

Tara Templeman 0:01

Alright, so today's date is September 19 2018. My name is Tara Templeman, I'm the museum supervisor here at the Broomfield Depot Museum.

KC Lancaster 0:13

Awesome. I'm KC Lancaster, and we just met today.

Tara Templeman 0:18

Yes! Alright, so I will be interviewing Casey about how she came to Broomfield and why. So when did you move to Broomfield?

KC Lancaster 0:26

We bought a house in 2010. And we'd been looking in this area because my husband at the time worked at net devil a gaming company in Lafayette. And this was always wanted to move here. Even from when I was in Fort Collins.

Tara Templeman 0:41

Broomfield specifically or the area?

KC Lancaster 0:43

Broomfield specifically

Tara Templeman 0:44

Okay,

KC Lancaster 0:45

and it's kind of weird. But there used to be TV station here called KDVR. And in Fort Collins, that's where we could watch Doctor Who.

Tara Templeman 0:55

Oh,

KC Lancaster 0:56

so that was the channel this like sound like Broomfield, where's Broomfield? Ooh, sounds kind of exotic. Wonder where that is, I could never find it. And it wasn't till I moved here in like the 90s that it was like, oh, it's up there between Boulder and you know, I just never actually been there. It was just had that doctor who riff to it. And I'm kind of a geek, and maybe he's like geek Central.

Tara Templeman 1:19

I mean, I do love doctor who.

KC Lancaster 1:22

There's not enough geeks here. But now that you know, certainly meet more people, I have noticed that there is an undercurrent of geekness

Tara Templeman 1:29

especially with all the new tech industry coming to Broomfield Now, I'm sure we have more geeks

KC Lancaster 1:34

Yes, please. Whether they're art geeks, or tech geeks, or game geeks, I'm in,

Tara Templeman 1:41

that's great. So you knew you want to move to Broomfield even though that would be somewhat of a commute for your husband to Lafayette? And he was okay with that?

KC Lancaster 1:48

Yeah, that and I was working in interlocking at the time.

Tara Templeman 1:51

Oh,

KC Lancaster 1:51

so it was you know, except for the, over the bridge, hairiness. It was much easier for me. And he's actually the one that fought for the house that we got because it was had been in foreclosure and then it got flipped. And then the company that was selling it, we're kind of butts about the whole thing. And I was like ready to throw up my hands. But it's really an amazing house. Biggest house I've ever lived in. It's great. So much so that now that he doesn't work for a gaming company, he worked for the DMV. Instead we have a housemate. So that works out real well.

Tara Templeman 2:23

That's great. Especially with housing prices being so expensive, I'm sure it's great for your house mate also.

KC Lancaster 2:29

There's like a house down the street that's going for half a million dollars. And it's like just regular branch track tone. Or like what's it got in it? You know, that have like a huge theater that in a big cooking station outside in the back. And like I just can't fathom how much the money has gone through the roof. We're expecting the bubble to burst any day now. Wouldn't that be nice?

Tara Templeman 2:55

Depends on who you are.

KC Lancaster 2:57

Well, that's true, I guess if we wanted to sell our house, but then we couldn't afford to move anywhere. So it's best we just stay where we are.

Tara Templeman 3:03

Make sense. All right. What is your best memory of Broomfield?

KC Lancaster 3:11

So far, I would have to say so many, we just had Broomfield days, that was pretty fun.

I hadn't. I look forward to seeing the dock dogs every year. And a couple concerts at the Audi and mostly probably volunteering with local groups. But the opening of the McKay Lambertson Park was probably the highlight for me currently.

Tara Templeman 3:45

Alright, were you involved with that?

KC Lancaster 3:47

I'm chair with public art. And we worked with them to bring some shade pavilions and some stuff to block the Excel whatnot by I can't remember his name. Mickey, the artist. He's in California and it was just a wonderful experience actually see it, you know, in place and seeing all the beginnings of what they have for the park and all the the planning that had gone into it and everything. It was just really great to see so many people do so many things and have it come out pretty fantastic.

Tara Templeman 4:21

Absolutely.

KC Lancaster 4:22

Yeah. It's gonna be a huge draw for Broomfield, I think, and I'm really proud to have a tiny tiny part in it.

Tara Templeman 4:29

How did you get involved with that group? And when did you get involved?

KC Lancaster 4:33

I. Well, in the long winded fashion,

Tara Templeman 4:38

that's great.

KC Lancaster 4:41

My neighbor Maryanne, who I spoke to you about who was the post World War Two German bride who came over here. She had lost her husband and was being all housebound, and doesn't have any hobbies, doesn't really read or she likes to garden sometimes. But in the

wintertime, not much to do. So I told her she really had to get out. Why don't you go and volunteer and do stuff and she threw it right back at my face and said, Well, you don't volunteer. So I was like, Alright, I will. And then in the enterprise, they had the I want to call it a call for entry, but it's not. It's when they say, hey, the committee's are coming due, they're going to need more members. Here's the committee's, and here's how to apply. And so I applied for public art, and, surprisingly, got it. And I've been doing that for about three years now.

