

You don't belong to JTown, JTown belongs to you!

JTown offers inspired, fun, and meaningful experiences that create relationships, make connections, and build community for Jews and those who share their lives.

In This Issue:

Welcome!

Upcoming Events

Around Town

Project Our Town

Guess What?

Donations

Ways to Support JTown

Coming Soon:

JTowner Highlight

BBYO South Updates

About Our Board

Welcome!

Wow! It is pretty close to jump-up-and-down exciting to put together our first newsletter. It is so special to be able to share more information with you, have some fun, and to get to know each other a little better.

The past nine months have been a whirlwind! We officially launched on July 23, 2017. Since that time, we have had 32 programs! This includes five Shabbat services and dinners, High Holiday services, several social action projects, and the rest...well, it was all about fun and socializing, meeting new people, making new connections, and creating the JTown vibe! There is a saying that "Your Vibe Attracts Your Tribe," but we actually think our tribe created our vibe. We walk away from every program feeling so fulfilled and incredibly grateful to be able to do what we do. For every bit we put out, we get at least twice as much back. This is our community and it is so precious to us and our families. We truly have the best jobs in the world!

We officially received our 501(c)(3) Federal non-profit organization status in January. This is no small task. It was hours and hours of work, and then, months and months of waiting. It also was expensive. We were extremely fortunate to have a few generous and forward-thinking donors who were willing to put their neck out for this new idea; this new way of creating Jewish community. They saw our vision and then made it theirs as well.

We have a Governing Board of seven talented, wonderful members. They have a myriad of experiences and each bring something critical to our organization. Again, seven more people, who signed up to go on this ride with us. They have helped us create a strong and steady foundation for JTown that will enable us to grow and thrive for many years to come.

So, we are sitting really pretty right now! The only part we don't LOVE is fundraising, but the reality is that we have to be constantly thinking of ways to support ourselves. We have written four grants in the last month and are meeting with potential donors any chance we get. If you are able to help, please let us know. Every dollar matters. See page 5 for some ways to support JTown.

It will be interesting to see how this newsletter evolves over the coming months and years. It will tell our story month by month...SPOILER ALERT!...it has a happy ending. 🙄

As always, please let us know if you have ideas or requests! We would also love for you to get involved if you are interested! Contact us anytime at info@jtownco.org or 720-920-9086.

Until next month,

Cindy & Amy



"I feel so comfortable and welcome at JTown events. There is always laughter, almost always wine =] the events are fun and the services resonate with me in a way that I have never experienced."

Upcoming Events

Happy Hour at Tavern DTC

Thursday, May 3 at 5:30pm

Let's meet up for Happy Hour! Just a casual, low-key opportunity to be together and shmooze. All are welcome. We will rendezvous upstairs at the Tavern DTC. Hopefully, the weather will be nice enough to be in the outside area. No RSVP needed.

Project Our Town Planning Committee

Monday, May 7 at 7:00pm

The Project Our Town Planning Committee will meet upstairs at Whole Foods Southglenn. If you have not attended a meeting but are interested in being involved in the planning stages of this amazing (huge!) community service weekend, please let us know at info@projectourtown.org. Learn more about Project Our Town at projectourtown.org!

Escape Room & Dinner at La Sandia's

Saturday, June 2

4:30pm at EPIC ESCAPE GAME

(9600 E Arapahoe Rd, Ste 212, Greenwood Village)

6:00pm at La Sandia (Park Meadows)

Registration opens May 3 (16 people maximum)

Join us for an interactive adventure game! The concept is simple: We will have two teams of 8 people and a choice of two games. We will be "locked" in a room where we will have 60 minutes to find clues, solve puzzles, and escape the room before our time is up. Let's see if we have what it takes to make an Epic Escape!

Following our great escapes, we will meet up at La Sandia for some yummy libations and sustenance! In a perfect JTown world, you would all be our guests! But, for now, it will have to be separate checks.

Concert at Hudson Garden's--38 Special

Sunday, June 17 Doors: 5:30pm - Concert: 7:30pm

Tickets \$37 at hudsongardens.org

38 Special's many gold and platinum album awards stand in testament to the endurance of this legendary powerhouse. Hits include: "Hold On Loosely," "Rockin' Into the Night," "Caught Up in You," "Fantasy Girl," "If I'd Been the One," "Back Where You Belong," "Chain Lightnin'," "Second Chance," and more - timeless hits recognizable from the first opening chord.

Join a group of your favorite JTown peeps for a fun summer night and the perfect finale to Father's Day Weekend! If you have not been to a concert at Hudson Gardens in the summertime, you are in for a treat! Grab your lawn chairs and settle in for some really tasty food truck fare, blast-from-the-past music, and a lot of dancing & carryin' on (if you so choose...If not, you can just sit and laugh at the others)!

