

WHITTIER
NEIGHBORHOOD
DENVER, COLORADO

UPCOMING EVENTS

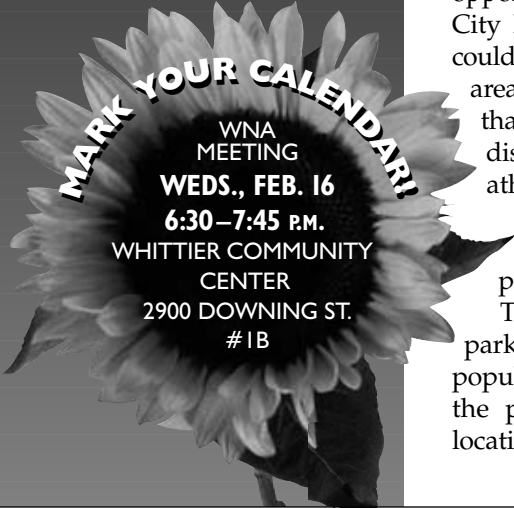
FREE DAYS
Denver Zoo
Mon., Feb. 14

Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Wed., Feb. 16 & Sun., Mar. 6

Colorado History Museum
Sat., Mar. 5
1300 Broadway

Free Hot Lunch
Weds., Thurs., Fri. • 11:45 A.M.
First Baptist Church of Denver
1373 Grant St.
Call 303.861.2501

Children's Storytime
Tues. & Thurs. • 10-10:30 A.M.
Ford Warren Library
28th Ave. & High St.
Call 303.297.0907.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
WNA MEETING
WEDS., FEB. 16
6:30-7:45 P.M.
WHITTIER COMMUNITY CENTER
2900 DOWNING ST.
#1B

WHITTIER

NEIGHBORHOOD

SPOTLIGHT

A PUBLICATION FROM THE WHITTIER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • VOLUME 2.05

Dog park issues sparks heated discussion

The staff of Parks and Recreation started gathering public input on the year-long off-leash dog park pilot at the January 19 WNA meeting. The meeting mirrored the initial meeting held in Whittier fifteen months ago with a marked divide on opinions about the dog park. The often-heated discussion had to be cut short due to the time limit of the meeting.

Opposition to the off-leash area at Fuller Park centered around the issues of cleanliness, including walkways to and from the dog park, the choice of such a small park, traffic concerns along 29th Avenue, and the deteriorating condition of the grass. In addition, neighbors raised the issue about the Salvation Army Red Shield Center's Pop Warner Football League. Teams held practice drills in the park for many years; many in the audience felt that little consideration had been given to this established use of the park. Parks and Recreation staff said that because the group did not have a permit to use the park, their activities were not "officially considered." The City does not provide permits at some of the very small parks, including Fuller. Park opponents also asked about using space at City Park, with the thought that the park could be much larger and draw from a larger area. Parks and Recreation staff responded that City Park met criteria such as safe distances from traffic and buffers from athletic fields and good drainage, but permanent fencing was likely to conflict with the views of the preservationist community.

There was consensus that off-leash parks are needed because of their huge popularity. Fuller Dog Park supporters said the park provided them with a central location to meet other neighbors, allow their

**CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
FEATURED SPEAKER AT
FEBRUARY WNA MEETING**

The next WNA meeting is
**Wed., Feb. 16, 6:30 P.M. at
2900 Downing St. in the
Whittier Community Center.**

Councilwoman Elbra Wedgeworth will be on hand to update neighbors on several City issues and to answer any questions Whittier residents might have.

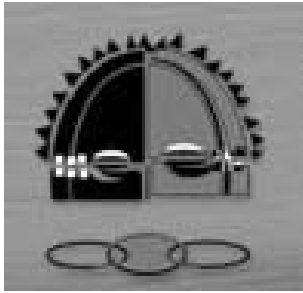
dogs to socialize with other dogs and one supporter cited the reduction of crime in Fuller Park as reported by neighborhood police officers. The Whittier dog park is the most centrally located off-leash dog park in the pilot program; that has lead to its usage by so many surrounding neighborhoods.