Tara Templeman 5:32  
Great,

KC Lancaster 5:32  
it's been a real learning experience, because it is completely out of my comfort zone. Like I said, I'm usually a homebody I, you know, work as a graphic artist in Westminster now. And I've been doing that for 15 years. Before that it was an art director, I've always been in the arts. But then I would come home and for the longest time, didn't do any art. So I volunteered. And that actually sparked me to go back to my own art. And it's just been a good kind of who knew that just volunteering for that one thing and prepping that application and looking at all the public art in Broomfield would lead to such a huge change in my own life. It's fantastic. I feel alive.

Tara Templeman 6:16  
Glad that the community could help you with that

KC Lancaster 6:18  
Well, and that's just it. I feel insanely grateful because it's not something I ever expected to do. I mean, ever maybe if I retired, I'd be working at thrift stores. Something you know, but not not on this level, not actually meeting other artists and getting involved with the city and awesome Cheryl German who's like the most fantastic personal planet.

Tara Templeman 6:43  
Yeah, she is, I love Cheryl

KC Lancaster 6:45  
so wonderful.

And then now Micky Love and Karen Garrity before her who was an awesome encourager of anything you want to do. So yeah, it's been spectacular. Broomfield will always have my gratitude.

Tara Templeman 7:01  
I'm so glad

KC Lancaster 7:02  
Me too!

Tara Templeman 7:04

What kind of art do you create?

KC Lancaster 7:06

I'm a painter. I'm currently, here's my elevator speech. Hi, my name is KC Lancaster. I'm a fantasy artist who also makes dog portraits. That's it. But I also do black and whites for illustration. I've been published in gaming magazines and RPGs like d&d supplements and iron crown enterprises. And I've got a long publishing list from the 90s. And then I worked for souvenir company. I worked for another souvenir company. It sucked my will to live. Because although being a staff art artist is fabulous, not drawing, you know, when we did zoo stuff, that was great. But Elvis and Dollywood, although very fabulous enterprises. Yeah, it did not do my heart any good. So it kind of burnt out for about 10 years. So now I'm back and doing it took me about two years, I read this book called Art in Fear. And it's about getting started after a long time of not doing it. And don't be afraid and just get yourself out there. And now I'm like taking marketing classes, and it's kind of exploded, and it all started, I think with that chat with Marianne and just, you know, get out there. What are you waiting for? It's just people, you know, yeah, there's gonna be trolls out there. And you just say, Hey, you're being a dick bye! you know, and then there's going to be people that are really touched by what you do. And then there's going to be all sorts of people have every reaction you can imagine, you know, to Ah, my granddaughter could have done that, too. Wow, that's pretty talented. Why aren't you doing this professionally? Trying. Don't push me. Um, but I happen to be practical. So I like things like insurance, and steady paycheck. And I'm blathering right now. I'm very sorry. But it's such a huge part of my life and to have it gone for about 14 years really kind of crushed me in a way I can't really explain. And then it's all fear based, you know, what if this and what if that and my brains really good at doing that? Well, what if you succeed? How scary that how terrifying is that? You know, I went to Broomfield days, and I talked to complete strangers about art. Because not only am I doing my own art, and trying to help other people do their art, but we've started an arts district in Broomfield, me and Devin [Chaf] and Mary Wilkie who does back story theater. And then Joe Ziegler, who's with Broomfield Art Guild. We all decided, hey, you know, we really need to bring some stuff to Broomfield. Although I really wanted to have a geek fest they're saying okay, Artists probably more lucrative. They're probably right. And visiting with all sorts of people in other arts district, like Santa Fe, art, Santa Fe Boulevard. Every time I say Santa Fe Arts District everyone's thinking New Mexico and I'm thinking here, it was like the first art arts district to officially be acknowledged by the state. And the guy who started that Jack Pappalardo. He is our mentor for four hours, I've managed to meet him and call him and it is really exciting, because it's just like happening too fast. So do you know who Dana Crawford is?

Tara Templeman 10:40

Yes.

KC Lancaster 10:41

I'd never heard of her, ever. But Joe said, Yeah, I met her, you know, she's pretty approachable. She's helping with urban landscapes in our civic center. And he had her number. So I just added the blue called her and said, hey, we'd like to meet with you and help in any way we possibly

can try to focus on the arts. And she accepted. And so we had a meeting with her. She was amazing. I mean, her first project was what starting Larimer square in 1965. Back when it was Skid Row. And ever since then, she's just done amazing things with Union Square. And now she's here. And it's just, I've never been in a room with somebody with that innate magic, and that innate energy, and you're like, Wow, you could take us all and you're sitting in a wheelchair, because she hurt her back last year, and she's recovering, but you would know it. I mean, so sweet and approachable. and amazing. So she said, once you come back, I mean, we expected to talk with her for like 20 minutes. She talked to us for an hour and a half

Tara Templeman 11:47

Wow

KC Lancaster 11:47

bouncing ideas off of each other. It was an amazing collaborative effort. She says, Why don't you come back? first week in October and bring some more representatives of other creative groups. So we're gonna have a pre meeting on the 30th with

