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Happy Valentine's Day! Upper Downtown's restaurants, hotels, bars, and other businesses have a lot of valentine activities planned, so make sure you take time to celebrate with the people you love.

Be sure to read the full Presidents message for updates on the following:

- <u>Denver Police Department's Safety Presentation to be Rescheduled</u> - <u>Fair Election Fund Candidate Forum</u>

- <u>Fentanyl</u>
- Aloft Hotel Update

- Travel Column - Coming Soon to the UpDoNA Newsletter

- Support our Businesses that Support Us

Read the Full President's Message here...

Safety and Quality of Life Committee - Support Our Police

By Rob Squire

I don't have to tell you that crime has increased over the past three years in Denver. In fact, that's one of the primary reasons why we formed UpDoNA in the first place. UpDoNA's Safety and Quality of Life Committee (S&QOLC) focuses a great deal of effort on this issue and the reasons for it. We have found that there are many contributing causes and change is required on many fronts to solve the problem.

Continue to the full article

Safety and Quality Of Life Committee

Colorado Convention Center Expansion

By Jack Murphy

We have all witnessed the significant construction going on at ground level at the Colorado Convention Center, across from Sculpture Park. More excitement is happening high above the parking garage of the Convention Center. So, what's being built?

Learn all the details here.



Permit and Expansion Delays





UpDoNA members are involved in many efforts to improve the lives of downtown residents and the experiences of those who work and play in our neighborhood. Our relationships with local businesses are an important part of this and are the focus of our Good Neighbor Committee.

The anticipated opening dates of multiple new UpDoNA area businesses have come and gone. These delays are clearly multi factorial in cause, including problems that we have become accustomed to hearing about – supply chain issues and a shortage of trained construction workers. However, a key factor has now become delays related to building permits and related inspections.

Read the full article here.

New Business Member – ForSci

By Melissa Matuska

ForSci Associates LLC is a consulting company focused on forensic science, especially the use and interpretation of DNA testing in criminal cases. The firm has been in business for nearly fifteen years and is led by Dr. Phillip Danielson, a professor at the University of Denver. Dr. Danielson has an impressive resume, with thirty years of experience in advanced DNA technologies. He serves as a member of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees, run by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to develop standards for the US forensic community. Dr. Danielson also has experience conducting scientific research in forensic genetics.



Connect here to learn more.

Scooter Committee Update

By Jeremiah Bebo



The Scooter Subcommittee is excited to start off the new year with a story of success and to be able report to UpDoNA members that our hard work is already beginning to payoff. After working diligently for many months in 2022 with various stakeholders across downtown Denver, the subcommittee was able to create a visual Public Service Announcement (PSA) that is currently on display on several electronic digital signs around Upper Downtown. The PSA is visible on signs at 14th & California, 14th & Champa, 15th & Champa, and 16th & Champa. The intent of the PSA is to bring awareness to residents and visitors regarding the use of escooters and discouraging their use on sidewalks where they are not allowed.

Continue Reading...

The Scooter Subcommittee intended to introduce their first article in October of 2022. Due to an oversight, the article has been recently posted to Updona.org. To read the October 2022 article please <u>click here.</u>



Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer Opportunity | February 24th | 11am- 1pm

4-5 volunteers are needed to serve lunch for the residents of The Delores Project

To sign up, please email Helen Hedrick at helenhedrick@gmail.com

Here is a heartfelt thank you video from a resident of STEP Denver



Pet Pride in UpDoNA - Mikey & Timone

Contributed by Carol Wayne I have always owned dogs. When I moved into the UpDoNa, I had three:

- A Pug/Pomeranian mix (named Pugs)
- A lazy chubby Weiner dog (Sophie)
- A mini Chihuahua (Cloe)

As with life, they all have passed on. I like to think they went to a happy place and are all together again.

Six years ago, when my last dog, Sophie, passed, I was heartbroken. My daughter went looking for another dog for me. She found one; the breeder had just had a litter of three Yorkshire Terriers: one female that was already taken and two males that were still available.

Please read the full article here.

We'd love to hear from all pet owners and are launching a Pet of the Month. To submit an article about your pet, please follow the guidelines:

- Article from 100 to 500 words;
- Write about how you acquired your pet;
- How did you decide on the name;
- If it's a pet that you walk, please tell us what your pet most enjoys about Upper Downtown;

- Must include at least one photo, with information about who took the photo

Please send your article to Carol Wayne at carolwayne@updona.org.



<u>***UpDoNA has been approved and is now a 501c(3) organization!</u> Your donations are tax-deductible and any donations made previously are tax-deductible retroactively to the date of UpDoNA's founding in 2021.***

Yes, I want to Donate to UpDoNA!



Clean Sustainable Denver

First Saturday of the month (February 4th) at 9 AM Venue: Lobby of Spire at 891 14th St. Bring gloves, a trash grabber or broom, and a dustpan

Who tells a tale, adds a tail

Nov. 18th - March 5th, 10 AM to 5 PM Denver Art Museum

Orchid Showcase

Jan. 12th - Feb. 20th Denver Botanical Gardens, 1007 York Street

To Kill a Mockingbird



Who We Are

UpDoNA is a city registered neighborhood organization formed to advocate for the interests of the residents and businesses in Upper Downtown Denver.

Our Vision

To have an Upper Downtown community that is and continues to be one of the most sought-after neighborhoods for residents, businesses and visitors.

Our Mission

To be a partner and advocate for the betterment of the Upper Downtown community and all those who live, work and play here! Jan. 24th to Feb. 5th Buell Theater, 1400 Curtis Street

District 10 Candidate Forum

February 16th at 5:30 PM Home2Suites at 15th & Stout Street

UpDoNA Cares Committee Update Volunteer Opportunity | February 24th | 11am- 1pm 4-5 volunteers needed to serve lunch for The Delores Project Here is a thank you video from a resident of STEP Denver

To see more, please click here!

For a complete list of concert and event schedules at the biggest venues around town, visit the following sites:

https://www.ballarena.com/events-tickets/calendar/ https://www.empowerfieldatmilehigh.com/events https://www.paramountdenver.com/event-calendar/ https://www.redrocksonline.com/ https://www.denvercenter.org/tickets-events/

Volunteers Needed!

We need help to do our work. It takes volunteers to make a volunteer organization run. There are opportunities all over.

- Interested in making downtown life safer and more rewarding? Volunteer for the Safety and Quality of Life Committee
- How about helping to improve the lives of the homeless? Volunteer for UpDoNA Cares
- Would you like to help make our streets clean and attractive? Volunteer for our monthly Community Cleanups with our Clean Sustainable Denver Committee
- Have a writing skill? Write articles for our Website/Newsletter Committee
- Or would you rather help by increasing the influence of UpDoNA. There is power in numbers, and you can be a part of our Membership Committee
- Are you good at organizing? Help arrange social events as a part of our Social Committee
- Do you have a skill or interest in managing organizations? Consider running for our Board of Directors. We have an immediate opening and will be holding an election in April of this year.

We can only do our work with the help of people like you! Please consider offering your services to help us be a more effective and influential association. Click here to get involved as a volunteer! Every committee I mentioned can use help. Please – Get Involved.



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