

Walnut Hills Newsletter

A Beautiful Community of Families, Friends and Neighbors for 57 years

Walnut Hills Scholarship Winners Point To Bright Future

The faces of this year's graduating high school seniors, which appear inside this newsletter, remind us that despite our own difficult times, much better days lie ahead.

The recipients of this year's Walnut Hills Scholarships send the same message. No matter how uncertain things may seem, our younger generation unquestionably has what it will take to make a brighter future.

One of this year's scholarship winners looks to tackle difficult environmental problems. Another will enter the field of health care. The third is on her way to becoming an airline pilot. Three areas where we face serious challenges today—three areas where our 2020 Walnut Hills Scholars promise to make great contributions tomorrow.

Thanks to the generosity of Walnut Hills residents, each will receive a \$2,500 scholarship toward their college educations—a vote of our neighborhood pride in their achievements so far and our anticipation of their achievements to come.

The Scholarship Board is delighted to announce and congratulate this year's recipients. All three are new graduates of Cherry Creek High School, and they are profiled here in alphabetical order:

AIDAN BOSMAN, son of Walnut Hills residents Karin Zimmerman and Djimmer Bosman, candidly describes himself as someone who once embraced "inaction" and accepted failure. But in the face of adversity, he was able to transform himself into a more outgoing young man who works hard to improve himself and leads in the classroom. As his counselor writes, he thrives on group discussion, where he not only shares his own insights but listens and learns from others too.

It has certainly translated into high academic achievement. With a challenging slate of fourteen AP and Honors courses at Cherry Creek High School, and a particular emphasis on science and math his senior year, he has built an exceptional GPA. One of his teachers describes him as having a "calm brilliance," an ability to work so "quietly and diligently" that "you wonder if he's working at all." But it becomes clear in class discussion, the teacher writes, just how well Aidan has prepared.

Outside of academics, Aidan participates in many extracurricular pursuits. Earlier in high school he played rugby, lacrosse, and football, but his greatest dedication has been to marching band, playing alto saxophone and serving this year as section leader. He has received two varsity letters, one in academics and one in marching band, and earned academic High Honors.

In the fall Aidan will attend Iowa State University, studying environmental engineering. As he explains it, "we are facing an environmental crisis and I want to help find a solution."

CLAIRE GERKEN, daughter of Walnut Hills residents Ann and Ken Gerken, discovered her passion for health care the moment she stepped inside Swedish Medical Center. The connections she made while volunteering at Swedish helped her find her passion for helping others and paved the way toward her future career as a nurse.

In her senior year, Claire enrolled at the new Cherry Creek Innovation Campus, focusing on the Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) program. She takes her core classes at Cherry Creek High School in the mornings and then leaves for CCIC in the afternoons to take classes specifically focused on health professions. She plans to work as a CNA once she passes the certification exam and turns 18.

Claire has taken eleven AP and Honors classes and maintained an outstanding GPA—all while working at Panera Bread and as a lifeguard at a fitness center. She also played soccer for ten years, making the sophomore and junior varsity teams at CCHS before suffering a serious knee injury her junior year.

She has also jumped headlong into volunteer service. Besides volunteering at Swedish, she serves as fundraising chair for the CCHS club Play Strong, raising money for cancer research. Through National Honor Society, she tutors at CCHS and helps at elementary school carnivals. Another of her favorite philanthropies is Project Cure, where she sorts medical supplies for shipment to developing countries.

In keeping with her career plans, Claire plans to attend Creighton University, known for its nursing program.

ANNIKA PETRAS, daughter of Walnut Hills residents Claire and Mark Petras, identified her passion for flying at a young age, when her father, a pilot, first took her up. She has refocused her academics the last couple of years to support her dream of becoming a commercial airline pilot.

Annika has pursued a rigorous curriculum at Cherry Creek High School, completing ten AP classes. Described by her mentors as highly motivated and "self-driven," she has always shown an ability to work hard—but by her own admission, she had to learn how to be patient and set more realistic expectations for herself. She credits her training in self-defense for helping her find this new perspective. Academically, it has worked out to the tune of an academic letter, a National Merit Finalist, and an exceptional GPA. But as one teacher notes, it has also made her a "natural leader" who looks out for her classmates too. In her counselor's eyes, it gave her time to enjoy more parts of her life.

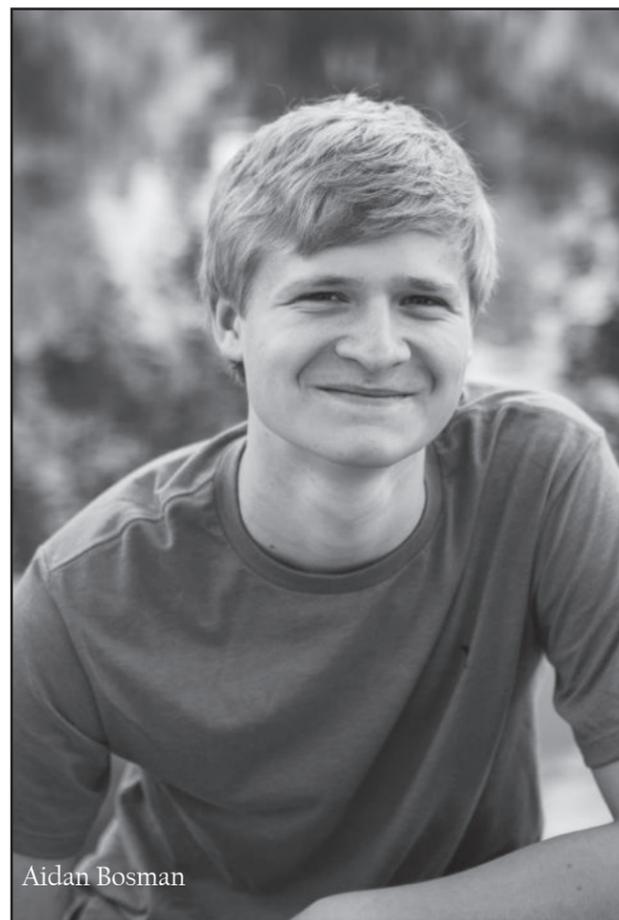
Outside of her coursework, Annika has been active on the speech and debate team, lettering in varsity debate. She also took leadership roles in the High School Democrats and German Honors Society, played cello in CCHS's symphonic orchestra, and volunteered at Sky Ridge Medical Center.

