



### **April 2026 News and Information**

Hello DU Retirees!

Spring has arrived and I'm looking forward to getting my garden planted. Picking out seeds, deciding which plants to buy. Will it be all vegetables and herbs or is there room for flowers? So many questions. I hope you are planning gardens, vacations, barbeques, and activities with friends and family.

Our Spring luncheon was a huge success. Over 90 retirees and guests attended. We had a great lunch and DU's new Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Elizabeth Loba, spoke in detail about her path to DU, her plans for the future of DU, and gave a comprehensive overview of the current state of the University.

She outlined the state of higher education for all colleges and universities. She advised us that everyone in higher education is experiencing the same thing.

Loba comes to DU with an impressive record from Southern Methodist University where she was the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. There she led initiatives that resulted in a 56% increase in student applications for the fall 2025 entering class.

Provost Loba is an energetic, engaging speaker. Her presentation was well-received and everyone I spoke with felt better informed and positive about DU's future.

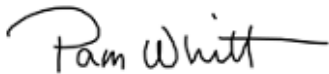
I hope you are enjoying getting ready for summer. We have two fantastic events scheduled for June. We are looking forward to the June 1 trip to the Kennedy Mountain Campus and have already booked more than 50% of capacity. Reservations are open so, if you want to participate, make sure you RSVP very soon. See copy below for

details. Our second June event is our annual Summer Barbecue on Wednesday, June 10, at the Wellshire Event Center. It will be another DU Retirees stellar event you will enjoy attending.

Let me close by saying we love seeing all of you. I want to remind you to take advantage of the discounts and benefits that are available to you. Check out the links at the end of this e-blast. Use the RTD passes, buy a discounted parking pass if you attend events on campus, take classes and apply for the Longbrake Endowment reimbursement. Don't forget to use your DU Retiree ID for discounts on tickets and also enjoy the DU Employee and Retiree Appreciation Athletic Events. Attend Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging Lunch and Learn. Stay connected!

Have a great month!

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam Whitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

Pam Whitt, Chairperson  
DU Retirees Board

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### **Trip to the DU Mountain Campus on June 1**

Registration is now open to join your fellow DU retirees for a day trip to the Kennedy Mountain Campus in the Red Feather Lakes area on Monday, June 1.

Please join us on a day field trip to the Kennedy Mountain Campus in the Red Feather Lakes area. Complimentary parking at DU is available if needed, transportation in a luxury coach, and a delicious lunch will be provided—all at no cost. More information to come. You may bring one guest (must be over 18 years old).

RSVP via email to Carole Burgess at [cburgess@du.edu](mailto:cburgess@du.edu) or by phone at 303.810.9901 and leave a voice message. Be sure to include your name, your phone number, your email address and the name of your guest, if you are planning to host someone at our event. Once submitted, you will receive a written confirmation. Space is limited to 55 people, so call or email before May 22 to secure your reservation.

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**DU Alumni Relations**



### **Under the Dome: Chamberlin Observatory**

2930 E. Warren Avenue, Saturday, April 18, 8:30 p.m.

Experience one of DU's most iconic landmarks alongside fellow retirees and Pioneer Alumni Legends, with an evening presentation and telescope viewing (weather permitting). Complimentary advance registration required.

[Register Here](#)

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### **Retiree Medicare Information Session**

**Thursday, April 30, 2026, 11 a.m. to noon, [via Zoom](#)**

Join the DU Benefits Team and Kaiser Permanente for a Medicare Education Session designed to help you learn about and be able to navigate its complexities. Whether you're approaching Medicare eligibility, are new to Medicare, or are looking to optimize your current plan, experts are here to guide you every step of the way. Information related to the retiree medical benefit plans will be available as well.

