September 14 2002

Doubletree Hotel 3201 Quebec Street **Martin Luther King** Blvd.

Sponsored by **Forest City Stapleton**

AGENDA

8:45

Coffee and Chat

9:00

Around the City

10:15

Committee Reports

10:30

Denver Recycles

11:00

Forest City Stapleton Redevelopment

Adjourn

Check Out INC Web Page

www.neighborhoodlink.com/

denver/inc

Noon

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Recycling and Redevelopment Covered in Sept. 14 **INC Meeting**

The September 14, 2002 delegates' meeting of INC will begin at 9 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 3201 Ouebec Street at Martin Luther King Blvd. Julie Klein, from Denver Recycles, will discuss what her agency is up to, and how it can

help citizens help the city with waste disposal. Then Landri Taylor, Vice President of Community Affairs for Forest City Stapleton, will update INC about the redevelopment of the old airport. The old runways are being replaced with homes, parks, and retail businesses. The Stapleton Visitor Center will be open for additional information and a viewing of the site plans after the meeting, and INC delegates will have the opportunity to take a tour of the site.

Dictionary Drive Delivers 17,000 Books

By Cathee Fisher INC Dollar Dictionary Chair

In August, in a massive INC and community effort, 17,000 books were delivered, unpacked, gift labeled, counted, repacked and transported to the Denver Public Schools central distribution center for final delivery to 94 DPS elementary schools. A special THANK YOU to a group of nine female Denver County jail

inmates on a special work program who spent two days labeling book after book, four male inmates who did most of the heavy lifting and a group of eight residents of Ridgeview Correctional facility for their participation with the labeling. The supervisory Denver Sheriffs were helpful to the max!

The folks at Rocky Mountain SER (service, education, at the Pecos Community Center were gracious hosts labeling extravaganza for the fourth year and could have been more helpful with this part of the program.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in and supported this program.

In 2002, special thank yous go to:

Steve Nissen, my co-chair, who has been there every step

Nancy Jackson, an enthusiastic supporter and hard worker since the beginning! Jennifer Merriam, who has helped as INC Treasurer and during both labeling

And, finally, thank you to Safeway for providing the food and beverages for all our hard workers during the labeling. Its donation was over \$300.

The Dollar Dictionary Drive has been a great program for seven years and is greatly appreciated by DPS principals, teachers and students. At each school is a dictionary and a thesaurus for each DPS third grade student to take home. The

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Denver Neighborhood Connection

September, 2002



From the Chair

By Wayne Jochem INC Chair

Hello Everyone!

This last month has been very busy to say the least. Can anyone say "Time Management?"

Condolences

Before I get into all that's been happening, there are a few things I'd like to mention. First, our condolences to Eddie Britt, our secretary, who recently lost his father. Anyone who has been through this knows it's very difficult for everyone involved, so Eddie, if you need something, we're here.

Secondly, given that this is September, let's not forget the one year anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Eddie's recent loss and the events of September 11, 2001 show us the importance of estate planning, as no one really knows when it's their time. Heck, if the sky were to fall on me today, who at INC, my place of employment or even my family (i.e. parents for us single people) would know where things were, who I want to have my stuff, who's on my insurance policy and where they're kept, etc., etc., etc.

Thirdly, my apologies to Stan for the confusion regarding September's meeting and fourthly, thank you to Cathee Fisher and Steve Nissen for all their efforts during this year's Dollar Dictionary Drive. I understand that all the labeling was done on Friday (this is a first from what I understand -- hoorah!) and couldn't have been done without their efforts and the tremendous efforts of our volunteers. Thank you to all. Lastly, for those that have asked, yes, I'm doing better after having my four wisdom teeth pulled -- I don't feel any less smart then I did when I had them. Go figure and now onto everything else.

Presidents' Dinner

Being the person in charge of the INC Beer Booth Staffing must mean that I somewhat like parties. That being said I'd like all our delegates to circle November 7th on their calendars, as this is the tentative date for

INC's Annual Presidents' Dinner and Awards Ceremony. As in years past, AT&T will be hosting this event at the Downtown Hyatt and we greatly appreciate its commitment to this annual event. Also, please see the awards nomination form on page 4 of this newsletter. If you have any questions regarding these awards, please contact any board member or myself.

At September's meeting we will be having elections to confirm the appointments I made after Fred Corn, our past INC chairperson, resigned to run for a City Council position, as well as for a delegate-at-large position. The appointments I made were Elizabeth Hamilton to vice chair and Law Gaiter to delegate-at-large. At this time we also have two wonderful people interested in the delegate-at-large position that is open. They are Nell from Baker Neighborhood and Mary from Platt Park People's Association.