Now ready to fly into the next phase of her life, Annika plans to attend the University of Oklahoma, where she will pursue an aviation-professional pilot degree.

Again, it's thanks to our many generous neighbors who contribute to the scholarship program that we are able to honor Annika, Aidan, and Claire. All five of us on the Scholarship Board would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of you who donated. We'd also like to thank the newsletter for its own generous contribution, the Civic Association for their friendship and help with our annual fundraising appeal, and anonymous donors who have stepped forward to help the program endure. This is the 46th year of giving out scholarships to graduating Walnut Hills seniors, and with your continued help, we will be able to keep doing so for years to come.

It's become a tradition for the Walnut Hills Scholars to be publicly honored at the Civic Association's annual Ice Cream Social, in Walnut Hills Park on the 4th of July. But of course, with every public event up in the air this summer, we don't know yet whether that will be possible. Please look for Civic Association updates by email and Nextdoor, and join us on the 4th on the chance the event can go forward.

For now, though, please join us in congratulating Claire, Annika, and Aidan, and all of this year's graduating seniors on their impressive accomplishments. We can be tremendously proud of them, and they are sure to make the future for all of us bright!



Aidan Bosman



Claire Gerken



Annika Petras

My Travel Story Amongst The Virus

Maria Reeves



With each new place, this is what I have understood about how society reacts to a national and global emergency.

August 2019 - I started the beginning of my studies in China. January 2020 - I am sent home early due to COVID-19

March 2020 - I finish my Mandarin language studies in Taiwan. Two weeks later, I am sent home as COVID-19 spreads throughout the U.S.

While I was in China, I received emails in December and early January about an outbreak in the city of Wuhan. I paid each one very little attention. Come the last week in January, and I come home to

my host mom who works in a hospital, and she begins a very serious conversation about the precautions we must take. She definitely knew more about the virus and the severity that a lot of Chinese people were not fully aware of yet. With SARS, Chinese people worried about the power of a virus. In a span of five days afterward, things moved really fast as we spent the next week wearing a mask and using tissue papers to touch elevator buttons.

I kept wondering what that meant for those of us studying in China. I received emails telling us that everything is fine, and there were no discussions about a return home. It seemed like someone saying a hospital visit is not necessary for a broken arm. And so here I was with two moral arguments. I promised to stay on this program, and so I must stay put. And the other, that wanted to screw it all and book my own ticket home. I thought it was homesickness which made me desire a return, so I settled it with myself that I was staying put for the next four months of my ten-month program. When China began restricting travel, closing shops, keeping people in, knocking on our door, it seemed the only response to something like this. In China there were messages everywhere about the live numbers of dead, sick, possible sick, possible deaths, and cured. They doubled, constantly. Kind of made me forget those are real people I was watching.

Then the email comes. I will return home, and details will be sent soon. The condolences and the preparations in the email blend in my mind. Should I feel nostalgic? Relieved? Happy? My hands just start shaking. No, my whole body is shaking with nervous tremors or something. Four days later, however, I am on the plane to the United States, and I tear up a bit when the plane leaves because I am D.O.N.E. Especially with wearing a mask 24-7, and feeling like I might bring something unknown back home to my community if I didn't do everything correctly.

An early return home is what I had been wishing for, especially with the controlled panic that was going on in China, but I couldn't believe it was actually true. And after my return, I am given an opportunity to finish my studies in Taiwan. Should I stay or should I go was a serious tune in my mind. The funny part is this very firm belief of mine that an outbreak wouldn't be possible in the U.S. If I didn't go anywhere, I wouldn't have to hear about it ever again.

But when I returned from Taiwan, the process of shutting everything down was just beginning in Colorado. Returning to the U.S. I thought Americans would react similarly to those in Asia, but panic, the anticipatory grief looks so different. How do you prepare for something that may or may not change what our life looks like? In China, everyone was kept inside and very few cars ever passed on the streets. While in Taiwan, the amount of cases were comparatively low and everyone wore masks. It is a smaller location compared to other places around the world, but the threat is still real to them.

I am grateful that I can be with my family instead of hours away. Due to the trails nearby, I can still walk outside and "act" like nothing changed. And since no cars pass by on empty paths, I feel like a freaking queen walking in the middle of a parking lot. And now I see this virus differently. When it was spreading through Asia, I could tell myself at least the United States is fine. It is easier to be in denial. And yes, everything didn't go according to plan with my study program. However, I cannot feel sorry. Somebody reached out and asked how I see the world right now. This morning the answer was clear. I was looking out my window about to go for a morning walk, but then the smell of the air and the feel of the sky made me turn around. It reminded me of how I felt two years ago. And nothing was wrong with that. It just felt like putting on a glove that didn't fit anymore. That's got to be how we will continue for our country, for our world. One day, what was 2019 won't fit. And we will either go without a glove, or we will find a new one. Heck, maybe one day it won't even be a glove.



