

The Southwind Times

The Official Publication of the Southwind Civic Association

Mailing Address: 710 E. Geddes Ave. • Centennial, Colorado 80122 • Email: jenriat@gmail.com • Phone: 720-960-2134

December 2025

Vol. 10 No. 12 • Circulation: 360

Dues

The Southwind Civic Association is back up and running! That means we're gladly accepting dues in support of our events and services. We can be found on Venmo at Southwind Civic Association (phone confirmation 8865).

Social Media

Southwind Civic Association now has Facebook and Instagram pages! Please search Southwind Civic Association on Facebook or look for @southwindcivic on Instagram. Make sure to look for our new logo! If you prefer to surf the web, we can currently be found at: www.southwindcivic.org

Holiday Decoration Competition!

This year we will be having a neighborhood holiday decoration competition. Please keep an eye out for an email from southwindcivic@gmail.com about how to enter your house into the running or how to become a judge!



Halloween Cider Recap

Thank you to all of you who participated in the Halloween Cider event! We are thankful you gave your time and energy to such a fun event. Check out this spooky picture!

Luminaries

What are Luminaries?

Every December, plazas, churches, homes, and businesses across New Mexico are lit up with luminarias, (or farolitos as they are known in Northern, New Mexico.) In Spanish, *luminaria* means "illumination" and *farolito* means "little lantern." These decorative winter holiday lanterns are made with brown paper bags, which are filled partway with sand and a lit tea candle or small votive. Once lit and set, luminarias glow with a unique warmth that is unmatched throughout the year.

The New Mexican tradition began when the Spanish villages along the Rio Grande displayed the unique and easy to make Christmas lanterns.



Southwind Luminaries

Please join us in creating our own luminarias to celebrate the Winter Solstice on Sunday December 21st. See below for directions!

Step 1 - Fold each brown paper bag

at the top to create about a one-inch fold.

Step 2 - Fill each bag with enough sand to weigh them down so they won't blow away. A couple of cups of sand should do it.

Step 3 - Nestle a votive candle, tea candle or flameless LED candle into the sand at the bottom of each bag. If using candles with real wicks, be sure to place them in the center of the bag, not near the bag's sides.

Step 4 - Place your luminarias or farolitos on the ground a few feet apart from one another to line walkways and other pathways.

Step 5 - Just before dusk on Dec 21, use a long match or a long-handled butane flame lighter to light the wick of each candle in each bag (or turn on the battery-operated LED candles).

Step 6 - Enjoy and take in the beauty and magic of this holiday tradition.



Building Community, Together.



We would love to hear from you!

Scan the QR code or email us at: southwindcivic@gmail.com

Cub Scout Pack 456 Christmas Tree Pickup Service!

Once the holidays are over, don't stress about what to do with your Christmas tree! Our local Cub Scout Pack 456 is offering a convenient tree pickup service right from your curb. This is a fantastic way to support our Cub Scouts' activities while making post-holiday cleanup a breeze!

Pickup Dates:

Saturday, December 27th

Saturday, January 3rd

How to Sign Up:

If you're interested in having your tree picked up, please email the following information to 456cubscouts@gmail.com:

Your Name

Your Address*

Your Preferred Pickup Date (Dec 27 or Jan 3)

Cost:

This service is free, but donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated to help fund Cub Scout activities.

VENMO: @GaskilleElem-Cubscouts

Learn More:

Find us on Facebook: Cub Scouts Pack 456 - Centennial CO

* Please note: Some areas may not be available for pick-up. The Cub Scouts will confirm your eligibility upon sign-up.

*What good is the warmth of summer,
without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.*
-John Steinbeck

Southwind Civic Association Annual Membership Form

Enclosed are my voluntary dues of \$20 for my 2024 Southwind Civic Association membership (Jan-Dec).

Yes, I am interested in helping to support Southwind and continue our many neighborhood activities:

I/we would like to volunteer to help with a Southwind event.

(Each event requires no more than 1-2 hours of your time)

Contact me/us if additional volunteers are needed for any event.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

**Please complete this form and mail with your check to:
Southwind Civic Association
710 E. Geddes Ave. • Centennial CO 80122**

Make payment via Venmo: Include your name, street address, and phone number along with your payment to @Southwind Civic Association. All donations go to events in the neighborhood.

Thank you for your continued support of our terrific neighborhood!

