

From: People for Perkins <owenperk@aol.com>**To:** owenperk <owenperk@aol.com>**Subject:** Keeping My Eye on the Ball in "The Write Stuff," A Campaign Newsletter from Owen Perkins [Test Email]**Date:** Wed, Oct 2, 2013 9:13 pmEmail not displaying correctly? [View in your browser.](#)www.owenperkins.org[Unsubscribe](#)

Volume 1, Issue 10 -- October 2, 2013



The Write Stuff



Dear Friend,

The last group I brought to a Rockies game had a hearty laugh after a foul ball came our way and I scuffled with a small gaggle of fans for the ball. I got a hand on it, but another fan left with the ball -- and my shoe print on his arm!

He was fine and happy, and we bemoaned the lack of cameras to capture an "Owen will fight for you in HD2" moment, while I thought my focus and intensity merited a "Keeping My Eye on the Ball" slogan.

I kept my focus and maintained my intensity as the season wound down, and on the last Rockies home game of the season -- **Todd Helton's [final game at Coors Field](#)** -- karma delivered a Nolan Arenado foul fly to my lap. (Thankfully, my laptop was spared from my press box perch).

IN THIS ISSUE



Please Join Hosts

Tom Bost**Sarah Bradley****Mary Cullen****Kenneth deBacker &****Janet Hartmann****Sara Marsden****Connie Oehring****Helen Perin****T.R Reid**

(host committee in formation
add your name!)

for

[Just Like Us -- World Premiere
Adaptation of the Book by Helen
Thorpe](#)



In all seriousness, baseball has again provided an apt metaphor for my last month of summer. It was a busy stretch, and a tough month as I immersed myself as much as I could in working to help **Senate President John Morse** and **Senator Angela Giron** in defending the attempts to recall them each from office, then watched as our neighboring communities were immersed in **unprecedented floods** that rank among the most devastating natural disasters to hit our state.

Both of those events left me wishing I could do more. I did everything I could for John and Angela, two courageous leaders who I was honored to know from my time working with **Senator Irene Aguilar** at the State Capitol. I'm proud of Colorado's leadership in passing landmark legislation this year, and John and Angela exemplify the kind of leaders we need in Colorado -- those who will stand up to special interests and do the right thing without fearing the repercussions to their own career and fortune.



with John Morse at a Colorado College rally

As John said in Colorado Springs in his [election night concession speech](#), quoting Bobby Kennedy, "It is the essence of responsibility to put the public good ahead

- ★ [Keeping My Eye on the Ball](#)
- ★ [Powered by People](#)
- ★ [In Case You Missed It](#)
- ★ [Upcoming Events](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

★ [Just Like Us -- World Premiere, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Friday, October 4th at 7:30 p.m.](#)

★ [House District 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting Featuring a Forum of At-Large Denver Public School Board Candidates -- Location TBD, Saturday, October 19th at 9:00 a.m.](#)

★ [House District 2 Democratic Candidate Forum, DU Dems -- Anderson Academic Commons 340, Wednesday, October 23rd at 7:00 p.m.](#)

VIDEO OF PAST EVENTS

★ [House District 2's School Board Forum with DPS District 3 Candidates Meg Schomp and Mike Johnson, September 21, 2013](#)

★ [Helen Thorpe Discusses Bringing Just Like Us to the Stage at The Tattered Cover, September 17, 2013](#)

★ [Todd's Last Stand, Helton's Final Days as a Rockie, September 16-25, 2013](#)

★ [Senate President John Morse's Election Night Speech, September 10,](#)

of personal gain." It's a sentiment that has fueled my work for years, leading me to spend increasingly more time volunteering to work on issues that I know require our essential passion and energy while backing off on my own personal goals, and it's an example that has driven me over the past couple months to focus my resources on issues facing Colorado that I know are more critical and pressing than my own campaign for office.

Is that keeping my eye on the ball? Or just the opposite? For me, the focal point is always the work, the action, the hands-on attack of what needs to be accomplished.

That "wishing we could do more" that frustrates us in challenging times of relative helplessness, such as during the midst of the recent floods, is a wish at the heart of what fuels my run for office. I refuse to let frustration reign when I strive to follow John and Angela's lead and trumpet legislation that will keep Colorado safer long after their time in the legislature comes to an end. I see the undeniable and increasingly inescapable effects of [climate change on Colorado](#) -- one emblematic microcosm of the global threat our environment faces -- and I am called to do more. Through the prism of my years of experience as a teacher in both K-12 and college settings, I see the challenges our state faces in [elevating our education to a higher standard](#) and I search for solutions, engaging my community on every step.