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Spring Dumpster Days a Big Success

Wow what a great two Saturdays for Dumpster Days!

I met some new neighbors and some original owner members at this very busy event.

We had 66 vehicle dumps the first weekend, having to turn away 15! That has not happened in 4 years.

The second weekend was 54 dumps with lots of members coming back a second time.

So happy that our Walnut Hills Civic Assoc members took the time to "clean up" and haul away and looking forward to seeing all at Fall Dumpster Day on Saturday October 10 8-11.

- Shout Outs to The Garbage man employees Mike, Brian, and Bobby
- Brookie and his son Dawd "The Metals Guys"
- And of course, Andrea Suhaka for being my wing man

Donna Senn



Photography Jesse Alcorta

The Garbage Man

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– BRENT D Centennial, CO



Dear Walnut Hills Community,

Walnut Hills Elementary School has come to the end of the 2019-2020 school year! I know we started the year at school and ended the year in a very different place. But we held steadfast to our commitment to EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY.

When I kicked off the year with our theme of IMAGINE, I never knew we would be imagining a school year that ended with remote learning due to a worldwide pandemic. However, what I imagined at the beginning of the year and what I still imagine now has not changed. I imagined each child would experience success, achievement, growth, safety, and love so they could learn. I do believe we did our very best to reach this goal. Thank you for believing and supporting our staff and our students throughout the year especially in a time of such adversity. I love our school, students, and community.

I would like to give a special acknowledgment to our fifth grade students who will be continuing to middle school next year. I am so very proud of each of our fifth grade students. They ended the year with such zest for the next part of their school journey. Congratulations Class of 2027!!!

As always, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Walnut Hills Elementary School, our district, and our community. On behalf of our entire Walnut Hills staff, we wish a magical summer!!! Take time to IMAGINE every day.... the possibilities are endless.

- Imagine a school that loves all kids.
- Imagine a school that is grateful for all families.
- Imagine a school that has the very best staff.
- Imagine a school that is committed to learning and growing.
- Imagine a school that will walk through adversity.
- Imagine a school that will be stronger in the end.
- Imagine Walnut Hills Elementary School.

HAPPY SUMMER! See you in August!
Much love and stay safe,
Teolyn Bourbonnie

Yoga In The Park Offered This Summer!

WHCA is pleased to offer 6 sessions of yoga in the park this summer! We will be meeting at 9 am in the playground area of Walnut Hills Park on Sundays June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26 and August 9 and 23. PLEASE BRING AND WEAR A FACE MASK. In light of Covid-19, we will be adhering to all SSPRD recommendations including the use of masks, appropriate social distancing and limiting the group to 10 people (<https://www.ssprd.org/Safe-Return>). We are also lucky to have the same yoga instructor, Anar, as last summer! Anar is a certified Iyengar Yoga teacher at Iyengar Yoga Center of Denver, Dairy Block LoDo and Park Hill Yoga Studio. She also offers private yoga sessions. All levels and abilities are welcome, including first timers and kids! Sunscreen, water bottle and yoga mat (or towel) are recommended. This is a totally free event. If you are so inclined, tips are welcome. In case of inclement (or iffy) weather, please check our website at www.walnuthillscs.org for information.



Items of Interest

JHF

Children Learn What They Live

- If A Child Lives With Criticism, He Learns To Condemn.
- If A Child Lives With Hostility, He Learns To Fight.
- If A Child Lives With Ridicule, He Learns To Be Shy.
- If A Child Lives With Tolerance, He learns To Be Patient.
- If A Child Lives With Encouragement,

- He learns Confidence.
- If A Child Lives With Praise, He Learns To Appreciate.
- If A Child Lives With Fairness, He Learns Justice.
- If A Child Lives With Security, He Learns To Have Faith.
- If A Child Lives With Approval, He Learns To Like Himself.
- If A Child Lives With Acceptance and Friendship, He Learns To Find Love In The World.

The Walkers Wear Masks

Bruce Ferguson

The daffodils struggled with the alternating snows. One day they smiled at the sun and the next day their eyes turned to the ground. The skies are blue in a blue that I can hardly remember. I watched the moon set over Dry Creek Elementary one morning and Mt Evans covered in snow seemed just a few reaches away. Even the geese seem to have abandoned the playing fields by the school.

The pasque flowers arrived just on schedule for Easter and treated the changing weather with complete indifference. On the clear days they follow the sun and on the cloudy days they close up their petals. I've been clearing the debris from the fall and winter and the grasshoppers jump about like they think we are having a game of tag. I've seen two snakes crawling about already each over a foot long. The flickers tap on the metal flashing and chimney pipes. Every morning is filled with the towhee chirping a twilling.

When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

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Photo by Bruce Ferguson

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Aidan Bosman - Cherry Creek High School - Iowa State University, Environmental Engineering

This was a really good day. No sunburns or scrapes, just best friends and fun. A lot has changed in the world since the Class of 2020 took their first Kindergarten field trip to the Denver Zoo. You are all amazing people who, by now, have seen it all. We wish you all the best, now and forever. Congratulations On Your Graduation!



