

[View this email in your browser](#)



[UpDoNA Business Support](#)

[President's Message](#)

[Welcome to Our Newest Business Members](#)

[UpDoNA Cares Committee](#)

[Safety and Quality of Life Committee](#)

[Good Neighbor Committee Report](#)

[RTD Bus Travel](#)

[Pet Pride in Upper Downtown](#)

[Important Links](#)

[Who We Are / Vision / Mission](#)

[Community Events](#)

[Volunteers Needed](#)

## Become a Member of Our Community



## President's Message: Lisa Pope

We've made it to the month of May. Hopefully we will FINALLY be able to enjoy some warm, sunny weather! Now that spring has sprung, there are more and more outdoor activities happening in Upper Downtown such as Cinco de Mayo celebrations, Derby Day parties, Viva! Streets Denver, and Civic Center Eats, the annual food truck event. So, get out there and enjoy all that Upper Downtown has to offer.

[Read the Full President's Message here...](#)

## Welcome to Our New Business Members

### New Business Member Spotlight - Native Barber Salon

Contributed by Melissa Matuska

UpDoNA would like to welcome one of our newest Business Members, Native Barbers, located on Champa between 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Chelsie Kiesel is the owner of Native Barbers. She offers 17 years of experience in the Denver salon industry. Chelsie purchased and rebranded the previous salon operating in what is presently Native Barbers in January 2020. Unfortunately, as we all know, the pandemic came shortly after. Chelsie, however, was able to come back strong and presently has a thriving business! In fact, Native Barbers is currently growing their team of talented barbers and stylists! [Read the full article here.](#)



## New Business Member Spotlight - Fortissimo Dueling Pianos

Contributed by Carol Wayne



There's a new and exciting buzz at the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Champa. If you look closely in the windows, you will see two dueling pianos on stage against a pleasant background which is bringing a new look to our neighborhood. As you enter Fortissimo on one of the six nights per week that they are open, you instantly see an inviting bar and many tables where folks can choose from a variety of wine and other adult beverages. What everyone has in common is that they have come to hear two piano players and their Dueling Pianos. [Read the full article here.](#)

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## UpDoNA Cares Committee - April Update

By Helen Hedrick



There are SO MANY initiatives working to support people experiencing homelessness AND working to alleviate the systemic ills that cause homelessness.

All the updates are [available here.](#)

Please note: UpDoNA Cares Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 4:30pm. If you wish to attend a meeting, please do so! Or if you wish to join serving a meal at the Delores Project, email [helenkhedrick@gmail.com](mailto:helenkhedrick@gmail.com) for more information.

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## Safety and Quality of Life Committee

By Rob Squire and Lisa Pope

Check out all our safety and quality of life updates on Together We Will, One Lincoln Park, and the Aloft Shelter Status.

[Find the full article here.](#)

# Safety and Quality Of Life Committee



## Good Neighbor Committee

By Garis Smith

Get the latest updates on NPU Denver, LLC, Fortissimo Dueling Pianos, 4 Play Wiskey and Tequila, Vanish, 801 Fish, and Dazzle Jazz.

[Find the full article here.](#)

## RTD Bus Travel

Contributed by Jack Murphy

Have you ever noticed the number of buses in downtown Denver? They are everywhere! They can be a great way to get around and can be very cost effective as well. As a city dweller, my wife and I decided to drop down to one car. Buses provide another great means to get around, and we recently started using this form of transportation ourselves. We have found buses to be predictable, on schedule, quicker than expected, and much less money than a 2<sup>nd</sup> car or Uber.

[Read the full article here.](#)



# Pet Pride in UpDoNA

Do you have a super hero companion, new park, new pet friendly restaurant, or pet-centric event to share?



Email us at [carolwayne@updona.org](mailto:carolwayne@updona.org) with the details to be featured in our newsletter.

## Meet Tater

Contributed by Carly Ebenstein

Fast forward to today, Ana has the amazing and charismatic Tater!

Ana grew up with animals and missed them dearly during her time in the military. As soon as she left the army, she adopted two cats, but when Ana moved from the suburbs to UpDoNa, she knew she was ready for some different – her first dog.

[Read all about Tater here!](#)



Click on any of the images below for more information!



***\*\*\*UpDoNA has been approved and is now a 501c(3) organization! 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!



### 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!



### [Clean Sustainable Denver](#)

**First Saturday of the month (May 6th) at 9 AM**

**Venue: Lobby of Spire at 891 14th St.**

**Bring gloves, a trash grabber or broom, and a dustpan**

### [Cinco De Mayo "Celebrate Culture" Festival and Parade](#)

**May 6th to 7th, 10 AM to 8 PM**

**Civic Center Park**

### [Turandot](#)

**Colorado Opera, 1385 Curtis Street**

**May 6, 9, 12, 14**

### [Viva Streets Denver](#)

**Once a month**

**May 14th to August 6th, 8 AM to 2 PM**

**Various Locations on Broadway**

### [Delores Project Spring Fundraising Event](#)

**May 18th, 5:30 PM to 8 PM**

**Space Gallery, 400 Santa Fe Drive**

**For more events, 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/>

For a complete list of Events Around Town, visit [Denver.org](https://denver.org)

## 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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