The pilot program will continue until the end of February 2005. After a period of public input, a final report will provide recommendations on whether dog parks will stay in Denver or not. The decision for any changes will ultimately fall on the shoulders of Park Department head, Kim Bailey, who will look at the most critical and repetitive issues, including turf and location of sites.

If you were unable to attend the January WNA meeting, you can still contact Britta Herwig, Parks and Recreation, with your comments. Contact her at 720.913.0614 or Britta.Herwig@ci.denver.co.us.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES



“The Slave Narratives: A Mighty, Mighty People” Sun., Feb. 20 • 2:00, 7:00 P.M.

The Stage Theater of the
DCPA, 14th & Curtis
Call 303.494.0523

“Cookin’ & Jazz” Fri., Feb. 25 • 6–10:00 P.M.

M&D’s Cafe serves up great
food and contemporary jazz
music from Laura Newman
and AOA featuring
Creighton Holly.
Tickets available online at
www.denverblackpages.com
or at Wingz Etc!, 35th Ave.
and Quebec; Blackberries Ice
Cream, 710 E. 26th Ave.
Call 303.400.5928

“Egun: A Celebration of Ancestors”

Through Mon., Feb. 28
Works by 11 artists
presented by The Sankofa
Arts Collective at
Blackberries Ice Cream,
710 E. 26th Ave.
Call 303.394.4069

“Paths to the Dream” **Through Mon. Feb. 28**

One man show by Robert
E. Evans presented by
The Sankofa Arts Collective
at the Blair-Caldwell African
American Research Library,
2401 Welton St.
Call 303.394.4069

African Drumming **Sat., Feb. 12 • 10:30 A.M.**

African American Stories
Sat., Feb. 26 • 10:30 a.m.
Park Hill Branch Library
4705 Montview Blvd. at
Dexter St.
Call 303.331.4063

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CHOOSING A NEIGHBORHOOD MEANS CHOOSING YOUR NEIGHBOR

Our January community meeting was quite an eye opener and to a degree it took me by surprise. We had, I thought, a well-rounded group of speakers on the agenda for that evening. Little did I realize that most of the neighbors attending that night were there to give their comments about the off-leash dog park located in Fuller Park. When it came time for the dog park discussion, both barrels were unloaded on the Denver Parks & Rec. representative.

Though it was a small sample of the neighborhood, it seems most people thought the decision on the dog park pilot program was predetermined and the final decision was going against them and their beliefs. Interestingly, this feeling was held by both sides—those for the enclosed off-leash dog area and those against it.

I was not originally involved in the first stages of the dog park project and it appears mistakes were made and opportunities missed. Again, on both sides.

The dog park issue was and is an emotional one. Our core values as a neighborhood were being displayed and debated. What should a park be used for? What

contributes to a sense of community and how does it do so? What is important to us; and when it comes down to the nitty-gritty, what give-and-take are we looking for?

All of these questions have an underlying assumption—that Whittier is not just a bunch of houses with people living in them. We are a community.

Many people shared their thoughts that night but no one who spoke expressed an idea that said “I want it this way to spite you.” In fact, it was the opposite. People were either for or against the dog park because of how they saw it impacting their relationships with their neighbors, their friends. Everyone actually said, in their own words, the same thing last meeting: “I want a place where I feel welcome, where people welcome me.”

As the dog park’s future—whether it remains open or closes—moves towards a resolution, I hope that all comments are made with the same underlying desire for making Whittier a place that welcomes everyone and everyone feels welcome.

Cormack McCarthy, WNA President

“I want a place where I feel welcome,
where people welcome me.”

Become a Denver Master Composter and Recycler!

Denver Recycles, Denver Urban Gardens and Metro Wastewater Reclamation District are now recruiting people interested in backyard composting and recycling education. As a participant in this program, you would receive 40 hours of instruction in compost science, bin construction, worm composting, recycling and solid waste management, urban gardening and community outreach. Serious stuff, and we make it fun!

Classes will begin at the end of February 2005. Each participant is required to return 40 hours of community service teaching composting and recycling to Denver residents. Participants have a year to complete this requirement.

The goal of the program is to make home

composting and recycling a common practice throughout Denver to minimize the amount of waste that is collected, hauled and landfilled.