Alexander Allen Molberg - Cherry Creek High School - Western Colorado University - Mechanical Engineering



Ana Gijon VanLinden - Cherry Creek High School

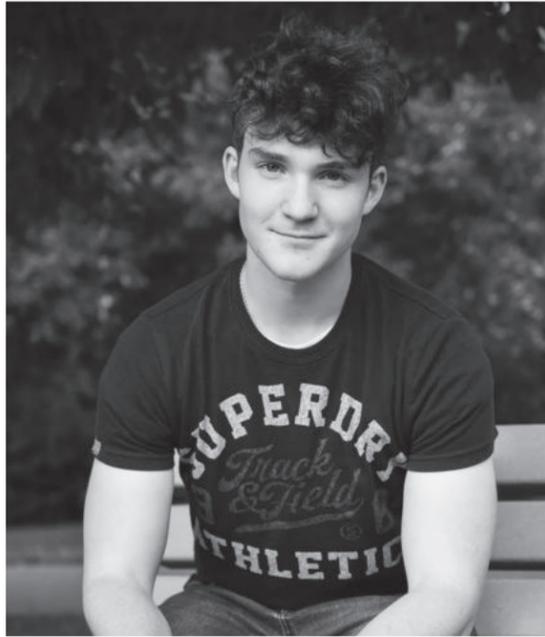


Andrew Kruk - Cherry Creek High School - US Army - Financial Investing

Walnut Hills Celebrates The Class Of 2020



Annika Petras – Cherry Creek High School
University of Oklahoma, Aviation-Professional
Pilot Degree.



Ashton Duffield – Cherry Creek High
School - Colorado State University



Austin Gill - Cherry Creek High School
- Community College of Aurora - Fire
Science



Cassidy King – Cherry Creek High School



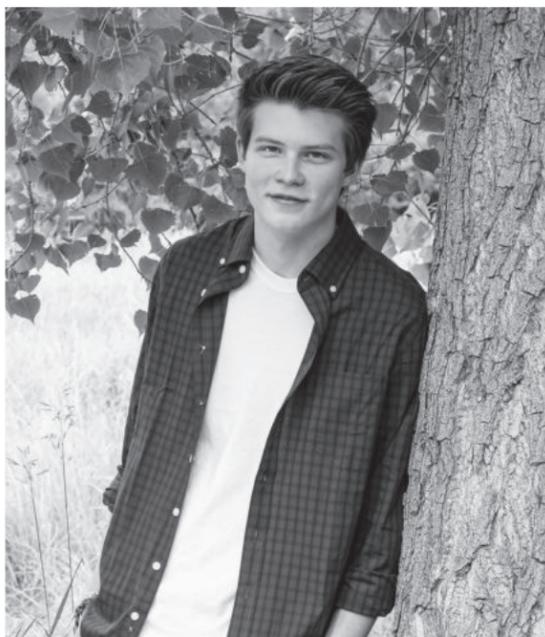
Claire Gerken – Cherry Creek High School
- Creighton University - Nursing



Declan Atwell – Cherry Creek High School
- Colorado Mesa University – Goal to
teach math at Cherry Creek High School



Devyn Evans – Granddaughter of Jim Benton
of Walnut Hills and daughter of Joanna
(Benton) Evans - Legend High School -
Parker, CO - Colorado State University



Donovan Armbruster – Cherry Creek
High School - Arapahoe Community
College - Sound Design Program -
University - Audio Engineering



Emily Tatman – Cherry Creek High School
- University of Arizona - Physiology and
Medical Sciences

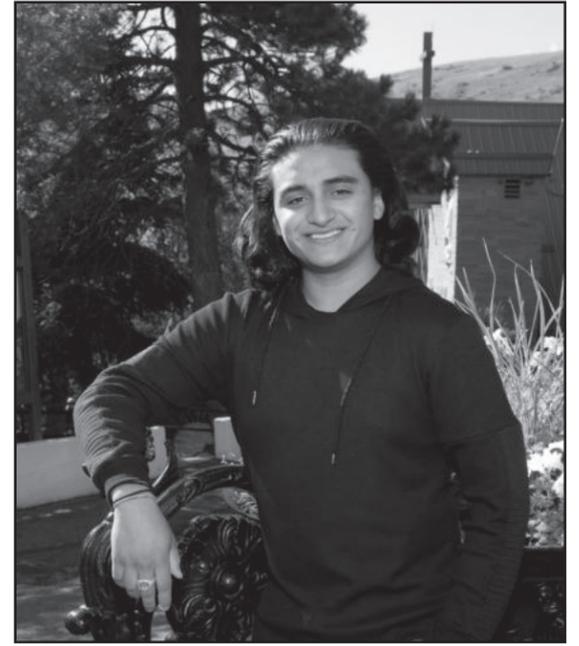
Walnut Hills Celebrates The Class Of 2020



Emma Stengel – Cherry Creek High School – CU Boulder



Evan Gill – Cherry Creek High School – Arapahoe Community College



Gonzalo Andres Gomez – Cherry Creek High School – Attending University – Computer Science – Congratulations Gomez Family!



Gracie Tidwell – Walnut Hills Elementary Alumni - Wasatch High School Heber City, UT - University of Utah - Global Business Scholar Program



Hayden Sells – Cherry Creek High School - University of Colorado, Boulder - Political Science



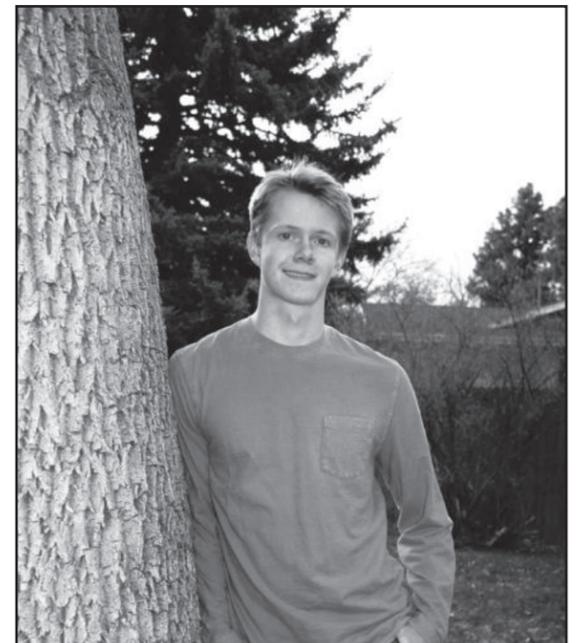
Hunter Orr – Cherry Creek High School - University of Washington or University of Utah



