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Hillside Heartbeat

Bringing the community together — The Hillside Heartbeat newsletter brings you the news, events, and stories from around our neighborhood.

In the June/July 2026 Issue

- 3rd Annual Brunch July 11
- Talent Showcase
- We Need Vendors
- Community Benefit Agreement
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- Neighborhood Sponsors

**The
3rd Annual
Hillside Neighborhood Brunch
& Fundraiser is July 11.**

It's a to time to build and
strengthen connections and we



are celebrating community! Not just Hillside neighbors, but our extended circle of neighbors near and far.

Come on out and celebrate with us. You can buy [tickets here](#). And, there is still time to sign up to perform or display your art in the [All-ages Community Talent Showcase & Art Gallery](#), or set up a [vendor booth](#) for only \$20 as a nonprofit or \$40 as a for profit vendor.

Everyone is welcome!



The Hillside All-community June meeting on June 24 was an informative Q&A learning session about the future Front Range Passenger Rail, which now has a name: the Colorado Connector — or “CoCo.” You can learn more about [CoCo here](#).

The July community meeting will be held Wednesday, July 22, 6-7:30pm. The first item on the agenda will be HAT Board Elections. Come out and get involved.



This Hillside Neighborhood mural was installed under the historic stone train bridge at Concrete Coyote Community Park. Sponsored by the park's "Focus on the Creek" project, it is one of ten large murals created by local artists and community groups, including RISE Southeast, John Adams Elementary School, and Inside Out Youth Services.

Hillside News

- **Community Benefits Agreement:** In March, we learned that the Union Printers Home (UPH Partners) were granted official "blight" designation by the Colorado Springs Urban Renewal Authority. This designation unlocks critical financial tools, primarily Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for the UPH Partners, and these taxpayer funds will offset some of the massive infrastructure costs and finance the historic preservation of structures included in the \$1-2 billion development.

In April, our neighborhood coalition met with Susan Pattee, a key partner in the investment group that purchased the 25-acre historic site. Pattee indicated that UPH Partners had yet to finalize the OliverBuchananGroup as a development partner; however, she did state that collaboration on a CBA may very likely be the right tool to ensure taxpayer dollars build systems that provide public benefit to everyone whoa. She agreed 100% that affordable housing, housing options for families, small businesses and

art space were all worth preserving, and added additional options such as fresh food/groceries (to address the Hillside food desert), healthcare/clinics, and banking/credit unions.

Sensing a sincere aim from UPH Partners and the developers to collaborate with our neighborhood coalition when a partnership is secured, the coalition is now focusing on making sure every neighbor is informed, empowered, and that community voices guide this process. We've done some door-knocking/canvassing and continue to do outreach sessions. Some of our neighbors have done research and have written articles to keep you informed. You can stay up-to-date and learn more about CBAs; where they have been instituted across Colorado and the negotiated terms from a Hillside homeowner and home renter on our [website](#).

- **HAT partners with the Hillside Community Center to bring food distribution** to our neighborhood on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, January - October. In November and December, food distribution is held only on the 2nd Friday of the month.
 - Mobile food distribution is from 12 - 2pm every 2nd Friday. Neighbors can drive their cars through the center's parking lot and volunteers will load food into their vehicles
 - A walk-in food shopping distribution model is from 12 - 2pm and 4 - 6pm on 4th Fridays. These hours are designed to be a more convenient food distribution opportunity for working families
- **The Hillside Advisory Team (HAT) Neighborhood Association** is a volunteer-led organization dedicated to building connections, representing our residents, hosting events and advocating for community improvements. To better server you, and tackle the issues that matter most to our community, we are officially launching Our Annual Neighborhood Association Membership: Together for a Stronger Community.

Why is HAT doing this?

Your annual membership dues will directly fund our collective efforts to:

- **Advocate:** Represent residents' voices to city officials on critical issues like traffic, zoning, safety, and new developments that impact working-class neighborhoods
- **Build Connections:** Host community events, block parties, and holiday gatherings where neighbors can meet and connect
- **Improve Our Neighborhood:** Support local community improvement projects, partner with the Hillside Neighborhood Center, local businesses and service institutions to deliver real, positive impact for Hillside families, youth and senior citizens

- **Keep you informed:** Provide regular updates and newsletters delivered to every resident and business in Hillside. We have to bridge the digital divide because not every household uses the internet. Print updates and newsletters ensure seniors and off-grid neighbors stay informed, too.

How to Join?

Membership for households and neighborhood supporters is completely voluntary, but participation will make our collective voice stronger:

- **Annual Dues Only:** \$15 per household — \$25 per business
- **How to Sign Up:** We will have more information available at our **3rd Annual Hillside Brunch & Fundraiser on July 11**. Come on out for good food and good fun. We'd love to talk to you about membership and other ways you can support your neighborhood association

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Hillside Advisory Team · 948 E Rio Grande St · Colorado Springs, CO 80903-4561 · USA