Southwind Civic Association

710 E. Geddes Ave. • Centennial, Colorado 80122

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Co-President:Liz Sawyer, Carl Miller

Treasurer:Mary Schulz, 303-797-2775

Editor & Chief to SWCA newsletter..... Jenny Riat, 720-960-2134

Members at Large: Amber Daniels, Ahna Saetveit

The *The Southwind Times* is published monthly
by the Southwind Civic Association.

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 15th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email news articles to **Hank.victoria1@gmail.com**. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter.

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

Advertise in this Newsletter!

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or
info@newsletterconnections.com

To find ad rates and discounts, go to
NewsletterConnections.com or scan QR code.



National Poinsettia Day

Each year on the 12th of December, people across the United States celebrate one of the most recognizable plants of the holidays on National Poinsettia Day.

The poinsettia initially came to the United States with Joel Roberts Poinsett, an American botanist and the first U.S. Minister to Mexico. In 1825, he sent cuttings home to Charleston, South Carolina.

However, it wasn't until the early 1920s that the poinsettia started taking root in American culture. Paul Ecke, a second-generation farmer in California, discovered a grafting technique that caused the seedlings to branch. Hawking their Christmas flower at roadside stands, Paul Ecke Jr. later advanced sales of the poinsettia through shipping and marketing.

**This Space
Intentionally Left Blank
for Teen Services**

CLASSIFIEDS: The perfect way to find local professionals to work on your house! You can also find activities, sale items and more!

Find more professionals to suit your needs on our Service Provider Directory at NewsletterConnections.com.

Stecki painting. Inter/ext. Jeff 720-331-7025

TH Consulting. Providing handyman services and GUTTER CLEANING. Please call Trent 720-226-5586.

New customers Furnace inspection \$49.99 (parts/addl labor not incl.) Emporia Home Services, your local HVAC specialist. 303-909-2018

Haul It 4 Less. All junk removal and hot tubs. Furniture, yard debris, garage, rental & estate clean outs. Peter 303-249-1980. www.haulit4less.com

Grass or Corn fed beef for sale - farm fresh, all natural, straight from our CO ranch to your table. Cattle prices are on the rise. Get your beef now in bulk. Sold by 1/4, 1/2 or whole. Call 719-349-0679. KSayles@plainstel.com

OB PAINTING. \$500 off exterior/ 10% off interior. Free Estimates. Rob: 303-908-9063.

The Family Tree Service- Insured safety trim, tree removal, and stump grinding- Free est.- **Mention ad for 10% off- 720-201-7971**

PAINTING Plus + "Quality Workmanship at an Affordable Price". Specializing in Exterior and Interior, Trim and Siding Replacement and Kitchen Cabinet painting, etc. Many Local References Free Estimates. Call Dave @ Home First Painting Co. **303-909-2357** (See us on Nextdoor)

AKC REGISTERED LABRADOR PUPPES FOR SALE. To be born end of November. Ready for new homes in Janaury. Call or text 719-349-0679. Farm raised with lots of love!

Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Newsletter Connections at **303-979-7499** or Info@NewsletterConnections.com to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at NewsletterConnections.com. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

Centennial's Jingle Jam Brings Holiday Cheer

Join us for an afternoon of joy, music and holiday cheer at Centennial Center Park—perfect for the whole family!

The City of Centennial warmly invites families and neighbors to join us for a festive holiday afternoon packed with cheer at Jingle Jam! This free, family-friendly celebration will be held from 1–4 p.m. on Saturday, December 6 at Centennial Center Park (13050 E. Peakview Ave.). Stop by for a delightful

afternoon, where the park will be brimming with holiday spirit! Dancers will kick off the event with their magical moves, followed by Centennial elementary and middle school choirs performing timeless holiday favorites that are sure to make hearts merry and bright with the sounds of the season.

Along with spirited performances, kids and adults can enjoy free holiday cookies, hot chocolate and cider, write letters to Santa and step inside a magical snow globe for a fun photo opportunity. And don't forget your cameras—there will be plenty of photos to capture joyful memories with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Grab a bite at one of the food trucks and visit our vendor booths.

JKRoofing.com

J&K ROOFING
Calm After the StormSM

IS YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER?

40+ YEARS PROTECTING COLORADO HOMES

FREE INSPECTION
303-425-7531

ROOFING + WINDOWS + SIDING + SOLAR

DAVE LOGAN
10+ YEAR MEMBER

40+ YEARS OF SERVICE

QR Code

BOOST Your Business In 2026!

Highly Targeted & Zero Waste: Your ad reaches households in your target neighborhoods. Every person who receives the newsletter is a potential customer within a few miles of your door.

Higher Engagement & Memorability: Studies show people retain information from print ads better than digital ones. The tactile experience creates a stronger, more lasting impression.

