the corner of Colfax Avenue and Kearney Street. After opening the store in late November 2021, they have shared the space with several other vendors with a wide variety of merchandise. At the store you can find all sorts of vintage items, including furniture, art and jewelry. There is also new art and new jewelry from local artists as well as gifts and cards.

Kate and Suzi met when their sons Colin and Nick were in grade school at Blessed Sacrament Grade School. The boys attended school together through eighth grade and were also in the same scout troop. Kate says, “I knew Suzi liked antiques and decorating but I didn’t realize how passionate she was about it until she came to a yard sale I was having and bought all of the good stuff.”

They both appreciate the quality and detail of older furniture and like to repurpose items whenever possible. They have also made a point of contacting local artists and inviting them to sell their creations in the store. Having a space near their homes in Park Hill was important to them, and the proximity to other vintage stores is advantageous. They are hoping that the Mayfair section of East Colfax will become better known as a destination for vintage shoppers.

The store has become a family project, as Suzi and Kate both work full-time at their chosen jobs, Kate as a dentist and Suzi as an IT training consultant for a medical billing and records firm. Their husbands, Dirk and Michael, are semi-retired but both have construction skills and, importantly, trucks to haul large items from place to place. They have put in countless (unpaid) hours helping set up and run the store. Kate and Suzi’s daughters, Maura and Cassi, are also involved. Maura has worked as a cashier and also helps with marketing and special events, and Cassi is helping with administration and accounting.

“We’re here for the long haul,” says Suzi. They admit that establishing the store has been more challenging than they ever imagined, but also rewarding and very educational. They enjoy hosting monthly outdoor markets, art classes, artist receptions and other events. Future plans include adding vintage clothing and a fall kid’s fashion show.
Shift happens

What a difference a few point interest rate increase makes. The spring market, starting Jan. 2 was fast and furious with homes going on the market on Thursday or Friday and being under contract on Monday or Tuesday. Offers included inspection waivers, price escalation clauses and appraisal gap coverage. If a listing did not have 50-plus showings and multiple offers after the first weekend, Sellers were reducing the home’s price immediately.

Buyers loved the low interest rates we saw coming out of the pandemic. In 2020 through early 2022, the market benefited from historic lows, 3% or less (according to Freddie Mac, the all-time low for the 30-year fixed rate mortgage was 2.65% the week of Jan. 7, 2021). We started 2022 around 3.1% and slowly rose to 4% by mid-March. By April 14, we were at 5% and have been between 5% and 6% since (we did dip to 4.99% the week of Aug. 4.) To put things in perspective, I remember my parents backing out of a loan in 1981 when the bank said their 16% loan would NOT be fixed rate, but variable. Please note these interest rates quoted are like gas mileage – your rate may vary due to credit score or loan to value.

Now, third quarter of 2022, we are seeing fewer showings, fewer homes go under contract in the first week, larger price reductions or seller incentives (interest rate buydowns). Lenders recently came up with the saying “Marry the Home, Date the Rate” suggesting you buy now and refinance in the future when rates are lower.

For this article I have done some research to see the effects in our area. I looked at sold properties of all residential types including single family, townhomes and condominiums. To have a larger sample size, I expanded my usual search to all of zip code 80220 which is bounded by Colorado and Montview boulevards, Yosemite Street and First Avenue (excluding the Lowry portion of the rectangle), which includes Mayfair, Hale, South Park Hill, East Colfax, Montclair and northern Hilltop.

The following table shows a few key metrics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th># Sold</th>
<th>Average days on market</th>
<th>Average sold to original list price %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May-July 2021</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>104.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-March 2022</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>105.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-July 2022</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>102.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sold data is generally a lagging indicator of market conditions—the property usually is under contract for 30 days and the Buyer’s interest rate is locked at time of contract. The change in number sold is interesting year over year – down 19% (the first quarter 2022 number reflects seasonality, greatly impacted by few December listings sold in January). The sold to original list price ratio shows a decline in market hysteria, but far from the consistent 94% I recall from a more balanced market (usually a 3% price decline and 3% discount from last list price to sold).

