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If you enjoy our newsletter every month, but haven't yet joined UpDoNA, please consider helping us in the very important work we do. There is power in numbers and the larger our membership, the more influence we have with our elected leaders. *Our tax-deductible annual membership is less than \$3.00 a month!* Be part of the solution. Please consider joining us.

[Become a Member of Our Community](#)

## President's Message: Lisa Pope

Summer is just around the corner and there will be so much to do to enjoy downtown. The official Summer Kick-Off Celebration for the 16th Street Mall will be a two-day event on May 31st and June 1st from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **UpDoNA Board of Director Positions**

Please consider running for the UpDoNA Board of Directors. Help us continue the important work that is necessary to keep Upper Downtown a great place for everyone who lives, works, and plays here.

### **Mark your calendars for the UpDoNA Annual Meeting**

UpDoNA's Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at West Saloon and Bar located at 501 16<sup>th</sup> Street - corner of Glenarm and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets.

### **Additional Resources for Downtown Denver**

As you know, Mayor Johnston announced his Safe Downtown Action Plan. You should be seeing the bicycle team, foot patrol, mounted police, security officers, and park rangers monitoring the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall and the areas between 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Click the button below to read all the latest on:

- UpDoNA Safety Committee
- Vibrant Denver GO Bond
- City Permitting
- Skyline Park 1 DPD Kiosk

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

## UpDoNA Announcements

### **UpDoNA Board of Director Election**

Please consider running for the UpDoNA Board of Directors. Help UpDoNA continue the important work that is necessary to keep Upper Downtown a great place for everyone who lives, works, and plays here. Please contact Lisa Pope at [lisapope@updona.org](mailto:lisapope@updona.org) or Gil Vondrasek at [gilvon2001@gmail.com](mailto:gilvon2001@gmail.com) no later than May 7, 2025 with your intent to run.

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## **UNO at Clocktower Cabaret**

UpDoNA and Clocktower Cabaret, who is one of our newest Business Members, have been working together to bring UpDoNA members a special activity for the May UNO. On Thursday May 8th, UpDoNA members can enjoy an evening with Avourneen for a super low price of \$10 per person (plus a \$4 ticket fee). Avourneen is an Irish band that “offers a new take on Irish tradition”, so this should be a ton of fun! Let’s get a big group from UpDoNA and have a great time!

Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025

Time: Doors open at 6:30 for 7:00 PM show

Venue: Clocktower Cabaret in the downstairs level of the Clocktower

Location: 16th & Arapahoe

Menu: Click here to see their [Food & Drink menu](#)

**Special Price:** [Click this link](#) to purchase tickets. To receive the special price for UpDoNA members, use UPDONA10 as the Promo Code

**Special Instructions:** If you want to be sure to sit at the same table with someone (max of four per table), it’s best to buy all four tickets at once. Otherwise, be sure that when all parties at the table buy their tickets, all should enter the same first and last name where it says “Joining an EXISTING party? . . .”



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## **UpDoNA Annual Meeting**

UpDoNA’s Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at West Saloon and Bar located at 501 16<sup>th</sup> Street – corner of Glenarm and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets. Please join us for delicious food, drinks, and some special guests. You will also be introduced to the newly-elected UpDoNA Board of Directors. Watch your emails in the coming weeks for an EventBrite link.

## Safety Committee

**Contributed by:** Gil Vondrasek

### **Increased Police Presence in Downtown Denver**

Downtown Denver has faced challenges such as crime, homelessness, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, all of which have impacted businesses and foot traffic. The situation came to a head when 2 people were murdered and 2 more stabbed on the 16th Street Mall.

UpDoNA got involved very quickly and organized a neighborhood meeting with

over 100 people participating.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)

## Scooter Committee

**Contributed By** Joe Capello

“ELECTRIC SCOOTERS ARE LEAVING DENVER SIDEWALKS” blares the headline in 5280 Magazine. A new city ordinance will “bring clarity” to scooter riders who are confused about where to operate their scooter. That article appeared 6 years ago and we all know that there’s been no apparent improvement since then in Downtown Denver. Nonetheless, Denver’s City Council and the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure are going to take another whack at the problem this year.

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Denver City Council discusses upcoming law-making re: scooters
- Dept. of Transportation and Infrastructure develops new education materials
- Scooter Survey: The results are in
- Another major city wants to ban scooters in their central business districts
- Scooter Tidbits
- Things we’d like to see change

[Read the Full Article Here](#)

## Arts & Beautification Committee

**Contributed by:** Sal Tripodi & Silvia Fernandez

You might not have noticed a “pocket park” space that is located on the corner of Welton and 19th Street. It provides an outstanding opportunity to transform a long-neglected area in Upper Downtown Denver into a hands-on, outdoor green space, for K-12 students.