Committee Chairs Needed

We are looking for a couple of committee chairpersons in the areas of Education along with Parks and Recreation. As another side note, I'm aware that many of the INC member neighborhoods have persons chairing various committees or are on various committees for their neighborhoods. I would ask all those groups and persons to drop me an e-mail or contact me to let me know what committees you are involved in and who the main contact person is for those committees. I would like this information so that it could be placed in the INC Newsletter. I know that we all have other commitments so we can't always attend the monthly INC Meetings and often during the Around the City part of the

Continued on page 3

Saving Landscaping Water in Dry Times

By Carl Wilson Colorado State University Cooperative Extension

[Water is an important part of life but also a growing concern. Because of the continued drought, the coming of winter and the talk regarding suspension of watering sometime this fall, Joe Sloan with Denver Water Community Relations and a "regular" at INC Meetings put me in touch with Carl Wilson. Carl is with Colorado State University Cooperative Extension and Horticulturist for Denver. He has graciously agreed to provide plant care articles related to drought over the next few months. In reading these articles, let me know if they are informative and useful to you and your neighborhoods. If so, I would be happy to see if Mr. Wilson would be interested in providing articles on a regular basis. -- Wayne Jochem]

Many landscapes are saddled with older, inefficient irrigation systems. With water restrictions, people can no longer over-water to compensate for system inefficiencies, poor landscape designs or perhaps poor plant choices. What's on people's minds now is saving water, preserving plants and

managing irrigation systems that used to be out-of-sight and out-of-mind.

Examining irrigation system efficiency has the greatest water saving potential for most home gardeners. Savings of 20 to 40 percent are possible. Before getting to the irrigation system, basic water saving practices should be practiced. Manually shut off the sprinkler clock when it rains. The second simple statement is don't water things that don't grow, such as driveways and sidewalks.

With that said, have you mulched plants? In the

vegetable or annual flower garden, use dried grass clippings or straw. Around perennials and shrubs, use bark mulch or wood chips.

On compacted soils, water runoff is a common problem. Part of the answer is "cycling" irrigation. On sprinkler clocks, set multiple start times so you apply half the needed water to all areas before coming back and starting a second round to apply the rest of your water. This allows water to soak in instead of running off the landscape and down the street. Cycling works just as well for those who hand set sprinklers.

Another easy water saving step to take with sprinkler clocks is spring and fall setbacks. With cooler spring and fall temperatures, plants don't use the same quantity of water as they do in the heat of summer. If clocks have an "adjust water percentage" feature, this is easy. Set to 60 percent of peak summer use. Or each zone can be set to water for fewer minutes. Watering the same amount of time all season long not only wastes water, it doesn't meet plant needs leading to potential plant problems through over-watering.

More complicated but necessary are sprinkler tuneups. Just like automobiles need regular tune-ups, so do sprinkler systems. Checking for leaks and missing heads should be routine. Occasionally check whether heads are aligned to vertical. Sunken or obstructed spray heads should be raised or cleared. Cracked heads or those with leaking seals should be replaced.

If the landscape has changed, systems may need to be revamped. Heads may need to be relocated or a different type of head may be required.

Indeed, heads delivering different amounts of water may have been installed on the same zone so make sure all heads are the same.

Finally, a few words about planting drought-tolerant plants. While this may seem like a good idea during a drought, keep in

mind that all plants require extra water to become established. During establishment, drought tolerant plants may use more water than existing "heavy water using" plants. Under severe water restrictions or with water unavailable, it is better to wait until the drought eases before planting.

Contact Carl and the Master Gardeners for a presentation to your neighborhood group on gardening in drought or for general help. Phone 720-913-5278, or e-mail denvermg@coop.ext.colostate.edu.

Business Doesn't Whine About Neighborhood Involvement

By Wayne Jochem INC Chair

Recently, Michael Romero, a delegate from one of our member neighborhood groups, St. Charles Neighborhood Association, contacted me indicating that a new business, Denver CRU, will be opening at 1590 Little Raven, Suite 175. Denver CRU is a wine store that its owners are saying will be unique by offering individual and personalized service, tastings, sommelier service, etc.

While another "liquor store" opening is not always an INC noteworthy event, to the St. Charles Neighborhood Group this one was an exception, as they wanted to praise the effort of the owners, Wayne Dale and Ryan Fletter. Apparently Wayne and Ryan took it upon themselves to meet with the St. Charles,

Ball Park, DDRO and LDDI neighborhood organizations, answer questions and address concerns. From what St. Charles has indicated, Denver CRU received written support from all four neighborhood organizations!



For this reason, St.