For more information or to register, please contact Denver Urban Gardens at 303.292.9900 or e-mail your contact information to DenverRecycles@ci.denver.co.us.



NOTE: If you’re interested in backyard composting but unable to make the time commitment required to participate in the Master Composter Training and Outreach Program, check back at www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles or call 720.865.6810 after March 15th to inquire about free compost classes.

Third Annual Faith & Health Ministries
Collaborative Health Fair
Sat., Feb. 19 • 8:30 A.M.–3:00 P.M.
Renaissance Denver Hotel
3801 Quebec Street
303.355.3423

Cooking demonstrations • food tasting •
fitness clinics • massage therapy and much more

FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS:
AIDS/HIV • blood pressure • Body Mass Index
breast exam with a referral for a free mammogram
foot screenings • dental screenings



CALL FOR ENTRIES

City Park West is seeking participants in the 5th Annual City Park Festival of the Arts to be held on Sat., May 21. For more information, call 720.205.6506 or visit www.cityparkfestival.org

I-70 EAST CORRIDOR EIS MEETING

Thurs., Feb. 24 • 5-8 P.M.

The meeting will include 30-minute small group discussions and displays explaining the alternatives that are moving forward for a full evaluation in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Food and child care will be provided.

Bruce Randolph Middle School
3955 Steele St.
Call 303.757.9362



Denver Public Library, Western Archives

"The Greatest Good" Sat., Feb. 12 • 1 P.M.

A film commemorating the centennial year of the U.S. Forest Service includes more than glorious scenic landscapes. It reveals some of the mistakes that were made, controversies and lessons learned from 100 years of federal forest management.

Northeast area homelessness meeting provides input for 10-year plan

Roxane White, director of Denver's Human Services, presented to a packed house of approximately 80 people at a public input meeting January 26 in the Whittier-Cole neighborhood. The meeting is the second in a series being held throughout Denver to provide one last round of public input to the draft plan on the City's 10-year plan to end homelessness, which will be presented to the Mayor and City Council for adoption later this year.

The plan has eight proposed strategies: investing in housing, increasing shelter beds, homelessness prevention, 24-hour outreach and enhanced public safety, adequate support services, improved community awareness of issues surrounding homelessness and addressing zoning, urban design, land use issues and policing policies.

Speakers lined up to provide public input were mostly positioned in one of two camps; those interested in long-term

permanent solutions and those concerned with immediate needs, including the renewed possibility of a tent city.

The Commission will implement a community awareness campaign about homelessness to challenge stereotypes about the homeless. The ongoing public meetings are a component of this effort and all of these meetings include homeless spokespeople that tell their personal stories. In addition, homeless advocates hope to educate the public about the amount of money given to pan handlers, which could be directed to housing or other services.

If there will be any specific impact on the Whittier neighborhood, it is too early to tell. The 10-year draft plan does address the potential inclusion of churches and other non-profit entities as temporary housing options. There are 10 churches located in Whittier as well as the Salvation Army Red Shield Center.

It's time to recycle your outdated White and Yellow Page phone books. Remember, telephone books are not currently accepted in the Denver Recycles residential recycling program.

RECYCLING DROP-OFF OPTIONS

- TRI-R Recycling, 3730 E. 48th Ave. (year round)
- Denver Recycles, across from Safeway, 1235 E. Evans, Evans & Downing (through March 1)
- Denver Recycles, 200 W. 14th Ave. (through Mid-February)
- Recycle America Alliance, 5395 Franklin, near I-25
- Weyerhaeuser, 5135 Race Court (year round)

For more information about recycling your phonebooks, call Denver Recycles at 720.865.6805 or visit www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.



WNA BOARD

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Cathy Calder, Chair
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Volunteers needed

Public Safety Committee

Chair needed
Traci Oliver, John McBride

Newsletter editors: Monique Lovato and Cathy Calder Newsletter design: Blonde Ambition • Please submit articles for the Whittier Spotlight by the last Monday of the month prior to publication month to Cathy Calder at chc@BlondeDesign.com. Only digital files accepted. Due to space constraints, your submission may be edited.