Broomfield Council for the Arts and Humanities. I was on their board for about five seconds. And then Broomfield Art Guild and Citizens of Broomfield for the Arts. I think that's what their name is. There's so many. Yeah, they're, they're brand new. They're a bunch of people who want to address what's happening with the Safeway building, since it's the first building that's going to be finished for the civic center. And they want to make sure you know, the arts has a big piece in it. And when we were talking to Dana, she's like, Well, what about like, a Broomfield Arts Market? And she says, and you can call it BAM. And I'm like, I love that because I'm a comics geek. So I'm thinking, you know, comics, writing and everything. She said, Yeah, I stole it from Brooklyn. I'm like, they won't mind. We're in Colorado, we're states away. They don't mind went online to look up all the logos. Weirdest thing, Buddhist Action Month, has BAM with an exclamation point. I don't think really, that's kind of anti meditative. But hey, who am I to say, maybe you meditate on that kind of thing, which would make it way cool. But so I'm trying to do a logo for that and do the logo for the meeting we're having on the 30th, which is inviting all the creative people, organizations, representatives, businesses, which are going to be sending out a flyer for to please come to the summit, the civic center creative consortium. And that's a kickin logo, by the way. And maybe we'll have t shirts, who knows. But just try to get everybody to be able to have a voice and just take it that many creative people in a room and you're going to have like amazing brainstorming and stuff. And she's really excited about it. And Dana is going to come down and you know, talk to everybody and we're gonna have microphones and it's gonna be a blast.

Tara Templeman 13:16

That sounds great.

KC Lancaster 13:57

I'm so excited. Can you tell?

Tara Templeman 14:01

I'm thrilled that Dana's involved in Broomfield because her family is one of the first families in Broomfield

KC Lancaster 14:07

And she didn't tell us that we're like, Wait, why didn't you say that matter? No. Makes sense. She says she's just a rural girl from Kansas. Okay, by way of Broomfield. Yeah, maybe we should mention that just a little bit. But she's got some great ideas and is very much into the collaborative partnership thing, which is so refreshing after being in corporate America, you know that there are people who want to hear your ideas who want to bounce ideas off of you, and who knows where it ends up. You know, we're all trying to help. And then the sideline that she really likes is saving historic buildings.

Tara Templeman 14:45

Yes.

KC Lancaster 14:46

So here's my cheesy little half aspect thing going on. I've been calling some of the people who own some of the buildings on West 120th. The urban blight zone which has some arts places, but it's got the two big silos and Randy's Automotive and what used to be AAA towing and automotive and have called and talked to most of the owners there and saying, you know, we're thinking that if we actually because right now the arts district is mobile, because we have no real address, but it's not going to stop us from putting on events and everything, because we don't really have a whole lot of overhead. And since we're only a couple months old, we don't have a lot of funds either. So doing stuff like this is really easy, because you're not locked into a lease or anything. So I was talking to some of the people around there saying, you know, the best thing to do for an arts district is to find out where the older buildings are, that need help, and start it there and just try to bring the commerce there and try to build it. Well, Broomfield already talking about putting in the infrastructure, like the drainage, and stuff I guess it floods really bad, because it's not all there. And some of those buildings are falling apart. And you know, we're losing them, we don't have a lot. So I kind of put a bug in Dana's ear, and said, hey, you know, there's this going on, and we kind of like to do like an arts corridor. So we have, you know, arts in the civic center, and then arts through the city, like over by where the Smoky Banana is, and then through the silos and everything and just have like a swath, but then have like an area in the civic center, or several areas where people can just walk in, like, if we ever do First Fridays, which a lot of arts districts do. We get to have a bus and take people to different locations like they do on Santa Fe, and Jack has a lot of really good ideas for how to do that. So it's amazingly exciting. I think we all impressed her. I think even I impressed her. I'm just so impressed with myself having maybe impressed some amazing woman, oh, my God. Because she said, you know, do you have a map? I said, Yes, here it is. I said, here's the tax incentives to building in this area. Hey, the civic center happens to be in this enterprise area of Broomfield. And that made her happy. Because that's another way that she can give back to the the area is not only creating an a space for commerce, but also helping the general economy, you know, by

doing the tax break, and then having that money available to help people start businesses. And if that makes sense.

Tara Templeman 17:24

Yeah,

KC Lancaster 17:25

I'm super excited. And not making very much sense to me right now. Sorry.

Tara Templeman 17:30

That's great. And from historic perspective, I would love to see more going on in that area. And I've talked to a few people about restoring

KC Lancaster 17:39

Yes, please. Yes, please. Especially the not Randy's Automotive silo, but the other one across the street belongs to Brenda Welsh.

Tara Templeman 17:47

Yes.