NEWSLETTER CONNECTIONS **303-979-7499**
NewsletterConnections.com

Selling Colorado One Home at a Time!

Kaeti Bancroft, Broker Owner
BANCROFT PROPERTIES, LLC

bancoff@comcast.net
303.525.2226 - cell
303.794.9191 - office

METRO BROKERS Real Estate
Independent Companies Est. 1975

Women's Council of REALTORS[®] CDPE

www.MyFrontRangeProperties.com
7851 S. Elati St. • Suite 101 • Littleton, CO 80120

Multiple Listing Service REALTOR[®]

Looking To Get Involved And Make An Impact This Holiday?

Volunteering can be a fun and deeply rewarding experience where you can meet like-minded people, help improve lives and build a stronger community.

Here are some upcoming opportunities to engage in our community. We hope to see you this Holiday season!

1. Run a toy drive. Mile High United Way collects toys each year for our Children's Holiday Party. This annual event, which is filled with face painting, cookie decorating, and photos with Santa, brings the spirit of the Holidays to hundreds of families in our community. Run a toy drive for the event and help bring joy to children this Christmas.

2. Support our community resource center. Our 2-1-1 Help Center serves as a critical resource and safety net for Colorado residents, particularly during the winter months. Our Resource Navigators work every day to help vulnerable people in our community gain access to basic needs like food and shelter.

3. Help children develop a love of reading. You can help a child build confidence, improve their literacy skills, and develop a love of reading. Volunteer to build literacy kits for young students or become a reading partner through our weekly Read With Me program.

4. Support people experiencing homelessness. Volunteer to put together hygiene kits for at risk individuals and families in our community. The kits, which contain a wide range of important self-care items, are distributed to people across Metro Denver who are currently experiencing homelessness. Contact us to see when you can join in on the next kit build.

5. Join a donor group. We believe the most fulfilling way to get involved is to do it together. Join a network and meet other socially minded individuals who are dedicated to creating a lasting impact. During the Holidays, our donor groups engage in a range of activities, such as creating Thanksgiving gift baskets for families in need.

6. Help a small business owner in Denver. Are you a small business expert? Volunteer your time and expertise to help small, local businesses in Metro Denver reach their growth potential through our United Business Advisory program.

7. Become an advocate. Mile High United Way works every day to remove barriers and create pathways to success for all people in our community through our policy initiatives. Become an advocate and help us change the odds and move families out of poverty.

8. Become a corporate partner. Get the whole team involved and become a Mile High United Way Corporate Partner. We're proud to partner with hundreds of local companies to execute strong, effective CSR programs that positively impact the community while improving employee engagement and business returns.

Mile High United Way believes every person that calls Colorado home deserves the opportunity to thrive. With your support, we can continue to meet the short and long-term needs of residents in our community.

—<https://unitedwaydenver.org>

What is a Spending Account?
It's like a traditional Checking Account...
but better!

High Yield or Cash Back

*You Choose the Spending Account that Fits You Best & Score \$100!**

- Up to 4.00% APY** on High-Yield accounts.
- Up to \$15/month on cash back accounts.
- No fees if you don't meet the requirements.

SCAN & CHOOSE
& COLLECT YOUR \$100! Or visit
metrumcu.org/spending-accounts



metrum
community
credit union

6980 S Holly Circle, Centennial CO 80112
303-770-4468 • www.metrumcu.org

What's a Spending Account? It's what we call a traditional Checking Account. Just like you have a Savings Account, you can have a Spending Account too.

* 1st \$50 paid with new High Yield or Cash Back Spending Account opened and account enrolled with eStatements and debit card order on file. Offer not available to existing primary accounts with checking/spending account opened in the last 12-months.

2nd \$50 bonus will be paid within 1st 90-days after opening when account meets all qualifications and receives a high yield interest or cash back paid to the account.

** Qualifications: Receive up to 4.00% Annual Percentage Yield on a High Yield Spending Account by: (a) complete a total of \$500 or more in direct deposits (ACH) during the statement period (b) post and clear seventeen or more debit and/or credit card purchase

transactions during the month and (c) enroll to receive periodic statement electronically; or up to \$15.00 Cash Back per month with the Cash Back Spending Account by: (a) post and clear seventeen or more debit card purchase transactions during the statement period and (b) enroll to receive periodic statements electronically.

High Yield APY subject to change anytime, see rate sheet for current rates.

Membership required with \$25.00 deposit to Base Share Savings. Offer subject to change without notice.

Federally insured by NCUA.