Jacob Jenkins – Cherry Creek High School - CSU - Mechanical Engineering



James (Jay) Edward Tucker IV - Cherry Creek High School – Grand Canyon University - Psychology



Joshua Josey – Cherry Creek High School

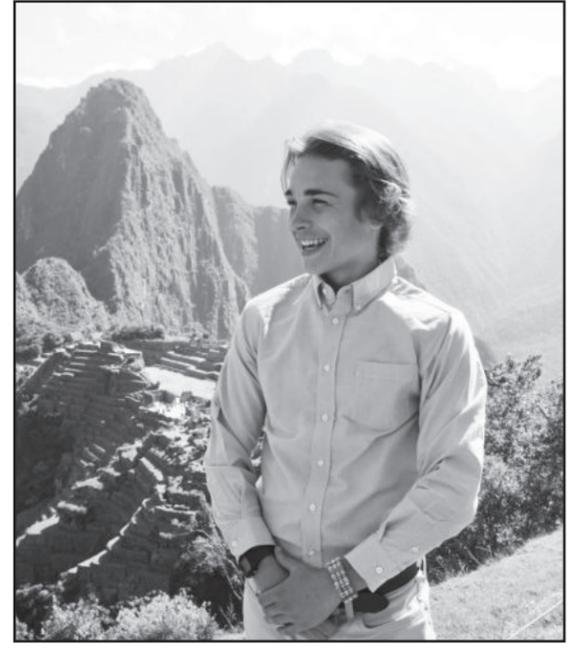
Walnut Hills Celebrates The Class Of 2020



Kalin Gregg – Walnut Hills Elementary Alumni – Jefferson High School Shenandoah Junction, WV – Shepherd University – Studio Art



Kayla Shoemaker – Cherry Creek High School - University of Colorado - Denver



Matthew Danfelser – CCIC Infrastructure Construction Technology Program – Working at Bristol Marine, Bristol, RI



Olivia Adamiak – Cherry Creek High School - Metropolitan State University - Biology



Olivia Stock – Cherry Creek High School - University of Northern Colorado - Speech Pathology



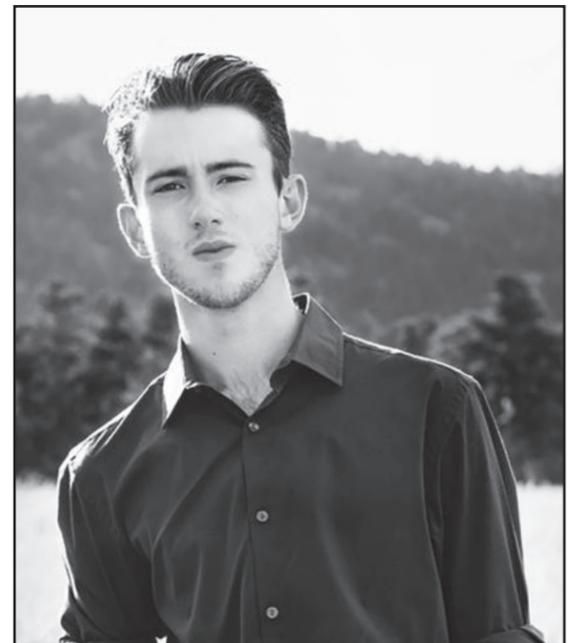
Rebekah Clare Tschumper – Arapahoe High School - Metropolitan State University - Business Management



Shifa Lakhani – Cherry Creek High School



Virginia R Boyle – Cherry Creek High School – Attending University - Healthcare



Aidan Jones - Cherry Creek High School

Walnut Hills Celebrates The Class Of 2020

2020 Arapahoe County Fair Cancelled Due To Covid-19 Impacts

Plans for a limited 4-H event are still being developed

After weighing all economic and public health and safety considerations, the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners has decided to cancel the 2020 Arapahoe County Fair that had been scheduled for late-July. The County is finalizing details of hosting a limited 4-H competition and conducting a virtual junior livestock auction. The Arapahoe County Fair is one of many events across Colorado that have been canceled, postponed or moved to virtual settings in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Last year's Arapahoe County Fair hosted a record number of visitors—more than 27,000 attendees across the four-day event. In making its decision, the Board consulted with the County's Fair management team—as well as with the Tri-County Health Department, the County's Office of Emergency Management, and event experts. It's unclear that COVID-19 concerns and public health orders will have abated enough by late-summer to make it safe to hold such a large public gathering at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds & Events Center.

The health and safety of Arapahoe County Fairgoers was paramount in making this decision. Establishing the necessary social distancing requirements within the midway, the ticketing booths, the food and beverage booths, as well as in spectator areas, proved to be unworkable given the constraints of the site.

"This was a very difficult decision for the Board, but in the end we decided that the potential health risks to our staff, volunteers and the general public still are too great to allow us to commit to holding this very large gathering in July," said Arapahoe County Board Chair Nancy Sharpe. "The Arapahoe County Fair is a 114-year-old community tradition, one we treasure. The sacrifices we are all having to make through this unprecedented health crisis are profound. But we will get through this together – and the Fair will return with "Fair fun for Everyone" in 2021."