KC Lancaster 17:47

And she had an interesting talk with her about her and her brother, and how they aren't necessarily getting eye to eye right now. And how

Tara Templeman 17:58

she would like to restore it,

KC Lancaster 17:59

she would love to restore it, actually, Her idea was, she would like to have a museum there. And I think that's fantastic. It's just a matter of trying to get her the help that she needs. Because, you know, she doesn't have a whole lot of money right now. And she doesn't want to have to leverage the building just to get it done. So we're going to try to work a little bit of magic with her. And if nothing else, maybe get that the mural that used to be there for the business up there. So people see that it's actually being lived in it's an active building. It's not abandoned property, like so many people seem to think it is. It's a real and living part of Broomfield and maybe I talked with Victoria Velez who owns the AAA towing building, that her husband had a business there for, like 10 years. And it's not just that corner building, which is kind of cool, but it's actually a double lot with all those cars and stuff behind it. She's thinking about redoing that and leasing it out and she had a pretty good deal on that. So if we get sponsorship, that wouldn't be bad. But lots of people are starting to think about that. And I'm glad you're hitting them from a different way because I get all excited and pushy and when's it gonna happen? What's what's gonna happen? It's been two minutes. Now it's three minutes come on.

Tara Templeman 19:15

The woman who just bought the Broomfield Lumber Company is also working on restoring it. Sometime between when it was the Broomfield or state bank and the Broomfield Lumber Company.

KC Lancaster 19:24

I'm so glad you said that because they had a sign out there about leasing and we were trying to get in touch with them trying to get in touch with him. So Devin's going to talk to [Bill] Martinez. I didn't know it it just been bought. That makes sense. And we knew it was the bank because it's right next to the Grange which we're trying to get more people to go to things there and it would have been great if it were right next door, and it's still got the big safe there so we can lock people who don't like art in there. And it's a great building and I like what they did in the back. And we were thinking you know, you've got this lumber yard. Well, wouldn't it be cool? Sorry.

Tara Templeman 19:57

No, go ahead.

KC Lancaster 19:59

To get Meow Wolf, in here to say, Okay, we have a venue that we can block off. So if you want to do like a fairgrounds type thing, we can lock that up at night. And, you know, I'm imagining like, you know, horror carnivals or, or something but Dana has an in with Meow Wolf. And she said that Meow Wolf likes to be kinda like a tree, you know, they've got the trunk. And Devin told me that they actually opted to try to be in Broomfield and we pushed them away. Whaat? [frustrated noises]

They still don't understand why it was a bad idea, but they will. So now they've got 90,000 square feet in Santa Fe Boulevard instead. But they like to be a trunk of a tree and then have branches out. So Dana is going to help us be branch, which is going to be fantastic because they're like the biggest employer of artists available. You know, and when you think of the this is the political talk, right? So you think of the commercial value of businesses in the state, well Arts is fifth. And in an arts district, it becomes like second or third. So if you get Meow Wolf with their uber amounts of money, and you've got you know, Broomfield getting together and trying to say, hey, you know, maybe we can make a little bit of money on this, teach artists how to actually sell their stuff, not just be, you know, starving artists. Myth, but actually making them all productive. And saying, Hey, you can do both, you know, you can be creative, you can actually have a business plan. It's not going to kill your creativity, I promise, and just try to help them do that. And then you've got, you know, all the other arts groups around here and just all try to help each other. You know, and Dana's in on that. And Broomfield. Boulder County Arts Alliance, they're huge. They're very encouraging. We've just got our website for the turnpike Arts District, and they're looking to let us use their calendar until we actually have an event to put on there. So yeah, it's a terribly exciting time for me right now. And right, this is a really bad time to schedule an interview instead of being at home working on my emails and stuff, but I'm just, I needed to do something else. You know, how you just get so focused on stuff that you're afraid you're gonna burn out and lose your energy? Yeah, so I go into an interview. And that's all I'm talking about.

Tara Templeman 22:30

Well, this is great, because now we're getting all this information about Broomfield becoming a bigger Center for Art.

KC Lancaster 22:37

And wouldn't that be awesome.

Tara Templeman 22:38

Right as it's kicking off,

KC Lancaster 22:39

it's going to be I don't know how big it is. But you know, anything that that we can do to? Oh my God, save those buildings. I'm in love, in love with Brenda's silo. I love that building. And the metal green elevator with a broken window. I love that thing. I want to live in that. I told her that should be my office. If we help you with this, I'm going to need that. Yeah. But it would just be so great. I'm sorry that they had to move the Depot, but they saved it. That's the important thing.

Tara Templeman 23:11

Yes.

KC Lancaster 23:12

She said that the city told her that if they knew that she was going to keep the building because they had the idea that the brother was going to just raise it and sell the land which would be horrific. That they would have kept the Depot there but I think it's a good spot. I used to live right across the street when we were trying to buy a house. And we were living in the apartments over there and it was always really cool to walk the dogs around that park and stuff. And I think a lot of people really enjoy it now that we've got like all sorts of stuff like the the Shep's grave there. Let me digress about Shep just a little bit. I know it's not on your list. And it should be I'm in love with Shep in love with the idea. That's why we picked turnpike for the arts district because that's historically when it kind of came. I mean, it's already been a city agriculturally and everything but that's when people started actually coming through before it became a bedroom community. And I used to go on 36th and drive past when I lived in Northglenn to go to Boulder to work at Kinkos. And I remember when they excavated his grave, and I was so freaked out. I'm like, Okay, I didn't know what the grave was. What the hell is that? I didn't know it was a dog. But ever since I found out about him and you know, saw the pictures and we've got some of the old turnpike pictures on our website that kind of float through because they're just fascinating. I mean, not only to see the cars but that there's a dog running around traffic and managing to do Okay, awesome. I love the fact that they're doing Shep's Way. You know in Arista, I love the fact that the kids really gravitate toward it. I'm trying to convince the turnpike Arts District guys that we should have a crossover event between you know, with the Depot And the turnpike shops at Arista and Border Collie Rescue and have like this big kind of Shep's celebration of everything you know, Broomfield and dog and and I think, I think we could do a lot there.