In addition to defending John and Angela at doors, on the phones, and at the polls, I spent much of the summer focusing on issues like Education and the Environment. I worked with other volunteers in the district to get **Amendment 66**, the "Funding for Public Schools" initiative, onto the November ballot, coordinated [a successful forum](#) to educate the district about the ballot issue, and knocked doors in our neighborhoods as we spearheaded an effort to gain support for a modest tax increase that would result in nearly \$1 billion of critical funding to help our schools regain the ground we lost in the recession. I've invested my enthusiasm and commitment to solving and adapting to [Climate Change challenges](#), helping to change the conversation, elevate awareness, and educate our community in the wake of

2013

★ [Colorado College Rally for Senate President John Morse with Congresswoman Diana DeGette](#), September 6, 2013

★ [Colorado Climate Change: Drought, Wildfire, and Environmental Health](#), August 28, 2013

★ [OFA Regional Climate Change Symposium in Golden](#), August 15, 2013

★ [HD2 Forum on Funding Public Schools](#), August 6, 2013

★ [House District 2 Monthly Meeting](#), July 20, 2013

★ [Senator Mike Johnston Discusses Funding Public Schools with Denver Young Dems](#), June 27, 2013

★ [Town Hall Conversation with Congresswoman Diana DeGette](#), May 30, 2013

★ [Campaign Kickoff and Birthday Bash at the Bonnet](#), May 22, 2013

★ [Speaker Mark Ferrandino's Legislative Summary with the Denver Young Dems and DU Dems](#), May 21, 2013

★ [House District 2's Monthly Meeting](#), May 18, 2013

President Obama's [laying out his plan](#) in a [groundbreaking speech](#) at the end of June. I helped coordinate and moderate [a pair of symposiums](#) and [forums](#) bringing together scientists, elected leaders, and grassroots activists in addressing the changing climate at home in Colorado, throughout the nation, and in an increasingly connected global environment.

In the midst of all that, as you know, I am running to fill **Speaker Mark Ferrandino's** seat in the Colorado State House, since he will be termed out of office after his current term concludes in January of 2015. John Morse and Angela Giron highlight the importance of citizen legislators, leaders *of* the people who are engaged in communities and who champion the hard choices and challenging stances we must take to make change in Colorado. I am determined to harness **the Progressive resolve** of my neighbors in House District 2 and to channel our values into a source of strength and leadership for Colorado, anchored in our commitment to protect and promote the equality of opportunity and access at every level of our society.

I'm eager to keep listening, engaging in conversations, and learning new ways to strengthen our community, and I promise you, I won't take my eye of the ball in the process.

Powered by People

Did someone say "Deadline?"

There were no shortage of countdowns as September came to a close, from the Boehner-backed shutdown of the federal government to "[Todd's Last Stand](#)," and from the carefully chronicled final days, hours, and minutes of the campaign fundraising quarter to the scores of e-mails tracking said chronicling and piling up in our in-boxes.

I hope your servers survived the onslaught, and I hope you can appreciate my desire to steer clear of these doomsday appeals for 11th-hour funds.

I still need your support, of course, and now that the e-mails have slowed down, I'd like to quietly highlight a few ways you can chip in as painlessly as possible.

I mentioned in August that -- for what it's worth -- I won both the fundraising and fund-spending races in the district and in all of Denver during the second quarter! I don't have third quarter numbers in yet, but I know a thing or two.

- I've received contributions from individuals

★ [Veterans and Military Family's Caucus, Democratic National Convention, September 3, 2012](#)

★ [Colorado's First Civil Union Ceremony, May 1, 2013](#)

★ [House District 2's Day at the Capitol, April 26, 2013](#)

★ [Colorado Social Legislation Committee's Forum on Homelessness, April 22, 2013](#)

★ [House District 2 Monthly Meeting, April 20, 2013](#)

★ [Colorado Social Legislation Committee's Forum on Fracking, April 8, 2013](#)

★ [President Obama's Remarks on Gun Safety at the Denver Policy Academy, April 3, 2013](#)

Thanks to My Birthday Bash at The Bonnet Hosts

*Lori Anderson and Lew Gaiter, Jr.
Sarah Bradley
Ray Ehrenstein and Jim Sample
Frosty and Sam Frostman
Lisa Hartman
Janet Hartmann
Arnold Krupat
Nancy Larson
Larry Latta
Karen Lucas and Bob Barrett
Denis Moynihan
Tim Naylor
Wells Obrecht
Tom Parson
Anne Perkins
Pat Perkins
Mary and Peter Peterson
Carolyn Pickton*

representing **52% of the precincts in House District 2**. As someone who doesn't take Political Action Committee (PAC) money, I'm proud of that in-district support, but I have my eye on an ambitious goal of getting participation from 100% of the precincts by the end of the year. **Will you chip in \$5 or more in my grassroots support drive to ensure your neighborhood is invested in my campaign to represent the district?** [Please click here to contribute on my secure Act Blue page.](#)

- While I noted in August that **75% of my contributions came from at home here in Denver** as compared to a combined 50% from my two opponents, you'll be astute to recognize that I'm far behind in out-of-town donations, which represent only 1/4 of my contributions. Those of you throughout the rest of the state and beyond can step up too! [Please click here if you'd like to support my campaign for the Colorado State House.](#)
- And finally, please join me this **Friday, October 4th at 7:30 p.m.** for the Denver Center Theater Company's **World Premiere of *Just Like Us***, the adaptation of **Helen Thorpe's** award-winning book, telling the story of four Latina girls coming of age in Denver.