Open Spaces Director Shannon Carter echoed this, saying the logistical challenges and the sanitary procedures we would need to put in place to protect the health of our guest are simply too uncertain to move forward this year. "We've canceled numerous events at the Fairgrounds Event Center this spring. We would only host such a large gathering as the Fair if we were as sure as possible that everyone on site would be safe," he said. "We are pleased to be able to hold limited 4-H completion events given appropriate safety protocols, and we'll release those details once they've been finalized and approved."

County officials are optimistic about being able to conduct the 4-H events in some form. "It is critical that we continue to support Arapahoe County's 4-H Youth Programs – and honor all their hard work year-round," said Commissioner Jeff Baker, who represents eastern Arapahoe County. "These kids are the future of Colorado – and they deserve recognition."

The Fairgrounds Event Center was repurposed into an Alternate Care Facility in March. It has been ready to accept guests who are recovering from COVID-19 should hospitals become overwhelmed with new cases. Thankfully, that hasn't happened, but the site will remain set up as an Alternate Care Facility indefinitely, per Tri-County Health Department and the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management, in the event that additional support is needed for regional hospitals over the summer.

The Board and our Open Spaces team have heard from so many of you, and the outpouring of understanding and support has been deeply appreciated. We can't wait for the time when we can safely come together to celebrate our Western heritage and the traditions we hold dear to our hearts.

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South Suburban Parks And Recreation

Get back in the swing of things

All four of our golf courses are open, including the driving ranges. Book a tee time online at golf.ssprd.org to reserve your spot now. Carts are available for single riders or two people from the same household. Limited food and beverage service is available too.

Summer Camps

Our licensed day camps are open for registration and there is something for everyone! Play your way at Adventure Day Camp at Family Sports Center, Club Goodson, Club Lone Tree, and Camp X-plosion at Goodson and Lone Tree rec center. Learn more about detailed program registration and safety guidelines at <https://www.ssprd.org/Licensed-Day-Camps>.

Free Fitness Classes

Our fitness staff has compiled a few of our favorite classes that you can do at home with just a few modifications. Select the class, or classes you want to take and complete all the information to participate. These classes are free and will not require any fee or admission class punch. Happy exercising!

<https://www.ssprd.org/News-And-Events/Post/19203/Free-South-Suburban-online-fitness-classes-available>

Colorado Journey Miniature Golf

Need a fun, affordable activity for your kids? Colorado Journey Miniature Golf is open seven days a week. Book your tee time now!

South Suburban launches interactive parks, trails and facility maps

South Suburban's new interactive trails, and parks and facilities maps provide a more robust experience and offer easy access to SSPRD's amenities. The maps allow users more functionality and customization than ever before via their mobile or desktop device.

The maps were created using ArcGIS Online and are now available on South Suburban's website. They profile 100 park sites, 26 open spaces and cover elevation profiles for 54.2 miles of trail. <https://www.ssprd.org/District-Maps>

For a list of current openings and regulations for all South Suburban facilities, visit ssprd.org/Safe-Return.

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Thank You!

Did you know that your neighbors volunteer to hand deliver the Walnut Hills Newsletter six times a year to nearly 1200 doorsteps? Thank you for being such great neighbors and continuing this tradition started in 1963. These volunteers are what make Walnut Hills such an amazing place.

We also have a dedicated newsletter staff that we could not print without! We want to acknowledge everyone's time and dedication to Walnut Hills. We really couldn't do it without you!

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Arc Thrift Stores & Donation Stations Now Open, Daily 10am-6pm

Arc Thrift Stores & Donation Centers are open from 10am-6pm. A great deal of time and effort has been devoted to making sure that proper social distancing procedures are in place to ensure the safety of their customers and staff.

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The culmination of six CCHS seniors' 30-minute graduation parties. The families of seniors Ian Steinig, Jason Swartz, Richard Tran, Tyler Chaffin, and Alex Molberg set up a graduation celebration in front of their homes. Seniors Jacob Jenkins, Zaphod Schmidt, Ben Schwartz, and Ana Gijon Van-Linden also enjoyed the festivities. Trumpeter's Oliver Molberg, Leonard Molberg, and Jamie Chaffin provided a live rendition of Pomp and Circumstance. Some photos and speeches were given, and all the seniors took a photo throwing their caps in the air. Some families had cupcakes to give to people and afterwards everyone left to go celebrate with their families. This was a fun way to celebrate the seniors hard work and achievement.



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Fire Prevention and Safety South Metro Fire Rescue



This week is National Fire Sprinkler Week (visit 2020 Home Fire Sprinkler Week Info or Home Fire Sprinkler Tax Rebate Application for information) and National EMS Appreciation Week.

Additionally, Governor Jared Polis signed a proclamation declaring May as Wildfire Awareness Month, an annual observance to encourage all citizens to better prepare their homes and communities for wildfires. With about half of all

Coloradans – about 3M people – living in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), it's important for people to take action to reduce the risk wildfire poses to their homes and create more fire-adapted communities.

The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control anticipates an average wildfire potential into mid-summer, but that does not mean Coloradans should be lax in preparing for fires. During an average year, Colorado will see about 4,500 wildfires that burn around 168,000 acres, including several large fires. With the coronavirus creating challenges for firefighters this year, including less flexibility and fewer resources, residents should do what they can now to ease the burden on first responders if a wildfire poses a threat to their community.

Wildfire knows no boundaries; it does not recognize jurisdictional responsibilities. A single wildfire often crosses private, county, state, tribal and federal lands and threatens communities across all landscapes. "The number of people at risk of wildfires in Colorado continues to increase," said DFPC Director Mike Morgan. "Approximately 3M people live in Colorado's wildland-urban interface – compared to 2M people just 5 years ago. We encourage landowners and communities to become aware of their level of risk and be a part of the solution."

