

MY NAME IS A glimpse of the people in our community

Karl Bruns-Kyler
Animal fanatic
and Certified
Senior Advisor



Karl Bruns-Kyler, animal lover and owner of The Big 65, an insurance service in Highlands Ranch. COURTESY PHOTO

A traveler
I grew up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in a rural Mennonite community. I met and married my Coloradan wife in New York 28 years ago and we've since traveled the world. Our next adventure is to Kazakhstan to attend the 2017 World's Expo and then onto Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Father of 20
OK, OK, it breaks down as follows: the first 10 were Latino children mostly being raised by their Latina grandmother. We became their mentors; they became our first children. Those kids taught us how to parent.

The next eight were exchange students. Each lived with us for a year and loved the U.S. Our advice to anyone with kids: host an exchange student. You'll love it and it'll make you, your kids and the world a better place. The final two: our daughter is a junior at Davidson — Steph Curry's alma mater — in Charlotte and our son will be senior at Highlands Ranch High School. My amazing wife works for specialized loan services in Littleton.

Owner of Big 65 Senior Insurance Services
For more than 16 years, I've been helping individuals, businesses, CPAs, financial advisors, estate planners, physicians, pharmacists and their clients shop for insurance. As a Certified Senior Advisor and an independent

insurance broker, I make it easy for people to find the right coverage and to review it yearly. I love what I do and I take pride in my helping my clients, year after year.

Fun fact
We are animal fanatics. Our current brood includes a Lhasa Apso name Wookie — she rides in a side bag on my mountain bike — a 115-pound Bernadoodle named Plato, a rescued Persian kitten name Kali, the goddess of destruction, and Gizmo, a rescued 3-pound lionhead rabbit. If you come to our backyard for a barbecue, you'll see them all hanging out together causing trouble.

If you have suggestions for My Name Is..., contact adewind@coloradocommunitymedia.com

NEWS IN A HURRY

Citizens Academy applications
The 18th Judicial District's free, seven-week Fall Citizens Academy will be held on consecutive Wednesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. between Sept. 20 and Nov. 1 in the 18th Judicial District Attorney's Arapahoe County office, 6450 S. Revere Parkway in Centennial.

The academy gives an in-depth look at what happens on a case between the time of arrest and after conviction. Each class will explore the role various members of the office play in different parts of the criminal justice system.

Attendees will also get to explore the different functions of the specialized units within the District Attorney's Office, including the Special Victims Unit, Economic Crimes Unit, Cold Case Unit, Crime Scene Investigations, the County Court and Juvenile Justice department. Students will also learn the intricacies of jury trials.

Participants must be at least 18 years old, complete an application and pass a criminal background check.

Limited spaces are available in the citizens academy, and preference will be given to applicants living in the 18th Judicial District who are first-time attendees.

The link to the application can be found at: <http://www.da18.org/DAsOffice/Community/CitizenAcademy.aspx>. Deadline is Friday, Aug. 25. Attendees will be notified of

acceptance no later than Sept. 6.

Applications may be submitted via fax to 720-874-8790, via email at mnavarro@da18.state.co.us or via regular mail at Office of the District Attorney, c/o Mayra Navarro, 6450 S. Revere Parkway, Centennial, Colorado 80111.

Last Pilates in the Park

The final Pilates class of the free summer series, hosted by Highlands Ranch Metro District and presented by IM=X Pilates of Highlands Ranch, is from 8-8:45 a.m. on Aug. 8 at Civic Green Park, 9370 S. Ridgeline Blvd. All experience levels are welcome. Young children who can participate may attend, but no babies or toddlers. Participants should bring a mat, sunscreen and water bottle.

For more information, call 303-791-2710.

Events for seniors

• Aug. 10: Learn how to use Uber, Lyft and Google Maps from 1-3 p.m. at James H. LaRue Library, 9292 S Ridgeline Blvd., presented by City of Centennial's Senior Commission Mobility Ambassador Program. Admission is free. Registration is required at highlandsranch.org/signmeup. Activity number: 801000-E.

• Aug. 15: residents ages 55 and older are invited to a Highlands Ranch Metro District open house from 4-7 p.m. at Hendrick Office Building, 62

Plaza Drive, to provide input on services and programs they would like to see in Highlands Ranch. Feedback will be used in a senior feasibility study.

• Aug. 16: learn from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office how to prevent frauds, scams and identity theft from 6-7:30 p.m. at Hendrick Office Building, 62 W. Plaza Drive. Admission is free. Registration is required at highlandsranch.org/signmeup. Activity number: 802000-I.

Save the date

Ever wondered how Cheese Ranch — a frequented park in southeast Highlands Ranch — got its name? The Highlands Ranch Metro District is sponsoring an evening of history learning, beer tasting and cheese eating at Cheese Ranch: Families, Farming and Fermentation from 5:30-7 p.m. on Sept. 15 at Cheese Ranch Historic Park, 9191 Sugarstone Circle.

Speakers from the metro district's park ranger division and Highlands Ranch Historical Society will share their knowledge with attendees, who must be 21 years and older. Grist Brewing Company and Whole Foods will provide beer and cheese.

The cost is \$10 for Highlands Ranch residents, \$12 for nonresidents. To register, visit highlandsranch.org/family-farming-and-fermentation. Registration deadline is Sept. 10.

Tell us your breast cancer stories

Are you living with breast cancer, or serve as support to a loved one currently going through treatment? Do you worry about treatment options? Did you overcome a breast cancer diagnosis?

We want to hear from you. Over the next month, Colorado Community Media will be collecting stories from

women whose lives and experiences can help educate and inform others about breast cancer and other health issues facing women today. We are looking for stories from all ages.

In honor of overall women's health, we are also looking for stories from readers who have overcome health obstacles, or

have worked with doctors and nurses who have gone above and beyond in care.

If your story is selected, a member of the Colorado Community Media staff will contact you for an interview.

Send your information to Thelma.Grimes@coloradocommunitymedia.com.

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