R E S O U R C E S**AARP COLORADO**

303.830.2277 • www.aarp.org/co

ABANDONED VEHICLES

303.295.4637

AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY

720.865.2401
Hours: Closed Thurs. and Sun.
Mon., Tues. & Wed. 10:00 A.M.–7:00 P.M.
Fri. & Sat. 10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

ANIMAL CONTROL

303.698.0076

BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT

Neighborhood inspections: weeds,
junk cars, trash in yards, etc.
720.865.3200

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

720.944.3000

CHILDREN'S CAR SEATS

LaWanda Eiland, Denver Health
303.877.8075
lawanda.eiland@dhha.org

CITY PARK GOLF COURSE

303.295.4420

CLEANUP PROGRAM

Keep Denver Beautiful
720.865.6800

DEAD ANIMAL PICKUP

720.865.6900

DENVER CENTER FOR CRIME VICTIMS

303.894.8000

DENVER CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8

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elbra.wedgeworth@ci.denver.co.us
303.298.7641

AT LARGE

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720.865.8000

Councilwoman Carol Boigon
carol.boigon@ci.denver.co.us
720.865.8100

DENVER CITY GOVT. INFO

720.913.4900 • www.DenverGov.org
Mayor's Office • 720.865.9000
Mediation services • 720.865.2960

DENVER PERFORMING ARTS COMPLEX

Santemu Aakhu, Comm. Arts Coord.
303.308.1240 • santemu.aakhu@dcpa.org

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.dpsk12.org

DENVER RECYCLES

720.865.6805

DISTRICT 2 POLICE

Dispatch • 720.913.2000
NPO cell phones:
Tom Sherwood • 720.641.1596
Tim Luke • 720.641.1559

FORESTRY (TREES)

Dead/diseased/on right-of-way
720.913.0651

FORD WARREN LIBRARY

303.294.0908
Hours: Closed Fri. and Sun.
Tues. & Wed. 10:30 A.M.–9:00 P.M.
Thurs. 10:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.
Sat. 10:30 A.M.–4:30 P.M.

GANG HOTLINE

303.331.5912

GLENARM RECREATION CENTER

303.295.4475

GRAFFITI HOTLINE

720.865.7867

LANDLORD/TENANT ISSUES

Information & referral • 303.831.1935

LEGAL SERVICES

www.ColoradoLegalServices.org

FREE MAMMOGRAMS & PAP TESTS

For low-income women
303.692.2521

MANUAL EDUCATION COMPLEX

Arts & Cultural Studies • 303.391.6337
Leadership • 303.391.6370
Millennium Quest • 303.391.6357

NEPQUE MEETINGS

Last monday of every month
RSVP to get dinner at 6:00 P.M.
2900 Downing St., Ste. 1B • 6:30 P.M.
303.884.0201
northeastparents@yahoo.com

NOISE CONTROL

720.865.5452

PARKS & RECREATION

720.913.2500

RTD REPRESENTATIVE

Chris Martinez
chris.martinez@RTD-Denver.com
303.317.7218

SALVATION ARMY RED SHIELD CENTER

303.295.2107

SIDEWALKS

Snow removal • 720.865.3200
Repair • 303.446.3469
Curb & gutter repair • 720.913.4574

FREE SMOKE DETECTORS

For elderly, disabled & low income people
720.865.3868

STREET MAINTENANCE & SWEEPING

Potholes/repairs • 720.865.6855

TRASH PICKUP

Large item • 720.865.6900
Large item pickup: March 7–11
Hazardous waste • 800.449.7587

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Just dial 211

Become a member of the Whittier Neighborhood Association—or renew your membership—and start making a difference in your neighborhood today!

Membership cards are available at monthly WNA meetings.

Name _____

Names of others in household _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

E-mail _____ Interests _____

I am enclosing \$20/household (\$12/Senior household) as new member(s) _____ as renewing member(s) _____ plus an additional donation of \$ _____ to the Whittier Neighborhood Association.

Your membership is fully tax deductible and will be used to support the Whittier Community Center at 29th Ave. and Downing St.
Thank you! Please enclose check made payable to Whittier Neighborhood Association
and mail to 2900 Downing Street, 1B • Denver, CO 80205