Practical Steps While Staying at Home

- Homeowners can do a number of practical activities to protect their residence from fire while staying home and practicing social distancing. The Colorado State Forest Service recommends the following wildfire preparation activities:
- Rake and remove pine needles and dry leaves 5 feet from the home, as well as under decks, porches, sheds and play structures. Remove leaves and needles from roofs and gutters. Sweep porches and decks clear of any burnable plant material.

- Move firewood piles at least 30 feet from the house, preferably uphill.
- Transfer items under decks or porches to a storage area. Cover any exposed eave or attic vents with 1/8-inch metal mesh screening.
- Ensure home address signs are clearly visible from the street.
- Contact your local Office of Emergency Management to register for emergency notifications and encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do the same.
- Confirm at least one alternate path out of your neighborhood other than the one most commonly used and be prepared for potential evacuation requiring the alternative route.

"Accomplishing these simple tasks will increase the chances your home will survive a wildfire," said Mike Lester, state forester and director of the CSFS. "These are activities you can do on your own, while you're stuck at home. Not only will you be preparing yourself, your home and your family for a potential fire, you'll be giving a leg up to firefighters who may be called to protect your home."

Fence Repairs On Dry Creek GID Fence To Be Completed Late June

The GID has contracted with Blink's Fencing to make repairs to a section of the perimeter fence along Dry Creek starting at S. Tamarac Court moving east along Dry Creek to Hunters Hill. Repairs include the replacement of rotten posts, broken/damaged pickets, broken/damaged top or bottom rails and reattachment of fence panels to posts. The work includes staining the exterior (Dry Creek side) of the new materials. Some pickets along Quebec will also be replaced. Repairs are anticipated to begin the week of June 22nd and last for approximately 5 days. If you have concerns about the GID fence, please contact the GID through the Walnut Hills Civic Association "Contact Us" page.

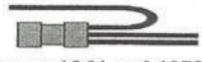


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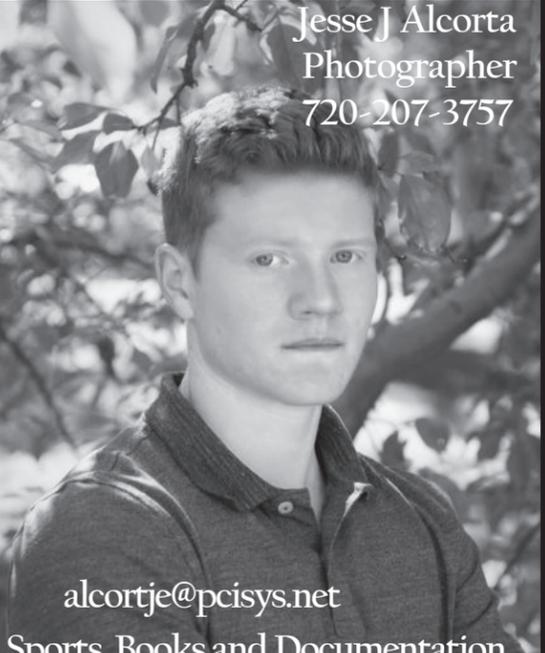


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Dear Friends and Neighbors,



I have been the Advertising Manager of the Walnut Hills Newsletter for nine years now.

With sadness and excitement for my future, I am retiring from my position with the paper.

I am reaching out to you, looking for someone to take my duties.

It's a fun job talking to advertisers, so if you are interested in this position please call or write me to discuss the full description of this important aspect of our beautiful community.

Donna Senn 303-522-8384 senn.family@comcast.net

Walnut Hills Civic Association Membership

If you are a resident of Walnut Hills, whether you're a home owner or rent a house, you're a member of the Walnut Hills Civic Association. When you pay your \$30 annual dues to support the WHCA, you become an active member. Our active members' support, together with the time and efforts of so many neighbors who have volunteered over the years to advocate for improvements to our neighborhood and bring our community together with fun family events, is a big part of what makes Walnut Hills such a special place. If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming an active member today. It's easy to pay your annual dues and become an active member. You can pay online at walnuthillscolorado.org/dues, or clip the form below to send a check by mail.

If you are already an active member, THANK YOU! We couldn't do this without you.

Walnut Hills Civic Association
 PO Box 3436
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WHCA Membership runs from April 1 through March 31.
 Dues \$30

Member name(s) _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

Email address _____

Check out the latest Walnut Hills Civic Association happenings and **pay the \$30 dues online via PayPal.**
 Visit: www.WalnutHillsColorado.org

2020 Activities	Date/Time	Location
Community Garage Sale	Fri. and Sat. June 5 and 6	Your homes
4 th of July Parade and Ice Cream Social	Sat. July 4 10 am – noon	9:30 am Stage at Dry Creek School; 10:30 am Ice Cream at Walnut Hills Park
Walnut Hills Night Out	Tues. August 4 6 – 8 pm	Walnut Hills School – includes free supper!
Yoga in the Park	Sun. June 14 and 28 Sun. July 12 and 26 Sun. Aug. 9 and 23	9 am Walnut Hills Park Bring a mat / towel
Fall Dumpster Day	Sat. October 10 8 – 11 am or full	Walnut Hills School Parking Lot
Halloween Party	Sat. October 24, 2 – 4 pm	Walnut Hills Park
Beer Night	Tues. February 23, 2021	Brewery TBD
WHCA Board of Directors Meeting	Monthly - every 2 nd Thursday at 7 pm	Metrum Credit Union Open to all residents

Be Safe – Be Prepared - For Spring Driving Conditions

Watch for potholes. Winter's freeze/thaw cycle weather can damage roadways, including the creation of potholes. Spring rain also can make them difficult to see. And they can damage your vehicle, requiring expensive repairs. Keep a safe following distance in case the driver in front of you reacts unpredictably. Avoid swerving if you can to avoid a pothole.