Charles wanted to make us aware of the efforts of these two individuals as they want to thank them for the way they have worked with the affected neighborhood groups. All I can say is that I agree with St. Charles. It's not often a business owner, especially one that deals with liquor, will work with neighborhood groups to address the neighborhoods' issues and concerns let alone get written support from four neighborhood groups. Good job Denver CRU! Look for the grand opening in October 2002.

If there are any other neighborhood groups who, as

a neighborhood, have had positive dealings with business owners, such as St. Charles has had with Denver CRU, and who would like to pass the word about their positive experiences, drop me an e-mail or give me a call. In all our various dealing with all that goes on in the City and County of Denver, it's sometimes nice to know that there are positive experiences and interaction between businesses and neighborhoods.

Dictionary Drive

Continued from page 1

best way to experience the value of this gift to the students is to participate at your neighborhood school in the distribution of the dictionaries to the students either in the classroom or an assembly. This is arranged with the principal of each elementary school and all have been excited to have us as neighborhood and community members come to the school and meet their teachers and students. Each principal has been notified by e-mail and letter as to their friendly neighborhood association. Please contact your neighborhood school to participate.

Donations are still welcome, so we can continue this program, and can be sent to: INC Dollar Dictionary, PO Box 181009, Denver, CO 80218.

For additional information and/or contact information for your neighborhood school contact Cathee Fisher at (303) 333-3141 or at cathee@earthlink.net.

Article Submission Deadline for

Denver Neighborhood Connection

is the 20th of each month

Articles must be submitted by e-mail to Editor Craig Eley at craig@eley.net.

The Editor does not maintain the mailing list or membership list.

To make address changes, additions or corrections, contact Wayne Jochem at wjochem@aol.com.

From the Chair

Continued from page 1

meeting there is some neighborhood that is facing an issue, that some other neighborhood is currently involved in or has been involved in. I think this information would be a wonderful resource for those neighborhoods that are facing similar issues as well as showing the city that we are very involved in many different areas as the Mayor's Office and a few other city agencies do receive our newsletters. What do you think?

Rocky Mountain Jail

Fred Corn, our past Chair, and I met with one of our member groups, the Downtown Denver Residents' Organization, in August. I want to thank them for inviting us, as it was nice to meet with them. During their meeting I mentioned that the INC Board had discussed putting together a meeting, maybe in November or December, to talk about what we've all been reading in the newspapers regarding the purchase of the Rocky Mountain News Building and

the building of a new City Jail facility at that location. It was mentioned to the Downtown Development Organization that we had discussed this and that we would be looking for one of our downtown member groups to host this meeting



as this issue effects the downtown area. Needless to say there was agreement, and while I need to contact them to arrange the details, it appears that this meeting will be happening before the end of the year.

As a disclaimer, and for those of you out there who don't already know, I do work for the Denver Sheriff's Department. This means that I exclude myself as best I can from any dealings or decisions INC has regarding the Police or Sheriff's Department. Needless to say, I won't be chairing this portion of the meeting when it happens. As another side note (I think this is my second or third so far), it was nice meeting with this group and if any other neighborhood group, whether an INC member or not,

would like me to come to your meeting as an INC representative, please let me know and we'll see if we can make it happen.

Elections

I know that there is a lot of talk regarding next year's elections, but let's not forget this November's elections. As always, there are rumors about what will be on the ballot or not and this is generally what INC's October meeting is about. Paul Ryan, one of our delegates-at-large, who did such a wonderful job of organizing last year's ballot issues meeting has again stepped forward to organize this year's meeting. We generally focus on Denver issues with persons from both camps, pro and con, to give a brief presentation and some question and answer time. The number of issues involved determines on how much time we allow for our normal meeting issues such as Around the City and committee reports, ballot issues presentation and O & A.

Also, before I forget, I'd like to thank Community Planning and Development along with the Office of Neighborhood Response on the wonderful job they did with the registered neighborhood map and lists.

I think that about covers it for this month.

- - Wayne

Rehabbed School Playgrounds Serve Kids, Communities

Denver Housing & Neighborhood Development Services, a division of the Community Planning and Development Agency, has entered into an agreement with Denver Public Schools to improve the condition of 16 school playgrounds in lower income neighborhoods, which will then serve as community parks during after-school hours and on weekends.

The School of Landscape and Architecture of the University of Colorado at Denver has joined this effort by working with the schools and their communities to develop a playground master plan.

During the first year, Denver has committed \$1,238,000 toward the construction costs of nine DPS elementary school playgrounds.

INC Awards Nomination Form

Each year, INC sponsors three awards which are given during the annual Presidents' Dinner in the fall. Review the criteria for each award and, if you know someone who qualifies, use this form to nominate that person for one of the awards. **Nominations are due by October 12, 2002,** and should be mailed to INC at P.O. Box 181009, Denver, 80218 or e-mailed to Wayne Jochem at wjochem@aol.com.