Tara Templeman 25:19

The Museum used to help host a Shep's Depot Dog Days, in the summer

KC Lancaster 25:23

No, how cool is that?

Tara Templeman 25:24

So if we could bring that back, and make it bigger?

KC Lancaster 25:27

Yes please! Well, because nothing, nothing focuses people like animals I mean sure kids do. Sure, you know, helping out your community, but I'm a total dog person. I just finished doing 30 paintings in 30 days. Oh, that was fun in August, and it was to benefit Do-over Dogs, which is a local foster shelter. And they're just starting out. And I thought, hey, it was a good partnership and everything. So I've been doing a lot of research and finding out a lot about other rescue groups. And now I'm helping Texas Corgi Roundup, which is this weekend, and just by you know, sending art there for their auction, but it's really art energizing me toward the other loves that I have and how to help them can't foster a dog, I would never let it go, I would just become, I see this in my future. Instead of a crazy cat lady, I'm probably going to be a crazy dog lady. But to have everybody aware that you know, hey, there are places for every breed.

Tara Templeman 26:33

Sorry,

KC Lancaster 26:33

oh, no problem

Tara Templeman 26:34

Just a moment.

KC Lancaster 26:36

Somebody knocking thank you for being so smiling and, and welcoming to my out of control energy currently,

Tara Templeman 26:45

I'm so happy that you're here. And doing the interview

KC Lancaster 26:47

I really want to be able to send Devon your way and Mary your way. And even if we, you know, just pass, you know how I used to have, and I gotta go by just to get them involved, because I think it is very historical, to grew up anytime is really a great time. But since we're three years out, supposedly from the Civic Center, and just there's so much happening right now, you know, with the extraction, and the fracking and the statewide vote of keeping them a certain distance

away from everything. And if that goes through, then they'll have you know, 20% of the state left. It's just an amazing time to document. So I think it's a really good idea. And I'm sorry to be the third person to do it.

Tara Templeman 27:30

I'm so glad that you're the third person to do it

KC Lancaster 27:33

I want to be more interesting? I'm just somebody who goes to Denver Comic Con and sells little miniatures.

Tara Templeman 27:41

Well, my next question would be about significant people or events, and we're in significant events right now.

Yeah, yeah.

Dana Crawford is certainly a significant person

KC Lancaster 27:49

Gosh, I can't believe I've never heard of her. I told a friend of mine, at lunch the other day. She says, oh, yeah, there's a PBS special on her. You need to get to the American Experience. And I'm like, Who is this woman? I mean, I'm not really a feminist history person, but she should be at the top of the list.

Tara Templeman 28:05

Absolutely. Especially in this area

KC Lancaster 28:07

Oh my gosh, just to not be for lack of a better term, like an uber bitch. She is, you know, she knows her shit. She, oops, sorry.

Tara Templeman 28:18

There's nothing wrong with that,

KC Lancaster 28:19

She knows what she's doing. She's very confident. And she's very welcoming. But there is a rod of steel in that woman. Like you would not believe. I mean, yeah, she cracked her back doing exercises. Yeah, she's pushing 80. But she can still take you down to the knees and be very polite doing it. I think she's my new role model. I so want to please her I so want to impress her. So she can say nice working with you.

I'd see the tears.

So yeah, she's pretty darn significant. And makes talking to Broomfield Council really not that hard. I do not like talking in public. I hate it. It really does figure less than death in fear for an introvert like me. But doing public art, you have to, you know, present to the council and Cheryl and Karen were awesome. You just have to be there. And then well, you just have to say a little bit, but you just have to say a little bit more. And I'm the kind of person that okay, I'm kind of animated when I'm talking but then I start reading and I start talking like this bla bla bla terrible presenter, but they were always very encouraging. But now I can go to them and geez, I set up meetings with Dana Crawford. And talk to her like a human being amazing. You guys, yeah, you're people too, sorry. That makes everything so much easier. You know what I mean? Just you know, meeting somebody then finding out they are a legend and then going he should about or curtsied, left an offering. I don't know.

Tara Templeman 29:55

Dana would have been horrified.

KC Lancaster 29:57

She actually gave us an offering of gingersnaps it was fabulous. She says, I think we all need a cookie. I think you're right. She's awesome. What else can I blather at you for?

Tara Templeman 30:11

Can you describe your neighborhood.