Slow down for spring showers. Roads become slick when it first begins to rain because rainwater mixes with road contaminants, like as oil and grease. Increase your following distance to allow for proper braking.

Watch for pedestrians and bikes. Warmer temperatures mean more people are outside walking or bicycling. Slow down and pay extra attention at crosswalks and along roadways.

Share the road with motorcycles. Motorcycles may quickly come in and out of your blind spots due to their speed and size. Always take a second look with more motorcycles out on the road.

Animals are on the move. Animal activity increases during the spring, either due to mating season or because they are waking up from winter hibernation. Deer are most active at dawn and dusk.

Inspect your tires. Adequate tire tread is important for safe driving in wet weather because the tread moves water away from the tire. Less tread means reduced traction.

Maintain proper tire air pressure. Tires lose air due to the cold winter temperatures and now can be underinflated. Warmer temperatures can cause tires to be overinflated.

In addition, a number of seasonal roadways normally open by Memorial Day will have delayed openings this year. Listed dates or time frames are subject to change:

- State Highway 5 – Mount Evans. Early July.
- State Highway 82 – Independence Pass between Twin Lakes and Aspen. June 1.
- Trail Ridge Road between Estes Park and Grand Lake (Rocky Mountain National Park). Date to be determined.
- Guanella Pass between Georgetown and Grant. Date to be determined.
- Kebler Pass between Crested Butte and the Paonia area. Thursday, May 21.
- Cottonwood Pass between Buena Vista and Gunnison County. Monday, June 1.

For the current status of the seasonal roads above, please check the cotrip.org website or call 511. For more information about the I-70 Corridor west of Denver, please visit: www.GoI70.com.

CDOT has approximately 3,000 employees throughout Colorado, and manages more than 23,000 lane miles of highway and 3,429 bridges. CDOT also manages grant partnerships with a range of other agencies, including metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and airports, and administers Bustang, the state-owned and operated interregional express service. Gov. Jared Polis has charged CDOT to further build on the state's intermodal mobility options.

Stop the Speeding in Walnut Hills

Help bring needed attention to dangerous driving in the neighborhood. Consistent reporting by everyone who sees dangerous driving and speeding is the only way to get the help we need. Report every incident! Thank You!

Recorded Traffic Complaint Line - 720-874-3825



Walnut Hills Real Estate of the Union

Tyler Draheim – Walnut Hills Board Member & REALTOR® with Coldwell Banker Market

The following information is regarding Real Estate activity in Walnut Hills as of May 13th, 2020.

There are 3 Active Listings with an average list price of \$502,600. The highest active listing is \$538,900 and has been on the market for 37 days, while the lowest is priced at \$474,900 has been on the market for 4 days.

There is 1 Under Contract Listing priced at \$445,000 which spent 4 days on the market before accepting an offer.

In the past 60 days, there have been 7 homes sold in Walnut Hills. These homes had an average Original List Price of \$505,400, and an average Sold Price of \$513,786 (102% of OLP).

This brings us to a total of 14 homes sold in Walnut Hills for 2020 with an average sold price of \$492,457 (99% of OLP), an average of 11 days on the market, and an average price per finished square foot of \$201.

Analysis

We are still very much in a Seller's Market, partially due to pent up buyer demand from the stay-at-home order, and partially due to lower available inventory. Buyers also have access to record low interest rates. Current Mortgage Rates are around 3.25% on a 30-year fixed loan and 2.75% on a 15-year fixed loan (information provided by Jean-Paul Gudka, VP of Mortgage Lending with Guaranteed Rate Affinity). These rates can fluctuate depending on down payment and credit score.

Walnut Hills and our surrounding neighborhoods have remained desirable to buyers due to a combination of location, access to school districts and local amenities. Due to Covid-19, many homeowners have had more time than ever to spend at home, which has resulted in more remodeling and home improvement projects, as well as coming to the conclusion that they may be ready to make a move.

What can you do?

If you or anyone you know has been affected by Covid-19, you can contact your mortgage servicer directly. Many are offering options for mortgage deferment,

forbearance or other programs.

Alternatively, if you are considering making a move, reach out to a local REALTOR® who knows your neighborhood to get a home valuation and discuss the market.

Lastly, if you are not ready to make a move, but would still like to take advantage of the record low mortgage rates, talk to a trusted Mortgage Lender. Refinancing to a lower rate can save you hundreds of dollars per month and thousands over the life of your loan. Again, talk to your local REALTOR®. They should be able to provide referrals that can help with anything from Lending to Remodeling.

In these strange and unprecedented times, home has become more important than ever before. The Walnut Hills community is a good place to call home. We are all neighbors and we are all in this together. Don't forget to reach out to your neighbors if you need anything or to just say hello.

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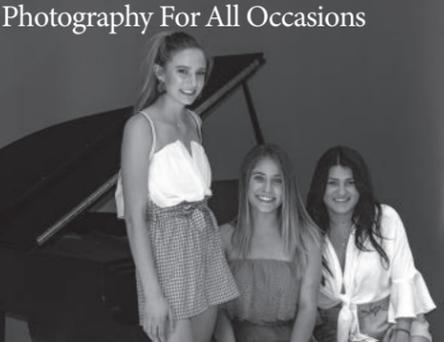
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