GLENDALE CHRONICLE

From LoDo to the Dam

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Ogungbenle Acquitted Of All Charges

But How Do You Get Your Reputation Back After Being Wrongly Accused Of A Sex Crime?

by Danny Foster, Esq.

everal weeks ago I had the pleasure
of representing a client in a hotly contested jury trial in the Amphoe County courts. My client was Jonathan Ogungbenle, a sweet and pleasant 58-year-old Nigerian immigrant who became a U.S. citizen several years ago. The DA's office was hell-bent on prosecuting my client despite the ample evidence I had provided to them that my client did not commit this terrible act. You may have heard about my client. He was a substitute teacher for the Aurora Public Schools who was accused of masturbating in class while two students and an assistant teacher were present. I showed them the highly contradictory statements of the accusers and pointed out how the police did not properly investigate the crime. Despite my protests and evidence of innocence they proceeded through to trial and, as expected, the jury found my client not guilty of these charges (in less than 30 minutes of deliberation!). It was the right result and it saved a good and decent man from the indignities of possible incarceration and the horrific label of being called a sex offender. (If you wish to listen to an interview conducted on KNUS regarding the specifics of this trial you can visit our website: http://fostergraham .com/news-events/).

But what happens to you (or your family member) when your name is dragged through the mud, your reputation is attacked and you are acquitted of the criminal charges? How does one go about reassembling the broken pieces of one's life? The question is entirely rhetorical because you, in fact, never do.

In my client's case his face was on the TV news channels within hours of his arrest. Of course the reporter didn't wait to see if this case was legitimate or not. He likely just regurgitated some press release from the Arapahoe County DA's office or read the probable cause statement from the Continued on page 4

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Acquitted: Jonathan Ogungbenle, an Aurora Public Schools substitute teacher and nurse's aide, was acquitted by the jury in less than 30 minutes, but the unsubstantiated accusation alone has left him without a way to make a living or to support his family and large legal bills to pay.



Unique Experience: An annual event held at the end of the summer in Nevada's Black Rock Desert, Burning Man is described as an experiment in community, art, radical selfexpression and radical self-reliance.

Valley Family Voyages To 'Burning Man'

The Woodstock Of The West (Sans Music)

by Laura Lieff

For one week at the end of the summer, over 60,000 participants, including a significant number of people from the Cherry Creek Valley, travel to Nevada for what has been called "the last refuge of

hippie-dom," But in reality Burning Man is a great deal more. It is an annual event held in the Black Rock Desert that begins on the last Monday in August and ends on the first Monday in September. Named for the Continued on page 20



Popular Event: Over 60,000 participants, including a significant number of people from the Cherry Creek Valley, travel to Burning Man for what has been called "the last refuge of hippie-dom."

Glendale's Amazing Bar & Restaurant Revival



by Laura Lieff

B ack in the 1970s and 1980s, Glendale was the youth capital of Colorado with a vibrant nightlife and bars and restaurants packing East Virginia Avenue and Leetsdale Drive. But in the 1990s, under mayors Steve Ward and Joe Rice, Glendale attempted to kill as many liquor license establishments as possible and the bar and restaurant scene shifted down to LoDo, particularly after the opening of Coors Field in 1995.

If you ask Valley residents who have been around for decades and love talking about the old days you will hear stories about places that are long gone including the Riviera, The Lift, the Sports Page, Colorado Mining Company and the Cork 'N Cleaver. The only establishment that still stands from that era is Bull & Bush — a Glendale staple since 1971.

But "the times they are a-changin'" once again and Glendale City Hall is actively attempting to restore its old vibrancy with a Continued on page 6

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Bar & Restaurant Revival Glendale's Amazing

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planned Riverwalk project between East Virginia Avenue and Cherry Creek, But even before that project is put in place Glendale is already experiencing an enormous bar and restaurant renaissance with the 1000 Colorado Boulevard shops and the Hilton Garden Inn and CitySet complexes along Cherry Creek Drive South, In addition, the City sees South Cherry Street as a great potential site for new bars and restaurants with Sam's No. 3 opening there in June of

"As a longtime Glendale restaurant ten-ant I'm glad to see things coming full circle," says Bull & Bush owner David Peter-son, "There is a revival going on and more places are bringing their businesses here, making Glendale a destination once again. CitySet and 1000 Colorado Boulevard are great complexes and I think it's fantastic that there is so much interest in the area."

1000 Colorado Boulevard development first opened in May 2010 and today houses Tokyo Joe's, Mod Market, Pinkberry and Cheesesteak Connection, Further north on Colorado Boulevard entrepreneur Navin Dimmond, President and CEO of Stone-bridge Companies, has revived the corner of Colorado Boulevard and Cherry Creek Drive which in the heydays of Glendale was the seven-acre site of the Cherry Creek Inn and before that was part of the old Cambridge Dairy Farm. Dimmond totally redid the Hilton Garden which houses the Zink Bar & Patio and the Great American Grill. Behind the hotel, facing Colorado Blvd, are Cafe Rio, Panera Bread and Garban zo Mediterranean Grill.

Unique Setup

But nothing resembles the go-go days of Glendale like phase two of Dimmond's Glendale project called CitySet. He has built a 135-room Residence Inn by Marriott east of the Hilton Garden Inn and between the two hotels a panoply of bars and restau-

Described as a "strazza" (street and plaza) that connects pedestrians and cars in a safe and flexible environment, CitySet also allows community gatherings when closed to traffic. The property is supported by 550 parking spaces, 200 of which are

in an underground garage.