Topics include:

- Understanding the Basics of Medicare
- Exploring the DU Senior Medicare Advantage plan and Prescription Coverage Part D through Kaiser
- Understanding the University's Retiree Eligibility Requirements
- Discussing Early Retiree Benefits—Specifically through Kaiser
- Navigating Medicare Supplements

Please book your spot for the session at the [Kaiser Permanente Group Medicare—Colorado webpage](#). If you have questions, please send an email to [Retirees@du.edu](mailto:Retirees@du.edu).

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## **Kaiser Permanente**

Cancer continues to be a leading driver of health care costs. Kaiser Permanente has experts in nearly every type of cancer—all connected in our health network. So, no matter where you get day-to-day care, your healthcare team can review and collaborate on your personal treatment plan. Visit [kp.org/cancercare](http://kp.org/cancercare) to learn more about Kaiser Permanente's integrated approach to cancer prevention.

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## **Emeritus Tea and 50 Year Medallion Ceremony**

**June 12, 12:30 p.m., Joy Burns Center, 2044 E Evans Avenue, Denver, CO 80208**

Join emeritus faculty, retired staff, and Pioneer Alumni Legends for this cherished DU tradition honoring the Class of 1976. Enjoy afternoon tea, music, and fellowship as we celebrate enduring connections across generations of the DU community.

[Register Here](#)

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## **DU Retirees Annual Summer Barbecue**

**Wednesday, June 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**Wellshire Event Center, 3333 South Colorado Boulevard**

Join us for another enjoyable annual DU Retirees Summer Barbecue being hosted at the Wellshire Event Center. Mark this date on your calendar now and look forward to reconnecting and visiting with colleagues and friends before the launch of your summer season. RSVP for you and your guest to Carole Burgess at [carole.burgess@du.edu](mailto:carole.burgess@du.edu) by Friday, June 5, or leave a voicemail by phone at 303.810.9901.

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### **Explore the World with the DU Community**

Pioneer Journeys invite DU emeritus faculty and retired staff to travel alongside fellow members of the University community through thoughtfully planned experiences around the globe.

#### **The Luxurious Caribbean Sea, February 1-9, 2027**

Sail from St. Maarten to Curaçao aboard the elegant Sea Cloud Spirit, visiting six Caribbean islands with time to explore, relax, and enjoy classic tall-ship sailing. Interested? [Read the program details.](#)

#### **The Best of Southern Africa, May 9-18, 2027**

Journey through South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, including Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park, and the Okavango Delta, with guided wildlife viewing and cultural exploration. [Read the program details.](#)

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### **Longbrake Family Foundation Retiree Education Fund**

The Longbrake Family Foundation Retiree Education Fund was created for the purpose of providing University of Denver retirees with a limited number of small stipends to assist with the financial portion of continuing education programs offered by the Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging (KIHA) and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Review the steps to learn more about how to apply for and use the stipend, or [make a contribution to the fund.](#)

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**Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging**

## **Roadmap for Successful Aging—Home Safety: Ensuring Comfort and Independence**

Thursday, April 9, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Online only

Join Aging at 5280 Founder and Owner, Cindy Koch, and Elder Care Manager, Karen Summers, as they host Mindie Ottke BSN, RN, CCRN, TCRN. Mindie is an Injury Prevention and Outreach Specialist at AdventHealth Littleton and AdventHealth Parker, and she will be discussing the impacts of community and aging in place safely.

[Register Here](#)

If you are having trouble registering, please email [Riley Coyne](#) directly for assistance.

## **Lunch and Learn: Estate Planning and Cognitive Decline**

Tuesday, April 28, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In-person

Join us at the Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging for an informative Lunch and Learn session with Jon Kraus, Jenna Merlin, and Peter Merlin. They will be discussing money and assets as we age. More information to come! This event is proudly sponsored by Aging at 5280.

[Register Here](#)

If you are having trouble registering, please email [Riley Coyne](#) directly for assistance.

## **Refuge: Homelessness and End-of-Life Care in Denver, by 9News**

Wednesday, April 29, 5 to 7 p.m.