The Virginia Oredson Award

Criteria:

- 1. The nominee should have encouraged Denver neighborhoods to work together in a common effort to solve community problems and in particular has supported INC.
- 2. The nominee should have established a record of selfless community service in a number of different causes.
- 3. The nominee should have encouraged and motivated others to volunteer their services to engage in community improvement efforts.

The Bill Gross Award

Criteria:

- 1. The nominee should work in the public safety sector in the City and County of Denver.
- 2. The nominee should have a strong record of working with neighborhoods to better public safety in the community.
- 3. The nominee should have made Denver a safer place in which to live.

The Walt Kembel Award

Criteria:

- 1. The winner must be an INC delegate or member.
- 2. The award winner should have contributed to INC during the past year over and above normal expectations to develop and promote the organization or
- 3. The winner should have moved INC forward or in new directions in creative or unexpected ways.

Bill Gross Award

Award nominated for (circle one)

Virginia Oredson Award

Name of Nominee:

Nominee's Day Phone:

Nominating Organization:

Contact Person:

Contact Person's Day Phone:

Night Phone:

E-mail:

Please include a statement indicating why your nominee should win the award

Parks Position Statement

By Jeanne Robb

[This position statement will be voted on at the September 14, 2002 INC delegates' meeting]

INC supports Game Plan – The Parks Master Plan – with the following comments:

- 1) We commend the Parks Department for its open and thorough process in soliciting public input.
- 2) We particularly support cooperation between schools and the city to create, maintain, and improve usable, open space on school grounds in neighborhoods.
- 3) We suggest that more research and advocacy be done to solicit funding from metro-wide sources for our mountain parks.
- 4) Day-to-day park maintenance must be improved to balance acquisition of new park land. Maintenance criteria should be upgraded and standardized. Basic information such as cost per acre of maintenance is important information and must be developed.
- 5) The Parks department must continue to work on restoring public faith in its efficiency and fiscal responsibility.
- 6) We will support neighborhood efforts to improve their local parks through cooperation with their park districts and Hands-on Denver.
- 7) The Game Plan should more strongly emphasize volunteer efforts and public/private partnerships. The Department should develop and emphasize a responsible and consistent approach to public/private partnerships to improve the number of amenities, variety and equitable distribution of amenities, and park maintenance.
- 8) We support Game Plan becoming part of the Denver Comprehensive Plan and request greater cooperation between city departments in plan implementation and coordination.

INC Member Neighborhoods

(Patrons in Bold)

Alamo Placita NA Athmar Park NA Baker Historical NA Ballpark NA Beacon Club Bear Creek HOA

Bellvue Hale NA Berkeley NA Capitol Hill United

Neighbors
Cherry Creek North BID
Cherry Creek North NA

Cherry Point HOA
Citizens for a Residential

Quebec

City Park West NA

Clayton NA

College View NA
Congress Park Neighbors

Cook Park NA

Cory-Merrill NA

Country Club Historic

Neighborhood Cranmer Park Hilltop

Crestmoor Park HOA Filing 2

Crestmoor Park HOA

Filing 1

Curtis Park Neighbors

Denargo Market NC

Downtown Denver Residents' Org.

East Cheesman Park NA

East Montclair NA

Far Northeast Neighbors

Golden Triangle NA

Greater Park Hill Community George Washington HOA

Hampden South NA

Harkness Heights NA

Harman NA

Highland Economic and Community Health Org.

Highland United Neighbors

Hilltop Heritage

Historic Montelair Comm. Hutchinson Hills/Willow

Point NA

Indian Creek NA
Inspiration Point NA

Ivy Street NA

Lowry Neighbors

Lynwood 7 & 8 HOA

Mayfair Neighbors, Inc.

Mayfair Park NA North City Park CA

Northern Corridor Coalition

Northern Airport Corridor

Assoc.

Platt Park People's Assoc.

Progress & Preservation Together

Ruby Hill NA

South Gaylord NA

South Hilltop NA

South Jackson NO

Southmoor Park E. HOA

Southwest Improvement Council

Jounen

St. Charles NA

Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc.

University Park CC

Upper Downtown

Development Organization

Uptown on The Hill

Virginia Vale CA

Virginia Village/Ellis

Community Association
Washington Park East NA

Wellshire HOA

West Highland NA

West Washington Park NA

Supporters

Councilwoman Elbra Wedgeworth

Councilwoman Kathleen MacKenzie

Denver Water

One Sky One World

Walt Kembel Award