In addition to the exciting dining choices, what sets CitySet apart from other restaurant complexes is the collection of patios and proximity that makes you feel like you're at the best party in town. The complex also provides a feature that is among the first of its kind in the country — the flexibility to be operated as a "common consumption area" which allows for open containers between participating restaurants within the district as well as expanded liquor service hours (until 4 a.m.) when the common consumption area is fully active.

Whether you're looking for quality seafood, a casual Cuban lunch, burgers or beer, CitySet offers a lot of options at one location. Here is a guide to some of the new choices:

Jax Fish House & Oyster Bar

Boasting a kitchen three times larger than the one in LoDo, the Glendale Jax location features a menu that includes cured and smoked seafood plus non-fish dishes, Along with halibut, snapper, smoked trout, sea scallops and oysters, dinner choices include chicken done two ways, pork and beef ten-derloin. There are even jazz brunches on Sunday. A 35-seat, u-shaped bar devoted to the raw, as well as beer, wine and cocktails.



Diner Down The Street: Located just down the road from CitySet, Sam's No. 3 offers a casual, upscale diner menu in a fun, retro environment.

is the focal point of the windowed dining room. The 118-seat rooftop patio named Hi^Jax has its own kitchen and bar, plus a fireplace and stunning views. The upstairs-only menu includes lobster and clam bakes, along with cocktail options like Strawberry Lemonade and the Jax Mule.

Cuba Cuba Sandwicheria

Upon entering this eatery, saucy Cuban music beats and photos of old Cuba make you feel as authentic as the food you are about to taste. A Miami native, owner Kristy Socarras Bigelow knows a thing or two about Cuban food. The original location is Cuba Cuba Cafe & Bar - a destination that has been an Art District staple since the summer of 2001. Glendale's new, more casual location is where tradition translates into a medley of big, authentic Cuban sandwiches such as the cubano, pan con bistec and pan con lechon all pressed just right. Entrees include the picadillo (ground beef plate), bistec palomilla (steak plate) and pollo a la plancha (chicken plate). Drinks offered include the timehonored Mojito - a classic Cuban cocktail with Bacardi rum, mint and lime — along with Sangria and beer.

Big Smoke Burger

Wedged in a space between Jax and Cuba Cuba Sandwicheria is Big Smoke Burger. The first U.S. location of the Canadian franchise offers a "better burger" with at least six ounces of fresh ground beef plus a wide variety of toppings and premium side dishes, "It's a simple menu," declares franchisee Cameron Tune. He believes burgers should contain quality beef - his is Black Angus chuck delivered fresh five days a week from Denver's Lombardi Meats with good toppings. The housemade sauces and flavor combinations along with a selection of wines, bottled beer and oldfashioned shakes have positioned this new eatery at the top of the market's quick service, better burger segment. World Of Beer

Featuring 50 rotating taps and 500 bot-tles of beer, all of which are U.S. craft beers or imports, World of Beer is a mecca for beer lovers. The 2,500-square-foot location also has a large patio that wraps around two sides of the building. Each World of Beer location — and there are 45 in several states



Cuban Culsine: Glendale's new, casual location is where tradition translates into a medley of authentic Cuban food and beverages.



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Reer Lovers Unite: With 50 rotating taps and 500 bottles of beer that can be enjoyed inside while enjoying live music or outside on their large patio, World of Beer is a magnei for beer fans.



— chooses its own selection depending on what people in the area want to drink. Live music can be heard from the second floor and there are even wine options for those who aren't beer fans.

Sam's No. 3

The newest Sam's No. 3 — which opened down the road from CitySet on Cherry Street across from King Soopers off Leetsdale Drive — is a throwback restaurant that is possibly the most upscale diner in America. You won't find sticky vinyl seats or poor lighting that has become the expected diner décor. Instead the third and most recently opened Sam's No. 3 is bright, shiny and clean offering casual, upscale dining along with the same American-Mexican menu that has inspired patron devotion at the other locations.

There's More

Coming soon to CitySet are Native Foods Café and The Kitchen [Next Door]. Native Foods Café is a fast-casual meatless (read: vegan) joint that offers soy — and wheatbased meat substitutes in lieu of animal products. Boasting more than 14 stores in California, Chicago, Portland and Boulder, Valley residents will now have the opportunity to try something new. The Kitchen—the flagship of which is in Boulder with another location in downtown Denver—will feature a farm-to-table inspired menu and will include a large patio on the second floor.

The Future
Glendale Mayor Mike Dunafon says the City is just beginning. "We have an opportunity to make the entire triangle from 9th and Colorado to Glendale to Cherry Creek an amazing place to live, work and play. I know Denver is working hard to make 9th and Colorado a great development and Cherry Creek North is exploding right now. We want to do our part to make this area of town the most exciting part of the Denver metropolitan area."

He went on to note that "the Riverwalk is intended to be our cornerstone project but the rest of Glendale is already creating a great buzz. Things are moving fast and it's only going to get better."



Superior Seafood: Featuring a large bar, delicious menu, street side patio and rooftop patio, Jax Fish House gives patrons a wide range of dining options.



Not Your Average Burger: The first U.S. location of the Canadian franchise, Glendale's Big Smoke Burger offers a "better burger" with toppings, premium side dishes and house-made sauces.





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