HE/SHE-BREWS Summer Brewery Tours

Colorado is the epicenter of craft breweries for the country, and we will be exploring a few great ones in the south suburbs this summer! Try some new beers, hang out with some JTown peeps and enjoy a casual night out.

5:30pm and no RSVP needed!

June 22 Grist Brewery

July 20 Blue Spruce Brewery

Aug 3 Dry Dock Brewery

Aug 31 Breckenridge Brewery & Carboy Winery

Epic Summertime JBash!

Saturday, June 30 at Washington Park

5:00pm

You want to HOLD THIS DATE. Mark it in pen! it is going to be a perfect Colorado summer day in JTown! Food, fun, and friends!

ABBA The Concert: A Tribute to ABBA

Friday, August 24 at Levitt Pavillion

Doors at 5:30 PM | Show at 7:00 PM \$20/person

JTown has 20 tickets and we want YOU to join us.

Grab your inner dancing queen and join us on the lawn because, oy, mamma mia, it is going to be a fun night!

Levitt Pavilion Denver is a beautiful, new state-of-the-art concert facility and located in Ruby Hill Park at 1380 West Florida Ave Denver, CO 80223, which is near 1-25 and Santa Fe.

Registration coming soon. To reserve tickets, email info@jtownco.org.

If you have questions about any of these events or would like more information, please go to jtownco.org/upcoming-events or contact us at: 720-920-9086 or info@jtownco.org.

jtownshabbat

May 18 | June 15 | July 13 | August 10

SERVICE: Join us for a meaningful lay-led service. Please let us know if you are interested in leading a reading or prayer! Prior to the *Mi Shebeyrach* and *Kaddish*, you will have an opportunity to say the names of any loved ones who are in need of prayers of healing, have recently passed, or for whom you are observing a *yahrzeit*.

DINNER: If you haven't been to one of our Shabbat Dinners yet, you are missing out! There isn't a quiet moment, there is home-made challah, and it's really *heimishe* (friendly, down to earth, familiar, with a sense of belonging). We provide a catered dinner with a vegetarian option, challah, dessert, and wine. You don't need to bring a thing!

Come to just the service, just the dinner, or both.

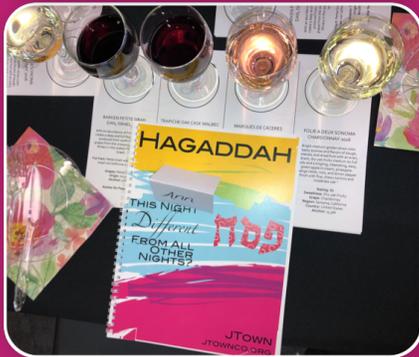
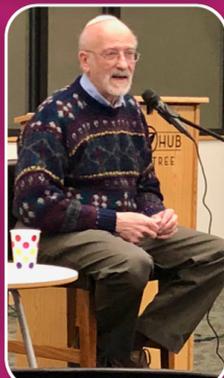
CHEESECAKE CONTEST!!

On May 18, in honor of Shavuot, we will see who takes the cake! Pull out your best recipe! There will be PRIZES!

RSVP for May 18 dinner at jtownco.org/upcoming-events

HIGHLIGHTS

from some of the programs over the last few months



On November 10 & 11, we will be mobilizing teams of volunteers and sending them out into the greater Denver community to participate in a wide range of social action projects. This two-day experience will have a lasting impact, not only on many worthy organizations, causes, and individuals, but also for the volunteers themselves.

ARE YOU READY TO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

WE HAVE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE NOW AND ALL THE WAY THROUGH
THE EVENT WEEKEND!

Our goal for this first year is to have 500+ volunteers out in the community to complete 50+ PROJECTS. We expect to grow every year as we build on our success. There are so many ways to be a part of this amazing project and at whatever level and time-commitment you are comfortable with.

Our commitment is to make it a meaningful experience for you. Contact us and we will work with you to find the perfect fit!

PROJECTS

Projects are very diverse and include things like:
working in a food pantry, hosting parties or entertainment in nursing homes or veterans centers, preparing meals at Denver Children's Home or Ronald McDonald House, collecting school supplies for those who cannot afford them, knitting blankets and hats for the homeless or people going through cancer treatments, assembling gift bags for parents of children who are hospitalized, audio recording books for the visually impaired, and **so many more!**

If you think you
are too small to make a
difference, try sleeping
with a mosquito.