I'm especially excited that **Helen Thorpe will participate in a special pre-show "Perspectives" session on-stage at 6 p.m.** with the creative team to talk about bringing the production to fruition. We've got several price ranges to fit your budget, including two levels at or below the box office cost and a special "name-your-price" option. [To secure tickets for the Friday performance, please click here.](#)

Some of our group is attending a week later for the **Opening Weekend matinee on Sunday, October 13th at 1:30 p.m.** This performance will be **followed by a special "Talk Back" with the cast members on stage after the show.** I've been bringing students, Democrats, activists, supporters, and theater-lovers to these performances for almost 25 years now, and I've rarely been more excited about a show than I

T.R. Reid
Pete Smith
Rex Stephenson
Frank Sullivan
Dianne Thiel
Debra Turner-Kelly
Tom Waxter
Mike Worford

Thanks to My Baseball Fundraiser Hosts

Rich Barrett
Kevin Brauer
Susan Sanders

Thanks to My "Book of Mormon" Heavenly Hosts

(host list in formation -
add your name!)

Kevin Brauer
Judith Burke
Peggy Burnette
Anne Farrell
Jason Gallardo
Larry and Cynthia Gallegos
Sarah Hafner
Elizabeth Harris
Brendon Hayden
Steven Hollis
Ana and Russell Kemp
Beth and Michael McClellan
Mohsen Pazirandeh
Kaye Siemers
Sally Stein
Brian Stockmar

am about this special "page-to-stage" World Premiere. [To secure tickets for the Opening Weekend Sunday matinee, please click here.](#)

If you can't make either of these performances, [let me know](#), and I can get you tickets any time during the run from **October 4th to November 3rd** to help support the campaign. If none of my price levels fit your budget, ask me about the "name-your-price" opportunity.



[Please click the button to contribute on our secure Act Blue page](#), or send a check to:

People for Perkins
P.O. Box 102261
Denver, Colorado 80250-2261.

Upcoming Events

I hope you can join me at some of the upcoming events that may be of interest to you.

- Friday, October 4th -- [Just Like Us](#) -- World Premiere, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 19th - **House District 2 Democrats Monthly Meeting** featuring a **Forum of At-Large Denver School Board Candidates**. The meeting is from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., and *the location may change for this month only* to help the Friends Meeting House reschedule an event planned for Estes Park. Stay tuned for a location announcement.
- Wednesday, October 23rd, **House District 2**

Democratic Candidate Forum, DU Dems --
Anderson Academic Commons 340 at 7:00 p.m.
This should be a great opportunity to see me and
my two opponents square off for the first time in
the election cycle. I hope you can come out and
support the DU Dems -- and root, root, root for
the O-Team!

- Saturday, November 2nd, **Denver Dems Annual Ted Kennedy Dinner**. Details are still forthcoming, but [let me know if you'd like to join my table](#). It's a fundraiser for the Denver Dems, and it usually costs about \$100. *Last year's keynote speaker was Congressman John Lewis!*

In Case You Missed It

I mentioned many of the events that kept me busy over the past month or so, and thankfully I've got a bunch of video to share from the events. Click the links below to review any of the events from August and September.

- [House District 2's School Board Forum with DPS District 3 Candidates Meg Schomp and Mike Johnson, September 21, 2013](#)
- [Helen Thorpe Discusses Bringing *Just Like Us* to the Stage at The Tattered Cover, September 17, 2013](#) (*scroll down*)
- [Todd's Last Stand, Helton's Final Days as a Rockie, September 16-25, 2013](#)
- [Senate President John Morse's Election Night Speech, September 10, 2013](#)
- [Colorado College Rally for Senate President John Morse with Congresswoman Diana DeGette, September 6, 2013](#) (*scroll down*)
- [Colorado Climate Change: Drought, Wildfire, and Environmental Health, August 28, 2013](#)
- [OFA Regional Climate Change Symposium in Golden, August 15, 2013](#)
- [HD2 Forum on Funding Public Schools, August 6, 2013](#)

Thanks so much for keeping in touch and reading the news from my campaign in House District 2. Please don't hesitate to call or write if you've got news to share, concerns to raise, or ideas to bounce around. See you around the district!

Sincerely,

Owen Perkins
Candidate for Colorado State Representative
House District 2
www.OwenPerkins.org; (303) 722-1655



Owen Perkins
Candidate for Colorado State Representative, House District 2
owenperk@aol.com; www.owenperkins.org
(303) 722-1655

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People for Perkins, P.O. Box 102261, Denver, Colorado 80250

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