KC Lancaster 30:13

neighborhood is. I can't remember Filing 2? I can't remember. Chris would know, he's the mountain of information, trivial. And otherwise, Chris is my husband, we are in the second home that was built in the area. The corner lot by us was now owned by Bob, I can't remember his last name off the top of my head. But it's huge lot. And across from them is Dr. Novak, who was the first building built there. And he's been, I guess, an edifice in Broomfield forever, as a dentist and his wife, and he lived there, and they get visited by their children a lot. And the neighborhood just kind of built up around them. And it's mostly, you know, ranch level, tract homes, but they're old enough that everybody is given their own designs to them. And so people have come in and like renovated the front yard. And there's a stay at home mom of the strip, who's also I think she's landscaping engineer, some kind of engineer. So she's done wonders with the house over there. And you know, as people pass on the houses kind of change hands. There's a, currently a brick house that's painted gray, which I don't understand why you would paint brick, but that's just me. And that's currently in transition. So we'll see, you know, every family changes the mix of a neighborhood. And right now, the only kids in the neighborhood or at the very far end. Most of its adult professionals or retirees, people with families that are already making more families. We're kind of unique in that in that Chris and I we don't have any children. were way too immature for that. Yeah, that would not be good for the world. So instead, I'm just crazy about dogs and art. And he's a gaming geek and sells games. So happy in a way. Crazy way, which is better than most so [neeners]. But the neighborhood is very welcoming. It's the first time I think I've lived anywhere. Well, once I wasn't a kid, and it wasn't, you know, military bases and everything. But to have people come over and introduce

themselves and bring you cookies and cake and like you see on TV. You know, it's like, what people actually want to know my name. I used to just go into work not you know, don't look at the neighbors except maybe the ones right next to you. And yeah, within the first couple weeks of being there, neighbor across the street, help us dig out our car, when it got stuck in a huge snowstorm while the house inspector was there. You know, everybody's just totally pulling through Bob has a huge snow blower that he helps the neighbors out with. It's just it's a constant. Not really. Commune kind of feel, but definitely collaborative in that, hey, I've got some extra vegetables, hey, I've got this. I started hanging little gift bags on people's doorknobs during the holidays. Not knowing if they celebrate the holidays, or or whatever, but just you know, little candies and an ornament and stuff. And it's actually opened up some more conversations. So it's probably the biggest sense of community I've ever lived in.

Tara Templeman 33:40

Certainly one of the draws of Broomfield, it still, in some cases has that small town feel to it, even though he's certainly not a small town anymore.

KC Lancaster 33:47

I've never been in a small town. So I don't know what to do with that. But you know, knowing everybody on your street is is good. I mean, we've got the Novak's on the corner there the neighborhood watch. And Maryanne, of course, she looks out the window all the time, she's keeping us safe. But everybody you know, knows that when the when the kids are walking to and from school, that's when the dogs are gonna bark. And, you know, nobody's really worried about it. And everybody talks to each other. It's really kind of weird, you know, but in a good way. Very good way. I'm glad I'm here.

Tara Templeman 34:19

I think this next one will not apply to you.

KC Lancaster 34:21

Oh, no. it does not.

Tara Templeman 34:22

Okay.

KC Lancaster 34:25

Sorry, I was in Fort Collins.

Tara Templeman 34:28

And then the next one is about job or jobs that you've had in Broomfield sounds like you work in Westminster, which is pretty much the same thing is right.

KC Lancaster 34:38

It's the same business that was in interlocking. It's MSI management specialists Incorporated. We manage 450 homeowners associations in Colorado used to be in the same building that Vail

Resorts is in now. And then they bought a building in Westminster at about 112th and Sheridan. Yeah, they're really growing because You can't build in Colorado without it being in some kind of homeowners association or Metropolitan District. So it's big four, we were at been there 15 years, took us forever to get get over 380. And now we're like 420. 430, 450, one of the management companies just closed and we just got more associations is like, please start hiring more people now. And I'm the only one who does all the newsletters and the notices. I have some backup, of course, I had started last year. And so the 60 hour weeks are a thing of the past, I hope, and that'll give me more time to concentrate on the stuff around Broomfield.

Tara Templeman 35:40

That's great. So we talked a little bit about what other groups or organizations you participate in, do you do anything not related to the arts, or anything you haven't talked about yet.

KC Lancaster 35:51

Does being couch potato count. Because I used to be a couch potato. Here's the weird thing, okay, strange series of events, which I'm sure you'll find fascinating. I broke my glasses, and didn't have them for two weeks. So I couldn't see the TV because my distance is far away, or mid distance like this, I can see just fine here, not so much. So I had to get readers to do my art, which led me into a better space with it. So I was coming home. And instead of sitting on the couch, being a couch potato, I was either on the computer doing marketing, or was sitting at my art table with my readers on. And the whole basis of being a couch potato is just being in habit of doing it. So now when I got my glasses back, I wasn't in the habit of doing it anymore. And then I did like this weird art challenge online. And that's pretty much now my entertainment. walking the dogs occasionally going to the Derda Center for Early morning swimming on Saturdays before anybody gets there. It's just me and the retirees walking around the exercise the river. So what they call the lazy river.