-Dalai Lama

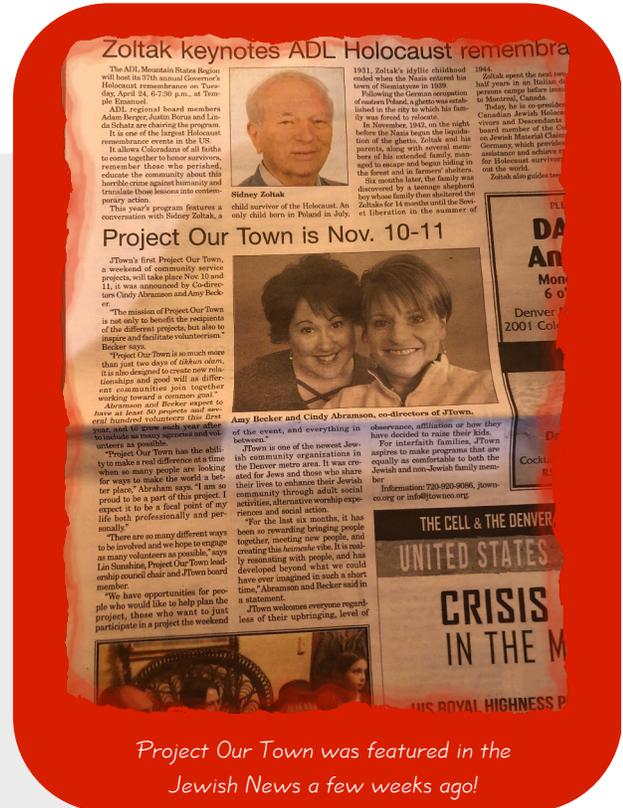
DRIVES FOR BETTER LIVES

We will be collecting items to benefit many agencies over the coming months. For more information about the agencies, or to see the drop-off locations, please go to our website.

MONTHLY DRIVES:

- May:** Canned food & non-perishables
- June:** Toiletries
- July/August:** School supplies, backpacks & books
- September:** Kid's clothing & women's work attire
- October:** Diapers and baby items

PROJECTOURTOWN.ORG



Project Our Town was featured in the Jewish News a few weeks ago!

Around Town...

GUESS WHAT?

JTown is so proud and excited to share that **we have been chosen to receive a Staenberg Anything Grant through JEWISHcolorado!** We are going to be purchasing some much needed technology including three computers, two years of web-based Quicken, and one year of additional support and training for our non-profit management system, NEON.

There were 43 applications submitted and we were one of only 13 that were granted.

THANK YOU to JEWISHcolorado and the Staenberg Family Foundation for your generosity, your understanding of the importance of technology, your validation of our mission, and for seeing our potential.

WAYS TO SUPPORT JTOWN

Donations:

We can only do what we do with of the generosity of our donors. If you are able, your support and giving spirit will help us continue to build and sustain our vision.

Donations also make meaningful gifts and memorials for loved ones, and are a beautiful way of honoring a person, a life event, or saying thank you!

All donations will be acknowledged in the JTown monthly e-newsletter (unless otherwise specified).

Underwrite an Event:

Having an event underwritten gives us the perfect opportunity to get people to try a JTown event and feel a part of the community. It also helps us offer assistance to those who would no otherwise be able to afford to attend.

Join us at events and spread the word!

Join us for any or all of our events, forward the information on to your friends, or send us their emails so we can add them to our mailing list!

JTown's Governing Board:

Sheryl Gurrentz, President
Lin Sunshine, Secretary
Howard Wolsky, Treasurer
Clint Burnette
Sherri Ginsburg
Andy Gurrentz
Robin Singer

DONATIONS:

In memory of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends
Lin & Gary Sunshine

Thinking of Rob Abramson
Amy, Jeff, Corey & Chelsea

In honor of Suzan Markman's Birthday
Carol Singer & Shelley Gold

In Memory of Douglas Sandlaufer
Sherri Ginsburg

In honor of a wonderful JTown Seder
Renee Karpel

In honor of JTown receiving the Staenberg Anything Grant
Carol Singer & Shelley Gold
Lori & Kelly Dykstra
Jodi & Tony Hammans
Max & Julia Walker
Robin & Troy Singer

In honor of Dick Strouse's new hip!
Lin & Gary Sunshine

In honor of the JTown Governing Board
Thank you for 100% donation participation!
Cindy Abramson & Amy Becker

**STEP UP TO
THE PLATE...**
with the
**JTOWN MEN'S
SOFTBALL TEAM**

Looking for 15 guys who want to
be a part of this team for the
Denver Jewish Softball League.

Games are on Sundays
usually before 1:00 p.m.
Fees are \$50 plus the cost of a shirt
For more information email us at
info@jtownco.org

JTown is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization founded in 2017.

For more information, please visit our website jtownco.org or call 720-920-9086

CONTACT JTOWN:

jtownco.org

720-920-9086