When the market began to shift in the end of the first quarter, my office started tracking and discussing key metrics. Average showings per listing dropped precipitously, number of listings under contract in the first and second weeks on market have declined and sold to original list price continues to decline (August so far is around 98%).

Needless to say, homes are expensive and higher interest rates make payments higher. Although interest rates have almost doubled this year, they are still low on a historical basis (the loan on my first home was 10%). Although buyers cannot buy as much home as they could six months ago, it is still worth becoming a homeowner and beginning to build wealth/equity (and possibly refinance to a lower rate/payment in the future).

David Bromberg is a licensed REALTOR® with RE/MAX of Cherry Creek, 720-233-0711.

David Bromberg
Another disastrous crash

By Sarah Merrill, a Mayfair Neighbor

In the early hours of Monday, July 18, a speeding, out of control car careened onto the sidewalk, over a wood beam garden and into the brick house at 13th Avenue and Eudora Street. Prior to that, during daylight hours in September of 2021, a speeding car ran into a utility pole with such force that it cracked the entire pole in two. In November of last year, a stolen car traveling likely 70 to 80 miles per hour destroyed a neighbor’s brick garage.

Excerpts from the recent news reports include these recurring observations from residents:

“You see cars in the 60s and 70s [mph range] pretty regularly. It’s a danger to everyone on these streets, walking up and down these streets. It’s not surprising.”

Tomlinson said the city installed speed trackers, but he said they don’t do much to slow people down. He said he and his wife can see the sign from their bedroom window and, in the middle of the night, they often see people getting clocked going 60, 70 and 80 miles per hour.

“They were most likely 70 or 80 miles per hour with the damage done to the garage. It had to be that fast.”

These reported disastrous crashes are the result not of a few random acts but rather repeated, consistent traffic violations that put all of our residents, children, pets and property at risk every day.

Analysis of reported traffic accident data from the City of Denver reveals that accidents in the Hale neighborhood (whose boundaries are between Colorado Boulevard and Holly Street, Colfax and Sixth avenues) are 1.5 times more likely to occur on 13th or 14th avenues than on Colorado Boulevard and 1.25 times more likely than on Colfax Avenue. It is evident that some drivers take advantage of the one-way thoroughfares with little to no speed-reducing mechanisms and treat them as highways, as opposed to the controls on our main, governed infrastructure streets.

The speed-tracking signs installed in the last several years have likely added some awareness and have perhaps slowed drivers down but the real solution lies with installing physical barriers, such as speed bumps, stop signs or roundabouts, and requires traffic law enforcement to make any lasting impact.

This is a call to action. Residents who have equal concern about the safety of our residential streets should contact Councilwoman Amanda Sawyer’s office to register those concerns and provide recommendations for solutions.

Logan Frye, senior Council aide: logan.fry@denvergov.org

Felicia Rodriguez, Council aide: felicia.rodriguez@denvergov.org

Owen Brigner, Council aide: owen.brigner@denvergov.org

Articles referenced:


Denver traffic accident data:

Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. (MNI) is a non-profit Colorado corporation and Registered Neighborhood Organization with the City and County of Denver. Our neighborhood’s boundaries are Eudora St. on the west, E. Colfax Ave. on the north, Monaco St. Pkwy. on the east and E. 6th Ave. Pkwy. on the south. The Mirror is distributed free of charge to over 3,500 residences and businesses within Mayfair, and is made possible through the support of MNI members and local advertisers. MNI reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. We invite you to send any questions or comments about MNI, The Mirror, or the Mayfair neighborhood in general to: Mayfair Neighbors, Inc., PO Box 200306, Denver, CO 80220 or email mayfairneighbors@gmail.com.