Tara Templeman 37:08

Yeah.

KC Lancaster 37:09

Before they turn on the slides and everything. And before they turn on the music, it's really nice and peaceful. And so that's pretty much yeah, I'm a wild, wild, crazy person. I work from 5am to 1:30. So I usually try to keep similar hours on the weekend. So if I'm up at nine, wow, stellar evening for me. That means Chris and I went to see a movie or you know, we did something with friends. And then I'm just not going to be useful the next day. i Yeah, I'm not very exciting that way. Sorry. My entertainment value is I like things simple. You know, I'm not, oh, I have to go to Tahiti. And I have to go to Bimini and you know, all these other amazing places. I have a friend who moved permanently to Ireland. I'm like You dick. Didn't take me with you. But his wife's family's there and everything. But you know, I just, I like it here. I do staycations unless I'm going to a convention or selling an art show. It's just nice to feel a sense of place and comfort.

Tara Templeman 38:12

Absolutely.

KC Lancaster 38:13

I mean, that makes sense.

Tara Templeman 38:14

Yeah, it makes a lot of sense to me. Just I'm a crazy person. I live in a tiny house on wheels.

KC Lancaster 38:18

Oh, I'm envious. I found out that a friend of a friend is selling her fifth wheel that comes with the truck for like \$25,000 as a unit. And I thought, Wow, if I wasn't married, this would be perfect. Because I like small spaces in the space that you could pull actually a Cooper, a Mini Cooper into would be a great art space. And then I could just move from, you know, places to paint to paint. So I'm envious that you can actually move your home. I think that's fantastic.

Tara Templeman 38:49

Very convenient.

KC Lancaster 38:49

Oh, yeah. Where do you have it currently hooked?

Tara Templeman 38:52

Unfortunately, it's in Parker right now.

KC Lancaster 38:54

Son of a! That's a suck commute.

Tara Templeman 38:58

But you should already be able to live permanently on trailers. So

KC Lancaster 39:02

big parking lot. Just move it every couple days. Really? We should do that? Well, you know, in the place over on West 120th. There's a lot of space. And Devin and I were talking that, you know, if we start being able to get grants or sponsors to buy some of the buildings and build them up, then you can build a building next to it or you can have a tiny home and a studio next to it trying to do the work and live aspect of it. So I'm all about that. Let's keep that going.

Tara Templeman 39:37

Yeah, sounds great.

KC Lancaster 39:38

I'll keep space for you.

Tara Templeman 39:40

Thank you!

KC Lancaster 39:42

Back it out. Beep! Beep! Beep!

Tara Templeman 39:45

Awesome.

KC Lancaster 39:47

Parker. Wow.

Tara Templeman 39:49

Yeah, it's definitely a commute.

KC Lancaster 39:51

I'm glad you like your job.

Tara Templeman 39:53

Definitely do

KC Lancaster 39:54

and I'm glad you're here.

Tara Templeman 39:55

So glad to be here.

KC Lancaster 39:56

Awesome.

Tara Templeman 39:58

So you've been here about Eight years, how has Broomfield changed in that time.

KC Lancaster 40:04

Amazingly, we thought at the time that it was pretty bustling, and stuff was happening, a lot of new builds were going up and the housing prices were going up pretty spectacularly. But you could still afford to get an apartment, like over by the depot, and we checked out garden center. But there was still places that you could live and work and still not have to sell a kidney. And these days, I'm not sure that's true. You know, I know, talking about the civic center, affordable housing is a huge issue, especially for retirees, you know, when you have no income, what are you going to do besides have, you know, 10 people to a house, unfortunately, but they keep saying, Yeah, affordable housing is going to be part of it. I'll see what affordable means, you know, because it used to be just Boulder County. And they were really expensive, because they didn't allow any new builds unless you jump through all these hoops. And then it was people moved out to Lafayette, Louisville. And that got really expensive. And it was Niwot. You know, and then somehow we got involved, and it's out of control. It really is. I mean, it's a wonderful

place to live. I get that. And it's great location if you work in Boulder. But wow, at some point, we have to be able to let other people live here too. You know, we I don't even think we have a trailer park anymore. Do we?

Tara Templeman 41:31

I think there is one but you cannot bring your own trailer to it. And things have to be on a foundation. So you can pretty much purchase that trailer that's already there.

KC Lancaster 41:39

Oh, and pay the rent. That's great. Yeah, we looked into that once you know, we bought our own home and we're still paying rent. No. It's the thing about HOA's too at least you're you're paying for amenities and the care. But I'm kind of like to paint a mural on my house without having to ask or make sure it's not, you know, part of rules, although I did call Broomfield code enforcement and they said, if it's a private home, go for it. Gotta love that rule. But if you want to build, you know, but you can't have a second kitchen, anywhere. And we've the way our house is set up the lower part, as we age will probably end up being our bedroom, and we'll add a bathroom on there. But to have a separate entrance requires a special dispensation from the city to make sure that you're not that you're all family living there. And you're not subletting I guess, even though there's lots of houses with college students in it. So kind of confused on that, but not my deal. So that's how they're making it work. You know, I don't want to be in that trouble. You know, I just don't. I want to live in the silo. That's my dream. I'm ready. I'm ready.

