

# We Heart the Animas

by Jennaye Derge

If there's one thing we've heard over and over the last few weeks, it's that the Animas River is our town's lifeblood – physically and metaphorically. It's hard not to see it, cross over it or at least dip your toe into it at least once a day. Naturally, when the river got sick two weeks ago, our town grieved. And when it started to get better over the course of the following days, our moods also improved. Now, with the river officially back open for business, it's time to celebrate. On Tuesday evening, the community organized a river and adjacent bike parade to celebrate the improving health of the river we all love and depend on so much.



City Councilor Sweetie Marbury pays tribute by throwing rose pedals into the river off the bridge near Rotary Park on Tuesday evening.



The "Haz Man" craze catches on.



A rafter gives the rally cry before the mass descension.



A paddleboarder Tebows to the river gods.