In-person

Join us for a community screening and panel discussion of *Refuge*, the 9News documentary exploring end-of-life care and homelessness in Denver. This powerful film sheds light on a deeply important issue affecting our unhoused neighbors and the organizations working with compassion and urgency to support them. Come together with DU and Denver community members to watch the documentary, learn about the work happening across our city, and engage in meaningful conversation about how we

can collectively care for one another. Come to learn, connect, and be in community.

[Learn more](#) and if you would like to attend, [register here](#).

If you are having trouble registering, please email [Riley Coyne](#) directly for assistance.

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## **Alzheimer's and Dementia**

### **Alzheimer's/Dementia 101 with Dementia Friendly Denver**

Online only, Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

You're invited to our free zoom seminar hosted by Dementia Friendly Denver's JJ Jordan titled Alzheimer's/Dementia 101-Facts, Treatments, Caregiving, Research, and Risk Reduction. This seminar will explore the risk factors, warning signs, and lifestyle changes that could lower your risk for dementia. This seminar is offered monthly. Click the date below to register.

[Register for the April 30 seminar.](#)

If you are having trouble registering, please email [Riley Coyne](#) directly for assistance.

### **Alzheimer's Association: Empowered Caregivers Series**

Thursday April 2, 16, and 23, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Online only

Caring for someone living with dementia brings a unique set of challenges and rewards. Learn to navigate the responsibilities of middle- and late-stage caregiving in this education program. The Alzheimer's Association Empowered Caregiver education series teaches caregivers how to navigate the responsibilities of caring for someone living with dementia. Caregivers can register for individual courses to meet their needs or complete the entire series. Join us on Zoom for these webinars. Click the link below or call this number to register: (800) 272-3900.

[Register Here](#)

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## **2026 RTD Booklets**

To request RTD booklets, contact [benefits@du.edu](mailto:benefits@du.edu). Be sure to include your name and mailing address. You may request up to two booklets each quarter—booklets are subject to availability.

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## **DU Retiree Parking Passes at A Discount**

DU Retirees are eligible to receive a sizable discount for parking in the Newman Center Parking Lot and/or the lot due south of the Ritchie Center. Show your DU Retiree ID at the Parking Services Office to be eligible to purchase a parking pass for \$8 per quarter or \$32 for the year. Please be aware that prices may change for the 2026-2027 academic year.

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## **Lamont School of Music**

### **Faculty Recital Series—Basil Vendryes, Viola, and colleagues**

Saturday, April 4, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Hamilton Hall

2 free tickets at the DU Box Office with DU Retiree ID

Free parking

### **Faculty Recital Series—Richard Harris, trombone "Songs my students taught me"**

Friday, April 10, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Hamilton Hall

2 free tickets at the DU Box Office with DU Retiree ID

Free parking

### **Faculty Recital Series—Brian Neal, trumpet, and Cindy Lindeen-Martin, organ**

Friday, April 17, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Hamilton Hall

2 free tickets at the DU Box Office with DU Retiree ID

Free parking

### **Lamont Opera Theatre—Strauss' "Die Fledermaus"**

Thursday through Sunday, April 23-26, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Gates Hall

No free tickets, only discounts; \$16–36  
Call the DU Box Office for info at 303.871.7720

**Jennie's Concert—"A Brass Celebration"**

Thursday, April 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Gates Hall

Free admission—no tickets

For further info on any concert, call the Box Office at 303.871.7720.

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**Useful Links**

- [DU Campus Information](#)
- [DU Master Calendar of Events Information](#)
- [Newman Center Presents](#)
- [Lamont School of Music](#)
- [DU Athletics](#)
- [Denver Public Library Programs for Older Adults](#)
- [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Programs \(OLLI\)](#)  
Retirees are exempt from the \$20 up charge for on campus classes.
- [Knoebel Institute for Healthy Aging](#)
- [Senior Resources on Aging \(Aging at 5280\)](#)

- [RTD Access-a-Ride for persons with disabilities](#)
- [A Little Help](#)

### **Board Members**

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