After many months of calls, meetings (virtual and in-person), follow-ups, and new contacts, the Arts & Beautification Committee is happy to report that Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) has taken the lead, together with our

Committee to move forward with this project. DPR has provided us with the permits required by the city together with their in-house team experts to make this project a success. They have already started clearing the area and have an estimated completion date in late June 2025.

[Read the Full Update Here](#)

## Special Interest – UpDoNA News

**Contributed By** Anthony Gemma

### **Proposed Residential Conversion of Two Downtown Commercial Buildings**

On March 6, the City of Denver announced that applications are officially open for the newly expanded Denver Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Already, early rumblings are emerging about the first projects that may take shape under this initiative.

The Denver Post reported earlier last month that Los Angeles based real estate firm the Luzzatto Company had purchased 621 and 633 17th Street, with the intention of converting the two office towers into residential apartments. These buildings sit along 17th Street amidst the many other high-rise offices which form the once famed “Wall Street of the Rockies”, these two structures comprise an entire block of upper downtown which has largely sat vacant since 2020.

[Read the Full Update Here](#)

## New UpDoNA Business Member

**UpDoNa welcomes West Saloon & Kitchen as a new business member.**

We're thrilled to welcome West Saloon & Kitchen to UpDoNa and invite all of our members to support the local business community! Located in a beautifully preserved historic building dating back to 1891, this gem at the corner of Glenarm Place and the 16th Street Mall in Upper Downtown Denver brings the spirit of the Old West roaring back to life—with a modern twist.

Step inside, and you'll be greeted by an authentic saloon-style atmosphere that

perfectly complements Denver's rich Western heritage. With exposed brick, wood finishes, and a cozy, welcoming vibe, West Saloon & Kitchen is the kind of place where locals and visitors alike can kick back and stay a while.

[Read the Full Update Here](#)



We at JARS Cannabis are offering 30% off your purchase for all UpDoNA members for 2025! Use code "UpDo" to enjoy 30% off your next purchase at checkout.



**Purchase a Vehicle Service Contract (VSC)** online, and once the coverage is activated, Gasman Automotive Solutions will issue a **\$250 cash rebate** on top of our already ultra-competitive pricing. Get a [free quote](#). Call us at 303-362-1319



Clocktower Cabaret is offering a \$10 discount on select performances for all UpDoNA members based on availability. Use code UPDONA10. Email questions to [selene@clocktowercabaret.com](mailto:selene@clocktowercabaret.com).



WELL OPTIMIZED  
SEO

Well Optimized SEO helps businesses get found online. During May, get 10% off our website audit and optimization. Book a [consultation](#), mention UpDoNa in notes section. Learn more at [welloptimizedseo.com](http://welloptimizedseo.com)

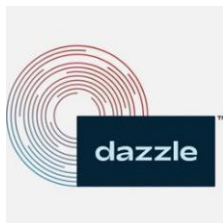


Hit the road in a new ride this Spring. Colorado Credit Union is now offering Auto loan rates as low as 5.24% APR\* with 90 days of no payments\*\*. Visit [ccu.org](http://ccu.org) for more information.

Aloft Hotel is offering a discounted room rate for UpDoNA members of \$89 + tax pending availability during 2025. After choosing your preferred dates online, the website will let you know if your \$89 discounted rate is



available for those dates.



Get a bottle of wine and a dessert to share with your date for only \$45 (show tickets not included). Email [host@dazzledenver.com](mailto:host@dazzledenver.com) to add the Date Night Package. [dazzledenver.com](http://dazzledenver.com)



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**Occasionally we receive last-minute offers from Business Members for events that will occur prior to the next newsletter release. These will be posted as an event on our UpDoNA Facebook page. We encourage members to “Like” our Facebook page in order to be informed about these last minute events and other important announcements that are posted there.**





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 Upper Downtown](#)

First Saturday of the month: May 3rd, at 9 AM

Venue: Lobby of Spire at 891 14th St.

Second Venue: 20th & Lincoln

#### [UpDoNA Night Out \(UNO\)](#)

Avourneen, an Irish Band

May 8th - Clocktower Cabaret (16th & Arapahoe)

#### [16th Street Summer Kickoff](#)

May 31 - June 1, 2025

16th Street between Market and Tremont

#### [Denver Convention Center Events](#)

Entire Month of May, 2025

Downtown Denver, CO

#### [Recurring Events in Denver](#)

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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