Tara Templeman 42:53

And how do you think Broomfield will continue to change the future?

KC Lancaster 42:57

Hopefully, for the better. I think with the plans that the council has, they just bought some land. I'm not sure exactly where but for expansion. They're thinking to the future. They're thinking in the future with the Civic Center. We're thinking of the future with historic buildings. I think as more people live here and get to explore the area, they'll find that there's really an area for everybody. You know, for the people who want to live in the more rural areas, go to where 136th and Main tees off. There's a huge open space. Well, Broomfield is awesome with their open space. I heard Martha Derda say that the reason that her husband Paul has no hair is because of Annie. And it's Annie who spearheaded the whole the Field and that it never be built over. And that she went head to head so many times with the council that he lost all of his hair. And to make Paul do anything he doesn't want to do is remarkable. So yeah, Martha has high marks for her. But I think we have to protect our our amenities. Open Space is a huge amenity. I don't want to see it be sold off like it is in so many other cities. Well, if they offer us enough money, you know, affordable housing, definitely, it's going to be really interesting to see what effect fracking has on the health one of the HOA is that we manage this Wild Grass and they're very active against that and they have all sorts of families and with you know, stats about how people are getting sick and the benzene and now that Trump's rolling back to pollution requirements, it's just it's gonna be interesting. We're such want to live here kind of place. Everybody wants to go here until they hear about the fracking, or that we actually do have crime. Yes, you're going

to have to lock your door. I'm sorry. That happens. It's idyllic I think when I first heard of it. And it's now like, not like every other place, but still a gem. But I think so many people are finding out about it, that as much as we can put in the infrastructure now to take that many people, because the whole 120th rerouting has been painful but necessary. If only they'd done it, you know, five years ago, or the bridge, it's still not great. at rush hour, it literally takes you 40 minutes from one end to the other. I know because I've timed it. I was hoping that the offshoot from 120th would actually go through Arista and cut that off. But I haven't found a way to do that yet. I do miss there used to be a house as you went up, like you're going to where the old Westminster mall used to be. And you're cresting the hill, they used to be a little house there that they had to take out when they built first bank center and all the the streets and I always wanted to live in that house. There's a lady with a dog used to walk her dog there in the morning. Yeah, I fixate on the weirdest things. But that, you know, there's still places like that, that you can have a lot of land around your house. It's just not cheap. In the least. So that's why I'm kind of focused on the urban blight area. And let's get that now, and get that as a center for saving things, please, before people say, Oh, we don't need that we need a new Target. Oh, no, please don't. And I think the more people who move here, talk to the people who've lived here, the less that's likely to happen. And people with you know your experience telling us no stupid. Not everything has to be new. Be great to keep something. So I'm glad you're here.

Tara Templeman 46:52

Glad you're here. So I guess my last question for you. Is there anything that I haven't asked you about that you want to talk about related to Boomfield?

KC Lancaster 47:02

Hmm. Well, considering I've chatted your ear off, probably broken your computer

I would have to say that I think there's a lot more hope in this area than most people realize. I mean, there's a lot of millennials, whatever that means. There's a lot of families with kids, which sometimes come into conflict with seniors or sometimes come into conflict with non breeders like me. People tend to focus sometimes on the differences, but I think there's so much untapped diversity here. Civic Marketplace is a gem. If you've ever been there, the Asian shops, fantastic. There's a huge Indian population from India. I haven't seen any Native Americans. But there's, there's pretty much somebody here from everywhere. You know, China, Zimbabwe, Uganda met some guy from Namibia the other day, you know, just standing in the checkout thing. It's like people's concept of Broomfield is old, white, and rich. And I think they have to open their eyes and go, Wait a minute, the demographic has not only changed, but it's bringing in so many people that were actually more hopeful. For a different, you know, future a one that's not so regimented. You know, we can bring in all sorts of new ideas and new cultures and yes, new food, please. And just the amount of Hope just, you know, talking to people and how they got here. And like you're doing except, you know, I'm standing in the checkout lane. And there's, you know, a gal with two rowdy kids, and we're both waiting. So hey, why not strike up a conversation, which is something I would have never done three years ago. It's really great to hear that people not only love living here, but they plan to stay. Because they see such a bright future for our area. You know, unlike some so many places that they just can't wait to get out of,

like Northglenn which is where I was, we bought a house for 15 years before that and just couldn't wait to get out. So this is like paradise in comparison. And we're just so pleased we want people to live here, but we don't want too many people to live here. Which is wrong. I know. I want people to be happy no matter where they are. As long as they're respectful of everybody, especially me and my dogs because dogs rule. I'm just saying I know I'm obsessed a little bit. But now I've got that thing running around my head with the Border Collies and what you were doing the Shep's Day and I have even more to be excited about

Tara Templeman 49:59  
We'll definitely organize it

KC Lancaster 50:00  
I'm trying to keep it in

Tara Templeman 50:05  
Alright, I'll stop this

KC Lancaster 50:06  
thank you so much

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